



The Old Village News

Winter 2012-2013

From the Desk of Mayor Kreitzman



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I know you join me in wishing goodbye to 2012 — and good riddance to a hurricane named Sandy and a nor'easter named Athena.

While it gives me great pleasure to serve as your mayor, there are aspects of my role that I must say are frustrating, to say the least. At the top of that list is my ongoing dissatisfaction with LIPA, over which we have no control and from which we receive little credible information. That is putting it mildly, as I, and I expect most of you, will never forget the havoc cast upon us by the June 2010 microburst. Having said that, I hope you'll join me in commending our Village Department of Public Works (DPW) superintendent and staff. They did a fabulous job working day and night, including weekends, without a break. And had it not been for a three-day delay in tree removal due to LIPA, the DPW crews would have had our hurricane-downed trees cleared sooner.

As I said after the microburst, our Village is not just a physical place. It is its people, and we — together — will continue to make the Village of Great Neck one of the best places in which to live, work, raise our families, shop and visit.

As you will read in this newsletter, there is good news to report. Your Board of Trustees has been hard at work on various projects, and many continue to be added. We were able to present a budget with only a small increase without reducing any services. Our bond rating is the highest possible and resulted in our 2012 bonds having a two percent interest rate. Those bonds funded the significant amount of road repaving we accomplished, and we are well underway to rebuilding or repaving every one of our 24 miles of roads, plus our many parking lots, in the foreseeable future.

On behalf of your Board of Trustees, I hope you have a most enjoyable holiday season, and I wish each of you a happy, healthy and prosperous new year — without storms.

I end with my annual plea for community involvement. Your participation is critical to our efforts in the Village, and I strongly encourage each of you to become involved. Volunteer to help or be on a board. Come to our meetings and not just Board of Trustee meetings. (See the article to the right for information about other Village boards.) Listen, ask questions, learn, and give us your views. With your input, cooperation and support, we look forward to continuing our successful partnership as we work together for the benefit of all of our residents and businesses.

Sincerely,
Ralph J. Kreitzman, Mayor

Our Volunteer Village Boards

The Village has three active boards in addition to the Board of Trustees. Each comprises five members who are your neighbors, and who meet publicly each month and serve without compensation.

The **Board of Appeals** considers zoning variance requests, issues certain special-use permits and reviews appeals from certain decisions of our boards, officials and employees.

Our **Architectural Review Committee (ARC)** preserves and promotes the character, appearance and aesthetics of the Village by reviewing and approving the exteriors of new construction and certain changes to buildings.

The **Planning Board** reviews new construction, certain building additions and subdivisions.

This past year, Ron Poons joined the Board of Appeals as an alternate, and Bob Barbach, Steve Reiter and Dina Hammerman joined the ARC as members.



Village of Great Neck

61 Baker Hill Road
Great Neck, NY 11023

Ralph J. Kreitzman, Mayor
Mitchell B. Beckerman, *Deputy Mayor*
Jeffrey L. Bass, *Trustee*
Mark D. Birnbaum, *Trustee*
Barton Sobel, *Trustee*

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News Briefs

We Need to Contact You!

We have the ability to send messages to your telephones — and did so following the recent storms. However, with power and telephone service out, we were unable to reach many of you. We would like to collect email and cell telephone numbers so we have these means of contacting you as well. Please provide that information to info@greatneckvillage.org. Our new website, which is in the works, will afford you that same opportunity.

Road Work

This summer and fall, we repaved all or part of 24 roads in our Village. This is part of our multi-year program to rebuild or repave every one of our 24 miles of roads and also our many convenient and free parking lots. In addition, weather permitting, our own crews are out repairing potholes. At our urging (before the recent storms occurred), LIPA has been bringing an additional main power cable to our Village. The cable went under some of our roads, and we were able to get LIPA to repave half of each road disturbed from the center line to the curb.

