



# CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



Volume III Issue 20

May 15, 2015

## **OUTDOOR EMERGENCY WARNING SIRENS**

The City of Woodstock has five outdoor emergency warning sirens which are located at Bates Park, Emricson Park, First Street, Lake Avenue, and McConnell Road. The sirens are in place to be used to announce the approach of a tornado to the community. When activated, the sirens will sound for a three minute period. There is no all clear siren activated for the outdoor emergency warning siren system.

*The purpose of these sirens is to warn residents who are outside that they should take cover immediately.* The sirens are not intended for, nor do they have the capability of, warning all residents, particularly those who are inside their homes or businesses. All citizens should monitor updated information by radio, television, internet and telephone devices anytime that the forecast includes the possibility of the development of severe weather in the area.

The outside emergency warning sirens are generally sounded only when a confirmed funnel cloud is aloft, or when a tornado has been sighted on the ground within an expanded boundary of the City of Woodstock. Therefore, the sounding of a siren designates an immediate threat and the need to take cover immediately.

The sirens are tested on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00AM. The sirens will sound briefly during that time.



## **WOODSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SERVICE DAY**

The **City of Woodstock** and the **Department of Public Works** extends our thanks and appreciation to Woodstock High School's Graduating Class of 2015 for their time and efforts during this year's Senior Service Day on May 15.

Some of this year's projects include painting fire hydrants, completing miles of road-side clean-up along highly travelled roads, and painting park identification signs at Bates Park, Olson Park, and Emricson Park.



The group will also be cleaning up and maintaining the grounds at the William C. Donato Conservation Area which "is being utilized by District 200 for outdoor class room space and environmental studies, and student led community service projects.

Again, a big **THANK YOU** to Woodstock High School's Class of 2015; thanks for helping to improve the community in which you live!

Best of luck to each of YOU!

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## PEACE PARK LABYRINTH

Over the last year the **City of Woodstock**, in cooperation with the Woodstock Garden Club, has performed renovations to the Peace Park location. Currently, the **Parks Division** is excavating an area to the south of the Peace Park “peace walk” in preparation for the installation of the City’s first labyrinth. Over the next few weeks the Division will be working on excavating the site so that on May 30, 2015, with a rain date of June 6, 2015, the Woodstock Garden Club can host a community ‘help’ day at the park. During the community “help” day volunteers will be invited to assist with installing the brick labyrinth.

If you have any questions, or if you’d like to participate in the ‘help’ day, please contact the **Department of Public Works**, 815-338-6118.

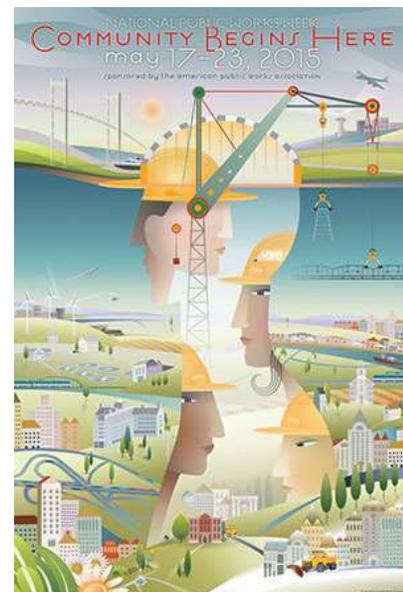


## NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

Each year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> full week of May is National Public Works Week, which is held to celebrate the tens of thousands of **Public Works employees**, nationwide, who provide and maintain the infrastructure and services collectively known as public works. At the City of Woodstock, this includes employees from six divisions; **Parks/Facilities, Streets, Sewer & Water Maintenance, Fleet Maintenance, Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment** along with **Administration**. These employees are dedicated to improving the quality of life for present and future generations.

Public Works plays a key role in the planning, building and maintenance of infrastructure projects in their communities that will allow future generations to enjoy a higher quality of life. There would be no community without the quality of life public works provides. There would be no community to police and protect, no public to lead or represent. Public Works allows the world as we know it to be.

National Public Works Week was instituted as a public education campaign by the American Public Works Association (APWA) in 1960, and calls attention to the importance of public works in community life. The week, May 17–May 23, 2015, seeks to enhance the prestige of the often-unsung heroes of our society—the professionals who serve the public good every day with quiet dedication.



### ***RIGHT OF WAY STUMP REMOVAL AND RESTORATION***

The City of Woodstock's **Parks Division** maintains the City's right-of-way trees. Over this past winter and early spring the Parks Division removed approximately 50 dead and/or dying Ash Trees. After the trees are removed the stumps need to be ground down and the area restored with black dirt and grass seed. Approximately 100 stumps have been ground down and we are scheduling usage of heavy equipment to perform right-of-way restoration. Once rights-of-way are restored it is important that the areas be watered. The Division asks that our residents make sure these areas are watered on a regular basis, which will help promote new growth. The City's Arborist tries to follow the schedule below for tree trimming and removal. Once rights-of-way have been restored the City Arborist will be working on trimming and/or pruning trees along with emergency tree removal until fall, when tree removal will resume.

