

# VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON

# Autumn



VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON NEWSLETTER

**AUTUMN**, 2007





## WOODLAND DRIVE CULVERT REPLACEMENT

North Flint Creek flows for approximately two miles through the Biltmore area of North Barrington through approximately 50 residential backyards, one public park and crosses seven public roads. The Village of North Barrington faces several challenges with maintaining North Flint Creek within the Village. These challenges include conveyance of the stream to minimize flooding of roads and private property, resident education about proper stream maintenance and debris removal, and streambank stabilization.

In 2003, the Village Engineers Baxter and Woodman, Inc. updated the regulatory floodplain model for North Flint Creek. These models were used to prepare a plan for reducing flood elevations within the watershed. In 2005, the Village approved a maintenance plan for the stream which included a combination of traditional conveyance approaches and watershed-based approaches to managing the stormwater. The maintenance plan included increasing culvert capacity at four culvert crossings and providing recommendations for watershed management and stream maintenance.

The first culvert on this list, at Woodland Drive, was replaced in the summer of 2007. The Village is currently undertaking a stream assessment project, which will involve a November 2007 walk-through of the stream to identify maintenance needs such as debris removal, streambank stabilization, and non-permitted structures in the floodplain.

A big thank you to all the neighbors for their input and patience with this project. Above are the before and after pictures of this project.



### Dear Neighbor:

There is a movement about that wants us all to go "green". I'm not quite sure of the meaning of "green" because I have a habit of not being too liberal or not too conservative. Going too far either way makes me nervous. Basically I believe in realism. So my idea of "green" is pretty simple. Clean air, clean water, recycling reusable goods and getting the most out of quality made products all makes sense to me. The Village Board, who by the way has melded into a wonderful working committee, agrees with me and we have set about a path to achieve some environmental goals that make sense. At the top of the list is Flint Creek; that lovely little stream that runs among our shallow hills, among our homes, and parks. Over the years the dead fallen trees, the blown branches and mounded silt have deteriorated the flow. The landscaping dreams of innumerable homeowners have diversified the banks creating a montage of erosion and instability. These two culprits provide us a back stopping water way rife with blockage, highlighted by sitting mosquito pools and flooded banks. It's time for us to clean this mess up and make the creek "green" again.

I suspect that by the time you read this we will already have walked the creek from end to end, and accompanying environmentalists will have provided detailed suggestions on the structural needs that they find. It is our intention to clean up the creek in whole, with an ecologically sound design from one end to the other. The logic is simple. If the creek flows, storm water goes where it's supposed to go; if the banks don't overflow, yards stay dry and firm. If the plantings along the banks filter the runoff, the water stays clean and the animals and fish that share our world live the life they are entitled to. We are going to need your help and we're going to ask for it.

Clean air has also been on all of our minds for sometime now because we are grappling with the leaf burning issue. The contentions are not easily resolved. The majority of North Barrington residents voted in a recent poll to keep leaf burning. While the margin was small, the numbers don't lie. On the other hand, we have ample evidence that burning leaves creates toxic and dangerous smoke that can, and does, present a health hazard to a number of our residents. Additionally, large lot owners are hard pressed to afford or to complete the fall clean up that hundreds of trees create in their big back yards without the use of burning. There is some need for compromise. The Village Board will make a final decision on this issue at the December board meeting. We encourage you all to make your opinions known well in advance of that meeting. While loud voices at the meetings are always heard, it is the logical argument presented early that gives us time to think and make our decisions.

We invite you to be part of these solutions. It's one more thing that makes North Barrington a wonderful place to live.

Sincerely,

Bruce J. Sauer

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## Village News



Ash Tree Leaf

Emerald Ash Borer is here in Illinois. The northern portion of the State of Illinois is under a State imposed quarantine relating to ash trees and the Emerald Ash Borer. While there have been no reports of Emerald Ash Borers being found in the Village of North Barrington, the State of Illinois advised that in order to prevent the importation and spread of the Emerald Ash Borer, there should be regulations which prohibit the removal of ash trees, limbs and bark. On August 22, 2007 the Village of North Barrington passed an Ordinance which restricts the movement of potentially infested wood products and encourages residents to purchase only locally-grown nursery stock and locally-cut firewood. The Ordinance in its entirety can be found on the Village's website, <a href="www.northbarrington.org">www.northbarrington.org</a>. Other informational websites include <a href="www.emeraldashborer.info">www.mortonarb.org</a>.

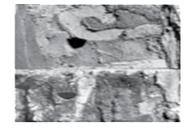
The Emerald Ash Borer was first found in Illinois on June 9, 2006 in Kane County. Additionally, the pest has been confirmed in Wilmette on July 13th and in Evanston on July 21, 2006.

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire (Coleoptera: Buprestidae), is identified as a causative agent in ash tree mortality and decline. No bigger than a penny, this green menace has wreaked havoc on millions of ash trees in the Midwest and if not controlled could potentially wipe out the ash tree species in North America.

