

# **Spring 2024 Newsletter**

## FROM THE ST. CHARLES TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR:

**Diane Hemmingsen** 

As springtime approaches, many homeowners tend to begin new construction and remodeling projects on their homes. Many homeowners do not know that there is a Home Improvement Exemption that they can receive for many different improvements done to a home, if it is Owner Occupied. When you obtain a permit or inform the St. Charles Township Assessor's Office that you are making changes to your home, that improvement may qualify for a Home Improvement Exemption. This exemption will exempt the newly assessed value of the improvement, up to \$25,000 in Assessed Value, which is \$75,000 in Market Value, for four years. Meaning you will not pay taxes on the increase in assessment, up to \$25,000 until the 5<sup>th</sup> year after the improvement has been completed.

Construction projects that may qualify for the Home Improvement Exemption include, finished basements, kitchen and bathroom remodeling, finishing off an unfinished attic, <u>adding</u> (not replacing) air conditioning, additions to a home, building a new garage, new decks and patios, just to name a few.

A few items that would not qualify for a Home Improvement Exemption would be a new roof, window replacement, fences, and driveways. Replacing your roof and windows is considered general maintenance and does not increase your assessment, similarly fences and driveways are not part of the assessment of your home. Generally, new siding does not qualify, unless you are adding a brick façade, or if you are replacing a stucco or Dryvit home with siding or brick.

The field team from the Assessor's Office will visit your property to determine when your project has been completed and the Assessed value for that improvement will be determined. You do not need to fill out any paperwork for the Exemption; the Assessor will submit that improvement amount to the Kane County Supervisor of Assessments Office. Once the Supervisor of Assessments office verifies that the property is owner occupied, the exemption amount will be applied to your tax bill. You will see it as a deduction from the assessed value under the "Home Improvement" line item.

So, as an example, if you finish your basement in 2024, and that improvement is assessed at \$5,000 (\$15,000 Market Value), the \$5,000 would show up on your 2025 tax bill as a **deduction from your total assessed value**. Therefore, if your total assessed value is \$100,000, the \$5,000 would be subtracted and your tax bill would be calculated based on an assessment of \$95,000. The \$5,000 deduction in assessed value would be applied in 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028.

If you have any questions, please call our office, we will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Home Improvement Exemption. You can reach us Monday through Friday from 8:00 till 3:30 at 630-584-2040.



www.stcharlestownship.org

**Supervisor's Office: 630-584-9342** Supervisor's Fax: 630-584-7082

**Assessor's Office: 630-584-2040**Assessor's Fax: 630-584-7963

Road District Office: 630-584-3496 Road District Fax: 630-762-0861

Cemetery Office: 630-584-8699 Cemetery Fax: 630-584-4301

## **Elected Officials**

# **Township Trustees**

Mary Lynn Swanson Jerry Swanson James Flanigan John Hoscheit

### **Township Office Hours**

Supervisor's Office 8am to 3:30pm M-F

Road District Office 8am to 3pm M-F

Assessor's Office 8am to 3:30pm M-F

Kane County Sheriff Non-emergency: 630-232-6840 EMERGENCY: 911

## **Township Board Meetings**

All Town Board Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and begin at 7pm at the Township Offices in the Donald E. Scheib Hall. The Cemetery Board of Trustee Meetings are held quarterly on the 1st Wednesday of the month for March, June, September and December.

### **April 2024**

9 @ 7pm - Annual Town Meeting10 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting22...Brush Pickup Begins for Unincorporated Township

### May

8 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting 27...Closed - Memorial Day

### **June**

12 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting 19...Closed - Juneteenth

### July

4...Closed - Fourth of July 10 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting

### **August**

14 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting

### September

2...Closed - Labor Day11 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting

### October

9 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting 14...Closed - Columbus Day

### **November**

11...Closed - Veterans Day 13 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting 28-29...Closed - Thanksgiving

#### **December**

11 @ 7pm - Town Board Meeting 25-26...Closed - Winter Holiday

# A Message from your Highway Commissioner

Well, we've had a pretty mild winter and looks like Spring is wanting to come soon. With the start of Spring well soon be headed into that next season in Illinois and that is "Construction" season. With the county and state having projects going on all the time we can always expect some kind of traffic detours. So be *careful*.

