

village NEWSLETTER

www.ridgefieldpark.org

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Ridgefield Park, N.J.

NOVEMBER, 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

If you have not already done so, visit the Community Gardens in our Village which have been established under the guidance of Janet Maloof and Leslie and Mark Olson, members of the Village "Green Team" which is a part of our Environmental Commission. These gardens are located in Fellowship Park and McGowan Park and have been expanding as more folks become involved. The participants grow fruits, vegetables, flowers and other produce for their own use or to donate to the local food pantry and other worthy causes. In the process, we re-connect with nature and help improve our environment. We anticipate that the work of the Environmental Commission will have earned our Village status as a "Sustainable Community." This status is a big plus for the Municipality as the criteria to apply for many grants for which we apply requires that we be a "Sustainable Community." This becomes particularly important as we continue to work on sewer system upgrades to comply with the Federal Clean Waters Act. We commend all those who are working in the Community Gardens, the "Green Team" and the Environmental Commission for their good work in helping make Ridgefield Park a still better place in which to live.

This Village Newsletter, for all intents and purposes, is now the only print media to convey information to all in the Community. The "Sun Bulletin" and "Bergen News" have long since gone. "The Patriot" has disappeared and the remaining print media does not cover much local news, particularly the activities and fund raisers of our many local organizations. This Newsletter, published only four times a year, cannot adequately convey information in a timely manner. We do encourage you to check the Bulletin Board at the front of the Municipal Building for a listing of many current activities. If you are on Facebook you should connect with RP MOMS which fills a real need in report-



ing all Village happenings. RP MOMS is not connected with local government and is managed by Joyce Essig-Bachtler and Elaine Essig Marin who set up this very fine venue for reporting along with the participation of now over 800 followers. Continue to support the many activities sponsored by our local organizations.

Here we are at Holiday time — Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, New Year. This is the time of the year when we pause to reflect, to think of others, to give thanks, to give gifts, and resolve to work for a better future for all. As we start anew, we wish for all Peace, Harmony, Justice, Tolerance, Understanding and Well-Being. Take time to be nice — Who knows what will happen tomorrow?

Happy Hanukkah! Merry Christmas!
Happy New Year!

Board of Commissioners
John H. Anlian
Adam A. Mac Neill
Theresa A. Kohles
Hugo R. Poli
George D. Fosdick, Mayor

FIRE HYDRANTS

Please help protect your own home and the homes of your neighbors by clearing snow from around fire hydrants. When a fire occurs, every second counts and the quicker our Volunteer Firefighters can "hook-up" to the hydrant, the faster water will be available to fight the fire. Remember, all our Village Firefighters are Volunteers and you can help them by clearing the hydrant nearest you so it will be ready if needed.

REMINDER FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Dog and Cat licenses for 2017 will expire on 12/31/17. Renew licenses for 2018 between January 1, 2018 and April 30, 2018 to avoid a late fee. Animals must be current on rabies shots. Violators are subject to fines.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Most recognize the impact trees have on our daily lives: food source, shade on hot summer days, oxygen production, and creating a beautiful environment for individual properties as well as the entire Village. There's more... trees also impact language according to an article in the March 2017 issue of National Geographic Magazine. Do the following metaphors sound familiar? These expressions used or heard daily derive from trees: "Turn over a new leaf and branch out" "Ideas blossom and bear fruit," "Though our momentum is sapped, our resolve remains deep-rooted," "There are times when we can't see the forest for the trees."

Trees enrich all of our lives in many ways; taking care of this important Village asset is the Shade Tree Commission's responsibility. To do the best job, the STC encourages support and cooperation from property owners.

The following is information for property owners from the STC.

The public right-of-way extends several feet inside the sidewalks on most streets in Ridgefield Park. Trees within the right-of-way, either in the planting strip between shed and sidewalk or inside the sidewalk are property of the Village of Ridgefield Park. Village trees are under the care and supervision of the STC. All pruning and maintenance of them on public property is handled by the STC. Property owners may NOT prune Village trees either inside or outside the sidewalk

Bushes and trees may not be planted in the public right-of-way without the approval of the STC. Plantings in the public right-

of-way become the property of the Village. NOTHING may be stapled or nailed or screwed to a tree.

Homeowners may NOT remove or damage Village trees. Any construction, curbing paving, or laying of sidewalks and/or driveways that might interfere with or damage a village tree, must have the consent of the STC. Written notice must be given at least 10 working days ahead to permit time for the arborist to examine the site and give recommendations. Tree roots of Village trees may NOT be cut for sidewalks or other construction without the approval of the STC. Any cutting must be done by a qualifield arborist.

Planting strips can have grass, mulch, ground covers, herbaceous plants, or even loose stones permitting water to penetrate. Planting strips may NOT be covered in cement or asphalt preventing rain from soaking into the ground around tree sites.

Mulch should be maintained near (but NOT against) the base of the tree to preserve moisture and to protect it from damage by lawnmowers and weedcutters. Mulch should NEVER be piled in a mound against the trunk of the tree. Mulch against the tree rots the bark.

The STC utilizes the services of New Jersey Certified Arborists for evaluating Village trees.

The Department of Public Works handles removal of trees listed for removal by the STC, based on the STC's arborist's recommendation. DPW also handles emergency pruning. DPW employees attend training in tree care and urban forestry. STC regular members are required to attend NJ Community Forestry Program core training and other training is available to all members.

Professional tree care companies with Certified Tree Experts do pruning based on the Arborist's recommendations

If there is a concern about a Village tree, contact the STC either by letter addressed to 234 Main Street; phone 201-641-4950, extension 640; or by attending a meeting. Always provide your name phone number, and concern along with the address of the tree site. You will be contacted after a STC meeting; the STC meets on the second and fourth Mondays at 7:30 pm in the third floor conference room.

SIDEWALKS — The STC has the Sidewalk Safety Program for sidewalks that need lifting or replacing due to Village shade tree roots. Anyone interested in the program should obtain forms at Town Hall



and return the completed forms to the STC to initiate inspection.

Currently, there is a waiting list, but submit your application now because work is done according to the date the application is received.

All reimbursable work **MUST BE PREAPPROVED BY A STC MEMBER** and done by a **STC APPROVED CONTRACTOR**. Property owners will not be reimbursed for work done without pre-approval by STC or by a contractor who is not STC approved. Property owners are required to pay the contractor and then submit the invoice to the STC for reimbursement.

Enjoy our Village trees!

@ Your Library

Valentine's Day Fun

This Valentine's Day, we've got fun activities for all Ridgefield Park young readers! The Children's Department will be hosting a Valentine Make and Take on **2/3** at 2:00, and Valentine's Bingo on **2/13** at 3:30 p.m., filled with crafts and sweets. And for the teens, we have a Zombie Valentine's Day Party on **2/10** at 12:00 p.m., with games and make-it-yourself snacks. For more information, be sure to check out www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org, or stop by the library. Registration is required.

Special Guests!

