

Focus on Niles

Dec. 2010 - Feb. 2011

Village of Niles, Illinois

www.vniles.com

A Holiday Message - Mayor Robert M. Callero

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George R. Van Geem
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Village Clerk
Marlene J. Victorine
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As we approach this holiday season, we tend to look around and only see our problems - unrest in the world, unstable financial markets, and an economy that is less than stellar.

However, as we get together with our families, loved ones and friends, we should realize that with these people we have more than all of the riches in the world. The warmth of family and friends is what makes the holidays precious to us.

As we prepare to spend these quality times, let us not forget those in need who are less fortunate than us. Niles Family Service tries to assist as many families as possible during the holidays. These families may be your neighbors or even someone in your family. Food, clothing, and toys are the things that people need most during the holidays. Let's try to make the holiday season a happy one for all of Niles families.

If you are interested in donating anything, please contact Niles Family Service or the Niles Senior Center at (847) 588-8000.

Also, we should all try to make an effort to shop at Niles stores, especially during the holidays. This local support of businesses helps to keep Village services at levels we all truly appreciate.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Village of Niles staff, I would like to wish each and every one of you a joyous holiday season and a very happy and healthy new year!

Very truly yours,

Mayor Bob

Trustee Louella B. Preston
Trustee Andrew Przybylo
Trustee Joe Lo Verde
Trustee Alan Weel
Trustee James T. Hynes
Trustee Chris Hanusiak

Village Clerk Marlene J. Victorine
Village Manager George R. Van Geem

**Shop Locally
This Holiday Season**



**NILES 2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
SURVEY INSIDE!!
or at www.vniles.com**

NILES 2030
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

KNOW YOUR TRUSTEES



Joe LoVerde

Trustee Joe LoVerde has been actively involved in the Village of Niles for over 35 years. Married in 1977 to his wife Maura, they have 4 children: Stephanie, Natalie, Joey and Kimberlie.

Trustee LoVerde worked with a family-owned construction company, which was located in Niles in 1962, until his appointment to Executive Director of the Niles Park District in 1997. Trustee LoVerde remembers all the hard working, dedicated and talented people that made Niles the great community we enjoy today. While working and raising his family, Trustee LoVerde dedicated himself to volunteering his spare time with numerous community organizations.

Prior to his election to the Village Board in 2007, Trustee LoVerde served as a Commissioner on the Plan Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals. Since his election, he has served on the Finance Committee, the Environmental Committee and was Village Board liaison to the Public Services Department for Capital Projects. Currently, Trustee Joe LoVerde is very busy as Chairman of two ground breaking Village Committees: the Ethics Board and the Stormwater Commission.

Trustee LoVerde believes he can best serve the community by being accountable, fiscally responsible and a voice for every resident. He has no doubt this Village Board will continue to provide quality services, safe neighborhoods and make Niles the best community possible.



Alan Weel

Trustee Alan Weel, a Niles resident for the past 18 years, was sworn in as a Village of Niles Trustee on May 26, 2009.

With over 26 years of banking experience, Alan Weel currently serves as the Senior Vice President of North Shore Community Bank and Trust in Chicago. Before his Village Board appointment, he served eight years as a Commissioner on the Niles Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals and was Chairman prior to being appointed to the Village Board. Trustee Weel currently serves as Chairman of the Niles Finance Committee.

Trustee Weel has been involved at St. John Brebeuf Parish, in various capacities. He served on the School Board, the Athletic Board and the Gala Benefit Fundraising Committee. He also served as Vice President, President and Past President of the Notre Dame High School Athletic Club. In addition, Trustee Weel is the immediate past Chairman of the Morton Grove Foundation, a 501(c) organization which raises money that is distributed to local charities. Trustee Weel and his wife Michele have two children: Amber and Matthew.

Trustee Weel plans to continue supporting the quality municipal services that our residents are used to while being fiscally responsible in arguably the toughest economic climate we have seen. Trustee Weel wants to thank Mayor Callero and fellow Trustees for their devotion and dedication in making the Village of Niles a great place.



