**Brush and Tree Waste Collection Time Is Upon Us**

As I write this column the sun is shining outside my office window and the warmer days have finally arrived. This year, following the cold months which featured an epic blizzard in November and below normal temperatures through the middle of April, I eagerly welcome the arrival of spring. It is a time to venture outside and enjoy the serenade of the singing birds who announce the arrival of the season. Our thoughts now turn toward all the outdoor activities we enjoy during the warm weather days here in Orchard Park.

As we all know, this past winter’s powerful storms caused great damage to many of our trees. The chore of cleaning our yards and dragging brush and limbs to the road has begun throughout the town. This year the piles are much larger than normal which shines an even greater spotlight on the tree waste removal process. As in past years, the town will hire a tree service contractor to collect the debris between May 1 and October 1, 2015. My goal is to see that it is done much more efficiently and effectively than during past years. A huge source of upset for our town residents has been limbs and brush piled on their lawns by the road for up to seven or eight weeks, long enough to kill their grass. This is completely unacceptable and a reason for many complaints to my office each week.

The hiring process requires several companies to bid on a contract to clean up the debris which they collect and transport it to our compost site on Milestrip Road where it turned into mulch. The lowest responsible bidder is then accepted.

This year a pre-bid meeting was held where clear expectations were spelled out to prospective bidders. The town will be divided in North and South zones and the contractor must provide the equipment to be able to clear their zone within a firm two week period. They will know what the job requires before they submit a bid and will be expected to provide outstanding service to our residents. Unlike past years, if they fall behind and our town highway employees have to help with the work to keep them on the two week schedule, the contacted company will be charged a fee for that town service.

Hopefully providing clarity of the job description before the bidding process begins will lead to a satisfactory Brush and Tree Waste collection process throughout the town for the May through October period. To make things run smoother, please visit our town website at www.orchardparkny.org and click on departments on the right side. From there click on Highway Department and scroll down to services and click on Tree Waste Pick-up. You can then read the description of what we kindly request of our residents when placing the tree waste and brush at the roadside in front of their homes. Please follow these regulations which will make the process run smoother for all of us.

As many of you know, our Supervisor’s office and the Town Board have no control over the leaf collection and the snow plowing services. Those are provided by our Town Highway Department and are totally under the discretion of your elected Town Highway Superintendent. This year, however, I am taking an active role in structuring a contract for our brush collection services and clearly presenting what is expected of the company we hire. The goal is that by my being actively involved in the process the end result will be better service for our residents.

My belief is that local government is your best government, where elected officials work closely with those they serve. If you ever have any ideas or suggestions about how we can make our town government work better for you, please do not hesitate to share them with me. Our office phone number is 662-6400 and my email is supervisor.keem@orchardparkny.org
The Village of Orchard Park
Website: orchardparkvillage.org

Contact Information
Phone: (716) 662-9327 (Village Office)
(716) 662-3866 (Department of Public Works Garage)
Fax (716) 662-0891

Email: Villagemail@orchardparkvillage.org

Mayor Litwin Clinton: Mayor@orchardparkvillage.org
Trustee Hogenkamp: TrusteeHogenkamp@orchardparkvillage.org
Trustee Rood: Trusteerood@orchardparkvillage.org
Trustee Wales: TrusteeWales@orchardparkvillage.org
Code Enforcement Officer (Jeff Sweet): BuildingInspector@orchardparkvillage.org
Department of Public Works (Andy Skotman): DPW@orchardparkvillage.org
Deputy Clerk Treasurer (Kelly Streefer): Deputy@orchardparkvillage.org
Clerk/Treasurer (Mary Beth Jensen): Clerk@orchardparkvillage.org
Part Time Clerk (Christine Hanavan): PT Clerk@orchardparkvillage.org

The Village of Orchard Park has contracted with CodeRED to Provide Emergency Notification Services to the Community
SIGN UP TODAY

The CodeRED system will serve as the backbone of the Town’s emergency planning and communications outreach to citizens by using the system capabilities to send telephone calls, text messages, emails and social media in an effort to effectively Inform residents to protect life and property.

CodeRED’s robust system will provide Town officials with a reliable, easy-to-use interface to quickly disseminate critical information to our citizens during emergencies.

The Town has been provided an initial database of residential and business telephone numbers, however all residents living within Town and Village limits are encouraged to visit http://orchardparkny.org/content/EmergencyManagement and click on the CodeRED link to enroll additional contact information including cell phone numbers, text and email addresses.

The Town of Orchard Park, has begun providing public safety alerts through the company’s new public safety app – CodeRED Mobile Alert.

The app, which is a free download for iPhone and Android subscribers, will allow Town and Village residents, as well as those traveling through the area, to receive community and emergency alerts via notifications to their smartphones. "The app works similarly to our current CodeRED system. For more information or to download the CodeRED Mobile Alert app, visit http://ecnetwork.com/mobile/getitnow.html"

Assessor’s Office
716-662-6420 phone
716-662-6436 fax

The Assessor’s office is located on the first floor of the Municipal Center and is open Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

If you would like to know more about assessments, exemptions or review your assessment, please visit our website at orchardparkny.org.