The library will be hosting several amazing guests this year. For Children's, authors Mike Malbrough and Chana Stiefel will be stopping by for readings of their new books. Mr. Malbrough will be reading *Marigold Bakes a Cake* on **1/23**, and Mrs. Stiefel will be reading her debut, *Daddy Depot*, on **2/20**. Also, journalist Stephanie Schwartz will be coming on **2/7** for a program on how to differentiate between useful and useless information. And on **3/18**, musician Ian Gallagher will be performing a selection of Celtic Irish Music. For more information, please visit us at [\[kpubliclibrary.org\]\(http://kpubliclibrary.org\), or stop by the library. Registration is required.](http://www.ridgefieldpar-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Makers Day and Nutrition Month

March is National Nutrition Month, so be sure to stop by for some amazing guest speakers and programs. Erika Lainamna from Shop Rite will be stopping by on **3/1** for a program on Nutrition for Seniors, and again on **3/15** for a Family Nutrition Program. Hackensack Univeristy Medical Center will also be dropping by for a program on preparing and serving vegetables on **3/14**, and a Weight Loss Program on **3/21**.

Also, **3/9** is NJ Makers Day! Stop by at the library for a wide variety of programming pertaining to making things yourself. Everything from making your own pencil box, 3D bingo game, Oreo tower, or even your very own cartoon. For more information, please visit us at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org or stop by the library. Registration is required.

Learning Express

Have you tried Learning Express yet? Learning Express is an online learning tool that provides you with everything from job resources, to practice tests for major exams, to reading and writing exercises, to computer program guidance, and so much more with just your library card. For more information, be sure to checkout www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org, and click on the "Learning Express" link, or stop by the library.

Program Highlights

A full listing of our programs appears at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org. This is also where program registrations are accepted.

Movies for the Over 18 Crowd-Thurs., 1/4, 2/1, 3/1, 2:00 p.m. All movies are on the first Thursday of the month starting at 2:00 p.m. Why not come by, enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, a donut and a free movie on us.

Tween & Teen Board Game Day- Fri., 1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4:00-5:00 p.m. Each month, enjoy playing new and classic board games for 5th grade and up.

Trading Card Game Club-Mon., 1/8, 1/22, 2/5, 2/12, 3/5, 3/19, 4:00-4:30 p.m. Bring your decks or use some of ours and duel with fellow fans of Yu-Gi-Oh!, Magic: The Gathering, Cardfight Vanguard, Pokemon, and more! Don't know how to play? Come learn! Meets twice a month, see online calendar. This is a drop-in program.

no registration necessary. For K-6th grade.

Teen Advisory Board-Mon., 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Village teens are invited each month to take part in a new service project while helping us develop programs and suggest titles for the YA collection. For 7th grade and up.

Korean Storytime-Mon., 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and fun in Korean! For Korean-speaking children of all ages or children who would like to listen to stories in Korean.

Homework Help for Kids!-Mon., 1/8, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, Wed., 1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/28, 3:30-4:00 p.m. Teens help elementary school kids with homework and/or reading. Registration is required, village teens and children only. Village children can register online. Space is limited. YA volunteers appreciated

Crochet Club-Mon., 1/8, 1/22, 2/5, 3/5, 3/19, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Village residents from 4th grade to adults can learn how to crochet. Make something for yourself or give it to someone special. Beginners are welcome. Registration is required.

Teen Short Story Club-Wed., 1/10, 2/14, 3/14, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Each month, talk about your favorite short story and author over snacks. Each short story collection available at circulation the month before each meeting. For 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

January: *After*

February: *Girl Meets Boy. Because There are Two Sides to Every Story*

March: *A Tyranny of Petticoats: 15 Stories of Belles, Bank Robbers & Other Badass Girls*

Teen Art @ the Library-Thurs., 1/11, 2/8, 3/8, 3:30-5:00 p.m. Every month learn a new art technique and take home a project you create. For 7th grade and up. Registration required.

Epic Battle of of Rock, Paper, Scissor-Sat., 1/13, 2:00 p.m. Put your battle caps on and come to play the Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors. Winners will be presented with a rockin' prize. This is a drop-in program for kids 3rd grade and up.

Teen Graphic Novel Club-Wed., 1/17, 2/21, 3/21, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Each month meet and talk about what you liked or disliked for the month's selection. Copies of the book will be available at circulation the month before each meeting. For 7th grade and up. Registration required.

January: *Spill Zone*



February: *The Harlem Hellfighters*

March: *Ms. Marvel Vol. 1 & 2*

Meditation-Sat., 1/20, 2/17, 3/17, 10:00 a.m., Guided meditation led by a representative of Art of Living. Includes light yoga (on floor or on chair) and relaxing breathing techniques. For teens 13 and older and adults. Please dress comfortably and bring a yoga mat if you wish to participate from the floor. Registration is required.

Meet the Author!-Tues., 1/23, 7:00 p.m. Meet children's author Mike Malbrough for a reading of his new book, *Marigold Bakes a Cake*. Afterwards enjoy a signing and craft. Registration is required for children and their families. For children of all ages. Registration is required.

Anime Daze-Thurs., 1/25, 2/22, 3/22, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Fans of Japanese cartoons and comics join us for anime viewings, discussions, and snacks. Doesn't matter if you're an otaku or a newbie! For 7th grade and up.

Coder Dojo-Thurs., 1/25, 2/22, 3/22, 6:30-8:30 p.m. 9 to 17 year olds gather to work with volunteer mentors on learning and practicing coding (programming). Space is limited. Registration for each session is required.

Amazing Race Library Edition-Fri., 1/26, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Winter weather have you trapped indoors? Can't wait for a chance to get out and have some fun? Join us for our first Amazing Race Library Edition! Create teams and race "around the world" completing challenges and answering trivia as you compete to be the winning team. For 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

Battle of the Books Book Club.-Mon., 1/29, 2/26, 3/26, 4:00-5:00 p.m., Thurs., 3/29, 6:00 p.m. You Pick the Books! You Pick the Teams! Three Books, One Battle for "Bestness"! A book club for 5th and 6th graders. Registration is required. Voting ends December 14th. Game begins January 1.

Spanish Storytime-Mon., 1/29, 2/26, 3/26, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Es una hora de cuentos para los niños en la biblioteca de Ridgefield Park Public Library! Bring your whole family out to enjoy a story & craft that supports early literacy development and help foster a love of books and reading. Sharing the wonders of books with your family helps increase children's learning and reading skills. For children up to age 7 and their parents or caregivers. This program includes a story in Spanish and English. Registration is required.

Adult Book Club-Mon., 1/29, 2/26, 3/26, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Join us the last Monday of the month for a fun and lively discussion of our book club pick.

January: *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie

February: *March Books 1-3* by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, Nate Powell

March: *My Lift in France* by Julia Child & Alex Prud'Homme

Career Crossroads-Wed., 1/31, 7:00 p.m. A motivational workshop on career transitions and future goals. This is sponsored by Cleanscape Commercial Cleaning Corp. Registration is required.

