

NORTHBROOK

JANUARY 2020



When the Weather Outside is Frightful...

Snow removal operations begin when accumulating snow, sleet, ice, or freezing rain are imminent and potentially hazardous to the community.

During winter weather events, Public Works crews start with seven salt trucks; additional plow trucks are deployed if accumulations reach 1.5 to 2 inches. Plowing and salting operations aim to clear all roads four to six hours after the snowfall stops.

We need your help! Please do not park vehicles on public streets during a snowfall. Cars parked on the street during a snowfall of two or more inches are subject to a \$100 ticket and towing.

The Public Works Department provides snow and ice control for 539 plow lane miles of Village owned streets, municipal parking lots, and designated sidewalks.

Commuter parking lots and sidewalks are cleared as soon as practical following a snowfall event.

See page 5 for winter weather reminders and snow emergency parking restrictions.

Facts about Cannabis Legalization

On January 1, 2020 it will be legal for adults over the age of 21 to purchase, possess, and consume cannabis (aka marijuana) for recreational purposes.

Here are some important facts to keep in mind:

- Cannabis will only be legally sold at licensed dispensaries and, like alcohol, it will be illegal to sell to minors under 21.
- Possession of cannabis by persons under 21 remains a Class A misdemeanor and can be grounds for revoking a minor's driver's license.
- It is illegal to consume cannabis in any public place, including parks, sidewalks, restaurants, bars, and any other place where smoking is prohibited under the Smoke Free Illinois Act.
- Adults will be allowed to consume cannabis in their own residences, although landlords/management companies will be able to prohibit the smoking of cannabis in rental properties. Residents in a rental unit or within the common areas of a condominium or apartment complex should check with their management company or landlord on their rules.
- It is still illegal to drive under the influence of cannabis.
- Cannabis may only be transported in a car if it is in a sealed package that is inaccessible to the driver. Violation of this law is a Class A misdemeanor.

Although the law has changed, marijuana remains a powerfully intoxicating substance. For those who choose to consume, please do so wisely.

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CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

Recycle your fresh Christmas tree! Remove all lights and decorations and leave it at the curb on your recycling day in January.



As the plans for this next chapter unfold, we will post additional information in the newsletter and on our Village website at www.northbrook.il.us



Notes from Village President Sandy Frum



Welcome 2020; Goodbye 2019! In May 2019, we welcomed two new Village Board members, Heather Ross and Johannah Hebl. Then, in December, we thanked Trustee Jason Han for his service as he resigned from the Board before moving out of the Village. Our newest trustee will be announced later this month. After the seating of the new Board members in May, we had an opportunity to meet and outline our priorities for the next couple of years to help us determine where to focus our energy.

Of course, the Village's financial health and core services were our top priorities, but when we considered other goals, we quickly coalesced around three major issues and three continuing ones.

- **Affordable Housing:** The Board has spent considerable time discussing how to implement an affordable housing plan for the Village, and just what it means. In the next few months, the Plan Commission will be refining our thoughts and recommending an Ordinance similar to the model used in Highland Park. The Board has made a commitment that all future housing developments will have some affordable housing component.
- **Sustainability:** While we've always supported sustainable solutions, the Board would like to take a harder look at exactly what we can be doing as a municipality. As we partner with our Commissions and other local organizations, we know there is more we can do. In 2020, I hope to bring the community a Sustainability Master Plan that we can all embrace.
- **Communications:** As we learned this year, by dealing with several "emergencies," we need to establish better ways of communicating with you, our residents and businesses. A third-party study was conducted and recommendations are already being implemented. I hope you've noticed some of the preliminary improvements. There is more to come, including a new look to our Village newsletter!

As for the continuing issues: We need to make decisions about major updates for Village facilities, including Police and Fire Department Headquarters, and our vehicle maintenance facility; refine our procedures for crisis response; and explore opportunities to implement recommendations for our downtown business district, our perennial favorite topic of discussion.

