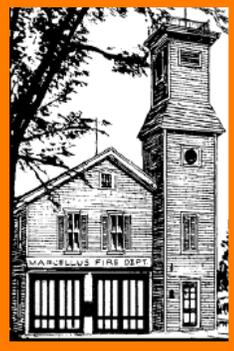


**Marcellus Village  
Newsletter  
Volume 24  
Issue 3  
Autumn 2019**

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315.673.3112

clerk@villageofmarcellus.com



Dear Village Residents,

As the summer ends and, as we anticipate a beautiful autumn, we would like to provide you with some information. Our website ([www.villageofmarcellus.com](http://www.villageofmarcellus.com)) is quite well done and offers much information that is kept current by our Village Clerk, Chamley Abbott. We urge residents to visit the site for more current information on a variety of Village matters as well as calendar events of interest to all residents and to use the email address above to enter any comments or questions that you may have.

### Fall and Brush Pickup

The time for fall pick-up of leaves and brush is here and the Highway Department would like to remind everyone of its schedule. Beginning the week of September 23<sup>rd</sup>, and continuing until October 7<sup>th</sup>, the Department will pick up brush. Beginning on October 14<sup>th</sup> until November 17<sup>th</sup>, the Department will pick up leaves.



Please remember to put brush and leaves on the grass between the sidewalk and the road. Please, do not put leaves in the ditch or in the road. Leaves left in the ditches or in the road are very hard to clean up, clog the storm sewers and make the job very time-consuming. After November 18<sup>th</sup>, residents may collect leaves into large brown paper bags and place the bags at the curb for pickup, weather permitting. Only these leaf bags will be picked up after November 18<sup>th</sup>. Residents may also drop off brush and leaves anytime at the Village compost site, located next to the Village D.P.W. garage. If you have any questions regarding this, please call the Village Office (315-673-3112).

### School's Open!!!

Please watch for school children walking and remember that there are pedestrian crossings on Main Street, as well as 20 mph speed limits in school zones and a 25 mph speed limit on First Street, a route that is heavily traveled by schoolchildren. Please slow down. Tickets will be issued for speeders. In other school-related news, the Village and Marcellus Central School District have agreed to continue a contract that provides for three School Resource Officers, one at each of the schools in the district.



### Dog Ordinance

Please remember that a leash law in the Village prohibits dogs from running at large and that barking dogs can violate a noise ordinance. Also, residents must pick up after their animals, a local law "prohibiting unsanitary deposits," including "animal excrement".



### Notify Police – Call 911

Chief of Police Robert Wicks reminds residents that it is essential that they report incidents of crime or vandalism in their neighborhoods by calling 911. Sometimes, residents might be calling the Police Department and will often listen to an answering machine because the officer is out on patrol.



Residents must call 911. If you are still not satisfied, please contact the Village Office during business hours, at 673-3112, and express your concern. The Chief would also encourage residents to call the Police Department if they have any concerns about contractors they

may employ. The Police Department would be happy to do background checks so as to alleviate these concerns. Residents should also be aware that First Street will be closed to traffic on Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm



### Update on WWTP Upgrades

WWTP Upgrades to the plant are still going on, with an anticipated conclusion by mid-November 2019. While it has been a year of construction, we did not experience much inconvenience or interruption in the plant's operation. There have been several change orders to the project, the costs for which have been absorbed by the contingency portion of the budget – which is still rather healthy. Funding for the project can only come from sewer rate increases, and the recent increase has brought the average annual rate up to about \$540.00 – a quarterly increase of about \$25.00, or an annual increase of about \$100.00. This is an average estimate, since sewer rates are based on water usage in the Village. For Village users, those rates have been reflected in the most recent utility bills. For Town sewer users the increase will be rather significant, given that outside users pay an additional 25% over that of the average Village sewer user. Beginning In January 2020, an average town sewer user will pay approximately \$677.00 annually, an annual increase of about \$128.00, beginning in 2020.

### Conversion of overhead HPS lights to LEDs

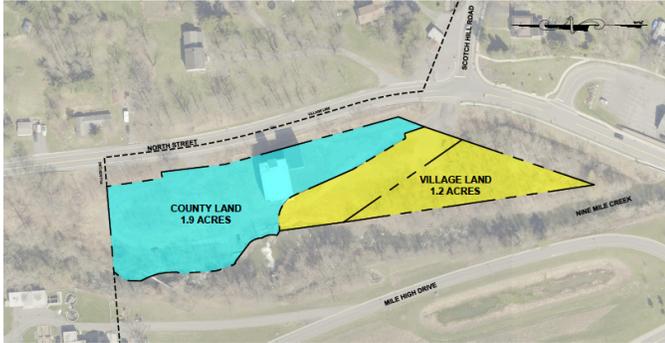
Recently, NYSEG converted all of their HPS overhead cobra head lights to LED lights, and some residents have concerns that the LEDs are too bright while some think they are not bright enough. Others are pleased because they can see so much more clearly at night while walking. Generally, the feedback is that most folks are happy with the conversion, especially considering the cost savings of 60% to the Village. There will be an adjustment period as change is never easy but keep in mind that the Village chose a "softer" temperature of light to minimize the brightness associated with LED technology. Sometimes when community members talk about lights being "too bright" they are referring to the color rendering, whereby they can see things more clearly under the LEDs than with the old HPS lights. The LEDs are producing a similar amount of light in terms of lumens but you are able to see more clearly because they have a slightly whiter light than the orange-yellow HPS light color. The Village selected the warmest light option. The new LED street lights are warranted for 10 years, so fewer outages are anticipated for residents. In addition, both the Village and Town of Marcellus were early adopters of the Governor's push to have all municipalities to be converted by 2025 and this program has shown much progressive improvement for residents of the community.



