

Newsletter

December 2020 Number 227

<u>December</u> <u>Meeting Calendar</u>

- 2 Cons. Adv. Council
- **6** Sustainability Comm.
- 7 & 21 Village Bd. Mtg.
- 8 & 22 Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 8 Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 9 Zoning Bd. Mtg.
- 14 BOT Work Session
- 16 Bike/Ped Comm.
- 29 Fire Council

All meetings are being held via Zoom. Please check the Village website or call 271-4848 for details on joining meetings via Zoom.

Village Board meetings are also broadcast live on Facebook.





Have you joined the Village on Social Media yet?

Facebook: Search for Village of Croton-on-Hudson Government Twitter: Search for VillageCroton Instagram: Search for VillageofCroton

Sign up for Village emails by going to crotononhudsonny.gov.

Stay connected!

Village Snow Regulations

As a reminder, there are a number of regulations residents should be aware of in regard to snow removal.

In order to facilitate keeping our streets clear of snow and ice, no parking is allowed on any Village street when 2 or more inches of snow accumulates.

For residents that have no viable off-street parking, Village municipal lots are available for parking. Seasonal hardship parking permits are also available for those who qualify. Hardship permit holders must move their vehicles no later than 12 hours after the snow stops.

For more information on the above, please call the Village office at 271-4781.

Checking Your Water Meter For Leaks

The Village Water Dept. has put together a handy guide on how to check if you have an undetected water leak at your home. It can be accessed on the Water Dept. page of the Village website.

The easiest way to determine a leak is to simply turn off all water sources in the home and then review the water meter; if the meter is still spinning, you likely have a leak. According to John Spatta, Croton's Water Foreman, most residential leaks come from running toilets.

Water Dept. personnel are always available to review your individual circumstances with you if you have questions about your water bill. They can be reached at 862-1419.



Community Choice Aggregation Renewal

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson has renewed our participation in the Community Choice Aggregation program through Sustainable Westchester's Westchester Power.

Current active participants should have received a renewal notification letter with all program details including instructions on opting out of the program. To stay in the program, no action is required on your part - you will be automatically enrolled in the program on your first meter read day starting January I.

If you have any questions regarding Westchester Power, please visit www.sustainablewestchester.org/wp or call their offices at 242-4725.

New Weekend Parking Permits

Village residents with weekend parking permits for the train station parking lot should be aware the current permits expire on December 31, 2020.

New permits may be obtained starting on December I, 2020. The application for the permit can be found on the Village's website under "Online Forms". A current car registration with a valid Village address is required for each permit issued.

Weekend permits are valid on Fridays after 6 p.m., all day on Saturdays and Sundays as well as certain holidays. Permits are valid in section F.

The new permits will be valid for 2 years, through December 31, 2022. Questions regarding the weekend parking permits should be directed to 271-4781.

Dog Park Permits Now Available for 2021

Permits for the dog park located at Black Rock Park are now available for 2021.

The permits are valid beginning January 1st through December 31st of each year.

All dog owners who wish to apply for a dog park permit must be Village residents with a valid Recreation Photo ID Card and a valid Village of Croton-on-Hudson dog license. The application may be found on the Village website under "Online Forms".

There is no cost for the dog park permit. For more information on the dog park and the application process, please call the office at 271-4781.

Christmas Tree Disposal

The Village's DPW will pick up discarded Christmas trees during the first two weeks of January. Trees should be free of all trimmings, tinsel or wires. They should not be placed in bags.

Reminders! Village offices will be closed Thursday, December 24th, and Friday, December 25th, in observance of the Christmas holiday.

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Utilize Online Bill Pay

Did you know that you can pay your quarterly utility bills and annual tax bills online?

By going to the Village's website and selecting "Online Payments" under the Citizen Action Center, you are able to look up your bill and make a payment via Discover, MasterCard or ACH (checking account). For Village taxes, you can also pay using Visa.