Just a Few of Our Many Accomplishments In 2019

Last year's accomplishments are too numerous to mention in this letter. Our Police Department has continued to prioritize emergency preparedness, for both itself and other community entities and completed the implementation of a Next Generation 911 telephone system. The new system provides enhanced location services for cellular callers; who make over 70% of the 9-1-1 calls received by our dispatch center. The Fire Department responded to more than 6700 calls for service in 2019 averaging over 18 a day! Our Public Works Department completed numerous infrastructure improvements, and continued to work toward the completion of projects in the Master Stormwater Management Plan. Our Department of Development & Planning Services oversaw significant activity with development review and construction projects. (See page 2 for Northbrook Court updates.)

I encourage you to continue reading this newsletter, sign up for Northbrook Notify (www.northbrook.il.us/NorthbrookNotify), come to a Village meeting (see page 6 for schedule), or watch Village Board and Plan Commission meetings on NCTV Cable Channel 17 or streaming at www.northbrook.il.us/agendas Please tell us your thoughts. Get involved! Make that your resolution for the New Year!

Commission Openings

Currently we have openings for adults on the Youth Commission. All Commissioners serve without compensation, on a volunteer basis. Commissioners are expected to diligently attend and participate in all meetings of the commission. To apply for a commission appointment, please visit www.northbrook.il.us/commissioninfo

Comments, Suggestions or Questions?

If you have any comments, suggestions, or questions, contact me at 847-509-5301 or sandy.frum@northbrook.il.us



Dundee Road between Waukegan Road and Shermer Road is now open!

IDOT expects intermittent daytime lane closures during the winter to complete other work, but all four lanes will remain open for the majority of the winter.

In Spring 2020, IDOT's contractor will return to pave the final surface layer of hot-mix asphalt on Dundee Road near Lee Road.

This work will require lane closures on Dundee Road, but at least one lane of traffic in each direction will remain open. IDOT's contractor will also reconstruct the Village-owned section of Lee Road between Dundee Road and Shermer Road. During the reconstruction, this section of Lee Road will be closed to traffic.

Somme Prairie Nature Preserve Restoration along Dundee Road

Somme Prairie Nature Preserve is an original prairie, one of the highest quality remnants in Illinois, however planted and invasive trees have shaded part of it out.



The goal of the Forest Preserve of Cook County restoration project is to remove all brush and trees and return the land to a thriving prairie habitat.

The 21-acre prairie restoration project includes brush clearing, tree removal, and seed planting to restore native prairie and wetland habitat. The project began last year with mainly brush removal. Most noticeably this year, the Forest Preserve crews will remove trees near the Post Office on Dundee Road.

More information about this and other Forest Preserve projects may be found at www.fpdcc.com/spnp

Coyotes - Living with Wildlife in Northbrook

Coyotes are part of the natural wildlife that surrounds our community. Generally, coyotes are non-aggressive and spend the vast majority of time in the forest preserves.

Winter weather may make coyotes more visible as they venture from the woodlands to forage for food. Please review the following information with your whole family:

- Coyotes will search out small animals for food, so pet owners should be vigilant about watching their pets when outside.
- Always keep pets on a leash, especially in or around wooded areas, parks, and other open areas such as golf courses.

- Children should be cautioned that coyotes are not dogs, and they should not chase or try to pet them.
- Try to keep coyotes away from your home by making sure your garbage can lids are sealed tightly.
- Do not feed your pet outside or leave pet food outside.
- Coyotes are most active at dusk and dawn, but be aware, as they could be out anytime of the day or night.

For more information about coyotes in the Chicagoland area, please visit www.urbancoyotereseach.com

Winter Carnival at Village Green Park on Saturday, January 18

Come together in the heart of Downtown Northbrook for the Winter Carnival!

Bring your family and friends and join your neighbors from 11:00am to 1:30pm on Saturday, January 18 at Village Green Park, located at Shermer and Meadow Roads. This free event features horse-drawn trolley rides, family activities, hot chocolate, popcorn, holiday bingo, and winter fun for everyone. All ages are welcome. For information visit www.nbparks.org or call 847-291-2993.



Winter Weather Reminders

Remember, it takes four to six hours after the snow has stopped to clear Northbrook's roadways. It can take even longer during heavy or extended snowfalls.

Please be patient as the Public Works Department clears our roadways!

When driving, please give the snow plows plenty of room. Large plows take longer to stop, have multiple blind spots, and make frequent backing maneuvers. Keep in mind that the Village is not responsible for plowing all the roadways within the Village limits.

