



Voice of Johnsburg

A Hometown with Spirit



Winter 2019



**IN THIS
ISSUE:**

*Holiday Magic & Parade
Sled Hill*

Citizen Police Academy 2020





VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Committee of the Whole As needed	
Community Affairs	
1st Tuesday of each month (Events) / 6:00 p.m. (Parks)	5:00 p.m.
Development & Government Affairs	
4th Wednesday of each month -	6:30 p.m.
Economic Development	
3rd Wednesday of each month -	7:00 p.m.
Finance	
2nd Monday of each month -	7:00 p.m.
Ordinance	
3rd Thursday of each month -	7:00 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission	
2nd Tuesday of each month -	7:00 p.m.
Public Works	
4th Wednesday of each month -	7:30 p.m.
Village Board	
1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month -	7:00 p.m.

Please call the Village Hall to confirm a meeting date and time. Meetings are rescheduled from time to time.

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Village President
Edwin Hettermann

Village Board of Trustees

Tom Curry	Kyle Frost
Josh Hagen	Beth Foreman
Greg Klemstein	Kevin
McEvoy	

Village Hall: 815-385-6023

Email: villagehall@johnsburg.org
Website: www.johnsburg.org

Public Works:	815-363-8667
Police (Non Emergency):	815-385-6024
Police/Fire Emergency:	911

Village of Johnsburg Utility Billing Cycle(s):

November 2019 (Sep & Oct usage)
January 2020 (Nov & Dec usage)
March 2020 (Jan & Feb usage)
Avoid Penalties and Shut-Off Notices, please call the Village Hall if a payment plan needs to be implemented.

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VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



I am writing this letter reflecting on the Celebration in the Park event, which was held at the end of September. Once again, the event was a great success thanks to the dedicated members of the Community Affairs Committee and the help of our Assistant Administrator and the hardworking employees from our Public Works, Police, Parks and Facility Maintenance Departments.

Even though we started the day with rain, mother-nature gave us a break as the evening set in. The event was well attended; the food and entertainment were great; and the fireworks - magnificent! If you haven't had the opportunity to experience this fun annual event, make sure to mark your calendar next year – I look forward to seeing you there. It is so rewarding to see the community come together and celebrate. It reminds me of why I enjoy and remain dedicated to serving the residents of Johnsburg.

Our hardworking public works employees had a busy summer and fall. Despite the challenging weather, they accomplished a great deal. They cut and patched deteriorated pavement in 39 locations throughout the Village. They replaced 15 culverts and restored 1109 lineal feet of ditch line. They also fabricated and installed (9) custom manholes for two major stormwater projects in Shiloh Ridge and Dutch Creek Woodlands. New decorative street name signs were installed along major arterial roads, along with new regulatory signs. Pothole repairs and tree trimming were performed throughout the Village along with street sweeping, ditch mowing and other seasonal tasks that demand their attention.

Our Parks and Facilities employees were equally busy maintaining our parks and other facilities. The two well houses at the Chapel Hill Golf Course were resided, rewired and reroofed; fencing was installed and repairs were pursued at the 19th Hole and a new coat of paint was applied at the end of the season. Painting and maintenance repairs were completed at the Shiloh Ridge wellhouse and improvements and repairs were done at the Hiller Park Concession Stand. Throughout the summer and fall, parks employees maintained the flower baskets in the downtown area and at the Village entry signs. Village parks were mowed; path systems were maintained and trees planted, edged and mulched.

Our public works and parks team may be small in number,

but they are hardworking and efficient, enabling the Village to do more with less. We receive many compliments about the work they perform and I greatly appreciate their efforts. Please remain patient if you have submitted a work order and rest assured that if time and weather cooperate, your concerns and issues will be addressed. Please remember if you see men and women performing on the roadway, please slow down and keep them safe.

Now that all of the autumn celebrations have come and gone, we begin to focus on the fast approaching winter and holiday season. Our public works and parks employees are busy preparing for the colder months ahead. Trucks and ice control equipment are being prepared for plowing and preventative maintenance is being performed to ensure they are fully operational for the winter months to come. The Community Affairs Committee, barely recovered from the Celebration in the Park event, are preparing for Holiday Magic planned for Saturday, December 7th. Last year we kicked off the event with a Holiday Parade. The parade was a great success and will be included again this year. Read the article on page 5 for more information about Holiday Magic and to learn how to register an entry for the Holiday Parade. Winter will also bring about the opening of the Sled Hill and Ice Rink. Watch for e-blasts for more information. If you are not registered for email alerts, you can sign up on the Village's website at www.johnsburg.org.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our residents and the business community for the opportunity to serve you again this past year as your Village President. I hope I have addressed any concerns you have had and if not, please contact me. I, along with the Village Board and staff, wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year.

