

September 15, 2021

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

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RESIDENT RAILROAD PARKING PERMITS

Annual Resident Parking Permits for the Railroad Parking Fields are on sale at Village Hall. Permit cost is \$150 (payment by cash, money order, check payable to the Incorporated Village of Garden City and/or Master Card/Visa/Discover, in person only). Renewal applications will be mailed on September 10. Applications returned via mail must be updated and contain a copy of a valid registration and check. For any questions, please call Garden City Village Hall at (516) 465-4166.

AGGRESSIVE DRIVING PATROLS

During the Police Department's aggressive driving campaign, which coincided with the first week of schools and concentrated on locations in the vicinity of schools, bus stops and student pedestrian routes, officers issued the following tickets:

- Speeding in a school zone 52
- Speeding 62
- Passed stopped school bus 05
- Passed red traffic light 05
- Passed stop sign 14
- Lane usage/illegal turns 20
- Disobey traffic signs 06
- Cell phone violations 08
- Seatbelt/Child restraint 05
- Illegal Muffler 02
- Suspended license/reg. 13
- Driver license violations 23
- Registration violations 15
- Switch/fraudulent plates 05
- Uninsured operation 30
- Misc. violations 123

The Police Department asks all drivers to be aware of children walking and riding bicycles to school and to be very careful when driving in the vicinity of schools, student walk routes and bus stops. The Village has entered into an agreement with the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee to participate in a federally funded, statewide police traffic services program aimed at increasing seatbelt usage and reducing dangerous driving behaviors. The Department's grant totals \$21,000, a \$2,500 increase over last year.

BLUE WATER

H2M, the Village's water consultant, continues investigating discolored "rusty" water complaints. Further, the firm has submitted a letter report to the Village regarding "blue water" complaints, some of which came from Hilton Hall. H2M tested the outside water main as well as a resident's apartment. H2M is reviewing the Village system water, specifically pH levels and has advised the Village to modify the pH adjustment of the wells. The pH adjustment should mitigate causes of the blue tinge. The apartment building's management company has hired an independent consultant to further review its water quality.

Discolored water complaints need to be reported to the Water Department at 516-465-4020. Residents should leave a message if no one answers the phone and provide their address, name and a contact phone number. H2M is gathering the data as part of its investigation into causes so that they can help plan mitigation strategies. The Water Department oftentimes will assist the resident in the short-term while they also share the information with H2M, which is looking at long-term solution(s).

WATER UPDATE

Water Tower: Minor miscellaneous work items were completed this week. A meeting was held September 10 with the prime contractor, electrical subcontractor and the Village alarm systems company to discuss and review the upcoming electrical installations. The painter expects to remobilize next week to complete the exterior coatings.

Well 7 (Waterworks site): Three minor items remain on the punch list. The contractor provided change orders that were requested during construction. H2M is reviewing the same.

Wells 8 and 12 (Rockaway Avenue site): H2M completed performance testing of the Well 12 AOP system and sent samples to Pace Analytical. Sample results are expected within two and a half weeks. The NC Department of Health will conduct its own sampling and walkthrough of the site.

Well No 9 (Wilson Street site): Soil investigation was performed. H2M is progressing with the design.

Wells 10 and 11 (Clinton Road site): Well 11 was taken out of service due to AST blower issues. H2M is evaluating the blower and enclosure replacement. H2M will provide a plan for the new blower to the Village for review.

Wells 13 and 14 (Garden City Country Club site): Received approval from the New York State Department of Health to operate wells with treatment to system. Wells 13 and 14 are able to run to system through treatment. Well 13 is currently running to system without treatment. Design has started on the GAC Building and associated site work. The Village will introduce Well 14 through the treatment system. Once Well 14 is stable, Well 13 will be sent through treatment to system.

Wells 15 and 16 Hilton Park site): Crews removed iron media from vessels, painted the interior pipes, poured pads for the electrical equipment and installed conduits. Well 16 work will be scheduled shortly.

MORE TRAFFIC CALMING STUDIES

Last month, the Board of Trustees approved a neighborhood traffic calming study for the “numbered” streets in the Village. Initially the study was to include streets between Hilton and Cathedral avenues but has since been expanded to now include streets between Franklin Avenue and Rockaway Avenue. Further, in response to comments made by some Village Trustees and the public about traffic calming studies in other parts of the community, Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi has requested Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP propose a Village-wide satellite study to cover six high traffic areas of the Village.

Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson’s comments following Creighton Manning’s July presentation on the recently completed Cathedral Avenue road diet traffic calming study pointed out that three Nassau County-owned roads - New Hyde Park Road, Washington Avenue and Rockaway Avenue, four-lane high traffic thoroughfares, would all be good candidates for road diet consideration. Mr. Suozzi and representatives from Creighton Manning intend to meet with Nassau County officials after the final Cathedral Avenue study has concluded.

