

June 28, 2023

The beautiful tree-lined streets of our Village and well maintained and landscaped homes are part of what residents love about our community, and they make Garden City one of the most desirable communities on Long Island. As the Village moves forward with repaving roadways, the topic of what can be costly sidewalk repairs has been raised by residents at Board meetings and on social media. After evaluating the tax impact of including sidewalk repairs in the Village roadway paving budget, the present Board will not be changing the long standing policy. To address the concerns raised by residents, the following action are being taken. We will be working to improve communication to residents about the sidewalk policy, and we will look to provide an option for residents to finance the expenditure as is done in some other communities. I am sharing some general points regarding our sidewalk policy, and we are working to provide a more detailed description on the Village website. Hopefully, in doing this residents will understand that getting a notice to repair your sidewalk is not something that is done arbitrarily or unfairly. Our present sidewalk policy allows residents the alternative of negotiating a price with a private contractor or, in certain instances, to join forces with their neighbors in order to obtain a group rate.

How do we determine which sidewalks need to be repaired?

- A Civil Engineer determines which sidewalks are in need of repair.
- The Village policy for determining a tripping hazard for a defective sidewalk flag follows the standard set by the 2010 Department of Justice ADA Guidelines, which is ¼” vertical rise maximum. If a sidewalk is raised greater than ¼” it is in violation.
- Other reasons a sidewalk flag can be cited as defective are: it is broken, cracked, deteriorating, flaking/peeling, high, low, an unapproved repair was made, settlement, spalling, tree roots lifting sidewalk, joint openings are greater than ½”, flag is not to line and grade, etc.

When do residents receive notices to repair sidewalks?

- When we are paving a road, we will cite any sidewalk that *needs* to be repaired based on the above standards. We *do not* automatically repair all sidewalks just because we are paving the road.
 - *If your street address is not on the road we are paving, but your property abuts the road we are paving (such as a corner property), you can still be cited for repairs.*
- When we receive written notice from a resident or business alerting us to a sidewalk that might be in need of repair, we will inspect it, and if deemed necessary, we will put the owner on notice that it needs to be repaired.
- When the Police Department notifies us of a sidewalk that is possibly in need of repair; if they encounter it in the course of doing their job, e.g., taking a report for a trip and fall.

What is the policy for Village maintained sidewalks?

- Sidewalks maintained by the Village are handled in the same way as any sidewalk in the Village is handled. If we are paving a road that contains Village-maintained sidewalks, we will evaluate our sidewalks and repair as necessary.

It is necessary to repair or replace a defective sidewalk and/or driveway apron and/or drop curb for safety reasons and to reduce the likelihood of lawsuits against you, as a property owner, and against the Village, at large. It is for these reasons the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution which provides that property owners are required to build, replace or repair a defective or damaged sidewalk abutting their property within 30 days from the date of the Notice. (Village Code Chapter 178, Article IX, §178-17 through §178-21.1)

If you choose to hire a private contractor to make the improvements, it will be necessary for the contractor to provide insurance and secure a permit from the Village’s Department of Public Works within 30 days of the Notice. The permit fee will be waived, however, a deposit will be collected. After all work has been completed

and the acceptable restoration performed, the Village will return the deposit to the contractor listed on the permit.

If you choose to use the Village Contractor, the Board of Trustees will waive the Administrative fees associated with this work. All work performed by the Village Contractor will be billed as soon as the work is done and carries a one-year warranty, starting from the installation date.

In order to maintain the one-year warranty and to ensure the quality of work, the Village only offers replacement of the entire defective flag. If you choose to utilize an alternative repair method, the repairs must be made by a private contractor. The private contractor shall submit a permit application for approval, by the Engineering Department, and should include the repair materials and methods that will be used. If work is done by a private contractor without obtaining a permit, the Village reserves the right to replace the entire defective flag during construction and bill the property owner accordingly.

TREE LIMB TRIMMING TO EXPAND VISIBILITY OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Garden City Police annually perform Village-wide checks and create a list of locations where trimming or removal of tree branches could extend the visibility of traffic lights for approaching traffic. Officers will also report locations when observed on their daily patrols. Throughout the year, the Recreation and Parks Department routinely corrects these types of conditions when advised by the Police Department. This is another example of various Village Departments working together to improve the overall safety of residents and visitors alike.

FOURTH OF JULY DWI CRACKDOWN

In a joint effort to stop impaired driving, prevent injuries and save lives, the Garden City Police Department, along with various other Police Departments throughout Nassau County, will be participating in the 2023 July 4th DWI Crackdown Enforcement Initiative targeting Intoxicated and Drugged Drivers. The Nassau County Traffic Safety STOP DWI Program, the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) and the New York State STOP DWI Coordinators Association are funding the Fourth of July initiative.

This American holiday is also one of the deadliest holidays of the year due to alcohol related crashes. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA), "Every day, about 37 people in the United States die in drunk-driving crashes, that's one person every 39 minutes. In 2021, 13,384 people died in alcohol-related driving crashes, a 14% increase from 2020. These deaths were all preventable." Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson states, "During this initiative, July 1, 2023, through July 5, 2023, Police Officers will be assigned to monitor the Village's roadways, strictly enforcing all DWI laws."

