

Resident Beat Officer:
Zone 7 & 8



John Rumoro
Phone: 305.9782

South Side Scoop

Dear business owners and residents,

Happy New Year to all. I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy 2010. I would like to pass on some new laws that went into effect as of Jan. 1, 2010. "On August 6, 2009, Governor Pat Quinn signed into law House Bill 71 and House Bill 72. The new laws ban motorists from sending text messages while driving in Illinois, and make it illegal to talk on a cell phone while driving through a highway construction zone or school zone. In addition, it will become illegal to compose, send or read text messages, instant messages and e-mail on a cell phone or surf the internet while driving. The ban also includes personal digital assistants and portable or mobile computers, but does not include global positioning systems (GPS) or navigation systems." So please be aware of this and as usual, pay attention to your surroundings and report any suspicious activity. Remember to contact the Police Department if you feel that something is not right.

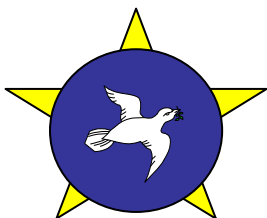
Sincerely,
OFFICER JOHN
Email rumoro@oak-park.us

NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME MAPS ONLINE

Crimes reported by location are listed on maps posted daily on the police Department section of the village web site

, www.oak-park.us/police . maps are prepared each weekday by the

are Police Department's crime analyst and posted by date. The maps are Adobe Portable document (PDF) files, which allow users to zoom in for a closer look at activity in particular areas. The main crime report page also provides definitions of crimes to help users understand classifications, as well as information on Resident Beat Officers jurisdictions. As residents review crime activity, Police are urging them to direct questions and tips to their RBO's – either by telephone, E-mail, or at the neighborhood meetings.



A shoveled sidewalk is a safer sidewalk

Property owners who shovel their sidewalks are making it safer for all pedestrians, especially children and senior citizens. Village ordinance requires snow and ice to be removed from the public sidewalk within 24 hours following any snow, sleet or freezing rain. If the snow or ice have become too hard, then sand, salt or any other abrasive material may be used to make pedestrian travel reasonably safe. The shoveling requirement applies to both business and residential property owners. While failure to clear a sidewalk fronting or abutting one's property could lead to a ticket and fine, the Village is counting on the community to comply willingly- especially since so many sidewalks in Oak park are walking routes to and from neighborhood schools. Being a good neighbor is important, too, so property owners are urged to help those who may need help clearing a sidewalk. The Village has compiled a list of resources where those in need can turn for help. For more information on the shoveling requirement or help resources, call 708.358.5700 or e-mail publicworks@oak-park.us .

Snow removal parking plan

The Village has specific rules that govern parking when it snows. The rules are enforced seven days a week, including holidays. Residents are urged to monitor local forecasts and plan accordingly. When a snow emergency is declared by the Public Works Department - typically after a two-inch snowfall - all parking is prohibited on the main streets posted as snow routes. Parking on other streets is restricted to one side from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. in residential areas and from midnight to 8 a.m. in designated commercial districts, the side determined by the date. (Odd days park on the odd side of the street and even days on the even side). To find out if snow-related parking restrictions are in effect, call 708.358.SNOW for a recorded message. The snow emergency parking rules and a list of frequently asked questions are also posted at www.oak-park.us/snow .



Last But Not Least...

Remember to keep your property well maintained, after all, "Our homes reflect our community"...let's show the people of Oak Park that the place to live is South of the expressway!