



IN THE WORKS

Westfield Department of Public Works

2023 FALL NEWSLETTER

CONTACT US

The Village of Westfield DPW has a 24-hr. emergency line, **792-7919**, so that residents can report electric, water, sewer, and street emergencies that occur outside our normal business hours.

The normal business hours for the DPW office staff are Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

If assistance is needed during business hours the numbers to call are:

VILLAGE OFFICE - EASON HALL 326-4961

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT 326-2145

STREET DEPARTMENT 326-3477

WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT 326-2832

24-HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBER 792-7919

WWW.WESTFIELDNY.COM

All account and billing questions can be addressed by calling 326-4961 ext. 22 or ext. 14. This is also the telephone number to set up a service turn on, final reading, name change, etc.

WESTFIELD ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS: SAVE ENERGY & GET A REBATE!



Village of Westfield
42 English Street
Westfield, NY 14787
716-326-2145



IEEP
P.O. Box 2489
Syracuse NY 13220
(315) 463-7208
IEEPRebates@gmail.com

Get rebates when you purchase and install ENERGY STAR® appliances, high-efficiency cold climate heat pumps, and battery powered yard care equipment.

For more information, visit the Westfield Electric Dept. at 42 English Street, or download our rebate forms at westfieldny.com/living-here/ieep-rebate-forms

Rebates available for purchases of the following items:

- Clothes Washers and Dryers • Dehumidifiers • Smart Thermostats
- Refrigerators • Windows • Dishwashers • Room Air Conditioners • Freezers
- Cold Climate Heat Pumps • Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pumps • Ground Source Heat Pumps • Heat Pump Water Heaters • Electric Battery Powered Lawn Mowers, Trimmers, Snowblowers, Leaf Blowers and Chain Saws



Sign up for Village Text Messages

Sign up to receive texts regarding Village of
Westfield services and information

Text
"dpw"
to 866-594-0550

Or SCAN this
to join!



Normal text messaging rates apply.
Text "STOP" to opt out. Text "HELP" for help.
Receive up to 4 messages per month.

Village of Westfield

Net Metering for Electric Customers

Did you know that as a Westfield Electric Customer, you can sell any power you generate over your usage back to the Village?

In 2016, we submitted a tariff amendment to the NYS Public Service Commission to allow for net metering. We currently have two residents taking advantage of this program using solar and wind generation. The tariff states that a customer will be credited for any power generated in excess of their usage, not at the retail rate that users pay, but at the rate equal to the avoided cost of power purchased by the load-serving entity, in this case, the Village.

We have the cost of installing and maintaining the electric system, which necessitates a cost higher than the power we purchase to be charged to consumers. A customer who is generating power more than they use does not have that expense. This way we can allow consumers to get credit for the power they generate and not cause an extra expense to other users because of that.

We read meters monthly, and any credits are carried from month to month. If at the end of 12 months there is a credit, the Village cuts a check for that amount. There are limits to the total amount of power that can be generated behind an individual meter, as well as a limit on the total amount of power that can be net metered through the whole system. If you are interested in working with a solar or wind power company, please keep this in mind.

The full Electric Tariff for the Village of Westfield is available online at https://ets.dps.ny.gov/ets_web/search/searchShortcutEffective.cfm?serviceType=ELECTRIC

If you have further questions, please email Andrew Thompson at athompson@villageofwestfield.org or call the Electric Department at 716-326-2145.



Notice to all Village and Town Water Customers

As a result of the 2014 water crisis in Flint Michigan, the EPA has revised the Lead and Copper Rule which will require every utility in the country to create a Lead Service Line Inventory. For The Village of Westfield, this inventory must include every property address that has a water service line connected to our distribution system.

This new rule will require an employee of the Water Department to come to your home or business to conduct a visual inspection of the water line as it enters your building. Our objective is to confirm the pipe material used to bring water into your residence or business and we will not be inspecting any other internal plumbing. This inspection should only take 5-10 minutes and we do not expect to encounter many, if any, lead water service lines in our community. Property owners will be notified immediately if a lead service line is identified.

The Water Department has already started the inventory and it will continue until October 2024. If nobody is home when we stop at your residence or business a letter will be left with a phone number to call and schedule an appointment.

We will be scheduling appointments 7 days a week between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please call The Water Department at 716-326-2832. To learn more about the effects of lead in drinking water please visit

<https://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Thank you for your patience and understanding!