Valentine Make and Take-Sat., 2/3, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Join us for an hour of fun making a special valentine's treat to give to a friend or family member. Registration is required.

How To Read The News-Wed., 2/7, 7:00 p.m. Stephanie Schwartz, a journalist has been giving talks on what she calls "how to read the news" — providing an overview of how the news media operates and an introduction to news literacy. In the presentation, she will give tools and strategies for consumers to wade through dubious information, to discern the difference between marketing messages and propaganda from factual information. It's nonpolitical and nonpartisan. Registration is required.

I Chews You! A Zombie Valentine Party-Sat., 2/10, 12:00-3:00 p.m. Looking for someone who really likes you for what's on the inside. Tired of flowers and looking for a more creative gift from your Valentine (who doesn't like a fresh brain smoothie?). Then sign-up for our Zombie Valentine Party with snacks, crafts and a special screening of *Warm Bodies*. For 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

Valentine Bingo-Tues., 2/13, 3:30-4:00 p.m. Come and play bingo with us and win a sweet prize! This is a drop-in program for children K-3rd grade. No registration is necessary.

Meet the Author!-Tues., 2/20, 5:15-6:30 p.m. Meet Author Chana Stiefel for a reading, signing and craft of her debut picture book, *Daddy Depot* (illustrated by Andy Snair, Feiwei & Friends) for children and their families. For children of all ages. Registration is required.

Are You Ready for A Career Makeover-Wed., 2/21, 7:00 p.m. An opportunity to hear from experts in marketing, finance, and HR about taking the leap into a new job or career. This program is sponsored by Cleanscape Commercial Cleaning Corp. Registration is required.

ArtSmart-Sat., 2/24, 3/17, 2:00-3:00 p.m. This art appreciation program is designed for village children in 3rd-6th grade. Each program focuses on one artist or specific piece of art. The session includes a short lecture, discussion, and a simple hands-on activity that reinforces the work of the artist or piece of art. Registration is required. YA volunteers appreciated.

Nutrition for Seniors-Thurs., 3/1, 7:00 p.m. Village residents are invited to join us for a cooking demonstration by Shoprite's own Erika Lainamna, registered dietitian, on healthy nutrition for seniors. Registration is required.

Dr. Seuss' Birthday Brunch-Sat., 3/3, 12:00-1:00 p.m. Celebrate "Read Across America" by listening to a reading of a Dr. Seuss classic followed by a brunch of green eggs and ham. This program is for village residents. Registration is required.

Kids Chef-Thurs., 3/8, 6:00 p.m. Become an ultimate healthy smoothie builder. Smoothies are a great medium for self-expression! You don't even need a recipe. Just have fun trying different fruits or veggies. Registration is required. For village children K-6th grade.

Makers Day!-Fri., 3/9-Sat., 3/10, Celebrate N.J. Makers Day with a weekend of events and activities for adults, teens, tweens and children.

Veggiecation-Wed., 3/14, 3:30-4:30 p.m. A culinary-nutrition education program that introduces children to the delicious world of vegetables by incorporating unique and kid-friendly recipes into fun activities and exciting experiences. This program is for children Pk-8th grade. Registration is required. Sponsored by Hackensack University Medical Center.

Family Nutrition-Thurs., 3/15, 7:00 p.m. Village residents are invited to join us for a cooking demonstration by Shoprite's own Erika Lainamna, registered dietitian on healthy nutrition for families. Registration is required.

STEM Club Fri., 3/16, 4:00-5:00 p.m. Make the Sweet Potato Swap! Children learn how to grow a sweet potato plant, afterwards make a healthy alternative to pancakes by making Sweet Potato pancakes. Developed by Whole kids Foundation. This special STEM club is open to village children K-6 th grade.

Celtic Irish Music and Song @ The Library-Sun., 3/18, 2:00 p.m. Come and celebrate St. Patrick's day with us listening to Celtic Irish music by Ian Gallagher. Refreshments will be served. Registration is required.

Losing Weight and Keeping It Off-Wed., 3/21, 3:30-4:30 p.m. A workshop for adults that explains BMI calculations and daily caloric needs. Also, learn tips for losing weight and keeping it off. Sponsored by Hackensack University Medical Center. If you are not sure what to do with your children while you are having fun, you may bring them and we will have a staff member with some teenagers eager to keep them entertained for you in the children's department but you must attend this program. Registration is required.

Game Tournament- Fri., 3/23, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sign up today for our March Madness Teen Game Tournament! Come prepared to battle it out for the top prize. And remember the game will not be revealed until the tournament begins. For 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

Eat a Rainbow Storytime-Sat., 3/31, 2:00-3:00 p.m. See how all the colors of the rainbow are represented in fruits and veggies. Afterwards, sample the selections in our Vegetable/Fruit stand sponsored by Shoprite in Hackensack. This is a drop-in program for children of all ages.

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE CLEAN

When Judy Collado lived in the Bronx with her sons, they started picking up trash left on her street. Now, she and her sons, Rodney and Roman Lopez, continue to do the same as residents of Ridgefield Park.

However, Judy has taken it a huge step further! Judy and her sons have inspired several families to help with cleaning up Main Street and several of the parks. Current cleanup areas are Main Street from Bank of America to Brewster Park, Fellowship, McGowan and Veterans Parks. The trash is bagged for disposal. Bottles and cans are bagged separately to be recycled.

Judy posts a schedule on the RP mom's FaceBook page. The schedule is also available on the Green Team page of the village website: www.ridgefieldpark.org/green-team/files/community-cleanup-calendar

To join in just show up on one of the scheduled days; bring a trash bag, and gloves.

It doesn't matter who dropped it or who is supposed to pick it up. What matters is that we take pride in our community.

Thank you go to Judy, her sons and all the others who are supporting this effort.

RIDGEFIELD PARK AWARDED SUSTAINABLE NEW JERSEY CERTIFICATION

We are excited to announce the village of Ridgefield Park has been awarded its first certification of bronze level in the Sustainable New Jersey certification program. Members of the Village's Green Team attended this year's Sustainable Jersey Annual Luncheon on November 14 in Atlantic City, where the village was recognized for this achievement.

Ridgefield Park's Green Team was created in 2016 to participate in the Sustainable New Jersey certification, a prestigious designation for municipal governments in New Jersey.

Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization that supports community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve environmental equity through tools, training, and financial incentives. Currently 201 out of 445 registered towns in New Jersey have been certified with 30 of those municipalities located in Bergen County.

This achievement follows the culmi-



nating efforts of the Green Team in setting up various projects such as the Community Garden, local business collaboration, and other sustainability practices. Congratulations to the Green Team for this noteworthy achievement!

To learn more about the Ridgefield Park Green Team and the many activities and programs planned for the upcoming year, please visit www.ridgefieldpark.org/greenteam.

RIDGEFIELD PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN SEASON 2

After a successful first year of the Ridgefield Park Community Garden project, we are getting ready for season 2. There is no financial cost for gardening plots which are located at both Fellowship and McGowan Parks. Instead, we ask for 18 hours of work per gardening year to help maintain and improve the community garden.

