

# Resident Handbook



September 2024



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## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

<b>Police .....</b>	<b>911 Non-Emergency: 708-503-8100</b>
<b>Fire .....</b>	<b>911 Non-Emergency: 708-756-5370</b>
<b>St. James Hospital .....</b>	<b>708-747-4000</b>
<b>Village Hall.....</b>	<b>708-503-8000</b>
<b>Public Works.....</b>	<b>708-503-8200</b>
<b>Building Department .....</b>	<b>708-503-8000</b>
<b>Post Office .....</b>	<b>708-748-9222</b>
<b>ComEd.....</b>	<b>800-334-7661</b>
<b>Nicor .....</b>	<b>888-642-6758</b>

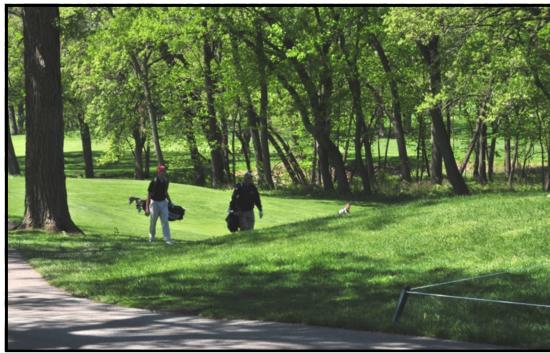
# Historic Tradition

The area that makes up the Village today was once farmland worked by immigrant families during the 1830s. The Illinois Central Railroad began serving the area in the 1850s, making the transport of farm goods to the City of Chicago and its growing population much easier.

In 1893 the Columbian Exposition opened in Chicago, and the south Cook County region became an increasingly popular retreat for busy Chicagoans. By 1913, the area's lush woodlands and rolling terrain convinced an investment group led by Charles Beach, that the area was the perfect place to establish a golf course catering to Chicago's wealthy elite. Beach and his friend James Gardner developed a magnificent 72-hole golf course and country club.

The Club was chartered in 1915 as Olympia Fields Country Club. Amos Alonzo Stagg,

the famed football coach of the University of Chicago, became the Club's first president. The name "Olympia" was proposed by Stagg. The word "Fields" was added because it aptly described the young community's pastoral terrain.



Golf and the resort atmosphere in the area south of Chicago became so popular that some families lived in canvas-covered "cottages" during the

summer months, while others built more permanent homes on the western side of the train tracks beginning as early as 1919. The clubhouse, built in 1924, is on the National Register of Historic Places. The golf course is considered one of the finest in the nation. It was home to the 1928 and 2003 U.S. Open, the Senior U.S. Open, and the Western Open on five occasions.

The Country Club's founder, Charles Beach, organized the effort to incorporate the residential areas around the Country Club as a municipality, and in 1927, the Village of Olympia Fields was created with Beach as its first president. His home, built to reflect the design and character of the Country Club, still stands at the southwest corner of Kedzie Avenue and 203rd Street. Today, the grounds of the Country Club remain unincorporated, outside the jurisdiction of the Village government.

As our Village grew, street names of early subdivisions followed a Greek theme: Athens, Hellenic, Parthenon, Corinth and Sparta. The Village logo depicts Hermes, the Greek God of science.

In later years, Olympia Fields grew into a prosperous, upper-middle class community that has retained its quiet, stately ambiance. The Village's population remained small until after World War II, when the Club sold two golf courses for residential development.

The Village's roots and traditions as an elite and affluent community remain, while a new tradition of racial, ethnic and religious diversity now enhances the quality of life enjoyed by residents. As an exclusive community, all are welcomed and expected to contribute to the life of the Village.



# Village Hall



**Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building  
20040 Governors Highway  
Olympia Fields, IL 60461**

**Phone: 503-8000**

**Fax: 503-8002**

**Website: [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com)**

## **Hours of Business**

Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed on Saturday and Sunday

## **Village President and the Board of Trustees**

Sterling M. Burke  
Village President

Jennifer Beasley

Victor E. Blackwell

Sandra Finley

Kelvin Oliver

Kenneth F. Smith

Howard White

**Village Administrator/Chief of Staff: Jessica Washington**

**Director of Communications: Jessica Washington**

**Finance Director: Lisa Fifer-Smith**

**Director of Public Works: Art Jones**

**Chief of Police: Derrick Blasingame**

**Building Commissioner: John McDonnell**

## **Village Board Meetings & Functions**

The Village of Olympia Fields is governed by a Village President and a board of six elected, at-large Trustees. The Board of Trustees appoints an Administrator to oversee the Village government and Village office staff. The professional office staff is accessible to promptly answer any questions from the public regarding Village services.



