



March 2024

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Dear Residents of Port Washington North,

As we welcome the promising bloom of spring, I am pleased to share with you the latest updates and initiatives that are underway in our beloved Village of Port Washington North. Our community thrives because of our collective effort and the shared vision of making our village not only a place to live but a place to thrive. Safety within our community remains a top priority. As the days lengthen, I urge each of you to be mindful of your surroundings and to take the necessary precautions to protect yourselves and your property.

As we move forward, let us embrace the promise of spring with a renewed sense of purpose and community. Together, we will continue to enhance the charm and livability of Port Washington North, making it a place we are all proud to call home.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement. My office is always open to you, and I look forward to what we can achieve together in the coming months.

With warm regards,

Mayor Bob Weitzner
Village of Port Washington North

Village Election Reminder



Make sure to raise your voice in the upcoming Village Election on Tuesday, March 19th! This is your chance to influence the direction of our community. Two Trustee positions are up for election, each with a two-year term. It's crucial to choose leaders who will advocate for our needs and aspirations.

Polls open from 12 noon to 9 pm
Location: Village Hall, 3 Pleasant Ave.

If you have a question regarding the 2024 Village Election, including obtaining an Absentee Ballot Application please contact us. You can contact the Village Clerk's Office. Our number is 1-516 883 5900. We are here to help.

Your vote holds immense power! Let's unite to elect representatives dedicated to the welfare of our community. See you at the polls.

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Traffic Safety Audit and Tips To Keep Our Village Safe

The Village has just completed a traffic audit using temporary video cameras. The audit was conducted by a third-party firm from January 26 to February 3 at three locations in the village to observe adherence to stop sign laws.

For purposes of the audit, a “failed stop” is an instance where a vehicle’s tires do not come to a complete halt before the stop line or within three feet beyond the line. The results show the recording of 5,255 vehicles approaching stop signs at these three locations during daytime and nighttime hours. 4,773 failed to make a complete stop. That’s 90.82% of all drivers who did not stop! It is clear from this data that something has to be done. The Village views this as a traffic safety priority.

Why does this matter?

Children between the age of 2 and 6 years represent just over six percent of the total population, but are involved in up to 25 percent of all pedestrian mishaps involving motor vehicles. Nearly one-third of the 5 to 9-year-old children killed by motor vehicles are pedestrians. Children enjoy playing outside, but they lack the judgment skills to cope with traffic. Young children are adventurous and may act impulsively, often expecting that adults, including motorists, will be watching out for them. A few facts that should help adults understand why children are so vulnerable may seem obvious. Physically, children are shorter, giving them a totally different perspective of the road. Preschoolers also have less defined side vision – and focusing requires more time than is generally true of adults. They also do not localize sounds as easily as adults. They still do not have concepts of what is safe, dangerous or illegal. Children don’t have the skills to handle these risky situations until around the age of 10 years. They typically give most of their attention to play, family or friends and it is unlikely that they will think about or respond to traffic at the same time unless properly guided.

In addition, our Village sees many adult and teen pedestrians walking throughout and crossing streets. Over the past year, there have been several incidents of pedestrians being hit or nearly hit by automobiles that did not stop at stop signs.



What can we do to keep residents and visitors safe?

While it is not the village's intention to install cameras permanently for the purpose of collecting fines from violations, enforcement of the traffic laws is greater when non-adherence can result in a financial penalty. However, New York state law does not currently permit municipalities to issue fines for moving violations at stop signs which are observed only by video cameras. While we are contemplating what to do going forward to enforce adherence to stop signs, more than 90% non-adherence requires us to take action as a village by also requesting action by our residents.

There is currently a bill pending in the New York legislature that would allow the Village to use video cameras and issue fines for those who do not make a full stop at stop signs. We urge all residents who feel this is a reasonable measure to keep our residents safe to send a letter or email to State Senator Jack Martins and State Assemblywoman Gina Sillitti requesting that they work on having the bill become law as soon as possible.

Traffic tips:



While we are considering measures to enforce stopping at our stop signs, we urge all drivers to adhere to following proper vehicle safety protocols:

- All vehicles must STOP at all stop signs. Look both ways and then proceed. Just slowing down does not allow for safe intersections and street crossing.
- Parking in front of stop signs blocks views of stop signs and blocks intersections. This can cause accidents due to blocked sight lines. 30 feet in front of ALL Stop signs is the safe, legal and required buffer.
- Speed limits must be adhered to. Speeding motorists risk the lives and safety of children, pedestrians, and other vehicles on our streets.
- While parking, leave 15 feet clear of any Fire Hydrant. Hose hook-up space is required to safeguard our homes. Park and drive on the right side of the road, not facing oncoming traffic. Oncoming traffic and pedestrians do not anticipate cars pulling out in their lane and visibility is hindered.
- Safety Alert: We have also been made aware of a number close encounters with small motorized bikes and scooters. We do not want anyone injured due to an accident with a larger vehicle. Please be especially aware of these motorized vehicles weaving out from between parked cars, and on and off the sidewalks and driveways as well as not obeying any traffic signs. Anyone operating these vehicles should be aware of these dangers and instructed to operate them in a safe manner.

For any resident interested in any additional information about the survey, they can feel free to submit questions to clerk@portwashingtonnorth.org.



Vehicle Safety Letter From Assistant Chief of Port Washington Police Kevin McCarroll

The Port Washington Police District asks the residents of Port Washington North to remain vigilant in their daily routines by following these tried-and-true Auto Crime Tips:

- Even if it is for a minute, never leave the key fob/ keys in the car when you exit your vehicle.
- Never leave your car running and unattended.
- Never leave items such as phones, purses, backpacks, loose change, shopping bags, or any valuable possessions in your vehicle.
- Always make sure to lock and secure your vehicle. Make sure to activate the alarm every time you leave the vehicle.
- Consider locking lug nuts to deter rim theft.
- When parking, try to park in well-lit and high-traffic areas if possible.
- Enroll in anti-theft programs such as PYPD Catalytic Converter (CATCON) etching program which is likely to have another event this spring.

If you would like to be notified when registration opens for our next CATCON etching event, email us at info@pwpd.ny.gov.

As always, if you see something, say something!



Emergency Alert System

Please remember to register at www.northshorealert.org for important emergency information and updates. By registering with NorthShoreAlert.org, time-sensitive voice messages from the Villages, Town, or Police, Fire, and Water special districts where you live or work may be sent to your home, cell or business phone. Text messages may also be sent to cell phones, e-mail accounts and hearing impaired receiving devices. In addition, the village website contains some tips and recommendations for storm preparation and emergency management. Also please view the emergency management section on our website. Please be aware this is a separate registration from receiving our newsletters.