The last couple of years we've been able to resurface about 5 miles of road with blacktop costing about \$85/ton. We currently have our bid in for this years resurfacing with the county and are awaiting the outcome. When determining what roads to resurface each year I always look at how long it's been since it was resurfaced last and what condition it is in. The township has over 90 miles of road to maintain. Therefore, the roads in the worse condition and the longest time since being resurfaced will come first. Most roads being resurfaced are anywhere from 15 - 20 years since they were last resurfaced. We try to patch other roads as quickly as we can to help with their longevity.

Just a reminder to those of you that should have any trouble with flooding, if you need immediate assistance, first please call Kane County Office of Emergency Management, Don Bryant at 630.232.5985. Then call the township for sand bags or sand if during regular office hours at 630.584.3496 or the Sheriff's Department if after hours at 630.232.6840 for an emergency and they can get a hold of us. Remember, we can't help if we are not contacted.

In closing, I would like to say I look forward to working for you, the taxpayers, for many years to come. I want to thank you in advance for your support and if you have any questions or problems please don't hesitate to call me at my office.

Steve Frohling, Highway Commissioner







# SUMMER CONSTRUCTION & SAFETY

Please be aware and watch for construction workers on the roads. Their safety is in your hands. Whether it's Township, County, State, Municipality, Utility, or Blacktop Crews - they all should be obeyed. Please reduce your speed, stop talking or texting on your cell phone and pay attention to the road signs and the Flagger's!

Brush Pickup for Unincorporated Township:

Note: NOT City of St. Charles 2024 Pickup Begins April 22

St. Charles Township Road District has contracted with Trees 'R Us, Inc. to pick up brush in unincorporated St. Charles Township this year.

Please follow these procedures to ensure your brush will be picked up:

- Brush/limbs are to be out by the road, not in the road, no later than 7am on the Monday of the scheduled pick up week
- Max diameter is 12 inches; Max length is 12 feet
- Stack brush in large piles with cut ends facing the road keeping away from mailboxes, utility poles/boxes, hydrants and parked cars.
- Brush should be placed in the front or side parkway: it will not be picked up from vacant lots
- Do not tie or bundle brush/limbs or put brush/limbs in containers or bags
- Do not place stumps, roots, landscape material, lumber, firewood, or foreign objects in piles.
- This program is strictly for resident generated brush; NOT FOR CONTRACTOR REMOVALS OR TRIMMINGS
- If you hire a tree service, they are responsible for taking away all logs & brush
- We do not pick up after any lot clearings
- Limbs/brush exceeding the requirements for the Residential Brush Pickup Program can hire a private service to have them removed at the resident's expense.
- If your brush was out at 7am on Monday of the scheduled pickup week and NOT collected by the end of the workday on Friday, please notify the Road District no later then the following Monday. For calls on missed brush removal received after that Monday, the brush will be picked up at the next scheduled pickup week.

Questions? Please contact us at 630-584-3496.



The **St. Charles Park Foundation** has partnered with **CARS**, a vehicle donation program, to support your parks. CARS does it all with flexible scheduling of vehicle pick up and final sale negotiations. Proceeds to the Park Foundation are expedited after the sale. Donors receive a thank you letter with pertinent tax information.

For more info: stcparkfoundation.org



# HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

St. Charles Township is in need of HOA information for subdivisions that are in unincorporated township. We would like to keep you informed of any road improvements that may be happening in your subdivision, for instance blacktopping or road closures. If we have a way to get a hold of your HOA we would be able to pass this information onto you so you can be prepared. Please call the Road District at 630.584.3496 to leave any info. If you call after hours, please leave a message and we'll call back if we need to. Thank you in advance for all your help and to those who have already called to keep us up-to-date.