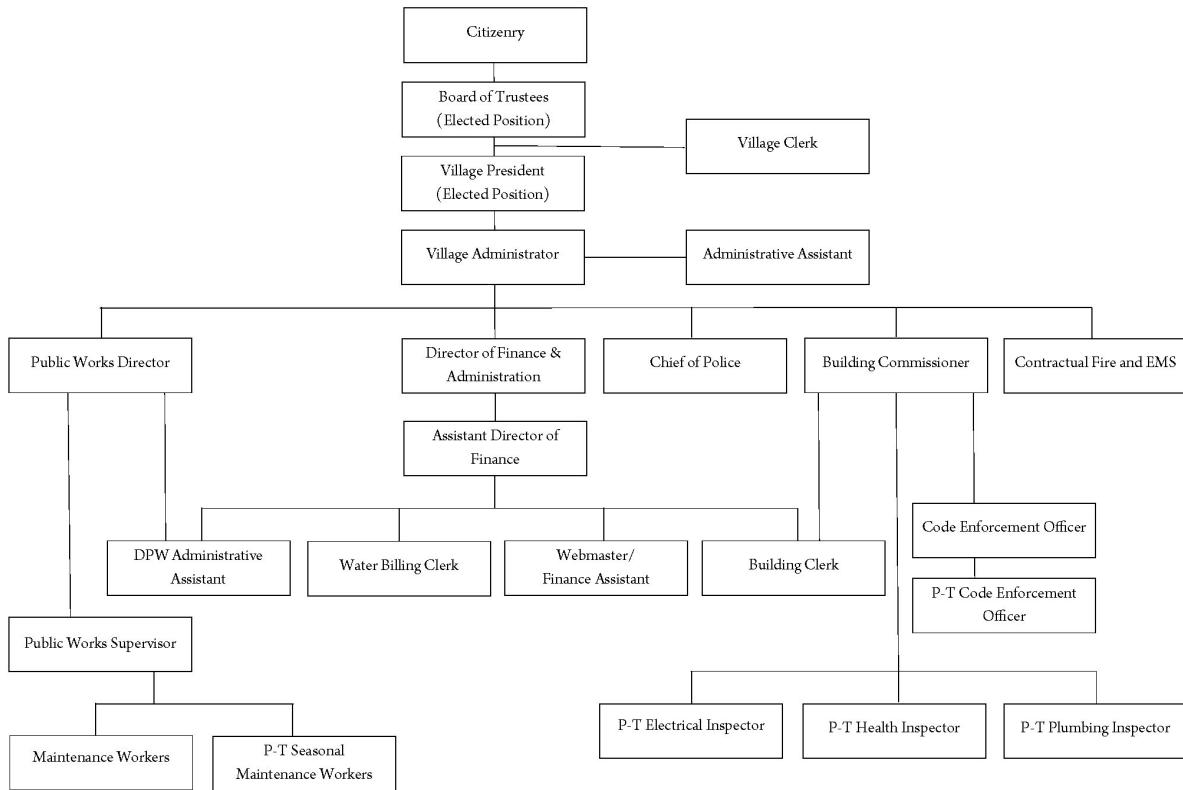
### **Board Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees are held once a month, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall. Please check the Village's Website at [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com) to view the schedule. Residents wishing to address the board during regular meetings may do so during the "Communications and Petitions" portion of the agenda. The Board of Trustees act on behalf of the residents to adopt policies, enact ordinances relating to the business conducted within the community and authorize all fiscal expenditures.

### **Code of Ordinances**

The Village operates under a municipal code of ordinances. The Village Code can be accessed through the Village of Olympia Fields' website at [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com).

# Organizational Chart



# Police Department



## Police Department

Police Chief: Derrick Blasingame

20040 Governors Highway

Emergency Phone: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency Phone: 503-8100

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Olympia Fields benefits from the protection of a highly trained, award-winning police force. This professional staff is well versed in patrolling techniques and all aspects of police accountability. Olympia Fields has one of the lowest crime rates in the Chicago metropolitan area.



Olympia Fields is part of the SouthCom Dispatch Center in Matteson. The Center features advanced Phase II wireless technology and mapping. This state-of-the-art technology enables dispatchers to pinpoint the location of a 911 emergency call from a cell phone. Fines can be paid online at [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com)

## Disaster Preparedness

Our Police Department cooperates with Emergency Services Agencies in the south Cook County region to prepare for natural or man-made disasters. Olympia Fields Public Safety personnel suggest that you and your family also prepare your own disaster plan. The American Red Cross provides planning kits for family, as well as, business use.

Disaster Planning kits are available at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org), or by telephoning The American Red Cross of Greater Chicago at (312) 729-6100 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Chicago Red Cross is located at Rauner Center, 2200 W. Harrison Street, Chicago.



## Fire Department

Emergency Phone: 9-1-1



Fire Response Services are provided for Olympia Fields residents by the City of Chicago Heights Fire Department. The Department employs a staff of full-time, top-level firefighters also trained as paramedics. The Department operates from two fire stations strategically located to provide the quickest emergency fire response and emergency medical service 24 hours a day. A civilian fire inspector is available to inspect the homes of Olympia Fields residents for safety issues or potential fire problems free of charge. [To schedule an appointment, call the non-emergency number at 708-756-5370.](#)

**Public Works Department**  
**Director of Public Works: Art Jones**  
**20701 Governors Highway Phone: 503-8200**  
**Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
**After hours emergency: 9-1-1**

The Public Works Department is committed to providing residents with the highest quality of service. It maintains a level of excellence while meeting the needs of the community. The department consists of three divisions: Water, Sewer and Streets. The staff is available for emergency service 24 hours a day.

## **Streets**

The Public Works staff is responsible for maintaining the Village's infrastructure, which includes the water distribution system, the wastewater and storm water collection system, streets and public facilities. Other duties involve the maintenance of Village-owned properties.



## **Other Responsibilities**

Other Public Works services include snow removal, salting and sweeping public streets, storm debris pickup following severe storms, and the removal of dead trees that are located in the Village's right-of-way.

## **Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program**

A storm drain is a pipe and culvert system that collects and carries rainwater from streets, yards, parking lots and rooftops and discharges it, untreated, to creeks, streams and lakes.

Many people believe that storm drains are connected to sanitary sewer systems and that storm water is treated at sewage treatment plants. This is not true! Storm water is not treated.

Everything that goes into storm drains, such as trash, pesticides, paint, chemicals, motor oil, grease, leaves, and soil deposits are transported by water to our creeks, streams and lakes. These pollutants pose a significant threat to birds, fish and other aquatic life.

Please call the Public Works Department at 708-503-8200 to report any misuse of storm drains or a spill or discharge into a storm drain.

Call the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association at 708-206-1155 for information on dates and locations of household hazardous waste collection sites for safe disposal of paint, pesticides and other hazardous products, paper and plastics.

## Water Department

**20400 Governors Highway Phone: 503-8000**

New residents must call the Village's Water Department at 503-8000 as soon as possible to arrange for water/sewer service and establish an account. To establish service, residents must bring the following items: Settlement Statement, proof of a Village Point of Sale inspection or Certificate of Compliance and a driver's license.

Residents are billed every two months for water and/or sewer service. Water bills are issued bi-monthly on the 15th of the month, with payment due on the 15th of the following month. After that, a 10% penalty is added for late payments.

To ensure the quickest processing, payments should be made in person or mailed to the Village Hall. There is a drop-off box in front of the Village Hall for your convenience. Make checks payable to the Village of Olympia Fields. Residents can also make online payments through our website at [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com).



### Helping the Homeless

The South Suburban Homeless Program is working to create a permanent shelter for the homeless. Residents can support this program by voluntarily contributing \$1 per month to be added to their water bill. A small sacrifice can make a big difference. Authorization cards may be obtained at the Village Hall.

