

Village Hall named to National Register of Historic Places

Oak Park's Village Hall has been named to the National Register of Historic Places, a significant designation that comes nearly a decade ahead of schedule.

Typically, buildings and properties are not eligible for inclusion on the venerable list until after at least 50 years. Officials used a special criterion to permit Village Hall's acceptance, due to its important place in the history of Oak Park.

Village Hall was constructed at 123 Madison St. from a design by the Chicago architecture firm of Harry Weese & Associates. The building reflects Weese's modern design influence, with its open plan representing open government.

In addition to being the center of municipal administration, Village Hall is historically significant in Oak Park's efforts to achieve racial integration and community stabilization during the 1970s.

The construction of Village Hall at a carefully chosen location just blocks from Chicago's west side played a key role in Oak Park's struggle to break the downward spiral of white flight from re-segregation and led to the Village becoming a model integrated community.

Completed in 1975, the building is

designed around a paved, open exterior courtyard that creates a centralized common area with cloistered views that allow ample sunlight into the interior public and office spaces.

The elevated, triangular, two-story Council Chamber — the dominant architectural feature of Village hall — contains a semicircular conference table for Village Board members and raised built-in benches that can accommodate up to 200 citizens. The configuration of the benches places citizens no more than 19 feet from the Village Board president.

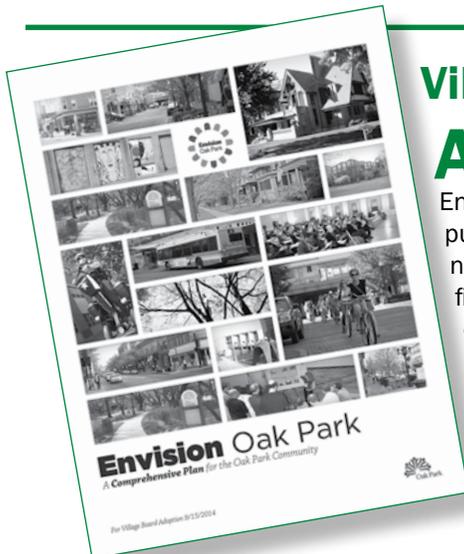
The National Register, established in 1966, is the nation's official list of historic places worthy of preservation, with more than 86,000 listings. The Register recognizes properties of national significance, but also those such as Village



Hall that played important roles in the history of local communities.

National Register listing does not impose any restrictions on changes to the building. However, it gives federal and state preservation agencies an opportunity to comment prior to funding, licensing or approving a project that will affect a property listed on or eligible for the National Register.

For more information on historic preservation in Oak Park, call 708.358.5417 or email historicpreservation@oak-park.us.



Village Board adopts comprehensive plan

A plan that will help guide land use, policy discussions and capital improvements for Oak Park has been adopted by the Village Board. The comprehensive plan, entitled Envision Oak Park, represents the culmination of two years of work through an active public process that included nearly 75 workshops, interviews and meetings with residents, neighbors, business operators, students and community leaders. The final plan embraces five, key guiding principles — diversity, urban sustainability, respect for history and legacy, collaboration and cooperation, and thriving neighborhoods. Residents are urged to review the plan, the first update since 1990. Envision Oak Park can be reviewed online at www.oak-park.us/planning, in-person at Village Hall, 123 Madison St., and at the Main Oak Park Library, 834 Lake St.

Smart grid project moves closer toward implementation

A project to demonstrate the potential cost savings of electric smart grid technologies has taken a step closer to implementation in Oak Park.

Pecan Street Inc., a not-for-profit organization credited with creating the national model for smart grid project planning, implementation and management, has been hired to assist in preparing to launch the *Oak Park Smart City USA Project*, which



will link as many as 200 Oak Park homes and residential buildings into a neighborhood smart grid.

The project entails installing equipment such as solar panels with batteries that would allow residences to collect and store energy for personal use and to sell back to the grid during peak times. Property owners would not have to pay any equipment or installation costs. State grants and private funds will help support the project.

Plans call for having 100 single-family homes and 100 multiple-family units participate, with the number of multi-unit buildings depending upon the number of units in each. Participants would form a micro-grid featuring two-

way information and energy flow. Their aggregated energy data and usage would be managed through a cloud-based network operating center, which may include a public monitoring screen at Village Hall.

More than 300 Oak Park property owners already have expressed an interest in participating via an online form at www.oak-park.us/smartcityusa that gathered information to ensure the property was compatible with the program's basic needs.

