



June Calendar

- 3 & 24** Village Board Mtg.
- 11 & 25** Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 12** Zoning Board Mtg.
- 4** Bike/Ped Comm.
- 4** Cons. Advisory Comm.
- 11** Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 19** Visual Environ. Bd.
- 26** Trails Comm.

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Budget Adopted for 2013/2014

The budget for fiscal year 2013/2014 was adopted on April 29 with an unanimous vote. The fiscal year begins on June 1, 2013 and ends May 31, 2014.

The approved budget falls within the NYS Tax Cap mandate and calls for a 2.41% increase in the Village's property tax rate. The total 2013/2014 budget for the Village is \$18,158,071 of which \$10,875,539 will be raised through property taxes. The remaining \$7,282,532 will be raised through non-tax revenues, appropriated fund balance, appropriated retirement reserve and supplemental tax bills. The largest amount of non-tax revenues is attributable to the Village-owned train station parking lot which accounts for \$2.9 million in revenues.

The final approved tax rate of 2.41% was the result of multiple work session reviews with department heads and other administrative staff. It is down significantly from the proposed tax rate of 5.38% at the start of the review process. The decrease was possible in part due to an unexpected reduction in the Village's liability insurance costs, an increase in the Daily Parking rate from \$8 to \$9 (no change in permit rates), an expected increase in revenues in the Building Dept. and having the Municipal Building cleaning done under a contract rather than by a municipal employee.

The 2.41% tax increase amounts to an increase of \$5.792 per \$1000/assessed valuation. The Village's total assessed valuation of \$42,681,009, minus special franchises, has decreased slightly from 2012/2013 when it was \$42,728,231. However the Village's total taxable valuation at \$44,112,610 is a slight increase over the prior year of \$43,943,336.

Water Fund and Sewer Fund budgets were also approved. The water rate for

most users will increase from \$5.025 to \$5.890 per 100 cubic feet of water consumption. Sewer rates, which are tied to water rates, will increase from \$0.4759 to \$0.5640 per 100 cubic feet of water consumption.

Tax bills will be sent out on June 1, 2013 and are payable by June 30, 2013 without penalty. Late payments incur a 5% mandated penalty which cannot be waived.

Summerfest is Here!

On Sunday, June 2, summer kicks off in Croton. From 1 pm to 6 pm, the Upper Village area will be alive with good food,

games, live music and vendors. Many community organizations will also be present to let you know what they do and solicit your interest.

The parade will begin at Veteran's Corners at 1 pm and proceed along Old Post Road South to Grand Street. Marchers, led by the Hen Hud Marching Band, include members of youth groups, sports teams, Croton Seniors, Village staff and elected officials.

Croton's Director of Emergency Management, Richard Nagle, is the Grand Marshall. Live music at two locations will be provided by the 145 Band and Pete Moss and the Fertilizers. The Air Castle will be back along with many other games, activities, demonstrations and exhibits. Come ready to have a good time! This annual event is co-sponsored by the Croton subcommittee of the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce and the Village Recreation and Parks Dept.



Duck Pond Watershed

A new system of aeration begun in 2012 has succeeded in reducing the growth of heavy algae in the Duck Pond and the resultant green slime on the surface. While this makes the pond look nicer, it doesn't address the basic problem.

The Duck Pond is the gathering point for all the water that flows from its watershed. This means that storm water runoff from this watershed area, containing whatever contaminates it picks up from the streets and sidewalks, runs unfiltered into the municipal storm sewer system into the Duck Pond after every storm. These contaminants include oil and grease from cars, fertilizers and pesticides used on lawns in the watershed, pet wastes, car washing detergents and excess lawn clippings among other possibilities. The water in the Duck Pond eventually releases into the Hudson River.

A significant portion of Village residents live in the Duck Pond watershed. In general terms, it extends west to encompass the PVC school and playing field behind it,



north through the Bethel Cemetery, past the library to Munson St., southeast to Old Post Rd. South near Sunset Dr., and then south along Radnor to Bungalow into the Pond.

A second watershed area extends southeast of the pond as far as Cleveland Dr. to a point east of Oneida Ave. and then southwest back to the Pond.

You can learn how this contamination influences the pond and what steps you can take to reduce the pollution going into the pond by looking at a brochure prepared by the Advanced Placement Environmental Science Students at CHHS in 2011/2012. *The Duck Pond: Step by Step. Your Guide to Cleaner Water at the Duck Pond* is available on the Village's website. From the left side of the Home page, click on Recreation & Parks and then on Parks and Facilities to get to the Duck Pond.

Farmers' Market Returns

The Farmers' Market will be open on Sundays, 9 am to 2 pm, at Municipal Place through mid-November.