### Summer Watering Restrictions

Restrictions on lawn sprinkling and other water usages are in effect from May 15 through September 15 each year. If the last digit in your street address is odd, you may sprinkle on odd calendar days. If it is even, sprinkle on even calendar days. On your designated days, sprinkle only between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 a.m., or 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. Violators of water use restrictions are subject to fines. In drought situations, these hours may be curtailed further.

### Scavenger Service

Each resident is required to contract with a private scavenger service. Residents are to call the vendor of their choice and arrange for trash pick-up. Choose from the following Scavenger Services: **Star Disposal/Homewood Disposal at 748-8381/798-1004 and Republic Disposal at 754-5460.**

### Recycling

The Village contracts with Star Disposal/Homewood Disposal to collect recyclable materials for the entire Village. Contact them at 708-748-8381 for additional information. For hazardous waster materials or electronic waste disposal, please refer to [www.mydisposal.com](http://www.mydisposal.com) for additional information.

**Building Department**  
Building Commissioner: John McDonnell  
20400 Governors Highway Phone: 503-8000

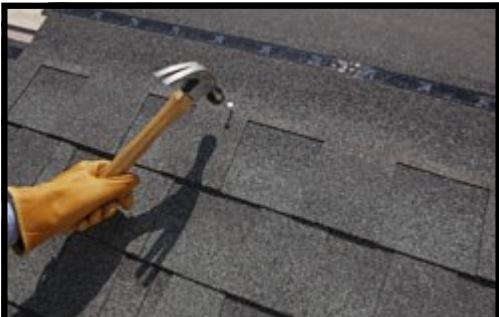
## Permits Required

A permit must be obtained prior to the start of construction, alterations, repairs, or improvements to any part of a building or structure. To obtain a permit for residential or commercial work, a permit application must be completed. Permit applications may be downloaded from the Village website: [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com). Permit fees start at \$60 and increases according to the scope of the project.

When submitting a Building Permit application, the homeowner must attach a work order/proposal signed by both the contractor and the owner, listing the services to be performed. The proposal must include the total cost of the project. Also attached must be all the necessary supplemental materials needed, such as drawings, blueprints, plats of survey, plans and specifications, etc. Permits may be submitted via email to **PERMITS@OLYMPIA-FIELDS.COM**.



Samples of projects requiring permits are as follows: Fences, wood decks, concrete patios or sidewalks, new driveways and resurfacing, gazebos, sheds, replacing/adding low retaining wall. Also for above-ground pools, alarm installation, furnaces, re-roofing, siding, window replacement, remodeling, water heaters, gutters, garage/doors, lawn sprinkler systems, additions to existing single-family residences.



Permits are reviewed and issued by the Building Commissioner, who can be reached at the Village Hall, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To ensure the protection of its residents, Olympia Fields requires that all contractors be licensed prior to performing any work in the Village.

To obtain a license, a contractor must complete an application for a contractor's license. The contractor must provide a Certificate of Insurance and a \$100 license fee made payable to the Village of Olympia Fields. Plumbers and roofers are also required to submit a copy of their State of Illinois license and license number. Applications for license are available on the Village website: [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com) or call the department for more information.

Olympia Fields has in effect a meticulous property maintenance program. All properties within the Village must be kept in good condition, in accordance with Village codes. The Village's housing inspection program is designed to ensure that all homes in the Village are well maintained. Code violations are processed through the Building Department.



## Exterior Property Inspections

The Code Enforcement Officer regularly inspects the exterior of homes and businesses to identify possible violations of Village ordinances. The property owner is notified of any violations. In matters where further action is deemed necessary, a fine, and/or a ticket to appear in court may be issued. If you have questions regarding property maintenance, please contact the Code Enforcement Officer at 503-8000.

## Citizen Enforcement

Residents observing visible property code violations within the Village may anonymously report the violation(s) by reporting your concern on the Village of website at [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com). An inspector will investigate your complaint.

### Alarm Registration

A homeowner must obtain an Alarm Permit from the Village when installing a home alarm system. The cost of the one-time registration fee is \$25. A homeowner is allowed three false alarms within a year before being charged a \$50 fine by the Village. However, if an alarm system is not registered, the first false alarm will result in a \$50 fine. A permit is required to install an alarm.

### Tree Removal Permit

It is unlawful for a resident to remove a tree without a written Tree Removal Permit issued by the Village. Tree Removal Permits authorizing the removal of a tree are issued by the Village if a tree is diseased, damaged to the extent it is likely to die or become diseased, or it poses a hazard to persons, property or utilities. Permit applications are available on the Village website: [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com) or at the Village Hall

### Tree Replacement Required

If a tree is removed, the owner is required to replace it with a new tree or sapling chosen from a list of approved tree species specified by the Village. Replacement must be made within one year of the issue date of the Tree Removal Permit.

## Dogs

A copy of the complete Village regulations concerning dogs is available at the Village Hall. "Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl Art. II. Dogs, 5-16—5-26" of the Village of Olympia Fields Code is on the Village's website, [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com), then click on Code of Ordinances.



### Dog Licenses

Dogs must be licensed each January for a \$10 fee. A current rabies certification is required at the time of registration. Licenses may be obtained at the Village Hall. Replacement tags are \$2 each.

### Leash Ordinances

Dogs are required to be placed on a leash when taken outside the owner's property. The owner must supervise his or her pet in public places at all times. It is unlawful for any owner to permit his or her dog to run at large in the Village at any time.

### Owner Responsibility

The Village stresses owner responsibility regarding pets. A pet owner is prohibited from allowing a dog to defecate or urinate on any property other than that of its owner. Failure to remove the waste is considered a violation of the offense. Pet owners are also not allowed to have excrement accumulate on their property. Fines range from \$50 to \$500 for violating Ordinance 2012-03.

### Continual Barking

A pet owner whose dog frequently or habitually barks, howls or yelps will be given notice and may be subject to fines and removal of the animal from the Village. Residents who wish to report loud, habitual barking may call the Police non-emergency number at 503-8100.

### South Suburban Humane Society

The Humane Society is located at 1103 West End Avenue, Chicago Heights, and can be reached at 755-PETS (7387) or at <http://www.southsuburbanhumane.org/>.

The Humane Society takes in unwanted pets and finds homes for them. The SSHS also provides low-cost spaying and neutering. It conducts abuse investigations, offers a lost-and-found referral service, behavioral counseling, pet therapy programs, and free identification tags. Volunteers are always welcome. The SSHS is open from noon to 8 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday; noon to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It is closed on Tuesday and Sunday.