Pecan Street, which was chosen through a competitive bid that attracted four companies, manages a research network of more than 1,200 volunteer homes in Texas, California and Colorado. In Austin's Mueller neighborhood, where the effort launched four years ago, more than 200 homes have rooftop solar and more than 70 residents drive electric vehicles.

The \$75,000 contract with Pecan Street, based at the University of Texas at Austin, is for critical planning, a key step in the implementation process. Given Pecan Street's smart grid project implementation, management and oversight experience, this initial contract could lead to a broader, regional approach to smart grid technologies, officials said.

For more information on the Smart City USA project, email sustainability@oak-park.us. Information about Pecan Street Inc. is posted at pecanstreet.org.

Pet ownership comes with responsibilities

Pets are an important part of many households in Oak Park. Along with the companionship they provide come responsibilities for the owner to ensure the health and safety of the pet and the community.

- **Licensing** – All dogs and outdoor cats in Oak Park are required to display a current animal license. New licenses must be obtained in person at Village Hall, but annual renewals can be completed online. Licensing is a vital part of the recovery process if a pet runs away from home. A telephone call from Animal Control often is all it takes to reunite lost or strayed pets with their owners – provided the pets have been licensed and are wearing tags. New residents must provide current rabies vaccination information to license their pets. Proof of spaying and neutering means a reduced license fee.
- **Leashes** – As in most Chicago-area cities and towns, leashes are required for all dogs that use any public street, sidewalk, parkway or public area. Leashes can't be longer than eight feet. Owners who allow their dogs to run off leash may be ticketed and fined. The Park District of Oak Park offers two areas where dogs can run off leash. Visit www.pdop.org for more information.
- **Picking Up** – Responsible pet owners agree that picking up after one's dog is the right thing to do. Dog excrement is not only a nuisance, it's unhealthy and against the law.
- **Limitations** – Village ordinance limits the number of pets on private premises, depending on the animal and household type. Don't worry – the vast majority of households will never run afoul of this ordinance, as it allows a wide variety of pet combinations. Visit www.oak-park.us and search for "animal control" for more information on keeping pets at home.
- **Report Violations** – Anyone observing a dog not on a leash or an owner not picking up after a pet can report the violation by calling 708.358.5680 or emailing health@oak-park.us.

Early voting offered at Village Hall

Voters registered in suburban Cook County can cast an early ballot from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mon. through Sat, Oct. 20 through Nov 1, at Village Hall, 123 Madison St. While the official deadline to register is Oct. 7, Village Hall also will be a grace period site for new registration of suburban Cook County residents from Oct. 20 through Election Day, Nov. 4, including weekends. Grace-period registrants must cast their ballots at the time of registration. Valid photo identification is required to register and when not voting in your precinct. Valid forms of ID include a current driver's license, state-issued ID card, university/college ID or other government-issued ID with a photograph. For more information, including details on requesting an absentee ballot online, visit cookcountyclerk.com/elections.

Opportunities abound on citizen advisory boards

When it comes to citizen involvement in the process of making public policy, few communities can match the opportunities offered in Oak Park, where volunteers serve on nearly 20 separate advisory boards, commissions and committees. As part-time lawmakers, the Village president and trustees rely on the boards and commissions to do much of the investigative work associated with particular issues. These citizen volunteers conduct in-depth studies, evaluate research and hold meetings that create the public record so critical to Village Board actions. A varied group of volunteers is sought to represent the Village's diversity, and renters as well as homeowners are encouraged to apply. Openings are now available for the Citizen Police Oversight Committee, Farmers' Market Commission, Community Design Commission and Building Codes Advisory Commission. For more information on volunteering, visit www.oak-park.us/volunteer, call 708.358.5670 or email clerk@oak-park.us.