# 2024 Township Brush Pickup Schedule

Brush pickup is on the 4th Monday of each month (which is not always the last week of the month) from April to October.

April 22, May 28, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28 (last pickup for 2024)

\*For Unincorporated St. Charles Township: Not the City of St. Charles

# **Yard Waste**

Residents in unincorporated areas who would like yard waste pickup service (not brush pickup) should contact their refuse hauler for details.



St. Charles Township does not provide yard waste pickup; however, many of the contracted waste haulers do offer this service.

# Leaf Disposal and "Brush Only" Burning Regulations

Effective January 1, 2003 open burning of "landscape waste" and /or other materials, with the exception of **Brush** is prohibited in the unincorporated areas of Kane County. The definition of "**Brush**" means trunks, limbs, branches, and twigs.

Kane County has a burn ordinance that prohibits the burning of "Landscape Waste," which means all accumulations of grass or shrubbery cuttings, leaves, flowers and weeds. You may however still burn "Brush" as long as you follow the Standard Restrictions that are listed below.

### STANDARD RESTRICTIONS:

- Only on property upon which the landscape waste of brush was generated;
- Only on sunny days from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm;
- Not when wind exceeds 10 mph;
- Not within 20ft. of any building, structure, or property line;
- Not during announced inversion conditions or ozone alerts.
- Any burning must be supervised until the fire is extinguished; a fire extinguisher, garden hose or other water source must be available at the burning site.

### **EXEMPTIONS:**

- Any property zoned or used for agricultural purposes;
- Burning for the purpose of prairie restoration or firefighter training;
- Burning of brush for recreational fires, but the fire cannot be larger than 3'x3'x3';
- Ceremonial fires for a scheduled public or private event. Notice must be given to the local Fire Department and a permit obtained from the Kane County Health Department (630) 208-3801.

## PENALTIES;

- Any person who violates any provision shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$100 for a first offense and a fine of \$500 for subsequent offenses.

## **COMPLAINTS:**

Monday thru Friday, 8:30am thru 4:30pm, please call Kane County Health Dept. @ 630.208.3801; All other hours please call 630.232.6840

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION BEFORE Digging, Building, Planting in the Road Right-of-Way

The road right-of-way is the area usually 33' from the center of the road (some roads vary). That area (33' from the center of the road) belongs to the Road District. You must get permission from the Highway Commissioner to do anything in that easement area. Boulders, rocks, underground fencing and sprinkler systems must be kept out of the road right-of-way. Stay in your property line when installing these things.

Also, MONUMENT MAILBOXES on the road right-of-way are illegal and not safe to the motoring public. Mailboxes must not be bigger than a 4x4 post per USPS Regulations. When these regulations are not followed properly and things are built or planted in the road right-of-way it costs the taxpayer because the township is forced to pay legal fees to have these situations remedied.

Please contact the Road District before putting anything in the easement (right-of-way) in front of your house.



# **JUNK CARS**

If you have a problem with vehicle parking, please call the Sheriff's Office first. If you have a problem with junk cars that are

abandoned in your neighborhood please call the Kane County Health Department because it is a health problem. Their number is 630.208.3801.

# RESURFACING PROJECT FOR THE SUMMER OF 2024

We are currently waiting on our bids to go out with Kane County's bid. We get better prices by doing it this way. We will post on our website the streets that will be resurfaced this summer as soon as we know how the bids come out sometime in May.