Over the past 9 years, Andy DeTolve has worked to guide new business owners in their efforts to open businesses in the Village of Niles. By guiding them through the licensing process, he would acclimate them into the Village and assure them how business friendly the Village of Niles is to the business community. Andy's laughter and sense of humor will also be greatly missed around the office. Andy is shown with Mayor Robert Callero, Trustee Joe LoVerde, Trustee Alan Weel, and Charles Ostman.



Appointed to the Department in 1976, Fire Apparatus Engineer Robert Pierski served as one of the Village's earliest paramedics. During his career, he received three commendations for distinguished service: One for rescuing two workers from a damaged scaffold eighty feet above ground, one for his efforts at the Concord Lakes fire, and one for saving the life of a two year old child who was choking. Robert is shown with Mayor Robert Callero, Retiring Chief Barry Mueller and fellow fire personnel.

Village Clerk's Office
1000 Civic Center Drive

Consolidated General Election
Tuesday, April 5, 2011

The Office of the Village Clerk of the Village of Niles will be accepting candidate petitions for the following positions: One Village Trustee (two-year term) and Three Village Trustees (four-year term).

Filing period for candidates seeking election is December 13-20, 2010. File petitions in the Village Clerk's Office at Village Hall, 1000 Civic Center Drive, during regular business hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the specified filing period.

A Candidate's Guide is available from the Illinois State Board of Elections online at www.elections.il.gov or call (312) 814-6440. Additional information is available from the Cook County Clerk's Office www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections or call (312) 603-1122.

CABLE
CHANNEL 6
Your Location for
Community Information



Dine-In Niles Program
Affordable Reason to Dine

This program allows residents to use a 10% discount card at almost 50 ethnically diverse restaurants.

Designed to encourage residents to dine at our local restaurants first, the 10% discount is an incentive to explore those restaurants that you may not yet have ever visited. The discount is valid until April 30, 2011!

Residents are encouraged to check the Village's website at www.vniles.com to receive an up-to-date participating restaurant listing. The logo displayed above is on our home page and is a quick link to that listing. If you have any questions or need a replacement card, you may call our Business Coordinator, Denise McCreery, at (847) 588-8063.

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

<i>Al's Beef</i>	<i>Himalayan Restaurant</i>
<i>Amici Restaurant</i>	<i>Jersey Mike's</i>
<i>Quiznos Subs</i>	<i>Just Like Home</i>
<i>A's Bar Inc.</i>	<i>Lone Tree Manor</i>
<i>Auntie Anne's Pretzels</i>	<i>Los Comales Mexican Rest.</i>
<i>Bakers Square</i>	<i>Mango Restaurant</i>
<i>Barnaby's Pizza</i>	<i>Morrison Roadhouse</i>
<i>Bombay Chat</i>	<i>Mrs. Fields</i>
<i>Celebration Ice Cream</i>	<i>Mykonos Restaurant</i>
<i>Celli's Beef</i>	<i>Nancy's Pizza</i>
<i>Chamber Restaurant</i>	<i>Niles Grill & Diner</i>
<i>Chasers Bar & Grill</i>	<i>Ozzie's Sports Bar & Grill</i>
<i>Cheogajip Pizza & Chicken</i>	<i>Panda Express</i>
<i>Chinese Inn</i>	<i>Papa John's Pizza</i>
<i>Cid's Ma Mon Luk</i>	<i>Riggio's Restaurant</i>
<i>Cinnabon</i>	<i>Sarku Japan</i>
<i>Dear Franks</i>	<i>Sbarro</i>
<i>Dunkin Donuts</i>	<i>Shabu House</i>
<i>Ebony Lounge</i>	<i>Siam's House Restaurant</i>
<i>Fluky's</i>	<i>Subway</i>
<i>Golf Mill Cafe'</i>	<i>Taco Burrito King</i>
<i>Golf Mill Chocolate Factory</i>	<i>The Great Steak & Potato Co.</i>
<i>Gourmet Cajun & Grill</i>	<i>The White Eagle Restaurant</i>
<i>Graziano's</i>	<i>Tic Toc Grill</i>

Senior Center

999 Civic Center Drive

Membership Has Its Privileges by Senior Center Director Kelly Mickle

Intergenerational Wii Bowling Tournament.