For more information go to www.ridgefieldpark.org/community-garden, contact us at rpcommunitygarden@gmail.com or call Janet at 201-362-4420.

HELP PREVENT LITTER

Litter is solid waste that contaminates our roads, parks, waterways, schoolyards and community.

Some examples of litter are plastic bottles, aluminum cans, paper, styrofoam, food wrappers and containers, plastic bags, cigarette butts and pet waste.

When litter is blown by the wind or washed by rain into storm drains it causes clogs, floods and pollution in our waterways.

It sticks around a long time too.

Glass Bottle	1 million years
Plastic Bottle	450 years
Aluminum Can	80-200 years
Styrofoam Cup	50 years
Plastic Bag	10-20 years
Cigarette Filter	1-5 years

What can you do to keep our community clean and healthy?

Recycle litter - Much of litter is recyclable.

Place litter in trash receptacles.

Never throw litter in the street or storm drain.

Pick up litter on and around your property.

Always pick up after your pets.

Keep a bag in your vehicle for garbage

until you can dispose of it.

A great reference is the Keep America Beautiful website www.kab.org for information, programs and inspiration about beautifying our community.



BOARD OF RECREATION

Just a reminder to everyone, the Board of Recreation is made up entirely of volunteers who generously give their time to run various programs and activities for the residents of the Village. It operates on a small budget provided by the Village and assists hundreds of residents in various activities. You may contact the Board of Recreation by either email at rpboardofrec@gmail.com or calling the voicemail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610. Information on all Board of Recreation activities is at www.ridgefieldpark.org. Please remember volunteers run these programs and they will get back to you as soon as possible.

Not all activities are run by the Board of Recreation and the Board will not be able to answer your questions on these activities. To make sure you are calling the right number for assistance, please remember to check our website to see what activities the Board sponsors. Not all sporting activities are run by the Board of Recreation. Baseball, football, wrestling and soccer, for instance, are all run by private organizations and unfortunately, we are unable to answer any questions concerning these activities. The summer concert series is also not run by the Board.

Please also be on the look-out for registration forms and news from the Board of Recreation on the school district website. A link has been created for community flyers. All forms are distributed electronically now so you can print it from there or on the Village website.

Upcoming Board of Recreation events

Acting and Improvisation Grades K-12 Learn to Act! Have Fun! Be creative! Build confidence!

Classes for all grades.

Taught by Rachel Maddock, MA Educational Theatre.

On-going Registration. Registration forms available at the Clerk's office or online.

For info: Voicemail (201) 641-4950 ext. 610,

Email: rpboardofrec@gmail.com or visit www.ridgefieldpark.org.

Students will be introduced to the basic elements of acting through theatre games and improvisation. They will develop an understanding of building an acting ensemble through cooperative group work and will learn spontaneity, physical and vocal expression, pantomime, character exploration and basic playwriting. — Older students will also study advanced acting techniques such as sensory work, monologue work, and basic scene study. — Acting and Improvisation classes are a great way for students to channel their energy and interact in a fun and creative way. — Acting and Improvisation builds confidence and life-long communication skills that can be applied to any field. Studies have shown that students who participate in the Arts have a greater chance of improving their academic performance.

T2S Basketball - The Board sponsors a basketball specific performance enhancement training program to students in grades 2-12 run by T2S Basketball Academy. There is ongoing registration. For further information, interested people can email t2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com or on Facebook: [@t2sbasketballacademy](https://www.facebook.com/t2sbasketballacademy).

Basketball - Coaches and schedules will be posted on the internet by the end of November. Clinic and all other divisions' games will begin the first weekend in December.

Wrestling - The Wrestling program has been moved from a Board of Recreation program to a private organization under the RP Junior Football Association. All questions should be directed to: **RPJFA (football and wrestling) - Dan Reeves at 201-577-2215 or email him at daniel.k.reeves@icloud.com**.

Tree Lighting - The Board of Recreation annual tree lighting will take place on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Included in the night's festivities are music by the Roosevelt School chorus as well as singing by guest soloists and the local boy and girl scouts. Vorhees-Ingwersen Funeral Home will again be donating a bicycle for the raffle for grades K-6. 7-11 will provide free Slurpees after the tree lighting. Don't forget to bring your ballot and deposit it in the box. Make sure YOU arrive early! There will be some special guests this year!!

Holiday Wish Tree - As in the past,

the Holiday Wish Tree will be located at the Oritani Bank at 233 Main Street and should have the tags available beginning November 24. The wish tree gives residents the opportunity to purchase a holiday gift for a less fortunate Village child. If you would like to participate, please stop by and select an ornament and return your gift by December 15, 2017. Your gift will then be delivered to a very appreciative child. Thanks again for your assistance!

Holiday Display Contest - The annual Holiday Display Contest will be held on Friday, December 22, 2017, at which time registered Village homes and businesses will be judged and prizes awarded. Judging will begin at dusk. After the contest, check for winners on www.ridgefieldpark.org. To make judging easier and to ensure that your home or business is included, you must register for the contest. Registration forms are available at www.ridgefieldpark.org or at the municipal building. You must register by December 21 to be included in the contest. There will be a contest for both residential and businesses. Forms can be mailed to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. You can use the form at the end of these announcements to register or you can email your information to: rpboardofrec@gmail.com.

Adult Trips/Activities - Watch the Community Message Board for discount tickets to events such as the Nets, the circus or ice shows. Periodically, the Board of Recreation is able to get discount tickets to various events. If you have a suggestion for an event, please drop us a note or leave a message on our voice mail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610.

Girls Softball - Be on the lookout for registration, which will take place in January. Forms will be distributed in the schools or go to www.ridgefieldpark.org. This year the program will expand and the girls will be participating in a league playing various towns in the area. The program is open to grades 3-8.

Women's Softball - Registration packets will be available in January or February. If you would like to play or have a team that would like to participate, please call the Board of Recreation and leave your name, address and telephone number and a packet will be prepared for your team.

All Board of Recreation meetings are open to the public. They are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building on the third floor in the Dare Room. Anyone with any ques-

tions, comments or suggestions is more than welcome to attend any meeting. Anyone needing to speak to the Board of Recreation may call (201) 641-4950 ext. 610 and leave a message on the voice mail. If you wish to send a letter, please address it to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park or email at rpboardofrec@gmail.com. For any information concerning Board of Recreation activities or to get a registration form, please go to www.ridgefieldpark.org.

The Board of Recreation is always welcome to hear your comments.

HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST - YOU MUST REGISTER IF YOU ARE RESIDENTIAL OR BUSINESS.

Mail to: Board of Recreation, 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660 by DECEMBER 21 if you would like to enter the annual contest. If you prefer, you may email your registration information to: rpboardofrec@gmail.com.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

FROM THE BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION/ OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Now is the time to prepare your house and property for a fire safe winter. Make sure your wood stove and fireplace chimney have been cleaned by a professional before you use same. The same for your boiler chimney. Have your boiler cleaned and serviced by a professional, before use. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors have a 10 year life, check the dates on your detectors, if they are more than 10 years old replace them. If they are still good, test them and make sure the batteries are replaced. Most hard wired smoke detectors today have battery backup, check them also.

