

Message From Mayor Susan Renda

Dear Resident,

Happy New Year! I wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2019. We had a busy and productive 2018 and are excited to greet the New Year with all its challenges and rewards. Some of the things we are particularly looking forward to working on are:

Campus Renovations

Demolition has begun at both the Police Department and Village Hall. Renovations will be mostly about the roofs. We have had problems with the Police Department roof for years and eventually trying to patch it yet again became an issue of throwing good money after bad. The roof now has been redesigned and will be installed over the next few months. As you may know, Village Hall consists of three separate buildings that have been cobbled together over time. This structure includes several flat roofs that can be a challenge in our climate. In fact, when the construction workers started the demolition at Village Hall it "rained" in our coat closet. Most of the renovations are very utilitarian and very necessary.

Police Outreach

The Police Department did not do as much outreach in 2018 as they have over the past few years because everyone was focused on the Safety Levy (thank you once more, dear resident!). In 2019 the Chief will again organize public outreach meetings on topics such as fraud, home security and general safety. The motorcycle patrol will be out again on a daily basis starting in the spring. Feel free to contact me with suggestions for outreach or with questions or concerns.

Building Department Oversight

On December 11, Steve Bittance and Bryan Stone, the Moreland Commons developers, appeared before Planning Commission to ask for an extension for their construction permit. They kindly answered a number of questions in a concise and clear manner. They stated that the delay in getting started was due to typical delays in permitting by utility companies, etc. They plan to have shovels in the ground within a month to begin installing infrastructure and plan to start building homes in June.

Service Department

Right-of-way and cul-de-sac beautification will be high on the list of priorities for the Service Department in 2019. They will be trying to mitigate the delayed maintenance of those areas that occurred over the last year when we did not hire seasonal help. They will also do overhead tree trimming in public spaces and, finally, will continue the road patching program. You will see under Ordinances and Resolutions in this newsletter that the Village saved a significant amount of money on the road program in 2018, largely due to the work the Service Department Members did on the roads.

- Mayor Susan Renda

Environmental Corner

Top 10 ways to be a good septic owner:

- Have your system inspected every three years by a professional or according to your state/local health departments recommendations.
- Have your septic tank pumped, when necessary, generally every three to five years.
- Avoid pouring harsh products (oils, grease, chemicals, paint, medications) down the drain.
- Discard non-degradable products in the trash (floss, disposable wipes, cat litter) instead of flushing them.
- Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the drainfield and tank.
- Follow the system manufacturer's directions when using septic tank cleaners and additives.
- Repair leaks and use water efficient fixtures to avoid overloading the system.
- Maintain plants and vegetation near the system to ensure roots do not block drains.
- Use soaps and detergents that are low-suds, biodegradable, and low or phosphate-free.
- Prevent system freezing during the cold weather by inspecting and insulating vulnerable system parts (i.e. the inspection pipe and soil treatment area).

epa.gov/septicSMART.com

Holiday Closings

New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 1 – Closed

Tuesday Rubbish/Recycling Pick-ups will be on **Wednesday, January 2**. There will be no Special Pick-ups or Yard Waste Pick-ups that week.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 21 – Closed

Monday Rubbish/Recycling Pick-ups will be on **Tuesday, January 22**. There will be no Special Pick-ups or Yard Waste Pick-ups that week.

Shop With a Cop Thank You

Our 2018 **Shop With a Cop** day was a huge success. Thanks to the generosity of our residents, community members and friends, over \$2,300 was raised. The Moreland Hills Police Department was able to provide gifts for three families (nine kids) for the holiday season, with the assistance of Ptl. Scott Bennett and Ptl. Preston LaFrance.

After shopping, we enjoyed a pizza lunch at the Moreland Hills Community Building where the children had a surprise visit from Santa. It was a fun and exciting day enjoyed by all. A huge shout out of thanks to all who contributed and assisted us that day!

*- Lt. Todd Dietzel
Officer Scott Bennett*

Village of Moreland Hills

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Ordinances and Resolutions

The following Ordinances & Resolutions were passed in December:

Ordinance 2018-66 – adopts the Village of Moreland Hills Credit Card Policy to be in compliance with Sub. House Bill 312, signed into law August 2, 2018, by Gov. John Kasich

Ordinance 2018-67– authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Chagrin Valley Engineering, Ltd., and Jeffrey J. Filarski to perform Village Engineer services for 2019.

