



# Village of Port Dickinson

## Spring 2019 Newsletter

### Important Telephone Numbers:

**POLICE, FIRE & MEDICAL EMERGENCIES- 911**

Police – 722-1255

Village Hall & Business – 771-8233

Building Inspector & Code Officer - 771-8233

Fire Dept. Information and Non-Emergency - 771-8233

WEBSITE: [www.portdickinsonny.us](http://www.portdickinsonny.us)

**MAYOR:** Kevin M. Burke – 723-5674

### **TRUSTEES:**

Administration & Code: James DeGennaro 725-4730

Police & Fire: Michael Cashman 724-6764

Water & Sewer: Bob Aagre 217-4122

Public Works & Parks: Charles Harding 722-2534

### IMPORTANT DATES:

**February 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.**

**March 31 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.**

**June 30 - Village Tax Payments Due.**

**June 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.**

**July 31 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.**

**October 1-10 - Water Meter Readings Due.**

**November 30 - Water Bill Payment Deadline.**

*All meter reading cards can be mailed or dropped off in the Drop Box in front of Village Hall or emailed to the Clerk at [pdclerk@stny.rr.com](mailto:pdclerk@stny.rr.com) make sure you receive an email reply to insure that your reading has been received. Bills with checks can be placed in drop box. We do not accept cash in the drop box.*

### **YARD WASTE PICKUP IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

#### **Yard waste pickup begins on TUESDAY APRIL 2.**

Please place any leaves left from the Fall into containers and they will be collected during the weekly collection.

We were unable to clean up all the leaves due to the early November snow storm. We are very sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

#### **Cut grass will be collected in April and May but the last day for grass collection will be Tuesday June 4.**

Remaining lawn debris will continue to be collected.

ALL DEBRIS MUST BE IN SOLID CONTAINERS. Max. 40lbs. Overweight containers/bundles will not be picked up. **NO PLASTIC BAGS. BRANCHES MUST BE TIED IN 4 FT. LENGTHS or IN CONTAINERS.**

Place containers/bundles between the sidewalk and the curb after 2PM on Mondays.

*We have distributed information on the benefits of leaving grass clippings on the lawn and composting. Further information is available from Broome County Cooperative Extension on Front St.*

### **Village Taxes:**

This year's Village Tax rate will increase aprox.2% and we will stay under the NYS Tax Cap. This equates out to be an approximate .18 cents per thousand \$ of assessed evaluation or an estimated \$9.00 annually on a home assessed at \$50,000. We are planning to repave several streets along with other improvements.

### **Extremely Important Information regarding our Sanitary Sewer System:**

We are experiencing frequent blockages in our sewer pumps. This is caused by residents flushing objects and materials into the system that cannot pass through the pumps causing the pumps to shut down. When this happens the holding tanks back up into the pipes in the streets and eventually into the basements of homes. This causes a very unsanitary and costly situation for the homeowner. This cleanup is not a Village responsibility. If this continues it will force the Village to convert all the pumps to a "grinder" type pump which will cost thousands of dollars to modify the system, which will be reflected in higher sewer rates.

***Some of the items that are being found stopping the pumps are rags, washcloths, diapers, adult diapers, large volumes of grease/oil, "flushable" wet wipes, socks, rubber gloves, rocks, food wrappers & feminine hygiene products.***

Please be aware of what you flush and if you are aware of anyone causing this problem please call the Village at 771-8233 and report it to the Village Clerk. Any person who willfully disrupts the sewer system is guilty of a misdemeanor and can be fined \$500.

**UPDATE REGARDING SEWER RATES:** As most of you are now aware there is an expected increase in the rate that the Binghamton- JC Sewage Treatment Plant charges. The good news is that with our most recent billing there was no increase included. We will keep you updated on all related activity.

**VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** Under the direction of the Broome County Department of Planning & Economic Development the Village is in the process of creating a Comprehensive Plan. This plan will identify the goals, objectives, and guidance for the immediate and long range protection, enhancement, and future development of our Village. It provides guidance to the Village, County and State leaders about current issues that reflect the needs and views of our residents. You will receive a survey from the County in the mail asking you questions, and it will be returned to the county with all responses being kept confidential. Public Meetings will be conducted to present the results and to obtain additional public comments.

**WATER STATUS:** Please be advised that from **MAY13 to MAY 15. The Village will be conducting a directional flushing the entire water system. Fenton (Hillcrest) will flush their system from May 6 to May 10. During this time you may experience discoloration. We will post signs on the streets and have a notice on the Village Website.**

**PORT DICKINSON COMMUNITY ASSOC.**  
Please support their fund raising activities as 100% of all funds go directly to support the youth programs. This is an incredibly dedicated group of Village residents who put a great amount of time and effort into the children of our community with their wonderful programs and events. Donations to the PDCA are tax deductible and can be mailed to the Village Hall.

**CONCERNS/PROBLEMS:** if you have concerns or problems regarding anything in the Village please don't hesitate to call the respective Trustee or Mayor to answer your questions.

**GRANTS & FUNDING:**

The Village is submitting a grant application to the NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) for the replacement of the Chenango St. (100 year old plus) and Rochelle Road (4" undersized) water mains. We will keep you informed as these applications progress.

**NON RESIDENT PROPERTY OWNERS: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FORWARD ALL APPLICABLE INFORMATION TO YOUR TENANTS**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** wants to bring to your attention the following information and advice:

**Please Call the Police IF YOU SEE OR HEAR ANY SUSPICIOUS OR UNUSUAL ACTIVITY. No call is too minor and you are not required to provide your name when reporting.**

- **If you notice vehicles or motorcycles speeding or with offensively loud exhaust please call the Police, they are very successful in eliminating these problems**
- **UNLOCKED Vehicles are being entered. Remember to LOCK YOUR VEHICLE and your home.**
- **CLOSE YOUR GARAGE DOORS when no one is at home as you are only inviting problems**
- **DO NOT LEAVE BICYCLES AND OTHER VALUABLE ITEMS OUTSIDE AT NIGHT.**
- **Door to door Solicitors are allowed from 9 AM to sunset not on Sundays or Holidays.**

**LOST CATS or DOGS:** If your dog or cat is missing for an extended time or if you have found one, you can call the Police Dept. and report it. We will attempt to assist you and coordinate the pets return.

**NOTE:** Evening, weekend & occasional day calls to the PD Police are received by County Emergency Services. If at these times you have a problems e.g. water or sewer leaks or desire to talk to an officer, call 722-1255 and state your problem or request to the dispatcher and a Port Dickinson Officer will either visit you, meet you at Police Station or phone you if you request.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Your Fire Department like all Volunteer Departments is in **NEED OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS - FIRE FIGHTERS, FIRE POLICE & MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS) RESPONDERS.** Please consider serving. The reward of gratitude from those you serve is immeasurable. Please call the Village Hall at 771-8233 and leave your name and a FD Representative will contact you about how you can serve. Please keep in mind that there are various involvement levels in which to serve. It is a very admirable and fulfilling way to serve your community. All training and necessary equipment provided. Being a Volunteer only requires a few hours a month of training.

The knowledge and experience you receive is immeasurable.

**VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS & EMS**

**Pride Protecting People.**

**The Desire to Serve, The Courage to Act, The Ability to Perform!**

**By his grace we serve**

**We're there when you need us**

**If you have a heartbeat, you can volunteer**

**Calming Fears, Easing Minds, Saving Lives**

Pride Protecting People

Duty. Honor. Community.

The Desire to Serve, The Courage to Act, The Ability to Perform.

We Run In When You Are Running Out

Ready At the First Sound

Pride Protecting People

Duty is our pride

Neighbors help Neighbors

We serve to save.