This intergenerational program will be fun for all ages. Sign up for the tournament on Tuesday, December 21st at 11:30am. Let's show the teens (once again!) that seniors rule and keep that prized trophy for our display case. Refreshments will be served.

Pre New Year's Luncheon.

Don't be left out! Join us in getting a head start on the New Year. What a grand afternoon it will be! We'll start with a stop at the punch bowl for a refreshing beverage, followed by a delicious catered lunch from Graziano's. Following lunch, get ready to be dazzled by Denny Diamond and his two very talented musician sons! We'll have our traditional count down to the New Year with a champagne toast. Reserved seating forms can be picked up at the Front Desk. Tuesday, December 28, 11:30am-2:00pm. \$18.00M/\$23.00NM.

The Niles Senior Center is on Facebook. Follow the Niles Senior Center on Facebook to stay current on what's happening at the Center. The page features the most up to date information on classes,

trips and special events, as well as photos from past NSC events. Sign up now as a Senior Center Fan. If you're not on Facebook yet, we are having a free Facebook Workshop on Friday, January 21, 10:00am-12:00pm. There are only 14 computers available, so please register in advance.

Tax Assistance. This year, Niles Senior Center will again offer free tax assistance to eligible Niles Seniors through the AARP Tax-Aide Program. IRS trained and certified Tax-Aide volunteers do simple returns for qualifying middle and low income seniors free of charge. Niles Senior Center TAX AIDE volunteers will begin assisting seniors with their Federal and State tax forms starting February 2nd thru April 15th. Tax appointments will be scheduled Monday thru Friday mornings. Due to the high demand for this program, no walk-in appointments will be accepted.

Qualifying Niles seniors may begin making appointments starting January 25th between the hours of 9:30 am and 2:30 pm by calling 588-8420. To be eligible for this free service, you must be age 55 or over, and your income may not exceed \$40,000. Our counselors are trained to do simple returns and will not prepare business returns or returns with complex tax transactions. If you would like more information, please contact MaryAnn Borucki at the Senior Center (847 588-8440).

Teen Center

373 Golf Mill Center

Teens Gear Up For Winter by Teen Center Director Mark Williams

Winter programs include a Valentine's Day dance, 2 ski/snowboard trips, Wii Bowling with the Senior Center, movie nights, a trip to Nickel City arcade, a trip to Top Golf, discussion groups with the social work intern and a monthly educational speaker series.

For more information on the Niles Teen Center visit us on the web at ww.NilesTeenCenter.org or stop by the Niles Teen Center at Golf Mill Shopping Mall.



Mayor Bob Callero, Trustee Louella Preston, and Trustee Andrew Przybylo congratulate Teen Center Director Mark Williams for his efforts and being recognized by the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard Kennedy School with a Bright Ideas Award.

Police Department 7000 Touhy Avenue

Trapping Wildlife Not Required by Animal Control Officer Peter Babikan

Wild animals are constantly in search of three basic necessities: food, shelter and water. Due to the constant pressure on wildlife from urban development, the way in which wildlife must at times fulfill these needs is exacerbated by where they locate what they need - your property.

If you have a flower, fruit, and or vegetable garden, expect wildlife to pursue it. If you have bird feeders full of seed and bird baths full of water, expect wildlife other than birds to also partake of it. If you have long grass or wood piles that provide shelter, expect wildlife to find it. Ultimately, you cannot pick or choose which animals you want

in your yard, but you can take some precautions to reduce the chances.

- a. Eliminate hiding spots and keep your yard clean.
- b. Block off entry underneath sheds or decks.
- c. Keep refuse covered.
- d. Sprinkle repellents like hot sauce on garden plants.
- e. Motion-detecting water sprayers or sprinklers.



