



# MOUNT PROSPECT Village News

FALL 2012

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION



**The study will look at ways the downtown can continue to transform and improve in the years to come.**

### Downtown Implementation Plan Underway

The Village of Mount Prospect and The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) have started a Downtown Implementation planning process to complete an assessment of Downtown. The overall purpose of the project is to determine how the downtown can continue to transform itself and improve in the years to come. By building on the Village's Downtown Plan of 1998, which has been largely implemented to date, the plan will reevaluate the area and will result in a detailed implementation strategy used to guide the future success of downtown Mount Prospect.

The Village received a grant from the RTA to perform the study and has selected the Lakota Group as the primary consultant for the project. Throughout the

process, there will be opportunities for residents, business owners and visitors to share their thoughts, issues and concerns regarding the Downtown.

A series of community workshops and interviews were held in August and September 2012 to solicit feedback regarding Downtown. Residents and business owners are invited to attend future open house discussions as the process moves forward. Public input is a vital part of the plan - join the conversation! The latest news and information about the Downtown Implementation Plan, including the dates for future meetings, is available at [www.thelakotagroup.com/mountprospect](http://www.thelakotagroup.com/mountprospect) and by contacting the Village's Long Range Planner, Nellie Beckner, at 847/818-5312.

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# News, Notes and Reminders

## General Election

**Tuesday, November 6, 2012**

Offices to be Elected at the General Election include: United States President, Representatives in Congress, State Senators, Representatives in the Illinois General Assembly and more. For a sample ballot or to view your polling place, go to the Cook County Clerk's Office website at [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com) or call the Mount Prospect Village Clerk's office at 847/818-5355. You can also obtain information about grace period voter registration and voting, mail voting and early voting dates and location.



### Voter Registration

To be eligible to vote in the General Election you must be registered to vote by October 9, 2012. (If you have moved since the last election you need to re-register.)

Voter registration requirements: You must be a United States Citizen, at least 18 years of age by Election Day, a resident of your precinct for at least 30 days prior to an election. You must present two forms of identification with at least one showing your current address. Voter registration is available in the Village Clerk's Office at Village Hall, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Watch for Upcoming Changes to Your Utility Bill

The Village is in the process of implementing a new financial software system which will result in changes to the Utility Billing process. All utility accounts will be billed monthly, with the exception of refuse-only accounts serviced by carts, which will continue to be billed quarterly. Refuse-only accounts serviced by dumpsters will also be converted to monthly billings. Current rates for 2012 will not change,

although flat fees will appear differently if your billing frequency is adjusted. Several revisions to the delinquency process will also go into effect when the new software is implemented. The changes are tentatively planned to occur in October 2012. The Village is also working toward implementing an on-line portal which will give residents the ability to view information including bill history and water consumption, and the ability to pay their utility bills on-line. For more information on the upcoming changes please contact Water Billing at 847/392-6000.

## Electronics Banned From Landfills

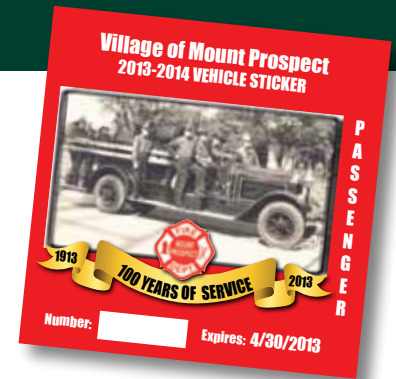
### Mount Prospect Drop-off Through October Only

To assist residents with collecting old electronics and to ensure environmentally-safe recycling of these materials, the Village of Mount Prospect, in cooperation with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) offers a weekly drop-off location at the Mount Prospect Public Works Facility, 1700 W. Central Road on Wednesdays from 10 am - 12 pm **through October 31, 2012**. After October, residents may utilize weekly drop-off locations in Glenview or Winnetka. See [swancc.org](http://swancc.org) for details and for a list of accepted items.



## Vehicle Stickers Required

The deadline for displaying the 2012-2013 vehicle stickers was April 30, 2012. The Police Department issues citations to drivers of locally registered vehicles if the 2012-2013 vehicle sticker is not displayed. Vehicle stickers purchased after April 30 are subject to a late payment penalty. The penalty does not apply to new residents/businesses or to



those who have purchased replacement vehicles after May 1. In these situations, there is a 30-day grace period in which to purchase a sticker. Proof of move-in or vehicle purchase date is required to ensure that a penalty is not imposed. If you change vehicles during the year, call the Finance Department at 847/392-6000 for more information.