- **Winter:** Tree Removal, and Customer Service Requests / Emergency Response.
- **Spring:** Stump Grinding, Right-of-way Cleanup and Repairs, CSRs and Emergency Response.
- **Summer:** Trimming, Stump Grinding, Right-of-way Cleanup and Repair, CSRs and Emergency Response.
- **Fall:** Tree Removal, Trimming, Stump Grinding, Right-of-way Cleanup and Repair, and CSRs and Emergency Response.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact the **Department of Public Works** at 815-338-6118.

**Stump Ground Down:**



**Restorations: Top Soil and Seed**



### **MEETINGS NEXT WEEK...**

Tuesday, May 19 – City Council, 7PM, Council Chambers

## **WOODSTOCK WATER WORKS FACILITY WORK COMPLETED**

The spring time gives the **Parks Division** an opportunity to get things that have been winterized ready for summer usage. At the Water Works Facility the Parks Division was able to help the **Recreation Department** by completing the following tasks in preparation for the upcoming summer swimming season:

- Installed ladders
- Installed the handi-cap chair lift in the lap pool
- Installed diving boards
- Tilled mulch on islands in the parking lot
- Picked weeds & mulched the inside flower bed at playground
- Cleaned debris from lap pool deep end in prep for water
- Turned on interior water
- Brought bleachers back from football field to lap pool
- Installed Funbrellas
- Installed canopies
- Added sand at entrance to playground
- Waxed the exterior of the slides
- Coordinated the removal of the palm trees on the boat feature
- Properly secured the pad for the boat feature
- Tightened the ropes throughout the pool area and parking lot
- Performed fence and gate repairs

Before Waxing: Dull Finish



After Waxing: Brought the shine back



Installing Funbrellas



## HR NEWS

### 2015-2016 City of Woodstock United Way Employee Campaign

The 2015-2016 City of Woodstock United Way Employee Campaign has concluded. **This year we received 19 pledges for a total of \$3,210.00!** Thank you to everyone who made a pledge!

The Pledge Raffle was drawn May 8<sup>th</sup> and we are pleased to announce the following winners:

- Woodstock Water Works pool pass for summer 2015: **Chief Robert Lowen**
- 2 tickets to the May 30<sup>th</sup> Woodstock Opera House “Kim Simmonds & SAVOY BROWN Show: **Patricia Bergeson**
- \$30 Chamber of Commerce Gift Card: **Dave Zinnen**
- 1 Floating Holiday: **Terry Willcockson**

Congratulations! **The above noted prize recipients should stop by the HR Department to collect their prize.**

## RECRUITMENT

The City of Woodstock is accepting applications for the position of **Economic Development Director**. Primary responsibilities of this position include planning, developing and implementing business retention and recruitment activities, serving as City liaison/ombudsman to the business community, analyzing and evaluating economic factors affecting the local business climate and market, and overall promotion of the City. **Application Deadline: Friday, May, 29, 2015 at 5:00PM.**

Please refer to the City’s website at [www.woodstockil.gov](http://www.woodstockil.gov) and click on the **Employment Opportunities** section for further details and the application process on the above opportunity. *The City of Woodstock is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

## REC CENTER RECOGNIZED AT SEDOM BREAKFAST

Rec Center Manager **Mary Lynn Lisk** attended the Eleventh Annual Partnership Recognition Reception for the Cooperative Education Program, a Division of the Special Education District of McHenry County. She is pictured with Eduardo Aquino and Belinda Dedual who are employed at the **Recreation Center** in the mornings. They assist the Recreation Center staff with laundry and light cleaning chores. The staff and members appreciate the hard work these students do for our facility.

The Rec Center has employed SEDOM students since the inception of the program in 2004.



## Quotation

It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness.

[Charles Spurgeon](#)

## **EXERCISE TIPS FOR ASTHMA PATIENTS: 3 STEPS TO SUCCESS**

Asthma, whether chronic or induced only by exercise, can cause a bunch of symptoms that make working up a sweat unpleasant, and possibly even downright dangerous. When you're wheezing, short of breath, coughing, and even experiencing chest pain, finishing that run or tennis game can be nearly impossible. Yet you enjoy exercising, and need activity to stay healthy. How can you remain fit when asthma threatens to sink your workout? Follow these steps:



1. First, speak with your doctor if you develop asthma symptoms when working out, or if symptoms you've experienced in the past persist. He or she may prescribe a controller medication that will be taken on a regular basis, a short-acting medication to be used right before exercise, or both. You can also use short-acting medications should symptoms develop during your workout.
2. Next, come up with a workout plan that minimizes your asthma. Consider both the kinds of activities that would be best for you as well as the conditions in which you exercise. If you have exercise-induced asthma, you're probably better off avoiding exercise in cold and/or dry air. You should also be extremely cautious if the air quality is poor due to excessive pollution, or particularly high pollen levels, for instance. In those cases, consider switching out your morning jog in the park for an indoor treadmill session or cardio class until the air quality improves. But make sure any indoor fitness facility you frequent is well ventilated and doesn't use any bleach or harsh chemicals that might trigger your symptoms.
3. Finally, pick and choose your sports carefully based on your symptoms.