Respectfully,
Edwin P. Hettermann
Village President





SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2019

Small Business Saturday began in 2010 when corporate giant, American Express, started a national campaign designed to change the way local consumers approached holiday shopping in their home communities. Each year this hugely successful initiative continues to grow helping small businesses across the nation. The Johnsburg Area Business Association exists to support local business and we are excited to help promote small business Saturday.

When you think of small business Saturday you may think of visiting your favorite local shops to pick up stocking stuffers and other holiday items to ensure you are doing your part to support small business owners and their entrepreneurial dreams. A commendable effort; and part of what makes it possible for local vendors to compete with the large corporate stores who often dominate when it comes to holiday shopping market share.

For small business owners, Small Business Saturday is much more than a reason to shop local; often it is what helps to sustain their business for the year to come. To our small business owners, their business is not just a business; it is an extension of who they are. Giving the local businesses within your community support is crucial to their survival. Your gift giving allows these business's an opportunity to win your friends and loved ones over as customers; helping them to build their customer base for years to come.

Shopping local matters because it affects the entire community. More money spent at local stores means more revenue staying here at home. This not only helps schools and other organizations and services through the tax base, but small businesses are usually the organizations that support local sports teams, charities and events. These businesses give back to our community all year. Small Business Saturday is our chance to give back to them. We are asking our residents to show our thanks by considering local gift giving this holiday season. When we shop locally, our community wins as a whole, as do the individuals that took the chance to make their dream of owning a business in Johnsburg a reality. With your continued support, we can ensure a happy holiday season for our local businesses and continued economic growth within our community.

This year, we are asking you to expand your small business thinking to include some our local small shops in your holiday gift planning process. This year please consider, stepping out of your comfort zone and stop by your local restaurant, entertainment provider, wellness center, car care center, salon or boutique to support our neighborhood stores rather than shopping a national chain.

Imagine how grateful your loved one will be to receive a gift certificate for a night out with their family to a local restaurant for a delicious meal. Friends and relatives living outside the area might enjoy a reason to come visit you and see all Johnsburg has to offer with a gift certificate for a day of golf or an uplifting wellness treatment and a stay at our local hotel. Holiday joy can be extended for the kiddos in your world by giving them a gift certificate they can use for a chilly winter day indoors at one of our local businesses specializes in family entertainment. And we all know those in our world who refuse to treat themselves to a day of relaxation and rest. Imagine how much appreciated a salon or massage certificate from one of our local boutiques would be. For those of you shopping for the more practical amongst us, oil changes and certificates for vehicle maintenance are often put to good use and very much appreciated. Johnsburg has a variety of local businesses from which to choose when looking to support Small Business Saturday.

Many of our local businesses are offering incentives for purchasing gift cards and give certificates as a way to say thank you for choosing to shop locally. Please consider the wide variety of shops, restaurants and entertainment centers when making your holiday gift purchasing decisions this year.

Village of Johnsburg Holiday Magic



HOLIDAY MAGIC & PARADE



On **Saturday, December 7th, at 5:30 p.m.** the Village of Johnsburg and the Community Affairs Committee will kick off this year's Holiday Magic event with Johnsburg's 2nd annual Holiday Parade. The parade will begin at First Midwest Bank and proceed along Church Street to the Johnsburg Community Club. A tree lighting ceremony will take place immediately following the parade. The event will include crafts, balloons, music, refreshments and special visit from Santa. This event is free to residents of Johnsburg. In the spirit of giving we ask that you please bring a new toy or an item for the food pantry for those in need.

SHOP WITH A COP

The Johnsburg Police Department and the Johnsburg Lions Club created the "Shop with a Cop®" program 20+ years ago. The program has built many positive relationships between police officers and the children of our community. Each child receives a fixed amount to spend on Christmas gifts at our local Walmart.

Children are recommended for participation in the program by police department members, school employees, social agencies and family shelters. Anyone can nominate a child who meets the criteria of being between the ages of five and fourteen and who has a social or economic need and has not participated in past years.