## Property Tax Relief Grant

The Board of Trustees has approved funds to provide 2012 Mount Prospect real estate tax relief for qualifying owners of single-family residences. This opportunity is available to households having a gross annual income equal to or less than: \$22,340 for 1 person; or \$30,260 for 2 or more persons. The Village will rebate 50 percent (to a maximum of \$100) of its portion of the total 2011 Cook County real estate tax bill. Please apply after you have received and then paid the 2nd installment of your 2011 tax bill.

Assistance in completing the application will be available at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson Street in the Finance Department. The dates for assistance have not yet been determined. Information will be mailed out in September to those who have participated in the program. For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Lynn Jarog at 847/392-6000.





## Shining Star Awards

Each year the Village recognizes its Shining Stars – individuals and organizations that contribute to making Mount Prospect a better community at the Celestial Celebration – this year the event will be held on Friday, Feb.

1. The Special Events Commission is now accepting nominations for the 2012 Shining Star Awards. Nominations must be received by November 15 - forms and categories are available on the web site, [www.mountprospect.org](http://www.mountprospect.org).



## Thanksgiving and Christmas Programs

Help is available to low-income individuals living in Mount Prospect who need assistance during the Holiday Season. In past years, local businesses, civic organizations, churches and individuals have contributed to make holiday assistance programs very successful.

For the Thanksgiving Program, non-perishable food items should be in by November 13, and hams and frozen turkeys should be brought in November 16.

For the December Program, non-perishable food items should be in by December 11 and hams and frozen turkeys in December 14. For additional information or to schedule an appointment to apply for the holiday assistance, please call the Human Services Department at 847/870-5680.



## Sister Cities Quilt Exchange

Two members of the "Sew Bee It" quilters of the Mount Prospect Historical Society traveled to Sèvres, France (Mount Prospect's sister city) in September for a quilt show sponsored by the quilters of Sèvres. Marlene Black and Kim Darling took a quilt cooperatively created from a gift of Toile fabric from France and was designed and quilted by the "Sew Bee It" quilters.

## WHAT'S *Missing* FROM MOUNT PROSPECT?

# *You!*

Have you ever thought about opening your own boutique or café? The Village of Mount Prospect is seeking new

businesses - with a focus on retail and restaurants. If you have ever considered starting a new business or expanding an existing one, now may be the time. The Village, in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Merchants Association and Mount Prospect Public Library, is offering programs that provide potential and existing business owners support through education, outreach and mentoring. For more information about this and other programs, check out our web site [www.mountprospect.org/biz](http://www.mountprospect.org/biz).



## Energy Impact Illinois Program

The Energy Impact Illinois Program, in conjunction with your local utility, offers energy efficiency rebates to residents and businesses to help lower their energy bills. In fact, if you are a residential customer, you may qualify for rebates up to \$1,750 for air sealing and building insulation installation. Commercial, industrial, and multifamily complexes can receive incentives based on performance and energy efficiency savings.

Go to [www.energyimpactillinois.org](http://www.energyimpactillinois.org) and use the "Find Energy Savings Actions" tool to see all the programs you qualify for based on your location and home or business type. You can also call 1-855-9-IMPACT (toll-free) to learn more about the program or set up an appointment to schedule an energy assessment (cost \$99). They are open weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm.

## Energy Conservation Tips

Author and green building expert Dan Chiras, Ph.D., visited the Mount Prospect Public Library on Wednesday, August 8, to discuss the nation's energy addiction to fossil fuels and steps that can be taken to offset the results of energy dependence. He identified many practical techniques homeowners can take to conserve energy. To watch the presentation, go to [www.mountprospect.org](http://www.mountprospect.org), click on the MPTV Videos button.

*The presentation was sponsored by the Mount Prospect Sustainability Education Program, which is presented in partnership with the Village of Mount Prospect and the Mount Prospect Public Library and funded through the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG).*

# Mark Your Calendar for these Community Events/Programs

## Community Band Fall Concert

The Mount Prospect Community Band will perform its Fall concert on Sunday, November 11, at 3:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 100 S. School Street. The Veteran's Day concert will honor the veterans of American Wars. Tickets are \$7 in advance (at Rec Plex - 847/640-1000) or \$9 at the door.



