

Village Vision

Progress  Pride  Community

Fall is on the Way!

New Updates at Forsyth Public Library

FPL recently wrapped up a couple of big projects and we couldn't be happier with how they turned out! The Community Room now features a new, more durable flooring. Not only does it look amazing, it also will make clean up easier for community members renting the room. We appreciated the patience of our Chair Yoga attendees as we tackled this project. This is the first of several upgrades in the Community Room to ensure that this well-used community resource continues to shine for years to come.



We also are thrilled to show off our new sidewalk that connects the rear entrance of the library with the nearby pavilion. We now have a safe and accessible path that allows us to use that space for outdoor programming and fun. Feel like relaxing outdoors? Sit for a spell on our welcoming bench placed among the bushes and flowers of our beautiful new landscaping.

We appreciate the Village of Forsyth's continued commitment to maintaining and improving Forsyth Public Library for the benefit of our community!



FORSYTH



= FALL FEST =

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026

5:00–8:00 PM

FORSYTH PARK

MONSTERS, INC. AT 6:00 PM

Take-home crafts for kids with Forsyth Library
Vendors • Food Trucks • Pumpkin Path
S'mores • Beer Tent
Live Music with Blue Smoke

TRUNK OR TREAT

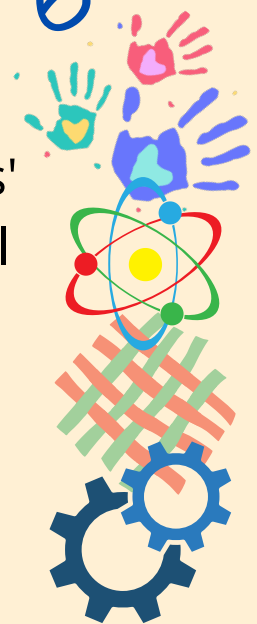
Kids don't have to dress up for this one!

VILLAGE OF
FORSYTH
PRIDE & PROGRESS

Kids' Club for Grades K-6

Mondays @ 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

Join us every Monday afternoon for our new Kids' Club! Kids in Kindergarten through 6th Grade will participate in a variety of activities including art projects, STEM experiments, creative crafts and engineering & building challenges led by our FPL Youth Services staff. We can't wait for your kiddo to join the fun!



NEW Fall Kids' Clubs

Beginning the 2nd Week of September

<https://www.forsythlibrary.com/o/fpl/page/registration>



Tales Together Book Club for Kids in Grades 4 - 6 and their Grown Ups

Second Tuesday of the Month @ 5:30 p.m.

FPL is excited to launch a brand new book club for students in grades 4-6 and their grown ups! Kids and adults will read a chapter book together and then join Youth Services Librarian Michelle and other families to chat about the book. Snacks provided! Tales Together will meet monthly on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM.

Registration Required for each club - link above

Upcoming Family Events at FPL

Story Time at the Library is Back!

Fridays at 10:00 a.m., Ages 2 to 5, siblings welcome

Sept 4 - We're Back with Chickens!

Sept 11 - Author Spotlight, Melanie Watt



Sept 18 - Argh! Let's Be Pirates!

Sept 25 - Apples Everywhere

Library Lapsit for 2 & Under

Wednesdays, 9:30 am. - Siblings Welcome

Join us for our new parent and toddler program, Library Lapsit. Parents participate in interactive activities with their children such as stories, finger play and music. Caregivers and parents can also enjoy some adult time while the littles play and socialize with other littles.



Legos with Lainey - Builders Club

1st Thursday of each month beginning September 3

5:30 p.m. - All Ages Welcome



Join our resident Lego fan and Master Builder, Lainey, for lots of brick-building fun the first Thursday of each month. She might suggest a specific theme, maybe a member challenge, or simply a random build night. Come in with family and friends to find out what it will be. All ages are welcome to join Lainey to get their build on!

Family Game Night

3rd Thursday of each month beginning September 17

5:30 p.m. - Bring the Entire Family!



Grab the family and join us for Family Game Night at the library. We'll have different games each month, from the old classics to new family faves. Come let your competitive side out and have a good time! There will be something for all ages and skill levels.

