

Focus on Niles



Winter Issue

Village of Niles, Illinois

www.vniles.com

A Holiday Message From Mayor Robert M. Callero

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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 holiday season 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 Niles families.

If you are interested in donating to the food pantry, 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 this season. This local support of businesses helps to keep Village services at levels we can 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

Mayor Robert M. Callero

Trustee Chris Hanusiak
Trustee James T. Hynes
Trustee Joe Lo Verde
Trustee Rosemary R. Palicki
Trustee Louella B. Preston
Trustee Andrew Przybylo

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

Shop Locally
This Holiday Season
At Niles Stores



Niles...

#1 Place in the U.S. to Raise a Family

Businessweek.com



Niles Historical Society
40th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, December 4, 2011
 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Niles Park District, Oasis Fun Center
 7877 Milwaukee Avenue
 Donation: \$20

Buffet/Cash Bar
 Raffles/Cash Prizes
 Table Prizes/Souvenirs

Dance to Jimmy Boyd

Call (847) 390-0160



Environmental Practices Committee
Holiday Light Recycling Program

The Environmental Practices Committee wants to recycle your broken and outdated strings of holiday lights! We will take old extension cords too!

This recycling program is sponsored by the Village of Niles, the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), and Elgin Recycling, Inc.

The collected material will be chopped, separated, baled and sold as a commodity to foundries and mills in the United States.

When to Drop Off Holiday Lights

December 1 - February 29

Where to Drop Off Holiday Lights

Niles Family Fitness Center
 987 Civic Center Drive
 &
 Public Services Building
 6849 W. Touhy Avenue



Do Not Throw Away Your Electronics
New State Law Bans E-Waste!!

Beginning January 1, 2012, State law does not permit Groot to collect *televisions, computer monitors, desktop/note book computers and other e-waste* at the curb. If Groot identifies any these items at the curb, Groot is required by State law not to collect it. Groot will adhere an orange informational sticker to the item and then by law leave it at the curb.

What do you do if you have a TV, computer monitor, desktop/notebook computer and other e-waste that you no longer need? Ultimately, these items must now be recycled. The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) has a permanent electronics collection site at the

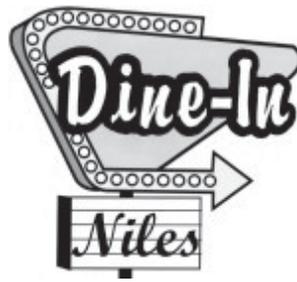
Glenview Transfer Station located at 1151 N. River Road that is open on Saturdays only. Saturday drop off is from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The Village also schedules annual one-day drop-off events each summer.

Other acceptable e-waste items that are collected at the Glenview Transfer Station: Computers, DVD Players, DVR/Cable Boxes, Fax Machines, Mobile Phones, PDAs, Peripherals (Mice, Keyboards, Drives), Printers, Scanners, TVs, VHS Players, Video Game Consoles. Residents may also contact their local Best Buy store where they will collect as many as three items per household per day.

To learn more go to www.swancc.org or call SWANCC at 847-724-9205.

#1 Place in the US to Raise Kids T-Shirts Adult Sizes Now Available

Due to the popularity of the #1 Place to Raise Kids T-shirts, adult sizes medium, large and X-large are now available. Kids and adult shirts are sold at Village Hall, Fitness Center and Teen Center. Youth sizes are also being sold at The Howard Leisure Center and Golf Mill Mall's customer service. All T-shirts are available for \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. These shirts mark an exciting time in Niles history and make a great gift for the holiday.



Dine-In Niles Program Dine Out for Holidays!

The 2011-2012 Dine in Niles Program is in full swing. Participating card holders are enjoying a 10% discount at 50 diversely delicious Niles restaurants.

The program is designed to encourage residents to dine at our local restaurants first. The 10% discount is an incentive to dine at your favorite restaurant more frequently or try a new local restaurant. The unique feature of this program is that the discount is valid for one full year!