## Sister Cities Wine Tasting

**November 8, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

The Mount Prospect Sister City Wine Tasting Event this year will be held Thursday, Nov. 8. Come sample French wines and cheeses (location TBD). For further information about the event, please call 847/392-6000.



## Veterans' Day

**November 11, 10:30 a.m.**

**Lions Park - Veterans' Band Shell**

The procession will begin at 10:30 a.m. at Lions Park Recreation Center and will march around to the band shell where a ceremony will be held. Please come out to honor and support our veterans

## Mount Prospect Historical Society Holiday House Walk

The tour, which will feature St. Paul Lutheran Church (celebrating its 100th anniversary), and the neighborhood just west of it in the Village's "triangle," is scheduled for 3:30-9 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 30. Tickets will be available for purchase at local businesses and the MPHS museum, 101 S. Maple St. Tickets are \$25 per person in advance (\$23 for members -- at the museum only) and \$27 on the day of the walk. For more information, call 847/392-9006.



## Toys for Kids

The Mount Prospect Police, Fire and Human Services Departments are once again conducting their annual Christmas Toys for Kids program. Only NEW, UNWRAPPED toys will be accepted at any Mount Prospect Fire Station from November 12 until December 7.

## Holiday Adoption Program

**Begins Nov. 3**

Millie's Hallmark/Neat N Cool Gifts (1024 S. Elmhurst Road) is again lending its financial support and assistance to the Mount Prospect Emergency Food Pantry. Millie's Hallmark creates a holiday window display and the "characters" in the window are available for purchase ("adoption") by holiday shoppers with 100% of the adoption fee going to the Mount Prospect Emergency Food Pantry. For information on Millie's Hallmark Adoption Program, call 847/593-8288.

## Tree Lighting Ceremony

**Wednesday, November 21, 5:00 pm**

**Village Hall, West Entrance**

Come celebrate the beginning of the Holiday Season! We will light the lights and enjoy a performance by the Prospect High School Madrigal Singers. This year's event will also include a Christkindlmarket (Holiday Market) featuring local artists. For more details, check out [experiencemountprospect.org](http://experiencemountprospect.org).

## Holiday House Decorating Contest

**December 1 - 5**

If your holiday lights are on the evenings of December 1 - 5, your home will be considered for the Village's Holiday Decorating Contest. Judges will be touring the Village on those dates to scout all the beautifully decorated houses of Mount Prospect. Award categories include Best Use of Lights, Best Block, Simple yet Elegant, and more.



## New Year's Eve-Eve Celebration for Families

**Downtown Merchants Association**

**December 30, Blues Bar**

Three seating time options available - Family Members of the Downtown Merchants Association will be able to purchase tickets via advance pre-sale. Check the website for updates and family membership information, [www.mpdma.com](http://www.mpdma.com) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/mpdma](http://www.facebook.com/mpdma).



**Mount Prospect Public Library**  
[www.mpppl.org](http://www.mpppl.org)

### **Annual Cultural Series: Alpine Trio - Germany, Austria, and Switzerland**

**October 1 - October 31**

Every October the Library presents a series of programs that offers insight into the cultures of people across the globe. This year we are focusing on the Alpine Trio: Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Often known as a place to ski with the rich and famous in the winter or hike the edelweiss-covered elevations in the summer, the Alps are also home to much history and culture. For a full list of programs, visit [www.mpppl.org](http://www.mpppl.org).

### **Gift of Reading**

**Monday, November 12- Sunday, December 9**

Give the Gift of Reading this holiday season by bringing new or like-new unwrapped books for local children in need ages 6 and younger. Donations of books in English and Spanish are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the Library.



### **Teddy Bear Walk**

**Saturday, December 1, 10 a.m. - noon**

Don't miss the ultimate BEAR BASH as the Library celebrates the 32nd Annual Teddy Bear Walk! Bring your favorite Teddy Bear for storytelling and singing! Ted E. Bear will then lead the march over to the Village Hall to welcome the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. To sign up, visit [www.mpppl.org/events](http://www.mpppl.org/events), call 847/253-5675, or stop by the Library.

**Mt. Prospect Park District**  
[www.mpppd.org](http://www.mpppd.org)

### **Cooking With Dave**

**Tuesday, October 2 7-9 pm**

**Friendship Park Conservatory**  
395 Algonquin Road, Des Plaines  
Join us at Friendship Park Conservatory where Dave Esau of Dave's Specialty Foods will share some easy-to-make taste sensations that will be the highlight of your holiday meal.

