

**Village of Chatham, NY**  
**FALL NEWSLETTER 2023**



**Old Grammar School, Chatham NY**

**BACK TO SCHOOL PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS:** A friendly reminder that school will soon be back in session and children and bicyclists will be out and about. Please keep an eye out for them when driving and remember that bicyclists have equal right-of way-and all pedestrians have the right-of-way when using a cross walk.

**LEAF PICKUP/YARD DEBRIS:** Leaf pickup will begin in October and run through December (weather permitting). Please note that this includes leaves only: brush, stone, and other yard waste will damage the machinery and cannot be accepted. Downed limbs, brush, and yard clippings, and leaves may also be deposited at the DPW garage at Brookside Avenue between 7:00 am and 3:00 pm, Monday-Friday. Land clearing or tree removal brush should not be brought to the DPW garage but can be taken to the Greenport transfer station.

If you have any questions, email them to [pgenovese@villageofchatham.com](mailto:pgenovese@villageofchatham.com) or call (518) 392-5877.

**PARKING:** There will be restricted parking in the Village on the following dates:

- Saturday, September 2, 2023, from 6:30 am-1:00 pm: NO PARKING on Kinderhook Street and Woodbridge Avenue due to the Annual Firefighter's Parade.
- Tuesday, August 29-Tuesday, September 5, 2023: NO PARKING on Church Street for the Columbia County Fair.

Please keep in mind that the parking of vehicles is prohibited on all streets in the village between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. daily.

**SHREDDING: COLUMBIA COUNTY K.I.S.S. PROGRAM:** Seniors over sixty can bring sensitive documents to the Village Hall from August 21st – September 8th, for FREE destruction. Village residents' documents will be signed over to the Clerk and will be placed into a secure, locked container immediately. This container cannot be unlocked by any County or Village employee, only by the vendor.

**OFFICE OF CODE ENFORCEMENT:** A reminder to all: sidewalks are a public right-of-way and MUST maintain a minimum clearance of no less than 4' that is free from hazards (such as tables, chair, signs, etc.) at all times for pedestrian accessibility.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:** Please keep in mind that Grease, Oil and Fats should be allowed to cool and placed in the garbage and never disposed of in a sink drain or in the toilet. The following should not be flushed down the toilet: Feminine Hygiene Products; Flushable Wipes; Prophylactics/Condoms; Kleenex/Facial Tissues; Dental Floss; Paper Towels; Cigarette Butts; Medication; Cotton Balls; Band Aids; Disposable Diapers; Q-Tips; Kitty Litter; Gasoline; Paint Thinner

**SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL:** Owners of property which adjoins a public sidewalk are obligated to keep the sidewalk free from snow and ice for the full width and length abutting the owner's property **within 24 hours after the end of a snowfall or after the snow has been deposited on the sidewalk.** In the case that snow and ice on any sidewalk is frozen so hard that it cannot be removed without injury to the sidewalk, the property owner must spread, or cause to be spread, sand, salt, sawdust, or other suitable material. As soon as is practical thereafter, the sidewalk must be completely cleared of such snow and ice. If the property owner fails to comply within 24 hours they will be served with a notice to comply, which will be issued by the Code Enforcement Officer.

If property owners fail to remove the snow and/or ice from the sidewalks or to cover ice with salt, sand or like material within 24 hours of the service of the notice to comply, the Village may have the snow and ice removed or the sidewalk sanded and salted. The failure of an owner to comply within 24 hours after being served with a copy of a notice to comply, shall be a violation and shall be punishable by a fine as follows:

- (1) For a first violation in any calendar year: \$100.
- (2) For a second violation in the same calendar year as the first violation: \$200.
- (3) For a third violation in the same calendar year as the first violation: \$300.
- (4) Each subsequent violation in the same calendar year as the first violation shall result in a fine of \$300.

The Code Enforcement Officer will mail notice of fines for violation to the owner at the owner's address on file for the billing of real property taxes. If the fine is not paid within 30 days of its mailing, it will become a lien upon the real estate adjoining the public sidewalk and shall be re-levied on the next Village real property tax bill.

**CHATHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT:** The goal of the Chatham Fire Department is to provide the best and most up to date service to the people and property owners in our fire district. Maintaining keys or attempting to keep a list of people to contact in the event of a fire or emergency has become unmanageable and is causing delays when responding to fire alarm activations or emergencies at businesses during off hours, or residences that are unoccupied. In order to access buildings quickly, minimize forced entry damage, and protect firefighters and occupants from injury, the Chatham Fire Department is asking for the support in proposing all business owners and residences alike which have an automatic fire alarm system, in the Village of Chatham, as well as the rest of the fire district to install a Knox-Box Rapid Entry System. Please go to [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com) or contact the company at 800-552-5669 for further information or questions on the box. Please feel free to contact Fire Department officials at 518-392-2751, or Assistant Chief Eric Barnes at [ebarnes@chathamfire.net](mailto:ebarnes@chathamfire.net).

**FEEDING WILDLIFE:** It is illegal to intentionally feed wild deer in New York. Feeding of white-tailed deer causes unnatural concentrations near the food source, which can lead to ecological damage, damage to property, and an increased risk of transmission of disease between deer.



Here's that same picture of a spooky ghost that I drew last year.

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**