Experts say swimming, walking and/or cycling can be the answer. Here's why:

**Swimming** works well for many people with breathing difficulties, according to the experts at the American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology. This is largely due to the moist, warm air you'll be breathing in as you do it. The moist air keeps airways open for easier breathing. However, be aware that chlorine can cause asthma to flare, so it's not for everyone.

**Walking or cycling** is fine as long as the weather cooperates. And note that while you may be wary of sports that require periods of heavy exertion, such as soccer, don't rule anything out before giving it a try. "The reality is that every sporting activity has the risk of triggering an asthma episode, and the level of that risk is different for each patient," says Jonathan Parsons, MD, associate director of The Ohio State University Asthma Center. "In the end, we want to encourage exercise." No matter what you pick, include a warm-up and cool-down period.

**Want to Start to Get Healthy with an  
Exercise Program?**

City of Woodstock employees receive an employee discount at the **Woodstock Recreation Center. The initiation fee is waived! Executive membership is \$35 per month. Full membership is \$25 per month.**

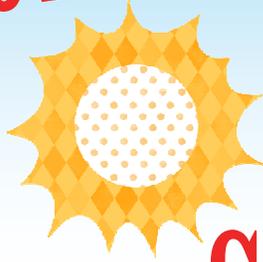
Try a week for free! For more information, contact Mary Lynn Lisk or Renee Torrez at 8138-4363 or visit

[www.woodstockrecreationdepartment.com](http://www.woodstockrecreationdepartment.com)

for more information.

# City of Woodstock

## Employee & Family



Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Time: 3:30pm - 8:00pm

Location: Woodstock Water Works  
(In Emricson Park)

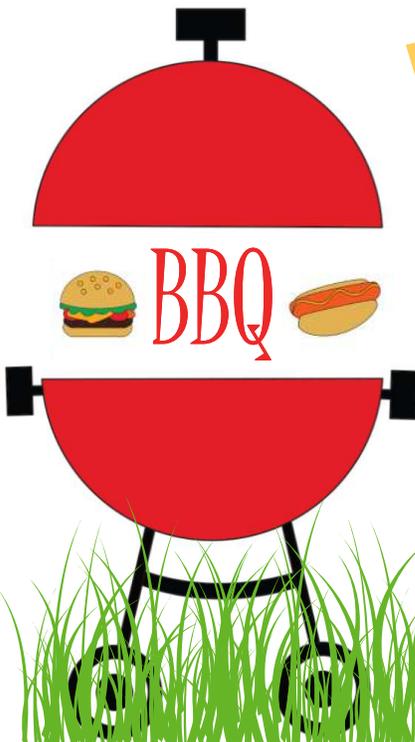
1313 Kishwaukee Valley Road  
Woodstock, IL 60098

Food & Drink: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs,  
Brats, Chips, Dessert, Water & Pop

### Raffle Prizes\*:

- 1 Floating Holiday
- 4 Tickets to a Cubs Game with Parking
- Fitbit
- \$30.00 Chamber of Commerce Gift Certificate
- Woodstock Water Works Pool Pass

\*Winners do not have to be present at time of drawing.





**Recreation Department**  
820 Lake Avenue  
Woodstock, Illinois 60098  
815/338-4363 • fax 815/334-2279  
[www.woodstock-il.com](http://www.woodstock-il.com)

May 13, 2015

**Are you ready for the Challenge?**

The Woodstock Challenge 10K Road Race, 5K Run/Walk and 1-mile & 1/2-mile kids/family run/walk will be held this year on **Sunday, June 14**. This once a year community event is sponsored by the City of Woodstock Recreation Department, NISRA, and Centegra Health System, with many Woodstock businesses helping provide sponsorship. We are looking forward to this special event and your volunteer efforts, if possible!

We are in need of volunteers for our race day, and hope that you are interested in helping, during the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. We know it's early, but what a great way to get up and get your day started! Volunteer areas include registration, course marshals, finish line, split timers and finish line refreshments, for all races.

All volunteers will receive a **Woodstock Challenge T-shirt, an invitation to join our pool party at the Woodstock Water Works after the race** and a chance to be involved in a great community event!

Please call the Recreation Department at **338-4363** and let us know if you will be able to help. If you have a friend, relative, family, or youth group that might be willing to help, please let us know. We can always use extra help!

Thank you in advance for your time and enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

The Woodstock Recreation Department Staff