Residents are encouraged to check the Village's website at www.vniles.com for updates to the participating restaurant listing. If you have any questions or need a discount card you may call our Business & Marketing Coordinator, Denise McCreery, at 847-588-8063.



Niles Free Bus

“It takes you where you need to go.”
Quarterly Courtesy Bus Ridership
July 2011 through September 2011

<u>Bus Route</u>	<u>Ridership</u>
411 Regular	27,628
411 Reverse	29,744
412 North Special	21,980
413 South Special	5,296
TOTALS	84,648

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

<i>168 Chinese Restaurant</i>	<i>Himalayan Restaurant</i>
<i>Al's Beef</i>	<i>Jersey Mike's</i>
<i>Amici Restaurant</i>	<i>Just Like Home</i>
<i>Auntie Anne's Pretzels</i>	<i>Lone Tree Manor</i>
<i>Bakers Square</i>	<i>Los Comales Mexican Rest.</i>
<i>Barnaby's Pizza</i>	<i>Mango Restaurant</i>
<i>BBQ Grill</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>Chambers</i>	<i>Panda Express</i>
<i>Chasers Bar & Grill</i>	<i>Papa John's Pizza</i>
<i>Cheogajip Chicken & Pizza</i>	<i>Pizza Hut</i>
<i>Chicago Style Hotdogs</i>	<i>Pizza King</i>
<i>Chinese Inn</i>	<i>PlayBook Sports Bar</i>
<i>Cid's Ma Mon Luk</i>	<i>Quiznos Subs</i>
<i>Cinnabon</i>	<i>Riggio's Restaurant</i>
<i>Dear Franks</i>	<i>Siam's House Restaurant</i>
<i>Du Re Bak Restaurant</i>	<i>Subway Sandwiches</i>
<i>Dunkin Donuts/Baskin-Robbins/Dunkin Deli</i>	<i>Surf City Squeeze</i>
<i>Fluky's</i>	<i>Taco Burrito King</i>
<i>Golf Mill Cafe</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

(847) 588-8420

Fall Programs Are Full of Activity by Kelly Mickle



Cooking Class. Monday, January 9 (10:30 - 11:30 a.m.) Author and chef, Kelly Donlea will show us how we can take one trip to the store for 70 meals while saving money at the same time. Cost is \$10 members/\$15 nonmembers.

Free Tax Assistance. Beginning January 24 you can call the Tax Hot Line (847) 588-8440 between 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. to schedule an appointment. Some restrictions apply.



Tax Volunteers Needed. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax preparation and assistance service. Volunteers do not need to be an AARP member or retiree to participate. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers will receive free tax training at the Niles Senior Center in January and will help taxpayers at the Center as greeters and client facilitators/tax preparers beginning February 7 through April 12.

Niles Senior Center tax appointments are based on volun-

teer availability and generally are offered Monday – Friday mornings and afternoons. Volunteers choose the day and time they are available. For more information, contact MaryAnn Borucki at (847) 588-8420.



Tai Chi. Tai chi is safe for people of all ages and levels of fitness. Studies have shown that Tai Chi can improve balance and reduce the risk of falls. Join Renee Gatsis- certified Tai Chi instructor from the Arthritis Foundation. Call for dates and pricing.



Second Annual Hearing Health Fair. The Niles Senior Center and Schaumburg Township Disability Services are hosting the Second Annual Hearing Health Fair. The event will take place at the Niles Senior Center on April 6, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon.

Exhibitors will include the Lion's Club offering FREE hearing screening, North Suburban Hearing Service, Department of Rehabilitation Service for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Hearing Loss Association of America, Niles Senior Center Effective Communication Group, North Shore Senior Center Sound Offs, Sonus Hearing Care, Illinois Dept of Veteran Affairs & Benefits, Advanced Hearing and Balance Center, ITAC and Sprint Relay, Meijer Pharmacy and more.