The Garden City Police Department reminds everyone that they can download the New York State STOP-DWI Foundation "Have a Plan" mobile phone app, which is available via Apple or Google Play. The app enables New Yorkers to locate and call a taxi or ride share service and program a designated driver list. It also provides information on DWI laws and penalties and how to report a suspected impaired driver.

S.T.O.P. PROGRAM

The dumping of paint, solvents, etc. is strictly prohibited at the Village Yard. Rather, residents should take advantage of the Town of Hempstead's S.T.O.P. (Stop Throwing Out Pollutants) program. Please help us protect our environment and keep dangerous chemicals out of the groundwater.

The Town will conduct its next monthly program on Saturday, July 15, 2023. The program will make disposing of hazardous waste material accessible to as many residents as possible. Saturday's program is being held at Town of Hempstead Parking Field 12 in Levittown (Division Avenue, off Hempstead Avenue). The hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Workers are at the site and will remove the material directly from your car, free of charge. When bringing items, please follow these simple guidelines:

- Wrap leaking containers in newspaper and place in a plastic bag or larger container.
- Make sure all caps and lids are tight.
- Place items securely in a box for transportation.
- Use newspaper or cardboard to keep items from tipping or hitting each other.
- Place chemicals that may react with each other in separate areas of the vehicle.
- Do not leave products in a hot, unventilated vehicle for an extended period of time.
- Do not smoke near chemical products.
- Wear rubber gloves when handling containers.

The facility will NOT accept the following materials: ammunition, explosives, fire extinguishers, fireworks, electronic recyclable waste, infectious or medical waste, propane tanks larger than 20 pounds, oxygen tanks, radioactive materials and unlabeled materials. For further information about S.T.O.P. call 378-4210 (Option 6) or visit www.TOH.LI.

THE BEST SECRET IN TOWN!

Did you know that each of our neighborhood parks runs a free playground program every summer? Children entering Grades 1-8 who reside the Village are invited to come to the park during the summer to find out what activities are taking place. Each park has its own “flavor” and “favorite” activities. Park Directors and their staff run games, sports, tournaments, and arts and crafts activities during the day and into the evening. Trips are also run through the parks. These activities, except for the trips, are free to anyone attending. Registration is not necessary. A child may attend any day they choose. Children are supervised while in the park, but the children attending must be able to come and go to the park as they please or a parent or child care provider must be in attendance while the child participates. This program cannot be used as babysitting.

When: Monday through Friday Monday, June 26 through Friday, August 11.

Where: Nassau Haven, Edge mere, Tullamore, Grove, and Hemlock Parks

Time: Beginning 10 a.m. and running throughout the day, check your local park for posted schedules.

FOURTH OF JULY - VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED

Residents are reminded that Village Hall will be closed Tuesday, July 4, 2023 in observance of Independence Day. Village Hall will re-open Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. There is a regular sanitation schedule the week of July 4, 2023.

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS FROM THE GCFD

As the 4th of July weekend is upon us, here are some safety tips to keep you and your family safe this upcoming holiday weekend. Every year, about 10,000 people are treated for injuries in hospital emergency departments due to the mishandling of live, misfired and waste consumer fireworks. In addition, fires resulting from fireworks cause over \$100 million in direct property damage. Many U.S. cities are seeing a surge in consumer fireworks usage by the public. The best way to stay safe from fireworks is to not use them. Instead, attend a public fireworks display put on by professionals. Fireworks are dangerous to people and pets. Using them puts your property at risk. Hand-held sparklers burn at 1,200 degrees. Children are at special risk of injury from fireworks, and account for more than a third of emergency room visits for fireworks-related injuries. Children between the ages of 5 and 9 are more than twice as likely as people in other age groups to be injured by fireworks. A few ideas from the National Fire Protection Association to get into the patriotic spirit, without fireworks:

1. Use glow sticks, they glow in the dark and are a safe alternative to a sparkler.
2. Loud and proud. Noisemakers are sure to make a statement. They can be found at local party supply stores or make your own.
3. Outdoor movie night. Set up a screen and projector. Don't forget the bug spray!
4. Red, white and blue silly string...fun for all ages.
5. Make a patriotic craft with the family.

6. Throw a birthday party for the USA, and don't forget the cake.

For those that will be behind the barbecue this weekend, follow these simple tips and you will be on the way to safe grilling:

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- Grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave grill unattended.
- Make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

For more safety tips and information on how you can serve our community as a volunteer firefighter please visit <http://www.gcfndny.com>.

EVENT THIS WEEK IN GARDEN CITY

MONDAY JULY 3 1:30 p.m. Monday Movie Matinée: *National Treasure* at the Library

TUESDAY, JULY 4 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Family Fun Day at the Pool for members.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5 8:30 p.m. Pool Movie: *Hotel Transylvania - Transformers* admission \$2 members and \$4 guests of members

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5 1:30 p.m. Family Movie: *Ratatouille* at the Library

WEDNESDAY JULY 5 6:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting at Village Hall

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Summer Evening Yoga Class at the Senior Center. To register, visit the Recreation and Parks Office at 108 Rockaway Avenue or, if you have a password you can register online at www.reconline.gardencityny.net

THURSDAY, JULY 6 4:00 p.m. Teen Creative Writing Workshop at the Library, Registration required

FRIDAY, JULY 7 6:00 p.m. Friday Night Promenade: Red, White and Blue on Seventh Street

MONDAY JULY 10 7:30 p.m. Library Board of Trustees Meeting at the Library