

April 17, 2024

Garden City is blooming! The warm days are finally here and with that comes the summer ritual of outdoor dining in the Village, a topic of some recent debate. While there are a lot of residents who remain enthusiastic about it, others have raised concerns. The elected officials are listening and we've examined the Village Code on outdoor dining.

What have we learned? Many of the accommodations made during the pandemic and since the pandemic ended are inconsistent with the 1997 code. Now is a great time to find out exactly what the rules should be to preserve the visual appeal and cleanliness of our Village while supporting a very popular outdoor dining scene.

Trustee Judy Courtney will be working with other trustees to fully evaluate outdoor dining and develop a plan to have a new code written before the 2025 season.

Therefore, this year we will allow outdoor dining by local businesses consistent with the outdoor dining practices they employed last summer, though such practices may not comply with the current Village code. Permits will be granted through the last Sunday in November 2024 at which time you will be provided with an update. At this time any hanging/strung lights currently on Village owned trees must be removed.

LIRR BRIDGE REPAIR WORK – EDGEMERE ROAD

This weekend and next, the Long Island Rail Road will be replacing old timbers underneath the Edgemere Road train trestle in both directions. This repair work will create road closures. Edgemere Road, from Stewart Avenue to Yale Street, will be closed to vehicular traffic this weekend and next, from each Friday at approximately 9:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. Monday morning (April 19-22 and April 26-29). On the north side of the bridge, the road closure will begin at Stewart Avenue/Clinch Avenue and Edgemere Road. The road will be open to local traffic on the north side. On the south side of the bridge, the road closure will begin at Yale Street and Edgemere Road. Scaffolding will be erected to maintain safe pedestrian flow on either sidewalk beneath the bridge. The LIRR has made provisions for first responders to use Edgemere Road in the event of an emergency. MTA PD will be on site for this closure. There will be no train service on the Hempstead branch between Floral Park and Hempstead as the Long Island Rail Road perform bridge repair work on the trestle over Edgemere Road. Due to the suspension of train service, the LIRR will provide bus service between Floral Park and Hempstead station in both directions. There will be no bus service at Country Life Press Station due to the height of the Chestnut Road bridge. Please see a full list of schedule changes [here](#). This work is weather dependent, dates are subject to change to take advantage of favorable conditions.

ARBOR DAY TREE PLANTING

The Board of Trustees declared Friday, April 26, 2024 as Arbor Day in Garden City. Recreation and Parks Department crew members will join Trustees and members of the Civic Beautification Committee and Recreation Commission at 2:00 p.m. to celebrate Arbor Day by planting a Norway Spruce on the Village Green, not far from a River Birch planted during last year's celebration.

SPRING PLANTING PROGRAM

It's an exciting time here in Garden City as the days get longer and spring has finally arrived! Buds are swelling, the trees are blossoming and planting season has begun. The first delivery of trees has made its way to the Village. Any resident who would like a tree planted in front of their home is encouraged to call the Recreation and Parks Office at 516-465-4075. Upon receiving your request for a new tree you will be added to a list for review. When the Department reviews an area for planting, specifically species selection, a few conditions are considered: the width of the lawn strip in which the tree will be planted; proximity to any

utilities and hardscape surfaces; and options best suited to match the existing tree population in a given area. Taking all of this into account personnel is also mindful of not planting in a monoculture style but rather have a diverse plant pallet. This will help ensure protection against invasive pests that may make their way into landscapes. There is some common misconception that once a tree is removed a new one is automatically planted. The Village has moved away from this process because some residents do not wish to have a tree planted in front of their homes.

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

The Garden City Police Department will participate in the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 27, 2024, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. The collection center is at Garden City Police Department Headquarters, 349 Stewart Avenue. This event provides an opportunity for everyone to safely discard unwanted, unused, and expired medications. According to the DEA, too often unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands. That's dangerous and often tragic. That's why it was great to see thousands of folks from across the country clean out their medicine cabinets and turn in – safely and anonymously – a record amount of prescription drugs. The Garden City Police Department also advises that they accept unused, expired, and unwanted medications every day if someone cannot turn them in on April 27, 2024. Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson states, "The Garden City Police Department and Drug Take Back Program helps reduce drug abuse and overdoses. It allows for the safe disposal of drugs instead of flushing, burying, or throwing them out in the garbage, which poses significant environmental and health risks."

HAPPENING IN GARDEN CITY

MONDAY, APRIL 22 1:30 p.m. Movie Matinée: *Crossing Delancy* at the Library

TUESDAY, APRIL 23 11:215 a.m. Chair Yoga at the Senior Center

TUESDAY, APRIL 23 6:30 p.m. Architectural Design Review Board Meeting at Village Hall

FRIDAY, APRIL 26 2:00 p.m. Arbor Day Celebration on the Village Green

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Prescription Drug Take Back Day at Police Headquarters, 349 Stewart Avenue

THURSDAY, MAY 2 10:45 a.m. Downsizing and Estate Planning Seminar/Brunch at the Senior Center. Must register; space is limited. Call (516) 385-8006.