MEET YOUR NILES FAMILY FITNESS CENTER TEAM

Ernie Papucci has been the Building Coordinator since 2006 and has been with the Fitness Center since 2004. Ernie is in charge of keeping every thing running smoothly
shown top row left

Kurt Quitshaw has been the Aquatics Coordinator since 2010 and has been with the Fitness Center since 2003. He oversees the day to day operations of the pool.
shown top row right

Linda Mathis has been Membership Services Coordinator since 2003. She believes that every member and guest deserves the best fitness experience each and every day.
shown top row center



Danielle Desherow has been the Group Exercise Coordinator since 1999. She believes it is important to vary your way of exercising to create muscle confusion and avoid plateaus.
shown bottom row right

Cathy Fay has been the Fitness Coordinator since 2010 and has been with the Fitness Center since 1998. She has experience in exercise physiology and cardiac rehabilitation.
shown bottom row left

Carl Maniscalco has been the Fitness Center Director since 2001. He has managed fitness programs for both public and private facilities for 30 years.
shown bottom row center

Police Department (847) 588-6500



We keep hearing news stories lately about severe winter forecasts for the Chicago area. This means extreme snow and cold will negatively impact driving, which can be both frightening and dangerous.

The Niles Police Department recommends the following winter driving tips:

- Decrease your speed and increase the distance between you and the vehicle in front of you.

Fire Department (847) 588-8098



Fire safety needs to be observed throughout the holidays. To keep your household from becoming a holiday fire statistic, here are some safety tips:

- Cooking is the top cause of holiday fires, according to the U.S. Fire Administration. The most common culprit is food that is left unattended. It is easy to get distracted, so take a pot holder with you when you leave the kitchen as a reminder that you have something on the stove. Make sure you keep a fire extinguisher that is rated for all types of fires. If you plan to deep-fry a turkey, do it outside, on a flat, level surface 10-feet from any structure.
- Christmas trees take less than 30 seconds to become engulfed in flames. To minimize the risk, buy a fresh tree with intact needles, freshly cut the trunk, and water it daily. Keep the tree away from heat sources, such as a fireplace or radiator, and

- Brake gently to avoid skidding.
- Turn on your headlights.
- Avoid driving while tired.
- Never warm up a vehicle in a garage.
- Make certain your tires are properly inflated.
- Keep your gas tank half full at all times to avoid gas line freeze-up.
- Avoid using your parking brake in cold, rainy and snowy weather.
- Do not use cruise control when driving in the winter.
- Don't pass snow plows.
- Be careful on bridges and overpasses that get icy.
- Buckle your seat belt every time you drive.

Important Winter Parking Violations

Beginning December 1, winter parking restrictions go into effect as per Village Ordinance 98-176
(See Page 7)

out of traffic patterns. Real trees begin to dry after about four weeks.

- Inspect decorative light strings and recycle any with frayed/cracked wires or broken sockets. When decorating, don't run more than three strings of lights. Extension cords should be in good condition and UL-rated for indoor/outdoor.
- Candle fires are four times higher during December than during other months of the year. According to the National Fire Protection Association, four of the five most dangerous days of the year for residential candle fires are Christmas and New Year's. To reduce the danger, maintain about a foot of space between the candle and anything that burns and never leave flames unattended. Before bed, walk through each room to make sure candles are safely extinguished.
- Fireplace soot can harden on chimney walls as flammable creosote, so before the fireplace season begins, have your chimney inspected to see if it needs cleaning. Screen the fireplace to prevent embers from popping out onto the floor or carpet, and never use flammable liquids to start a fire. Only burn seasoned wood—no wrapping paper.