## Sign Ordinance

Permits are required for all signs in the Village. Permits are reviewed by the Sign Committee. Exceptions are For Sale and Garage Sale signs. Permits are available at the Village Hall or on the Village's website at [www.olympia-fields.com](http://www.olympia-fields.com).

## Solicitation

An organization wishing to solicit within the Village or sponsor Tag Days must meet certain requirements before approval. The organization must file a Certificate of Liability Insurance with the Village for a minimum of \$1,000,000. Tagging A solicitation fee of \$25 per day is required per person is required. The Village issues identification cards for all solicitors.

## Swimming Pools and Pool Construction

Olympia Fields requires all pools to be enclosed with a fence at least five feet high. The fence must include a self-closing gate with a lock. A homeowner must obtain a permit before constructing, altering, removing or demolishing a private residential swimming pool. A resident may apply for a permit at the Village Hall.

## Fence Requirements



Erecting a fence without obtaining a Building Permit is unlawful in the Village of Olympia Fields and may result in fines being assessed. A plat of survey must be submitted with the exact location of the proposed fence indicated in relation to the lot lines along with a building permit application. Fences must not be over five feet tall. Any fence over six feet tall requires a variance. Additional information is available with the Building Department.

## Garage Sales

Permits are not required to host a garage sale. Signs are permitted, but must be taken down at the conclusion of the sale.

## No Overnight Parking on the Streets

There is no over night parking on the streets in the Village between the hours of 2 am and 6 am. If you are unable to park in your driveway, please notify the police department.

## Dumpsters/Personal Storage Containers

A no fee permit is required before a dumpster or personal storage container can be placed on your property. Dumpsters are allowed to remain on the property for 14-days only with a permit.

## **“Point of Sale” Inspection**

When selling a house, the homeowner must arrange for an inspection by the Village prior to the sale. An application for a “Point of Sale” inspection must be filled out at the Village Hall. The fee is \$50 for the first inspection and \$50 for each re-inspection. After a home is inspected and no code violations are found, the Building Department will issue a Certificate of Occupancy, which allows the homebuyer to move in. Inspections are conducted on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

## **“For Sale” Signs**

Only one “For Sale” sign is permitted per lot; for corner lots, two signs are permitted. Signs stating a home is protected by a security system are not permitted. Some subdivisions prohibit “For Sale” signs. Please check with the Village for further restrictions.

## **Recreation Vehicles**

Trailers, campers, boat trailers, or other vehicles used for hauling cargo of any kind, cannot be permanently parked in any parking area, whether public or private, or on any residential or private lot. These vehicles cannot be parked more than 72 hours within a calendar month.



## **Rental Property**

Any home that will be used as a rental home must have a Certificate of Compliance issued before a tenant can move in. Failure to comply will result in citations being issued and fines assessed. Property owners must complete a Rental Inspection application at the Village Hall. The fee is \$50 for the first inspection and \$50 for each re-inspection. Inspections are conducted on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. A Certificate of Compliance must be issued between each and every tenant.

## **Call J.U.L.I.E. Before a Digging Project**

Residents are reminded to call J.U.L.I.E. (Joint Utilities Locating for Information for Excavators) at 1-800-892-0123 before digging projects begin to avoid damaging underground utilities. It is a state law to call J.U.L.I.E. before you dig, any violators may be subject to a fine. This free service allows utility workers to locate utility lines for gas, electric, phone and cable television, prior to any excavation project. The service is operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Please give J.U.L.I.E. at least a 48-hour notice. Access [www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com) for more information.



# Commissions & Committees

Olympia Fields takes pride in its volunteer spirit. Volunteer committees and commissions contribute immeasurably to the enhancement of the community. Applications must be filled out for most committees and commissions. To volunteer or inquire about other volunteer organizations within the Village, please call the Village Hall at 503-8000 for the appropriate contact number. Committee and commission members are appointed by the Village President. All residents are encouraged to apply. The Schedule of Public Meetings is published on the Village's website.

## **Community Relations Commission**

This Commission assures that people working or living in the Village will do so free from discrimination. The Commission also promotes the Village's quality of life with emphasis on its diversity as a major strength. It initiates activities that facilitate cooperation, understanding and respect among neighbors and residents.

## **Planning and Zoning Commission**

The Commission makes recommendations to the Village Board concerning all applications for development and redevelopment within the Village. They also make recommendations to the Village Board on matters regarding the Village's Zoning Ordinance, and how a development complies with the Ordinance and its variances.

## **Beautification Committee**



The mission of the Beautification Commission of Olympia Fields is to facilitate the beautification and enhancement of our community with the involvement and support of the Village President, Board of Trustees, residents and businesses. The Commission also encourages proactive participation in the beautification, improvement and maintenance of our Village through home-

owners, homeowner associations and businesses, in conjunction with the Village's Public Works Department. The Village has also received the distinction of being named Tree City for the past twelve years due to the Beautification Committees efforts.

## **Police Pension Board**

The Pension Board oversees and directs the investment of funds held in this plan. It also approves eligibility into the plan and approves pensions to be paid to retirees or other qualified employees.

## **Olympia Fields Educational Commission**

The mission of the Olympia Fields Educational Commission is to promote education excellence to the primary and secondary schools that serves the residents of Olympia Fields. The commission provides input to school districts that service the Village on police and programs to promote educational excellence. The commission meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

## **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee makes recommendations to the Village Board regarding the Fiscal Budget for all departments.

## **Human Resource Committee**

The Human Resource Committee makes recommendations to the Village Board regarding all employment matters affecting Village employees.

## **Public Safety Committee**

The Public Safety Committee oversees the provision of fire and police services to the residents of the Village. The committee assists the Village Administrator and the Chief of Police in making plans for future police protection of the village due to increasing populations, traffic, and needs incidental to police protection or action. The committee also makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees as to proposals from the Village Administrator the Chief of Police regarding speed, traffic and parking regulations.

## **Public Works Committee**

The Public Works Committee is responsible for recommendations to the corporate authorizes for the maintenance, operation and repair of public streets, alleys, sewers, sewage treatment plants, water supply and distribution systems and fire hydrants.

