Morton Grove is the
8th Safest Community in Illinois

BackgroundChecks.org annually ranks the safest cities in each state. This year the company has named Morton Grove as the 8th safest city in Illinois. This determination was based on recent FBI statistics, population data, the number of reported violent crimes, and the likelihood of these crimes occurring.

Morton Grove’s highly trained and dedicated law enforcement officers, robust crime prevention programs, strong community spirit and close ties between the police and the community are key reasons our residents and businesses are among the safest in the state.

Mayor DiMaria cited initiatives developed by Chief Mike Simo and the Police Department, including the newly created Citizen’s Police Academy, and the Community Liaison Officer program as examples of the department’s community outreach efforts.

Village’s Water Exceeds State and Federal Requirements

The Flint Michigan water supply crisis has prompted questions regarding municipal water supplies and possible lead contamination. Morton Grove residents can be assured our water supply is tested regularly and has always been safe and exceeds all state and federal regulations.

Village Hall and Public Works will be closed on Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day.
Dear Neighbors,

I’m proud to announce the Village has been named as the 8th safest city in Illinois for 2016 by BackgroundChecks.org. This recognition is a credit to our Police Department and all our residents and businesses who work together to keep Morton Grove an outstanding place to live, work and raise a family.

I hope you like our new Village logo, which can be seen in this newsletter, on the 2016 vehicle stickers, and many Village publications. The logo’s strong healthy tree underscores the Village’s abundant natural resources, our solid foundation and traditions, our diversity and endless opportunities. I want to thank Village resident Mark Ingraham of Image Perspectives for creating this logo with input from Village staff, elected officials, and residents. Mark, an experienced advertising professional and art director, also designed the Police Department’s emblem.

I encourage you to participate in the Community Relations Commission’s Adopt a Planter Program and Photo Contest. Check out this edition of the Exchange for more information on these programs as well as information on how to support our annual 4th of July festivities. These are fun and easy ways to get involved in our community.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who attended the neighborhood outreach meeting on March 16. The Village Board and I welcome the chance to hear your ideas and concerns. The next outreach meeting will be on June 15.

Sincerely,

Mayor Dan DiMaria
The Community Relations Commission (CRC) is comprised of Village residents who promote positive connections among residents of all races, religions, national origins, and economic and educational levels.

This spring, the CRC has organized the Village’s first annual Adopt a Planter Program. Residents and organizations will be invited to plant and maintain one of the Village planters located near the train station, at the Civic Center and along Dempster Street. The Village will prepare the soil in each planter and will provide participants with a starter kit of flowers. Each planter can then be creatively customized.

The CRC is also sponsoring a Spring Photo Contest to showcase the Village’s new tagline: Incredibly Close—Amazingly Open. Photographers can share up to 5 photos via email to CRC@mortongroveil.org or directly to Village Hall by no later than June 1. The photos will be judged on subject, composition, and how they relate to the Village’s new tagline. Selected photos will be featured on the Village’s Facebook page and website, and winning photos will be enlarged, framed, and displayed at Village Hall.

If you are interested in these programs or becoming a part of the CRC, please contact Chairperson Arcelia Pimentel at 847.809.1209 or CRC@mortongroveil.org.

Community Photo Contest
- Up to 5 photos per person can be emailed to CRC@mortongroveil.org, dropped off, or mailed to Village Hall.
- Deadline is June 1, 2016.
- Photos will be judged on how they relate to the Village’s new tagline: Incredibly Close - Amazingly Open
- Selected photos will be featured on the Village’s Facebook page, website, etc.
- 5 winning photos will be announced at the June 27 Board meeting and framed and displayed at the Village Hall.