Saturday Family Drop-ins - All Ages Welcome

All Drop-ins 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturdays - Everyone Welcome

- **Sept 5 - Stuff & Sew Paper Bag Apple Drop-in:** Stop into the library to sew together your own apple that won't go bad or get worms!
- **Sept 12 - Jumpy Squirrel Drop-in:** Come into FPL and go nuts making your own Jumpy Squirrel using a paper cup and a rubber band!
- **Sept 19 - All Ages Fall Bookmark Contest Begins:** Create a fall book-themed design and possibly have it made into a bookmark. Submission form included
- **Sept 26 - Nature Finds Scavenger Hunt:** Spend a lovely day outdoors with our Fall Scavenger Hunt and you could win a prize!

Fall Bookmark Contest for All!

Hey, Patrons of all ages! Fall is here
& we have a new contest for you beginning
Saturday, September 19!

On the blank bookmark, create
your own fall book-themed
design. **ALL AGES** are welcome
to enter. Fill in your name, age
and a phone number where we
can contact you. Submit the
form at the library checkout
counter.

Winners will then be chosen by
library staff with the winning
designs made into bookmarks
given out at the circulation desk,
as well as a prize.

**Deadline for submission is
Saturday, September 26**

**Fall
Into A**

Good Book!

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Age: _____ Kids 6 & Under _____ Kids 7 - 12
_____ Teen _____ Adult



Celebrating 100 Years of

Winnie the Pooh!



Kids' Event

Saturday, October 17

10:00 a.m.

Registration Required

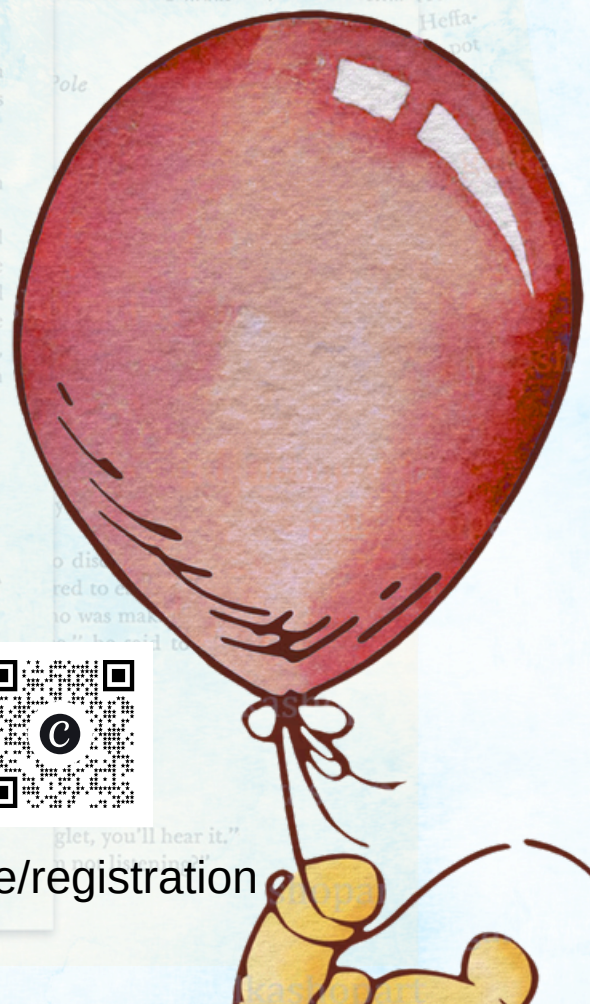
Join us to show your love for that silly ol' bear, Winnie the Pooh & the 100 year anniversary of the book's publication!

Create your own Hunny Pot to fill with some fun honey-flavored treats while watching a movie starring your favorite tubby, cubby all stuffed with fluff.

Register at the link shown or using the QR Code as spots are limited. You don't want to miss having a willy, nilly, silly good time!



<https://www.forsythlibrary.com/o/fpl/page/registration>



Adult Programs and Events

Chair Yoga at the Library Mondays & Wednesdays - 11:00 a.m.

Get your yoga on twice a week at the library in the Community Room! If you have your own gear, please bring it as our supplies are limited. Ages 16 and up are welcome to attend.