Have a fire drill in your home, making sure everyone in your family knows at least two ways out of every room. Designate a meeting place for everyone in your family to report to. Make sure all your important



papers, like insurance, bank info, etc. are in a fire resistant cabinet.

The staff at the Village Bureau of Fire Prevention and the Office of Emergency Management wish all Village residents a fire safe and healthy holiday season. Fire Official Richard Bartlett, Emergency Management Coordinator Michael Lauer, Captain Albert Knaub, Administrative Assistant Francine Orovitz, and Inspectors Carl Detloff, Peter Faller and Chuck Batch.

U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION WINTER FIRES - SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR HOME

The high cost of home heating fuels and utilities have caused many Americans to search for alternate sources of home heating. The use of woodburning stoves is growing and space heaters are selling rapidly, or coming out of storage. Fireplaces are burning wood and manmade logs.

All these methods of heating may be acceptable. They are, however, a major contributing factor in residential fires. Many of these fires can be prevented. The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire safe home this winter.

Kerosene Heaters

- Be sure that kerosene heaters are legal in your area.

- Be sure your heater is in good working condition. Inspect exhaust parts for carbon buildup. Be sure the heater has an emergency shut off in case the heater is tipped over.

- Never use fuel burning appliances without proper room venting. Burning fuel (coal, kerosene, or propane, for example) can produce deadly fumes.

- Use ONLY the fuel recommended by the heater manufacturer. **NEVER introduce a fuel into a unit not designed for that type fuel.**

- Keep kerosene, or other flammable liquids stored in approved metal containers, in

well ventilated storage areas, outside of the house.

- **NEVER** fill the heater while it is operating or hot. When refueling an oil or kerosene unit, avoid overfilling.

- Refueling should be done outside of the home (or outdoors). Keep young children away from space heaters — especially when they are wearing night gowns or other loose clothing that can be easily ignited.

- When using a fuel burning appliance in the bedroom, be sure there is proper ventilation to prevent a buildup of carbon monoxide.

Wood Stoves and Fireplaces

- Wood stoves and fireplaces are becoming a very common heat source in homes. Careful attention to safety can minimize their fire hazard.

To use them safely:

- Be sure the fireplace or stove is installed properly. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (36") from combustible surfaces and proper floor support and protection.

- Wood stoves should be of good quality, solid construction and design, and should be laboratory tested.

- Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.

- Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.

- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening, to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out, unwanted material from going in, and help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.

- The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15-30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote buildup.

- Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build roaring fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.

- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.

- Keep flammable materials away from your fireplace mantel. A spark from the fireplace could easily ignite these materials.

- Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out — **NEVER close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace.** A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.

- If synthetic logs are used, follow the directions on the package. **NEVER** break



a synthetic log apart to quicken the fire or use more than one log at a time. They often burn unevenly, releasing higher levels of carbon monoxide.

Furnace Heating

- It is important that you have your furnace inspected to ensure that it is in good working condition.

- Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shutoffs are in proper working condition.

- Leave furnace repairs to qualified specialists. Do not attempt repairs yourself unless you are qualified. Inspect the walls and ceiling near the furnace and along the chimney line. If the wall is hot or discolored, additional pipe insulation or clearance may be required.

- Check the flue pipe and pipe seams. Are they well supported and free of holes and cracks? Soot along or around seams may be an indicator of a leak.

- Is the chimney solid, with cracks or loose bricks? All unused flue openings should be sealed with solid masonry

- Keep trash and other combustibles away from the heating system.

Other Fire Safety Tips

Never discard hot ashes inside or near the home. Place them in a metal container outside and well away from the house.

- Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device. Not only is it a safety hazard, it can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.

- If you use an electric heater, be sure not to overload the circuit. Only use extension cords which have the necessary rating to carry an amp load. *TIP: Choose an extension cord the same size or larger than the appliance electrical cord.*

- Avoid using electrical space heaters in bathrooms or other areas where they may come in contact with water.

- Frozen water pipes? Never try to thaw them with a blow torch or other open flame, otherwise the pipe could conduct the heat

and ignite the wall structure inside the wall space. Use hot water or a laboratory tested device such as a hand held dryer for thawing.

- If windows are used as emergency exits in your home, practice using them in the event fire should strike. Be sure that all the windows open easily. Home escape ladders are recommended.

- If there is a fire hydrant near your home you can assist the fire department by keeping the hydrant clear of snow so in the event it is needed, it can be located

Finally...

- Be sure every level of your home has a working smoke alarm, and be sure to check and clean it on a monthly basis.

- Plan and practice a home escape plan with your family.

- Contact your local fire department for advice if you have a question on home fire safety.

VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK
BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION
50 Main Street
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Snow Emergencies

Village Ordinance 197-25

With the winter approaching, we have once again reached that time of year when snow emergencies unexpectedly arise. The Ridgefield Park Police Department would like to remind Village residents to vigilantly observe snow ordinance signs when parking vehicles before, during and after a snow emergency. It is the responsibility of each individual resident to be aware of possible upcoming storms or severe changes in the weather by monitoring weather reports. Mother Nature is unpredictable and it is suggested that you remove your vehicle from the snow emergency side of the street if weather reports indicate that there is even the slightest inclination that it may snow. Parking is permitted at the town pool if no other options are available to you.

Residents who will be on vacation or who will use public transportation should take special care to make arrangements with relatives or friends to ensure the prompt removal of vehicles during a snow emergency. Absolutely NO PERMISSIONS will be granted for any reason. Vehicles in violation must be removed for snowplowing and to permit emergency vehicles to move uninhibited throughout the village.

The Ridgefield Park Police Department will send out a reverse 9-1-1 message alerting residents that the snow ordinance is in effect. Also as a courtesy, a Nixle message will be sent out informing residents as well. If you have not registered for Nixle, please text 07660 to 888777 to stay informed. In addition, patrol officers may make announcements using their patrol vehicle's PA system to inform residents that the snow ordinance is in effect. After the above methods have been exhausted, officers will commence issuing summonses to vehicles that remain in violation of VO 197-25. After a State of Emergency Declaration, vehicles will be impounded as authorized by VO 197-27. The Ridgefield Park Police Department reserves the right to keep parking restrictions in effect for as long as necessary to ensure the safety and security of all residents. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Removal of Ice and Snow Village Ordinance 333-2 (Residents)

State Law 39:4-207.9 (Business Owners)

Residents are reminded that snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 12 hours of daylight after same has formed or fallen.

Business owners are reminded that snow, ice or any other obstructions must be cleared from a handicapped parking space, curb cut or other improvement designed to provide accessibility for the handicapped. This must be done within 24 hours after the weather condition which causes the snow or ice ceases.

