



# InverNews

The Village With A Heritage

Winter 2011

## Register Now: Sign Up for Inverness' Emergency Alert Notification



Inverness, in cooperation with Northwest Central Dispatch, is now part of Everbridge, an emergency alert program that uses Reverse 911 technology for emergency notification.

If there is an emergency situation in the Village that you should know about, Everbridge allows emergency service providers to contact the entire community or only those living in a specific geographic area with information about police emergencies or other incidents such as hazardous material spills and emergency road closures in specific areas. The system enables Northwest Central Dispatch to call your land line or cell phone, or contact you via email or text message. The system has been used in hundreds of communities to solve and prevent crimes, and avert disasters.

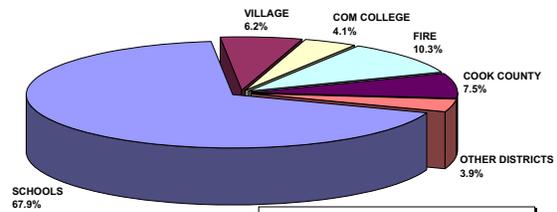
Inverness recently transitioned from the previous Connect-CTY to this new emergency notification program in order to be on the same system used in the other communities served by Northwest Central Dispatch.

If you have a traditional landline phone, or if you registered additional phone numbers or an email address with Connect-CTY, you are already signed-up for this service. If you do not have a land line, or if you would like to have emergency notifications sent to a work phone, cell phone or email address that were not previously registered, you need to register those specific preferences. You may register up to four phone numbers, one email address, and one number for text alerts, giving a priority ranking for the numbers you provide. This information will only be used by the Village or Northwest Central Dispatch for notification purposes.

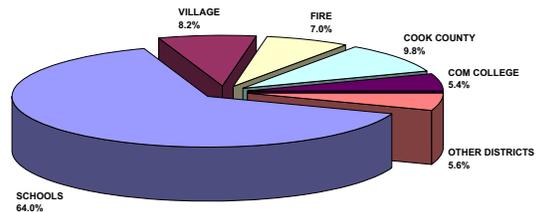
To register, simply go to the Village website at [www.villageofinverness.org](http://www.villageofinverness.org) and click on the Citizen Alert Link.



2009 Property Tax Distribution  
Village Portion is 6.2% of total in Palatine Township



2009 Property Tax Distribution  
Village Portion is 8.2% in Barrington Township



## Your Tax Bill: Who Gets How Much, And What Does It Buy?

By now you have received your 2009 property tax bill. Cook County released the 2009 tax rates in early November, and the good news is that the Village's tax rate dropped 6.05% from last year. We thought you might find it useful to know where your tax dollars go.

The above charts break out where your property tax dollars go depending on which township you live in. As you can see, 6.2% of your tax bill goes to the Village if you live in the Palatine Township portion of the Village. If you live in Barrington Township, 8.2% of your bill goes to the Village of Inverness.

Of the total property taxes paid to the Village, 65% is earmarked for police services. The remaining 35% is used to pay debt service on bonds that were issued for road improvement activities. For more information on tax rates and your tax bill, please visit the Cook County Clerk website at [www.voterinfont.com/tsd/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.voterinfont.com/tsd/Pages/default.aspx).

## Village Hall Holiday Closings

Christmas: 1:00 p.m. Thursday, December 23; all day Friday, December 24

New Year's: 1:00 p.m. Thursday, December 30; all day Friday, December 31

## Jack Tatoes



Dear Residents:

In the last newsletter we reported that as a result of establishing the Inverness Police Department, we have had a successful first year and Village residents have been very enthusiastic about their success. In that same edition of *InverNews*, Trustee Gallagher reported that the Village saved \$400,000 during the first year of operations compared to the final proposal for previously purchased contractual services. This year, the approved Department budget has remained the same as last year. If things go as planned, this should result in an additional savings of approximately \$359,000 over what we would have spent for contract services. Since police service costs are funded 100% by property taxes, this has allowed the Village to freeze this portion of the real estate tax levy for the 2009 and 2010 tax year.