THANK YOU GARDEN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

On behalf of the Garden City community, we wish to thank Fire Chief Devyn Moody and members of the Garden City Volunteer Fire Department for conducting the touching 20th year anniversary ceremony of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. It was a very moving experience and assisted many of us to get through that difficult day.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY SERIES: PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY

This is part three of the four-part series of articles by the Garden City Police Department addressing Back-to-School Safety Issues. In the previous two newspaper articles we addressed Safe Driving Practices and School Bus Safety. If you missed either of these articles, you can stop by the Garden City Police Department and pick up a copy. This week’s article will cover Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety. Parents, Grandparents, Guardians and Teachers are encouraged to use this article to help teach their children about Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety.

Pedestrian Safety:

- Children should not walk while talking on a cell phone or texting.
- Pedestrians should always use sidewalks when available and walk on the inside edge of the sidewalk farthest away from traffic. If a sidewalk is unavailable, pedestrians are encouraged to walk in a single file as close to the edge of the roadway as practical. You should also walk against the flow of traffic so that oncoming cars are visible.

- As mentioned in Part Two of this series, research has shown that until your child is at least 8 years old, you should hold their hand on sidewalks and in parking lots. Furthermore, until they are 10 years old you should hold their hand while crossing the street.
- Teach your children to be defensive and NEVER assume that a driver sees them.
- Avoid crossing streets at mid-block, especially when parked cars may obstruct motorists' vision. Cross at stop signs, traffic signals, crosswalks, and crossing guards when available.
- When crossing a street, NEVER assume a green light or WALK signal means it is safe to cross the street. Remember; LOOK LEFT, then RIGHT, then LEFT again before crossing.
- Remove earphones when preparing to cross the street. You will not be able to hear approaching traffic.
- Do not follow others across the street until you have checked for yourself to see that it is safe to cross.
- Walk the route to school with your child and discuss safe practices. Teach your children about traffic laws and encourage them to ask questions when they are unsure of what to do.
- Crossing Guards are near schools to assist children and others in safely crossing the street. It is a violation of New York State Law to disregard the signals and directions of crossing guards.
- Teach your children to obey the directions given to them by crossing guards. This includes crossing only when directed, not running, and not riding bicycles through the crossings.

Bicycle Safety:

- Persons riding bicycles are subject to the same laws as motorists.
- All bicyclists under the age of 14 are required to wear approved bicycle helmets when they are operators or passengers on bicycles. Parents should set a good example and wear a helmet.
- Regardless of what the law requires, the Garden City Police Department recommends that ALL operators and passengers wear bicycle helmets. According to a 2020 report from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, 62% of bicyclists killed in accidents were documented as not wearing a bike helmet use was unknown in 23 percent of the fatalities.
- Teach your children how to ride a bicycle and practice riding in a safe location where there are no cars. It is important for children to learn how to signal, turns, slow down, and stop without falling. Hand signals for bicyclists are the same as for motorists.
- Teach your children to be defensive when riding and NEVER assume a driver sees them.
- Bicyclists should carefully look in all directions for vehicles, other bicyclists, and pedestrians and be careful when approaching intersections or driveways where vehicles may be turning.

- Children should walk their bicycles across intersections.
- Bicycles should be ridden in bicycle lanes when available or as close to the right edge of the roadway as practical in the same direction as traffic.
- Ride your bicycle in single file only.
- NEVER use a bicycle to carry more people than it was designed to carry. Never ride anyone on the handlebars.
- When riding a bicycle, wear bright colored clothing and make sure the bicycle has proper reflectors.
- Bicyclists may not be able to hear or see approaching traffic while wearing earphones, talking on a phone, or texting. It is illegal to wear more than one earphone while riding a bicycle.

A bicycle must be equipped with:

- a) Brakes that are capable of making the tires skid, on dry level pavement.
- b) A bell, horn or other device that can be heard at least a hundred feet away; sirens and whistles are NOT permitted.
- c) Bicycles driven between a half-hour after sunset and a half-hour before sunrise must be equipped with a white front headlight visible in darkness for at least 500 feet, and a red taillight visible for at least 300 feet.
- d) A bicycle, when purchased new and/or driven at night, must have reflective tires, or wide-angle spoke-mounted reflectors. Reflectors must be colorless or amber for front wheels and colorless or red for rear wheels.

The Garden City Police Department encourages residents to incorporate these safe practices into their lives to make this school year a safe one. Please remember to read Part Four of the Back to School Series, "Stranger Danger," next week.