Since standard homeowners insurance does not cover flooding, it is important to have flood protection. Any property (in the flood plain or not) qualifies for National Flood Insurance to protect against overland flooding through windows or doors.

www.floodsmart.gov

Village of Niles Stormwater Commission Phase II of Study Underway

The engineering firm of Hey and Associates presented the findings and recommendations for Phase I of the Stormwater Master Plan to the Village Board of Trustees in October. Phase I of the study and modeling includes the areas within the Village that contain the most properties negatively impacted by recent storm events (visit www.vniles.com/Quick Links/Stormwater Commission for the full phase I presentation).

Phase II will now focus on critical areas to the north and south of the Phase I area that have been identified by the Stormwater Commission over the past several years of citizen feedback through direct flooding calls, surveys, and other means. A public event is planned for this Winter.

The Stormwater Commission would like to get any pictures you may have of the flooding that occurred July 22, 2011. Please send the pictures digitally to scv@vniles.com or mail them to Stormwater Commission, 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, IL 60714.

NILES TV



Comcast Channel 6



at&t Channel 99

Your Location for Community Information



Milwaukee Avenue Streetscape The Work Continues Spring 2012

Thanks to over \$2,690,000 in grant funds, the Village is moving forward this Spring with phase II of the Milwaukee Avenue Streetscape Plan adopted in 2007.

The first phase of improvements at the intersection of Milwaukee and Touhy were completed in 2010 and included new sidewalk, pedestrian lighting, brick pavers, street furniture, decorative fencing, planters and improved pedestrian crossing signals. These streetscape elements provide pedestrians and vehicle occupants alike with a more pleasant and safe travel experience.

Phase II will incorporate these same streetscape elements northward to the Milwaukee intersections of Howard, Harlem and Oakton. In addition, a number of trees will be planted in the parkways and new seasonal banners will be installed.



Public Services

(847)588-7900

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

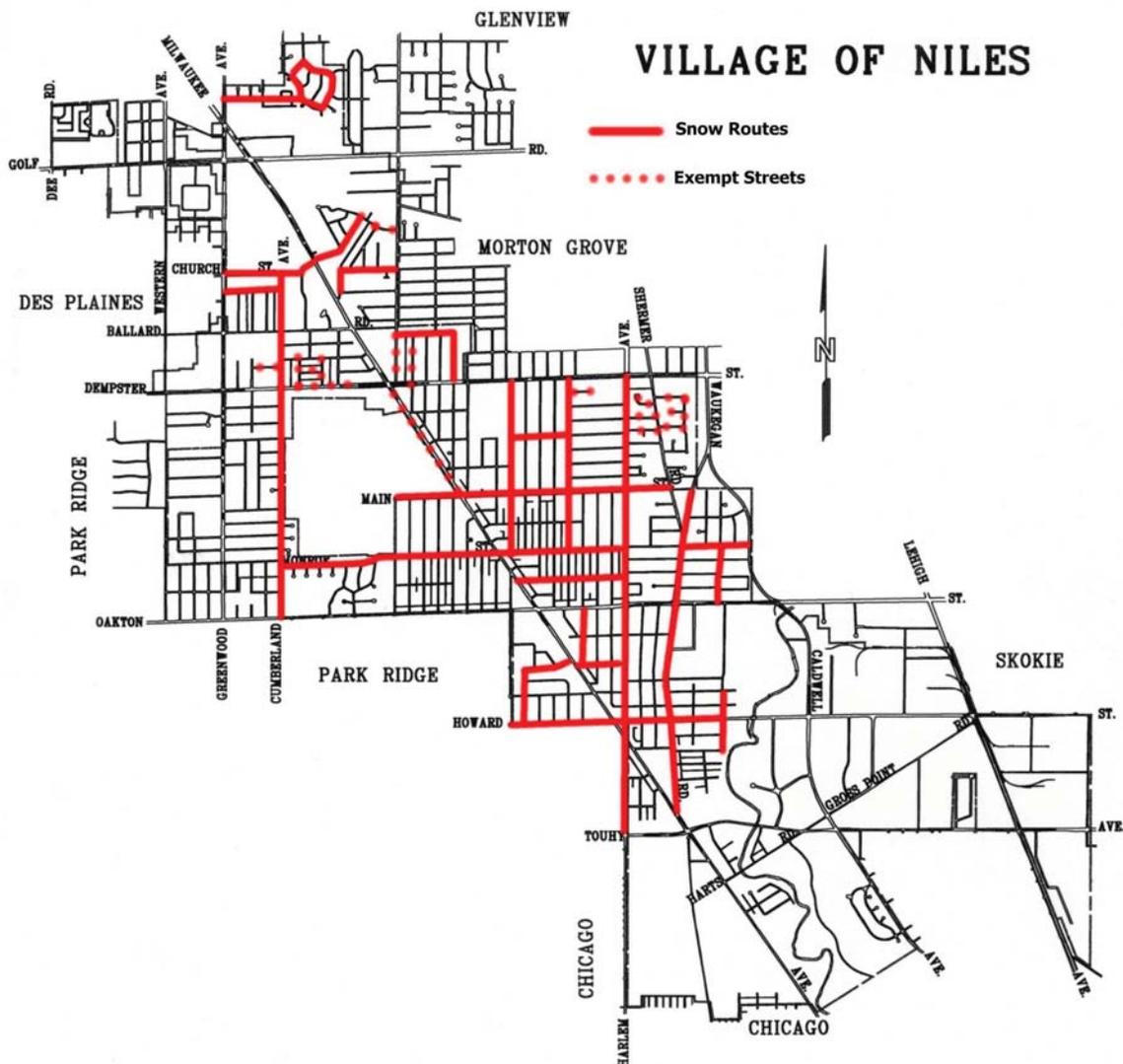
after the snow stops, or until the street is plowed. The same applies for the even side of the street during the next 24 hours.