Coffee Talk

Every Thursday at 9:30 a.m.
No Registration Required

Coffee Talk is going strong at the library and you're welcome to join our regulars. Don't miss a morning of hot coffee and warm conversation. There will be tasty snacks, as well, so stop on in and become a Coffee Talk regular!!



1st Tuesday Every
Other Month
Next Mtg 10/6
4:00 p.m.

Anyone is welcome to attend our bi-monthly meetings to learn about what's happening within the village. Come join us for enlightening and friendly discussion about all things Forsyth. No Registration Required

Mahjong Monday 1st & 3rd Monday each month, 1:00 p.m. Registration Required

Interested in giving the game of Mahjong a try? FPL is offering Mahjong Mondays. New and experienced players alike are invited to join. Call the library at 217-877-8174 to register.



Bingo! at the Library Tuesday, September 8 - 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Registration Required

Games, prizes, raffles, tasty snacks and fun with friends - you can't ask for more! We look forward to seeing you there!

Register online at: <https://www.forsythlibrary.com/o/fpl/page/registration>

Adult Abstract Squeegee Art Program Monday, September 28 - 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. - Ages 16+ Registration Required



Squeegee painting is a fun way to create cool abstract art that anyone can do. Using acrylic paint and a small squeegee or scraper, simply drag paint across a canvas or paper, creating bold, unique patterns. Don't be afraid to go wild with the colors and movements - there's never a wrong way to be creative!

Register online at:

<https://www.forsythlibrary.com/o/fpl/page/registration>

FORSYTH GOLF CART Poker Run

DRIVE • PLAY • WIN • GIVE BACK

**GRAB YOUR CREW AND
SAVE THE DATE!**

OCTOBER 10TH, 2026

We will kick off at Forsyth Park
starting at 10a.

Band and after party to follow the
poker run back at the park.

**This is a family friendly fun event
brought to you by 5 Kings.**

Our title sponsor is



Proceeds from this event will benefit
217 WB Classic – Decatur Family YMCA –
Sunshine Supplies for Teachers

Adult Programs and Events continued...



Rock Springs StarLab Planetarium

Adults 18+ - Registration Required

Monday, October 5

2 SHOWS! 5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.



The StarLab Planetarium is a fully digital, portable dome that brings the wonders of space and astronomy up close. Its immersive, unforgettable experience will bring fun and excitement to everyone who visits.

The StarLab Planetarium showcases a wide array of astronomy topics, such as:



- Planets
- Constellations
- The Moon
- Stars
- The Solar System
- And much more!

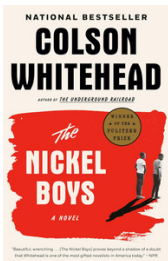
Adults, join us in the Community Room for an exciting new adventure - don't let the youngsters have all the fun!

Register online at:

<https://www.forsythlibrary.com/o/fpl/page/registration>

FPL Book Clubs

Food for Thought Book Group - 2nd Thursday at 6:00 p.m.



Food for Thought book discussion group meets in-person at FPL to review the chosen book of the month while also enjoying a light snack. Any interested adults are encouraged to join the group.

The Food for Thought book for September:

September 10 - We will discuss the Pulitzer-Prize winning novel, *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead

Bookkeepers Book Group - 3rd Fridays at 10:00 a.m.

Bookkeepers discussion group meets in-person to talk over the book chosen for that month. All interested adults are welcome to join the group.

Our Bookkeepers book for September:

September 18 - We will talk about the lighthearted, romantic comedy novel, *Sheer Mischief* by Jill Mansell



In Other News...

Village Closings in September



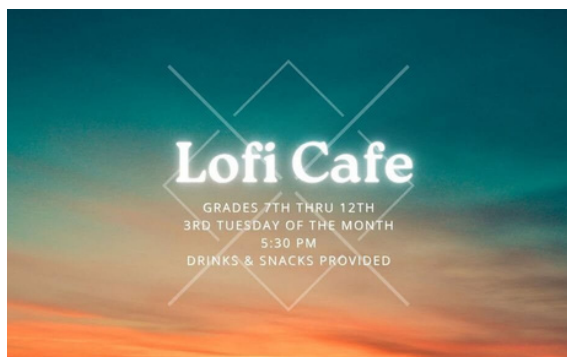
The Forsyth Public Library, Village offices and Public Works will be CLOSED on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day. All will reopen on Tuesday, September 8.