FALL FLUSHING NOTICE

ATTENTION ALL CUSTOMERS OF THE WESTFIELD MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM WATER MAIN FLUSHING ALERT

Water main flushing will begin in the Village of Westfield starting, Monday, November 6th. We will begin flushing daily at 7:00 a.m., and will continue until 3:30 p.m. Flushing will be completed by Friday, December 8th.

Flushing of Westfield's water mains will begin on the south side of the Village and move in a northerly direction, ending with the West Route 5 District.

Flushing will cause roily water and possible loss of water for a short period. Residents should stock a supply of water for drinking and cooking before flushing begins in their area. Care should be taken not to draw the roily water into hot water tanks, heating systems, and especially clothes washers.

Any questions or concerns please call 326-2832

Division of Public Works
Village of Westfield
23 Elm Street
Westfield, New York 14787

Phone: 716-326-3477
FAX: 716-326-2569
Email: pwd@villageofwestfield.org

NEWS RELEASE

Leaf Pick-up in the Village of Westfield begins on Monday, October 23, 2023. Pick-up begins at 7:00 A.M. in Area 1 and will continue through the Village until Friday, December 1, 2023. The schedule will be followed as close as possible. Delays in the schedule may be caused due to mechanical breakdown of equipment or severe weather. Another schedule will be released if more pick-ups are needed.

NOTE: 1. All Areas will be completely finished before moving on to the next Area

2. Once completely picked up, an Area will not be returned until all other Areas are completely picked up.

3. On average, the first 2 weeks of the schedule are followed very closely, until the weather, the number of leaves to be picked up increases and mechanical breakdowns start to occur, which will force the schedule to be delayed.

Residents are asked to rake leaves to the curb line, but not in the gutters. As the suction machine requires clearance, care should be taken in not placing leaves under low-hanging limbs or power lines.

DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO DITCHES, this causes flooding and the drainage system to be plugged with debris - Place the piles on the edge of the ditch.

DO NOT PLACE TREE LIMBS AND OTHER DEBRIS INTO THE LEAVES. This action causes the machine to become plugged and causes downtime from picking up leaves. Such action will cause the leaves to be left and a return trip will not be made.

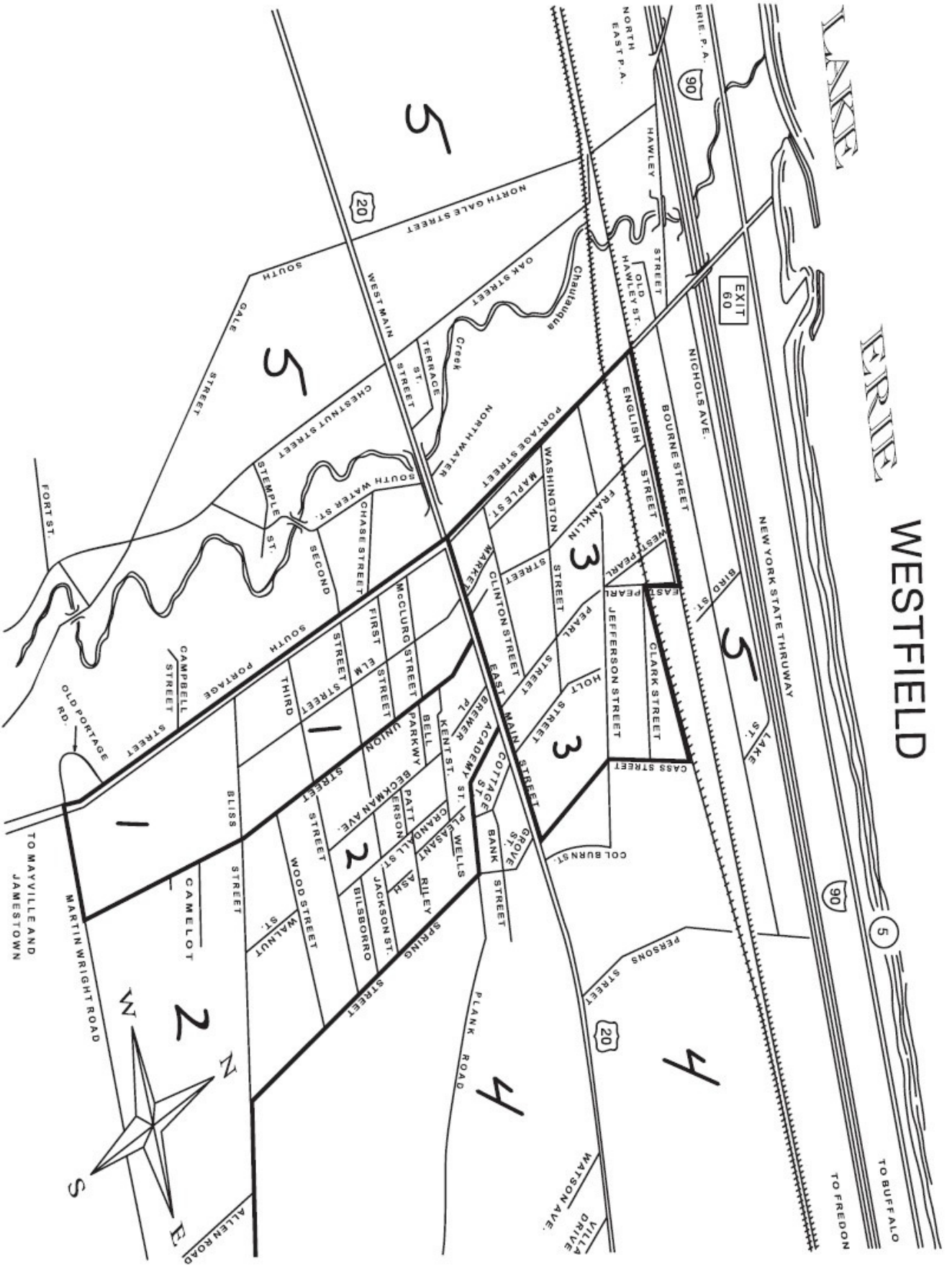
Please follow these instructions, as this will assist the Village crews in picking up the leaves and staying on schedule.

