



Village of Port Dickinson

Spring 2021 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: Rob Moss - 206-8215

Public Works & Parks: Michael Cashman- 760-9801

BUILDING PERMITS are MANDATORY:

The following require permits (not limited to)

New Structures/Construction/Additions, Pools, Decks, Certain Size Sheds, Hot Tubs, 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.

YARD WASTE PICKUP BEGINS

TUESDAY APRIL 6.

Cut grass will be collected in April and May but the last day for grass collection will be Tuesday May 25.

Remaining lawn debris will continue to be collected as usual.

ALL DEBRIS MUST BE IN SOLID CONTAINERS. Max. 40lbs. No overweight containers. **NO PLASTIC BAGS. BRANCHES MUST BE TIED IN 4 FT. LENGTHS or IN CONTAINERS.** Place containers between the sidewalk and the curb after 2PM on Mondays.

For information on the benefits of leaving grass clippings on the lawn and composting contact Broome County Cooperative Extension on Front St.

Village Taxes:

This year's Village Tax rate will increase approx. 1.31% and be under the NYS Tax Cap. This equates out to be approx. 10 cents per thousand \$ of assessed evaluation or an estimated \$5.00 annually on a home assessed at \$50,000.

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.

February 31 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.

June 30 - Village Tax Payment Due.

April 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.

May 31 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.

July 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.

August 30 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.

October 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.

November 30 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.

Remote Water Meters – no reading necessary.

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 please 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.

POLICE & FIRE PIZZA PARTY

Join us Saturday April 17th

from 1 to 5 PM

at the Fire Station

There will be MEET & GREET with your Police and Fire Departments.

This gives you an opportunity to get to know your Police Officers and Firefighters.

Social Distancing and Masks will be in place.

Pizza & refreshments will be served

2ND ANNUAL VILLAGE GARAGE/YARD SALE:

Friday April 30 and Saturday May 1.

For the entire Village. \$5.00 to participate covers cost of advertising. Any profits will be donated.

For information please contact Stephanie DeAngelo 221-3235.email stephandgiord@yahoo.com.

VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Under the direction of the Broome County Department of Planning & Economic Development the Village has completed its first ever Comprehensive Plan. Thank you all who responded and participated.

WATER SYSTEM: Our Public Works Dept. Will tentatively be flushing the entire water system during the week of 5/10 to 5/14. At this time we are planning to do this during the evening hours. You may experience water discoloration. We will post signs on the streets and have a notice on the Village Website.

SEWER & WATER RATES: Increasing sewer rates have our entire county concerned. Your bills are made up of 63% sewage and 37% water usage costs. As you have seen in the news recently, other municipalities have raised rates by 35% to 45%. The bulk of these charges comes from the Sewage Treatment Plant owned by The City of Binghamton and The Village Johnson City. There are 7 outside user municipalities that pump their sewage into that plant. We 7 have absolutely no input into the operation of that facility. We have no voting power. We as a Village have been able to work with the Town of Fenton to provide safe water at a reasonable rate but we have no bargaining ability with the Sewage Plant. The Plant has legal action pending as a result of alleged construction problems, so if that is settled favorably we may see a decrease in our rates. But until that time we continue to constantly monitor our entire financial and physical operation to be able to provide the residents with a reliable system at the lowest possible cost.

Regarding Remote Read Water Meters: This program is ongoing with over 60% of the Village completed. You will be notified prior to scheduling your replacement.

PORT DICKINSON COMMUNITY ASSOC.

Signups will be virtual this year beginning the week of March 22. Baseball and Softball will start outside in April. There is an open position on the board; we can really use your help. **ANY QUESTIONS EMAIL: portdca@gmail.com. Check our Facebook page and on Instagram follow @portdickca**

President-Mike Weaver. VP-Laura Dancesia
Treasurer- Naomi Slocum

Donations to the PDCA are tax deductible and can be mailed to the Village Hall. Thank you to everyone who has helped support the PDCA.

We would like to thank Bob Aagre for his 10 years on the Village Board and welcome Rob Moss as he begins his service to the Village

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Will be vigorously enforcing the State & Village Laws regarding illegally loud vehicles. The Police are now operating a Decibel Meter and will be enforcing the Decibel Limit of 60 DBA during the day and 50 at night in residential districts.

Please Call 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 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.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Your Fire Department like all Volunteer Departments are in **NEED OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS - FIRE FIGHTERS, FIRE POLICE & MEDICAL.** The gratitude you receive from those you serve is beyond measure. 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.

our Fire Department.....

Pride Protecting People

BLACK BEAR WARNING

Spring/Summer 2021

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 container or building.*
- *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,



Village of Port Dickinson

REMINDER OF COMMON BUILDING, MAINTAINANCE & PROPERTY CODES

- **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 and all garbage, debris and recycling must be collected and removed weekly.*
- **STORAGE OF CONTAINERS:** -“All garbage, recycling, debris containers shall be placed and **STORED BEHIND THE RESIDENCE / 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.”**
- **VISIBLE HOUSE NUMBERS ON THE FRONT OF RESIDENCE AND OR STRUCTURES.**
- **DISCHARGING / MOWING GRASS INTO THE STREET.**
- **PARKING VEHICLES ON THE 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.

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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.

The Village of Port Dickinson Police Department has for many years offered a service to its residents called OPERATION REASSURANCE.

This service simply provides Village Residents with an extra level of security while they live in their residence.

This program was started over 30 years ago and was initially intended for our Senior Community to insure their daily health and safety. The program has expanded to serve anyone who may have a temporary disability or someone who simply wants some added security.

- **It functions by having the resident call the Port Dickinson Police Department daily at a predetermined time and inform the officer or dispatcher that the resident is safe and ok.**
- **In the event no phone call is received then the Officer will call the resident and inquire as to their welfare.**
- **If there is no answer to the phone call the Officer will then make a visit to the residence to check on their welfare.**
- **In the event of no response at the residence the Officer will notify the person that the resident has listed as a**

contact and inquire as to any circumstances that would prevent the resident from responding.

- **If no connection can be made then officer would take the necessary steps to secure the safety of the resident.**

This service is completely secure and confidential and it also provides the resident with a connection to the Police Officers who are always available to assist them in so many ways.

If interested please call the Port Dickinson Police Department at 722-1255 Monday – Friday 8 AM to 4:30 PM and speak to the officer or dispatcher at the PD Police office to register or for further details.