The "Shop with a Cop" program is fully funded by local donations. If anyone would like to donate to this wonderful program to help make a child's Christmas special, or would like to nominate a child, please contact Chief Keith Von Allmen at 815.385.6024.



SLED HILL THIS WINTER!



We are excited to announce that the Sled Hill at Sunnyside Memorial Park will be open this winter. Safety fencing is installed and instructional signage posted. We are excited to offer this fun, winter pastime for families to enjoy, but along with the fun comes some safety considerations. The Village has established the following rules and guidelines for use of the sled hill:

- Note that the Sled Hill is not supervised
- Always Obey "Sled Hill Closed" Signs
- Snowboards and Skis are strictly prohibited
- Motorized vehicles are strictly prohibited
- Do not alter the Sled Hill - Ramps are prohibited
- Children should always be supervised
- Bicycle or multi-sport helmets are recommended
- Sled in the designated area only
- Exit the bottom of the hill promptly
- Climb the hill in the designated walk area. Do not walk in the sledding path
- Lights turn on at dusk and turn off at 10:00 p.m.
- Pets and Alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited
- Dispose of all trash in designated containers
- In the case of EMERGENCIES CALL 911



WINTERIZING YOUR VEHICLE



The winter months are hard on your vehicle. Cold temperatures, dirt, and road-salt residue can all cause problems. However, there are some simple checks and maintenance items that will help your vehicle stay in top condition.



Good Visibility is Vital

If your wipers are leaving streaks of water on the windshield, or if the wiper-blade rubber shows any signs of cracking or stiffness, replace them with a new set. Use a brush and a scraper to remove ice and snow from the windshield rather than your wipers; a heavy load of snow (or ice sticking the blades to the glass) can overload the motor. If the vehicle is parked outside, lift the wipers off the glass before an overnight snow to keep them from freezing to the windshield.

With dirt, mud, and salt residue being kicked up off the road, it's likely that you'll be using your windshield washers a lot. Be sure to keep your windshield washer reservoir filled with a washer solution that contains an antifreeze agent.

Finally, check that all the vehicle's lights are working properly and are clear of snow and ice, so that you will have optimum visibility at night and other motorists will be able to see you.



Consider a Switch to Winter Tires

If you drive a lot in slippery conditions, it's a good idea to replace summer or all-season tires with a set of dedicated winter tires, which have tread patterns and rubber compounds specially designed for optimum traction on slick roads. Winter tires typically have shorter tread life and generate more road noise than the all-season tires that your vehicle came with, but the extra safety they provide is generally worth the compromise.

Keep the Battery in Good Shape

Cold temperatures reduce your battery's cranking power—in fact, at about zero degrees F, your battery only has about half the cranking power it has at 80 degrees. At the same time, the thickened oil in a cold engine makes it harder to turn over. Following are a few easy checks to make sure it's in as good condition as possible.

On conventional batteries, remove the plastic caps on top of the battery and check the fluid level (see your owner's manual). If the fluid is low, add distilled water. On maintenance-free batteries, check that the window at the top of the battery indicates a fully charged state (check in your owner's manual).

Protection for Inside and Out

The dirt and salt of winter can attack your car's paint finish. To help protect it, give the car a fresh coat of wax before the snow flies and wash it regularly during the winter months. With modern vehicles, rust isn't as big a problem as it used to be, but it's still a good idea to have the wheel wells and underbody washed regularly to prevent road salt from building up.



Let the Engine Warm Up

In years past, cars would cough, stumble, and stall if not given sufficient time to warm up. Modern cars can be put in gear and driven away as soon as they are started, but that doesn't mean you should skip the warm-up entirely. A brief bit of idling time before you drive gives the oil a chance to heat up, thin out and flow more smoothly and you will want that to happen before you ask your engine to do any serious work. Letting your car idle while you brush the snow off of it should be sufficient. (By the way, there's no need to rev the engine; it'll warm up just fine at idle.) If your car idles higher than normal when first started, waiting until the idle speed drops before putting the car in gear will save wear and tear on your automatic transmission.

Drive gently until the temperature gauge starts to move off the bottom peg or until the cold engine light (usually blue) goes out. Remember, cars can still overheat in winter, especially if the radiator grille is clogged with snow.



JOHNSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY- UPCOMING EVENTS

Library programs are **FREE OF CHARGE** and require advance registration. Sign up online call the library at 815-344-0077. A complete listing of programs is available on the online Calendar of Events at JohnsburgLibrary.org.



MATINEE MONDAYS

Mondays at 1pm

Join us each week for brand new DVD releases on our large screen — free movie treats for all! Registration is required. Check the library Calendar of Events for upcoming film titles.



LARA BELL : SONGS OF THE SEASON

Sunday, December 1, 1:30 to 3:30pm Stop by for a melody or stay for the afternoon. Johnsborg's own singer/song-writer Lara Bell will perform acoustic renditions of seasonal standards as well as original compositions. Registration is not required. Children under age 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

SNAPOLOGY: BRICK ART & DESIGN LAB,

AGES 5 TO 11 Thursday, December 5, 4:00 to 5:30pm Interpret what you see, and create your own works of art using LEGO bricks in this interactive art history class. You'll learn about DaVinci's Mona Lisa, Van Gogh's Starry Night, Wright's Falling Water, and more. Registration is required. Parents must sign a Snapology waiver prior to or at the time of the program.

SNAPOLOGY: ROBOT CHALLENGE, AGES 12 TO 18

Thursday, December 5, 7 to 8:30pm

Learn engineering strategies and techniques to complete missions using remote controls. Apply your knowledge and skill in friendly competition and take your building to the next level. Registration is required. Parents must sign a Snapology waiver prior to or at the time of the program.

ME TOO PLAY GROUP FOR AGES 0 TO 36 MONTHS

Mondays and Fridays, 9:30 to 11:30am

Meet, greet and play in a friendly, unstructured environment. It's the perfect opportunity for parents and caregivers to get to know each other, while introducing babies to the joys of shared play. Registration is not required.

WAYS TO BURN CALORIES OUTDOORS THIS WINTER

When the weather outside turns frightful, we tend to want to curl up inside and hibernate until warmer temps return. But the last thing you want to do is sabotage all of the sweat and tears you put in to your warm-weather workout routine by vegging out on the sofa simply because the mercury's dropped below freezing. Below are some activities to help you stay fit during the cold winter months.

Cross-country skiing - You'd be hard-pressed to find a full-body winter workout better than cross-country skiing. The pushing and pulling motions create the ultimate lower- and upper-body exercise.

Snowshoeing - Similar to Nordic skiing, snowshoeing is a killer workout through the snow, but it's slightly easier because you slip the snowshoe gear over your own boots and simply walk.

Downhill skiing and snowboarding - Don't think you burn calories downhill skiing or snowboarding? Think again. These winter sports aren't just extremely popular, they're also great exercise.

Ice-skating - If you live in an area that has an outdoor ice rink, take advantage of it. Getting in a simple game of ice hockey or get out there and spin

and twirl to your heart's desire.

Hiking - It's one of the best ways to enjoy the outdoors -- and a vigorous workout at the same time.

Walk the dog - Walking is a low-impact exercise that's easy on the joints, and despite the fact that we do it every day, taking the dog on a long, brisk walk benefits you and your furry friend.

Splitting wood - If you need wood for your fireplace, consider chopping it yourself because it's a killer core workout plus you'll have the cozy reward of getting to relax in front of a roaring fire.

Running - If you're an avid runner, there's no reason not to continue your regimen during the colder months. Just plan your route in advance to be sure it's free of ice.

Most importantly, dress for the cold weather: Wear layers, wicking fabrics, a hat, gloves and an outer layer such as a windbreaker.





SCHOOL DISTRICT 12
JOHNSBURG
INSPIRING OUR STUDENTS

WELCOME CHRIS MCCARTHY AND MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING TO JOHNSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