### **Howlin' Halloween Fest (ages 3-8)**

**Saturday, October 20 11 am - 3 pm**

**Lions Recreation Center, 411 S. Maple**  
Our hoppin' Halloween happening will take youngsters inside and outside Lions Recreation Center with our famous arcade of kids' games, Halloween hayride, moonwalk, crafts, face painters, the Hoot! Hoot! Express and lots of family-friendly entertainment.

### **Holiday Open House**

**Saturday, December 1 11 am - 3 pm**  
**Friendship Park Conservatory**

395 Algonquin Road, Des Plaines  
This annual event is always popular because there's something for everyone. Various musical groups will entertain throughout the day. There will be crafts for the little ones, live reindeer, hayrides, holiday floral displays and, of course, Santa. Bring your camera!

**River Trails Park District**  
[www.rtpd.org](http://www.rtpd.org)

### **Monster's Bash**

**Saturday, October 13**

**11 am - 2 pm, Weiss Community Center**  
Come dressed in your favorite costume to welcome the start of the Halloween season! Carnival games, moonwalk, trick or treat town, a magician and more!

### **3rd Annual Holiday Boutique**

**Thursday, November 15**  
**Rob Roy Golf Clubhouse**  
4:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Join us in November for the perfect opportunity to find that "one of a kind" gift. Artists will display & sell their individual works of art!

### **Rob Roy Golf Fall Specials**

505 E. Camp McDonald Rd., Prospect Hts.

**Twilight Special** - Saturday and Sunday, 4 p.m. - Close

**October Special** - \$10 a round

**November Special** - \$9 a round

**Fall Festival**  
1pm - 4pm  
Enjoy a trick or treat line, pumpkin decorating, crafts, and live entertainment!  
FREE to the public!

**Oktoberfest**  
4pm - 10:30pm  
Celebrate Mount Prospect's German roots at the 5th Annual Oktoberfest. The band, Phenix, will be headlining the event with their mix of popular covers and traditional German music.  
FREE admission to the event!

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 13**

**EMERSON STREET AND BUSSE AVENUE**

MOUNT PROSPECT DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
[WWW.DOWNTOWNMOUNTPROSPECT.COM](http://WWW.DOWNTOWNMOUNTPROSPECT.COM)

Please bring a non-perishable food item donation for the Mount Prospect Food Pantry

## Cement/Asphalt Work, Including Parking Lots

Cement and Asphalt work (Flatwork) within the Village requires a permit – this includes parking lots. PLEASE NOTE: These projects are reviewed by multiple departments and the plan review time can be up to 30 days. You should give yourself plenty of time to apply for these projects – well ahead of the asphalt plants closing for the winter.

Residential projects will require three (3) copies of your plat of survey and a proposal/scope of work from your contractor. Commercial projects and parking lots require five (5) copies of the plat/site plan, the proposal/scope of work, and striping plan. Questions can be directed to the Building Division at 847-870-5675.

## Building Division New Software & Survey

The Building Division is utilizing new software to track permits, projects and contractor licenses. This software may provide the ability to offer some of our existing services on-line! The Building Division will be soliciting feedback on potential on-line services from our customers through a survey on our website. Please visit <http://www.mountprospect.org/bldgsurvey> to participate in the survey. Paper copies of the survey are available at the Building counter located on the 2nd floor of Village Hall.

## Gravel Driveways

In April 2004 the Village Board passed Ordinance 5426 which required that all existing gravel driveways and parking lots located within the Village be paved. The ordinance included provisions which required property owners to bring their properties into compliance before January 1, 2015. Please note that if your property currently has a gravel driveway or parking area it will be required to be brought into compliance with these regulations before the end of 2014. A building permit would be required to replace an existing gravel driveway or lot with a paved surface.

# Landlord Tenants Rights Issues

Mount Prospect is one of six communities in Illinois with a Landlord Tenants Rights ordinance protecting both landlords and tenants of apartments, condos, and homes. In addition a crime free housing class is offered to help landlords become more knowledgeable of available resources and building modifications to help reduce crime. Whether you are a tenant or a landlord, when either party is not treating each other fairly the experience can be frustrating and expensive. If you are a new landlord and have not received your license from the Village, please contact Community Development at 847/870-5668 to begin the process. The following tips are for both landlords and tenants.