Anyone wishing Mulched Leaves or questions concerning leaf pick-ups should call 326-3477

Ed LeBarron
Public Works Superintendent

ERIE

WESTFIELD



Downtown Revitalization Master Plan

The Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC) launched an initiative to develop a Master Plan to identify priority projects within downtown Westfield. The contents of the Master Plan will support Westfield and Chautauqua County in pursuing grant funding to implement identified projects.

The Master Plan will identify improvements to a focus area in Westfield that could be implemented in a 5-10-year time frame. Improvements described in the Plan will be conceptualized through community input – solicited through an Interactive Map and Survey.

A Steering Committee consisting of local stakeholders and Village and Town officials is spearheading the development of this Plan by providing local insight, advertising community input opportunities, and reviewing draft materials. Finally, a consultant team of landscape architects and community planners provides professional and technical expertise throughout the project process.



The end result of this process will be an application for a NY Forward grant. The NY Forward program was created in 2022 to invigorate and enliven downtowns in New York's smaller and rural communities – the type of downtowns found in communities like yours – the Town/Village of Westfield! The NY Forward program builds on the Downtown Revitalization Initiative's (DRI) success by adopting the same "Plan-then-Act" strategy as the DRI. Two \$4.5 million dollar awards, or one \$4.5 million and two \$2.25 million awards, will be made in the Western NY Region. A finalized Downtown Revitalization Master Plan will be available to the public soon.

This Downtown Revitalization Master Plan was made possible through the generous time and input of the Village/Town of Westfield, the Steering Committee, and active members of the public.

The Steering Committee and Village/Town representatives convened under the leadership of the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG), and the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC) - all contributed significantly to the development of this Plan by offering local knowledge, providing direction throughout the planning process, and reviewing draft documents.

The public also guided the development of this Plan by actively participating in community engagement efforts and providing valuable feedback. Together, the Steering Committee and the public shaped this Downtown Revitalization Master Plan into a document that reflects and serves the greater Westfield community.