## **Economic Development Commission**

The Economic Development Committee works toward business retention and attraction of new business opportunities, both commercial and retail.

# Olympia Fields Country Club



Founded in 1915, by 1925 the club boasted four 18-hole courses and the largest private club-house in the world with an 80-foot, four faced clock tower visible to golfers from all four first tees. The grandeur of Olympia Fields was remarkable even to Herbert Warren Wind, America's leading golf historian, who, in his landmark work, the Story of American Golf, marveled at this unparalleled expression of the spirit of the Golden Age: Conceived in 1914, this retreat in the woods below Chicago was at length completed in 1925. "The world's largest private golf club" was the first to offer its members seventy-two holes of golf. (Over a thousand caddies were enrolled.) The clubhouse was a liberal translation of English Tudor with a dining room that seated eight hundred, a cafe seating six hundred, only one outdoor dancing pavilion but five hundred feet of veranda. The club operated its own ice-making plant and its own hospital. One hundred families owned cottages in the dells of the club's 692 acres.

Today, the English Tudor clubhouse and its regal clock tower, are daily reminders of the club's Olympia beginnings even as the club's acreage and membership - including the number of private cottages - have adjusted to more contemporary proportions. Although the grill retains the name "73rd Hole," golf is now played over two nationally-ranked masterpieces - the North Course and the South Course - whose championship traditions place Olympia Fields in a small coterie of the nation's leading golf clubs.

In 2015, with the hosting of the 2015 US Amateur Championship, Olympia Fields joined only eight other American clubs - including Winged Foot, Oakland Hills and Cherry Hills - that have hosted the United States Open Championship (1928, 2003) the United States Senior Open Championship (1997), the PGA Championship (1925, 1961) and the United States Amateur Championship (2015). In June 2017, Olympia Fields hosted the KPMG PGA Women's Championship, and in the summer of 2020, they hosted the BMW Championship continuing such championship traditions in line with it being the "Host to Champions."

# Olympia Fields Park District



The Olympia Fields Park District has something to offer everyone whether you are one or one hundred! The Park District owns and maintains over 140 acres of park land and included in these parks you find opportunities for fun abound. The District also offers seasonal programming in areas of wellness, fitness, sports, art, dance, and trips.

Providing special events such as; Movie in the Park, Party in the Park, Wine and Jazz under the Stars, Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, Annual Fishing Derby and Family Garage Sale are among the most popular special events the Park District sponsors each year.

The Park District Facilities are quite unique. Sgt. Means Park is home to The Bradford Barn and Cull House, both built in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, they add charm to the vast 20 acres of park that includes an 18 hole disc golf course, playground, soccer and baseball fields, 4 tennis courts, Sled hills, basket ball walking track and picnic groves. The Bradford Barn and the Cull House Dining room are available to rent for parties, weddings and other special gatherings.

The latest addition to the Park District is Tolentine Park—which features a Splash Park and a community garden. With the community garden being the focal point of the Park, the District intends to promote programs that will encourage healthy eating and living within our community. Our green roof shelter building, sensory garden and composting area will also provide educational opportunities for participants to learn how locally grown food not only strengthen us physically but also conserve environmental resources.

The turf areas of the park are all planned to be low maintenance with natural native plants and grasses so there will be less mowing required and less fossil fuel consumption into the air.



The Olympia Fields Park District Staff and Commissioners want to encourage you to get involved in your Park District. We need you to help us be the gem of the south suburbs. We would like your guidance to assist us in programming all park spaces, recreational programs and special events so that we are focused on the expectations of you the resident.

Please feel free to send us your ideas and suggestions by email through our website, stopping by anytime or give us a call: we are here for you.



## Other Recreational Facilities

### Irons Oaks Environmental Learning Center

Located at Vollmer Road and Western Avenue, this 40-acre nature preserve is home to a diversity of wildlife and habitats. Irons Oaks offers a wide variety of outdoor school programs that provide hands-on learning experiences. It features an Adventure Center with a high ropes course, a climbing tower, cross country skiing, pedestrian trails, ponds, prairie, a Therapy Garden, Butterfly Garden and Wildflower Garden, a wildlife viewing area, and picnic tables. Irons Oaks is open to the public seven days a week, from dawn to dusk. Irons Oaks facilities are available for rental. Space and facilities in natural settings can be rented for picnics, meetings, family outings, special events, nature-based parties and programs for children and adults. Call (708) 481-2330 for rental information, or access [www.ironsoaks.com](http://www.ironsoaks.com).