## Landlords

Most people have a certain pattern of behavior, they work, pay bills and don't get evicted; however there is a small minority of people who also have a pattern of behavior - eviction, property damage, and non-payment. Appearances can be deceiving and cash in advance may be hard to refuse. There are reasons a person wants to move in immediately, pay cash, or cannot provide contact information. They have or are being evicted, are starting a new scam or just received a five day notice to vacate. The approximate \$40 for a background check is well spent to avoid non-payment, eviction, and property damage, and tenant loss. The landlord should do his due diligence and run background checks on all prospective tenants.

## The Tenant

Appearances can also be deceiving for the tenant. To avoid disappointment, unexpected costs, and relocating when looking for an apartment or rental home investigate and ask questions by doing the following.

- See the property at night and during the day.
- See your unit and not just the model before signing a lease or ask for a



written modification of the lease requiring the unit to be acceptable to your inspection.

- Make sure there is a written signed lease. The lease protects the tenant as well as the landlord.
- Read the lease and ask questions where the terms do not appear reasonable. Any negotiated modifications of the lease should be in writing.
- Ask for the phone number for the landlord or his manager for emergency maintenance and the procedures.
- Determine who is responsible for the utilities.
- Check to see if the property is in foreclosure. The Cook County Recorder of Deeds website <http://www.ccrd.info/CCRD/controller> lists any pending foreclosure actions by entering the pin number (identification number for tax purposes). The pin number is available by entering the address at the County Assessor website [http://cookcountyassessor.com/Property\\_Search/Property\\_Search.aspx](http://cookcountyassessor.com/Property_Search/Property_Search.aspx).
- Ask the landlord if you can speak to any past or present tenants as reference.
- Ask about the move in and out procedures. The repair list at move in and the damage list at move-out should be in writing.
- Call Mount Prospect Community Development at 847/870-5668 to verify the property is licensed and speak to the inspector about the inspection history.

Luckily most people are honest and fair; however, it is important for you to do some research to protect yourself from financial harm and potential disappointment.

# Fire Pits at Home



The Building Division frequently receives calls regarding the use of the popular portable (non-permanent) fire pits. The Building Division does not currently have regulations regarding these fire pits, however the Fire Department does have specific requirements that must be followed. Residents may only burn seasoned firewood – **the burning of trash, leaves, yard waste, and other debris is NOT permitted** – and all manufacturer’s specifications and instructions should be followed carefully. Specific Fire Department requirements regarding fire pits can be found under the Fire Department’s section of the Village website, or by calling the Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/818-5253.

Permanent or built-in BBQ’s, grills, outdoor fireplaces, and fire pits DO require review by Village Staff. These items are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the Building Division at 847-870-5675 with questions regarding these types of projects.

## Homes for a Changing Region

A Homes for a Changing Region Report is starting to take shape for the five neighboring municipalities that make up the Northwest Suburban Housing Collaborative (NWSHC). The NWSHC was formed in 2011 to develop sub-regional solutions that address the short and long-term needs of the participating communities which include Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Mount Prospect, Palatine and Rolling Meadows. With start-up funds from the Chicago Community Trust, these communities have come together to address the current common challenges of rising foreclosures, growing income diversity, aging multi-family housing and the loss of affordable rental units.

Long term needs are also being studied. Through an active partnership led by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the Metropolitan Planning Council and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, the Collaborative communities are in the process of developing a long term planning resource entitled Homes for a Changing Region. This Planning study has been funded by a Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Communities grant to CMAP and has involved several months of staff meetings, council meetings and public input sessions.

The Homes for a Changing Region Report will analyze existing conditions, discuss long term market projections and suggest recommendations for both the NWSHC area as a whole and for each of the five individual communities within the Collaborative. Scheduled to be completed in February 2013, this long term planning resource, along with continued input from the community, will provide a direction and opportunity for addressing our future housing needs.

## Economic Development Update

### MENARDS

#### Menards

The Village Board recently approved plans for the expansion of the Menards on Rand Road. The expansion will incorporate the current Aldi’s grocery property and allow Menards to increase the footprint of their retail showroom and enlarge their outdoor landscaping sales area. Construction is expected to begin in early 2013 and to be completed by late summer. Menards will remain open for business throughout the construction process. Aldi’s will be moving down the road into the Mount Prospect Plaza and expects to open their new location by early 2013.



#### Chik-Fil-A Restaurant

Chik-Fil-A is constructing a new restaurant across the street from Randhurst Village on Elmhurst Road. The restaurant will have frontage on both Elmhurst and Rand Roads and will have access to the Randhurst Village traffic signal on Elmhurst Road. They hope to be serving their famous chicken sandwiches by mid-summer of 2013.