Adopt a Planter Program
- Program is open to individuals, families, groups, and businesses
- Sign up by April 22 - Forms are available on the Village’s website or at Village Hall.
- The Village will provide each participant with a starter kit of approved plants, name card, and instructions.
- Plantings will take place on May 14 and May 15.
- Participants will then care for the planter until October.
- The Village will water the planters weekly.
- Participants will be recognized by the Village Board and appreciated by the entire community.
Service Updates

2016 Asphalt Street Resurfacing

The following streets have been selected for the 2016 street resurfacing project:

- Albert Ave. - cul-de-sac to Ida Lane
- Emerson St. - Octavia Ave. to Harlem Ave.
- Harms Road - Lake Street to Central Ave.
- Hazel St. - Lehigh Ave. to west of Oak Park Ave.
- Ida Lane - Albert Ave. to Maple St.
- Kirk St. - Central Ave. to Long Ave.
- Lake St. - Park View School to Luna Ave.
- Lillibet Terr. - Major Ave. to South Park Ave.
- Linder Ave. - Kirk St. to Oakton St.
- Luna Ave. - Lake St. to Church St.
- Major Ave. - South Park Ave. to Theobald Rd.
- Maple St. - Normandy Ave. to Ida Lane
- Marion Ave. - Emerson St. to Foster St.
- Meade Ave. - Lake St. to Davis St.
- Menard Ave. - Theobald Rd. to South Park Ave.
- Mulford St. - Central Ave. to Long Ave.
- Murray Ct. - Lyons St. to cul-de-sac
- Nashville Ave. - dead end to Beckwith Rd.
- Normandy Ave. - Maple St. to Beckwith Rd.
- Ponto Dr. - Shermer Rd. to Harlem Ave.
- Theobald Rd. - Marmora Ave. to Frontage Rd.

This list will be finalized when the bids are opened and the contract awarded. Note, some streets may not be paved if there is not sufficient funding. Work is anticipated to begin in June and completed by December. Residents on streets to be resurfaced will be mailed information about construction dates and details.

Help Keep Pollutants out of Sewer Systems

What we do around our house directly impacts the quality of our river. Help keep pollutants from entering the Village’s storm water sewer system. Be conscientious when washing your car since oils, dirt, and detergents that enter the storm sewers go directly into the river. Trash, litter and pet waste can also be washed into the sewer system if not picked up and disposed of properly. Pet waste is full of bacteria and can cause illness.

Avoiding pesticides and herbicides when possible is also a good idea. Think about using organic time-released fertilizers to beautify your lawn this spring.

Remember, “Only rain goes down the storm drain”. For more information visit the Village’s website or Facebook page to view “Freddy the Fish Teaches about Storm Water”.

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Service Updates

Is Lead a Problem in Morton Grove’s Water?
Morton Grove water is high quality and does not contain lead. But if you have lead pipes within your home, the lead can leach into the water. Lead can be a serious concern for some residents, especially infants and young children. Here are a few things that can be done to reduce the amount of lead:

♦ Install a house filter that removes lead.
♦ Install a filter that removes lead to a single faucet that is used for drinking and cooking.
♦ Replace the lead pipe line.
♦ Run water first thing in the morning for about 2 to 4 minutes before drinking.

If you think your home may have lead service lines, please contact the Public Works Department at 847.470.5235 to arrange an onsite inspection of your home. Lead testing can be performed by a private laboratory. Suburban Labs can be contacted at 800.783.5227 or online at http://suburbanlabs.com

Free Rain Barrel Program
Morton Grove residents can obtain free Rain Barrels to help conserve water and save money on water bills. Applications may be obtained and submitted at Village Hall (6101 Capulina Ave.), or Public Works (7840 Nagle), or on the Village’s website.

Overhead Sewer and Flood Control Device Loan Assistance Program
The Village provides interest free loans of up to $5,000 to residents who install overhead sewers and approved flood control devices in their homes. Contact the Morton Grove Public Works Department at 847.470.5235. For application forms and program requirements visit the Village’s website at www.mortongroveil.org.

2016 Solid Waste Holiday Schedule
The Village’s solid waste hauler, Groot Industries, Inc., will observe the following holidays in 2016;

New Year’s Day, January 1  Memorial Day, May 30  Independence Day, July 4
Labor Day, September 5  Christmas, December 25

Tuesday and Wednesday pick-ups will be delayed one day after these holidays.

