



From the Desk of Mayor Donny Schmit

My duty and the duty of the Village Board is to provide essential services to our residents. Among these essential services are emergency services, which include Police protection, 911 service and Fire Protection. Services which cannot be interrupted for any reason are sewer and water and to a lesser extent our street department.

We have to plan for every eventuality. I have listed just some of the precautions we are taking to continue providing these services to you.

Our Police Chief has met with neighboring communities so that if a portion of our police department is quarantined and unable to work, we can provide Police protection. We can also assist the neighboring communities if they are in need.

We have made arrangements with other emergency call centers to assure that there will be no disruption of service.

The Fox Lake Fire Protection District provides fire protection for the region. They have also had regional meetings so that everyone is protected.

In the event of a snow storm, emergency vehicles must be able to respond to fire and police calls. The street department makes sure that the roads are passable so emergency vehicles can respond to these emergencies.

One of the services that cannot be interrupted is the treatment of waste water at the Northwest Regional Plant on Rollins Road. We treat and discharge the waste water from nine communities. The average is nine million gallons of waste water a day that is treated and discharged into the Fox River. On days when it rains or during a flood, the flows can increase up to 30 million gallons a day. An interruption at the treatment would result in backups in homes and businesses throughout the region.

In addition to the regional plant, Fox Lake also operates a local sewer and water service. There are 24 sewer lift stations in town that require constant attention. Once again, if these stations are out of service, backups will occur. Our water department assures that when you turn on a faucet, water will come out. Supplying water for 11,000 residents is a labor intensive process.

We maintain a minimal work force. For example, the street department consists of 9 employees and the local sewer and water department has 7 employees. We are able to perform as much as we do with the small number of people we have because we have the finest, most dedicated and highly trained employees anywhere. But it also makes us vulnerable in times where a pandemic exists.

Once again, we have to plan for every eventuality. Our Village Administrator and her staff have been working extremely hard to make sure there is no interruption in service to you.

When it comes to the Coronavirus, we are heading into uncharted territory. There is an overload of information that is changing on an hourly basis. I read a guidance memo from the Lake County Health Department, who I believe is the best source of information issued at 11:58 A.M. they had given some

guidance for the schools and that guidance had changed by 3:00 P.M. This is a fluid situation and we will endeavor to keep abreast of the latest, most reliable information.

We have received the following guidance from the Governor:

1. Recommendations are being given to close City/Village Halls to the public, if possible, and to allow for remote work, if you are able.
2. Recommendations are also being given to limit public meetings to items that have an immediate need, condensing meeting agendas, whenever possible.
3. Finally, community events over 250 should be cancelled/postponed until May 1st.

Therefore, as of the end of business today, Friday March 13, 2020 our Village Hall will be closed to the public, however our staff will continue working for the foreseeable future.

The policies and decisions listed below were not made without great deliberation and thought. Our foremost concern is the safety of our residents and employees.

Village Services Update:

- Village Offices are closed to the public effective immediately. Staff will remain on site during normal office hours and working to address concerns until March 27 and will be re-evaluated prior to March 27, 2020. You can reach Village Hall at (847) 587-2151. Emergency services remain in effect.
- All Parks and Recreation programs are cancelled until March 27 and will be re-evaluated prior to March 27, 2020.
- Third party vendors are no longer permitted within the building unless deemed essential until March 27 and will be re-evaluated prior to March 27, 2020.
- Lakefront Park is a voting site and is therefore at the direction of Lake County. At this time Voting will continue to occur on March 17, 2020 at normally scheduled hours.
- Please utilize electronic methods for payments. Individuals may also drop payments in secure boxes at Village Hall. Payments can also be made over the phone through PSN at (877) 885-7968.
- Non-essential residential, water, and business inspections will be canceled until March 27 and will be re-evaluated prior to March 27, 2020. This will be for inspections that take place within homes and establishments.
- Village Board Meetings are being evaluated at this time and notice will be provided pending cancellation.

For information regarding COVID-19 please visit the following:

Village website: <https://www.foxlake.org/385/Coronavirus-Disease-COVID-19?fbclid=IwAR2B2FOfds51BscuIolWav7AQLERMmIF8sHfBn5WZCyHBJMTez4GhfbVJ4M>

Lake County Health Department: https://www.lakecountyil.gov/4377/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19?fbclid=IwAR04StzxmODr3xf3PMXwASgraAkQ6_rQcK-H7Z6RDIQhJsLlsuR2yyZHesk

To sign up for emergency alerts please sign-up here:

Village E-Newsletter:

https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001TqL3nprK80zn9xKLNKYBpS3p6GbrW8IgVfxh3p_VCCi_sCdL6JtWQHaK_gN51JRIJFFtEx7SHve35YoNJmxm03KZFjDj7Jhdf4QruNB6-OHuIGtqi24wL6JIZRmLfI5abePiJrfW5JSIEdTasM4UXWarW8F-zo

Nixle: <https://www.nixle.com/>