The adult beetles nibble on ash foliage but cause little damage. The larvae (the immature stage) feed on the inner bark of ash trees, disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients. The Emerald ash borer probably arrived in the United States on solid wood packing material carried in cargo ships or airplanes originating in its native Asia.

#### **EAB Facts:**

- It attacks only ash trees
- Adult Beetles are metallic green and about 1/2 inch long.
- Adults leave a D-shaped exit hole in the bark when they emerge in the spring of the year.
- Woodpeckers like EAB larvae; heavy woodpecker damage on ash trees may be a sign of infestation.
- Firewood cannot be moved in many areas of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois because of both state and federal EAB quarantines.
- It probably came from Asia in wood packing material.



The Village of North Barrington is asking property owners to watch for any signs that this highly destructive insect is present in North Barrington's Ash trees. The Village is working with the Illinois Department of Agriculture to monitor the trees in the Village. The IDA removed four trees from various locations throughout the Village for examination. Bark will be removed from the tree and the underlying wood examined in an effort to locate EAB larvae, larval galleries or other evidence of EAB infestation. It is important to note that EAB is most attracted to unhealthy or stressed trees. Ash tree removal is still the best preventative to EAB and will be necessary should you have an EAB-infested tree. Dead or dying trees become a public safety issue and require removal.

**Overnight Parking**. Residents are reminded that there is no overnight parking on any street, alley or public right of way within the Village between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. Cars parked overnight will be ticketed by the Lake County Sheriff's Police. This is especially important during the winter snowplowing season. If a vehicle impedes snowplow equipment the vehicle may be towed in order for proper street clearance.

# Village News cont.

**Toys for Tots**. The Village of North Barrington will have collection boxes for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. Toys for Tots in the Lake County area makes a difference in the lives of the less fortunate children



in the area. The gift of a shiny new toy – something that most children take for granted – means to a needy child that someone cares; that he or she hasn't been forgotten; that Christmas hasn't passed him or her by. Collection sites include the North Barrington Village Hall, Learning Express Toys of Lake Zurich, 315 S. Rand Road, and Learning Express of Barrington, 200 Applebee Street. Toys will be collected until December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Deer. Fall is the peak season for deer-car accidents. While accidents occur during each month, there are certain times of the year that accidents are more frequent. The breeding season (rut) for deer is from late October through mid-December (peaking in November) and this increases deer movement. During most of the year, deer typically move during late evening and early morning hours, during the fall they can be seen moving throughout the day. Accidents tend to be concentrated at favored, regularly used deer crossings, along roadways passing through heavily wooded areas, stream corridors and/or wooded fence rows. Motorists should be aware of these likely spots and other areas where deer are frequently observed and be more vigilant as they approach them. If a collision seems inevitable, don't swerve to avoid the animal; your risk of injury may be greater if you do. Maintain control of the vehicle. Report the accident to the police and your insurance company.

**Vehicle Stickers**. Residents are reminded that vehicle stickers are required for all vehicles in the Village. Every owner of a motor vehicle or motorcycle that is registered to a North Barrington address is required to have a vehicle sticker. These vehicle stickers are not only mandatory, but also provide an important source of Village revenue, and the fees from these stickers are used towards road improvements on the Village's roadways. Applications for the 2008 stickers have just been mailed out. If you have misplaced yours or did not receive one, please contact the Village Hall or download a form from the Village's website, <a href="https://www.northbarrington.org">www.northbarrington.org</a>. Rates for a passenger automobile are \$10 per sticker; other rates apply for motorcycles, recreational vehicles and trucks. Vehicle sticker applications are due by March 31<sup>st</sup>or a penalty rate is applied. Call the Village Office if you need additional information.

Mosquito Abatement. As most residents are aware, the area had an over abundance of mosquitoes this summer. There were slightly above average rains in July and in the first 20 days of August, the area experienced the 7th wettest period in over 136 years with some areas collecting over 13 inches of rain. This created unprecedented numbers of floodwater mosquitoes. The rains changed the dynamics of mosquito control in the area. With soils completely saturated, the area was impacted with increased adult mosquito populations regardless of previous mosquito control efforts. Typically the Village is treated about five or six times per season, this year there were eight applications. The Village also had a light trap installed at a site on the Biltmore Country Club grounds to collect data for mosquito management. These light traps are used in two ways; to provide a historical record of mosquito abundance and species presence in an area and provide rapid information on mosquito abundance and species composition for planning and directing day-to-day mosquito control activities. The Village's annual budget for Mosquito Abatement is currently \$20,000. This year we exceeded this amount by approximately \$9,500 in order to try to manage the mosquito population and reduce the risk for West Nile Virus.



