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**FALL 2020 EDITION** 



# A Message from **Mayor DiMaria**

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge us, we continue to meet this challenge as a community. I am so proud and grateful to all of our residents, local businesses and especially our first responders for the way that we have worked with and for each other during these unprecedented and difficult times. To protect yourselves and others, please continue to practice social distancing and wear a face covering whenever social distancing is not possible. Also, please continue to support our neighbors, businesses, and restaurants, and please take a moment and thank all our first responders, especially our police officers, who put their health and safety at risk in order to protect us.

This summer has been busy for the Village. I'm excited to tell you that work is progressing rapidly at the new Sawmill Station lifestyle center and Starbucks, Kohl's, Raising Cane's, Dollar Tree and the yet to be named grocery store will be opening this Fall. Beginning in November, the Village will participate in a green electrical aggregation program and 50% of the total electrical power used by Village residents and small businesses will be supported by renewable wind powered energy. There will be no change whatsoever in the rate that residents pay or the quality of your electrical service.

Please join me in welcoming our new social worker, Liz Arnold. Liz will work closely with our Police Department, senior center and residents to provide social service resources. Please read the articles in this newsletter for more information on these and other Village news and programs. I hope you are able to get outside and enjoy the beautiful autumn in Morton Grove.





Left, grocery store facade nearly completed

Below, announced Sawmill Station commercial tenants

## **Sawmill Station Prepares for Phased Opening**

Construction of the Sawmill Station lifestyle center continues as the commercial developer and tenants prepare for a phased opening beginning in the fall of 2020. The first tenants plan to open their doors as early as late September. Others will follow through the fall and winter months, and into the spring and summer of 2021. The commercial developer, Kensington Development Partners, was strategic in selecting tenants that have demonstrated long-term resiliance and success in the marketplace. The stable tenant mix has ensured the project's viability amid nationwide economic uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Among the first tenants to open their doors under the phased plan include Starbucks, Dollar Tree, Raising Cane's, Kohl's, Aspen Dental and the grocery store. The name of the Grocer has yet to be revealed by the developer.

Vertical construction has also begun on the 250-unit multi-family development to the east. According to residential developer UrbanStreet Group, construction is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2022.

# KOHUS @DOLLAR TREE.



















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— Have a Safe and Fun —

## Saturday, October 31

Village Trick or Treat hours are from 3:30 to 7:00 pm

Check www.mortongroveil.org for updates

# Incredibly Close



**Community Updates** 



# **Electricity Aggregation Program to Begin in November**

The Village of Morton Grove is participating in an Electricity Aggregation Program through a partnership with MC Squared Energy Services LLC. The program will be offered at no additional cost to customers or to the Village. Residents and small businesses will pay exactly the ComEd rate. Plus, they will enjoy the added benefit of "green" energy through the program's support of renewable energy from wind generation energy providers. **No action is required from residents to participate.** 

The program term is for 12 months starting November, 2020. All ratepayers not enrolled in a private contract with an alternative supplier will be considered a member of the Morton Grove Electricity Aggregation Program, and 50% of their energy usage will be offset by renewable energy. Program benefits include:

- · Guarantee to be charged the ComEd rate, with no risk of paying more than ComEd
- Village designation as a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Green Power Community
- · Maximum flexibility to join or leave the program and never an enrollment or switch fee
- · Power consumption offset by green energy generated from wind generation at zero cost
- · Village receives a monetary "civic contribution" directed to support sustainability projects

No one from MC Squared Energy Services, ComEd or the Village will call you or visit your home to solicit. If a solicitor claims to be a Village supplier, MC Squared Energy Services or ComEd, please take their information and report the incident to the Illinois Commerce Commission at <a href="https://www.icc.illinois.gov/complaints">www.icc.illinois.gov/complaints</a>. Never reveal your ComEd account number or allow a solicitor to view your ComEd bill unless you are certain you wish to enroll with that supplier and have read all terms of their proposal.

For more information, visit the Village's website at www.mortongroveil.org/EAP.



## **Morton Grove Named Tree City USA**

The Village of Morton Grove was recently informed by the Arbor Day Foundation that it has once again earned the designation as a "Tree City USA." The designation is in recognition of the Village's continued commitment to effective urban forest management.