As we project out several more years, this trend continues. As the table to the right indicates, the total savings between our Department operational expenses and outside contract services will be approximately \$1.8 million over the first five years of operations. I continue to be impressed by the dedication of our officers and the leadership of Chief Haas. Resident comments also continue to be positive. The savings we have experienced and expect in the future provides confirmation that we moved in the right and fiscally responsible direction.

I also want to follow up on my additional and continuing meetings with ComEd. We spent a great deal of time in the field, walking several miles of circuits. I was able to get commitments from ComEd for additional off-cycle line trimming and the installation of additional "Trip Savers". These are devices designed to automatically reset a circuit where tree contacts with a power line cause a circuit fuse to blow. They have also committed to installing additional mid-circuit reclosures on two other circuits, which are automated equipment designed to reduce the number of customers affected during a service interruption and provide for a more prompt restoration time. These are initial steps in holding ComEd responsible for improving service reliability in the Village. I plan on continuing to push this agenda with them in the coming year.

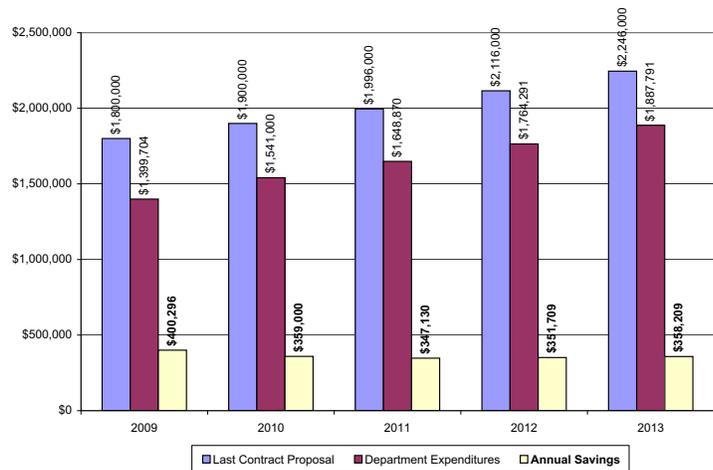
While this effort continues, I also want to encourage you to inspect areas of your property under overhead lines. As I walked the circuits with ComEd, I was surprised by the number of situations where the potential for service interruption could be avoided by property owners themselves. Dead trees above the lines and outside of ComEd's trim zone should be removed as part of your property maintenance efforts. These can fall on power lines during storms and short out a circuit. Trees "trapped" or growing directly under power lines should also be removed. They will only cause problems in the future as those trees grow into the power lines. Being proactive in this regard will reduce the likelihood of tree contact outages and ultimately improve service reliability for you and your neighbors.

Finally, on behalf of the rest of the Village Board and staff, I hope you enjoy the upcoming holidays and have a safe and prosperous New Year

Sincerely,

Jack Tatoes, Mayor

Police Department Expense\* Compared to Contract Services  
(\*Years 2011-2013 projected at 7% per year)



## New Law Protects Against Lead Based Paint Contamination



A new Federal law which became effective in April, 2010 requires that contractors performing projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, childcare facilities and schools built before 1978 must be certified and must follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. The new Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) law is designed to prevent lead poisoning among children and adults.

When hiring a contractor, be sure that he/she is RRP certified before a renovation project begins. If you see renovations in a childcare facility or school that your child attends, be sure to ask if the contractor is RRP certified.

For additional information about the RRP law, contact the Cook County Department of Public Health at (708) 492-2076, or log onto the EPA website at [www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.html](http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.html)

## 'Snowbirds': Secure Nest Before Heading South

If you're planning to head south for the winter months, the Inverness Police Department has some important things to put on your "To Do" list before you leave.

- ▲ Call the Inverness Police Department at (847) 358-7766 and ask for a "Vacation Watch" to be put on your home during the time you will be away. The form can also be downloaded from our website at [www.villageofinverness.org/forms.htm](http://www.villageofinverness.org/forms.htm)
- ▲ Arrange with a friend or neighbor to check your home two or three times a week.
- ▲ Have your mail forwarded to you, held at the post office, or arrange to have it picked up daily.
- ▲ Cancel your newspaper delivery.
- ▲ Leave a phone number where you can be reached with one or more neighbors so you can be notified of an emergency.
- ▲ Arrange for someone to keep your driveway and sidewalk clear of ice and snow.
- ▲ Give your home that "lived in" look by using timers for your lights and a radio or television. Vary the times they switch on and off.
- ▲ Ask the person checking your home to open and close shades, move small interior objects like dishes, shoes or magazines, to make it look more natural.
- ▲ Never leave mail in a single central location, such as the kitchen table or countertop, where it can be seen and taken as an obvious sign that you are gone.