# Village of Port Dickinson

## COMMON BUILDING, MAINTAINANCE & PROPERTY CODE VIOLATIONS

- ✓ FAILURE TO HAVE VISIBLE NUMBERS ON FRONT OF RESIDENCE AND OR STRUCTURES.
- ✓ DISCHARGING / MOWING GRASS INTO THE STREET.
- ✓ PARKING VEHICLES ON FRONT LAWN AND SIDEWALK.
- ✓ NO UNREGISTERED VEHICLES / TRAILERS ALLOWED OUTSIDE ON PROPERTY.
- ✓ PEELING and or DETERIORATING PAINT ON STRUCTURES.
- ✓ STORAGE OF CONTAINERS: -“All garbage, recycling, debris containers shall be placed and stored behind the building out of view from the street or roadway. In no event may containers be stored in front of, in the front yard, or on the front porches of buildings. In the event any garbage can, recycling bin, or debris container or other related items cannot be stored out of view from the street or roadway, the property owner shall screen such areas of storage by opaque fencing and or plantings.”
- ✓ GARBAGE/ RECYCLING & LAWN DEBRIS CONTAINERS - may be placed to the curb after 2PM the day prior to the day of each pickup. Containers must be removed from the curb area no later than 8PM the evening of that pickup.
- ✓ CANINE WASTE: you must clean up after your dog. Fines, potential seizure and impoundment of the dog can occur.
- ✓ LEASH LAW: All dogs must be on a leash while being walked.

## BUILDING PERMITS are MANDATORY:

The following require permits (not limited to)

**New Structures/Construction/Additions, Pools, Decks, Certain Size Sheds, Hot Tubs, Fire Place / Wood Burners, and \*Handicap Ramps.**

***\*Virtually all Handicap Ramps per the NYS Building code do not comply and would require a variance. The Village passed a resolution to allow these non-compliant ramps only for the temporary period that they are needed, but still require a permit.***

**CALL THE BUILDING INSPECTOR @ 771-8233 WITH ANY QUESTIONS PRIOR. THIS WILL ALLOW YOU TO AVOID DELAYS, LEGAL ACTION & ADDED COSTS. Please allow time for the Inspector to return your call. You can pick up permit applications at the Village Hall. If you initiate construction without a permit the permit cost increases to \$100.**

**As in virtually all violations the Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector will work with all property owners to bring all violations to a satisfactory and uncomplicated conclusion.**

**In addition to Code Enforcement, violations are reported by the Police and Public Works employees.**

Please report any Bear sightings in the Village to the Port

Dickinson Police at 911 or 722-1255.

To learn more about Black Bears visit the DEC website at [www.dec.ny.gov/animals/6995.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/6995.html) or look for the DEC's DVD: "Living with New York Black Bears" available at most public libraries in New York. For more information about bears in your area or to report other problems with black bears, contact the nearest regional DEC Office. Kirkwood DEC Office 1679 NYS Route 11, Kirkwood, NY 13795 607-775-2545.

# **BLACK BEAR WARNING**

**Spring/Summer 2019**

The Village of Port Dickinson like other communities has over the years experienced situations where **BLACK BEARS** travel into our neighborhoods.

The following information was received from the NYS Department of Conservation Wildlife Officer.

- *Bears are once again wandering through our neighborhoods in search of food. **They will eat anything that is easily accessible.***
- *You can discourage them by **taking down your bird feeders.** Birds do not need supplemental food in the spring and summer.*
- ***Also clean your barbeque grills and keep them inside (garage/shed) if possible.***
- ***Store pet foods indoors and garbage in a secure building or location.***
- ***Clean garbage cans frequently and with ammonia products** and do not burn garbage.*
- ***DO NOT add meat scraps, bones or melon rinds to your compost pile.***
- *Bears will **eat virtually anything** and they follow the path of least resistance, but will shred a metal garbage can to get at anything that may appeal to them*

**The only way to discourage and eventually stop these bears from Entering our neighborhoods is to shut off their food supply.**

**We have been notified by the NY State Environmental Conservation Police that it is illegal to feed Bears either intentionally or unintentionally.**

**The NYSDEC Law Enforcement Officer will serve all offenders with a summons!**