



Village of Mettawa



July 2024, Q1 FY 2024-2025

Quarterly Newsletter

The Buzz

New Law Provides Trail Signage

Residents traveling on or near the Mettawa Trails will soon notice some signs being installed in various locations, thanks to a new Illinois law. These signs are designed to help drivers anticipate road crossings on the trails, and should increase the safety of bikers, pedestrians and equestrians.

The signs will meet new statewide requirements signed into law by Illinois Governor J. B. Pritzker on January 1, 2024. The law, 625 ILCS 5/11-315, states that permanent advanced warning signage must be placed on roadways 150 feet ahead of any trail crossing.

Because Mettawa residents actively use our trail system, the Village has invested significant resources in planning for and implementing this law.

Parks and Recreation Committee Chairperson Wendie Clark notes, "We hope driver awareness and trail safety will increase as a result of these installations and expect to have all signs in place by fall."

Stay Safe on the Mettawa Trails

When summer weather calls us outdoors, many hikers, runners, walkers, bikers, and horseback riders find time to explore the Mettawa Trails. Here are some tips to help all of us stay safe.

Bike Riders

- **Yield to horses:** Give horses the right of way. They can be easily startled.
- **Look before you cross.** Remember, sometimes well-intended drivers won't see a bike. Even if a car has stopped, it's always a good idea to make eye contact before crossing the road.
- **Wear a Helmet:** A good bike helmet will help

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Mayor's Note

Summertime, it's Picnic-time

What does summer mean to you? Many residents enjoy bike rides, boat outings, and

backyard grilling with friends and family. No matter how you celebrate the season, make sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, August 24th, and plan to bring the whole family to the Village picnic at Whippoorwill Park. This day is always a highlight of our Mettawa year, and I hope to see you there!

Once again, we are thrilled to hold this event at Whippoorwill Park. The landscape gets more beautiful here every year thanks to the efforts of our Parks and Recreation Committee and our many volunteers.

The 2024 Village picnic will feature onsite parking (weather permitting), fantastic food, and great opportunities to visit with community members and Village Officials. I look forward to seeing you!

On another note, I'd like to remind all residents to take a moment to review the tax rebate eligibility requirements on Page 2. Contact the Village Treasurer with any questions.

As always, I am here for you. Don't hesitate to reach out to me at any time with your questions, comments or ideas.

curlacher@mettawa.org

Stay Safe on Our Trails

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protect your head in case of an unexpected fall or collision.

- **Obey traffic signals.** Wait your turn and don't cross early even if the road seems clear. Even when you have the right of way, it's possible that vehicles can unexpectedly turn into your path.

Walkers, Hikers, and Runners

- **Stay to the Right:** Always stay on the right side of the trail so others can pass on your left.
- **Use Crosswalks:** At intersections, use designated crosswalks and look both ways before crossing.
- **Yield to Horses:** Allow plenty of space and don't come close to a horse unless the rider says it's ok.

Horseback Riders

- **Communicate:** Signal your approach. A friendly call of "horse back" can alert walkers and bikers.



Drivers Near Trails

- **Slow Down:** Reduce your driving speed when you approach a trail crossing and be prepared to stop if necessary.
- **Be Patient:** Before you move forward, take a small moment to pause, look, and consider. This little bit of breathing room might make a life-saving difference for people on the trail.

Lake County features over 550 miles of trails and bikeways, including our Mettawa Trail. To learn more, visit Lake County Division of Transportation. ❁

Rebate Application Due Friday, October 4th

Tax Rebate Eligibility Requirements

Residents will be eligible to receive a 2024 tax rebate unless they have:

1. Outstanding debt owed to the Village that is not paid by November 1st, 2024;
2. An outstanding permit for a period of two or more years; or
3. Received any Village zoning variance subject to conditions, which conditions have not been satisfied

Currently ineligible residents who meet any of the above conditions will be contacted by the Village and given the opportunity to remedy their issue prior to the deadline for the tax rebate application.

If any of the above conditions apply to you, please email the Village Treasurer, Amy Weiland, as soon as possible: aweiland@mettawa.org. ❁

VILLAGE PICNIC

Saturday

AUGUST 24th

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Whippoorwill Park

Parking on-site is available (weather permitting). On Friday, August 23rd, the Village Clerk will notify residents about the availability of on-site parking.

Administrator's Report

By Mandi Florip, Village Administrator



The Village Board once again approved the popular Tax Rebate program in the higher amount of \$750,000 for 2024 and reinforced the eligibility requirements. I'd like to remind all residents to carefully review our current tax rebate requirements to determine your eligibility prior to submitting your application.