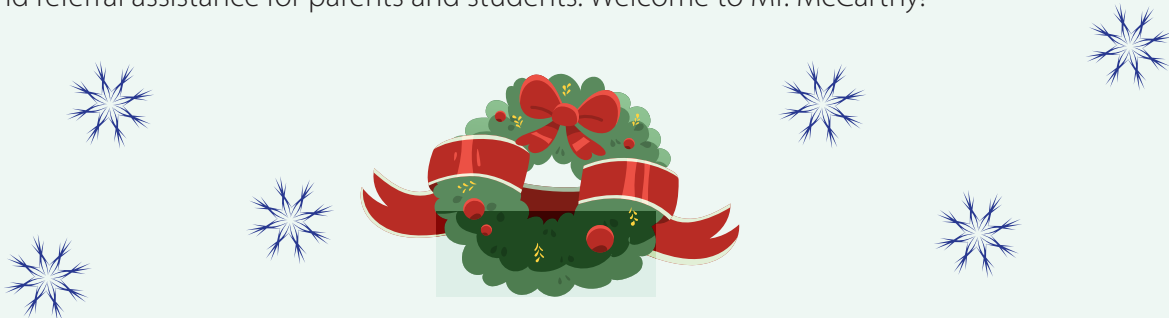
Every day adolescents struggle with anxiety, depression, thoughts of suicide, bipolar disorder, emotional trauma and other disorders. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, "20 percent of youth ages 13 to 18 and 13 percent of ages 8 to 15 live with a mental health condition." Recognizing that our students and families in Johnsburg Schools face these same struggles, Johnsburg School District is proud to announce our new partnership with Amita Health Care.

AMITA's Alexian Brothers Center for Mental Health provides counseling and treatment by partnering with schools to enhance positive school culture. By placing a mental health counselor in the schools one day per week, the overall objective is to provide timely interventions, as well as crisis services and referrals for children and youth who may not otherwise be able to get the help they need. Currently, Alexian Brothers Center for Mental Health provides these services in 10 public school settings and 10 parochial schools. Johnsburg High School is excited to be the first school in Mchenry County to receive this support, thanks to the generosity of the Alexian Brothers Foundation who seeks funding through private donations.

Johnsburg High School is proud to introduce Mr. Chris McCarthy, our new mental health counselor. Mr. McCarthy works at Johnsburg High School on Tuesdays this school year. His programming can include group and individual counseling to focus on the student's well-being, social-emotional development and academic success using a variety of therapeutic interventions. He is also able to provide classroom presentations, crisis intervention and referral assistance for parents and students. Welcome to Mr. McCarthy!

According to the National Institute of Mental Health,

"20% of youth ages 13 to 18 and 13 % of ages 8 to 15 live with a mental health condition."



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9 TIPS TO STAY HEALTHY THIS WINTER

Viruses can thrive indoors; if your immune system isn't up to the task, you're likely to catch the latest bug. That's why it's essential to ward off the very real threat of colds, flu, and other scary winter germs.

1. Get a flu shot

An influenza vaccination can reduce the risk of flu illness by 50 to 60% in the general population and can decrease the severity and side effects if you get sick.

2. Stock up on pens

Cold and flu germs are easily passed through hand-to-hand contact so any way you can avoid touching public objects—such as the communal pen at the bank—will cut your risk. Having your own supply of dime-a-dozen plastic ballpoints might just keep you from picking up a virus.

3. Buy plenty of hand sanitizer

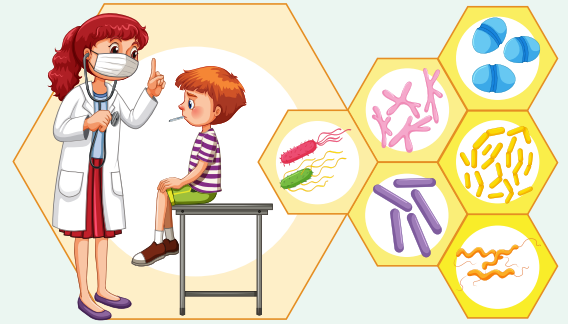
Researchers found that those who carried hand sanitizer with them had 59% fewer cases of stomach bugs. When used correctly—squirt out enough gel so your hands still feel damp after rubbing together for 10 to 15 seconds—these products nearly eliminate germs.

4. Join a club

Friendships counteract the harmful effects of stress hormones, but new research says the more friends you have, the healthier you'll be. Start a book group or cultivate group-friendly hobbies.

5. Set goals

When facing adversity, we become hyper alert and our bodies guard themselves against enemies—whether a predator or a virus. The best prescription is to set your sights on a reachable target. At the beginning of each week, give yourself at least one challenge that you aim to accomplish by Friday.



6. Take a daily multivitamin

Look for one with 100% of the recommended daily values of vitamins A, B6, B12, C, and D and the minerals chromium, copper, folic acid, selenium, calcium, and zinc. Take your multi during a meal that contains a bit of fat so you can absorb the nutrients better; a glass of water will help the pill dissolve.