2020 marks the 19th year the Village has been honored with this title. Morton Grove has achieved Tree City USA recognition over the years by meeting the program's requirements by maintaining a department that is accountable for decisions impacting Village trees, adoption of a preservation ordinance, maintenance of an annual forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and by formally observing Arbor Day.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

# Did You Know?

### 8 Facts About Storm Water

- Storm sewers are designed to collect rainwater and snowmelt only.
- Water entering the storm sewer system is not treated before moving into downstream waterways, such as ponds, creeks and rivers.
- Interior house drains enter a separate sanitary sewer system that flows to a treatment plant before releasing into downstream waterways.
- Dumping of any pollutants or waste into a storm sewer is illegal and can pollute downstream waterways.
- Runoff may become polluted as it runs along roads, parking lots, roofs, lawns and construction sites.
- Runoff may contain pollutants, such as automotive fluids, fertilizers and pesticides, leaves, sediment, litter and pet waste.
- Everyone can help reduce the amount of pollution carried in the storm sewer system and downstream waterways.
- Report illegal dumping or spills by calling the Public Works Department at 847-470-5235. If after 3:15 pm or on weekends, call the police nonemergency number: 847-470-5200.

### 2020 Water Quality Report

Every year, the Water Department publishes a report detailing the quality and safety of Morton Grove's drinking water for the previous year, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Morton Grove water continues to exceed both State and Federal standards. Review the 2020 Annual Report on the Quality of Tap Water for the 2019 year at the following link:

www.mortongroveil.org/2020ccr



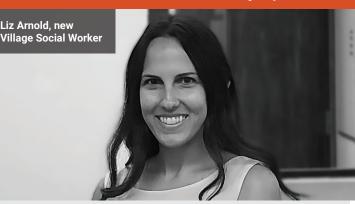
### **Community Updates**

# Village Welcomes New Social Worker

We are happy to welcome a new member to the Village of Morton Grove team. Liz Arnold is our new Part Time Social Worker. Liz comes to us with the highest credentials and recommendations. She earned a Master's in Social Work from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and went on to obtain professional certification as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). A lifelong area resident, Liz also has a wealth of experience functioning as a LCSW in the region.

The Village offers a variety of services through this position, such as short-term counseling through referrals from all Village departments, assistance with access to available local social service resources, and timely crisis intervention for at-risk residents. The position also has the responsibility to act as a liaison with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and the Cook County Court System for crime victims.

Liz will maintain regular office hours at the Morton Grove Civic Center, where she will see clients on an appointment-only basis. Use the contact information to the right to set up an appointment with Liz.



Office

**Mondays** 

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Hours:

**Tuesdays** 

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Wednesdays

8:30 am - 10:30 am

Liz can be reached through the Police Department nonemergency phone number (847-470-5200), her direct line (847-663-3072), or by email at earnold@mortongroveil.org.









### **Morton Grove French Market**

The Farmer's Market has returned as the Morton Grove French Market! Starting on June 6, 2020, the French Market is open from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm each Saturday in the parking lot located next to the American Legion Memorial Civic Center (6140 Dempster Street), with the hour between 8:00 am and 9:00 am reserved for seniors and those with underlying health conditions.

The market organizer, Bensidoun USA, has made numerous changes to protect the health of shoppers and vendors, including booth spacing, one-way aisles, social distancing requirements, occupancy limits, and transaction methods. To learn more about these changes, market offerings, and the organizing company, visit www. mortongroveil.org/french-market.

### **Internet Purchase Exchange Location**

The Morton Grove Police Department is excited to announce the establishment of a new Internet Purchase Exchange Location. Those who prefer a location away from their homes to exchange goods purchased online or on classified websites can make arrangements to meet in the parking lot of the Morton Grove Police Department at 6101 Capulina Avenue.

Internet Purchase Exchange Locations help deter fraudulent transactions and assist in maintaining privacy. This particular location is designated by a sign in a well-lit spot on the east side of the parking lot. The area is under video surveillance at all times.

The Village is not responsible for the validity of transactions conducted at this location and will not be involved in the business conducted amongst participating parties. For more information on the Internet Purchase Exchange Location, call the Morton Grove Police Department Community Liaison Unit at 847-663-3804 or 847-663-3813.



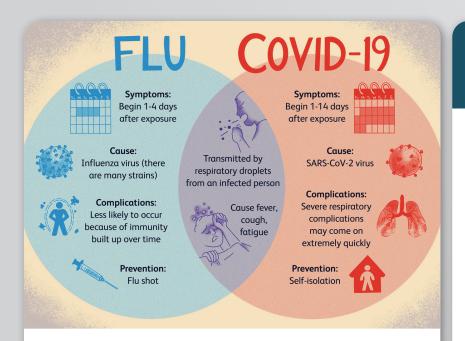


**Internet Purchase Exchange Location** 





**COVID-19 Resources** 



# Is it possible to catch the flu and COVID-19 at the same time?

There are reports that some people have been infected with influenza and COVID-19 at the same time. The flu and COVID-19 are respiratory illnesses caused by different viruses. Both viruses are highly contagious, spreading through droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These viruses can also be spread by touching contaminated surfaces and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Although the symptoms can be similar, each virus enters your body differently and can cause serious illness and complications.