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You are allowed ONE bulk item per week to be put out with your regular trash. Excess of one (1) item will be tagged and left.
**Brush and Tree Waste Collection**

Tree Waste Pick-Up From May 1 to October 31, the Highway Department, through the use of a contractor, tries to maintain a weekly tree waste pick up. This leaves highway crews free to work on road maintenance projects during the year. However, depending on the volume of tree waste throughout the Town to be picked up, it may take longer than a week and the day of the week that tree waste is picked up on a particular street may vary. During the remainder of the year, tree waste is picked up by the Highway Department, but as weather and scheduling permits. In an effort to maintain a timely and cost efficient tree waste removal program, we kindly request that residents:

- Please place all tree waste at the roadside in front of residence in orderly piles with butt-ends facing the road. Limbs and branches should not exceed four (4) inches in diameter and twelve (12) feet in length or be piled more than 3 feet high. This material will be chipped and made available to residents at the Highway Department.

- Please cut all limbs and tree stock exceeding four (4) inches in diameter into lengths of eighteen (18) to twenty-four (24) inches maximum and pile neatly and separately at the curb.

- Please place all stumps and shrubs at the curb, in a separate pile with dirt removed from the roots. Stumps are not to exceed two hundred (200) pounds.

- Leaves will be picked up loose at curbside only during the fall season beginning in October.

- Due to the use of fertilizers and pesticides grass clippings and garden waste must be put in garbage cans or bags and placed out with regular trash.

- Please be advised that the Town of Orchard Park will not pick up tree waste removed from lots where there is no established, occupied dwelling. For this reason, it is recommended that tree waste not be piled on vacant lots for pick up.

- Please be advised the volume of tree waste pickup is restricted to that generated by basic tree trimming and occasional tree removal. Excessive amounts of tree waste comparable to that produced by lot clearing, whether generated commercially or individually, will not be picked up.

Please be advised that railroad ties, fencing, lumber, old deck material, construction waste and other similar items will not be picked up with tree waste. Contact the Town's current sanitation contractor, Allied Waste at 614-3333 for information on how to dispose of these items. The Town of Orchard Park does not own or maintain a dumpsite. Any material, other than tree waste, must be disposed of privately.
## Recycling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plastic</th>
<th>Metal</th>
<th>Glass</th>
<th>Cartons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Torres, engine parts</td>
<td>Plastic bottles and containers, #1-7</td>
<td>Aluminum cans and foil</td>
<td>Cardboard and boxboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tires, engine parts</td>
<td>Tin and steel cans</td>
<td>Clear, green, brown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO:</td>
<td>NO:</td>
<td>NO:</td>
<td>YES:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unacceptable Items**
- Toys, children's containers, and hazardous waste
- Syringes, needles, or sharps
- Electronic items, printers, or copiers, or printers, or toner cartridges
- Wood pallets or construction lumber
- Waste oil, paint car parts
- Plastic, bags or film, or bags of any kind
- Bottles of any kind or liquids of any kind, batteries, antifreeze
- Mixed paper, plastic, and food waste
- Cross, bottle caps, #1-7, plastic containers, and food waste
- Clay, concrete, or glass mirrors and windows

**YES:**
- Milk and juice cartons
- Newspapers, catalogs, magazines
- Mixed paper, office paper, direct mail, envelopes, stationery
- Odors, tissues, napkins, or bags

**NO:**
- Solid items such as ropes, or bags
- Disposable diapers
- Pizza boxes, napkins
- Soiled items such as diapers
The Orchard Park Senior Center has something for everyone age 55+.

### Programs
- University Express Program, April through June
- Men’s Exercise, Ladies Fitness, Tai Chi, Yoga, Zumba, Line Dancing, Tap Dancing, Free Resistance Band Exercise, Chair Yoga.
- Computer Classes personally designed to meet your specific need.
- Art Classes in Watercolor, Acrylic, and Sketch
- Bridge and Pinochle Tournaments, Euchre, Scrabble, Mah Jong
- Book Club and Dinner Club

### Services
- HICAP (Health Insurance Information & Counseling Assistance Program)
- Transportation services provided by Rural Transit. Call 662-8378.
- Stay Fit Dining Program; lunches served noon Monday through Friday. Call 662-8378 for reservations.
- AARP Defensive Driving Program held monthly
- Workshops on living with Chronic Disease

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**Greetings From The Senior Council of Orchard Park Inc.**

In 2011, a private group of senior citizens determined that a larger, one story building, with adequate parking was needed to accommodate the growing and active senior population in the Orchard Park Area. On December 30, 2011, The Senior Council of Orchard Park (SCOP) was granted a 501(c)(3) not for profit status allowing that group of seniors to make a concerted fund raising effort toward achieving their goal. The Council continues to raise money for a building that would be utilized by everyone in the community but realizes that it needs your support. You can help by participating in the upcoming events:

**Pancake Breakfast September 12th, 8:00am-10:00am**
**Taste of Orchard Park July 22—Stop by Our Booth**
**Mocktail Party —Saturday October 17, 2:00-5:00pm**

Our Recognition Plaques located in the lobby keep multiplying as many seniors make a tax donation in remembrance of a loved one who has passed. To learn more about the Senior Council of Orchard Park, please contact Jackie Briggs at 662-3982.

*Jackie Briggs, President SCOP*