



For Immediate Release: 04.08.05

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Annual Alley Clean Up and Inspection Program Begins

The Village's annual alley clean-up and inspection program is scheduled to resume on Mon., April 18, with the focus on Harlem Avenue to Oak Park Avenue between North Avenue and Division Street.

The program, which targets a different section of the Village each year, is intended to enhance neighborhoods and improve public safety by clearing overgrown vegetation, removing litter, inspecting for proper waste disposal, checking for streetlight outages and providing a visible police presence.

The alley program also coordinates with the long-standing *Neighborhood Walk Program*, which has Village building inspectors walking the community visually checking properties for deterioration, decay and deferred maintenance as a way to prevent possible health and safety problems and maintain the Village's high property values and attractive appearance.

As part of the alley clean-up program and prior to the work beginning, information on the neighborhood's Resident Beat Officer, proper tree care and a label containing the list of acceptable recyclable items for the blue cart program will be delivered to individual homes.

Residents whose properties within the designated clean-up area have overgrown vegetation that extends into the alley can request removal assistance from Village crews. Requests should be made before work begins in their alleys.

Any resident not in this year's program area can get involved, too, by organizing a neighborhood alley clean-up event. A *Keep Oak Park Beautiful* alley clean up kit containing 10 garbage bags, 10 refuse stickers, 10 pairs of disposable gloves and information on organizing a safe and successful neighborhood event are available through the Public Works Department.

For more information on the Village alley clean-up program or organizing a neighborhood alley clean-up event, call 358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

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