# KANE COUNTY RECYCLING EVENTS

### **2023 EVENT DATES**

# Saturday, April 20th 11am - 2pm, with Geneva Park District

At Peck Farm Park, 4308 Kaneville Rd., Geneva

Recycling electronica\*, clothing & textiles, books & periodicals, paper, cardboard

# Saturday, May 4th, 8am - noon, "Shred & More"

540 S. Randall Rd., St. Charles Free document shredding for Kane County residents

Accepted for recycling: latex paint\*, aerosols\*, camp-size propane tanks\*, clothing, shoes & hard-to-recycle home goods

# Saturday, July 20th, 8am - noon, Extravaganza!

540 S. Randall Rd., St. Charles
Annual event with the most expansive list of items accepted for recycling (but no shredding planned for this event). Details to be finalized but planning to accept: electronics\*, latex paint\*, aerosols\*, clothing, shoes & textiles, books, polystyrene foam/Styrofoam, household batteries and fluorescent bulbs, child car seats\* and bicycles.

# Saturday, Sept. 28th, 8am - noon, "Shred & More"

540 S. Randall Rd., St. Charles Free document shredding for Kane County residents

Accepted for recycling: latex paint\*, aerosols\*, camp-size propane tanks\*, clothing, shoes and hard-to-recycle home goods

### November, TBD, Campaign Sign Recycling

\*= Recycling fee may apply

Please always check the website below to confirm updated details before attending any events.

### **CONTACT:**

Kane County Recycling Coordinator at recycle@countyofkane.org or 630-208-3841.

WEBSITE: countyofkane.org/recycling

### AEROSOL PRODUCTS & PROPANE CANISTERS

These products are accepted on specific dates as listed on the calendar.

- There is a cost to recycle these products, payable by the resident with cash or card. (Spray cans \$1 each, Small Propane Canisters \$3 each)
- Propane Canisters: only small camp-sized cans are accepted (14.1 oz 16.4 oz) \$3/ea
- Spray paint, sealer, stains, rust control
- Insecticide, repellent, pesticide
- Inhalers (for asthma)
- Household cleaners, polishes, disinfectants, protectants
- Personal care products, for hair, face, and skin
- Cooking spray, food products, whipped cream
- Auto lubricant, starter fluid, tar remover, brake cleaner
- Please see online for the full list of accepted materials and cost.

#### DOCUMENT SHREDDING

Free confidential document shredding on specific dates as listed on the calendar

- This free service provides on-site shredding trucks.
- Staples, paperclips, spiral bindings, file folders without metal, and envelope windows are fine to leave in. Please REMOVE all binder clips, three-ring plastic binders and any larger metal pieces.
- Please do not bring periodicals, magazines, and other paper that does not contain confidential information.
- We will receive documents for shredding only until the trucks are full, and may finish before 12pm.
- Quantity limit is approximately equal to 4 banker boxes (12"width x 16"depth x 10"height) full of residential documents (per vehicle).
- No business material will be accepted.
- This is a free public service for residents to have their confidential documents securely shredded. No businesses please.

### ANNUAL RECYCLING EXTRAVAGANZA

Check online in June for a full updated list of what we'll be taking. There will be NO DOCUMENT SHREDDING at this event.

### LATEX PAINT

Paint recycling is offered on specific dates as listed on the calendar.

- Latex paint has a recycling fee per container, payable by the resident with cash or card. (Quart \$1; Gallon \$3; 2-gallon \$5; 5-gallon \$15)
- This program is for liquid latex paint, which is recycled into reusable product.
- Please do not bring dried out paint, which can be disposed of in your regular trash (a couple cans per week in the trash can).



800-892-0123 or 811 or

www.illinois1call.com

**REMEMBER: Call J.U.L.I.E. Before** you dig. If you are having a **Contractor** performing the work, **They** must call, not you. Please do not dig without marks unless a utility has indicated there are no facilities in the dig area.

## When you call for Service, provide:

- Your name, address, and telephone number
- County and city or unincorporated township
- Location of the dig site
- Extent of the work involved (reason for dig)
- Date work will begin
- Permit number (if applicable)
- Section and quarter section number (if available)

Did you know...that J.U.L.I.E. stands for **Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators.** 

### **Meeting Space is Available**

The Donald E. Scheib Town Meeting Hall is available to local, not-for-profit, non-political groups and organizational meetings at nominal rates.