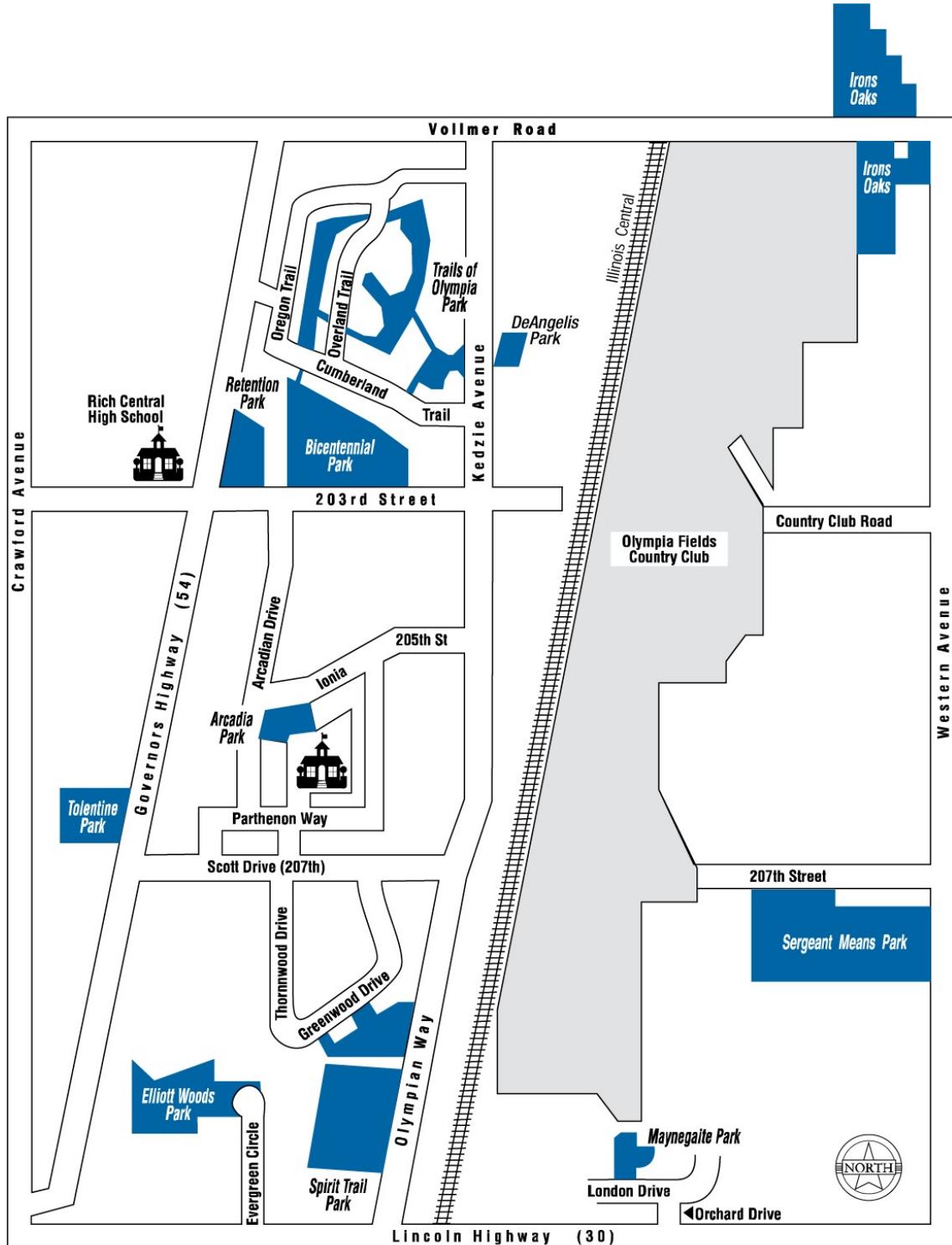


### Park Forest Aqua Center Membership

The Park Forest Aqua Center, located at 30 North Orchard Drive, features two conventional pools with a diving area, a zero depth pool, a 160-ft. water slide with splash-down pool, sand-play and volleyball areas, a generous sunbathing area, a full schedule of swim lessons and party rentals. Contact the Park Forest Recreation and Parks Office at (708) 748-2005 to request a brochure, or access [www.villageofparkforest.com](http://www.villageofparkforest.com) for more information.



# Olympia Fields Parks



Olympia Fields Park District Parks



## PARK FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Serving the communities of  
Park Forest and Olympia Fields**

**400 Lakewood Blvd.**

**Park Forest, IL 60466**

**(708)748-3731**

The Olympia Fields Public Library Board contracts with the Park Forest Public Library Board to provide library services to the Village. You may use your library card at any public library within the Metropolitan Library System. The Park Forest Library's extensive collection includes books, periodicals, e-books, audio books, videos, CDs, DVDs and video games. Computers also are available.

### **Family Technology Centers**

The Library has two family technology centers designed for families with small children. Adults may work on computers while their children entertain themselves with projects created specifically for them. These include lectures, book discussion groups, writers' groups, computer classes, and many programs for pre-school children to teens.

### **Library Hours**



The Library is open Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. During the school year, the library is open on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information on the Library, call 708-748-3731, or visit [www.pfpl.org](http://www.pfpl.org).

### **How to Become a Member**

To obtain a library card, you will need to present your drivers license or proof of residency in Olympia Fields. Children and teenagers under the age of 18 need to be accompanied by an adult to apply for their library cards. It is left up to parents to decide what age to obtain a library card for their child.

### **Book Return Box**

For your convenience, a book return box is located on the median strip in front of the Olympia Fields Post Office at 3033 West 203rd Street.

### **Friends of the Library**

Friends of the Library are a group of volunteers who promote the Library's mission and purpose through various fundraisers. This includes book sales, bake sales, holiday gift shops and a coffee shop. Volunteers are always needed. You may pick up a membership application at the library.

### **Library Board Meetings**

The Olympia Fields Public Library Board of Trustees meets on the fourth Wednesday at the Olympia Fields Village Hall. Please check the Public Meeting Schedule on the Village's website for time dates. Residents are invited to attend.

## **“One Village, Two Townships”**

Olympia Fields is located within two townships. Rich Township serves all of Olympia Fields, except Graymoor and Wysteria, which are served by Bloom Township.

### **Rich Township**

The Township's main office is located at 22013 Governors Highway in Richton Park. For more detailed information about Rich Township's operations and services, call 748-6722 or log on to [www.richtownship.org](http://www.richtownship.org).

Rich Township's Senior Center in downtown Park Forest offers meal programs and recreational activities for seniors. Low-cost, door-to-door bus service is provided to seniors and handicapped residents. Other senior services include free income tax preparation and regular health screenings.

The Rich Township Assessor's Office has a trained staff ready to answer all questions pertaining to property taxes, and provides comprehensive assistance for filing senior homeowner exemptions. Rich Township also sponsors a Summer Youth Camp, an After School Program for junior high students, and a Teen Employment Service. Other services include a Food Pantry for income-eligible residents, GED courses, and family counseling at affordable rates.

### **Bloom Township**

The Township Center is located at 425 Halsted Street, Chicago Heights. More information about Bloom Township programs and services may be obtained by calling 754-9400 or accessing the Township's website at [www.bloomtownship.org](http://www.bloomtownship.org).

The Township's Senior Wheels Program operates a curb-to-curb transportation service for seniors and handicapped residents.

The Assessor's Office has a trained staff answering all property tax inquiries and helping homeowners file Homeowner, Homestead and some senior exemptions. Other services include youth and family counseling, youth employment services, monthly senior community lunches, a health department, annual flu shots in late October, and free income tax preparation for seniors.

