

# Village of Flower Hill Fall Newsletter

Dear Residents,

The fall is a beautiful time of year and a busy time for the Village. Our newsletter gives you information concerning our leaf pick up schedule (yes, it is that time of year again), some safety advice on walking in the evening now that it is getting dark earlier and some information to preserve the health and safety of our trees. I hope that you find this information useful and informative.

Fall is also the time of year when we begin to lose our street signs. Our guess is that our high school seniors may be looking for a memento of home for their college dorm rooms. We lose signs in the spring too. Unfortunately, this becomes a large expense to our Village. So parents and teenagers listen up - we will sell you a sign with the name of your street on it. The cost of the sign is \$50, the actual cost to the Village. Street signs make great birthday gifts. We will send another reminder in the spring because they make great graduation gifts too! So for all of you that have a special spot in your heart for our Village, please come in to the Village office and purchase yourself or your child a street sign.

In our summer newsletter I mentioned that our Policy Committee has been working on a revised Code of Ethics for the last several months. We will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 5th to introduce and vote on proposed Local Law J-2012 to amend Chapter 18 "Code of Ethics." The committee believes that we have formulated a thorough and understandable policy to guide the Village's elected officials and employees into the future. We will also be introducing a local law that same night to amend Section 1-20 regarding Trustee health insurance to designate May 31, 2012 as the official date for termination of benefits. Adding this date for termination is purely administrative (as we no longer offer paid benefits to Trustees) and was requested by the New York State auditors. We will also vote on a proposal that will allow Trustee participation in the health program but at absolutely NO cost to the Village. We encourage every resident to come to the November 5th meeting to voice your thoughts.

## FALL LEAF PICK UP SCHEDULE

For residents who have garbage pickup on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: **Friday, November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, December 7**

For residents with garbage pickup Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays : **Saturday, November 3, 10, 17, 24, December 1, 8**

Please call Meadow Carting if you are planning to put out a large item such as furniture or old appliances. They will let you know when they will be able to arrange pick up.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS**

**PLEASE CALL MEADOW  
CARTING**

**338-0121**

## IVY DESTROYS TREES

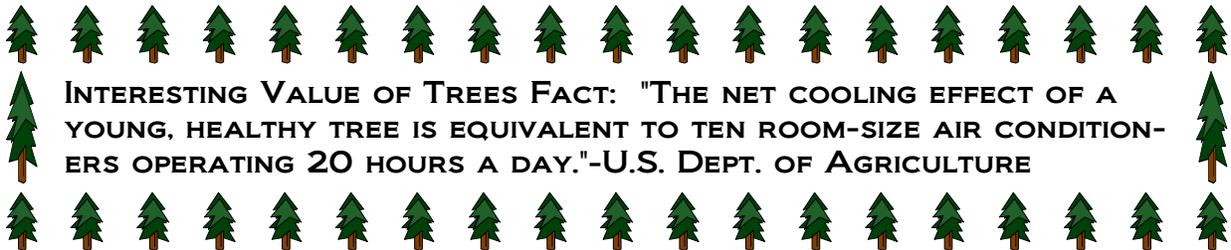
**Why are so many of our older trees dying off? It is because ivy is slowly killing the tree by preventing the birds from feeding on the grubs and bark beetles that live off the sap from the tree. Ivy keeps the bark wet after a rain so that it makes it easier for insects to dig through the soft bark and do further damage.**

**We request that you remove any ivy growing on trees on your property. Prevention is easy: cut the vines at the bottom of the tree with a small ax or hand cutter, being careful not to cut into the bark at the base of the trees. Make sure to pull off some of the vine just above where you made the cut to ensure that it has been separated. It will take a season or two for the vines to die on the tree and fall off. Then check your trees each year to keep the ivy from sprouting up onto the tree in the future.**

**WHEN WINTERIZING YOUR POOL BE SURE THAT  
ALL SWIMMING POOL WATER IS DISCHARGED  
INTO A DRY WELL ON YOUR PROPERTY**

### TREES ADD VALUE TO YOUR HOME

Before you think about removing a tree from your property, we urge you to think again. According to the Arbor Day Foundation, trees add value to your home, help cool your home and the neighborhood, provide a break for the cold winds to lower your heating costs and provide food for wildlife. Trees around your home can increase its value up to 15% or more. The trees you save or plant on your property remove CO2 from the air and help fight global warming as they produce oxygen.



The Village has formed a Tree Committee to study the effect and impact of removal of trees and ways to increase the tree population within the Village. Currently you must obtain a permit to remove any tree from your property. The tree in question will be evaluated by the Village's experts who will determine if it is viable or not. A fee, which is dependent on the tree's viability, must be paid and a bond may be required to be posted pending the replanting of new replacement trees.

The Village of Flower Hill is recognized for its lush and verdant look which is provided by the many beautiful mature trees throughout the Village. Please do your part to help preserve the existing trees on your property.

