

Beware of Summer Solicitors

Summertime means an increase in door-to-door solicitors and phone calls about home maintenance. Be wary of products or services that are solicited directly. Never agree to work or changes in accounts without first checking to see if the company is reputable.

Here are some examples:

Mosquito Spraying – Many companies will solicit for extra spraying during mosquito season. There are two problems with this. First, many of these companies use a pesticides that kills beneficial species such as bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and other pollinators. Second, this is not necessary. Your tax dollars pay for mosquito spraying by the Southlake Mosquito Abatement District. They spray with a chemical that kills mosquitoes, but does not harm the surrounding environment. If you have standing water or mosquitoes that are especially numerous, simply call 800-942-2555 or send a message through their website at <http://slmad.org/contactus.html> .

Electric Rates -- Periodically, energy suppliers will contact residents persuading switch electric supplier companies. These rates are often lower than the Commonwealth Edison rate, BUT they may not be lower than the Riverwoods municipal aggregation rate. If you're not sure whether or not you have the lowest rate, contact Village Hall at 847-945-3990.

Driveway Sealing – Some companies will solicit residents directly to perform driveway sealing at a reduced rate. Unfortunately, some of these companies use a sealant containing coal tar, a known carcinogen which can be harmful to people and the environment. If you cannot verify that the sealant is free from coal tar, then avoid the product.

Keep in mind that all solicitors must have permits. If you want to speak with them, you have the right to see the permit. You can also refuse any solicitors by posting a note on your door. Stop in at Village Hall to obtain your free “No Solicitors” decal.