Bonding and Credit Rating

We issue bonds to pay the cost of capital improvements, such as our road work. One reason for that is so the cost is paid by the residents who enjoy those roads for years to come. This year, our bond was \$1.4 million dollars. Due to our Standard and Poor's bond rating of AAA (the highest rating possible, indicating "extremely strong capacity to meet financial commitments") we enjoyed the very low interest rate of two percent on those bonds, and they are tax free to buyers.

Rezoning

As part of our *Old Village, New Main Street* program, we are considering rezoning the business portion of Steamboat Road and most of Middle Neck Road. Your further input will be critical to that effort, and we encourage you to come out and express your views at the public hearings and other opportunities that lie ahead. To assist in the rezoning effort, we have hired an environmental and zoning consultant who knows our Village. Preliminary thoughts are to permit more residential housing on Steamboat and Middle Neck Roads and to condense our business district.

Stormwater Systems

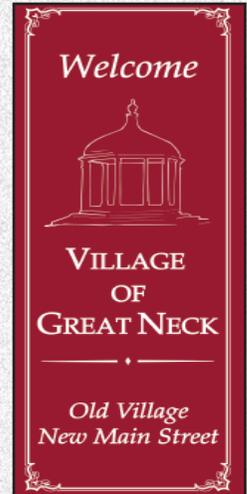
The Village is continually implementing our Stormwater Management Program Plan. It and annual progress reports are required by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as part of its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program. The program is intended to control stormwater runoff and protect our waterways. The Village encourages public participation and wants to hear from you. Please visit us at greatneckvillage.org for further information.

Your Village Taxes

Your Village real estate taxes, as required by state law, are our main source of revenue. Excluding sewer services and costs (because only two-thirds of the Village is serviced by the Village's sewer system), the Village's real estate taxes are around 15 percent of total real estate taxes. They amount to \$158 a month for the average household for 2012-2013. That's less than the \$163 a month that homeowner will pay in 2012-2013 for Nassau County Police. For that \$158 a month, the Village provides each resident with fire protection; ambulance service; road paving; road repairs, including County roadway center islands, curbs and sidewalks; street plowing, sanding and salting; street sweeping; garbage pickup and disposal; recycling; street lighting; building inspections and safety; trimming of Village trees; Village tree and stump removal and new tree planting; traffic signage, crosswalks and striping; parking and code enforcement; court with two judges; storm sewers; fire hydrants; zoning and other local laws; Board of Trustees; Board of Appeals; Planning Board; Architectural Review Committee; Landmarks Commission; and a passive eco-park. That's not bad for less than the cost of what most residents pay for cable TV, Internet and home telephone service.

Not to Be Forgotten

We continue to plant trees, and the number totaled 62 last year. These are "wire friendly trees" or attractive, slow growing, small root ball trees, intended to avoid the tree problems experienced in recent storms. It's "our guys" — our own dedicated and hard-working Department of Public Works employees — who do that, and so much of the work listed above, day and night, in good weather and especially in storms. We recently received two AAA awards for traffic and pedestrian safety. Your mayor was elected to serve a second term as president of the Nassau County Village Officials Association, representing the county's 64 villages. Mayor Kreitzman also continues to serve on the executive board of the NYS Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials and as a director of our Water Authority of Great Neck North.





Village of Great Neck

Ralph J. Kreitzman, *Mayor* • Mitchell B. Beckerman, *Deputy Mayor*
Jeffrey L. Bass, *Trustee* • Mark D. Birnbaum, *Trustee* • Barton Sobel, *Trustee*

2013 Sanitation Pickup Schedule

Monday & Thursday

All residents on the east side of Middle Neck Road except those scheduled for Tuesday and Friday

Tuesday & Friday

All residents on the west side of Middle Neck Road, as well as residents on Apple Tree Lane, Gutheil Lane, North Road, Hayden Avenue, Floyd Place, Forest Lane, Franklin Road, Forest Row (#31, #34 and higher), Ellard Avenue and Middle Neck Road (#707 and higher)

