



President's Letter

Happy Holidays!

It's hard to believe we are ushering out 2023 and preparing for the New Year! The Board and Village staff have been busy preparing for a smooth transition into 2024! I have a few significant highlights to touch upon for the New Year. The first is no increase in Barrington Hills' portion of property taxes!

Year after year, the Village has exercised fiscal responsibility and has been able to hold or reduce the levy. *I am proud to report that for 2023, the Village was able to reduce the tax levy by one percent.*

This is no small feat! A reduction in the Village's portion of property taxes means that the Board and Village Staff are working for you—our residents. I want to personally thank the Finance Committee and Staff for their hours of dedication and their fiscal prudence in achieving the goal of no levy increase.

The 2024 Budget has been approved and the Draft Appropriation Ordinance will be on the January 2024 Board Agenda. During my tenure as a Board Member and Village President, the Village often came in under budget in many of its fund expenditures, and I am optimistic that trend will continue through 2024.

I am proud to report that the Village-maintained roads are in great shape! It is quite an achievement to be able to preserve the integrity of our Village roads and keep within a reasonable budget. This is a testament to our Village's dedication to our residents. Thank you to the Roads & Bridges Committee, Village Staff and our Village Engineer for your dedication in making this happen. After continuous analysis and a "boots on the ground" approach, Village roads have been identified for the upcoming program. Private roads, too, have been able to take advantage of Village pricing. This is a result of working with the awarded contractor to offer this to our residents.

Our Police Department recently completed a site-based assessment to achieve reaccreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). I am fully confident that in the new year, our Department will continue meeting or exceeding professional law enforcement standards, receiving its seventh consecutive accreditation award. Why is this important? Because it validates to the community that our Department strives to meet the strictest set of professional standards. The men and women of the Police Department uphold the oath they have taken, and it is reflected in their service and dedication to our community. I can't thank them enough for their selfless service.

Additionally, in the upcoming months, the Police Department will begin issuing body-worn cameras to officers. Although the Illinois SAFE-T Act (Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity-Today Act) doesn't require this until 2025, the Department has been working to exceed this requirement which is a testament to their dedication to professionalism. The Department believes that video and audio documentation of encounters with the public is an important and valuable resource for accountability and transparency.

I am honored to represent our Village and am always available to our residents.

I wish you the happiest of holidays and all the best in the new year!

Respectively,

Brian D. Cecola, President

Municipal Clerks Association

**McHenry County Council
of Governments**

Prairie Middle School

2023 Economic Summit Panelists



2024 ROAD PROGRAM

The Village is looking forward to spring and beginning its 2024 Road Program! In the upcoming new year, the Village will be bidding out the resurfacing of several roads, including the replacement of any damaged culverts along:

- Braeburn Road
- Caesar Drive
- Dana Lane
- Springwood Lane
- Three Lakes Road



Final road resurfacing selections will depend on the received bids. Fingers crossed for reasonable pricing!

We will also be continuing our rejuvenation program, applying Reclamite to recently paved Oak Knoll Road and a portion of West Cuba Road. While the program is relatively new in Barrington Hills, we are excited by the results! Using Ridge Road as an example, it's almost 10 years old and still looking good! If the Village continues to see these positive results, it means the Reclamite program is effective in extending the life of Village roads, lessening the frequency of road resurfacing.



DONLEA ROAD (LACEY LAKE) DRAINAGE INVESTIGATION – Final Findings Presentation

Join us during the February Board of Trustees Meeting on Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:30 PM, where Village Engineer, Steve Cieslica, will present the final findings.



In summary, the depressional area north of Donlea Road has no apparent outlet. During periods of significant precipitation, the depressional area has the potential to fill, inundating Donlea Road as happened in the spring of 2019 and 2020. The full report is available on the Village's website: vbhil.gov/news.

Have a roadway question or concern?

Who you call depends on who maintains the Road

STATE ROADS

i.e. Algonquin and County Line

Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
(800) 452-4368

COOK COUNTY ROADS

i.e. Old Sutton, Bateman, Otis and Brinker

Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
(312) 603-1601

VILLAGE ROADS

i.e. Ridge, Oak Knoll, Plum Tree, Spring Creek and Braeburn

Village of Barrington Hills
(847) 551-3000 or village@vbhil.gov

For a complete list of road jurisdiction go to vbhil.gov/roads

If your concern is an immediate threat to safety on any road, dial 911 directly

I want to....

