



**Village Manager's Report  
Week ending Mar. 29, 2013**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- April 1:
  - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- April 2:
  - No scheduled meetings
- April 3:
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
  - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
  - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201
- April 4:
  - No scheduled meetings

**Save the date reminders (see calendar for all future meetings):**

- April 13: Intergovernmental Committee of the Board, 9 a.m., Oak Park Township
- April 20: Board Outreach Event - Earth Fest, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Public Works
- May 6: Village Board – Swearing In, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- June 2: Board Outreach Event - Day in our Village, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., Scoville Park

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**Oak Park retains top green ranking** – The Village remains in first place for percentage of clean power purchased after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently updated its rankings among its [Green Power Communities](#). Oak Park is ahead of seven California communities as well as Aurora, Illinois. In terms of green power kilowatt usage, Oak Park is ranked seventh among 45 cities. Last year, the USEPA gave Oak Park its Green Power Community award in recognition of our 100-percent renewable energy credits purchase for the [Community Choice Aggregation program](#), which has saved residents more than \$3.4 million since the program was launched in January 2012. [Click here for more information](#) about the rankings.

**Photo pool for local agencies** – The Communications Department has joined various other local agencies to create a shared, online database of photographs that can be used in promotional, marketing and communications materials. Photos were chosen to reflect various aspects of life in Oak Park, including yearly festivals, municipal services, famous landmarks and our community's unique culture. Communications staff uploaded dozens of photos to a shared Flickr account, which can only be accessed by the agencies involved in the partnership. Everyone involved expects this inter-governmental cooperative partnership to help each organization showcase the best images of Oak Park.

**Capital Improvements activities** – Installation of water services continues on LeMoyné Parkway. Work to install a new water main is well underway on Taylor Avenue between South Boulevard and Randolph St. Plans for alleys, patching and microsurfacing projects are being prepared and will go out for bid in late April.

**Ridgeland Common project update** – Work to replace the water main under Ridgeland Common is scheduled to begin Mon., April 8, with a significant, but temporary impact on traffic. The initial stage of the project requires connecting the new line on Ridgeland Avenue at North Boulevard. This means Ridgeland will have to be closed and near the construction site and traffic detoured to Oak Park Avenue and Austin Boulevard from April 8 – 15. The contractor will be installing electronic message boards north of Lake Street and south of South Boulevard on Ridgeland to alert drivers to the detour. Pace is aware of the closure and will alert riders as buses are rerouted to Scoville Avenue.

**Composting expands** – The pilot composting program has been expanded Village wide. Organics carts are being distributed to the 270 additional households who signed up for the service. Weekly collections for the new participants will begin April 1, along with the regular annual yard waste collection program. This new composting program allows food scraps to be collected with yard waste and sent to a commercial composting facility rather than the landfill. The expansion of the programs means we now have nearly 400 households participating in the innovative recycling program.

**Public Works activities** – Crews from the Street Lighting Division are continuing their early morning patrols to identify street light outages. The patrols have identified 60 outages that were not reported. Meanwhile, tree trimming continues with crews from the Village and a private contractor focusing on the area between South Boulevard and Chicago Avenue, from Austin Boulevard to Harlem Avenue.

**IDOT bicycle plan survey** – The Illinois Department of Transportation is developing the state's first bicycle plan as part of efforts to extend the thematic vision of [Transforming Transportation for Tomorrow](#) to alternative modes of transportation. IDOT is asking citizens to take a brief on-line survey. [Click here to take the survey.](#)

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