

Ornaments Sought for Orland Park's Community Christmas Tree

ORLAND PARK, IL - Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin is again inviting the community to provide ornaments for the village's community Christmas tree in front of the Village Hall.

"Last year, we had a great response from families, individuals, scout groups, churches and more," McLaughlin said. "They provided enough ornaments to cover the 27-foot live tree in front of the Village Hall," he added.

Ornaments must be durable and weatherproof for use outdoors for at least twelve weeks in wet and wintry conditions. They should be decorated with colorful materials that, if possible, are reflective. To minimize environmental impact, ornament makers are encouraged to use wood or recycled materials.

"Seeing the village's tree decorated with hand made ornaments provided by people from throughout the community was beautiful last year," said Trustee Kathy Fenton, chair of the village's Special Events and Community Outreach Committee. "We're hoping even more people participate this year," she added.

Ornaments should be eight to ten inches in size, light weight and light in color, relatively simple in design so they can be enjoyed from a distance. They must be ready for hanging with a heavy wire attached to the top corners. Ornament makers are encouraged to add their name, organization and the year on the backs of the ornaments they create. Those made of glass or other breakable materials cannot be accepted.

Creations should be delivered to the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue, by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 12 so that village employees can place them on the tree. Ornament donors will be asked to leave their names, organizations, addresses and email addresses for future community projects and events.

McLaughlin will officially begin the holiday season in Orland Park on Sunday, November 28 at 5:45 p.m. when he lights the village's tree at the close of the Winter Festival.

"We're hoping that all of our ornament makers come to the Village Hall on November 28th when we light the community's tree so they can see what a beautiful display they helped to create," McLaughlin said.

Ornaments should be delivered to the information desk in the lobby of the Village Hall, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Further information is available by calling 708/403-6140.

PHOTO CAPTION

Village of Orland Park employees add hand made ornaments to the 2009 Community Christmas Tree. Mayor Dan McLaughlin is again inviting families, individuals, scout groups, churches and organizations to make ornaments for the community tree. For more information, call 708/403-6140.