

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2024

Village of Chatham, NY

Public Safety: As the warm breezes beckon us all to the great outdoors, we would like to wish everyone happy and safe Spring, and Summer seasons. It is important to remember ordinances such as the Village prohibition of golf carts on Village streets are for the safety of everyone. New York State law and local ordinances classify golf carts as "special purpose vehicles," restricting their use to private property or designated areas. Despite their charm and convenience, golf carts lack the necessary safety features and speed capabilities for public roads, posing significant risks to drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. We urge all residents and visitors to respect this regulation and consider alternative transportation like walking, biking, or using traditional motor vehicles. Adhering to these rules helps maintain the safety and harmony of our community, preserving Chatham's unique character. For any questions, please contact Village authorities. Thank you for your cooperation.

Pet Care: Remember that Village spaces are public areas. Please clean up anything that your pet may leave behind. It is not only common courtesy, it is Village Law Section 30-14.

Pollinator Meadow Flourishes in Village of Chatham: The Village of Chatham is proud to announce the successful establishment of a pollinator meadow on the half-acre slope between the water tank and Dinnegar Ave. This initiative, proposed by Claudia Knab-Vispo and Wendy Carroll in March 2020, aimed to replace a planned lawn with a diverse habitat for local wildlife. Since seeding the meadow with 35 native wildflower and grass species in early 2021, the area now hosts 124 plant species, including 42 native wildflowers and 19 native grasses. The meadow attracts bees, butterflies, birds, and other wildlife, providing ecological benefits and enhancing community enjoyment. The meadow's maintenance has involved significant weeding efforts to manage invasive species, with contributions from local residents. The meadow requires no mowing and continues to thrive, adding vibrant colors and biodiversity to the area. For more information or to arrange a guided tour, please contact Claudia Knab-Vispo at claudia@hawthornevalleyfarm.org or 518-938-1109.

Columbia County K.I.S.S. Program: Seniors over sixty can bring sensitive documents to the Village Hall from June 17th - 28th, for FREE document destruction. Senior Village residents may place their documents into a secure, locked container which cannot be unlocked by any County or Village employee. The containers are unlocked by the shredding vendor ONLY at the time of shredding. Documents that do not meet the following criteria will not be accepted for shredding: Banking papers, Tax papers,

Medical papers/bills, Credit Card statements, any document that contains your personal/sensitive information (name/address/social sec number, bank account #'s, etc.).

Tax Time: Tax bills will be mailed by the end of May. Tax payments may be made throughout June, and the last day to pay taxes without penalty will be on July 1, 2024.

Water/Sewer Utility Bills: A few tips and reminders:

- You can pay your water bill by mail, in person at the Clerk's office, or online at www.villageofchatham.com. (*Note: service fee is added to all credit card transactions).
- If you notice that your water bill is higher than normal, you may have a running toilet or a dripping hose or faucet.
- Keeping a monthly record of your meter readings could be helpful.
- At most hardware stores, you can find Garden Hose Water Flow meters which can be attached to your garden hose to record the amount of water flowing through the hose. Contact the Clerk's office to see how this might save some on the sewer portion of your bill.
- Please consider signing up for paperless billing to have your water/sewer bills emailed directly to you.

Operating Permits/For-Sale OR Give-Away Items:

If you have any questions regarding Operating Permits, please contact Erin Reis, Village Code Enforcement Officer at (518) 392-5821 ext.4 or by emailing ereis@villageofchatham.com. With yard-sale season and spring clean-up time upon us, please remember that when putting items out for sale (or for free), that all items MUST be placed on your own property and that if they are not picked up or sold within one week, the items MUST be removed from the yard or curb. Items should NEVER be placed on, or block, the sidewalk or Village/Public property.



Enjoy your Summer!!!