#### Sports Training Facilities

Mount Prospect residents will soon have more opportunities to fine tune their athletic prowess as the Village Board recently approved two athletic training businesses. Play Ball USA will be locating at 412 Business Center Drive (Kensington Business Center) and The Ballpark in Mount Prospect will take over the former Hines Lumber building at 604 W. Central Road. Both companies specialize in baseball/softball training but also offer full strength and conditioning training opportunities. Both operations are expected to open this fall.



## Supplemental Snowplow Drivers Wanted

If you have experience driving large trucks, have a valid-approved Class A or B commercial driver's license (CDL) with air brake endorsement, can be available whenever needed and could use some extra money, the Public Works Department wants you! The Department is currently looking for supplemental snow plow drivers, an orientation class must be attended by all first years drivers, please call 870-5640 for details.

## Street Plowing Procedures

Since all streets can't be plowed at the same time after a snowfall, there is a priority system.

- Principal intersections are plowed and salted first.
- Primary collector streets are then plowed enough to allow two-way traffic to pass safely. Cul-de-sacs are plowed after a 2- inch accumulation of snow.
- Feeder streets and dead ends are plowed last.

When all roads have been opened, repeat passes will be made to clear them curb-to-curb, and intersections also will be cleared completely.

Remember, it is hazardous and illegal to shovel or blow snow into any public street once the street has been plowed. All shoveled or blown snow should be piled in your yard or parkway. Shovel the snow to the side, in the direction of traffic, and clear a pocket for snow on the opposite side of your driveway. The accumulated snow in the plow will dump into the pocket and NOT in your driveway.

## Keep Sidewalks Free of Snow

Sidewalks that are not shoveled can make it almost impossible for some to get around and have the potential to cause serious injuries. If you are a healthy person who is comfortable shoveling snow, please help out your neighbors. If you are unable to clear your own sidewalks, is there a neighbor, caretaker or family member who could offer assistance?

# Solid Waste Notes

## Yard Waste Collection Ends December 14

Yard waste and brush collection ends December 14. Please make sure to place all properly prepared yard waste and brush at the curb prior to December 14. Yard waste or brush placed at the curb after December 14 will not be collected. Please visit the Village website in the spring for the start date of the 2013 yard waste program.

## Holiday Collection Schedule 2013

There will be no solid waste collection on the following holidays:

- Christmas Day 2012
- New Years Day 2013
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day



## Christmas Tree Collection

December 31, 2012 – January 11, 2013

Residents are encouraged to participate in the Village's Christmas tree composting program. Christmas trees will be collected by the refuse hauler at no additional cost on your regular refuse collection day; no stickers required.

Christmas trees set out for composting must be free of all decorative debris. Please remove all decorative items from the tree including:

- Lights
- Tinsel
- Ornaments/bulbs
- Strings/wires

Please do not cut or trim trees for collection, place trees at the curb whole. Trees may be placed at the curb prior to December 31 and after January 11, but these trees will be collected as regular refuse and will not be composted.

Wreaths will also be collected at no additional cost on your regular refuse collection day, but are considered refuse due to the metal frame. Please place your wreath in your green refuse cart for disposal. In addition, artificial wreaths are not recyclable. Artificial wreaths should be placed in the green refuse cart for disposal not the blue recycling cart.

## Caring for your Vehicle and the Environment

Proper car care and maintenance is a very important part of efforts to protect the local environment. Many vehicle fluids can be hazardous to waterways. Whatever is dumped into storm drains or onto pavement will wind up in local creeks and, ultimately, in the Des Plaines river.

If you change your own oil, it is very important that it is disposed of properly. Put the used oil in a sturdy container, label it, and take it to a local oil recycling location. Call Public Works (847/870-5640) for a current list of oil recycling stations.

Antifreeze is also dangerous to the environment. It contains ingredients that are poisonous to people, fish, and wildlife. It should be treated in the same manner as waste oil. In the case of a spill involving any of these types of materials, use kitty litter, sawdust, cornmeal, or special oil absorbent products to absorb the spill. Sweep up the absorbent after a few hours. For more information about household hazardous collection events, visit the Village website.



# Fall Leaf Collection Program

## Fall Leaf Collection Program

The Village's fall leaf collection program provides residents with two methods to conveniently dispose of leaves at no-cost. The program allows residents to set out loose leaves at the curb for collection by Public Works crews from October 1 through November 16. Additionally, bagged leaves will be collected from November 19 through December 14.