- ◆ Request a House Watch
- ◆ Report something unusual or a road condition
- ◆ Report a lost animal, even a bull!

frontlinepss.com/barringtonhills

OR

bhpd.net to use the drop-down menu

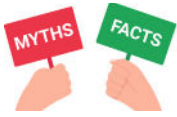
- ◆ Preview mail before it arrives!
Register for *Informed Delivery* with USPS:
usps.com/manage/informed-delivery.htm

- ◆ Report Mail Theft: usps.gov/report

- ◆ Mail Theft Prevention Tips:
usps.gov/tips-prevention/mail-theft

RECYCLING MYTHS

BUSTED!



Anything with a recycling symbol should go in your recycling bin.

FACT: The “chasing arrows” symbol generally identifies the type of plastic used to make a container or sometimes indicates that an item contains recycled content, but it does not mean that an item is recyclable.

MYTH: Anything plastic can go in your recycling bin.

FACT: Plastic bottles with necks or handles, plastic containers, and tubs are recyclable in your curbside container. Don't forget to put the caps back on!

Flexible plastics, such as plastic grocery and produce bags, should never be placed into your curbside recycling bin. Return the bags to collection bins at the grocery or big-box store.

It's ok to bag your recyclables.

FACT: Recyclables should never be bagged. Materials must stay loose so they can easily be sorted and separated at the recycling center.

MYTH: Pizza boxes are recyclable.

FACT: Once a pizza box is soiled with grease and cheese, the cardboard is no longer viable for recycling. If the top half is oil/cheese free, tear it off and recycle that portion.

Check with **your** service provider for accepted curbside recyclables.

The Woes of Wish-cycling: Tips and Common Misconceptions of Recycling, by Jeremy Walters, a sustainability ambassador for Republic Services, addresses these myths and more. Download the full article found in PM Magazine, July 2023, at vbhil.gov/news.

Specialized Recyclables for Drop-Off:

- ◆ Styrofoam
- ◆ Plastic bags
- ◆ Batteries
- ◆ Clothes
- ◆ Medical items
- ◆ Food
- ◆ Yard Waste

ITEMS FOR DONATION:

- ◆ Tools
- ◆ Clothes
- ◆ Toys



Where to Drop-Off? Check out these links: ◆ Earth911.com ◆ CountyofKane.org/Recycling ◆ SWALCO.com



- ◆ Food and beverage bottles/jars only
- ◆ Colored and clear glass

- ◆ Paper cups
- ◆ Newspapers
- ◆ Magazines/Catalogs/Advertising mail
- ◆ Brown paper bags
- ◆ Corrugated cardboard/Paperboard/Chipboard
- ◆ Clean packaging
Juice boxes, milk cartons, soup/broth cartons, wine boxes

- ◆ Aluminum/Steel/Tin Cans
- ◆ Aluminum foil (clean)
- ◆ Aerosol cans (empty and depressurized)

- ◆ Bottles/Jugs/Jars/Tubs
- ◆ Place caps on and do not crush



Village of Barrington Hills
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Village of Barrington Hills
112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199
village@vbhil.gov

vbhil.gov

Phone
847-551-3000

Village Hall Hours
Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

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“The 2024 Budget has been approved and the Draft Appropriation Ordinance will be on the January 2024 Board Agenda” -- What does that mean and what’s the difference?

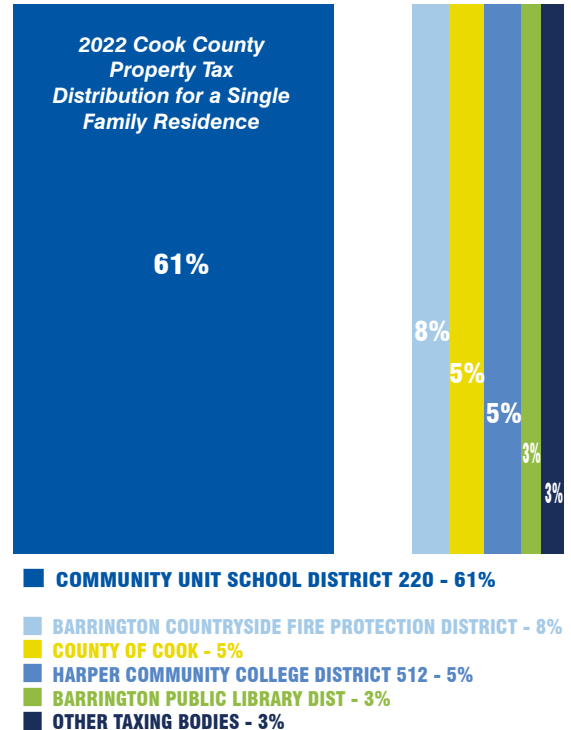
The Village’s budget is the financial plan that outlines expected revenues and proposed expenditures for the fiscal year (FY). It serves as the guide for financial decision-making and reflects the Village’s priorities for the coming year. The appropriation ordinance is the legal document that authorizes the expenditure of the funds, and closely mirrors the budget.