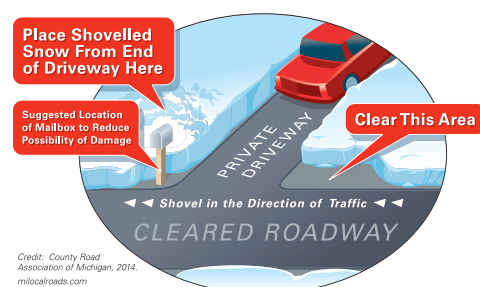
Parking Ban During 2" or More of Snow

Following the accumulation of two or more inches of snow within 24 hours, a snow emergency will be in effect until snow clearing operations are complete. Vehicles parked on a public street during a snow emergency are subject to a \$100 ticket and towing. Additional information is available at www.northbrook.il.us/snow



If your vehicle becomes disabled and you are unable to move it, call 847-564-2060 to inform the police.

Avoid the "Second Shovel"



Credit: County Road Association of Michigan, 2014. milocalroads.com

How to Shovel Your Driveway

When clearing snow from your driveway, shovel snow in the direction of traffic and try to make a pocket on the opposite side of the driveway, as shown. By doing so, snow plowed by our trucks will be dumped into that pocket and less snow will end up in your driveway.

Shoveling Does Have Health Risks!

Stop shoveling and call 911 if you experience discomfort or heaviness in chest, arms or neck; unusual or prolonged shortness of breath; dizzy or faint feeling; blurred vision; excessive sweating; nausea; or vomiting.

Clear the Snow Around Your Nearest Fire Hydrant!

In case of an emergency, every second counts! Look for the nearest fire hydrants by your home or office.

Please work with neighbors to keep the fire hydrants on or near your property clear of snow. In addition to removing snow and debris covering the hydrant, try to clear a 3-foot area around the hydrant for easier access.



Residents Encouraged to Pitch-in!

Please take time to shovel the public sidewalks for the benefit of all. It's courteous and the right thing to do, and contrary to rumors, there is no liability per state law!

Pretreating Roads Before a Storm

One method used by the Public Works Department to treat the roads during winter weather is a mixture of beet juice and salt brine.

Pre-treating arterial roads before a snow storm with this mixture creates a layer of ice melting product to prevent snow and ice from bonding to the pavement.

The beet juice is an agricultural by-product that adheres salt brine to roadways while improving the prolonged effectiveness of the salt brine. The liquid mixture is applied by using a tank and spray bar on the back of a dump truck as pictured to the right.



Think Green! Recycling Opportunities for Electronics, Batteries, and Bulbs

- Drop off your household electronics on the first Tuesday of every month from 7am to 3pm and the first Saturday of every month from 9am to noon, behind the Village Hall at the Maintenance Garage.
- The recycling drop off for CFL, LED, fluorescent bulbs & household batteries is open Monday thru Friday from 7am to 3pm.
- Recycle Christmas lights at the Maintenance Garage from 7am to 3pm or at the Village Hall lobby, weekdays from 8:30am to 4:30pm through January 31.

2020 Village Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held monthly at the Village Hall, 1225 Cedar Lane, unless otherwise specified. All meetings are open to the public. Most Village Board and Plan Commission meetings are cablecast live on NCTV-Cable Channel 17, and replayed the following day at 9:00am and 7:00pm and the following Sunday at 9:00am and 7:00pm, as well as streamed live and archived on the Village website at www.northbrook.il.us

Architectural Control Commission

2nd Thursday, 5:30pm

Arts Commission — 1st Thursday, 7:00pm

Bicycle Task Force — 2nd Wednesday, 7:00pm; Bi-monthly starting in January

Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

1st Thursday in May 7:30am

(Special Meetings - 48-hour notice)

Community Relations Commission

1st Thursday, 7:00pm

Economic Development Committee

Four times per year, 2nd Wednesday, January, April, July, and October, 7:30am

Environmental Quality Commission

3rd Thursday, 7:00pm

Foreign Fire Insurance Board

Meets quarterly

Industrial and Commercial Development Commission — 4th Tuesday, 7:30am

Plan Commission — 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7:30pm; cablecast on NCTV - Channel 17

Senior Services Commission — 2nd

Thursday, 7:00pm, January, March, May, July, September, and November

Stormwater Management Commission

Meets on call

Village Board of Trustees Regular Meetings

2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30pm; cablecast on NCTV - Cable Channel 17

Village Board Committee of the Whole Meetings

3rd Tuesday, at 7:30pm or as posted.