Water Sprinkling Regulations
From May 15 to September 15 lawn sprinkling is allowed only from 5:00 am to 11:00 am and 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Properties with even numbered street numbers (i.e., addresses ending in 0,2,4,6, or 8) may sprinkle only on even calendar dates and properties with odd-numbered street numbers (i.e., addresses ending in 1,3,5,7, or 9) may sprinkle only on odd calendar dates. All new/replacement sprinkler systems must be equipped with a Water Sense labeled irrigation controller. These restrictions apply to residential, commercial, and industrial properties. Handheld sprinkling and automatic sprinkling of new lawns less than 3 months old are exempt from these rules.
## Distraction Burglary

Door step fraudsters pose as officials (including utility workers, door-to-door salesmen, contractors, real estate agents, and volunteer service groups), to gain the targeted victim’s confidence enabling them to gain entry into a residence during daytime hours. Once inside, one person keeps the victim busy or distracted while the other steals valuables from another part of the residence. It is important you:

* Acknowledge the caller. If your home appears vacant, the offender may decide to burglarize it.
* Keep your storm door locked at all times.
* Put the door chain on before opening the door. You can decide not to open the door and talk through the door jamb or a window.
* Have your cell phone in hand. Tell the person you are calling the police.
* Don’t feel embarrassed. Genuine callers expect you to be cautious and careful.

## IRS Scams

There are many scams out there so be aware of who is calling or stopping by your home. Remember, in particular, the IRS will not call or threaten you with arrest. They will not demand payment via a debit card or wire transfer. If you receive a call from someone claiming to be an IRS agent asking for a payment, please (1) hang up and call the IRS directly at 800.829.1040 if you owe federal taxes or think you may owe taxes; (2) call and report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General at 800.366.4484 if you don’t owe taxes.

**See Something... Say Something!**

**“Keep our Community Safe”**

**Dial 911!**

Please stay calm, remain on the line and be prepared to give as much information as possible, including:

- The nature of the incident,
- Location of incident,
- Your location,
- The individuals’ location and description,
- Direction of travel,
- Description (head to toe, special identifiers),
- Vehicle description (color, make, model, license plate, condition, special identifiers).

**Did you know...**

The MG Police Department has an **Explorer Program**. Police Exploring is an organization dedicated to persons who are interested in learning more about a career in law enforcement. Young men and women ages 14 to 21 are eligible. You don’t need to be a resident. Explorers attend monthly meetings where they obtain training in police related topics. They also attend community events and help with crime prevention and traffic control.

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**Explore Life and Justice**  
Morton Grove Explorer Post #109  
Contact the Morton Grove Police Department  
847.470.5200

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**Dial 847-663-3828** to report anonymous crime tips on the TipsHotLine
Public Safety Updates

Spring Safety Tips - from the Morton Grove Fire Department

When it is time for spring cleaning, remember a clean house is a safe house. Trash, boxes, piles of clothing, paint, varnishes, cleaning products, fuels, and other combustibles in a home and/or garage are fuel for fires. Eliminating these items will help reduce the chance of a fire in your home. Always think about safety and do the following:

- Maintaining your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors - keep them clean and maintain their batteries.
- Review your family’s fire escape plan.
- Check windows to make sure they open and close properly in case they are needed as emergency exits.
- Inspect your air-conditioning unit and electrical cords for signs of wear and tear.
- Do not overload electrical outlets and extension cords.
- Never burn yard waste or trash.
- Store pesticides, chemicals, paints and fuel for lawn and garden equipment only in approved containers, and away from children.
- Never use open flame devices to strip paint.