At no time during the removal of snow from sidewalks, driveways or the digging out of a vehicle will the snow be cast, thrown, blown or dumped onto the street. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Ice and Snow Removal from Motor Vehicle Law 39:4-77.1

The Ridgefield Park Police Department is reminding motorists to always remove accumulated ice and snow from their vehicles before traveling on New Jersey's roadways. Motorists who fail to clear their vehicles of ice and snow before driving can be cited and fined under an amended law which became effective October 20, 2010. Prior to this change, a motorist could only receive a citation if failure to remove ice and snow from a vehicle resulted in injury to others or in the event of property damage. If failure to remove ice and snow results in injury or property damage, motorists face fines ranging from \$200 to \$1000 while commer-

cial motor vehicle drivers face fines ranging from \$500 to \$1500 for each offense. Exposed surfaces include but are not limited to: the hood, the trunk, the windshield and windows, the roof, the cab of a truck and the top of a trailer, semi-trailer or intermodal freight container. A driver who violates the provisions of this sub-section may be stopped on a street or highway by a law enforcement officer who believes the accumulated snow and/or ice may pose a threat to persons or property.

A driver may only be cited for a violation once in a 24 hour period. However, every day that a violation occurs is considered a separate incident. The law does not apply when a driver is operating a vehicle during a snow and/or ice storm that began and continued for the duration of a vehicle's operation or while a vehicle is parked. The person in physical possession of a vehicle at the time of snow and/or ice accumulation is responsible for its removal. There have been many instances in New Jersey of motorists and pedestrians being seriously injured or even killed due to ice and snow falling from a moving motor vehicle. Please do your part in keeping New Jersey's roadways safe.

RPPD Personnel

Effective September 2017, Brian Ooms, Christopher Beirne, Thomas Arnold and Grant Novak have completed their field training and are now on the road as probationary patrolmen.

Ptl. Brad Gilmore resigned from the R.P.P.D. to accept a position with the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office.

Ptl. David Marco returned to the R.P.P.D. after a brief stint with the West Caldwell Police Department.

We would like to wish good luck to all in their endeavors.

FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE

RAFFLES

All Clubs, Organizations, PTAs or Individuals that conduct 50/50's, tricky trays, basket raffles, bingo, casino nights, or any other type of raffle must register with the State of New Jersey Legalized Games of Chance Commission to obtain an Identification Number. Only after obtaining this ID number can you apply for a raffle license.

The State will not issue a raffle license unless you are a registered organization. To register: www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/

lgccc

Failure to comply can result in your event being shut down.

Raffle license applications are available in the Village Clerk's office. Applications must be completed no less than 6 weeks prior to your raffle.

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Property Tax Payments can now be made online using a debit/credit card, or your bank account information. **There will be convenience fees charged for this service. The convenience fee is charged by the provider and not the Village.** To make a payment, visit the Village website: www.ridgefield-park.org and click on the link: "Make online property tax payments"

When making tax payments, by mail or in person, please submit your entire tax bill for receipting purposes. If making payments by mail, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you request a receipt.

****THERE IS A DROP BOX LOCATED IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT LOBBY FOR TAX PAYMENTS. PLEASE - NO CASH PAYMENTS.**

NEW WEBSITE

We have incorporated an "Event Calendar" to post ALL Village events/fundraisers. To accomplish this, we need your help - Any Village Organization, Club, PTA, etc. that would like their event posted, please visit our website and click on "Contact Us". Select "Website" in the Subject Field, Type your information and send. You can also drop off the information to the Village Clerk's office. This will assist organizations with choosing dates that are NOT in conflict with other scheduled events.



CHANGES IN DELIVERY OF NEWSLETTER

Home Delivery Will Be Discontinued

Over the last few years, we have lost much of our local coverage of newsworthy events in Ridgefield Park. The Record discontinued its weekly publication of The Patriot; and it has reduced its local coverage of our Village. We recognize that the Record is responding to changing trends in how people access information. More and more, people are turning to the internet to find out what is going on - not just on a national basis, but on a local level as well.

We have tried to provide information about our community to our residents through our quarterly Village Newsletter. But the costs and logistics of delivering this newsletter have also become more demanding. As a result, we will be discontinuing the local home delivery of the Village Newsletter starting in 2018. However, we will still be publishing the Village Newsletter, and making it available on our website (Ridgefieldpark.org) and will also be making copies available at the Library, Civic Center, Municipal Building, and other locations.

In addition, we have modified our website to allow the public to sign up to a **notification list** so that as news items are placed onto our website, all those who have signed up will be notified via *e-mail or text message*. **If you wish to subscribe to this FREE service, please visit Ridgefieldpark.org and follow the directions to add your name to the notification list.**

We also encourage local organizations and clubs to send us information of their up-coming events so that we can include these events on our monthly calendar.

We recognize that this new system will not fully fill the gap left by the loss of news coverage by The Patriot, The Sun Bulletin, The Bergen News, and The Record. But, we hope to at least provide you with as much information as we have available about our great Village in an efficient and a reasonable manner.

We don't profess to be the experts in disseminating news and information. So, if you have any ideas, please feel free to let us know your ideas. You can submit your suggestions to:
e-mail: Mridgefieldpark@nj.rr.com or to the Village Clerk's Office, 234 Main St., Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660

VOLUNTEER FOR THE NEW YEAR

In many ways, New Jersey is a great example of how our democracy works. We have 21 Counties, 565 Municipalities, 678 school districts, and thousands of committees, commissions, and boards. And all of these entities have volunteers - like you - making our government work – making our democracy work.

If you are one of those volunteers – Thank You for being part our continuing effort to have a thriving democratic republic. If you have been busy and haven't had much time up until now, then maybe NOW is the time to get more involved.

New Jersey is sometimes referred to as “The Crossroads of the Revolution”. And that is because during our fight for independence, the people of New Jersey rose up to fight for our freedoms. They volunteered to help create this great country of ours.

Now, we are entering a New Year; and at all levels of government – in all parts of our community – we need people to volunteer to help keep Ridgefield Park as the great place that it is. **We need YOU.**

All of our various committees, commissions, boards, and departments would be happy to make you part of their team. If you only have one resolution for the New Year, then make that resolution to volunteer to be more active in your community – to be more active in Ridgefield Park.

We have many committees to choose from. Such as the Fire Department, Ambulance Corps, Rescue Squad, Shade Tree Commission, Environmental Commission, Green Tem, Board of Recreation, Friends of the Library, Village Gardeners, etc.

We also have many non-government groups who could use your help. The Soccer Assoc., The Little League, the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, The Elks Club, The Masons, The Knights of Columbus, The Women's Club, , are good examples of our many community organizations.

Pick an organization or a subject that interests you. You may even see a need to form a new group for a new cause. But the important thing is to take action and join. Don't just talk about it. DO IT! Our community will benefit –and so will YOU.

You can get more information on how to volunteer by contacting the organization or group of your choice; or contact the Ridgefield Park Village Clerk's Office at 201-641-4950; or go to our website at RidgefieldPark.org.

