Dealing With Yard Waste

As a courtesy, the Village of Godfrey is now providing a drop-off location for yard waste for Godfrey residents. The site, located at 1433 Stamper Lane, will be open and accepting yard waste on Tuesdays and Saturdays beginning August 8th from 9:00 am – noon. Located to the west of Glazebrook Park, residents can enter the fenced area where an employee will then verify residency and assist in unloading the bagged yard waste from the vehicle before proceeding around the circular drive and exiting back onto Stamper Lane.

All yard waste (leaves, grass clippings, foliage, small branches, etc.) must be bagged in brown recyclable yard waste bags found at area hardware stores. Village of Godfrey yard waste stickers must be applied to each bag. These stickers are available for purchase for $1.75 at St. Peter’s Hardware in Alton and at Godfrey Village Hall in the Clerk’s office. There is no limit to the number of bags that can be dropped off. No unbagged items will be accepted, and limbs cannot exceed 4 inches in diameter and must be broken into smaller pieces in order to fit inside the bags.

At the time of drop-off, individuals will be asked to provide a valid IL driver’s license or state ID showing Godfrey residency. If the person dropping off is doing so on behalf of a Godfrey resident, they must have a photo of the resident’s driver’s license/state ID AND a utility bill with matching address.

The hours and availability of drop-off may vary as the needs of the community are assessed. The drop-off site will be monitored via surveillance cameras and an attendant MUST be on duty at the site for drop-off. If misuse or dumping should occur, this service can be discontinued at any time and no refunds for purchased stickers will be given. For questions, call Village Hall at 618-466-3324.

Each month you can go to ‘www.gotogodfrey.com’ and register to win a $100 gift card to one of our premier establishments around town. There is no obligation for registering; and, you have an opportunity to express your opinion on what you think would make Godfrey even better. The featured business for August is Godfrey BP. Register now!
Some People Are Just Mean!

Remember on that last week in July when we had the heat wave with temperatures getting into the triple digits. On July 27, Animal Control Officer, Susie Stephan rescued this ferret.

The fact that she rescued the ferret is not the story. Susie loves animals of all types and has gone beyond the call of duty to save many. No, the sickening story is this............, on a day when temperatures were reaching 100 degrees, someone had thrown this ferret, and its cage, into a dumpster and left it! Susie retrieved it, cleaned it up and removed hundreds of fleas from him.

This is the kind of work and care of animals that Godfrey’s animal control officer does on a regular basis. Thanks, Susie!

Check out www.visitgodfrey.com
“On call seven days/24 hours per day to manage conditions which demand an immediate response (storm cleanup, winter conditions, etc.)” This is a clause in the job description for Jim Lewis, Director of Public Works. Now that’s job dedication!

Jim’s job is to carry out the Board’s vision for improvement and maintenance for all of Godfrey’s infrastructures and properties. These assets include streets, roads, buildings and parks. In his job, he reports to the Mayor and works closely with the Trustees and the community at large. In fact, for some residents, he is the face of Godfrey.

Mr. Lewis grew up in Godfrey and has been a resident his entire life. In his early days he was employed by, then, Laclede Steel. Serving in various capacities for 29 years, he rose to the Mechanical Manager of the melt shop.

With the closing of Laclede twenty-two years ago, Jim came to work as Godfrey’s Park Supervisor. In 2009, he was promoted to the Director of Public Works. He has eleven employees reporting to him, eight in the street department and three in parks.

Mr. Lewis feels that with increased costs of labor, materials and equipment, managing and staying within budget is one of his biggest challenges. Godfrey has one of the lowest property tax rates of all the surrounding communities. Additionally, there have been recent cuts to the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT). “We continue to strive for improvement and efficiency while paying close attention to the budget,” said Jim.

One of the things that Jim enjoys about his job is interacting with the residents. He says, “I like being able to help people and seeing the infrastructure improvements that have been made under Mayor McCormick.”

Mr. Lewis feels that Godfrey is a very nice town and enjoys the quality of life it provides. In fact, he lives in the same place where he grew up. In his free time he spends his time putting in a large garden and enjoying classic cars.

Jim can be reached at:
Village of Godfrey Department of Public Works
Phone: 618-466-3133

Commercial Property Enhancement Grant

Businesses located in the Godfrey Business District are eligible to take advantage of the “Commercial Property Enhancement Grant” program.

**Funding:** First $5,000 — maximum grant is 50%; and, $5,001 and above is 25% of eligible expenses. The grant limit is a maximum of $20,000 per project.

**Eligible Expenses:** Significant facade renovations, signage, awnings, doors, windows. Landscaping if it follows Godfrey Ordinance No. 15-2007. Parking lots if brought up to ADA compliance and Village codes. All appropriate permits must be secured.

**The grant must be approved prior to commencement of work.**

For Information:
Jim Mager, Economic Development
618-466-3325

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Getting To Know Village Staff — Jim Lewis, Director of Public Works

*Anger; the feeling that makes your mouth work faster than your mind.*
Oh, and one more thing…………..

A shout out to both Jim Lewis and Susie Stephan for everything they do for the Village. Yeah, I know what they do is their job, but they do their jobs really well. As much as I like my job as the economic developer, I don’t want to be on call 24 hours a day. Heck, I don’t even work full-time, LOL.

I don’t own a motorcycle. I’d probably kill myself if I did. Still, I do have occasions to go into Ted’s from time to time. I always marvel at the “machinery.” Talk about shiny objects! Having a motorcycle dealership the caliber of Ted’s in our community is an asset. Even if you don’t ride, stop in and see them -- make a fashion statement and buy a piece of clothing,………………..

Finally, a one-fingered piece sign to the person who threw the ferret in the dumpster!