Many residents do ask for trapping, but it is only a temporary solution if your home is where they have access to food, shelter, and water. Nonetheless, if you are in need of trapping or further information on how to resolve an animal issue, contact Animal Control Officer Peter Babikan at 847-588-6508.

resolve an animal issue, contact Animal Control Officer Peter Babikan at 847-588-6508.

Fire Department 8360 Dempster Street

Winter Safety and Decorations by Acting Chief Steve Borkowski



Here are some basic winter safety tips for holiday decorations:

- Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials when decorating.
- Never use lighted candles on or near a tree, plants or combustible materials. Extinguish candles before leaving the house or going to bed.
- Keep small children and pets in mind when placing decorations on a tree.
- When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. Make sure the needles are soft and don't fall off. Live trees need water, and lots of it. Cut about one inch off the bottom of the trunk before putting the tree in the stand. Add water and check the tree daily. Dry trees can burn in seconds.

- Do not block your exit door with your tree.
- Remove live trees from your home as soon as possible. Most Christmas tree fires occur on or after New Year's Day.
- Check each light set for damaged sockets or wires. Discard light sets and extension cords that are worn or cracked.
- Use UL approved light sets. Follow the manufacturer recommendations concerning the maximum number of light sets that can be connected together.
- Replace burnt out bulbs with bulbs of the same wattage as indicated on the tag attached to the light set.
- Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. You could be electrocuted.
- Use only light sets and extension cords marked "for outdoor use" outside your home.
- Fasten outdoor lights securely with insulated clips or hooks. Use circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs).

Contact the Niles Fire Department at 847-588-6800 for additional fire safety information.

Holiday Tree Collection

Put It To The Curb for Groot



Holiday trees are collected from the curb by the Village's refuse hauler Groot Industries. On your normal weekly refuse day, just place it at the curb for collection.

Please properly prepare the holiday tree by removing the stand, nails, ornaments and tinsel before it is placed to the curb.

The Village Public Services Department does not collect or recycle holiday trees.

Rear Yard Drainage Issues Obstructing Natural Flow

As established within the 2009 Stormwater Commission Report, rear yard flooding is by far one of the most aggravating stormwater issues for many homeowners in the Village of Niles. The causes of yard flooding, rear yard especially, is the gradual, and sometimes overnight, obstruction of the "natural flow" of water from one property to the next by structures, fences, wood piles, gardens, and in some cases berms constructed by a property owner for the specific purpose of preventing water from entering their yard from an adjoining yard.

Most residents and homeowners are unaware of local and State laws that are meant to protect the natural flow of water on properties and indirectly prevent yard flooding. Locally we have Article XI. Grades of Village Code and Statewide there is Illinois Drainage Law.

Village Code basically requires homeowners to get a permit to alter grades in their yard. In other words, if a homeowner wants to add dirt to their yard for a garden, add a decorative raised brick ledge around the yard, or do anything that alters the natural flow of water through the yard from an adjoining property, they must acquire a permit from Engineering. Currently, all sheds, fences and other structures that require a permit are checked by the Village Engineer to ensure they do not block the natural flow of water and/or will not inadvertently cause the flooding of a neighboring property.

One of the most important principles of Illinois Drainage Law is that owners of lower ground must receive surface water that naturally flows onto it from higher ground. A landowner has no right to obstruct the flow of surface water. Under Illinois law, the owner of lower land ordinarily has no right to build a dam, levee, or other artificial structure that will interfere with the drainage of higher land. In fact, the willful and intentional interference by an owner of lower land is considered a petty offense and is punishable by a fine. This is in addition to private lawsuits that the owners of affected properties may file.

Property owners, who may or may not be experiencing yard flooding, are required to contact the Village of Niles Engineering Department at (847) 588-7920 before conducting any work in their yard that could potentially change yard grade or obstruct the natural flow of water on their property. Homeowners who see this type of activity are also asked to call the Engineering Department.