Silver Lake Opens

Silver Lake Park will be open only on weekends thru June 16 with hours of 11 am to 7 pm.

The Park will be open full time beginning Fri., June 21 and continue thru Mon., Sept. 2. Daily hours are 11 am to 7:30 pm. Due to weather conditions, and available staffing, dates and times are subject to change.

All guests **MUST** be accompanied by a Village or School District resident with a valid Village Photo ID.

Water Bill Reminder!

On June 15, the semi-annual water bills will be sent to residents on the Village's water system. Since 2010, a six-tier water rate system has been in place to determine the charges per cubic foot (CF) of water used. New rates for the 2013/2014 fiscal year will begin with the December bill as follows:

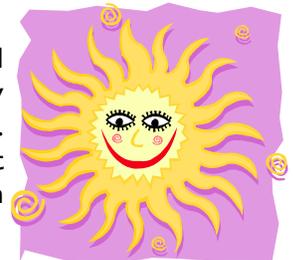
Tier 1	Basic - up to 900 CF/year	\$45.23
Tier 2	901 to 100,000	\$5.89/100CF
Tier 3	100,001 to 500,000	\$6.48/100CF
Tier 4	500,001 to 1,000,000	\$6.60/100CF
Tier 5	1,000,001 to 1,500,000	\$6.77/100CF
Tier 6	over 1,500,001 CF/year	\$7.07/100CF

(Note: rates are based on prior year consumption)

Water bill payments are due by July 15. Penalties accrue with late payments at 5% for the first month and 1% more for each additional month.

Summer Camp Openings

Summer Camps openings are still available for the Village's Day Camp and the Tiny Tots Camp. Please call the Recreation Dept. at 271-3006 for more information on availability and rates.



Croton Seniors

Summer meetings of the Croton Seniors will be held at Senasqua Park starting Friday, June 7 weather permitting and continue through August 30. Meetings begin at 11 am. Look for a contingent of Senior Club members to march in the Summerfest Parade!

For more information on Seniors, contact Senior Coordinator Valerie Nolan at 271-5804.

REMINDER!

Summerfest, Sunday, June 2, 1 pm - 6pm!

Taxes due by June 30.



June Senasqua Events

Each summer the Village's Recreation and Parks Dept. sponsors a series of Concert and Movie nights at Senasqua Park. Additional Family Entertainment performances are provided with the support of local donors. The following events will occur in June while a complete list of all the shows will be in the July/August Newsletter.

CONCERTS: Friday evenings at 7 pm. Rain dates are Saturday.

June 21 - Russ Harper Trio/The

Harmony Road Band. The Russ Harper Trio is an acoustic rock group featuring harmony vocals. The Harmony Road Band will wrap up the evening with pop rock covers.



June 28 - Dirty Stay Out Band. This musical rock and dance band performs many musical styles which will leave you wanting more.

MOVIE: Wed. at dusk at Senasqua Park. Bring a picnic. Rain date is the next evening. All are G or PG rated.

June 26 - The Lorax. This animated adventure follows the journey of a boy as he searches for the thing that will enable him to win the affection of a girl. To find it, he must discover the story of the Lorax, the grumpy yet charming creature who fights to protect his world.



FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT:

Thurs., Sat., June 27 at 7 pm Senasqua Park. Keith Munslow will perform a highly interactive show. Keith delivers fun, funky music, lightening fast cartooning, and hilarious stories that will have grown-ups laughing as much as kids.

Summer Noises

With windows open and outdoor living the way of summer life, noises can be more annoying than at other times. Be a good neighbor and observe the Village's Noise law.



Operation of power lawn mowers, rakers, leaf blowers or other motor-driven lawn/garden equipment is prohibited between 8 pm to 8 am from Sunday through Friday, from 8 pm Friday to 9 am Sat., and from 8 pm Saturday to 10 am Sunday.



Decibel levels are limited for speakers and amplifiers from 10 pm to 8 am on weekdays and from 11 pm Saturday to 10 am Sunday.

Water Quality Report for 2012

The annual Water Quality Report for the 2012 year was recently mailed to all households in the Village. Each year the report summarizes important information about the Village's municipal water system from which most residents receive their water.

The well system is located in the Croton River Valley downstream from the New Croton Dam. Treated water is pumped directly from the well field into the distribution system, which consists of a network of water mains, four storage tanks, control valves, booster pump stations, hydrants, and other water-related infrastructure. The total distribution system storage capacity is 2.3 million gallons.

Croton's water system supplies approximately 8,060 people, primarily in residences but also in businesses and industries, through approximately 2,500 service connections. During 2012, the total amount of water withdrawn from the aquifer was approximately 404 million gallons. The daily average volume of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was slightly more than 1 million gallons per day.