The tax levy is the amount of money taxing districts certify to be raised from property taxes. The Village’s planning and forecasting that went into the budget process for FY2023 has allowed the Board to decrease the Village’s portion of property taxes for another consecutive year by one percent, or by \$48,800.

The Cook County Treasurer recently released a new tool online, *See Where Your Money Goes*, which calculates year-to-year changes for each property tax bill and shows where tax dollars go. Check it out at cookcountytreasurer.com.

Lake, McHenry and Kane Counties provide a visual explanation of your tax bill which can be found on their respective website:

Lake County: lakecountyil.gov/198/Treasurer and click on **Example Tax Bill**.
Kane County: treasurer.kanecountyil.gov/ and click on **Tax Bill Explanation**
McHenry County: mchenrycountyil.gov/departments/treasurer/your-tax-bill-explained



2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE LAND WE LOVE RUN 5K/10K + 2-MILE WALK RAISED OVER \$11,500 FOR FOLDS OF HONOR!



NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES



200 SAPLINGS FOUND NEW HOMES!



FIRST ANNUAL WATERSHED CONFERENCE

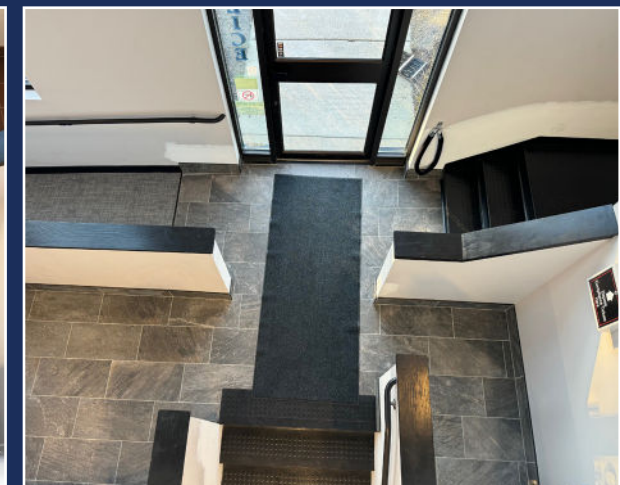
ALL SMILES AT THE BARRINGTON HILLS FALL FEST WHICH WELCOMED ALMOST 600 VISITORS ON A RAINY DAY!



July Speed Enforcement Grant Results:

- 277 speeding citations
- 92 other citations for registration/equipment violations
- 10 suspended revoked license citations
- 13 uninsured motorist citations
- 1 fugitive apprehended

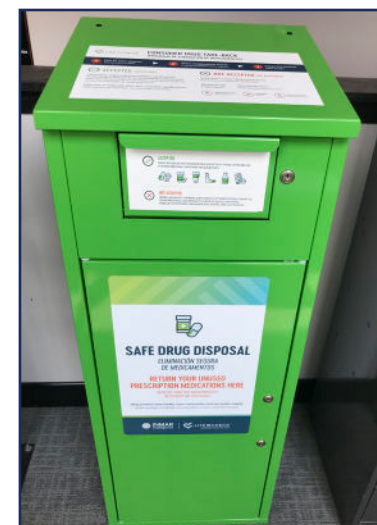
259 grant hours
A total of 367 traffic stops and 362 total citations written



OUT WITH THE OLD! IN WITH SAFETY!



THE SIGHT & SOUND BUS FREE EVENT PRODUCED 23 SCREENINGS! THANK YOU BARRINGTON LIONS CLUB FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE!



DRUG TAKE-BACK PROGRAM MADE ITS DEBUT!



VILLAGE HALL REFRESH