If you are paying with a credit card, please note that there is a convenience fee charged by the processor; there is no fee to pay via ACH. ACH payments should be made at least four days in advance of the due date to ensure all information submitted is correct and payment is received.

If you have any questions regarding paying your bill online, please contact the Village Treasurer's office at 862-1419.





Tax Assessment Exemptions

Village residents can apply for property tax exemptions if they are income-qualified seniors, disabled, volunteer firefighters or armed services veterans. Applications for property tax exemptions must be submitted to the Engineering Department no later than Tuesday, December 31st.

Allowable income levels for partial real estate exemptions are set by New York State for persons aged 65 years or older. Exemption percentages vary from 5% on a total income range of \$36,500 to \$37,399 and up to 50% on a total income of less than \$29,000.

Veteran exemptions vary according to the time period served, disabilities, etc. Property tax assessment reductions are now available to veterans who served during the Cold War periods.

Questions may be directed to Thomas Waitkins, Village Assessor, at 271-4783.

Holiday Events in the Village

The Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting will be on December 10th at Vassallo Park. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no other activities will be occurring this year in conjunction with this event. The lighting will be live streamed on the Village's Facebook page. For those who choose to attend inperson, face masks are required and social distancing must be observed.

Santa's Mailbox will be available once again this year. Letters are due by December 18th.

The Croton-on-Hudson Fire Department will be holding a holiday parade in lieu of the annual candy cane run this year. Starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 19th, the CFD will bring Santa Claus around town to wave and bring some holiday cheer to the Village. Check their website, www.crotonfd.org, Facebook page and Instagram accounts for more information.

Health Ins. Open Enrollment Ends Soon

New York's extended open enrollment period for health insurance ends for most on December 15, 2020.

NY State of Health, New York's health care market, is available to all New Yorkers who need coverage.

If you have questions about signing up for coverage or want to discuss your options with a trained professional, call I-855-355-5777 or visit https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/.

New York State Releases Benefit App

New York State has released a new web application that will help struggling New Yorkers locate benefits to assist them during their time of need.

The "Find Services" web application provides an easy-to-use starting point for first-time users of social programs. The web application prompts each user with a series of simple questions aimed at narrowing the field of possible services to those that are best designed to serve their needs. Access the application at findservices.ny.gov.

Sidewalk Snow Removal

All residents are reminded that the Village Code requires the clearing of snow and ice from the full width of the sidewalk 12 hours after the cessation of snowfall.

The Village will again be declaring an official end time to each storm. Such time shall be posted on the Village website and social media.

All residents and property owners are urged to take responsibility for their own sidewalk. Doing so will result in a safer environment for our pedestrians and especially those school children who are required to walk to school.

Sidewalks not cleared after the prescribed 18 hours will be cleared by the Village's contractor. Property owners will be billed for this service. Any bills which remain unpaid shall be levied to the property owner's Village tax bill.

Any questions regarding the above should be directed to the Village Manager's office at 271-4848.



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Published for the Residents of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Alarm Permits Renewal

Current annual alarm system permits expire on December 31st. The annual \$50 renewal invoice will be mailed to permit holders in January. Residents with private alarm systems are required to register their system with the Village. Alarm permit applications are available on the Village website under "Online Forms". The initial registration fee for an alarm system is \$150. For detailed information, residents can view Chapter 70 of the Village Code, Alarm Systems, on the Village website.

December Recreation Update

Join us for many fun programs in December: Craft Time, Decorate A Snowman Contest, Hershey Kisses in a Jar Contest, Build-A Snowman Contest, Science in a Box, Lego Star Wars & Motorized Machines!

Winter storage is available at the Echo Canoe Launch until March 22, 2021.

For all the details, visit the Recreation page on the Village website! You may also call 271-3006 for more information. If you have not signed up to receive the recreation email blasts, please do so by visiting the Village website and clicking on "Subscribe to News".