7. Wash your hands—a lot

Experts agree that simple soap-and-water hand washing is an easy and effective way to stay healthy year-round.


8. Sleep

Getting enough sleep is the most important thing to do, because any other precautions you take against cold or flu—the right food, supplements, even vaccinations—won't offer the same protection if your body's too tired to use them properly.

9. Take zinc

At the first sign of symptoms, zinc may help prevent or lessen the duration of a cold; it also helps when used shortly after possible exposure to a virus (a plane trip or a visit to a sick friend).



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JOHNSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY 2020



The Johnsburg Police Department has announced the 8th annual Citizen's Police Academy Class. A Citizen Police Academy is a program intended to educate adult citizens about police work and is designed to give the public a working knowledge of our department's organization, personnel, policies and procedures. The Citizen Police Academy is not designed as a preparatory class for individuals who desire to become a law enforcement officer. Rather, it is intended as an educational and informative offering for adults who both reside or work within our village and have a desire to learn more about their police department. Enrolled citizens will be encouraged to build a lasting partnership with the Department, with the ultimate goal of reducing crime and improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

The Citizen Police Academy topics will include the history and evolution of law enforcement, firearms familiarization, patrol tactics, gangs, drug enforcement, special response team operations, canine patrol, criminal law, crime prevention, media relations, crime scene processing, investigations, and others.

The Academy begins in February, 2020 and will meet once per week for a total of 9 two to three hour sessions. A variety of instructors from the Johnsburg Police Department, and guests, will be presenting an assortment of topics in order to provide the public with a comprehensive view of police work and the criminal justice system.

The Academy is offered free of charge to Johnsburg Citizens as well as business owners and employees. Anyone interested in applying for the Academy must complete an application which involves a criminal background check and must meet the following criteria:

- Must be 21 years old or older
- No outstanding warrants
- No prior felony conviction
- No pending criminal cases



Class size is limited to 8 participants, and the class will fill quickly, so please visit www.johnsburg.org for a printable pdf application. Any questions may be directed to Chief Keith Von Allmen at 815-385-6024 or by e-mail at police@johnsburg.org.



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PUBLIC WORKS NEWS INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE



Public works employees are busy preparing trucks and equipment for the upcoming snow removal season. Over the past few months, they have been working diligently to complete an aggressive road patching, ditching and tree trimming program. Additionally, they have been working to clear brush and debris from major drainage areas to insure that the Village's storm water system operates properly. We are fortunate to have a team of skilled and knowledgeable employees who are able to perform much of the work in house, which enables the Village to do more while containing costs. This year major roads were repaired with large scale patching along Johnsburg Road, Riverside Drive, Channel Beach Avenue, Weingart Road, Rolling Lane and Old Bay Road. Additionally, crews also pursued tree trimming throughout the Village to remove branches affecting line of site and safe travel along our roadways. Tree trimming will continue throughout the winter months. By taking a proactive approach to infrastructure maintenance, we can prevent the need to pursue costly repairs and rebuilding of our infrastructure in the future.

SNOW REMOVAL

The Village of Johnsburg has a Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy in place to help insure safe roadways during inclement weather. As we prepare for winter weather, here are some things you should know:

- Hazards at the roadside, such as boulders or driveway markers that may interfere with or damage plows, must be removed before the first snowfall. In larger storms it can be difficult for our drivers to see the edge of the road.
- Major roads and bus routes are plowed first, followed by secondary subdivision streets and finally cul de sacs and private roads.
- There is no parking along the road on days when a 2 inch snowfall has occurred or is being forecasted.
- Check your mailbox post to make sure it is sturdy enough to withstand snow being deflected from the plow. We will repair mailboxes only if they come in direct contact with the snowplow and will not repair them if the force of the snow knocks them down.
- Make sure the area around your mailbox is shoveled so mail can be delivered and around any fire hydrant that may be on your property.
- Increase the following distance when driving behind a snowplow. It is very difficult for the drivers to see cars directly behind them.
- The Public Works department will be clearing snow from the downtown, Johnsburg Road, St. Johns Avenue and Church Street sidewalks. **ABSOLUTELY NO** snowmobiles are permitted on sidewalks or in the downtown area. Citations **will be issued** to snowmobiles who ride on sidewalks.

With your help and patience, this year's snow removal should run smoothly. You can view the entire Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy on our website at www.johnsburg.org.




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