Last chance to recycle electronics

Starting Oct. 25 will be the last opportunity this year for residents to safely dispose of unwanted electronic items now banned from landfills. Items will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Public Works Center, 201 South Blvd. Just about any kind of electronic item will be accepted, including computers, peripherals, laptops, monitors, TVs, cell phones, rechargeable batteries, printers, fax machines, MP3 players, portable digital assistants, video game consoles, video cassette recorders/players, video disk players, zip drives, scanners and microwaves. Crews will be on hand to help with the unloading. For more information call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Fall leaf collection begins this month

The annual fall leaf collection program is scheduled for Oct. 20 through Dec. 4 with seven pickups planned for each section of the Village. Residents should rake leaves into the street at least 18 inches from the curb the day before the scheduled pickup dates indicated on the map. Leaves raked into the street are pushed into piles during the night, and then collected the following day. Residents who miss a scheduled pickup date should keep their leaves on the parkway until the night before the next scheduled pickup. Cooperation is essential to the success of the program, so please follow these simple rules:

- Rake leaves out the day before the scheduled pickup date.
- Leaves only — do not add brush, grass clippings or yard waste.
- Do not park on or near a pile of leaves, which can hinder leaf removal operations. Heat from a car also could ignite the leaves.
- Rake leaves onto side streets whenever possible. Try to avoid major thoroughfares where piles of leaves might create traffic hazards.
- Do not rake leaves into or close to cul de sacs or traffic diverters. The equipment needs room to operate.
- Keep catch basins clear of raked leaves to avoid flooding.
- Inform landscape services of the leaf collection schedule.
- Obey all parking restrictions. Regulations will be strictly enforced.
- Dampen piles after raking to avoid leaves being blown by the wind.
- Consider composting or using the leaves as garden mulch as an alternative to raking.
- Drive carefully. Leaves are slippery when wet and large piles may hinder visibility.
- Drive cautiously — crews will create safe work zones and close intersections for a few minutes while removing large leaf piles.

For more information call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

NORTH AVE				
HARLEM AVE	WEDNESDAY	EAST AVE	THURSDAY	
	Oct. 22		Oct. 23	
	Oct. 29		Oct. 30	
	Nov. 5		Nov. 6	
	Nov. 12		Nov. 13	
	Nov. 19		Nov. 20	
	Nov. 26		Nov. 27	
Dec. 3	Dec. 4	AUSTIN BLVD		
SOUTH BLVD				
HARLEM AVE	TUESDAY		EAST AVE	MONDAY
	Oct. 21			Oct. 20
	Oct. 28			Oct. 27
	Nov. 4			Nov. 3
	Nov. 11			Nov. 10
	Nov. 18	Nov. 17		
	Nov. 25	Nov. 24		
Dec. 2	Dec. 1	AUSTIN BLVD		
ROOSEVELT RD				

Fall Leaf Collection Schedule



Races to close streets

The Park District of Oak Park's 38th Annual Frank Lloyd Wright Races will bring street closures along the race route from about 7:30 to 10 a.m., Sun., Oct. 19. Only the eastbound lane of Lake Street and the westbound lane of Chicago Avenue will be open to traffic. Traffic on other streets within the race route may experience delays. Residents are encouraged to review the course map at www.pdop.org and allow extra time.

Vaccination essential as flu season begins

With seasonal flu activity likely to begin in October and continue as late as May, Oak Park public health officials are echoing recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control that everyone older than 6 months be vaccinated. While there are many different flu viruses, the seasonal flu vaccine is designed to protect against the main viruses that research suggests will cause the most illness during the upcoming season. People should get vaccinated soon after flu vaccine becomes available, ideally by October, to ensure that as many people as possible are protected before flu season begins. The CDC recommends use of the nasal spray vaccine for healthy children ages 2 through 8, as recent studies suggest the nasal spray vaccine may work better than the shot in younger children. However, if the nasal spray vaccine is not immediately available and the flu shot is, the CDC says these children should get the flu shot. Flu vaccine is offered at numerous commercial pharmacies, grocery stores and other retail sites in the Oak Park area. Most of these sites accept private insurance and Medicare Part B to help cover the cost of the flu shot. Many sites will vaccinate children as young as 18 months. Help finding a flu shot provider is available at flushot.healthmap.org. Residents also can email health@oak-park.us or call 708.358.5483 with questions about access to an affordable flu shot.



Everyday Precautions

- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick with a flu-like illness, stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. The fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like the flu.
- Routinely clean frequently touched objects and surfaces, including doorknobs, keyboards and phones, to help remove germs.
- If you begin to feel sick while at work, go home as soon as possible.

Source: CDC

Report graffiti

Call 708.358.5429 or visit www.oak-park.us/graffiti to report incidents of graffiti. Village staff will remove graffiti from public property. A removal solution will be provided at no cost to private property owners. Email community@oak-park.us to learn more.

Signs prohibited

Placing any type of sign in the public right of way such as the parkway space between the sidewalk and the curb is prohibited. The prohibition includes garage sale signs, political signs, open house signs and contractor signs. For more information call 708.358.5430 or email building@oak-park.us.