For more information contact Courtney Mills at 630-584-9342.

# St. Charles Township Website

Visit our website at <a href="www.stcharlestownship.org">www.stcharlestownship.org</a>
It contains information on all services that your Township offers you: from highway facts to the assessing of your property, to general assistance. It also has updates on meeting dates and times.



Fox River & Countryside

Phone: (630) 584-3473 Fax: (630) 584-8266 E-mail: info@frcfr.org



RURAL FIRE ADDRESS SIGNS

Can we read your address? Is your sign missing? To order a Address Sign -Click Here

We serve from two fire station locations:

- East area Fire Station 1 34W500 Carl Lee Rd. St. Charles. 60174
- West area Fire Station 2 40W361 Rte. 64 St. Charles, 60174



www.kanehealth.com

For Veterans: <a href="https://www.hines.va.gov">www.hines.va.gov</a>
KaneVax.org
855-452-6382
Kane County Vax Hub
501 N. Randall Rd
Batavia

Experience farm life! Explore restored farm buildings, visit with farm animals, stroll through 100+ acres of historic and modern rural landscapes and climb up on a vintage tractor near the fruit orchard. Exciting and educational activities await you in the farmyard! Drop-in programs offered Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, featuring hand-milking a Jersey cow, gathering eggs from the chicken coop, grooming a draft horse or feeding the animals. Sign up at

www.primrosefarm.org/animal-adventures/



# **Kane County Frequently Used Telephone Numbers**

Note: All numbers are area code 630

Animal Control232-3555
Circuit Court Clerk232-3413
FOR Court Dates, Traffic Tickets.
Kane County Clerk232-5990
FOR Birth Certificates, Marriage Licenses, Election
Information, Business Registration, Passports, Tax
Extensions
Development & Community Services232-3480
FOR Building Requirements & Permits, Planning &
Special Projects, Community Service, Historic
Preservation
Kane County Division of Transportation584-1170
Kane County Health Department208-3801
FOR Employment Verification, EEOP, ADA
Complaints, Ethics Advisor
Dept of Human Resource Management232-3560
Kane County Purchasing232-5929
Kane County Recorder232-5935
Kane County Sheriff Non-Emergency232-6840
Kane County Sixteenth Judicial Circuit232-3440
FOR Assessments, Exemptions, Property Search,
Board of Review
Kane County Supervisor
Of Assessments208-3818
Kane County Veterans
Assistance232-3550

For a full list of Kane County Services, visit the website at:

www.countyofkane.org/Pages/AZ-Services.aspx



FYI: This site offers information, events and news of Kane County. Be sure to bookmark this in your web browser.



Residents of Unincorporated St. Charles Township who are disabled or over the age of 65 may participate in Ride in Kane, sponsored by St. Charles Township.

Residents may ride within Kane County for 3 round trip rides per week or 6 one-way trips. The purpose of these rides may be for medical, dental, therapy or chiropractic appointments, a job, to the Elderday Center or to school.

The fee to the rider is **\$5.00 each** way for the first 10 miles. After 10 miles a \$1.50 per mile over 10 will be charged. St. Charles Township, as the Sponsor, will fund the balance. The average cost of a one way ride is approximately \$15.

Residents within **Unincorporated**St. Charles Township can register for rides by calling 630-584-9342.

Residents within the **city limits** of St. Charles can receive information about their ride program by calling 630-377-4426.

To schedule rides, please contact the Ride in Kane Call Center at 866-727-6842. Rides should be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance. Same day reservations are not guaranteed. Reservation hours are between 6am and 6pm, Monday-Friday and between 8am and 5pm, Saturday and Sunday. Trips can reserved up to 7 days in advance.

Transportation services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year including holidays.