## It's a Crime to Make the Criminal's Job Easy

Sometimes we roll out the red carpet for criminals without quite realizing it. An open garage door, accumulation of newspapers in front of the house, unlocked cars in driveways -- these are all opportunities for crime that can easily be prevented.

The Inverness Police Department recommends:

- Prior to going to bed check to assure your garage door is closed.
- Lock all vehicle doors even if you are gone for a brief period of time. Over 90% of thefts from vehicles occur to vehicles that are unlocked.
- When leaving valuables in a vehicle place them out of sight or lock them in the glove box or trunk.
- Remember to cancel your newspaper delivery or request a neighbor's assistance to retrieve your newspaper even if you are gone for the weekend.
- Do not leave mail in your mailbox for an extended period of time. Cancel delivery if you are going to be away for some time.

## Calendar of Events

### January

- 11 Village Board
- 17 Zoning Board
- 18 Plan Commission

### February

- 8 Village Board
- 15 Plan Commission
- 21 Zoning Board



## Garbage Pickup For Upcoming Holidays

There will be no change in garbage pickup days for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.



Village of Inverness  
1400 Baldwin Road  
Inverness, Illinois 60067

847/358-7740  
847/358-8858 fax

Website: [www.villageofinverness.org](http://www.villageofinverness.org)

Village Hall Hours:  
Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

Jack Tatoes. . . . . Mayor  
Diane C. Haas. . . . . Clerk

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# Snow Season Reminders: Plowing, Parking, Mailboxes and More

- **Please remove all landscaping obstructions** -- such as boulders, stones and tree limbs – from the right-of-way before the first snow-fall. Such items can pose a significant safety hazard for snow plowing crews.
- **Check the placement and condition of your mailbox and post.**



Village code specifies that the face of the mailbox must be at least 12 inches from the edge of the pavement. Snow being thrown off the snowplow

blade is often wet and heavy. Weakened posts and mailboxes or those too close to the pavement may be unable to withstand the weight of the snow. The Village does not replace or repair mailboxes where the damage was caused by heavy snow coming off the plow blade, so we suggest that you examine your mailbox early in the season to ensure that it is structurally sound and properly maintained.

- **Report damage promptly.** While crews always do their best to protect lawn areas and mailboxes adjacent to the roadway, we ask you to report any damage caused by snow plows within 24 hours so that we can investigate and make repairs as warranted.
- **Never shovel or plow snow from the driveway into the street.** Snow from driveways that is deposited on the roadways can become compacted and icy, posing a significant danger to both vehicles and pedestrians.
- **Remove snow from your driveway after the plow has made its last pass.** Snow plows are designed to push snow to the outside edge of the road, which means the plow will inevitably leave snow at the bottom of your driveway. You can save yourself both time and frustration by waiting to clear the bottom of your driveway until the plow has made its final pass on your street.
- **Parking reminder.** When snow-plowing operations are underway, vehicles should not be parked on the street until the pavement has been cleared. Parking on Village streets is prohibited from 1:00-6:00 a.m. throughout the year.

## WINTERTIME TRAVEL INFORMATION



**Illinois Department of Transportation 312-DOT-INFO;**  
[www.dot.state.il.us](http://www.dot.state.il.us)

For information about state highways including Palatine, Dundee and Barrington Roads.

**Cook County Highway Department (708) 485-7130;**  
[www.co.cook.il.us](http://www.co.cook.il.us)

To report problems on county highways such as Ela, Roselle, and Bradwell Roads.

**Illinois Tollway Information Line 1-800-TOLLYFI (1-800-865-5394);**  
[www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com)

For tollway information including problems with fog, snow, ice, high winds and trailer bans. This information is updated every four hours, more often if weather conditions warrant.

