

June 25, 2025

As we are fully into the summer season ... with a bit of a scorcher mid-week ... I wanted to take a moment to congratulate all of our Grammar School, Middle School and especially our High School graduates. It's a "right of passage" at any level but especially bitter sweet for parents to see your high school son or daughter getting ready to take that leap into the exciting, challenging and thrilling life at college or a full-time job. Congrats are due to Mom, Dad and the family as well.

Over the next couple of months be sure to take advantage of all the Village has to offer... a stroll on 7th Street, Franklin Avenue and New Hyde Park Road into one of our many new and long standing eating establishments and retail stores as well. It's also tough to top a day in our parks (for kids of all ages) or a leisurely afternoon or evening at the GC Pool. To top it off, you can also attend one of our Thursday night concerts at the Gazebo on the Village Green (Stewart and Hilton Aves) where there's at least six weeks of terrific acts. And finally there's always time for snoozing in the hammock, swinging the golf club or taking a long walk at sunset...sounds like it's a breeze to have a great summer in GC...be well.

A NOTE FROM VILLAGE ARBORIST JOE UMANA

Garden City's Tree Crew has had quite the busy spring season, completing the planting of 100 new trees throughout town, including the 7th Street business district and Stewart Mall. In total, roughly 400 new trees have been planted year to date. This spring we also incorporated the use of Gator Tree Watering bags, which we believe will help ensure the growth and long life of our new trees. If you had a new tree planted please fill the bag every 2-3 days or sooner if you notice that the bag is empty. The bag holds about 30 gallons of water and it slowly trickles out over the course of about 24 hours.

We also wanted to bring another point to your attention. If you notice we have planted our trees with a ring of mulch around the tree. This ring was placed to create a dish effect that will catch water and drain that water down onto the root ball of the tree. This ring also acts as a buffer to keep lawn maintenance equipment away from the trunk of the tree. Oftentimes we see mechanical damage especially from string trimmers right at the base of our young trees. This repeated damage can cause detrimental effects and the eventual demise of our young trees. While this mulch ring appears mounded please take notice that the soil and mulch is not stacked up against the trunk of the tree.

Our team at the Village has come to notice quite a few of our newly planted trees with the dreaded mulch volcano effect. PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS. Contrary to popular belief, this practice is detrimental to our trees, especially the young, newly planted trees. Over time having the soil piled against the trunk of the tree can lead to numerous negative effects, including but not limited to girdled roots and a secondary advantageous root system growing directly from the trunk itself. Structurally this can either kill the tree or cause the tree to become unstable leading to blow over.

Please think of the mulch creating a donut effect with a hole in the middle of the mulch instead of a volcano with the mulch stacked and piled high. If you look in the attached photos you can see the trunk of this tree looks like a pillar straight into the ground. If you see this, your tree is planted too deep and suffering from the same detriments as the mulch volcanoes. When you look at the base of your tree you should also see a flare out and not a straight pillar appearance. This flare is known as the root flare where the major structural roots begin at the base of the tree. We want to make sure that this flare always remains visible and is not covered by any medium, soil or mulch.

GARDEN CITY FIELD MANAGEMENT

As we enter the summer months our playing fields are given a much-needed rest. Many of the sports

organizations' seasons have been completed and traffic on these fields decreases. We use these months to spot fill and seed any bare patches that the fields may have and map the fields for the fall, looking to realign the fields so that goal mouths are not in the same location. In August we will look to apply a grub control treatment. There is a fully organic application available but we are still researching what is the most cost effective and successful way to treat for grubs. In the fall, Assistant Rec Superintendent Andy Hill is hoping to implement a zonal practice model, which will limit practice to only designated parts of the field.

THE BEST SECRET IN TOWN!

Did you know that each of our neighborhood parks runs a free playground program every summer? Children entering Grades 1-8 who reside in the Village are invited to come to the park for a summer full of fun. Each park has its own "flavor" and "favorite" activities. Park Directors and their staff run games, sports, tournaments, as well as arts and crafts activities during the day and into the evening. Trips are also run through the parks. These activities, except for the trips, are free to anyone attending. Registration is not necessary. A child may attend any day they choose.

SUMMER BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board of Trustees will meet once a month this summer, on Thursday July 17 and Thursday August 14. Meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall and via Zoom. Residents are encouraged to attend.