Village Board Work Committees

On call

Youth Commission — 3rd Wednesday, 7:00pm; No meetings in June or July

Zoning Board of Appeals

4th Monday, 7:00pm

In addition to the above, various Boards meet from time-to-time on an unscheduled basis; e.g. Board of Local Improvements and Electrical Commission. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, notices for all public meetings, including Special, Adjourned, and Rescheduled Meetings, will be posted on the Village website and the bulletin board in the lobby of the Village Hall. In addition, notices are sent to all registered news media and interested individuals/groups. Board of Trustees Meeting Agendas and Approved Minutes are posted on the Village website, www.northbrook.il.us/agendas

Please note that on occasion, meetings may be canceled.

Check with the Village Manager's Office to confirm dates and agendas by calling 847-664-4010.

Watch your Local Officials in Action

Northbrook residents and businesses can tune to NCTV-Cable Channel 17 for Village Board and Plan Commission meetings (AT&T U-verse subscribers-Tune to AT&T channel 99 and search "Northbrook" to view NCTV). Most Village Board and Plan Commission meetings are streamed live on our website at www.northbrook.il.us Cablecast meetings are also archived online at www.northbrook.il.us/agendas To watch a meeting online, visit www.northbrook.il.us and click "Meetings and Agendas".

Northbrook's Alarm System Registration Program

Don't forget to renew your Police Burglar Alarm Permit for 2020.

To renew and pay, visit <https://northbrook.alarmreg.com>

Renewals received after January 31 may be subject to a \$75 reinstatement fee.

How the Program Works

The Village of Northbrook alarm permit process ensures that all residential and commercial alarm systems are registered with the Village.

This program provides the Police Department with up-to-date, accurate information about the responsible party, alarm company, and any key holder(s). It also helps reduce the number of false alarm responses by our officers.



Police responses to false alarms far outweigh the number of responses to actual alarm calls. In order to reduce the number of false alarms, the Police Department requires alarm registrations.

For more information about the Police Burglar Alarm System Program, please visit www.northbrook.il.us/Alarms or contact the Program Administrator at becky.nelson@northbrook.il.us

All Residents Asked to Complete the Cross Connection Survey

Last month, all residential water customers received a letter and survey from the Village's contractor, Backflow Solutions, Inc., regarding completing a cross connection control survey. This survey is an important part of protecting the Village's water system. If you have not previously completed the survey, you can do so at www.backflow.com/northbrook

Please note you will need your utility billing account number to complete the survey. You can contact the Public Works Department at 847-272-4711 if you need to get your utility billing account number.

Your participation in this survey is appreciated.

Village Happenings

TEDxNorthbrook Library: Speakers wanted! Apply to be one of the speakers at the library's next TEDx event in August. Apply online by Feb. 15 at www.northbrook.info/tedx.

Join Depaul University professor of fandom and cult cinema, Dr. Paul Booth, for **Understanding Cult Classic Films and Their Followings** on Wed., Jan. 8 at 7pm at the library. Reserve a spot.

AARP Driver Safety Courses. Sharpen your driving skills with a two-day class on Thurs., Jan. 9 and Fri., Jan. 10 from 9am-1pm at the Northbrook Park District Senior Center, 3323 Walters Avenue. Pre-registration is required and drivers must attend both days of the course. Cost is \$15 for AARP members/\$20 non-member. Call the Park District at 847-291-2995 to register. Please note: There's also a class at the Library on Sat., Jan. 18 and 25 from 10am-2pm. Call the Library at 847-272-6224 for details and to reserve a spot.

Understanding Medicaid and How to Protect Assets on Wed., Jan. 8, at 9:30 am, at the NSYMCA, 2705 Techny Rd., Register at www.nsymca.org or call 847-272-7250 or stop in at the Y.

Enjoy the jazz sounds of Barry Winograd and the Alternatives Little Big Band on Thurs., Jan. 9 at 7pm at the Library. Reserve a spot.