Ordinance 2018-68– authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Walter|Haverfield LLP for general legal services and to engage Aimee W. Lane as Law Director for 2019.

Ordinance 2018-69 – provides for the continued employment of Santo T. Incorvaia as Village Prosecutor for 2019.

Ordinance 2018-70 – authorizes Change Order No. 1 with Strawser Construction, Inc. for crack sealing, micro surfacing, and cape sealing for the 2018 Asphalt Repairs and Maintenance Program under ODOT Contract 101-G-19. The change order is for the decrease amount of

\$25,637 as a result of contract reconciliation due to the project being completed.

Ordinance 2018-71 – authorizing Change Order No. 1 with Ronyak Paving, Inc. for the 2018 Asphalt Repairs and Maintenance Program, for the decrease amount of \$41,080.04 resulting from contract reconciliation due to the project being completed.

Ordinance 2018-72 – authorizing Change Order No. 1 with Matt Winters Excavating for the 2018 Drainage and Culvert Program for the decrease amount of \$260.75 resulting from contract reconciliation due to the project being completed.

Ordinance 2018-73 – an appropriations ordinance, which is a monthly financial housekeeping item.

Ordinance 2018-74 – establishes the temporary appropriations for the first quarter of the fiscal year 2019, in order to provide for current and other expenditures for the Village.

Ordinance 2018-75 - fixing the compensation of various officers and employees of the Village of Moreland Hills.

Coyote Safety Tips

- The best way to avoid conflict between your dog and a coyote is to stay vigilant and know how to react when you see one. Below are a few tips on what to do if you and your dog encounter a coyote:
- Leash your dog. Pick up and carry small dogs.
- Do not let your pet outside alone, especially at night.
- Stand tall and assertive. Maintain eye contact. Do not turn your back on the coyote and do not run.
- Outside of pupping season (between August and January), try to frighten off the coyote by yelling, stomping, flashing a flashlight, tossing rocks or branches at the ground, etc.
- If it is breeding and pupping season (between February and July), you may be near a den and considered a threat. The best thing to do is to slowly and calmly walk away without ever turning your back on the coyote.
- Report overly brazen coyotes. If a coyote comes too close, follows you for too long, acts overly assertive or does not respond to hazing, report the coyote to Village authorities.
- Do not keep pet food outside.
- Pick up fallen fruit from trees, clean your grill, secure lids on trash cans, cover compost piles, and remove anything else that might be a source of food, water or shelter for coyotes.

Visit urbancoyoteinitiative.com/what-to-do-if-you-encounter-a-coyote-while-walking-your-dog/

Service Department Reminders

Drainage

Please keep leaves, branches and snow piles clear from your drainage swale and driveway pipe to ensure proper drainage of water away from your property and roadways.

Snow Plowing

Please be reminded that snow plow contractors are not permitted to plow snow into or across the roadway, as this can cause an accident.

Special Pick-Ups

Since it is a new calendar year, each resident is again entitled to one free special pick up and one additional special pick-up for a fee of \$25. Special pick-ups are done on Mondays (except Holidays). Please call the Service Department no later than the Friday prior to schedule a pick-up.

Household Hazardous Wastes

The Service Department CANNOT currently accept any Household Hazardous Wastes at this time. The county is switching facilities, so we will not have any place to take it until they secure a new facility to dispose of the wastes.

Christmas Trees

Put your Christmas trees out at the curb any day January 7-February 8 and the Service Department will pick them up.

Cardboard Recycling Tips

- Remove all packing materials. (No need to remove tape or labels, those will come off during the recycling process.)
- Break down boxes into a flattened state. Don't worry if it's dented, bent, ripped or damaged.
- Place cardboard in your curbside recycling container or drop it off at a Paper Retriever or River Valley paper drop-off location (green and yellow recycling bins found in parking lots of schools and churches.)

Cardboard packaging is generally recycled five to seven times and is used to make new products such as cereal boxes, tissues and more cardboard. Learn more at CuyahogaRecycles.org.