

# Discarded Christmas Trees Recycled In Unusual Way

## Unique Recycling Program Beneficial To Lake Glenview Marine Life

By **TOM ROBB**  
Journal & Topics Reporter

Many communities recycle Christmas trees, some by grinding them into mulch. Glenview recycles trees a little bit differently -- by letting them sleep with fish.

About 150 Christmas trees from the village's designated drop-off locations were pulled onto the solid ice of Lake Glenview last month as part of an ongoing practice since 2004.

Trees were placed in deep areas on the northeast end of the man-made frozen lake where the trees will be able to sink once the ice thaws.

Village officials say the environmentally-friendly practice especially benefits small fish.

"The trees provide natural hiding and breeding places for small fish. They can hide from predators and grow into larger fish," Robyn Flakne, Glenview's natural resource manager, said. "It's also a good place for small fish to get food because insects are drawn to

those habitat structures as well."

The lake is stocked with 17 varieties of fish, including bluegill, walleye, largemouth bass, channel catfish, northern pike, muskie and minnows, Flakne said. The lake also supports plant life like bullrushes, pickerel weed, arrowhead, water lilies and water lotus.

The village and park district allow catch and release fishing as to not deplete the fish stock.

Lake Glenview spans 45 acres, with an average depth of 16 feet and a depth of 19 feet at its deepest point. It is also home to several man made islands.

The lake was built on what were once runways at Naval Air Station Glenview, which closed in the mid-1990s before becoming The Glen.

The village and park district have worked together to bring used holiday trees to the briny depths of Lake Glenview for the last 14 years through an intergovernmental agreement.



Worker piles up Christmas trees on a frozen Lake Glenview. (Submitted photo)

**ALOFT**  
A L O F T  
THE GLEN TOWN CENTER

**ALOFT APARTMENTS**

Beautiful 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments  
Walking distance to shops and restaurants

Ask About Our Custom Features

Call us to learn more: 847-486-1234  
[www.AloftApartments.com](http://www.AloftApartments.com)

**DRY CLEANING FACTORY**  
*QUALITY DRY CLEANING • REASONABLE PRICES*

**OPEN SUNDAYS!**

**DCF**

**24/7 EXPRESS DROP-OFF**

**FEBRUARY SPECIAL!**

**\$2.99** EACH ITEM  
Offer expires 3/3/18

**ALL GARMENTS DRY CLEANED**  
\*Excludes Leather, Suede, Fur & Boxed Specialty Items

<p><b>Glenview</b> Waukegan &amp; Chestnut 1815 Waukegan Road <b>847-486-8666</b> M-TH 7AM-7 PM • FRI 7 AM-6 PM SAT 8 AM-5 PM • SUN 10 AM-3 PM</p>	<p><b>Morton Grove</b> Dempster &amp; Harlem 7148 Dempster Street <b>847-457-1792</b> M-FRI 7AM-7 PM SAT 8 AM-5 PM • SUN 10 AM-3 PM</p>
--	---