



Village of Port Dickinson

Spring 2020 Newsletter

Important Telephone Numbers:

POLICE, FIRE & MEDICAL EMERGENCIES- 911

Police – 722-1255

Village Hall & Business – 771-8233

Building Inspector & Code Officer - 771-8233

Fire Dept. Information and Non-Emergency - 771-8233

WEBSITE: www.portdickinsonny.us

MAYOR: Kevin M. Burke – 723-5674

TRUSTEES:

Administration Charles Harding - 722-2534

Police, Fire, Code. James DeGennaro- 725-4730

Water & Sewer: Bob Aagre - 217-4122

Public Works & Parks: Michael Cashman- 760-9801

CORONA VIRUS: The Village is in constant contact with all State & Broome County Agencies receiving updates on this crisis as provided. We

assure you that we will be doing everything possible to protect the Village and provide all vital services. If you have any questions please call:

NYS Dept., of Health Hotline: 1-888-363-3065

Broome County Health Dept. Hotline 778-8885

For additional assistance CALL 211

YARD WASTE PICKUP IMPORTANT NOTICE:

YARD WASTE PICKUP BEGINS

TUESDAY APRIL 7.

Cut grass will be collected in April and May but the last day for grass collection will be Tuesday May 26.

Remaining lawn debris will continue to be collected as usual.

ALL DEBRIS MUST BE IN SOLID CONTAINERS. Max. 40lbs. Overweight containers/bundles will not be picked up. **NO PLASTIC BAGS. BRANCHES MUST BE TIED IN 4 FT. LENGTHS or IN CONTAINERS.** Place containers/bundles between the sidewalk and the curb after 2PM on Mondays.

We have distributed information on the benefits of leaving grass clippings on the lawn and composting. Further information is available from Broome County Cooperative Extension on Front St.

NON RESIDENT PROPERTY OWNERS: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FORWARD ALL APPLICABLE INFORMATION TO YOUR TENANTS.

Village Taxes:

This year's Village Tax rate will increase approx. 1.78% and be under the NYS Tax Cap. This equates out to be approx. 21 cents per thousand \$ of assessed evaluation or an estimated \$10.00 annually on a home assessed at \$50,000. We are planning several street/drainage projects along with required ADA ramp installations.

IMPORTANT DATES:

February 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.

March 31 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.

June 30 - Village Tax Payment Deadline.

June 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.

July 31 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.

October 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.

November 30 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.

All meter reading cards can be mailed or dropped off in the Drop Box in front of Village Hall or emailed to the Clerk at pdclerk@stny.rr.com make sure you receive an email reply to insure that your reading has been received. Bills with checks can be placed in drop box. We do not accept cash in the drop box.

VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Under the direction of the Broome County Department of Planning & Economic Development the Village has completed its first ever Comprehensive Plan. This plan will identify the goals, objectives, and guidance for the immediate and long range protection, enhancement, and future development of our Village. It provides guidance to the Village, County and State leaders about current issues that reflect the needs and views of our residents. **THERE WILL BE A COMMUNITY WORKSHOP SCHEDULED IN THE FUTURE AND YOU WILL BE MAILED A NOTICE.** At that time you can come and learn about the Plan and share your ideas about what you would like included in the Plan. The Plan will set forth recommendations to provide a framework for future decision making in the Village.

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FAMILY OF THE RJ TESTANI DISTRIBUTING CO.

While our Fire Station was being rebuilt we were able to house our Fire Vehicles in the Warehouse of RJ Testani Distributing on Phelps St. The Testani's generous offer saved the Village several thousands of dollars by eliminating the need to construct a temporary shelter. Once again we of the Village extend a very sincere thank you to the Testani Family from everyone in the Village.

WATER STATUS: Please be advised that on Monday MAY 18. The Village will be flushing the entire water system. Fenton will flush their system from 5/11 to 5/15. During these times you may experience discoloration. We will post signs on the streets and have a notice on the Website.

UPDATE REGARDING SEWER & WATER RATES: We have received increased charges in our billings from the BJC Joint Sewage Treatment Plant and we received notice from our main water supplier The Town of Fenton that our water cost will increase also. We are reviewing our income vs. expenses as to what our increases will be. We are working diligently to try to make the impact to our residents as slight as possible.

PORT DICKINSON COMMUNITY ASSOC.
Please support their fund raising activities as 100% of all funds go directly to support the youth programs. This is an incredibly dedicated group of Village residents who put a great amount of time and effort into the children of our community with their wonderful programs and events. Donations to the PDCA are tax deductible and can be mailed to the Village Hall.

VILLAGE GARAGE/YARD SALE: Saturday May 2 will be the date for the first ever Village of Port Dickinson Garage/Yard Sale. New for the entire Village. For information please contact Stephanie DeAngelo at 221-3235.email at stephandgiordi@vanoo.com.
Dependent on CORONA VIRUS status

GRANTS & FUNDING:
The Village application to the NYS WIIA Grant for the replacement of the Chenango St. (100 year old plus) and Rochelle Road (4" undersized) water mains was not approved for 2019 funding. We will reapply this year and also seek separate funding.

FINANCIAL AUDIT COMPLETED: An independent audit of the entire financial operation of the Village has been completed. No problems were found and it's noted that our systems are all NYS Comptroller approved. We will perform this independent audit every two years.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Please Call the Police IF YOU SEE OR HEAR ANY SUSPICIOUS OR UNUSUAL ACTIVITY. No call is too minor and you are not required to provide your name when reporting.

