

# Cedar Lake Fire Department

Location matters when it comes to your smoke alarm. That’s the message behind this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!”

Along with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide, Cedar Lake Fire Department is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) during Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, to remind local residents about the importance of having working smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement.

“In a fire, seconds count,” said Fire Chief Todd Wilkening. “Half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep. Home smoke alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out.”

According to the latest NFPA research, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire in half. Meanwhile, three out of five fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.



This year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign includes the following smoke alarm messages:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don’t respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.
- Call the fire department from outside the home.

The Cedar Lake Fire Department will be hosting an open house with activities and pancake breakfast on October 11th from 7:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. to promote “Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!” Through these educational, family-oriented activities, residents can learn more about the importance of having a working smoke alarm in every bedroom.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in Cedar Lake, please contact the Cedar Lake Fire Department at 219-374-5961. To learn more about smoke alarms and “Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!” visit NFPA’s Web site at [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org) and [www.sparky.org/fpw](http://www.sparky.org/fpw).

Cedar Lake Town Hall • 7408 Constitution Ave, PO Box 707 Cedar Lake, IN 46303

OCTOBER	
IMPORTANT DATES	
3	Trunk or Treat Cedar Lake Town Complex 10AM - 1PM
6	Town Council Meeting @ 7:00PM
7	Unsafe Building Dept Special Public Meeting @ 6:00PM Plan Commission Work Session @ 7:00PM
8	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting @ 7:00PM
11	Fire Department Open House & Pancake Breakfast 7AM- 2PM
12	Redevelopment Commission Meeting @ 6PM
20	Town Council Meeting @ 7:00PM
21	Unsafe Building Dept Public Meeting @ 6:30PM Plan Commission Public Meeting @ 7:00PM
27	Stormwater Board Meeting @ 7:00PM
28	Police Commission Meeting @ 7:00PM
31	Happy Halloween! Trick or Treating 4PM- 7PM

# Lakeside BULLETIN

OCTOBER ‘15

Fall is coming which means we will soon be starting our leaf program. Public Works will drive up and down each and every road in town. The leaf vacs cannot pickup sticks and branches; your help is appreciated if you would separate these as we will be sending out a brush truck to pick up your branches. Please keep in mind that the leaf vac hose can only reach out about 5 feet, so try to keep the leaves as close to the road as possible but out of the streets and away from the storm drains.



## Projects and Improvement Updates from Jill Murr, Town Administrator

Bartlett-Wahlberg Park, on the north end of Cedar Lake along Lake Shore Drive, is expanding. The Town has purchased properties to expand the lake front park. Approval was given at the September 15th Town Council meeting to purchase another property for this project. A preliminary design plan has been drafted and feedback on the design is being received; this plan will be expanded to incorporate the additional property. Public Works staff will clear the property and builders in the community are continuing to donate the fill needed for this expansion. Watch for updates on the plan and work to begin in the near future.

The 2015 Road Projects throughout town began the week of September 21st. The Town Council approved a \$1.3M bond issue for road improvements around Town and awarded the contract to Rieth-Riley. This project includes thirty (30) proposed streets which will have improvements, repairs and replacements. Staff and the Town’s Engineer identified culverts and drainage work that will be completed by our Public Works staff in conjunction with this project. Watch out as crews move throughout town.

Parrish Avenue Road Construction from 137th Avenue to 141st Avenue began Friday, September 11th. This is Phase I of this project. As this phase of construction is occurring, staff, Town Council and the Town’s engineer will be working on the plans and design for continuing the improvements as well as working with the Clerk-Treasurer to identify the funding for the next phase. This portion of Parrish Avenue will remain closed during construction and the closure is anticipated through early November, weather pending. Your patience is appreciated during this closure.

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# GenMove Park & Recreation Programs

\*For more information visit [www.cedarlakerecreation.com](http://www.cedarlakerecreation.com)

## Senior Trips

### COVERED BRIDGE FESTIVAL

**Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> 7:30am - 7:30pm**  
Location: Mansfield, IN | Fee: \$35 | Min/Max: 25/44

Enjoy all the fall colors, crafts, antiques, flea markets, food, and covered bridges. This trip requires a lot of walking, but is well worth the trip. The group will be transported via mini coach bus.

### ADULT FINE ARTS DESSERTS IN A MUG

**Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm - 8:30pm**  
Location: The Clubhouse | Fee: \$12

Recipes include mouthwatering molten chocolate mug cake, amazing apple crisp, and pineapple upside down cake Fee includes supplies and instruction.

## Halloween Programs

### GLITTER PUMPKINS (AGES 3-5)

**Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> 4:15pm - 5:15pm**  
Location: The Clubhouse | Fee: \$6  
Participants will paint and glitter their own pumpkins plus make a fun Halloween art project too.

### HALLOWEEN COOKING

**Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> 4:15pm - 5:15pm (Ages 3-5)  
5:15pm - 6:15pm (Ages 6-10)**  
Location: The Clubhouse | Fee: \$6  
Participants will create special Halloween recipes just in time for the Halloween season.

### PUMPKIN CARVING (Ages 6+)

**Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> 5:15pm - 6:15pm**  
Location: The Clubhouse | Fee: \$6  
Learn how to gut and carve your own pumpkin and separate the seeds for a baked treat later.

### MINION EGG HUNT (Ages 6+)

**Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm - 8:00pm**  
Location: The Clubhouse | Fee: FREE  
Enjoy an evening of flashlight games and egg hunting. Special Halloween eggs will be hidden in the fields for participants to find. Candy and a special Halloween prize will also be awarded. This event is FREE but you must register online to ensure supplies for everyone.