VOLUNTEER FOR YOURSELF & FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

U.S. Fire Administration

Winter Fires

*Safety Tips for
The Home*

The high cost of home heating fuels and utilities have caused many Americans to search for alternate sources of home heating. The use of woodburning stoves is growing and space heaters are selling rapidly, or coming out of storage. Fireplaces are burning wood and manmade logs.

All these methods of heating may be acceptable. They are, however, a major contributing factor in residential fires. Many of these fires can be prevented. The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire safe home this winter.

KEROSENE HEATERS

- ♦ Be sure that kerosene heaters are legal in your area.
- ♦ Be sure your heater is in good working condition. Inspect exhaust parts for carbon buildup. Be sure the heater has an emergency shut off in case the heater is tipped over.
- ♦ Never use fuel burning appliances without proper room venting. Burning fuel (coal, kerosene, or propane, for example) can produce deadly fumes.
- ♦ Use **ONLY** the fuel recommended by the heater manufacturer. **NEVER introduce a fuel into a unit not designed for that type fuel.**
- ♦ Keep kerosene, or other flammable liquids stored in approved metal containers, in well ventilated storage areas, outside of the house.
- ♦ **NEVER** fill the heater while it is operating or hot. When refueling an oil or kerosene unit, avoid overfilling.
- ♦ Refueling should be done outside of the home (or outdoors). Keep young children away from space heaters—especially when they are wearing night gowns or other loose clothing that can be easily ignited.
- ♦ When using a fuel burning appliance in the bedroom, be sure there is proper ventilation to prevent a buildup of carbon monoxide.

WOOD STOVES AND FIREPLACES

Wood stoves and fireplaces are becoming a very common heat source in homes. Careful attention to safety can minimize their fire hazard.

TO USE THEM SAFELY:

- ♦ Be sure the fireplace or stove is installed properly. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (36") from combustible surfaces and proper floor support and protection.
- ♦ Wood stoves should be of good quality, solid construction and design, and should be laboratory tested.
- ♦ Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.
- ♦ Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- ♦ Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening, to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out, unwanted material from going in, and help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.
- ♦ The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15-30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote buildup.

continued on reverse

- ✦ Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build roaring fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.
- ✦ Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- ✦ Keep flammable materials away from your fireplace mantel. A spark from the fireplace could easily ignite these materials.
- ✦ Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. **NEVER close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace.** A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.
- ✦ If synthetic logs are used, follow the directions on the package. **NEVER** break a synthetic log apart to quicken the fire or use more than one log at a time. They often burn unevenly, releasing higher levels of carbon monoxide.

FURNACE HEATING

- ✦ It is important that you have your furnace inspected to ensure that it is in good working condition.
- ✦ Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shutoffs are in proper working condition.
- ✦ Leave furnace repairs to qualified specialists. Do not attempt repairs yourself unless you are qualified. Inspect the walls and ceiling near the furnace and along the chimney line. If the wall is hot or discolored, additional pipe insulation or clearance may be required.
- ✦ Check the flue pipe and pipe seams. Are they well supported and free of holes and cracks? Soot along or around seams may be an indicator of a leak.
- ✦ Is the chimney solid, with cracks or loose bricks? All unused flue openings should be sealed with solid masonry.
- ✦ Keep trash and other combustibles away from the heating system.

OTHER FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Never discard hot ashes inside or near the home. Place them in a metal container outside and well away from the house.

- ✦ Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device. Not only is it a safety hazard, it can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.
- ✦ If you use an electric heater, be sure not to overload the circuit. Only use extension cords which have the necessary rating to carry an amp load.
TIP: Choose an extension cord the same size or larger than the appliance electrical cord.
- ✦ Avoid using electrical space heaters in bathrooms or other areas where they may come in contact with water.
- ✦ Frozen water pipes? Never try to thaw them with a blow torch or other open flame, otherwise the pipe could conduct the heat and ignite the wall structure inside the wall space. Use hot water or a laboratory tested device such as a hand held dryer for thawing.
- ✦ If windows are used as emergency exits in your home, practice using them in the event fire should strike. Be sure that all the windows open easily. Home escape ladders are recommended.
- ✦ If there is a fire hydrant near your home you can assist the fire department by keeping the hydrant clear of snow so in the event it is needed, it can be located.

FINALLY...

- ✦ Be sure every level of your home has a working smoke alarm, and be sure to check and clean it on a monthly basis.
- ✦ Plan and practice a home escape plan with your family.
- ✦ Contact your local fire department for advice if you have a question on home fire safety.

**COLLECTION REGULATION REMINDER**

Newspapers and Comingled recyclables can no longer be placed in PLASTIC BAGS!

All containers and recyclables must be placed at the curb NO EARLIER than 5 PM. the night before collection and empty containers removed from the curb by 8 PM on collection day.

For more information, visit us on the web @ www.ridgefieldpark.gov.

GARBAGE RECEPTACLES:

Garbage and recycling receptacles are susceptible to rodents and insects. Please keep garbage in a covered receptacle. Rinsing them with water and bleach will help to keep them clean and detract pests.

Oversized receptacles will be tagged. Repeated use of oversized cans will result in confiscation of receptacle.

All trash containers must be 32 gallons or less!

- The contents must be lifted by one person.
- **DO NOT purchase the extra-large trash containers that are made for machinery to lift.** These include wheeled containers with a bar instead of handles and flip back tops. They cannot be emptied by one person safely.
- **Bags cannot weigh more than 30 lbs.**
- Do NOT fill your garbage can with rocks or dirt. Do not allow it to fill with water.
- **Yard waste limit is 35 pounds per container.**

**Broken receptacles and those that do not meet regulations
may be classified as trash and collected for disposal**

If you have questions, please call the DPW @ 201-440-4860

**LEAF SEASON**

LEAF SEASON begins on October 15th and ends on December 31st. Leaves must be placed in the street-along the curb line in front of your home on the alternate side parking day, when the sweeper is due to pass. It is a violation of Village of Ridgefield Park ordinance to sweep, cast or throw anything into the gutter except leaves during designated leaf season. Leaves can also be placed in a trash can or PAPER bags.

PARK PERMITS:

Park permits can be obtained from the DPW for Veterans, Brewster and Hunter parks. Groups of 10 or more are required to request a permit and pay the appropriate fees. Residents may contact the DPW 201-440-4860. All park usage is on a first come, first serve basis. This includes sports field use.

POT HOLES:



Please report potholes to the DPW @ 201-440-4860

RAIN WATER:



Catch basins are designed to slow the release of the rain water into the storm sewer system. Debris collects on top of the catch basin, preventing it from entering the system while also slowing the draining process. DPW crews clear this debris after heavy rainfalls. Report excessive accumulation of debris to the DPW. It is unlawful to put anything into the catch basin. This includes motor oil, cooking oil, pet waste or other debris.

RECYCLING CENTER

The recycling center is located at 24 Industrial Avenue.

Residents can drop off recyclable items from 9 AM to 12PM (NOON), Monday through Saturday.

A "REUSE" area is now available. Residents can leave serviceable items they no longer need, which may be of use to other residents. This is at the discretion of the recycling coordinator and limited to space constraints.

