

**From:** [Village of Lake Bluff](#)  
**To:** [Gail Ciolek](#)  
**Subject:** Lake Bluff Letter - May 24, 2013  
**Date:** Friday, May 24, 2013 5:39:03 PM

		
		

## Lake Bluff Letter May 24, 2013

Event Calendar -

### Village Hall Closed

Monday, May 27, 2013

### Memorial Day Ceremony

Monday, May 27, 2013

### Memorial Day Holiday Reminders

#### Household Waste Collections and Office Hours

In observance of Memorial Day, refuse and yard waste collections for Monday, May 27th will be picked up one day later on Tuesday, May 28th. Tuesday's collections will be picked up on Wednesday, May 29th. For those households receiving a la carte collection services the second collection day (Thursday or Friday) will remain unchanged. Also, non-emergency Village Offices will be closed on Monday, May 27th.

#### Memorial Day Ceremony

The Memorial Day service (coordinated by the local American Legion Post 510) will be held at 9:00 a.m. on May 27th on the Village Green. Immediately following the ceremony refreshments will be served in the Public Safety Building Community Room (45 E. Center Avenue).

### Emerald Ash Borer Resident Workshop, 6/1/13

How you prepare for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is important. Having no plan may lead to excessive costs, unnecessary liabilities, and loss of property value. However, having a well thought out management strategy will cost far less in the long run, while helping you to manage your greatest investments, your home and property.

With an ash tree population of nearly 12% in Lake Bluff, thousands of ash trees are at high risk of infestation. To help prepare residents, the Village of Lake Bluff and the City of Lake Forest are hosting an informational workshop, scheduled for June 1st (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.) at the Gorton Community Center (400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest), to answer questions residents may have related to EAB. By attending this workshop, you will learn:

- How to identify an ash tree
- What EAB looks like
- Signs and symptoms of EAB
- Available treatment options
- Environmental losses that can be expected
- Opportunities for replanting
- How the Village will manage ash trees on public property

[Resident Guide to Managing Emerald Ash Borer](#)

Schedule:

- 9:00 -9:15 a.m. Opening remarks

- 9:15 – 9:45 a.m. Keynote speaker: The Davey Resource Group
- 9:45- 11 a.m. Break-out sessions to answer individual questions

EAB has been likened to a "Natural Disaster," with infestations in Illinois as well as Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Ohio. The scope of this problem could cost several billion dollars nationwide if not addressed properly. State, federal, and local agencies have made EAB a top priority; however, homeowners can also help by carefully monitoring their ash trees for signs and symptoms of EAB and choose a management plan that best suits their needs.

Additional information is available by calling Jake Terlap, Lake Bluff Public Works Superintendent, at 847-735-2310.

### **Ravine Park Ravine Erosion Control Project Update**

The Village is currently undertaking a significant environmental project, the Ravine Erosion Control Project (Project). The purpose of the Project is to reduce the rate of erosion occurring in the streambed of the Ravine Park ravine and improve water quality, as well as stabilization of ravine side slopes. The location of the Project is 1,600 linear feet of Ravine Park Ravine, from approximately Gurney Avenue to the Ravine/Simpson Avenue intersection. Earlier this spring, the Village Board approved a construction contract, in the amount of \$675,000, with V3 Construction Group Limited to perform the necessary work. The Project has been made possible as a result of a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant in the amount of \$789,000. The Village anticipates the trucking work to be completed by mid July and the clean up and restoration work by the end of July.

After receiving the grant, the Village hired Hey & Associates, Inc., a Volo-based environmental engineering company specializing in water resource solutions. Hey and Associates designed the proposed project and obtained for the Village the necessary permits from the Corps of Engineers and the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission.

It is estimated that the depth of the ravine, along the length of the project area, has increased an average of 4 ft. in the last 40 years. The erosion and lowering of the streambed leads to a steepening of the ravine side slopes, which in turn causes slide failures of the slopes. If this continues to remain unchecked, the streambed erosion could lead in the decades ahead to a loss of portions of the paved surfaces of Ravine Avenue and Sylvan Avenue that are currently in close proximity to the top edges of the ravine. In addition, the erosion causes huge quantities of sediment to be carried from the ravine into Lake Michigan. The sediment causes water clarity issues and covers the bottom of the lake where it can have ecological impacts on aquatic habitats and organisms.

The proposed project will primarily involve the trucking and placement of a large quantity of stone rip/rap material along portions of the streambed. The contractor will be accessing the ravine in four different locations. Two of the locations will be along Ravine Avenue east of Moffett Road and west of Simpson Avenue. There will be an additional access point off of Ravine Avenue just east of the Gurney Avenue footbridge. A fourth access point will be off of Sylvan Road east of the Gurney Avenue footbridge. At the Sylvan Road access location the contractor will install some sheet piling where a significant slide occurred several years ago on the ravine slope right at the edge of Sylvan Road.

The contractor has advised the Village that rock hauling and placement operations will begin the week of May 20th. The contractor will commence with the work in the downstream locations first and then work westbound. The contractor is estimating that rock hauling and placement east of Moffett Road will take approximately 6 weeks to perform once rock placement begins and that an additional 2-3 weeks of rock placement will be necessary for the portion of the project west

of Moffett Road.

Unfortunately the rock placement activity will be a very noisy operation and will involve extensive trucking activity. During construction, the portions of Ravine Avenue between Simpson Avenue and the Gurney Avenue footbridge will be posted for local traffic only. During the construction project we ask that residents not utilize Ravine Avenue unless your driveway access is within the portion of the roadway posted for limited access. Depending upon the specific locations where rock dumping is occurring, access to Ravine Avenue on certain days may only be from one direction at a time.

The far east end of Sylvan Road from the Gurney Avenue footbridge to Moffett Road will be closed when work is occurring along the portion of the ravine immediately adjacent to this location. It is the intention that the Gurney Avenue footbridge will remain open to pedestrian traffic, although there may be a week the footbridge is closed to allow the contractor to install the sheet piling and a new storm sewer outfall immediately to the east of the footbridge location along the edge of Sylvan Road.

Upon completion of the rock work in the streambed, the access points into the ravine will be restored and roadway restoration work will occur. The Project, though very disruptive while in progress, will significantly help to provide long term stabilization of the ravine side slopes and the vegetation on those slopes. After a few years the lighter colored rocks will soften in appearance and the exposed rock streambed will begin to silt over.

According to a survey and report by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources performed in 2009, the condition of the Ravine Park Ravine in Lake Bluff is similar to many of the 47 different major ravines along the North Shore (from Winnetka to Zion) that discharge stormwater runoff into Lake Michigan. According to the report all of the ravines have erosion, water quality, and loss of habitat concerns. It is hoped that this project can serve as a model for future ravine restoration projects.

Additional information is available by contacting Village Engineer George Russell at 847-283-6884 or at [grussell@lakebluff.org](mailto:grussell@lakebluff.org). The Village thanks you in advance for your understanding and cooperation over the next several months.

In the event that Meeting Agenda links do not properly function, subscribers may find agendas posted on the Home Page at [www.lakebluff.org](http://www.lakebluff.org). All Board and Commission [Meeting Minutes](#) are generally approved at the next regular meeting and posted on the website the following day.

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