To cancel a ride, please call 866-727-6842, providing us with at least a 2 hour or more notice.



The Kane Senior Council initiates, delivers, monitors, and coordinates services that promote the ability of older persons to live their lives in dignity.

Our commitment to seniors goes beyond delivering meals. We provide other needed and important services which allow seniors to live safely and independently in their own homes. This can dramatically improve the overall well-being and health of our seniors.

# THE SERVICES THAT WE PROVIDE OUR SENIORS

- ★ Meals on Wheels
- **★** Community Dining
- ★ Health & WEllness Education
- ★ Well-being Checks
- ★ Pet Care & Food Assistance
- ★ Intergenerational Activities



We raise funds to provide compassionate acts of care based on referrals. These acts are primarily performed on a nomination basis and carried out for the D303 community.



Lazarus House, nestled in the heart of St. Charles, stands as a beacon of hope and support for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk within our community. Lazarus House offers safe shelter, transitional living and homeless prevention programs to individuals connected to St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia and western rural Kane County. Our mission is to offer guests connected to these communities, who are experiencing homelessness or in need, hope for the future by providing hospitality, food, safe shelter, and education - tools for life.

At Lazarus House, every individual is treated with dignity, respect, and empathy, all of this guided by a trauma-informed approach, ensuring that our services are not only comprehensive but also sensitive to the unique experiences and challenges faced by those it serves. By fostering a nurturing and supportive environment, Lazarus House empowers individuals to reclaim their independence, rebuild their lives, and strive towards a brighter future.

In the previous fiscal year, Lazarus House served the community by providing shelter to 147 individuals, marking a notable 27% increase from the previous year. The ability for Lazarus House to provide services is a direct result of support from many caring individuals, businesses and agencies all around central Kane County. Lazarus House remains open 24/7 thanks to you!

If you are interested in learning more ways to support your neighbors in crisis, head over to <a href="https://www.lazarushouse.net">www.lazarushouse.net</a> to browse our regularly updated 'Urgent Needs,' Monthly Giving program, Volunteer opportunities, events and much more.

We would love to see you all this summer! Whether you are lacing up those walking shoes or throwing your golf clubs in the trunk...you will not want to miss our Great Western Freedom 4 Run and Walk on July 4th or the Golf for Goodness Scramble on September 13th. Also, plan to join us June 14th for our 4th Annual Posh Picnic at Revelry 675 in Batavia. This event is an elegant, yet casual atmosphere of fine dining and merriment while supporting those experiencing homelessness at Lazarus House, you do not want to miss it.

## The Columbaria at Union Cemetery

The newest addition to St. Charles Township Cemeteries is the Columbarium at Union Cemetery, 1206 N. 5th Avenue. Please feel free to stop by and view a beautiful picturesque setting for the interment of cremains.

There is a one-time charge for the niche and opening/closing to intern up to 2 urns. The only other cost will be for the engraving of the marble front.

Please contact the cemetery office for a brochure, more information or to purchase a niche at 630-584-8699. For a brochure and price list, you may also stop by the Township Office at 1725 Dean St., St. Charles.



Cemetery	Location	Founded	Township Owned & Maintained Since
North	North 5th Ave	1840	1945
South	South 7th Ave	1815	1945
Little Woods	Dunham Road	1856	1951
Union	North 5th Ave	1900	1972
Prairie	Crane Road	1849	1957
Round Grove	Mosley Lane	1849	1997

Of interesting note: The City of St. Charles was founded in 1834. The cemetery on 7th Avenue predates the establishment of our city.

Please feel free to visit our public cemeteries. We kindly ask that you help us maintain the dignity so greatly earned by respecting the sites and graves.

~ Your St. Charles Township Cemetery ~

# **Cemetery Notification:**

Cement flower pots that are not maintained for a summer season will be moved to the Cemetery Office at Union Cemetery, 1206 N. 5th Avenue. Contact the Cemetery Office for more information at 630-584-8699.