

## Village of Middleport Annual Spring Newsletter – May 2014

**Changes are coming**..... to the Village's recycling program. **Starting with the first Wednesday in July (July 2, 2014)**, residents & businesses will be using 64-gallon recycling carts for a **biweekly** pickup. This change in services will save the Village some money, even after the purchase of the recycling carts.

The Village will host an "open house" on **Saturday, June 21, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. to noon**, at the Village's Public Works Garage (behind the Village Hall, 24 Main Street) giving business owners and residents the opportunity to meet with Modern Disposal representatives to ask questions and to take home their new recycling cart. If you don't have a way to take your cart with you, maybe you could ask a neighbor who owns a larger vehicle for help. ***We ask that you do not use your new recycle cart prior to July 2, 2014.***

Modern Disposal will be sending out a newsletter explaining these new changes, so watch your mailbox for it sometime in June. The Village will be split into two pickup areas. This newsletter will indicate which week you will need to place your recycling to the curb. Along with these pickup changes, there will also be changes to what may be recycled. That information will also be included in the newsletter. One good change is that if you have a cardboard box from a large appliance to recycle, you do not need to break it down. It can be placed to the curb "as is."

Please note that the recycle carts are Village property. They stay with the address should you move out. Due to the high cost of the cart, if it gets damaged or is removed from the premises and needs replacing, the fee will be \$46.50 per cart.

We will keep you posted on the Village's website ([www.villageofmiddleport.org](http://www.villageofmiddleport.org)) and Facebook page, as well, about this great change for the Village.

Some reminders are about refuse & recycling pickup:

1. All refuse, and recycling will be collected on Wednesdays of each week. Normal collection time will begin at 6:30 a.m. and continue until collection is completed. Said collections will be made from the edge of the traveled portion of the street.
2. **Refuse may not be placed at curbside more than twelve (12) hours before start of scheduled pickup. Refuse is not to be placed for pickup at any other time.** Please do not put it out before 6:30 p.m. the night before.
3. All garbage must be placed in closed containers made of metal, plastic, and/or plastic garbage bags.
4. Other refuse or rubbish must be in substantial containers that are not adversely affected by the elements. The containers shall not weigh more than sixty (60) pounds when filled.
5. Large electronics (televisions, computer monitors, etc.) may not be placed to the curb. They may be taken to the Can Stand, 149 Telegraph Road, for recycling. Smaller electronics may be dropped off at the Village Hall for recycling.
6. There is no large items garbage pickup day in the Village. **One** large item (i.e., couch, refrigerator, etc.) may be placed at curbside per week as long as 2 people can lift it easily. **Refrigerators must be certified Freon free or they will not be picked up.** If you have any questions, please contact the Village Hall at 735-3303.

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There has been a lot going on with the Village since our last newsletter. We entered the social media world in 2013, and it has been a great success in getting information to our residents.

If you have a Facebook account, "like" our page to keep up with our announcements and information. Even if you're not a member of Facebook, you can find us at <https://www.facebook.com/middleportnewyork> if you want to look for updates and information. Do you Twitter? If so, you can find us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/MiddleportNY>. Although the Village has had an official website for several years at [www.villageofmiddleport.org](http://www.villageofmiddleport.org), you can find much of the social information at [www.middleport-newyork.com](http://www.middleport-newyork.com) that is also posted on Facebook and Twitter.

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As you may know, the Village welcomed Bryan Bobbitt as the Village Coordinator in October 2013. The previous Coordinator, Daniel Dodge, was offered an employment opportunity with the Town of Lockport, leaving the position vacant in early September. We wish Mr. Dodge well in his endeavors in Lockport! Mr. Bobbitt has had a relatively smooth transition into being the head of the Public Works Department. Bryan and his family lived in the Village for many years until they relocated just outside of the Village a few years ago. He brings a great deal of construction, trucking, and administrative experience to the Public Works Department, and we are fortunate to have him. If you see him out and about, make sure you say "hi!" to our newest Public Works employee.

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Have you visited the Village Historian in her office at 20 Main Street? Historian Christa Lutz has been making her historical "home" in the front office at the Masonic Lodge, thanks to the generosity of the Wilmot Fund and FMC. She is there on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Stop in if you are looking for information, want to pass on some information or donate items to the Village, or want to see some of the items the Historian has collected over the years.

Mrs. Lutz is currently working on editing the history of Middleport book that was written by previous Historian Mrs. Anna Wallace. Middleport has a rich history worth preserving.