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, it's 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

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 111
Morton Grove, IL

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Clean Air Counts Energy Savings Program

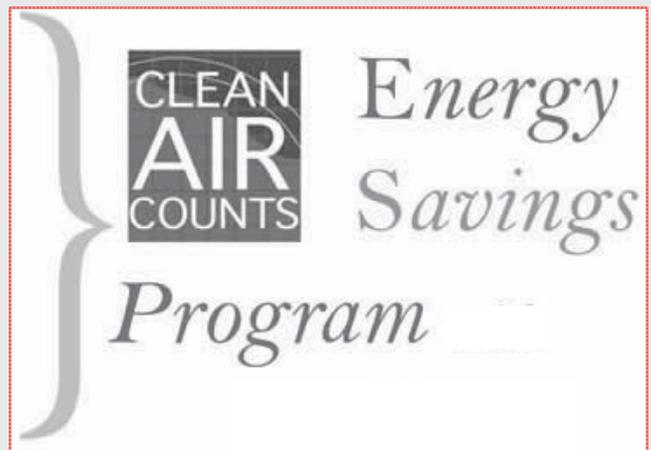


The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Clean Air Counts Campaign introduces the Energy Savings Program (ESP) for residents and small businesses.

The ESP allows you to pay less for your energy guaranteed through 2013 by providing energy at a lower cost than ComEd.

In addition to paying less, all households will be eligible to receive four FREE 60 watt equivalent CFL light bulbs. These light bulbs use 25% of the energy and last up to 10 times longer.

To sign up and start saving, grab your ComEd electric bill and visit www.cleanaircounts.org.



Environmental Practices Committee Energy Savings Program Signup Drive

We want to help those of you who have additional questions and would like assistance signing up for this Energy Savings Program.

What do you need? Your last ComEd electric bill.

What will we do? We will check your bill and help answer your questions. If the

program is a good fit for you, then we can help sign you up. It takes minutes.

When is the Signup Drive? Saturday, December 10, 2011 from 9 a.m. to Noon.

Where do I go? Niles Senior Center at 999 Civic Center Drive in Niles.

SEE YOU THERE!