### **U.S. Post Office**

The Village's Post Office branch is located at 3033 W. 203rd Street, adjacent to the Metra Station. The telephone number is 708-748-9222. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



## CABLE TELEVISION

Comcast provides the Village's cable television service. Turn to Channel 4 for Village News. Comcast Customer Service may be contacted at 1-866-594-1234 or by accessing [www.comcast.com](http://www.comcast.com). AT&T also offers cable services in the Village. They can be contacted at 1-877-757-8848 or at [www.att.com](http://www.att.com)

## METRA TRAINS



Metra trains provide quick, convenient transportation to downtown Chicago from two stations on the north and south sides of Olympia Fields. Express trains reach the Randolph Street Station on Michigan Avenue in 40 minutes. For Metra train schedules and fares, call 708-836-7000 or access [www.metrarail.com/schedule](http://www.metrarail.com/schedule). For detailed information on PACE bus schedules and fares, call 708-836-7000.

## METRA LOTS

Metra Lots are located at 211th Street (Lincoln Highway) and Olympian Way and at 203rd St. and Kedzie Avenue. Both lots are daily lots.



## VOTER REGISTRATION

Residents may register to vote online at [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com). To be eligible to vote in a local election, an individual must be a U.S. citizen, and 18 years of age or older.



## POLLING PLACES

To find your polling place, citizens may access [www.voterinfonet.com](http://www.voterinfonet.com) and enter your address. Or, you can phone the Cook County Clerk's Office at 312-603-0906 or log on to the Clerk's website at [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com). Residents may also call the Village Hall at 708-503-8000 to find their polling place.

# Cultural Activities

## CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

A dynamic mix of arts centers is located within a short distance of Olympia Fields. The region is rich in culture and home to many exceptional art galleries, theatre groups and performing arts centers.

**THE CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS** at Governors State University is the Chicago Southland's grandest performing Arts Center, featuring a wide array of star attractions, as well as children and family programming. The 1,200-seat concert hall hosts performances of Jazz, Ballet, Opera, Gospel, R&B, Folk, Blues, and New Age. Call 708-235-2222 or log on to [www.centertickets.net](http://www.centertickets.net) for details.



**NATHAN MANILOW SCULPTURE PARK** at Governors State University offers a display of major works by masters of contemporary sculpture. Events and programs which build an appreciation and understanding of contemporary sculpture and highlight the surrounding landscape are scheduled throughout the year. Tours of the park are presented free of charge by dedicated docents and offer the opportunity for groups to encounter the work in a relaxed atmosphere.



**ILLINOIS PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** — The 75-member Orchestra performs at Governors State University from November through May. The orchestra is the largest performing arts organization in the Chicago Southland and was named 2010 Illinois Orchestra of the Year. For more information see [www.ipomusic.org](http://www.ipomusic.org).



**FREEDOM HALL**, 410 Lakewood Boulevard, Park Forest. The intimate 330-seat Nathan Manilow Theatre inside the hall offers diverse entertainment, accenting dance, music, theatre, children's theatre and outreach activities. Call 708-747-0580 or log on to [www.freedomhall.org](http://www.freedomhall.org) for a schedule of events.

**TALL GRASS ARTS ASSOCIATION** in Downtown Park Forest is the only nonprofit art center of its type in Chicago's south suburban region. It includes special monthly exhibits, a sales Art Gallery, ongoing art classes for children and adults, and special events. Call 780-748-3377 or log on to [www.tallgrassarts.com](http://www.tallgrassarts.com) for more details.

**CREDIT UNION 1 AMPHITHEATER** in Tinley Park is a popular 30,000 seat outdoor music venue that hosts the top entertainers in rock and pop music from May through September. Past acts include Jimmy Buffet, Dave Matthews, Sheryl Crow, and U-2.

For more information on cultural events in Olympia Fields and outlying areas, please contact the Chicago Southland Arts Alliance at [www.chicagosouthlandarts.org](http://www.chicagosouthlandarts.org), or the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau at [www.visitchicagosouthland.com](http://www.visitchicagosouthland.com).

# Churches

Several churches representing most every major religious denomination are located in or near Olympia Fields. Besides offering regular worship services and religious education, many provide their congregation members with opportunities to serve the community through outreach programs, food pantries and other social services. Churches in Olympia Fields are:

- **Central Baptist Church**  
(708) 481-6166  
20225 Governors Highway
- **The Emmaus Community Church**  
(708) 481-7025  
20820 Western Avenue
- **Olympia Fields United Methodist Church**  
(708) 481-5928  
20301 Western Avenue
- **Cathedral of Joy**  
20401 Western Avenue





Olympia Fields residents are fortunate to have access to four quality health care facilities located either in the Village or within a short distance.

- **Franciscan Health - Olympia Fields** (708) 747-4000  
20201 S. Crawford Avenue, Olympia Fields
- **Advocate South Suburban Hospital** (708) 799-8000  
17800 Kedzie Avenue, Hazel Crest
- **Advocate Medical Group** (708) 481-8883  
4001 Vollmer Road, Olympia Fields
- **Ingalls Memorial Hospital** (708) 333-2300  
1 Ingalls Drive, Harvey

## Support Organizations

**Jennifer S. Fallick Cancer Support Center** is located at 2028 Elm Road, in Homewood, with satellite centers in Tinley Park and Orland Park. All programs and services are free of charge to cancer patients and their families. Clinical professionals experienced in cancer support facilitate all programs. The center offers individualized programs for cancer patients, family, children and loved ones. The center also has networking groups for breast cancer, multiple myeloma, lymphoma and prostate cancer. More information is at 798-9171 or at [www.cancersupportcenter.org](http://www.cancersupportcenter.org).

**Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse** provides services to victims of domestic violence and their children. Call 335-3028 for general information. The 24-hour Crisis Hotline number is 1-877-335-3020. Or access [www.ssfsi.org](http://www.ssfsi.org).

**Catholic Charities** offers many critical senior services, including home-delivered meals, and state-licensed, home health care for seniors on an insurance or private-pay basis. It provides the services of registered nurses, nurse's aides, homemaker services, and companions to seniors on their own or in assisted living situations. Call 333-8379 for details, or access [www.catholiccharities.net](http://www.catholiccharities.net).

## Prairie State College



Situated on a 123-acre campus in Chicago Heights, Prairie State College is a two-year community college offering associate degrees, technical and career studies certificates, plus adult, corporate and continuing education. Degrees are granted in the fields of arts, science, fine arts, applied science and general studies.

There are programs of study in more than 100 academic areas, including health services, information systems, industrial services and technology. The college has been recognized for the quality of its programs and services through six awards for excellence from the Illinois College Board—more than any other college in the state. Call 709-3500 for more information, or access [www.prairie.cc.il.us](http://www.prairie.cc.il.us).