## Loose Leaf Collection

The loose-leaf collection program is for LEAVES ONLY. Any leaf pile containing grass clippings or other yard material will NOT BE COLLECTED.

- It is the responsibility of the homeowner to remove the unacceptable materials from the leaves for collection.
- Rake leaves onto the pavement one foot from the curb line on the day before your scheduled pickup day and not prior to that.
- Do not rake your leaves onto the street if the vacuum truck has already passed your home. The machines travel each street weekly during the collection period, but only once on each side.

## Bagged leaf collection

ARC Disposal will conduct the extended leaf collection program for bagged leaves on your regularly scheduled refuse collection day from November 19 through December 14.

- Biodegradable compost bags containing leaves only will be collected without the Village imprinted sticker.
- All other yard material and/or leaves in rigid containers must have the Village-imprinted sticker affixed to pay for collection and disposal of the yard material. Bags and/or containers must not exceed 50 lb. Rigid containers must also have the yard waste decal affixed.

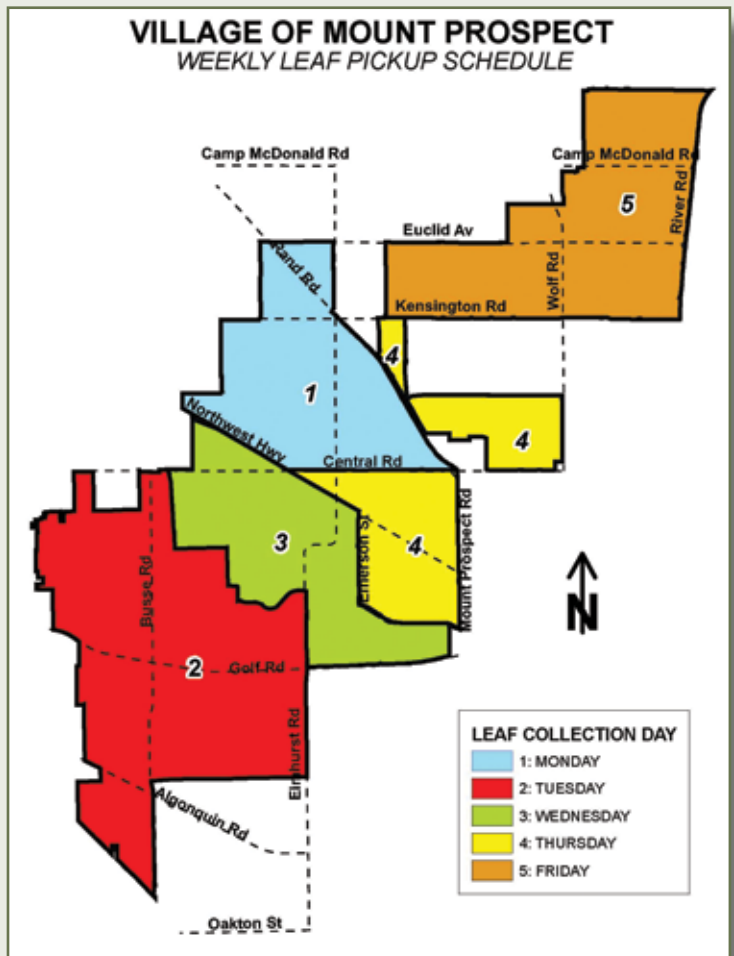
**BURNING LEAVES IN MOUNT PROSPECT VIOLATES ORDINANCE 24.115**

## Keep your leaves

Leaves make terrific mulch – instead of raking them into the street this year, pack them around your perennials and on your flowerbeds as insulation against the cold. If you have a vegetable garden, spread the leaves on top of it, then rototill them into the soil to enrich it for the next year's crop. Leaves are also a valuable addition to a well-maintained compost pile.

## And more leaves

Every year some residents ask about ordering truckloads of free leaves to use as mulch and compost. However, to order a supply, you must order a whole truckload. If that's too much for your needs, get together with your neighbors and share it. For more information, call the Public Works Department at 870-5640.



# Flood Preparedness and Protection

Following are some general recommendations on steps you can take to reduce flooding. Every situation is different. A licensed plumber or sewer contractor should be consulted to determine the best remedy for your property.