Each year fire departments are called to just under 8,000 fires started by grills or other outdoor cooking equipment. In 2014, outdoor cooking fires caused more than $80 million in property damage and sent 18,600 individuals to the emergency room. The majority of grill fires are caused by unsafe grilling practices. The Morton Grove Fire Department encourages all residents to follow these guidelines when using outdoor cooking equipment:

- Be sure to position your grill at least 10 feet away from your house or surrounding structures or other combustible materials.
- Regularly check the grill’s fuel lines for gas leaks. If found, turn off the gas right away and do not use the grill until the leak is fixed.
- Never leave your grill unattended while in use and keep the lid open when lighting to prevent flash burning of collected gas or other fuels.
- Do not overfill propane tanks and store your tanks outdoors in an upright position and never near the grill.
- Establish a fire safety zone and keep children and pets away from any grill that is in use.
- Charcoal grills cause fewer fires than gas grills, however they present an increased hazard of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Use starter fuel sparingly and never add it to an open flame. Never use gasoline in an attempt to ignite an outdoor cooking/recreational fire.
- Do not store the grill indoors immediately after use. Even if the fire has been extinguished, the hot charcoal can continue to emit carbon monoxide.
- Use caution when discarding used charcoal. Ensure the ashes are COLD prior to disposal.

In case of a fire...

- For charcoal grills, close the lid.
- For propane grills, turn the burners off. If you can safely reach the tank valve shut it off.
- If the fire involves the tank, evacuate the area and call 9-1-1.
- If any fire threatens your personal safety or endangers property call 9-1-1.
Thinking About a Building Project?

As we are entering Spring, you may be considering a home improvement project. Before starting, residents are encouraged to talk with the Planning/Building staff regarding any specific code and/or permitting requirements.

Why are permits necessary?
Many permits are required for particular projects based on local and/or state codes which are in place to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all residents, while also maintaining property values. These codes (1) ensure work on one’s property is safe; (2) minimizes the impact on abutting properties and/or the Village’s infrastructure; and (3) protects and enhances the character of neighborhoods.

What requires a permit?
A building permit and inspections are required when (1) any electrical, plumbing, gas, and/or structural changes are being done; (2) any expansion of a structure; (3) any basement, attic, screened porch, deck conversion to living space; (4) the demolition of any existing building; or (5) the construction of any new building.

Does anything else require a permit?
Hot water heaters, furnaces, air conditioners, generators, detached garages, fences, desks, swimming pools, sheds, and driveways are just a few projects that require permits. Although permits are not required for sidewalks or patios, a zoning review needs to be completed to ensure compliance with applicable Zoning Codes.

How do I get a permit?
The requirements vary based on the project size. Check out the Village’s website or call the Building Department to confirm what types of plans and supporting documents will be required to complete your project.

If you don’t know what to do or have questions call the Building Department.
Building Department staff are available between 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday to answer all your questions. While walk-ins are always welcome, if you call first you can make sure the right staff person is available to meet and answer your questions. Pre-submittal meetings can be arranged to review your proposed project before finalizing your plans. This can save residents both time and money during the permit review process.

For more information contact the Building/Inspection Department at 847.470.5214 or the Zoning Administrator at 847.663.3040.

Incredibly Close / Amazingly Open….we want to hear from you….  
In keeping with our tagline, we desire your communication with the Village of Morton Grove elected officials and administration. Your advice, suggestions, questions and opinions are appreciated. There are several ways for you to communicate your thoughts. You can email at vmg@mortongroveil.org, visit the “contact us” section on our website in “Quick Links” at http://www.mortongroveil.org, call 847.965-4100, or fill out the following this form return it to Village of Morton Grove, 6101 Capulina Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053. Include your name and mailing or email address to receive a response.

Name: __________________________________________ Email: __________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________
Date: _______________ Address: _____________________________________ Phone: _________________________

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Pool memberships are 15% off the month of April. Don’t forget, Memorial Day weekend is the opening of the Oriole Park Aquatic Center.

Day camps are scheduled to begin on June 13 and are offered for K—8 grade.

Club Fitness is also offering a great opportunity for snowbirds and college students. A combined individual pool and fitness membership package can be obtained for $99 from Memorial Day - Labor Day. Silver Sneakers and Prime Memberships are also being accepted for qualifying health insurance. New and current individual and senior Club Fitness members will receive a free pool membership.

Families who have a Club Fitness membership are also eligible to receive a pool membership for a $50 upgrade fee.

