



Village of Chatham  
Tracy Memorial Hall  
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## Newsletter

### *Chatham Fire Department*

The Chatham Fire Department, although a department within the village government, is entirely volunteer. They are your friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers and colleagues who make themselves available 24/7 in all weather conditions for alarm activations, vehicle accidents, chimney and structure fires and flooded basements (140 in total last year).

The history of the department goes back to 1858, 161 years, and we have members that have been with the department more than 50 years! As you can imagine, the older members generally don't perform at the level of our younger firefighters.

In order to keep the department at full strength to protect the life and property of those we serve, we need to have the pipeline of members full, continually adding to our roster at the younger end as those 50 year members age out.

This is a common problem among NYS fire departments, and the Fireman's Association of NY (FASNY) is sponsoring a recruitment weekend April 28 – 29 (details to be announced later).

However, we would like to remind you that we are **always** looking for new members, and anyone interested in learning more about the department and the ways in which you could help (interior or exterior firefighter, fire police, ladies auxiliary, driver, kitchen, etc.) should not wait until April. Call the firehouse now at 518-392-2751 (forwarded to the village clerk at extension 3 if no one is at the firehouse) or e-mail [recruitny@chathamfire.net](mailto:recruitny@chathamfire.net). Leave your contact information and a chief will follow up with you.

**Shredding Bins:** We will once again have shredding bins available at the Tracy Memorial.

This is open to the public for any papers needing to be shred. You do not have to remove staples or paper clips. It is preferable that you DO remove any black binder clips. The bins are available to the

public during regular business hours; during night time meetings and court nights for the Month of March.

**Water Storage Tank Update:** Construction of the water storage tank is due to begin this spring with a completion date on or about the end of May, 2019. For safety reasons, we ask that people refrain from walking along the access road during the construction phase of the project until completion.

**Leaf Pick-Up:** Leaf pick-up will start again. The Village will take them if they are bagged in biodegradable bags. Please do not put twigs or sticks in the bags. If you bundle them next to the paper bags, we will go around and collect these at a later date. Branches should be tied in bundles. Wood should be cut as follows: over 2" in diameter – 2 feet long / under 2" in diameter – 4 feet long.

**Heavy Trash Pick-Up:** The Village will be doing its annual Heavy Trash pick-up the week of June 3, 2019. We will do the Ghent side of the Village on Monday, June 3rd and the Chatham side of the Village on Tuesday, June 4th. Heavy metal pick up throughout the Village will be on Wednesday, June 5th. Please note that this just applies to the "Village of Chatham" residents (the Village consists of the Town of Chatham and Town of Ghent). You will need to sign up for heavy trash pick-up by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Water/Sewer Reminders:**

- Sump Pumps should not be connected to your sewer system. Please drain pumps outside.
- Do NOT put grease down the drain. Pour hot grease into a can then throw it out with the regular garbage.
- Please review the list on our website of items not to be thrown down the toilet.
- Several neighborhoods and property owners have had problems with roots infiltrating sewer pipes, causing blockages. There are different solutions to this depending on the type of pipe you have. Please call the DPW (Phil Genovese) at (518)392-5877 or (518) 392-5821 ext. 5 if you find you have sewer issues. You can always email him your questions at [pgenovese@villageofchatham.com](mailto:pgenovese@villageofchatham.com).

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