Clip and Save

Who to Call

Dial Direct (area code 708)

Village Hall	oak-park.us
TTY	711
Adjudication	358.5479
Development Customer Services	358.5420
Business Services	358.5425
Neighborhood Services	358.5410
Housing	option 1
CDBG	option 2
Property complaints	option 3
Permits & Inspections	358.5430
Planning	358.5440
General questions	option 1
Historic Preservation	option 2
Zoning	option 3
Finance	358.5460
Utility Billing Inquiries	358.5478
Fire (nonemergency)	358.5600
Human Resources	358.5650
Job Hotline	358.5650
Police (nonemergency)	386.3800
Crime Tip Hotline	434.1636
Public Health	358.5480
Animal Control	358.5680
Public Works	358.5700
Parking	358.7275
Day Parking Passes	option 3
Extended Pass	option 4
Night Parking Pass	option 2
Parking Permits	option 5
Snow Hotline	option 1
Vehicle Stickers	option 5
Village Board	358.5784
Village Clerk	358.5670
Village Manager's Office	358.5770

EMERGENCIES

911

Park District

www.pdop.org

Administration	725.2017
Customer Service	725.2000
Building & Grounds	725.2050
Business Operations	725.2015

Public Library

www.oppl.org

Main Library	383.8200
Maze Branch	386.4751
Dole Branch	386.9032

School District 97

www.op97.org

Administration	524.3000
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School District 200

www.oprfhs.org

Administration	434.3107
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Township

www.oakparktownship.org

Senior Services	383.8060
Youth Services	445.2727
General Assistance	383.8005
Assessor Services	383.8005
Mental Health Board	358.8855

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- pinterest.com/oakparkil
- youtube.com/vopnews



Film permits required

A permit is required for any residential or commercial property to be used as a location for a television commercial or other filming. Neighbors must be notified by flyer as to when and where the shoot is to occur. If police presence is required, services of off-duty police must be paid by the film crew. For more information call 708.358.5407 or email community@oak-park.us.

Quit smoking help

Free nicotine replacement patches are available through the Illinois Department of Public Health Tobacco Free Communities fund. Residents age 18 and over are eligible. To register, call the Illinois Quitline at 866.784.8937. Information also is posted at www.quityes.org.

Backing into stalls prohibited

Backing a vehicle into a parking stall in a Village lot or garage is prohibited because permit decals must appear in the rear window and be visible to enforcement officers. Violators may be ticketed. For more information email parking@oak-park.us.

Stop solicitors

To discourage door-to-door solicitors, obtain a no soliciting sticker from the Village Clerk's office in Village Hall, 123 Madison St., to place on or near the front door. Call 708.358.5670 or email clerk@oak-park.us for more information.

Oak Park takes comprehensive approach to garbage, recycling

The Village of Oak Park's comprehensive waste disposal program is designed to effectively deal with increasing amounts of trash, rising collection and disposal costs, legislative restrictions and growing environmental concerns. Mobile refuse carts, available in two sizes, and large recycling containers allow residents to choose the level of service that best fits their needs. Refuse collection service is provided once a week for all residential buildings with up to five units. Owners of larger multifamily dwelling and commercial buildings must contract directly with private refuse haulers.

Collection – All trash, recyclables and yard waste are scheduled to be picked up on the same day of the week in each of five geographic sections of the Village. Items that are either prohibited by landfills or unacceptable for collection include car parts, dirt, soil, concrete, tires, motor oil, pesticides, acid, gasoline, anti-freeze, pool chemicals, automotive batteries, liquid paint and electronics such as computers, monitors and TVs. If any of these items are mixed with your trash, collection will not be made.