**Emergency Notification System.** The Village of North Barrington has implemented Connect-CTY as part of the Village's emergency preparedness and communication efforts. A test call was placed to all Village residents at approximately 6 p.m. on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. North Barrington is the seventh village in the area to implement Connect-CTY service, providing village officials the ability to communicate emergency information with all residents. Primary residential phones in North Barrington will automatically be included in

the system. However, residents can opt-in to provide their complete information (up to three phone numbers and two email addresses) by visiting the Village's website, <a href="www.northbarrington.org">www.northbarrington.org</a> and clicking on the link that says SIGN UP NOW. Those without internet access can have their information added into the system by calling the Village Hall at 847-381-6000.

## **Summer/Fall Events at Eton Park**

Eton Park has hosted many events in the past few months. The Parks and Recreation Commission planned two very successful summer concerts; the first was held on June 16<sup>th</sup> featuring the Harper Jazz Combo, and the second on July 21<sup>st</sup>, featuring Bopology. This was the fourth year for the summer concerts, and the first time that two concerts were held in one season, and with great results. A family movie night was scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup> featuring the family favorite "E.T.", but unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and a rain-out occurred. There was also a library read hosted by the Barrington Area Library, as well as YMCA sponsored Ricky Raccoon camps.





The highlight of events at Eton Park is the Fall Festival. This year's Fest, held Sunday, October 7th, was one of the most well attended in memory, despite record-setting temperatures approaching 90 degrees. The event had its traditional format with music performed by favorite blues guitarist Kraig Kenning, and hotdogs & brats prepared by Chicago Beef-n-Dog's Ron Lee. Patch 22 provided the petting zoo, pony rides and a tractor-driven hayride through the streets of Biltmore. A stilt walker entertained the kids with magic tricks and balloon art. North Barrington middle school students were on hand to help out with pumpkin and face painting activities, and the preparation and serving of cotton candy, popcorn and sno-cones.

The Fall Festival is sponsored by the Village of North Barrington with support from Midwest Bank. The Village's Parks & Recreation

Commission chaired by Kathy Kubick and members Cathy Howes, Bill Bowyer, Andy Seagren, Lloyd Struttman, Jennifer Haidu and Ann Kafka plan all aspects of the event. The Commission depends on and thanks the many additional resident volunteers who contributed to the success of the event. The Village would like to thank the Commission as well as all the volunteers for all their hard work putting together these events and congratulate them on their continued success.

#### **Eton Park Use**

Eton Park is open daily from sunrise to sunset. All residents who wish to use Eton Park for an event are required to have a permit issued by the Deputy Village Clerk. Any group using Eton Park is responsible for cleaning up all debris and leaving the premises in a neat and sanitary condition. Thank you for efforts in keeping Eton Park a clean and enjoyable park for all.

Once again, a big THANK YOU goes out to Biltmore Country Club and in particular Golf Course Superintendent Brian Thomson for all the maintenance work performed at Eton Park. This includes mulch placement, equipment repair, installing tents for camp and park functions as well as turf care. It is their grounds keeping expertise which keeps Eton Park looking its best. This summer's August rains posed particular hardship to the park's fields as the standing water drowned out the turf. With only a few weeks to prepare for the Fall Festival, the fields needed to be aerated, slit seeded and fertilized. Of course the work was completed and the fields are back on the road to recovery.

Brian and his crew recently gave the Biltmore Drive walking path a clean up by cutting back overgrown brush, removing dead limbs as well as mulching the path. The Village thanks Biltmore Country Club and Brian and his crew for their continued dedication to the Village's public park and walking trail.

## Village of North Barrington

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Phone: (847) 381-6000

Email: <a href="mailto:northbarrington@comcast.net">northbarrington@comcast.net</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.northbarrington.org">www.northbarrington.org</a>

Village Hall Office Hours: 8:30-3:00, M-F

Village Staff:

Village Admin./Clerk – Kathy Nelander Village Treasurer – Roberta A. Svacha Deputy Village Clerk – Kris Lennon Deputy Village Clerk – Sue Murdy

Lake County Sheriff's Police, Emergency-911

Non-Emergency (847) 549-5200

Fire, Emergency-911

Non-Emergency: Lake Zurich: (847) 540-5070

Wauconda: (847) 526-2821

**Village Board** – generally meets the 4th Wednesday of the month, but Nov. & Dec. meetings will be on the third Monday due to holiday schedule. Residents Welcome

Village President Bruce Sauer

Legal

**Trustee Pete Boland** 

Parks & Recreation Commission

**Trustee Rick Contorno** 

Police, Fire, Public Safety

**Trustee Jane Farrell** 

Finance, Plan Commission

**Trustee Mark Kolar** 

Roads/Utilities/Storm Mgmt.

**Trustee Albert Pino** 

Building and Zoning

**Trustee Lawre Weiner** 

Environmental & Health

Commission, Mosquito Abatement

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