Village Board Candidate Packets Available

Candidate packets for Village board elections are available for pick up at Village Hall during regular hours. The offices are open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and closed on Saturday and Sundays.



Teen Lofi Cafe for Grades 7 to 12 Coming September 15



Beginning Tuesday, September 15 at 5:30 p.m. come unplug and put your phone away at our Lofi Cafe. Get creative with your hands and enjoy low-key activities, chat with your friends and enjoy plenty of snacks in this teens-only environment. No sign up required - just come hang out!

Team Desperados Took It All



Congratulations, Team Desperados, winners of our August Team Trivia event. We love to see such a great turnout!



September Celebrations

September
Library Card
Sign-up Month



September
National Hispanic
Heritage Month



September 6
Nat'l Read a
Book Day



September 20
Nat'l Pepperoni
Pizza Day



September 22
1st Day of Autumn



A Reminder Regarding the Village's FREE Limb Pickup Program

Limb pickup occurs every Monday from the first Monday in April through the first Monday in December. This service is intended to assist residents with normal residential limb cleanup and storm debris.

To help crews complete pickups safely and efficiently, residents are reminded of the following program guidelines:

- Limbs must be no larger than 10 inches in diameter and 8 feet in length
- Limbs should be placed near the street, not in the street
- Limbs should be stacked neatly to allow for safe pickup
- Smaller limbs and brush that fit inside your garbage receptacle or lawn bags should be disposed of through your regular garbage service
- The program is not intended for full tree removals or large-scale clearing projects
- If a professional tree service or contractor performs the work, the contractor is responsible for removal and disposal
- Following significant storm or high wind events, special consideration may be given based on circumstances and staff availability.

In recent years, Village crews have often attempted to assist residents by collecting items outside of the program guidelines. However, the increasing volume and size of pickups is significantly impacting other Public Works responsibilities throughout the Village. As a result, staff will be more strictly enforcing the existing program requirements moving forward.

Residents should also be aware that excessively large piles may require heavy equipment, such as a backhoe, for removal. Use of this equipment may result in damage to grass or sod areas near the pickup location.

The Village appreciates the cooperation and understanding of residents as we work to continue offering this valuable service at no additional cost to the community.



2026 SAVE THE DATE



Success!

MAY 1-2

Village Rummage Sales

Success!

MAY 4-9

Clean Up Week

Success!

JUNE 19-20

Forsyth Fest

OCTOBER 2

Forsyth Fall Fest

DECEMBER 4-5

Rudolph's Village Market

CALLING ALL VENDORS!

Our **2026 Forsyth Event Calendar** is set, and we are excited to start planning for another great year!

If you are a craft, baked goods, or item vendor OR a food truck vendor, we invite you to sign up to receive more information about upcoming opportunities.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49ABAD2DA2FB6-63379187-2026>

Signing up does not commit you to participate—it simply ensures you will receive event details as they become available. It also does not guarantee a spot, as we work to balance vendor variety and space for each event.

A few quick notes:

- Craft/Baked Goods/Item vendors – there is no charge for most events (with the exception of Rudolph's Village Market)
 - Food Truck vendors – details will be shared as events are finalized.
- We love supporting local vendors and hope to work with you again in 2026!

*Watch for spam posts - you will only sign up with Jill and do not pay any money online!

Please feel free to share with others who may be interested.