## Governors State University



Located in University Park, Governors State University has four colleges: Arts and Sciences, Business and Public Administration, Education, and Health Professions. It also offers a Bachelor's of Liberal Arts degree from its Board of Governors program, which gives credit for life experiences. Governors State University provides distance-learning programs that serve students around the world, including U.S. Navy personnel seeking to complete their baccalaureate degrees. More information is at 534-5000, or access [www.govst.edu](http://www.govst.edu).

A primary concern of Olympia Fields is the education of its children. The school system strives to educate the whole person, both in and out of the classroom. The schools are staffed with highly qualified teachers. Each student is inspired to strive for optimum development of his or her unique, inherent skills and talents.

Olympia Fields is served by three elementary and three high school districts. Below, the districts are identified according to their boundaries.

## MATTESON SCHOOL DISTRICT #162

Includes all of Olympia Fields, except Graymoor, Wysteria and The Greens. Administrative Offices are located at 4601 Sauk Trail, Richton Park. Call 708 748-0100 or fax 708 748-7302 or visit the District's website at [www.sd162.org](http://www.sd162.org).

- **Arcadia School (Grades K-3)**  
20519 Arcadian Way, Olympia Fields  
[http://www.edline.net/pages/Arcadia\\_ES](http://www.edline.net/pages/Arcadia_ES)  
708-747-3555
- **Indiana School (Grades 4-6)**  
165 Indiana, Park Forest  
708-747-5300
- **Huth Middle School (Grades 7-8)**  
3718 West 213th Place, Matteson  
708-748-0470

- **Southland College Preparatory Charter School**  
4601 Sauk Trail, Richton Park  
<http://www.edline.net/pages/SCPCHS>



## RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #227



The district encompasses all of Olympia Fields, except Graymoor and Wysteria. The district office is located at 20550 Cicero Avenue in Matteson. They can be reached at 708-679-5800 or at [www.rich227.org](http://www.rich227.org)

- **STEM Campus**  
3600 W. 203rd Street, Olympia Fields  
708 679-5600  
[www.rich227.org](http://www.rich227.org)

## FLOSSMOOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #161

Encompasses Graymoor and The Greens residents only. Administrative Offices are located at 41 E. Elmwood, Chicago Heights. Call 708-754-0400 or fax 708-754-2089. Further detailed information concerning District 161 can be found at [www.sd161.org](http://www.sd161.org).

- **Western Avenue School** (Grades K-5)  
940 Western Avenue, Flossmoor 708-206-2744
- **Parker Junior High School** (Grades 6th—8th)  
2810 School Street, Flossmoor 708-798-0641

## HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #233

Applies to Graymoor residents only.

- **Homewood-Flossmoor High School** , 999 Kedzie Avenue., Flossmoor  
708-799-3000 Fax: 708-799-9564 Website: [www.hfhighschool.org](http://www.hfhighschool.org)

## SCHOOL DISTRICT #170



Encompasses Wysteria residents only . Administrative Office: 30 West 16th Street, Chicago Heights. Call 708-756-4165 or visit [www.sd170.com](http://www.sd170.com).

- **Kennedy School** (Grades K-8) 1013 Division Street, Chicago Heights  
708-756-4830

## BLOOM TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #206

Applies to Wysteria residents only.

- **Bloom High School**, 101 W. 10th Street, Chicago Heights  
708-754-2068  
Website: [www.bloomdistrict206.org](http://www.bloomdistrict206.org)

# Homeowner Associations

The Village of Olympia Fields has very active Homeowners Associations that work closely with the Village to promote the quality of life that we have all learned to appreciate in Olympia Fields.

## Arcadia



Charles Durley, President  
[AHOA60461@gmail.com](mailto:AHOA60461@gmail.com)

## Graymoor



Bernard Sheppard, President  
[graymoorlandowners@gmail.com](mailto:graymoorlandowners@gmail.com)

## The Greens



Michele Austin, President  
[MAUSTIN101@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:MAUSTIN101@HOTMAIL.COM)  
Contact Shirley Johnson at 708-710-7815

## Hawthorne Hills



Victor Blackwell, President

[hawthornehillsof@gmail.com](mailto:hawthornehillsof@gmail.com)

## Greens of Olympia Fields Townhomes

Kimberly, Jackson  
[kdjackson33@att.net](mailto:kdjackson33@att.net)  
708-846-7310

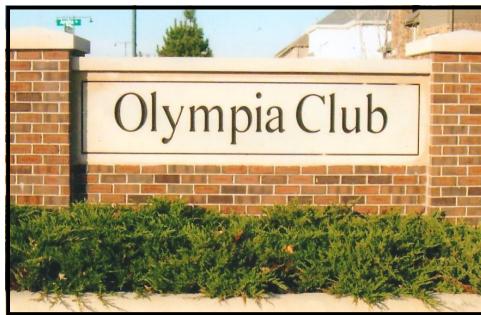
# Homeowners Association

## Wysteria



Robert Lewis, President  
(708) 481-2970  
robtlew@comcast.net

## Olympia Club



Lee Langon, President  
(312) 933-8992  
Leelangon@comcast.net

## Original Village



Dr. Sharon Bean, President  
(708) 747-9243  
sgbean03@gmail.com

## Maynegaite



Shiree Bush-Giblins  
(708) 433-9673  
P.O. Box 849, Matteson, IL 60433

## Vienna Woods



Arthur Jarrett, President  
artj1@comcast.net

## Traditions



Kathy Travis, President  
travis48@comcast.net

# Homeowner Associations

**The Trails**



**Edward Quinn, President**  
[president@thetrailsofolympiafields.com](mailto:president@thetrailsofolympiafields.com)

**The Trails of Olympia Fields HOA**  
PO Box 273  
Olympia Fields, IL 60461

**Lakes of Olympia**



**Johnnie Giles, Interim President**  
[gilesj@icloud.com](mailto:gilesj@icloud.com)  
708-528-2402

**Suburban Woods**



**Stephen Hinton, President**  
[shint63@aol.com](mailto:shint63@aol.com)

**Olympia Fields East**

**Carlando Owens, President**  
[ofeha.president@gmail.com](mailto:ofeha.president@gmail.com)