The Library welcomes high school students to study at the Library the week before finals (Jan. 11-14) during Finals Cafe. **Please note: seating and parking may be limited during Finals Cafe.**

Enjoy cult classic films Clue, Big Trouble in Little China, and Plan 9 from Outer Space at the library on Jan. 15, 22, and 29 at 2pm & 7pm. Reserve a spot.

Financial wellness and saving for your future. Learn basic principles of building a financial foundation on Wed., Jan. 15, 10am at the North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Rd. Register at www.nsymca.org or call 847-272-7250 or stop in at the Y.

Enjoy jazz standards, Broadway tunes, and more from the popular Ron Surace Trio at the library on Thurs., Jan. 16 at 7pm. Reserve a spot.

Play "Guess the Oscars" at the Library from Jan. 17-February 9. Visit the Fiction & Media department on the 3rd floor to pick up your ballot for your chance to win.

The library is looking for volunteers (Ages 10-Adult) to help on MLK Day of Service, Mon., Jan. 20. To reserve a time slot, please call 847-272-4300 or email youthservices@northbrook.info

Love the Oscars? Join Loyola University professor Zbigniew Banas for a lively pre-Academy Awards discussion on Tues., Jan. 21 at 2pm in the Library's Auditorium. Reserve a spot.

Strike the Right Balance-Learn how to prevent falls so you can live your life independently on Wed., Jan. 22, at 10am at the North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Rd. Register at www.nsymca.org or call 847-272-7250 or stop in at the Y.

Find "one-of-a-kind" treasures made by local artists and Plein Air paintings at the new Artisans at the Inn Shop at the Northbrook Historical Society, 1776 Walters Ave. Thurs.-Sat., 10am-4pm and Sun., 2-4pm. Call 847-498-3404. You'll also see Plein Air paintings on display at the YMCA through Jan. 31.

Got old audio cassettes? Drop by the library for a brief demonstration on how to Digitize Your Cassettes on Thurs., Jan. 23 from 6-7pm. Note: it's not necessary to bring cassettes for this demonstration.

Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Musical based on the book by Mo Willems, includes singing, adventure, and dancing laundry. The Northbrook Theatre for Young Audiences production runs Jan. 25-February 22, at Northbrook Theatre, 3323 Walters Ave. Tickets are \$14. For more info and group rates, visit www.nbparks.org

Families are invited to enjoy **the 2019 DreamWorks Animation film, Abominable** at the Library on Sun., Jan. 26 at 10:30am & 2pm. Rated PG. Call ahead to reserve a spot at 847-272-6224.

The Picardy Collective, a Chicago-based chamber group, will perform music for violin, viola, and piano in the library's Auditorium on Sun., Jan. 26 at 3pm. Reserve a Spot

Northbrook's Grill House restaurant will donate 20% of its proceeds to the Northbrook Public Library Foundation on Mon., Jan. 27. Please mention the fundraiser when you order.

Looking to get involved and give back in our community? The Northbrook Civic Foundation is looking for new members and new ideas. Help plan Northbrook Days for 2020. Civic meets the 2nd Mon. of each month, 7:30pm at the Civic Building, 2002 Walters Ave. Contact info@northbrookcivic.com

Join the Northbrook Park District's Adult Basketball League! Call 847-291-2980 or visit www.nbparks.org Registration deadline is Fri., February 7.

Register early and save on **Northbrook Park District 2020 Summer Camps!** View a full list of camps for ages 2-13 at www.nbparks.org

In honor of National Puzzle Day, spend the afternoon with friends in a puzzle playoff Wed., Jan. 29 from noon-4pm at the Northbrook Park District Senior Center, 3323 Walters Ave. Identical puzzles will be provided to each group and the first to finish wins a prize. Lunch is included. Cost is \$15 members/\$25 non. Register by Jan. 23 at www.nbparks.org or call 847-291-2995.

Play bingo and enjoy lunch on Fri., Jan. 31 from noon-2:30pm at the Northbrook Park District Senior Center, 3323 Walters Ave. Cost is \$12 members/\$19 non. Register by calling 847-291-2995.

Join a new Woman to Woman drop-in program. There is no planned agenda—just drop by to enjoy the company from noon-2pm on Thursdays at the Northbrook Park District Senior Center, 3323 Walters Ave. Bring a lunch. For more info, call 847-291-2995.