Niles Free Bus

"It takes you where you need to go"
Third Quarter Courtesy Bus Ridership

July 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010

<u>Bus Route</u>	<u>Ridership</u>
411 Regular	27,135
411 Reverse	27,936
412 North Special	20,372
413 South Special	4,844
TOTALS	80,287

Public Services

6849 Touhy Avenue

Winter Parking Restrictions

How to Assist with Snow Removal Efforts

AFTER A 1 INCH SNOWFALL - Parking is prohibited on either side of a primary roadway or a designated "Snow Route" until snow removal is complete. A "Snow Route" is any primary roadway that receives immediate attention, such as Milwaukee Ave. or Dempster St. Residents living on snow routes are advised to use their garages during the winter to allow for access by snow plows.

AFTER A 3 INCH SNOWFALL - Parking is prohibited on the odd numbered side of all Village streets (excluding snow routes and exempt streets) for 24 hours

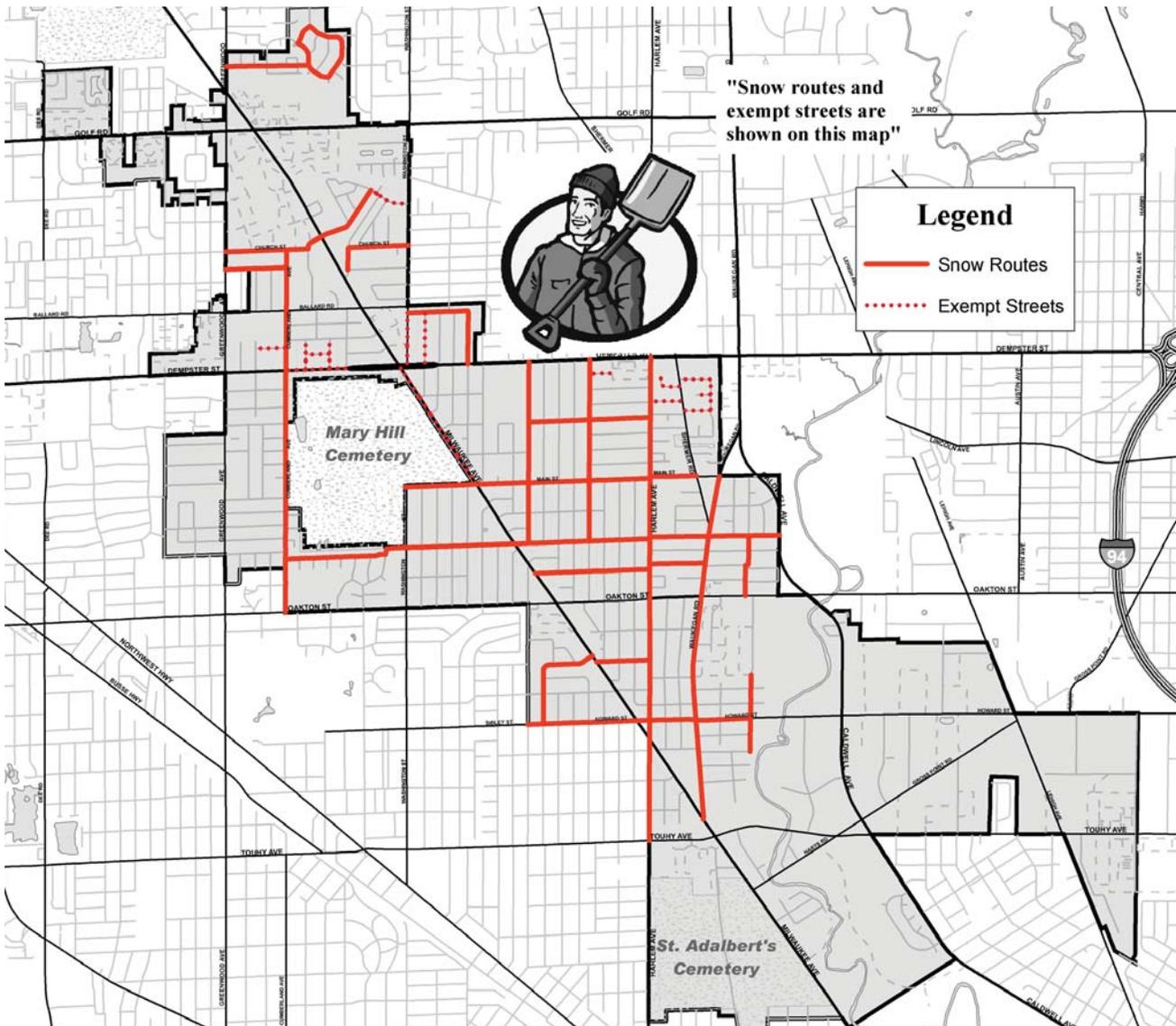
after the snow stops, or until the street is plowed. The same applies for the even side of the street during the next 24 hours.