The “Sizzling into Summer” event is at Harrer Park on June 11. This event begins with a 5K walk/run to support the fight against veterans’ PTSD. Following the run, the day will be filled with children’s activities, mud volleyball and summer grilling! That night will rock with live entertainment. For up-to-date programs and event information, follow the District on YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and their website.

The Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce is celebrating its 90th Anniversary.

The 38th Annual Golf Outing and Dinner will be held on June 14 at the Chevy Chase Country Club.

A new “Community Guide” will also be coming this spring as a joint project with Chicago Tribune Media. For more details about becoming a member, events, or to get listed in the upcoming Guide contact the Chamber at 847.965.0330, or by e-mail at Director@mgcci.org.

A new exhibit opened on March 13 which will showcase photos and artifacts of the era of “Flappers and Flyboys”.

A new bungalow association and educational program is currently being developed by local schools.

The Haupt-Yehl House Museum is celebrating 30 years at its current location. The house will celebrate its birthday on June 11-12 during the Park District’s “Sizzling into Summer” event.

The Morton Grove Public Library has many exciting events coming up. Here are just a few:

- 1:00pm April 1 Low Vision Fair
- 7:00pm April 6 Writers’ Workshop
- 2:00pm April 8 iPad Tips and Tricks
- 1:00pm April 13 Volunteer Appreciation Reception
- 7:00pm April 27 Medicare Made Clear
January 2016 marked the first anniversary of Morton Grove’s partnership with Mather LifeWays. Part of Mather’s mission is to coordinate the variety of programs for older adults at the Morton Grove Civic Center. In an ongoing effort to evaluate their community effectiveness, Mather completed a survey of “customers” served in Morton Grove in 2015. All individuals that utilized Mather services were asked to participate in the 8 page survey. 124 separate responses were received with the results summarized below:

- 20% live within 1 mile of the Civic Center. 61% live within 3 miles.
- 90% of individuals served were 60 years old or older.
- 90% indicated Mather’s efforts either met or exceeded their expectations.
- 93% agreed Mather provides overall “good” services.
- 90% agreed Mather programs and luncheons increased their enjoyment of life.

Improvement goals for 2016 include:

- Increased program variety in order to increase attendance.
- Provide more wellness and technology activities based upon feedback from participants.

The Village views Mather LifeWays as a valuable community partner and looks forward to working with them in an effort to provide our older adult population with meaningful life-enhancing programs. Please check the Village’s website or watch your mail for upcoming events in 2016 and beyond.

Many articles in the Village’s newsletter are relevant to our valued senior population. We suggest you take a moment to review the various articles contained in this edition, including Distraction Burglary, IRS Scams, License Plate/Emission Renewal Notices, and this year’s Yard Waste Collection Program.

You can get answers to your “technology questions” by visiting the Morton Grove Civic Center. On Fridays between 11:00 and 1:00, a technology expert will be on-hand to assist you with your cell phone, iPad, laptop, or most any “gadget” you need help with. The service is FREE!!!! But please call the Senior Hot-line (847 663-3070), stop by the Civic Center at 6140 Dempster or see the online monthly Senior Program and Calendar Information at www.mortongroveil.org for details.

The state of Illinois is no longer sending out license plate or emission renewal notices? Sign up to receive license plate email notifications at www.cyberdriveillinois.com. At that time, they will also notify you if your vehicle requires emission testing.

As Spring begins, residents should be prepared for severe weather events such as blown down branches from high winds and flooded streets from heavy rains. The Village is ready to respond to these weather issues. Call 847.470.5235 between the hours of 7:00am to 3:15pm, Monday-Friday for assistance. If after hours or weekends, call the Police Department non-emergency number at 847.470.5200. For further information, please visit the Village’s website and go to Emergency Preparedness under Village Services.
Community Updates

Volunteers & Support Needed for Morton Grove Days

Our Fourth of July celebration brings families and our community together to celebrate a great American tradition. This year’s festivities take place from July 1st to July 4th and will feature a carnival, parade, live entertainment, food and refreshments. This event can only take place with the help of volunteers and generous supporters. Please consider getting involved.