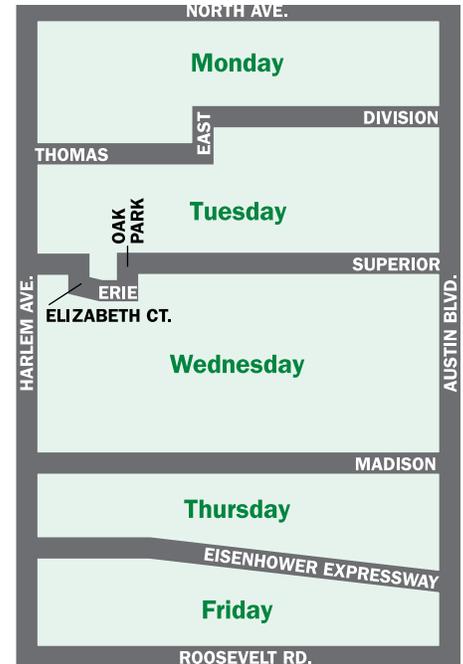
Recycling – The Village's single-stream recycling program eliminates the need to separate recyclables. Paper, cans and bottles that meet recycling guidelines can be placed together in the same container. The Village provides 64-gallon recycling containers to encourage more recycling. The amount of recyclable materials set out for collection is not limited. The Village also hosts special drop-off recycling events for electronic items and paint.

Yard waste – Bundled brush and other yard waste are picked up from the first full week of April through November provided green yard waste stickers are properly affixed to the bundles and containers. Stickers can be purchased for \$2.40 at grocery and hardware stores throughout the Village, including Village Hall, 123 Madison St. A yard waste sticker must be placed on each bundle of brush, paper yard waste bag or container.

Bulk items – Bulk items such as discarded furniture, household appliances and hot water tanks – or more garbage than will fit in the cart – will be picked up when special pink refuse stickers are attached. Stickers can be purchased for \$2 each at grocery and hardware stores throughout the Village, including Village Hall, 123 Madison St. Each residential unit may place out one bulk item per week, provided that two pink refuse stickers are attached. Bulk items and extra trash cannot exceed 50 pounds.

For more information on the Village's refuse and recycling programs, call 708.358.5700, email publicworks@oak-park.us or visit www.oak-park.us/refuse.

Collection Schedule



Overnight parking restricted

Parking is prohibited on all Village streets from 2:30 – 6 a.m., seven days a week, year around, except when allowed by permit or pass. If you have guests, consider parking in one of the Village's public garages. For more information about parking, visit www.oak-park.us/parking.



Scan with a smartphone
QR app for more
information

Village President Anan Abu-Taleb
Trustees
Peter Barber
Glenn Brewer
Adam Salzman
Colette Lueck
Bob Tucker
Village Clerk Teresa Powell
Village Manager Cara Pavlicek

Residential Customer Local
Oak Park, Illinois

Postal Carrier
Pre-Sort

Presort
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 26
Oak Park, IL

OP/FYI

Village of Oak Park
Village Hall
123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302-4272



Trick-or-treat hours set

Official hours for Halloween trick or treating are 3 to 7 p.m., Fri., Oct. 31. Parents should accompany young children, especially after dark, and inspect all treats. Other safety tips include:

- Use make-up instead of masks
- Choose flame-retardant costumes
- Wear light-colored clothing at night or add reflective tape to dark colored costumes
- Give and accept only wrapped and packaged candy
- Go out in daylight and carry a flashlight in case of delay
- Stay within your neighborhood and visit only homes you know

For information on Halloween safety, call 708.445.3300 or 708.386.3800, or email fire@oak-park.us or police@oak-park.us.

Pumpkin pitch set

Help decrease the amount of organic waste sent to the landfill by pitching your Halloween pumpkin into a composting bin set up in the parking lot of the swimming pool at Rehm Park, 515 Garfield St., from 9 a.m. to noon, Sat., Nov. 1. Pumpkins must be free of plastic adornments and candles or lights. For more information call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Fright night at the Conservatory

The Oak Park Conservatory, 615 Garfield St., will come under the moon's spell on Fri., Oct. 24 when strange and unexplained things happen under the glass. Visitors are invited to take a walk through the dark conservatory if they dare, but there are no guarantees they will escape. Youngsters 12 and younger are invited to come from 6 to 8 p.m., while everyone else should come from 8 to 9 p.m. Those brave enough to enter can sip cider, listen to scary stories and be rewarded with crafts and spooky entertainment. For all the scary details, call 708.725.2400 or visit www.oakparkconservatory.org. Admission is \$5.



Avoid parking ticket paperwork and late fees

Parking citations can be appealed and paid on-line at www.oak-park.us/onlineservices. Payment may be made with Visa, MasterCard and Discover. For more information visit www.oak-park.us/adjudication or email adjudication@oak-park.us.

No swings in trees

Tree swings in parkway trees may appear fun, but they threaten the health of the trees and safety of passersby. That's why it is illegal to attach any rope, wire, nail, sign, poster or any other manmade object to trees and shrubs located on Village property. For more information, call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.