



# VILLAGE OF MOKENA

NEWS YOU CAN USE

APRIL 2020

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## Clean-Up Time in Mokena

The month of April is traditionally a time to clean up our community after the long, cold winter months. This edition of News You Can Use will focus on community events (such as Clean-Up Day), programs (Leaf/Branch Pick-Up) and information to assist you with your own spring projects.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact us at (708) 479-3900.

## Calling All Mokena Businesses...

**The Village of Mokena is holding its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Clean-Up Day Saturday, April 25th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

If you and your organization specifically wish to focus clean-up efforts on April 25th in the general area around your store or place of business, please contact the Village and we can arrange logistically to assist you with those efforts. Otherwise, we would welcome your help by joining us and others at the Village Hall at 9 a.m. to pick up trash all around the community.

Locally-based businesses have historically found that Clean-Up Day provides them with excellent community advertising opportunities. Employees are easily and readily able to generate positive exposure for your company by wearing corporate-branded clothing as they participate in the day's activities. Should you have questions regarding the day's activities or how you can help, please feel free to contact the Village at (708) 479-3900. We hope you and your team are able to join us on April 25th as we work together for a better, more beautiful Mokena!



**OFFICE CLOSED**

**The Village Hall will be closed on Friday, April 10th.**

**We will resume normal business hours on Monday, April 13th.**

## FREE Leaf/Branch Pickup

**April 22nd**

Call the Village at (708) 479-3900 to schedule a pickup.



**NuWay will begin curbside pickup of yard waste on April 7th.**

**Yardwaste Sticker: \$2.60**



## Does Your Project Need A Permit?

While looking forward to spring, you may have begun thinking about starting projects around the house. As you contemplate which project to start, remember that Mokena requires you to obtain a building permit for many types of home improvement projects.

There are essentially 2 types of building permits—those that do not require a fee and those that do. Below are some of the more commonly requested permits. However, you should contact us to check if your project requires a permit.

Building permits that DO NOT require a fee include those issued for roof replacement, replacement of a hot water heater or water softener, replacement of a window with a similar sized window, dumpsters and replacement of home siding.

Building permits that DO require a fee include those

issued for home additions, garages, sheds, fences, flat work, pools, sun rooms, decks, plumbing and electrical repairs/upgrades. Projects falling into these categories require inspection by Village staff, and a nominal fee is assessed for the inspection(s) to ensure that your work complies with current building codes.

Did you know that when you apply for a building permit from the Village, you can see if your contractor is properly registered in Mokena? While registration is no guarantee of the quality of a particular contractor's work, it does help protect you against those that may be operating in our area fraudulently or in an otherwise unscrupulous manner.

Need to apply for a building permit? Visit [www.mokena.org](http://www.mokena.org) to download an application form, call (708) 479-3930, or stop by the Community Development Department at the Mokena Village Hall.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Are you a Mokena resident? Are you or your child planning to attend college later this year? If so, financial aid may be closer than you think.

The Mokena Mayors Charitable Foundation is awarding three \$1,000 scholarships this summer in honor of former Mayor Ron Grotovsky and former Trustees Gary Chase and Jane McGinn.

To qualify for one of the \$1,000 awards, applicants must live within the corporate limits of the Village, be enrolled or enrolling for the Fall 2020 semester at an accredited two or four-year institution, and have a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Scholarship fact sheets and applications may be picked up at the Mokena Village Hall, 11004 Carpenter Street, or downloaded from the Village's website at [www.mokena.org](http://www.mokena.org).

Application deadline is Friday, June 12th. Winners will be announced in July.

For additional information, contact the Village at (708) 479-3900.

## Tips to Avoid Being a Victim of Door-to-Door Scams

The Mokena Police Department encourages you to follow the tips below, adapted from [www.agingcare.com](http://www.agingcare.com), to avoid being a victim of scams.



- Never respond to unsolicited offers of service.
- If you need services or repairs done on your property or in your home, make a point of scheduling these appointments to avoid uncertainty over who is and is not legitimate.
- Always ask for identification.
- Have unexpected service people wait outside while you contact their company or employer at their main phone number. Be sure to look up the company's contact information in the phone book or online. Do not use the number listed on the individual's business card.
- Ask the person to leave their information and return next week. This will give you plenty of time to verify their credentials and the validity of the visit.
- If you live alone, never share this information with an unsolicited visitor.
- Never give cash to door-to-door people who are offering a service or demanding payment.
- Be cautious of people that demand immediate and up-front payment.
- Report suspicious activity to the Mokena Police non-emergency number at (708) 479-3911.
- Tell your neighbors about any unusual experiences you have had or observed. This could help them avoid becoming victims.
- Keep your doors locked, even while you are home.
- Never leave your home with a purported contractor to inspect sheds, roofs, fences, etc.
- Obtain a "No Solicitors" sticker at the Village Hall.
- If ever in doubt, get a subject and vehicle description and immediately call police.