As flu season approaches during this COVID-19 outbreak, it is important to protect yourself. The flu and COVID-19 can be prevented by washing your hands, staying home when you are sick and covering your cough. Social distancing and face coverings can also help decrease the spread of COVID-19.

One of the best ways to prevent the flu and its complications is to get a flu vaccine. It is especially important for those who are high risk to be protected from the flu as we all wait for a COVID-19 vaccine. For more information on the flu and COVID-19, visit **cdc.gov**.

Image courtesy of VeryWell

# Simple Ways to Fight COVID-19

Illinois and the Village of Morton Grove have made significant progress in fighting COVID-19. Let's continue to work together to keep everyone safe. The latest guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is that simple, everyday actions can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses.

#### — Remember Your 3 W's —

**WATCH your distance.** Remain at least 6 feet away from those outside your immediate household.

**WEAR face coverings.** Wear a mask or cloth face covering any time social distancing is not possible, especially indoors.

**W**ASH your hands. Wash often for a minimum of 20 seconds with soap and water, or use an alcoholbased hand sanitizer.

Morton Grove is in the Restore Illinois Suburban Cook County Region 10. Track the metrics on the State's website at **dph.illinois.gov/restore**.

# **Business Resources**

The State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) provides a comprehensive listing of funds, grants and other resources at city, county, state and federal levels that can help assist businesses through this difficult time. Learn more about available business resources at deeocovid19resources. com/for-businesses.

For more information, visit the Village website at www.mortongroveil.org and sign up for the e-Newsletter

# Amazingly Open



**COVID-19 Resources** 

# Civic Center Operations

Room rentals and limited services have resumed under the restrictions of Phase 4 of Restore Illinois. Rooms rented for meetings and other activities will be configured to accommodate no more than 50 people, with patrons wearing masks when social distancing is not feasible. Front desk staffing will be limited to times when rooms are rented and when activities are occurring.

In order to protect the health of our older customers, ALL ON-SITE VILLAGE SENIOR PROGRAMMING REMAINS SUSPENDED. For more information on senior programming offered remotely, visit **mortongroveil.org/family-and-senior-services**.

The Medical Lending Closet and Drug/Sharps Drop-Off will be accommodated by appointment only. The main number of the Civic Center is 847-663-3070. Rental information can be obtained at 847-663-3071.

# **Block Parties & Garage Sales**

Block parties are currently allowed. However, attendees should follow social distancing guidelines and wear a face covering when social distancing cannot be maintained. Residents are encouraged to bring their own food and beverage items, and avoid activities that require physical contact.

Individuals intending to hold block parties must fill out a block party request form and return it to Village Hall for registration and approval. We ask this be done at least one month prior to the event.

Garage sales are allowed during the current phase of the Restore Illinois Plan, with some additional rules. To learn more and to request a permit, visit **mortongroveil.org**.

# Emotional Support & Quick Answers to COVID-19 Questions

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) is reminding Illinois residents about the Illinois Helpline, a resource for residents who need emotional support or quick answers to questions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Illinoisans can text "TALK" to 55-2020 (or "HABLAR" for Spanish) for the Call4Calm service, or text their questions about services provided by IDHS in communities across the state. The Illinois Helpline is not a crisis line. If you or someone else needs immediate assistance, please call 9-1-1.

# Housing Assistance

If you need financial assistance with your mortgage, rent payments, rent deposits, utility payments or other housing issues, please call the Homeless Prevention Call Center at 877-4-COOK-15 (847-426-6515). Listen carefully to the prompts to choose which kind of help you are seeking.

# Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps eligible income-qualified households pay for home energy services and may also be available to households who have experienced employment disruptions resulting from COVID-19, as energy costs can serverly stress a family budget. To learn more, visit cedaorg.net/find-services/energy-assistance.

For more information, visit the Village website at www.mortongroveil.org and sign up for the e-Newsletter



# Incredibly Close

**Public Service Updates** 

# Updated Residential Refuse, Recycling, & Landscape Waste Collection Services

Collection Program Highlights





# Single-Family Residential Refuse & Recycling

- \$19.72 monthly (no change in base rate)
- Residents may choose two carts (35, 65 or 95 gallons each), one for recycling and one for refuse.
- Refuse and recycling carts may be changed out for a different cart size free of charge during the month of January each year.



#### **Unlimited Standard Refuse Service**

Service includes collection of unlimited household garbage. Additional refuse beyond the 35, 65 or 95 gallon cart may be placed in containers not exceeding 32 gallons. One bulk item (non-appliance and item less than 50 pounds) will be collected each week for no additional charge. Additional items will be collected for a fee. Refuse and recycling is required to be out by 6:00 am on collection day.



