

A few months ago, Former Governor Cuomo signed into Law the legal use of marijuana for adults over 21 years and older. A user is allowed to possess up to three ounces of cannabis for personal use. Up to five pounds is allowed to be stored at private homes if it is secured properly. For recreation use, a resident is allowed to grow up to 6 plants at home either indoors or outdoors. A user can smoke in public wherever tobacco smoking is allowed. Cannabis smoking is not allowed in schools, workplaces or inside a car. Many jobs like commercial truck driving prohibits truck drivers from cannabis use.

In the near future, the State will be releasing guidelines and regulations for the licensing and sale of marijuana. When the guidelines are released, Local municipalities can control where and how marijuana can be sold. Towns are also allowed a onetime opt out from allowing the sale of Marijuana. Since the state has not released guidelines on the sale after a public hearing last week, the Town Board voted to opt out from allowing local sales of Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and Consumption Sites. A municipality can only opt out once. The Town took the opt out option to wait for the State Guidelines before developing new Town laws for the sale of marijuana. Within a year, the Town has the option to begin allowing marijuana sales. More than likely the sales are going to be restricted to major retail corridors and away from schools or places that attract youths, such as public parks. The town is interested in hearing your opinion on the sale of Cannabis. Please e-mail our Director of Planning at jbleuer@clarence.ny.us .

Due to our warm weather, the trees are holding on to their leaves. At this time last year the trees were bare. The hard frost we received last week should speed up the falling of leaves. Highway Superintendent Jamie Dussing said until weather permits, they will continue picking up leaves on a daily basis. Two vacuum crews are out daily. When needed, four more crews will be added for mass pick up of leaves. It is illegal to place leaves or brush in the street or on someone else's property. Because it involves public safety, the town will enforce the law.

Brush pickup continues through November. Superintendent Dussing has asked that we refrain from putting brush by the curb after November. If there is a major winter storm with tree damage the highway department will make a special pickup.

Winter parking begins November 1st. This means there will be no parking in the streets from 1:00 am to 7:00 am to allow for proper clearing of our roads.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of our Clarence Veterans for their service. If you haven't done so already, I encourage you to visit the incredible Veterans Memorial at our Main Street Town Park, where you will see the names of over 550 Veterans affiliated with our town. Last week, we added over 50 additional names, and will be doing so every Spring and Fall. There will be a small ceremony at 12:00pm at the Veterans Memorial – and all are encouraged to attend.