Only small amounts of trash will be accepted and proof of residency is required.

You may be required to show a valid building permit for construction materials.

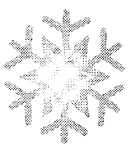
NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES*NO CONTRACTOR WASTE PERMITTED*NO HOUSE CLEAN-OUTS

SCAVENGERS:



Scavenging is against the law. Village ordinance prohibits the removal of any curbside trash/recyclables by anyone other than a DPW employee or agent. The village receives revenue from some collections, which helps to offset disposal and equipment costs. Call the Police Department @ 201-641-6400, if you notice scavengers in your area.

SNOW SEASON



With the arrival of winter, snow is not far behind. The DPW has an aggressive snow plowing program. Please remove your cars from the NO PARKING WHEN SNOW COVERED side of the street. While this may be an inconvenience, it is for the safety of our residents. Safe passage for emergency vehicles is a top priority. Cars parked in violation **WILL** be ticketed and may be towed.

PLEASE NOTE: It is a violation to place snow into the roadway.

Use care when cleaning walkways, driveways and cars.

Village of Ridgefield Park Code 333-2.C – Removal of Ice and Snow from Sidewalks

At no time during the removal of snow from sidewalks or driveways or the digging out of a vehicle will the snow be cast, thrown, blown or dumped onto a traffic lane of any Village street.

(Added 9-8-1987 by Ord. No. 12-87)

SIDEWALKS:



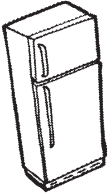
Homeowners are responsible for the maintenance of sidewalks surrounding their property. Please keep sidewalks clear of debris. Bushes also need to be trimmed to allow safe use of sidewalks. Low hanging branches can be reported to the DPW. The Shade Tree Commission has a program to assist homeowners with sidewalks damaged by trees. They can be contacted @ 201-641-4950 x 640.

STREET SWEEPING



The street sweeper is scheduled to clean in front of your home once each week, weather permitting. If you check the half-day parking ban signs in front of your home, you will know when the street will be cleaned. Alternate Side Parking is in effect whether the sweeper is out or not, so please move your vehicle as noted.

WHITE GOODS

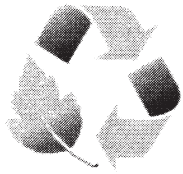


WHITE GOODS and tires **must be called into the DPW** before they are placed at the curb.

WHITE GOODS include: Tires, Computers, Electronics, TVs, and Air Conditioners & Appliances.

Note: Refrigerators and freezers must have doors removed & unit should be laid flat to prevent injury. Call 201-440-4860, give address, place item at the curb Tuesday night for Wednesday pick-up. Failure to call will result in the item remaining at the curb and you may be subject to a fine.

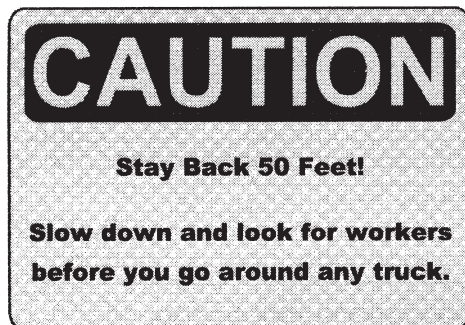
YARD WASTE:



Yard waste consists of grass clippings, garden vines, leaves tree branches, shrubbery. **Stones, gravel, rocks, dirt and sod will NOT be picked up.** Yard waste must be put into a container or PAPER bag weighing no more than 35 lbs. **Do NOT rake yard waste into the street.** Tree branches and brush should be cut into 4 ft. lengths and tied into manageable bundles. Place yard waste on the curb the night before your collection day.

Stay Back 50 Feet!

Slow down and look for workers before you go around any truck.



NJ Legislation has passed a bill (A-4452), effective May 1, 2017, which adds SANITATION VEHICLES to the existing "Slow Down/Move Over" law. The bill, referred to as "Michael Massey's Law", follows the death of Freehold resident Michael Massey, an Ocean County public works employee who was killed in a 2013 motor vehicle crash while working.

The law REQUIRES motorists to reduce their speed and change lanes when approaching authorized vehicles- which now includes sanitation vehicles. The law also requires sanitation vehicles to display flashing amber lights while stopped on a street and while engaged in the collection of garbage or while moving between stops at a speed of 10 miles per hour or less.

♻️ SORT IT OUT



Unsure How to Dispose
of a Particular Item?
Call 201-440-4860

What you need to know about recycling and garbage collection



Aerosol Cans

- Empty & rinse

Plastic Containers

- #1, #2 or #5 includes beverage, cleaning, and laundry containers

Aluminum Cans & Foil

- Empty & rinse/Discard food waste

Tin & Steel Cans

- Empty & rinse

Glass Bottle & Jars

- Empty & rinse



General household garbage

- Household garbage is picked up at the curb twice a week.
- Place garbage cans at the curb after 5pm the night before scheduled collection.
- Garbage cans must be removed the evening of collection.
- Trash cans should be 32 gallons or less and no more than 50 lbs.



Cardboard

- Flatten boxes –place at curb

Newspapers- NO PLASTIC BAGS!

- Place in a brown paper bag, loosely in a container or tied with string.

Magazines -NO PLASTIC BAGS!

- Place in a brown paper bag, loosely in a container or tied with string.

Books

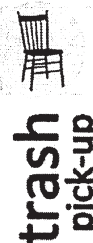
- Remove covers, tie in bundles.



OPEN → Monday-Saturday 9 am-1pm

Drop off appliances, batteries, bottles & cans, cardboard, cooking oil, electronics, furniture, lightbulbs, magazines, motor oil, newspapers, paint cans, EMPTY propane tanks, styrofoam, and yard waste.

- **Proof of residency required**
- NO Commercial or Rental vehicles permitted



Trash is picked up once a month

- North of Mt Vernon-1st Thursday
- Mt. Vernon & South-1st Friday

Trash includes bags of clothing, furniture, mattresses and toys

- NO HAZARDOUS waste materials will be picked up at the curb.
- Appliances, computers & tires will not be picked up on trash day.



"White Goods" are picked up at the curb on Wednesday mornings.

- "White Goods" consist of air conditioners, BBQs, computers, dishwashers, dryers, fans, FAX machines, freezers, hot water heaters metal items, monitors, printers, refrigerators, stoves, tires, TVs and washing machines.
- Call 201-440-4860 by Tuesday to schedule a pick-up



Yard waste is picked up once a week

- Mt. Vernon & South-Mondays
- North of Mt Vernon-Tuesdays
- Place in cans or paper bags
- NO PLASTIC BAGS!

Leaves may be raked into the street during October, November & December.

- Place on the sweeper side of the street on the appropriate day



Items in good condition & working order may be brought to the recycling center, where other residents can make use of them.

Keep in mind that storage is limited- we cannot accept upholstered furniture/mattresses/clothing.

ALL items accepted at the discretion of the Recycling Attendant.