Food Pantries in Macon County

Macon County Food Pantry 2025

- AMELCA 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church - 250 W. Decatur St., Decatur IL - (217) 423-7783
Every Wednesday 10 a.m.-Noon (Bring photo ID)
- Catholic Charities Decatur Pantry - 239 W. Prairie St., Decatur IL - (217) 428-3458 ext. 237
Mon., Tue., Wed., & Friday 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
- Helping Hands 1st Church of the Nazarene (behind the church) - 1177 W. Hickory Point Rd., Forsyth IL - (217) 875-0616
3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. 2nd & 4th Saturday 10 a.m.-Noon
- Hopeful Heart Ministries - 1645 S. 44th St., Decatur IL - (217) 423-4264
Saturday after the first full week of each month, 10:30 a.m.- Noon (ID required)
- Northwest Christian Church - 1306 N. Stanley Dr., Decatur IL - (217) 429-4278
Tuesdays 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
- Old King's Orchard Community Center - 815 N. Church St., Decatur IL - (217) 428-2782
Check website/Facebook for dates and time(s)
- Community Food Pantry - 833 W. Pershing Rd., Decatur IL - (217) 877-7224
Life Builders Church, November 3 and December 8, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
<https://www.lifebuilderscog.org/>
- New Vision Food Pantry - 550 N. Van Dyke, Decatur IL - (217) 423-7333
Mondays 3 p.m.-7 p.m. (two times monthly) ID required.
- Northeast Community Fund - 839 N Martin Luther King Jr Dr, Decatur IL - (217) 429-5846
Mon-Tues, Thurs-Fri 9:00 am - 2:30 pm (2 visits within 30 days) (ID required)
- The Salvation Army Pantry - 137 S. Church St., Decatur IL - (217) 429-8050
Tuesdays and Thursdays 4 p.m.-6 p.m. & Saturdays 8 a.m.-10 a.m. (Bring ID)
- Mt. Zion United Methodist - 1220 W Main St., Mt. Zion IL - (217) 864-4813
3rd Thursday of the month, 5 p.m.-6 p.m. 3rd Saturday, 9 a.m. -11 a.m.
(Must be a district resident & ID required)
- Water Street Mission Pantry - 758 N Water St, Decatur IL - (217) 424-2381
Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No ID required. Drinks and snacks available EVERY DAY

Macon County Prepared Food Location Delivery

- Good Samaritan Inn - 920 N Union St., Decatur IL 62522 - (217) 429-1455
Free Hot Lunch for all 11:30 am- 1:00 pm 7 days a week
- Elim House - 829 N Water St., Decatur IL 62523 - (217) 358-3354
Free soup, sandwiches, coffee, and tea Every Day, 5 p.m.-8 p.m.
- Empowerment Senior Center - 360 E Marietta St, Decatur IL - (217) 428-4148
Lunch for individuals aged 55+ Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Meals on Wheels - (217) 422-6611
Meals for individuals aged 60+ delivered by dedicated volunteers
Monday-Friday 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Meals on Wheels Congregate Program - (217) 428-3459
Seniors 60+ can enjoy a hot, healthy lunch served in a group setting
Lunch available Monday-Friday, noon-1:00 p.m. at various locations in Macon County

Macon County Household/Hygiene Supplies

- Helping Hands 1st Church of the Nazarene (behind the church) - 1177 W Hickory Pt Rd, Forsyth IL - (217) 875-0616
3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. 2nd & 4th Saturday 10 a.m.-Noon
- Empowerment Opportunity Center - 260 E Marietta St, Decatur IL - (217) 358-3354
Essential product pantry on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday and Thursday of each month (Once monthly)
9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. or until 100 bags are issued (Income verification required)

Village of Forsyth Tree Limb Pick Up

As a reminder, we must follow the below rules for the safety of our team, and we appreciate your help in these efforts:

- The Village can take limbs up to ten (10) inches in diameter and eight (8) feet in length. If your limbs are larger, please call a professional service. We do not have the equipment necessary for larger tree removal.
- If the limbs are too small, it is risky for our crew to load them in the chipper; please bag them up and leave them for the garbage companies.
- If you have limbs that are not collected, please consider the size and rules!

CURB SIDE TREE LIMB COLLECTION POLICY

Objective: To provide the Village of Forsyth residents and business owners with an economical way of disposing of tree limbs and to reduce burning within the Village of Forsyth limits.

Goal: To Collect and chip tree limbs placed in the Village of Forsyth-owned Right-Of-Way each Monday (except Holidays) and on any additional days as needed.

Exceptions: The Village of Forsyth may assist with clean-up following a major storm(s).

