

# HAWTHORN WOODS HAPPENINGS



Spring

2026

Issue 1



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## Did You Know...

The Village of Hawthorn Woods Sustainability Committee will host the 12th annual FREE Tree Sapling Distribution Event on Saturday, April 25th, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Hawthorn Woods Aquatic Center, 94 Midlothian Road. Information about proper tree planting techniques and ongoing care will be available. All tree saplings are FREE to residents, while supplies last. Free pollinator seed packets, provided by our Hawthorn Woods in Bloom Committee, will also be distributed, while supplies last.

Trees provide a variety of ecological and economic benefits to any community in the form of energy conservation, natural habitat enhancement, and health advantages, just to name a few. So, stop by and join us in this celebration of Arbor Day and our Village's continued stewardship of our natural environment!



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# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

I am sure we have all been looking forward to spring and the arrival of more outdoor activities. I am pleased to announce that the Village of Hawthorn Woods has been preparing our parks, athletic fields, tennis and pickleball courts, playgrounds, and outdoor shelters for your use as the weather invites us back to enjoy outdoor springtime activities.

Please remember our picnic shelters and park gazebos are available for private rentals for your family parties, as celebratory gatherings outdoors can be arranged by reserving your date with the Parks Department. You may also wish to rent our Village Barn, Aquatic Center Community Room, or pool facilities for birthday parties, graduation events, HOA picnics, or family celebrations. To reserve space for your next gathering, please reach out to our Parks and Recreation Department at 847-847-3533 or [amason@vhw.org](mailto:amason@vhw.org) for pricing and reservations.

Our next outdoor special event is our Bark in the Park on Saturday, April 11, where we gather with our furry friends at Community Park. This has become a wonderful gathering for dogs and dog-owners alike, where Community Park has a special day dedicated to obstacle courses, water play, treats, and giveaways for all dogs in the community. We will set up a special area for large dogs and another for small dogs to run off-leash for this once-a-year fun gathering.

I also wanted to share with you the successful completion of our CRTI grant, from the Chicago Region Trees Initiative grant competition. The Village was chosen as a recipient and received a check for \$25,000 this month for buckthorn removal and replacement tree planting at Woodland Park and Brierwoods Preserve in Hawthorn Woods. We continue our efforts toward a 33% tree canopy goal for our community to maintain the balance between growth in population with growth of natural resource preservation that drew us to live in Hawthorn Woods among trees, lakes, wetlands, prairies, farmland, equestrian barns, and woodlands. The Village thanks the project sponsors from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, The Morton Arboretum, and the USDA Forest Service who funded and managed this competition designed to improve the health, diversity, and growth of Illinois's urban forests.

This spring I look forward to the grand opening of three new businesses in town. Moonrakers' Tavern will be replacing the former Oregano's Restaurant, and Starbucks and Heartland Dental will be located on Quentin Road near the Kiddie Academy and Hawthorn Woods Community Bank. I hope to see you soon as we leave winter behind and venture outdoors to enjoy our hometown amenities.

Sending Kind Regards,

*Mayor Dominick DiMaggio*



*Resurfaced Tennis and Pickleball Courts at Community Park*



*Come to Bark in the Park on Saturday, April 11th*



*Brierwoods Preserve After Removing Buckthorn*

## Officer David Carrillo Selected as Rookie Investigator of the Year by Lake County MCAT

Village of Hawthorn Woods Police Officer David Carrillo was selected as the Rookie Investigator of the Year by the Lake County Major Crash Assistance Team (MCAT).

The Lake County Major Crash Assistance Team is at the forefront of innovation, leveraging the latest technology and the specialized skills of its members to provide the highest-quality service while seeking justice for victims, advancing the field of crash investigations, and developing traffic safety professionals.



Officer Carrillo was presented with this award on January 23, 2026, at the Gurnee Police Department. "We are proud of Officer Carrillo, and this award is well deserved," said Chief John Malcolm.

Congratulations, Officer Carrillo!

## Village Establishes Safety Standards for Emerging E-Mobility Vehicles

### Includes E-Bikes, E-Scooters, and E-Dirt Bikes

In response to the rapid rise in the use of non-registered motor-driven vehicles, such as e-bikes, e-dirt bikes, and e-scooters, the Village of Hawthorn Woods has enacted a new ordinance aimed at regulating these increasingly popular modes of transportation.



With residents and visitors alike embracing the convenience and excitement of e-mobility, Village officials recognize the need to balance innovation with public safety, infrastructure preservation, and community well-being.

The ordinance includes specific guidelines for where and how e-bikes, e-dirt bikes, and e-scooters are to be operated within Village limits. For example:

- All riders, regardless of age, must wear a helmet.
- E-bikes, e-dirt bikes, and e-scooters are not allowed on Village property, including parks, bicycle paths, and parking lots.
- E-bikes, e-dirt bikes, and e-scooters are required to stop for police when signaled to do so.

Please refer to Ordinance No. 2521-25, Title 6, Chapter 8 of our Village Code for regulations and further details, located on our Village website, at [www.vhw.org](http://www.vhw.org).

## Residential Parking Reminder

As a friendly reminder, our Village code limits the outdoor parking and storage of certain vehicles in residential areas, including RVs, trailers, boats, snowmobiles, and commercial vehicles, unless an exception applies.

These regulations are in place to help maintain a safe, attractive, and enjoyable community for all residents. If you have questions about whether a vehicle is allowed, please contact Village Code Enforcement Officer Joe Soucek at [jsoucek@vhw.org](mailto:jsoucek@vhw.org) or (847) 847-3588 for assistance.



### Bark In The Park

Saturday, April 11  
10:00 a.m. - Noon  
Community Park  
FREE Admission

### Lake County Symphony Orchestra Piano Bar Classics

Live Concert  
Saturday, March 28  
5:30 p.m.  
Village Hall - Barn  
*Tickets Required*

### Golf Outing Fundraiser

Monday, May 11  
9:00 a.m.  
Hawthorn Woods Country Club  
*Registration Required*

[www.vhw.org/SpecialEvents](http://www.vhw.org/SpecialEvents)



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## Sign Up

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www.vhw.org > Keep In Touch

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Text *Hawthornwoods* to 994-11

## Waste Management Now Accepts To-Go Cups in Curbside Recycling

As an Audubon International Certified Sustainable Community, the Village of Hawthorn Woods is pleased to announce that Waste Management (WM) now accepts paper and plastic cups in their recycling program to better serve our community.



### What is accepted in WM recycling:

- Hot and cold beverage cups, such as coffee cups with sleeves and soda cups
- Plastic cups made from polypropylene (PP), such as cold drink cups for soda and iced coffee

### What is not accepted in WM recycling:

- Foam cups (Styrofoam)
- Rigid polystyrene (#6), this is a hard plastic that can snap if bent too far
- Lids, straws, and stoppers

### How to prepare cups for recycling:

- Empty all liquids
- Remove straws, stoppers, and food

This exciting update is part of a national initiative with major brands and sustainability stakeholders to make to-go cups widely recyclable across the country.