

The Quogue Village Voice

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An email to residents sent out about this time last year started out “at the moment we are awaiting a possible blizzard” Since we just experienced our fourth nor’easter this month, it appears that consistency reigns when it comes to weather in Quogue this time of year.

Here are a few items that may be of interest to you.

Septic Systems

Earlier this month, the Board of Trustees enacted a new local law requiring the installation of advanced, nitrogen-reducing wastewater treatment systems in connection with the construction of new residences, major renovations and additions and certain replacements and repairs of existing septic systems. You may obtain a copy of the new law via the Village website or by calling the Village Office.

As to existing conventional systems, we know that they are not visible and therefore there is a tendency on the part of homeowners to ignore them until such time as there is an unpleasant malfunction. However, most experts recommend having the tank pumped every three to five years. Some preventive maintenance now could avert a catastrophic event later.

Rentals and the U.S. Open

As most of you probably know, this year the U.S. Open is being held at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club from June 11-17. Under our Village rental laws, the minimum period for which a single-family dwelling may be rented is normally 14 consecutive days, with a provision allowing application to the Board of Trustees for an exception in the case of special events. The Board of Trustees has determined that the U.S. Open is a qualifying event, and therefore no application to the Board of Trustees will be necessary. Other provisions of the rental laws continue to apply, however. If a single-family dwelling is rented, the entire dwelling must be rented (i.e. no renting of rooms). Also, the requirement to obtain a seasonal license will continue to apply. The application form can be found on the Village website. Please submit it well in advance in order to allow time for processing.

April Leaf Pick-up

The Village Highway Department will begin picking up leaves during the week of April 2nd. Leaves must be on the shoulder of the street by Monday, April 30 in order to be picked up. Do not pile leaves around fire hydrants or utility equipment. DO NOT USE PLASTIC BAGS. They will not be picked up, and you will have to remove them.

No brush, such as twigs and branches, or lawn cuttings will be taken away, and mixing this debris with leaves will result in the leaves not being removed. Brush with branches up to 3” in diameter may be taken to the Westhampton recycling facility for six weeks in April and May. For more information, go to www.southamptontownny.gov.

In addition to the foregoing, property owners and landscapers who take leaves (only) from a Quogue property may make arrangements with the Quogue Highway Department to dump them at the highway yard. That will avoid having piles in front of your property waiting to be picked up and blowing back onto your lawn.

Village Beach Stickers

The Village Office will begin accepting applications for Village beach stickers (and lockers) on Monday, April 2nd. Emails will go out to people on our beach email list at that time, and application forms and instructions will also be available on the Village website. Please follow the instructions carefully and take care to submit all the information that is required. Please remember that applications may take up to five business days to process. Get your papers in early and avoid the crush—typically right before weekends, especially holiday weekends. That will save you and the Village Office staff a lot of unnecessary stress.

This year we are dispensing with the \$50 deposit for lockers that was intended to assure that lockers are emptied and locks removed at the end of the season. However, failure to do that will result in a \$50 fine.

Damage at Village Beach

In one of the early nor'easters this month, the ocean scoured away most of the sand at the Village Beach back to the protective, sand-filled geocubes, wiped out the stairs and created a cliff at the south end of the vehicle overpass. (Other areas of the Quogue oceanfront did not fare as badly.) Because there has been a subsequent string of storms, the beach has been unable to start its usual spring buildup. We will be placing sand at the beach to cover the geocubes and replacing the stairs and are seeking an extension from the DEC of the usual April 1 piping plover cut-off date for work so as to avoid the effects of any future storms.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone as actual spring and summer draw closer.