- **If you see vehicles or motorcycles speeding or with loud exhaust please call the Police, they are very successful in eliminating these problems**
- **UNLOCKED Vehicles are being entered. Remember to LOCK YOUR VEHICLE and your home.**
- **CLOSE YOUR GARAGE DOORS when no one is at home as you are only inviting problems**
- **DO NOT LEAVE BICYCLES AND OTHER VALUABLE ITEMS OUTSIDE AT NIGHT.**
- **Door to door Solicitors are allowed from 9 AM to sunset not on Sundays or Holidays. They must be registered with the Clerk.**

NOTE: Evening, weekend & occasional day calls to the PD Police are received by County Emergency Services. If at these times you have a problems e.g. water or sewer or desire to talk to an officer, call 722-1255, state your problem/ request to the dispatcher and a Port Dickinson Officer will either visit you, meet you at the Police Station or phone you if you request.

LOST CATS or DOGS: If your dog or cat is missing or if you have found one, you can call the Police Dept. and report it. We will attempt to assist you and coordinate the pets return.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

On April 25th from Noon to 3 PM the Fire Department will conduct an OPEN HOUSE and RECRUITMENT DRIVE. Stop by and take a look at the remodeled/repared Fire Station.

##DEPENDING ON VIRUS SITUATION##

Your Fire Department like all Volunteer Departments is in **NEED OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS - FIRE FIGHTERS, FIRE POLICE & MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS) RESPONDERS.** The reward of gratitude from those you serve is immeasurable. Please keep in mind that there are various involvement levels in which to serve. All training and necessary equipment is provided. Being a Volunteer only requires a few hours a month of training. The knowledge and experience you receive is immeasurable. Please call the Village Hall at 771-8233 and leave your name and a FD Representative will contact you about how you can serve
DEDICATED TO OUR COMMUNITY



Village of Port Dickinson

COMMON BUILDING, MAINTAINANCE & PROPERTY CODE VIOLATIONS

- **GARBAGE/ RECYCLING & LAWN DEBRIS CONTAINERS** - may be placed to the curb after 2PM the day prior to the day of each pickup. Containers must be removed from the curb area no later than 8PM the evening of that pickup. Please note that if you have anything more than your normal container of garbage (e.g. furniture, appliances), you must call your contractor in advance of pickup to have those items collected.
- **STORAGE OF CONTAINERS:** -"All garbage, recycling, debris containers shall be placed and stored behind the building out of view from the street or roadway. In no event may containers be stored in front of, in the front yard, or on the front porches of buildings. In the event any garbage can, recycling bin, or debris container or other related items cannot be stored out of view from the street or roadway, the property owner shall screen such areas of storage by opaque fencing and or plantings."
- **FAILURE TO HAVE VISIBLE NUMBERS ON FRONT OF RESIDENCE AND OR STRUCTURES.**
- **DISCHARGING / MOWING GRASS INTO THE STREET.**
- **PARKING VEHICLES ON FRONT LAWN AND SIDEWALK.**
- **NO UNREGISTERED VEHICLES / TRAILERS ALLOWED OUTSIDE ON PROPERTY.**
- **PEELING and or DETERIORATING PAINT ON STRUCTURES.**
- **CANINE WASTE:** you must clean up after your dog. Fines, potential seizure and impoundment of the dog can occur.
- **LEASH LAW:** All dogs must be on a leash while being walked.

BUILDING PERMITS are MANDATORY:

The following require permits (not limited to)

New Structures/Construction/Additions, Pools, Decks, Certain Size Sheds, Hot Tubs/Spas, Fire Place / Wood Burners, and *Handicap Ramps.

****Virtually all Handicap Ramps per the NYS Building code do not comply and would require a variance. The Village passed a resolution to allow these non-compliant ramps only for the temporary period that they are needed, but still require a permit.***

CALL THE BUILDING INSPECTOR @ 771-8233 WITH ANY QUESTIONS PRIOR. THIS WILL ALLOW YOU TO AVOID DELAYS, LEGAL ACTION & ADDED COSTS. Please allow time for the Inspector to return your call. You can pick up permit applications at the Village Hall. If you initiate construction without a permit the permit cost increases to \$100.

As in virtually all violations the Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector will work with all property owners to bring all violations to a satisfactory and uncomplicated conclusion.

In addition to Code Enforcement, violations are reported by the Police and Public Works employees.

BLACK BEAR WARNING

Spring/Summer 2020

The Village of Port Dickinson like other communities has over the years experienced situations where BLACK BEARS travel into our neighborhoods. The following information was received from the NYS Department of Conservation Wildlife Officer.

- Bears are once again wandering through our neighborhoods in search of food. **They will eat anything that is easily accessible.**
- You can discourage them by **taking down your bird feeders.** Birds do not need supplemental food in the spring and summer.
- **Also clean your barbeque grills and keep them inside (garage/shed) if possible.**
- **Store pet foods indoors and garbage in a secure building or location.**
- **Clean garbage cans frequently and with ammonia products** and do not burn garbage.
- **DO NOT add meat scraps, bones or melon rinds to your compost pile.**
- Bears will **eat virtually anything** and they follow the path of least resistance, but will shred a metal garbage can to get at anything that may appeal to them

The only way to discourage and eventually stop these bears from
Entering our neighborhoods is to shut off their food supply.

**We have been notified by the NY State Environmental Conservation Police that it is
illegal to feed Bears either intentionally or unintentionally.
The NYSDEC Law Enforcement Officer will serve all offenders with a summons!**

Please report any Bear sightings in the Village to the Port Dickinson Police at 911 or 722-1255.

To learn more about Black Bears visit the DEC website at www.dec.ny.gov/animals/6995.html or look for the DEC's DVD: "Living with New York Black Bears" available at most public libraries in New York. For more information about bears in your area or to report other problems with black bears, contact the nearest regional DEC Office. Kirkwood DEC Office 1679 NYS Route 11, Kirkwood, NY 13795 607-775-2545.