Did you know there is a fundraiser going on to get Mrs. Wallace's history of Middleport published? A poster was created in 2013 called "Falling for the Porches of Middleport." A minimum donation of \$5 will get you one of these suitable for framing posters of 18 porches found throughout the Village, and you'll help the book get published. The pictures were taken by Village

resident Gretchen Schweigert, an Alfred University graduate who majored in photography. Stop in at the Village Hall or the Historian's office to purchase one of these posters. You won't regret it! If you'd like to view the poster online, you'll find it at [www.middleport-newyork.com](http://www.middleport-newyork.com)

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The Municipal Outreach Program sponsored by the Niagara County Veterans Service Agency was so popular they are offering it again in 2014. A representative will be at the Middleport Village Hall on **Thursday, September 18, 2014**, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to review your veterans benefits to determine if you are receiving everything you are entitled to receive. Call the Village Hall at (716) 735-3303 to set up an appointment or for more information. Each appointment takes about an hour, so space is limited. Please bring your discharge papers with you to your appointment. If you are unable to make an appointment in Middleport or don't want to wait until September, you may try another municipality. For a complete list of where and when the rep will be, visit our website at [www.villageofmiddleport.org](http://www.villageofmiddleport.org) and click on Veterans Municipal Outreach Program. You do not have to be a resident of the municipality to make an appointment there. If you do not have access to a computer, call the Clerk's Office for the schedule.

**Swim class signup** will be held at the Village Hall, 24 Main Street, on Saturday, June 14, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The swim program is open to any child in the Royalton-Hartland School District age 6 months or older. Notices are sent home with elementary students at the end of May.

The **Village's recreation program** will be held from July 7 through August 8, 2014. This program is open to children living in the Village who will be entering Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade September 2014. Watch for flyers around town in June with more information.

**2014 Holiday Refuse/Recycle Schedule:** pickup will be delayed in the Village one day for the following federal holidays **ONLY:** Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Christmas Day. No other holiday will interrupt service.

**2014 Niagara County Rabies Clinics – all clinics are on Saturdays**

**6/14/2014 2-4 pm** Hyde Park- Oasis/Centennial Pavilion  
911 Robbins Drive, Niagara Falls

**7/12/2014 2-4 pm** Town of Wilson Highway Garage  
3356 Wilson-Cambria Rd, Wilson

**9/20/2014 2-4 pm** Town of Lockport Highway Dept.  
6560 Dysinger Rd, Lockport

**12/6/2014 2-4 pm** City N. Tonawanda Public Works Dept.  
758 Erie Ave, N. Tonawanda

By law, all cats, dogs & domesticated ferrets must have a current rabies vaccination from 4 months of age on. For cats & dogs: without proof of prior vaccination, a one-year vaccine will be give. With proof, a three-year vaccine will be given. Ferrets must be vaccinated annually.

ALL ANIMALS must be properly restrained. Cats & ferrets must be in a box or carrier. Dogs must be leashed. If you plan to bring more than 6 animals, you must contact the Health Dept. at least one week prior to the clinic.

For more information, call the NC Dept. of Health at 439-7511

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME. CALL THE NCHD IF YOU WANT TO HELP!

**BRUSH:** will be chipped each Monday *except for the months of January, February and March*. Brush is to be placed at the curb on Sunday evenings, butt site toward the street, stacked no more than 4 feet high. Please do not place roots, stumps, vines or rose bushes out for chipping. **Failure to follow this advice can cause all of the brush to be left at the curb. Continually leaving brush at the curb too early can be cause for citation of the Village's yard maintenance law.** When tree or lawn work is performed by a private contractor, they should take away the debris.

**WOOD CHIPS:** Wood chips are available for Village residents' yard use. Please call Bryan Bobbitt at 735-3303 for arrangements.

**LEAVES:** in the fall, leaves are to be raked to the edge of the street and left in open piles. **Any other time they are to be bagged and placed out with garbage.**

**VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE – (716) 735-3303**

Clerk-Treasurer Rebecca A. Schweigert

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.

Email: ClerkTreasurer@villageofmiddleport.org

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – (716) 735-3373**

Village Coordinator Bryan Bobbitt

Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon. through Fri.

Email: MiddleportDPW@villageofmiddleport.org

**POLICE DEPARTMENT – 735-3373**

Police Chief John J. Swick

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.

Non-emergency calls: 735-3700 (NCSD Dispatch)

Emergency calls: 911

Email: MiddleportPD@villageofmiddleport.org

**SEWER CALLS**

As a courtesy to Village residents, the Public Works Department will make sewer calls during regular business hours only. The majority of sewer calls that the DPW make are usually the homeowner's responsibility. Should you have a sewer problem after hours, on the weekend, or on a holiday, it is your responsibility to contact a plumber for the problem. **Village Code Article IV, §150-8. "Cost born by owner"** states that "All work and expense incident to the installation, connection and maintenance of the building sewer from the building to the sanitary sewer connection shall be borne by the owner." (This service may be discontinued in the future.)

**CODE/ZONING ENFORCEMENT – 735-3303 ext. 16**

Brian Belson

Office Hours: 9 am to 11 am, Saturdays

Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings by appt.

Email: Code.Enforce@villageofmiddleport.org

**Your elected Village officials:**

Mayor Richard Westcott

Deputy Mayor Thomas Conley

Trustee Wayne Blumrick

Trustee Rebecca Hinkson

Trustee Dennis McAvoy