EXEMPTIONS - Some streets are exempt from snow parking bans because driveway parking is not available.

REMOVING DRIVEWAY SNOW - Don't shovel snow from your driveway onto the street. This can lead to accidents and will only require additional trips from the snow plow. Plus, its against the law.

DRIVING DURING PLOWING OPERATIONS - Keep your distance from plow trucks. These vehicles are fully loaded and driving under adverse conditions. Stopping distances due to the load of salt and slippery conditions are increased, so increase your distance from the snow removal equipment as well. Also, salt is distributed from the rear of the vehicle, another reason to keep your distance.

Snow routes and exempt streets are shown below.



Village of Niles
1000 Civic Center Drive
Niles, Illinois 60714

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NO
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THE PURCHASE
OF**

**A NEW ANNUAL
ADULT
MEMBERSHIP**

OFFER EXPIRES: DECEMBER 31, 2010

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

www.nilesfitness.com

847-588-8400

Village of Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan Resident Questionnaire

Please complete this questionnaire and drop it off at any Village facility, fax to 847-588-8058, email it to bdj@vniles.com or mail to "Niles 2030", 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, IL 60714.

Questionnaire available online at www.vniles.com.

The Village of Niles is working with the community to create the Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is a long-range planning document that applies to the entire Niles community and is intended to guide the Village in its planning efforts over the next 20 years.

This questionnaire is one component of the community participation process in the development of the plan and your input is a valuable resource for our community. Please take 10 minutes to complete this questionnaire.

Thank you for participating in the planning process.

1. How long have you lived in Niles?

- Less than one year One to five years Six to ten years
 Eleven to twenty years Twenty-one to thirty years Over thirty years

2. What are the five best things about Niles?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

3. What are the five things you like least about Niles?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

4. How do you rate the following public facilities and services for the Niles area?

	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know
Regional arterials/state roads	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local streets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sidewalks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trees and landscaping on public property	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Street lights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Police protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fire protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electric service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trash service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sewer service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Storm water drainage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health care services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parks and open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreational facilities & programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural facilities & programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community meeting space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Services for youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Services for senior citizens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Free bus service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. How do you rate the overall quality of housing stock (appearance, cost, property maintenance) in the Village?

- Excellent Good Fair Poor

6. How is the quality of housing changing in the Village?

- Getting much worse Getting somewhat worse
 Staying about the same Getting somewhat better Getting much better

7. How does the quality of life in the Village of Niles today compare to ten years ago, or since you moved to Niles if less than ten years?

- Much better Somewhat better
 About the same Somewhat worse Much worse

8. In five years, the Village of Niles will...

- Be a better place Get worse Stay about the same

9. What types of development would you like to see in the Village of Niles? (list your top five).

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

10. What kind of new development would you NOT like to see in the Village in the future?

11. What is the Village's #1 strength?

12. What is the Village's greatest weakness or need for improvement?

13. What are the three most important issues facing the Village today?

1.

2.

3.

14. Please provide any additional comments in the space below.

Please complete this questionnaire by December 17th, 2010. If you have any questions, please call 847-588-8091.