### Parking

As we approach the winter months, we remind residents that there is no overnight parking (from 2:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.) on Village streets from November 1st to April 1st. If ticketed by Village Police, the fee will be \$35.00. We urge residents to use the Village parking lots for overnight parking.

VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS PROPOSED GREEN GATEWAY



After many years of uncertainty, the Village has a plan to redevelop the abandoned mill site along Nine Mile Creek into a park. Plans have been made to acquire the 1.9-acre site of the former Lower Mill and combine it with 1.2 acres of adjacent village land to make a "Green Gateway" park. The park will feature a wheelchair-accessible fishing platform, trails, solar panels and outdoor education facilities. Equally important, it will forestall the possibility of commercial development that might clash with the character of the area along North Street. Onondaga County recently approved a deal to seize the Lower Mill site for back taxes and sell it to the Village. The village has already begun work to create the park, which will be between Marcellus High School and the creek. Our County Legislator, Julie Abbott-Kenan, worked with us to secure the site and to promote the project, noting that the high school plans to use the park for outdoor education. We also plan to work with a solar power developer to establish a solar farm at the northern end of the parcel that will offset the cost of electricity for the Village's nearby sewage treatment plant. For the benefit of our residents, we have put together a summary of the project, which we hope will result in an environmentally positive gateway to our Village. Printed copies of this summary are available in the Village office, as well as on the Village website (click on <http://villageofmarcellus.com> and then on News, then Village News).

### 2020 Census – Everyone Counts!

We encourage residents to visit our website and recent news for information on the 2020 Census, particularly "what you need to know" about the census, how this once-a-decade population count affects you and your government, as well as any concerns you may have about your responses to the 2020 Census.

### Highland Flooding

It appears that the Village's efforts regarding the drainage on Highland Drive and related streets – namely, opening the ditches and replacing the driveway culverts along the west side of Highland Drive – has been successful. Preventing storm water from jumping the ditches and flooding those properties below and allowing storm water to move quickly to the 24" catch basin at Reed Parkway seems to be working. Property owners should be aware that the ditches must remain open to allow the water to move north to Reed Parkway.

### Shared Services

At its September meeting, the Board approved a motion to approve the submission of several shared services agreements to the 2019 County Wide Shared Services Plan, as requested by the Onondaga County Executive, for consideration and adoption. The understandings include Inter municipal agreements by and between the Village of Marcellus and the Town of Marcellus for shared highway as well as police personnel, equipment and services as well as agreements by and between the Village of Marcellus and the Marcellus Central School District for school security services and for shared personnel, equipment and services in the creation and maintenance of an environmental park on the site of the woolen mill

### Streets and Sidewalks and Trees

West Main Street – we hope to have our contractor on site soon so as to complete the storm drainage repairs on a portion of the southern side of West Main Street (also known as County Rt. 41), from #15 West Main (the Grange) west to the Village line. Having also declared this action to be a public emergency permitting the Village to immediately retain a contractor, we are somewhat at the mercy of the contractor, who reassures us that the drainage pipes will be replaced this fall. Because of the decision to reconstruct the sidewalks on the north side of Chrysler Street, budgetary constraints have limited the desire of the Village Board to add other sidewalk repairs in this year's budget. Some tree removals and stump removals have been or will be done, as well as some trimming. Some tree plantings are expected to take place in late summer or early fall, but the locations have not yet been determined.

### Thank You To Our Employees

The Village would like to thank all who participated in the work they did on the flower boxes this year, particularly Village employee Kathy Welsh, and our highway crew, whose attention to their care all summer was exceptional and enabled all in the community to enjoy their beauty. In addition, we call your attention to the green space on the corner of Scotch Hill and North Street.



Village treatment plant employees continue to address landscaping there and provide another advertisement of the benefits that natural fertilizer can bring. Compost is mixed in with the plantings in the flowerbeds and broadcasted over the lawn area – showcasing the use of compost to the residents of Marcellus.

### Other Reminders

The Village Office will be closed on the following dates and trash pick-up will vary according to the following schedule:

- Columbus Day - October 14<sup>th</sup> – normal trash pick-up this week
- Veterans Day - November 11<sup>th</sup> – normal trash pick-up this week
- Thanksgiving Day - November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> – normal trash pick-up
- Christmas Day - December 25<sup>th</sup> – trash pick-up delayed one day
- New Year's Day – January 1<sup>st</sup> – trash pick-up delayed one day



**John P. Curtin, Mayor**  
**Sara N. Tallman, Trustee**  
**Kevin F. O'Hara, Trustee**  
**Charnley A. Abbott, Clerk**  
**Antonino J. Provvidenti, Treasurer**  
**Jeffrey D. Brown, Attorney**