### WALK SMART, BE SEEN

By Deputy Mayor Tab Hauser



With sunset arriving earlier each week and people taking evening walks, it is important for residents to remember to wear lighter colored or reflective clothing and carry a flashlight.

While you as a pedestrian can see cars coming and feel you can get out of their way, cars in reality travel at a much greater speed and may not see you. Combine this with the fact that a driver may be distracted by a phone call and the results can be deadly. Carrying a flashlight allows drivers to see pedestrians at a much greater distances, sometimes up to a full block. If you are out and do not have a flashlight, download a "flashlight app" on your smart phone. Remember: Walk Smart - Be Seen.

### CURB YOUR DOG

**We have been getting many complaints about the failure of pet owners to pick up their dog waste. Residents all around the Village are finding dog feces on their lawns. We are very disturbed that our Village pet owners can be so irresponsible. Please take a plastic bag with you when you go out with your dog. Always keep one tied on your leash so you won't forget.**

**Besides having the potential to sicken children and other animals, dog waste left on the grass ends up in the storm sewer system that empties into Long Island Sound. Failure to pick up will result in severe penalties and fines of up to \$5000. There will be no leniency.**

**Your neighbors and our code enforcement officials are watching.**

We are also looking for residents who have a particular passion for helping the environment. We would like to form a small working committee to look at and review the numerous opportunities that the Village might consider to make us a "greener" community. No experience is necessary to volunteer, but anyone with writing skills or legal expertise would be particularly useful. Please consider getting involved. The time commitment will be as little or as much as you have to give.

Last, we were honored to have Mr. Jack Binder, Town of North Hempstead Archivist, speak on the background of the formation of the Village. A public hearing was held on March 18, 1931 to vote on incorporating the Village of Flower Hill. The vote passed 23 to 0 in favor. See our website for more information concerning the history of our Village. Also, we welcome any Girl Scout or Boy Scout troops looking to take a field trip to a local government office. The scouts will get an opportunity to sit on a dais, use a gavel and view an original copy of the Declaration of Independence that was donated to the Village by Mayor John W. Walter.

Please consider attending a Board of Trustees meeting in the near future.

All the best,

*Mayor Elaine Phillips*

## 2013 VILLAGE OF FLOWER HILL MEETING DATES

The **Board of Trustees** holds a monthly public meeting on the first **Monday** of each month (unless otherwise noted) at **8 pm**:

Jan. 7	Apr. 1	July 1	Oct. 7
Feb. 4	May 6	Aug. 5	Nov. 4
Mar. 4	June 3	Tues, Sept. 3	Dec. 2

The **Board of Zoning Appeals** meets on the third **Wednesday** of each month at **7:30 pm**, when there are cases to be heard:

Jan. 16	Apr. 17	July 17	Oct. 16
Feb. 20	May 15	Aug. 21	Nov. 20
Mar. 20	June 19	Sept. 18	Dec. 18

The **Building Permit Review Committee** meets on the fourth **Monday** of each month (unless otherwise noted) at **7 pm**, when there are cases to be heard:

Jan. 28	Apr. 22	July 23	Oct. 22
Feb. 25	May 20	Aug. 20	Nov. 19
Mar. 25	June 24	Sept. 24	No Dec. Meeting

The **Planning Board** does not schedule regular meetings but meets as needed. All Planning Board meetings are noticed in the local press and on the Village bulletin boards.

The **Village Justice Court** is held on the fourth (conferences & arraignments) **Wednesday** of each month (unless otherwise noted) at **6:30 pm**:

Jan. 23	Apr. 24	July 24	Oct. 23
Feb. 27	May 22	Aug. 28	Thurs., Nov. 21
Thurs., Mar. 28	June 26	Sept. 25	Thurs., Dec. 19

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11030

## FLOWER HILL VILLAGE OFFICIALS

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ELAINE PHILLIPS

### DEPUTY MAYOR

TAB HAUSER

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AVIVA PINTO

KAREN REICHENBACH

RANDALL ROSENBAUM

SCOTT SILLER

ROBERT MCNAMARA

### VILLAGE JUSTICE

HON. J. BRUCE BYRNE

### ACTING VILLAGE JUSTICE

HON. DENNIS M. REISMAN

### VILLAGE ATTORNEY/

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MICHAEL SAHN, CHAIR

WILLIAM CLEMENCY

PETER COTELIDES

DIANE TURNER

HOWARD MILLER

ARNOLD GOLDMAN

### PLANNING BOARD

RHODA BECKER, CHAIR

JENNIFER RIMMER

LARRY LIOZ

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### STATISTICS

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Village Administrator

RONNIE SHATZKAMER

Treasurer

KATHY WADE

Building Inspector

JAMES GILHOOLY

Code Enforcer

ROBERT ROCKELEIN

Court Clerk

ANN LAURIA-SMITH

Secretary

SUSAN WILLIAMS

Highway Supervisor

SCOTT HISLOP

Highway Dept.

JAMES BARTON

MARVIN CALDERON

JOSEPH KELLY

RICHARD FALCONES