Approximately 93% of the total water produced was billed directly to consumers. The balance, or unaccounted for water, was used for firefighting, hydrant use, distribution system leaks, and unauthorized use.

The Water Quality Report includes information on how you can conserve water, how the water is treated, sampling results, treatment technique violations and plans for future system improvements. The 2012 report, along with those from 2005 to present are available on the website under Water Dept.

Discounted Amusement Park Tickets

The Recreation Dept. office has discounted tickets available for sale in conjunction with a program offered by the NYS Recreation and Parks Society. Reductions are generally more than \$10 and up to \$30 per ticket. There is no limit on the number of tickets that may be purchased but all tickets are non-refundable.



Tickets for the following parks in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut are available:

Great Escape/Splashwater, Hershey Park, Lake Compounce, Mountain Creek Park, Sesame Place, and Six Flags Great Adventure.

Published for the Residents of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson

Leo A. W. Wiegman, Mayor, Kevin Davis, Trustee, Ann H. Gallelli, Trustee, Ian Murtaugh, Trustee, Casey Raskob, Trustee

Abraham J. Zambrano, Village Manager

Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building, One Van Wyck Street

(914) 271-4781-2, www.crotononhudson-ny.gov



Recreation/Parks Kiosks

Information on Recreation and Parks events and programs will be posted on the two new Media Centers installed at Senasqua Park and Croton Landing Park. Be sure to take a look at the posted brochures to familiarize yourself with the wide variety of programs available.

Campagna Retires

Long-time DPW Secretary, Louise Campagna, has retired effective in May. Louise was hired in 1982 and was the “voice” of the DPW as she answered calls, scheduled pick-ups and dispensed information regarding the DPW. Her knowledge will be missed by many and all wish her a great retirement.



Annual Parking Permits

It is time to renew annual permits for those residents who park long-term in the Village-run parking lots behind Asbury Methodist Church, the Merwin Oaks lot and at the west end of Benedict Blvd. in Harmon. These permits expired on May 31 and cost \$25. Free parking permits for business owners and employees to park along South Riverside must also be renewed.

Drug Take Back Day Results

Croton Police manned a Drug Take Back table at Croton Commons on Saturday, April 27 in conjunction with the national DEA program. They reported receiving 128 lbs. of unused or expired drugs. This amount also includes about 30 lbs. left in the Drug Deposit box in the lobby of the Police station which is available 24 hours/day.

Got a Question?



In addition to the operating budgets for the General, Water and Sewer Funds, the Village Board also approved a 5-year plan for long-range expenditures. What was approved for the 2013/2014 Capital Budget?

Several projects were approved as part of the 2013/2014 Capital budget. The projects associated with the General Fund totaled \$982,000 with the funding of the Bulkhead repairs at the Yacht Club location being left as TBD (to be determined). The latter amount is not known and will be determined after project bids are returned.

The amounts approved in the Capital plan for 2013/2014 are not appropriated money in the operating budget but, rather, a plan for projects and expenditures that will be paid for primarily by bonding. The debt service on these bonds, and all outstanding General Fund bonds, is part of the General Fund budget and paid by property taxes. To save on expenses associated with the issuance of bonds, the cost of these projects is usually aggregated into a single bond and approved at one time later in the fiscal year. Among this year's approved Capital projects is an annual expenditure for Streets and Sidewalks of \$200,000. Regular replacement of equipment is another ongoing expense. Purchase of two-4x4 pickups including plows to replace 1997 and 2001 models (\$58,000), replacing a 6-wheel 1997 dump truck (\$102,000) and a 2000 Front End

loader (\$155,000) are part of the Equipment plan. A Skid Steer Loader (\$45,000) was also approved.

The Fire Dept. has regular equipment replacement expenses including the SCBA Bottle replacements (\$12,000) and equipment to comply with person protection requirements (\$10,000). In addition, a Chief's 2004 truck will be replaced (\$50,000) and a new Tactical Support Unit truck (\$70,000) was approved. Croton EMS is acquiring two Stryker lift systems which enable volunteers to more easily lift stretchers into ambulances (\$44,000). A train station parking lot improvement (\$15,000) is planned to add spaces in the Daily lot. The Police Dept. will acquire three tasers (\$10,000), three vehicle computers \$15,000) and two police patrol vehicles (\$66,000) to replace two-2007, high mileage vehicles.

The repairs to bulkheads at the Yacht Club location are also scheduled for this fiscal year but the exact amount will be determined when a bid is approved.

Water Fund projects for well field improvements and the major water main replacements and extension in both the Harmon area and Cook Lane and Wolf Rd. totaling \$2,400, 000 are part of the Water Fund Capital plan. Debt service on these expenditures are paid for through water bills.