Earn extra income while helping the community. **The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting to fill temporary positions** for the 2020 Census count. Visit www.2020census.gov for details.

Add the joy of music to your life by joining the Northbrook Park District's Park Larks! No auditions are required, just a love of singing. The group meets Thursdays from 9:30-11:30am at the Leisure Center, 3323 Walters Ave. and performs at various venues. Call 847-291-2995 for details.

Northbrook Woman's Club Foundation Scholarship Application is on line! Northbrook residents who are either college or vocational school-bound high school seniors or current college/vocational students are eligible to apply for a Northbrook Woman's Club Foundation Scholarship. Glenbrook North High School students should follow GBN local scholarship application rules. Visit www.northbrookwomensclub.org for details and to apply by Feb. 29.

Do you know any Northbrook residents currently serving in the military? Please call 847-664-4038, with their name, rank, and station. The information will be used to update the plaque at Freedom Park, under the flagpole between the Village Hall and Northbrook Library.

The Northbrook Park District Senior Center at 3323 Walters Ave. offers a wide variety of programs and activities for adults age 65 and over. For more information, call 847-291-2995 or visit www.nbparks.org

Outdoor Skating and Sledding! The Park District provides ice rinks at Meadowhill Park, 1479 Maple Ave, and Tower Rink (no hockey), 1225 Cedar Ln. Rental skates are available at the Sports Center, call 847-291-2993. Sledding hills at Techny Prairie Park and Fields, 1750 Techny Rd., and Wood Oaks Green Park, 1150 Sanders Rd. Visit www.nbparks.org/location_status for hours.

Visit the Village Art Gallery, featured in the Village Hall Board Room during business hours. This month, enjoy a collection of beautiful photography by featured artist Michael Lew.

The Northbrook Arts Commission presents Artists in Residence, a display of artwork at the Northbrook Library featuring artwork by Northbrook Artists Jerry Block, Dr. Elana Ashley, Brad Smeds, Sharon Moyer, and David Brodsky, through February.



Photography by Jerry Block

THE VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK

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Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:30am–4:30pm

Village Hall 847-272-5050
Village Hall Fax 847-272-1892
Police and Fire Emergency 911
Police Non-Emergency 847-564-2060
Fire Non-Emergency 847-272-2141
Public Works 847-272-4711

Village Officials:

President: Sandra E. Frum

Village Clerk: Debra J. Ford

Village Manager: Richard A. Nahrstadt

Village Trustees:

Kathryn L. Ciesla

Robert P. Israel

Muriel J. Collison

Heather E. Ross

Johannah K. Hebl

This newsletter is
published by the Northbrook
Information Association.

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Historian's Corner

presented by the Northbrook Historical Society

The Way We Were - A Trip Down Memory Lane

Sometimes, it is fun to travel down memory lane and think about the way it "used to be" in Northbrook.

Posts to two Facebook groups dedicated to life in Northbrook (search *I grew up in Northbrook* on Facebook) are filled with "the way it used to be" memories of growing up in town from the 50s to today. There is also much lamenting about the Village of their memories no longer existing.

At the Northbrook Historical Society, we often witness interactions involving the memories of people and places when two people disagree on what was at a certain place, or what happened in town. Often, we step in to remind them that their memories are both correct. *How can that be you may ask?* They are both correct because their memories are from different generations, and their memories may span several decades with each remembering the person, place, or thing as it was when they experienced it.

One perfect example is a memory of Village Green Park. Most all are familiar with the baseball diamond as it is now. However, there are some people who tell of playing baseball there when home plate was in left field, and foul balls caused many broken windows as they flew onto Shermer Avenue. (Yes, even the name of the road was different at one time.) Before the baseball diamond was constructed, the field was filled with people shooting bows and arrows at archery targets!

The playgrounds are another favorite memory for many who grew up here. The iconic Lion drinking fountain wasn't always there, and the play equipment has changed many times since the park was purchased by the Park District in 1944.

Do you ever wonder what future generations will think about when they take their walk down memory lane?



Do you remember playing on these playgrounds?

Send your story to
northbrookhistory@gmail.com

www.northbrookhistory.org