Cont. from cover

Road paving 133rd Avenue West of US-41 to the town limits was completed this summer. This project picked up where the 133rd Avenue Westside project ended and extended to the Town's corporate limit. This project included paving, curb repairs, ditch cleaning and restoration.

Improvements on 133rd Avenue Eastside from Morse Street to Colfax Street are complete. The project included expanding the roadway to include a center turn lane, storm drainage improvements, curbs, sidewalks and lighting. Recently, punch list items were identified and completed by the contractor Walsh & Kelly. When a project is substantially completed, Town staff, engineers and contractors walk through a project to complete a listing of any deficiencies based upon the contract. This is why the concrete was removed and reinstalled in the crosswalks on the intersection of Morse & 133rd Avenue. It is the Town's responsibility to ensure we are protecting the public's investment. Included in this project was wetland mitigation which was completed in Robin's Nest Park.

Road construction and improvements on 133rd Avenue Westside from US-41 to Industrial Avenue are moving along. INDOT, Engineers, and the Town have been collaboratively working on a solution and plan to complete the roadway from the railroad tracks to Industrial Avenue. Construction should be underway in the near future to complete this portion of the project. As you may already know, the extensive rain events in June caused the road to flood east of the railroad tracks and construction was halted for review and analysis. The improvements from US-41 to the railroad tracks are substantially complete. A walk through of this portion of the project was completed by Town staff, engineers, INDOT and the contractor. Items were noted that need to be addressed and corrected; these items are currently being addressed by the contractor.

## From the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer Amy J. Gross, IAMC, MMC, CPM

The budgeting process for calendar year 2016 has been drafted and proposed by the Council Affairs Committee. This Committee consists of three Council Members, the Clerk-Treasurer, and the Town Administrator. Department Heads meet with the Committee to review budget proposals and forecast their operating expenses. Besides the General Fund, there are other funds and budgets that play a vital role in Town government for keeping our community safe, and investing in capital projects.

Town and city budgets in the State of Indiana are typically advertised higher than they will be approved. This is due mainly to the timing of certifying net assessed values within the municipal boundaries. That task is performed at the county level. While municipalities are planning for the ensuing budget year, the assessments are not certified until after budgets have been submitted to the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF). Tax levies within Lake County are unfrozen due to the approval of the income tax; however it should not be assumed that a levy is unlimited. State law provides for limitations on such levies to protect taxpayers. It is the duty of each taxing unit to budget accordingly and operate within its means.

For 2016, the challenge continues to be effectively operating within Cedar Lake's levy limitations while embracing the spurt of growth as evidenced throughout our community. Besides the levies placed on select funds, there are other avenues that provide opportunities to enhance our growth. An example of this would be apparent in the recent land acquisition on the east side of the lake. The Town utilized its revenue stream from Tax Increment Financing and Park Impact Fees to obtain this land in an effort to open up the lakeside and provide a usable park for our residents. Resident taxes were not utilized to create this endeavor. Another example of maintaining operations while minimizing the impact on tax-levied funds exists in the hiring of a police officer and firefighter from Local Option Income Tax-Public Safety Funds. The salaries are paid from this fund as well as needed equipment for both departments.

As Cedar Lake embraces an era of growth and progress, it will not come without challenges to our infrastructure, zoning requirements, utilities, and public safety. As many of our residents and businesses will agree, our community is not mapped out in the same manner as others. Going from a resort community back in the day, to stagnation, and then a huge leap in popularity again, takes careful strategic and fiscal planning. Funds that built up reserves for years may now be utilized for projects as in the case of the recent Parrish Avenue road improvements. A portion of the new County Economic Development Income Tax will be pledged to repay bonds on various improvements throughout our Town. This will help ease any burden on our tax-levied funds and the limitations imposed.

To review Cedar Lake's proposed budget for 2016, please go to [www.gateway.ifonline.org](http://www.gateway.ifonline.org), or our website at [www.cedarlakein.org](http://www.cedarlakein.org). Cedar Lake's public hearing for the 2016 budget will be held at the Town Council meeting on October 6, 2015 with adoption to follow on October 20, 2015. After adoption, the DLGF will provide final approval, which is anticipated for February 2016.

# HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS!

- 1

Children should trick-or-treat during daylight hours.
- 2

Children should never be allowed to go out alone on Halloween.
- 3

Children should never eat any treats until they have been examined.
- 4

All fruit should be cut and closely examined before eating.
- 5

Advise children that they should never enter strangers' homes.
- 6

Never invite children into your home.
- 7

Children should never accept rides from strangers.
- 8

Children should never take shortcuts through backyards or alleys.
- 9

Set a time limit for your children to be out on Halloween night.
- 10

Give wrapped homemade treats only to children you know.
- 11

Instruct children not to stray from their group.
- 12

A responsible adult should escort children while trick-or-treating.
- 13

Adult escorts should carry flashlights.
- 14

Don't leave your home unattended on Halloween night.
- 15

Keep pets inside your home, or other safe place on Halloween night.
- 16

Children should walk, not run, during their trick-or-treat activities.
- 17

Parents should know what route their children will be taking.
- 18

All costumes should be made of light-colored, fireproof material.
- 19

Children should wear proper fitting, comfortable costumes and shoes.
- 20

Props such as toy guns or swords should be made of pliable material.
- 21

Realistic replica firearms should never be used.
- 22

Masks should not be worn if they impair vision.
- 23

Wigs should be fireproof and should not restrict vision.
- 24

Children should always use sidewalks, not the street, for walking.
- 25

Children should look in all directions before crossing the street.
- Cedar Lake Trick or Treating will be from 4pm - 7pm