Holiday Collection Schedule

	If your collection day is:	
	Monday/Thursday	Tuesday/Friday
New Year's Day – Tuesday, Jan. 1	Monday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday
Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Monday, Jan. 21	Tuesday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday
Presidents' Day – Monday, Feb. 18	Tuesday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday
Memorial Day – Monday, May 27	Tuesday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday
Independence Day – Thursday, July 4	Monday/Wednesday	Tuesday/Friday
Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 2	Tuesday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday
Columbus Day – Monday, Oct. 14	Tuesday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday
Veterans Day – Monday, Nov. 11	Tuesday/Thursday	Wednesday/Friday
Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 28	Monday/Friday	Tuesday/Saturday
Christmas Day – Wednesday, Dec. 25	Monday/Thursday	Tuesday/ Friday

Recycling Schedule

Glass, metal and plastic will be collected every **Wednesday** except Christmas Day, December 25, when collection will be on Thursday.

Paper and cardboard will be collected every **Wednesday** except for weeks including **Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, and Christmas Day**. During those weeks, papers will be collected on **Thursdays**.

Major appliances and e-Waste (washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, computers, televisions, etc.) will be collected by appointment only, after at least 24 hours notice, by calling **(516) 482-0019 ext. 142**.

Other Items

Organic yard waste will be collected Monday or Tuesday, whichever is your regular collection day.

Furniture, carpeting, mattresses, wood, metal and tires will be collected Thursday or Friday, whichever is your regular collection day.

Please Turn Over for Further Important Information

Snow and Ice Alert

Garbage and recyclable collections may be delayed or canceled due to weather conditions. In the event of snow or ice, a clear path free of ice and snow must be made from the street to the collection point. Failure to provide a clear path may result in a non-pickup. **All sidewalks must be cleared of ice and snow within 24 hours.**

Do Not Place Garbage Cans, Recycling Bins or Other Items in the Street.

Under no condition should the following be put out for collection: gasoline, waste oil, medical waste, pharmaceuticals, oil based paints, flammable liquids or toxic substances. For information on the disposal of these substances, see information on the **2013 S.T.O.P. Program** below.

Recycling Do's and Dont's

Do not put newspapers in plastic bags. Put them in bins, paper bags or tie them with twine.
Rinse all glass, plastic and metal.

Your Contractor is Responsible for All Building Debris Resulting From Work Done on Your Property.

Paper and Cardboard

Recycle		Do Not Recycle	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper • Newspapers & inserts • Magazines & newsletters • Catalogs & junk mail • Construction & wrapping paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Index & greeting cards • Paperback and hardcover books • Corrugated cardboard • Telephone books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pizza boxes • Envelopes with plastic windows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardboard drink containers • Cereal boxes

Glass, Metal and Plastic

Recycle		Do Not Recycle	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty plastic containers only with number 1 or 2 in the recycle symbol on the container • Empty food cans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty beverage cans • Clear & colored glass containers • Clean aluminum pans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Styrofoam products • Plastic bags & wrap • Paint & solvent containers • Aerosol cans • Cans contaminated with pesticides or chemicals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirrors, window & safety glass • Light bulbs • Ceramics • Drinking glasses & broken glass

2013 S.T.O.P. Program

The Town of North Hempstead's S.T.O.P. (Stop Throwing Out Pollutants) program offers residents the opportunity to dispose of their household hazardous waste in an environmentally friendly manner. The 2013 program will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on:



Saturday, April 6, and Saturday, September 7, 2013

Michael J. Tully Park, 1801 Evergreen Avenue, New Hyde Park

Saturday, June 8, and Sunday, November 3, 2013

North Hempstead Beach Park North Lot, 175 West Shore Road, Port Washington

For more information, please call the Town of North Hempstead's hotline by dialing 311 or visit www.northhempstead.com.

Recycling Bins and Bags Available

Available at Village Hall for purchase by Village residents are bins for glass, metal and plastic recyclables (\$12), bins with lids for newspapers (\$10) and biodegradable leaf bags (5 for \$2).