#### Carts

Residents will use their current carts for refuse and recycling. The two carts need to be placed four feet apart with the handles facing the house on collection day. Lost, damaged or stolen containers can be replaced by Groot by calling 800-244-1977. Additional refuse carts may be rented for a \$27.00 annual fee. Please call Groot for more information.



# Landscape Waste

Residents have the option to pay per bag for landscape waste or for a subscription service. Landscape waste is collected each week on your regular service day from March 15 through December 15 each year.



# Landscape Sticker Program

Residents can purchase landscape waste stickers, costing \$2.29 each, at Village Hall or at local retailers and apply the stickers to bags or bundles of landscape waste. The prepaid sticker must be affixed to each bundle or 30 gallon, two (2) ply kraft style landscape waste bag for collection. There is no limit to the number of landscape waste bags that will be collected.



# **Landscape Waste Subscription Options**

# Landscape Waste Bag or Bundle Program

**\$120.00/season**: Subscribing residents may place up to three (3) landscape waste bags or bundles for collection per week. Each bag or bundle will not require a prepaid sticker.

#### Landscape Waste/Food Scrap Subscription Program

- 65 Gallon Container: \$140.00/season
- 95 Gallon Container: \$160.00/season

Residents may participate in food waste composting by subscribing to the new 95 or 65 gallon landscape subscription program. Any bag or bundle placed outside of the cart will require a prepaid sticker to be affixed to each item. Food scraps can only be placed in the container.



### **Village Program Updates**

# Summer Adopt-a-Planter Program a Success

This season's Adopt-a-Planter Program could not have gone better. Thank you to everyone who participated this year in making our community beautiful. For residents and visitors, the planters truly make our Village stand apart.





### **Stay Connected with Telephone Topics**

Mather "Telephone Topics" are a convenient and FREE method that senior residents may use to connect to a wide range of interesting discussions. All topics are scheduled discussions.

Call the toll-free number 855-880-1246 and input the following ID number: 386 399 7030# for any topic on the schedule. The latest schedule of Telephone Topics can be found at: mather.com/neighborhood-programs/telephone-topics

# Free Online Options for Older Adults

Mather is excited to now offer Morton Grove residents FREE online access to a world of immersive digital experiences through an exclusive new partnership with the Chautauqua Institution. From stimulating lectures and engaging seminars to performances and "front porch discussions" on important subjects that work toward solutions and positive change, Chautauqua offers countless ways to stay engaged with topics of interest, all at your pace and entirely on your schedule.

Subscribe to **CHQ Assembly** today to start enjoying Chautauqua's high-caliber online programs, including literary readings from Dr. Joshua Bennett, performances by Yo-Yo Ma, Natalie Cole, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, jazz at Lincoln Center, and so much more. Connect today from your computer, mobile device, or smart TV! Go to: www.mather.com/chq-customers





Morton Grove Exchange The Village of Morton Grove 6101 Capulina Avenue Morton Grove, IL 60053-2985 BULK RATE U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 22 Morton Grove IL 60053

## **Village Phone Numbers**

**Police, Fire or Medical Emergency** 9-1-1

Fire Administration 847-470-5226

Police Administration 847-470-5200

**Public Works** 847-470-5235

**Senior Hotline** 847-663-3070

**24-Hour Municipal Hotline** 847-663-6161

#### **VILLAGE FACILITIES**

Village Hall (Switchboard) 847-965-4100

Village Administrator 847-470-5220

**Building & Inspectional Services** 847-663-3040

Community & Economic Development 847-663-3063

Civic Center Rentals 847-663-3071

## Village Officials

President Daniel P. DiMaria
Village Clerk Eileen Scanlon Harford
Trustees

Bill Grear | Rita Minx | Ed Ramos John Thill | Connie Travis | Janine Witko

Village Administrator

Ralph E. Czerwinski

**Village Attorney** 

Teresa Hoffman Liston

TO: POSTAL CUSTOMER
MORTON GROVE, IL 60053



#### **Morton Grove Counts**

It's not too late to complete the 2020 Census. In fact, you can complete the questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail until October 31, 2020. For more information, visit www.mgpl.org/census.

Already, Morton Grove has done an amazing job responding. Keep up the great work, Morton Grove!

# **Your Utility Contacts**

UTILITYPROVIDERCONTACTCable TVComcast/Xfinity800-934-6489ElectricityComEd800-334-7661Natural GasNICOR888-642-6748GarbageGroot800-244-1977

Resources will be available for emergency response. However, if you experience service interruptions, alerting the provider directly may result in the guickest resolution.

Residents are reminded that if any condition threatens safety, dial 911 immediately.

# Thank You for Keeping Morton Grove Strong

The Village thanks the Morton Grove community for acts of kindness, big and small, throughout these past months. You remind us that we're all in this together.