Steering Committee

Rebecca Wurster, CREDC

Nate Aldrich, CREDC

Dennis Lutes, Mayor, Village of Westfield

Martha Bills, Supervisor, Town of Westfield

Vincent Luce, Village Administrator/Clerk

Andrew Thompson, Department of Public Works Director

Don McCord, Executive Director of Westfield Development Corporation

Kathy Archer, Owner of Full Strength Coffee Company

Jennifer Johnson, Co-owner of Johnson Estate Winery

Kathryn Bronstein, President of Westfield Memorial Hospital Foundation

Diana Holt, Board Member of Westfield Memorial Hospital Foundation

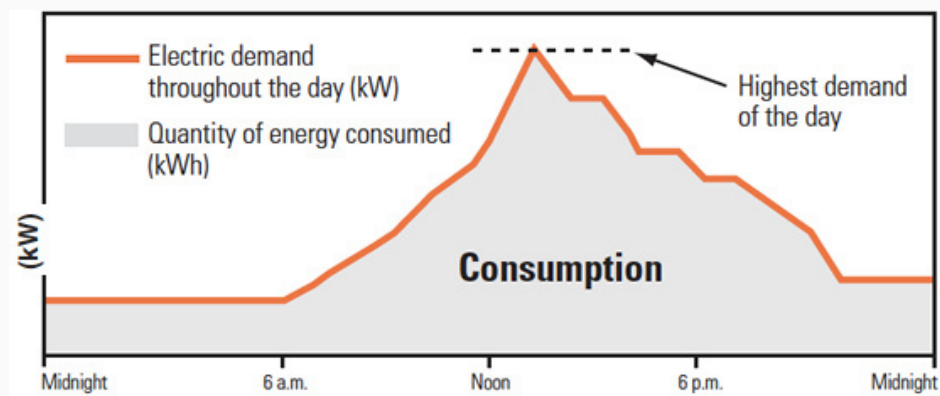
Blake Maras, Village Board Trustee

PPA Charges Explained

With colder weather on the way, we wanted to provide an explanation of the Purchase Power Adjustment (PPA) charges we all see on our electric bills. As Westfield Electric Customers, we are fortunate to enjoy an allocation of hydroelectric power from the New York Power Authority.

The power we purchase while staying within this allocation is some of the cheapest available. When we as a system exceed this allocation, we are forced to buy that power at higher rates. This power is purchased through the New York Municipal Power Agency (NYMPA). Westfield is a member of NYMPA, along with about 30 other municipalities. Due to our low rates, we have a high percentage of residents who heat their homes with electric heat. This is the reason we see usage, and therefore PPA charges rise during the colder months. PPA charges also include some other costs, such as transmission charges and contributions to the NYS Clean Energy program, which we are required to collect and pass on to the State year-round.

There are things we can do to reduce the amount of power we have to purchase at a higher rate. Any steps that can be taken to reduce electric power consumption during the colder months will help. We have many rebates and incentives available through the Independent Energy Efficiency Program (IEEP) to help make energy-efficient improvements to homes and businesses. These forms are available at Eason Hall and at the Electric Department. Additional information on the rebate program can be found at www.IEEPNY.com.



One of the easiest ways we can reduce our PPA charge is to reduce our system-wide peak demand. This peak demand charge is based on the highest instantaneous usage during that month. This peak demand charge comprises a large part of our PPA cost.

We see system peaks almost exclusively between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on the coldest days of the month. During that time period, people are returning home from work and there is a lot of activity in the home. The sun is setting so more lighting is needed, heat is being turned up and people are preparing dinner, many using an electric oven. After dinner, dishes need to be done, baths taken and often laundry is done too. If you have an electric hot water heater, that will be operating to provide hot water for the dishwasher, bathtub, and washing machine. If we could all take steps to reduce this peak demand, we would all share the cost savings.

Staggering usage can be a big help. Some ideas are to wait to run your dishwasher or clothes dryer at a later time when demand is lower, such as before you go to bed. Lowering your heat setting during that time, and turning off all unnecessary lighting and appliances is a huge help as well.

We are able to monitor usage on our SCADA System and can somewhat forecast when these peaks will happen. During this upcoming winter we will try to inform residents using text alerts when these peak times will occur and when reducing electric usage will help the most. However, any reduction at any time is great.

Even with these PPA charges, we are still fortunate to enjoy some of the lowest electric rates in the country. If we can work together and reduce our wintertime usage, we can make sure it stays that way. Please do anything you can as every little bit helps. Any money we can save on this power purchased above our hydro allocation is money that stays in the pockets of our ratepayers and benefits the local economy.



The advertisement is split into two vertical panels. The left panel has a dark blue background with white and yellow text. The right panel has a yellow background with black and blue text. At the top of the right panel is a white outline of New York State with the words 'NEW YORK STATE' inside. To the right of the state outline is a vertical line, followed by the words 'Terrorism Tips Line'. Below this is the text 'Report Any Suspicious Activity to the New York State Terrorism Tips Hotline at' followed by the large blue number '1-866-SAFE-NYS' and the smaller number '(1-866-723-3697)'. At the bottom of the right panel is the text 'All calls are Toll Free and will remain strictly confidential.'

if you
SEE
SOMETHING
SAY
SOMETHING™

NEW YORK STATE

**Terrorism
Tips
Line**

Report Any Suspicious Activity to the
New York State Terrorism Tips Hotline at
1-866-SAFE-NYS
(1-866-723-3697)

All calls are Toll Free
and will remain strictly confidential.

Jade Lucinda Design
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