RULES:

1. The collection period starts on the first Monday in March and ends on the last Monday in November.
2. Tree limbs must be placed in the Village of Forsyth's Right-Of-Way for collection by 8:00 AM of the collection day.
3. If a resident or business owner hires a commercial tree trimming company to cut down a tree, trim a tree, or remove branches and/or limbs, the commercial contractor is responsible for removing ALL the tree, limbs, branches, etc. The Village of Forsyth will not remove the tree, limbs, or branches.
4. If a resident and/or family member (or acquaintance) cuts down a tree, the resident is responsible for the removal of the tree. The Village of Forsyth will not remove the tree.
5. Tree limb is defined as a limb removed from the trunk of a tree. The Village of Forsyth will not remove trunks and root balls.
6. The Village of Forsyth has a right to refuse the removal of any landscape/yard waste deemed not to be a tree limb. Some examples of landscape/yard waste (but not limited to) are: grass clippings, pine needles, mulch, shrubs, flowers, plants, bushes, small sticks, and twigs. The Village of Forsyth will not pick up anything with thorns.

Note: Your waste removal provider may offer yard waste toters for use, and the Village of Forsyth allows the burning of these items (see burn ordinance for additional information).

Lawn Clippings

It's hard to believe that something as natural as grass clippings can be harmful. While organic and healthy for your lawn, grass clippings can cause problems if they enter the Village's storm sewers. Since this is the season of moving and mulching, it is an excellent time to remind residents that we can help reduce pollution by keeping litter, including grass clippings, off our streets.

This is a simple way for anyone to pitch in and do their small part to reduce the number of pollutants in our Village storm sewers. The Village of Forsyth complies with federal mandates regarding stormwater management. Dumping any waste into catch basins is prohibited and subject to a fine.

With that in mind, residents are encouraged not to leave grass clipping in the street and on sidewalks. Any waste that doesn't get cleaned up - even when it seems as harmless and natural as grass clippings - will likely make its way to our storm sewer system and potentially cause backups. Thanks for your help in this critical matter!

Safety Update on E-Bikes

We have been seeing a lot of dangerous e-bike usage around town and we've also been receiving a lot of citizen complaints about them. People are concerned about children on e-bikes running stop signs and driving recklessly through neighborhoods. Some of these kids don't appear to even be paying attention to the stop signs, or, even worse, looking for oncoming traffic before entering or crossing an intersection.

Friends, the entire goal of this update is to prevent accidents before they happen. We do not want to see any children in our community needlessly struck while riding on them.

E-Bikes

To qualify as a low-speed electric bicycle under Illinois law, the bike must have:

- Fully operable pedals
- An electric motor of less than 750 watts
- A maximum assisted speed of 20 mph (28 mph for Class 3)

Important reminders about operating e-bikes:

- E-bikes CANNOT be ridden on public sidewalks.
- You **must be 16 or older** to ride a Class 3 e-bike.
- It is illegal to tamper with or modify the speed capability of an e-bike without a valid updated label.
- E-bike riders must follow the same rules of the road that apply to traditional cyclists (including signaling, obeying stop signs, and lane usage).
- No more than two e-bikes abreast on the roadway.
- E-bikes operating at night must have a front lamp and a rear reflector.

E-Dirt Bikes

Electric dirt bikes do NOT meet Illinois' legal definition of a low-speed electric bicycle because they typically have motors exceeding 750 watts and can reach speeds higher than 28 mph.

Operating an electric dirt bike requires:

- A valid driver's license
- Registration with the Illinois Secretary of State
- Compliance with insurance requirements

Electric dirt bikes cannot be ridden on sidewalks and can only be driven on streets if the driver has a valid license, proper registration and insurance for the dirt bike.

Regardless of the bike you're on, please remember that you are required to stop for police when signaled to do so.

We hope this post prevents a child from being seriously hurt on an e-bike. Misuse of these bikes can pose serious risks to young riders and others. We strongly urge parents to do research prior to purchasing an e-bike for their children and remind their children about the rules of the road and what is/isn't permitted e-bike usage. **Anyone on an e-bike must abide by the same rules of the road as someone on a bicycle (Bike path = asphalt/blacktop and Sidewalk = concrete).**

No bikes of any kind are allowed on playgrounds or ballfields at anytime!

Remember this... kids should have fun, but safely. Reckless driving or riding puts everyone at risk!

Here are a few links to applicable laws and resources:

Illinois Law: <https://ow.ly/FhUP50WkCq5> (scroll to the bottom of the page for Sec. 11-1517 – Low-speed electric bicycles)

Illinois Bicycle Rules of the Road: <https://ow.ly/L57k50WkCnf>

***Thank you to Chatham, IL Police for putting this information together.**