If your property does not list homestead status, please reach out. We will work with you in an effort to clear any issues with the goal of helping you gain eligibility prior to the deadlines.

Qualified residents should submit the application for the 2024 Tax Rebate program as soon as possible in order to ensure it is received for proper processing by the deadline. I suggest sending your application well in advance of October 4th to help avoid any potential mail delays. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. ❁

Village Board Actions

Highlights of recent Village Board actions during the last quarter are listed below. The complete list of actions may be found in the meeting minutes that are always available online at mettawa.org.

1. Approval of the American Legal Proposal to Update the Code of Ordinances in the Supplement-9 in the Amount Not to Exceed \$7,000
2. Approval of Forest Builders, Inc Proposal to Complete Culvert Maintenance in the Amount of \$20,000
3. Approval of Forest Builders, Inc. Proposal to Complete the Annual Shoulder Maintenance in the Amount Not to Exceed \$19,200
4. Approval to Waive Bidding Requirements for the Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management Program for 2024-2025, 2024 Amount is \$30,390
5. Approval of Forest Builders, Inc. Proposal to Complete the Pothole Maintenance in the Amount of \$2,540
6. Approval of Forest Builders, Inc. Proposal to Remove the Stockade Fence at Riverside in the Amount of \$1,500

Village Board Actions, *Continued*

7. Approval of Forest Builders, Inc. Proposal to Burn the Brush Pile at Mettawa Savanna in the Amount of \$2,200
8. Approval of Forest Builders, Inc. Proposal for the Annual Trail Maintenance in the Amount Not to Exceed \$18,580
9. Approval of Forest Builders, Inc. Proposal to Replace the Culvert at Whippoorwill Park in the Amount of \$11,900
10. Approval of Davey Tree Experts Proposal for Two Seasons of Tree Plantings at MacLean Preserve at Oasis Park in the Amount of \$10,825
11. Approval of Davey Tree Experts Proposal for Tree Plantings at 15085 W Old School Road in the Amount of \$6,210
12. Approval of Spruce Tree Direct Proposal for Nine Norway Spruces at 15085 W Old School Road in the Amount of \$7,200
13. Approval of the Finalite Agreement for FY 2024-2025 in the Amount of \$1,836
14. Approval of Additional Funding to Draft Plans for the Old School Road Drainage Ditch in the Amount Not to Exceed \$6,000
15. Approval of Patriot Pavement Maintenance to Perform Crack Sealing on Village Roads in the Amount Not to Exceed \$60,000
16. Approval of Dunlap Tree Experts Proposal for the Riverside Parcel Fence and Debris Removal in the Amount of \$10,622
17. Approval of the First Amendment License Agreement with Robert Harden and Haraden Farms and Stables, Inc
18. Approval of Recommendation Not to Renew Aero Sport RC Club License Agreement
19. Waiver of the Requirement that the Petitioner Sign Ordinance No. 895 Granting a Special Use Permit for a Guest House for the Property Commonly Known As 15101 Old School Road, Within Seven Days of the Date of Approval ❁



Village of Mettawa

26225 North Riverwoods Boulevard
Mettawa IL 60045

Casey Urlacher, Mayor
Carol Armstrong, Trustee
Wendie Clark, Trustee
John Maier, Trustee
Debra Pelech, Trustee
Sweb Smolic, Trustee
Tim Towne, Trustee
Amy Weiland, Village Treasurer
Mandi Florip, Village Administrator
Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk

www.mettawa.org



The Village of Mettawa strives to preserve and nurture
our authentic rural and horse-friendly environment
and to ensure the highest quality of family life for our residents

MEETING CALENDAR

Check the calendar online at Mettawa.org
or contact the Village Clerk for the complete schedule.

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
7:00 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

7:00 p.m. Zoning, Planning and Appeals
Commission (ZPA)

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

6:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee,
Public Works Committee

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
7:00 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

7:00 p.m. Zoning, Planning and Appeals
Commission (ZPA)

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

6:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee,
Public Works Committee

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
7:00 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

7:00 p.m. Zoning, Planning and Appeals
Commission (ZPA)

CONTACTS

Casey Urlacher, Mayor

Mandi Florip, Village Administrator
(224) 602-9478

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk
(847) 573-1460

PUBLIC SAFETY:

DIAL 911 FIRST

NON-EMERGENCY:

Lake County Sheriff:
(847) 377-4000

Village Security Patrol Car:
(847) 404-6272

GARBAGE & RECYCLING

Lakeshore Recycling Systems, LLC
(847) 366-8582 or (815) 675-0400

VILLAGE WEBSITE:

mettawa.org

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:

August 20, 2024, 7:00 p.m.