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Public Works open house and fun fair set

The Public Works Department will host its annual open house and fun fair from 9 a.m. – noon, Sat., May 16, at the Public Works Center, 201 South Blvd.

Visitors are invited to see equipment, vehicle demonstrations and informational displays. Representatives from all Public Works divisions will be on hand to explain their roles and answer questions.

The open house is part of the Village's observance of [National Public Works Week](#), May 17 – 23, a program established in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy to urge citizens and civic leaders to learn more about public works programs in their communities.

This year's national event theme is *Revitalize, Reinvest, Renew* – a theme that focuses on investing in today's public works infrastructure to ensure a productive and safe future for communities. The Village is building upon the national theme by inviting residents to come out and meet their local public works professionals.

Oak Park Public Works Center is the first green-designed building of its kind in Illinois. The facility contains 155,000 square feet of space designed to be energy efficient, environmentally friendly and at home in its predominantly residential neighborhood.

Everything public works crews require, including winter road salt, is housed on the three floors of space inside the building, which covers about two acres. Only the top two floors of the building are visible above ground. Low-emission paints, adhesives, coatings, sealants and carpeting were used throughout, and large windows take advantage of natural light. Other features include a green roof, solar-heated water and ultra-efficient mechanical heating and cooling equipment.

For more information on the open house or the building, call the Public Works Department at 708.358.5700 or e-mail publicworks@oak-park.us.

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