

VILLAGE OF FONTANA-ON-GENEVA LAKE

Winter Issue 2013

Village Schedules Assessment Dates

Village of Fontana property owners can discuss their 2013 assessment with one of the Village assessors from Accurate Appraisal, LLC at the Fontana Village Hall on four scheduled Fridays between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. The four Fridays that the assessor will be at the Village Hall are February 8, May 17, June 21, and July 12, 2013.

Property owners also may contact Accurate Appraisal at any time to discuss their 2013 property assessment via the toll-free number 800-770-3927 or via e-mail at info@accurateassessor.com.

Open Book Dates Set

Following the annual completion of the property assessment maintenance work for 2013 by the Village's contracted appraisal firm, Accurate Appraisal, LLC, Open Book sessions for the 2013 Village Assessment Roll will be held at the Fontana Village Hall on Friday, July 26, 2013 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Saturday, July 27, 2013 from 10:00 am to noon.

Property owners who have any questions concerning the 2013 valuation of their property, may attend an Open Book session, where they can meet individually with one of the appraisers.

Online appointment scheduling will be available for the Open Book sessions. If you wish to meet with one of the appraisers, logon to www.accurateassessor.com and click on the "online scheduling" link. If you do not have Internet, you may call the Village Hall Municipal Clerk's office at (262) 275-6136 to make an appointment.

If you cannot make it to the Open Book sessions and you wish to discuss your assessment, you can call the Accurate Appraisal office at 800-770-3927, or send an email to: info@accurate-assessor.com.

If, after the Open Book session, you wish to object to the assessment, contact Village Clerk Dennis Martin to file a "Form of Objection" and to

schedule an appointment before the Board of Review. Property owners must file an Intent to File Objection form with the Municipal Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the Board of Review.

The Board of Review will be meeting at the Fontana Village Hall on Thursday, August 15, 2013 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Appearances at the Board of Review are by prior appointment only. The Board of Review functions like a court in that it is required to evaluate evidence based on facts. Property owners must provide factual information showing their property is incorrectly assessed.

Village Incumbents Not Opposed in Spring Election

Village of Fontana on Geneva Lake Village President Arvid Petersen and Trustees George Spadoni, Tom McGreevy and Bill Gage are not being challenged in their bids for reelection in the Spring 2013 Election on Tuesday, April 2, 2013.

Trustee Spadoni, 540 Oak Street, and Trustee Gage, 1031 Tarrant Drive, filed their Declarations of Candidacy December 3, 2012; and Trustee McGreevy, 897 Tarrant Drive, and President Petersen, 351 Waubun Drive, filed their Declarations of Candidacy December 5, 2012.

Spadoni, the current chairman of the Plan Commission and the Local Business Committee, is seeking his seventh two-year term as trustee. Spadoni, who is also on the Public Safety Board of Appeals, served three terms as a trustee from April 1997 through April 2003, and three terms from April 2007 to the present. Spadoni filed his Nomination Papers on December 14, 2012.

Gage is seeking his second two year term as trustee after being elected to office in 2011. He was the chairman of the Public Works Committee in 2011, but does not have any individual committee or commission appointments this year. Gage

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Village Allows Dog Walking on Beach

In an effort to help abate the pollution problem created by the large flocks of geese and seagulls that gather on the beach during the fall, the Village of Fontana encourages residents to walk their dogs on the municipal beach from October 15 through March 31.

The Village Board amended the Municipal Code several years ago to allow for people to walk dogs on the beach after the summer season has ended.

During the summer season, dogs are only allowed at the Duck Pond Recreation Area dog track area. Dogs owners are reminded that the Village Municipal Code requires owners to pick up their pet's waste.

Shore Path Reminder

The Village Lakefront and Harbor Committee and Building and Zoning Department would like to remind lakefront property owners and homeowner associations that all materials for piers and moorings must be stored during the off-season in locations that do not block the public Geneva Lake shore path.

Election

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filed his Nomination Papers on December 18, 2012.

McGreevy, the current chairman of the Public Works Committee and one of the village representatives on the Fontana-Walworth Water Pollution Control Commission Board, is seeking his third two-year term. He was elected to office in April 2009 and reelected in 2011. McGreevy filed his Nomination Papers on December 17, 2012.

President Petersen, who also serves as the chairman of the Protection Committee and is a Village Board representative on the Plan Commission, the Board of Review, the CDA Board, the Emergency Management Committee, the Geneva Lake Law Enforcement Agency Board and the Fontana-Walworth Water Pollution Control Commission Board, is seeking his third two-year term as village president. Petersen filed his Nomination Papers on December 10, 2012.

Petersen was appointed to the Village President office on March 2, 2009 when former President Ron Pollitt passed away. President

Petersen won election to the office in April 2009 and was reelected to a second two-year term in April 2011. Petersen previously was elected to four two-year terms as a Village Trustee and served for 7 years and 11 months, from April 2001 through March 2, 2009 when he resigned the position to become the Village President.

Emerald Ash Borers Found in County

An adult emerald ash borer (EAB) beetle was collected last June near a tree that displayed signs of EAB infestation on a private woodlot in Linn Township. The specimen was sent to federal identifiers and subsequently confirmed as EAB on June 11, 2012.

Also last June, the Lake Geneva city forester submitted photographs of an EAB infested tree located in the downtown area of Lake Geneva.

The tree-killing emerald ash borer has been discovered in 10 Wisconsin counties, and a quarantine has been issued for Brown, Crawford, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, La Crosse, Milwaukee, Racine, Rock, Sheboygan, Ozaukee, Trempealeau, Vernon, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha counties. Residents and affected businesses in quarantined counties are restricted from moving any hardwood firewood, ash nursery stock or ash logs or timber out of the quarantine area.

The regulations on ash material and hardwood firewood also apply to other quarantined states, including Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, and lower Michigan.

What Is a Quarantine?

A quarantine is a system of rules administered by the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The rules are intended to help prevent the spread of EAB.

People moving wood products can inadvertently transport EAB to new areas. The EAB quarantine affects some businesses that use certain ash products. For the vast majority of people the quarantine means that hardwood firewood, regardless of tree species, cannot leave the quarantine area.

Residents should contact a certified arborist or other tree care professional for help in determining if their ash tree is at risk and a course of action to undertake if warranted.

More information about EAB can be found online at www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov.

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