Be a Volunteer
The Morton Grove Days Commission needs volunteers for the annual festival and parade. For more information contact Eric & Melanie Brodsky at 224.612.1305 or at mgdaysvolunteers@comcast.net.

Join the Parade
Consider promoting your organization or business by participating in the Fourth of July parade. For more information contact Parade Coordinators Terri Cousar and Pat Zmolek at 847.638.2706

Be a Sponsor
Donations are welcome on the following levels of giving:

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<td><strong>Platinum</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gold</strong></td>
<td>$2,500 - $4,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Silver</strong></td>
<td>$1,000 - $2,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bronze</strong></td>
<td>$500 - $999</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Patron</strong></td>
<td>$25 - $499</td>
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For more information on this event please visit the Morton Grove Days website— www.mortongrovedays.org

2016/17 Vehicle Stickers

2016/2017 Vehicle Stickers can now be purchased by mail, online or at Village Hall. The cost is still $55 for regular vehicles and $25 for Seniors (one per household). Stickers must be properly displayed on all vehicles registered to a Village address before midnight, April 30, 2016. Residents are encouraged to apply early using the preprinted form sent to them.

For more information or to request an application, please visit the Village website www.mortongroveil.org or contact Village Hall at 847.965.4100.

Morton Grove Farmers’ Market

The Spring Market will be held on May 7. The regular season will begin June 4 and run through October 15 from 8:00 am to 12 noon at 6210 Dempster. You may visit at mgfarmersmarket.com for more info. Think Spring!
Important Village Telephone Numbers

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<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Police, Fire, or Medical Emergency</td>
<td>Dial 9-1-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village Hall (Switchboard)</td>
<td>847.965.4100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village 24-hour Municipal Hotline</td>
<td>847.663.6161</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building and Inspectional Services</td>
<td>847.663.3040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Center Rentals</td>
<td>847.663.3071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community &amp; Econ Development</td>
<td>847.470.5231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Administration</td>
<td>847.470.5226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Administration</td>
<td>847.470.5200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Works Department</td>
<td>847.470.5235</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Hot Line</td>
<td>847.663.3070</td>
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Yard Waste Collection Program

Yard waste stickers are $2.16 each or 5 for $10.80. Stickers may be purchased at Village Hall, 6101 Capulina, the Jewel Food Store at Milwaukee and Oakton, and the Walgreens Stores at 5730 Dempster and 9301 Waukegan.

Branches need to be bundled with biodegradable string. No bundle or yard waste bag can exceed 50 pounds. Try mulching your grass this season. A normal weekly cutting will quickly decompose and the nitrogen from the clippings will actually feed the lawn requiring less fertilizers.

Contact the Public Works Department at 847.470.5235 for more information on yard waste and recycling.

New Businesses

The Village is pleased to announce the following new businesses that recently opened in Morton Grove:

- DJK Wireless—6024 Dempster
- Service King Body Paint & Body—5940 Oakton
- Popp-U-Lar Electric Inc—8914 Marmora
- Café Maynila Inc.—9402 Waukegan
- GHP Group—8270 Austin
- Legacy Insurance—6950 Dempster
- Dynamic Group—8220 Austin

Shop Local for Morton Grove!

E-Newsletter

Subscribe to the Village’s free e-newsletter to keep up with the latest Village news and events.

Sign up at: www.mortongroveil.org/resident/emailnewsletter.asp.

E-mail addresses will not be shared.

Village of Morton Grove
6101 Capulina Avenue
Morton Grove, IL 60053

M-F 8:30a to 5:00p

847-965-4100

vmg@mortongroveil.org

www.mortongroveil.org

Morton Grove Exchange

The Village of Morton Grove
6101 Capulina Avenue
Morton Grove, IL 60053-2985

www.mortongroveil.org

To: Morton Grove Resident
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053

Carrier Route Sort
Bulk Rate
US Postage Paid
Morton Grove IL 60053
Permit 22