## Install a sump pump

Sump pumps are designed to remove water from basements – water that collects from footer tiles and water that infiltrates into the basement through walls and floors.

Homeowners who experience frequent flooding should consider installing a sump pump which will be most effective when used in conjunction with a backwater check valve or a standpipe.

## Install a standpipe in a basement floor drain

A standpipe is a pipe with a watertight connection to the floor drain that extends at least a foot higher than the deepest basement flooding that you have experienced. The installation of a standpipe will allow water to rise in the pipe – preventing it from flooding the basement.

A sump pump may still be needed to dispose of water from your foundation.

Caution: If you have a basement toilet, a standpipe higher than the stool will cause the toilet to overflow.

## Have your sewer line cleaned

If you experienced basement flooding and most of your neighbors did not – the cause may be a clogged or partially blocked sewer pipe. Having the pipe cleaned by a licensed sewer cleaner may solve the problem. You should consider having this done regularly, particularly if you have large trees in your yard. If your sewer line needs to be cleaned more often than usual check to see if your sewer cleaner offers video inspection to help determine the cause.

## Install a backwater check valve

Install a backwater check valve in the service pipe that connects your house to the Village of Mount Prospect sewer. With a check valve, sewer water can only flow from the house to the sewer. It is designed to prevent sewage

from flowing back into the house during heavy rains.

A check valve may be installed on the interior or exterior of your home. If installed inside the home, a plumber will perform the work and should determine if basement construction is sound and can withstand the pressure that may result from the pipe. If the check valve is installed outside the home a sewer contractor will perform the work. It may be necessary to install a sump pump, in addition to the check valve, to collect water from your basement footer tiles.

## Disconnect downspouts and surface drains from sewers

During heavy rainfalls, sanitary and combined sewer systems can become overloaded with rainwater. This additional water causes backup of sewage into residents' basements and also causes overflows of pollution into local rivers and streams.

A major source of water is from gutters, downspouts and drains that are connected to sanitary or combined sewers. This was a common practice years ago, but it is illegal today and the Village of Mount Prospect has begun working with residents to address the problem.

Redirection of storm water coming from downspouts and driveway drains to vegetated areas can reduce storm water entering the sewer system, preventing pollution and helping to reduce flooding.

Incorrect roof drainage could be caused by downspouts that drain directly into the sanitary sewer pipe; downspouts that do not drain water away from the house; or grading in the yard that does not direct water from the house.

A correct roof drainage system should include gutters on the bottom edges of roofs; a plug in the sanitary sewer line where the downspout had been connected; a downspout extension that drains roof water away from the house; and grading that provides gradual slope away from the house.

By keeping storm water out of the sanitary sewers you can reduce sewage overflows and flooding; reduce basement flooding from sanitary sewer backups; lower sewer usage rates paid by the community and you; and reduce water use for landscaping.

These systems can significantly reduce the chance that sewage will backup into your basement. However, no solution is completely foolproof. Under extreme conditions, any system can fail to perform as expected.





# Christmas Tree Safety

Christmas trees account for approximately 200 fires annually, resulting in 13 deaths, 27 injuries and more than 16.7 million dollars in property damage. Tree fires typically occur as a result of shorts in electrical lights, and/or open flames from candles. Well-watered trees are generally not a problem, however dry and neglected trees can be.

To eliminate a potential fire hazard this holiday season, the Mount Prospect Fire Department recommends that you use an artificial Christmas tree. If you elect not to use an artificial tree, the purchase of a fresh cut tree will reduce the risk of fire. When checking for freshness, remember to look for:

- A tree is that is completely green.
- Needles that are difficult to pull from branches and do not break when bent between your fingers
- A trunk that is sticky with resin.

Once you get your tree home, follow these guidelines to ensure a safe holiday season:

- Place the trunk in a bucket of water to maintain freshness until you are ready to bring it into the house.
- Cut off about two inches of the trunk before bringing it indoors, then mount it in a sturdy stand with wide spread legs. Use thin wire or fishing line to fasten large tree to walls or the ceiling to prevent the tree from toppling over.
- Place the tree at least three (3) feet from fireplaces, radiators or other heat sources.
- Treat the tree like it is fresh flowers, making sure the water cup is filled at all times. Heated rooms tend to rapidly dry out trees, creating fire hazards.
- Do not rely on chemical coatings or sprays to flameproof your tree.
- Never put lit candles on your tree.
- When decorating, make sure all electrical light cords are not frayed or split. Test lights before putting them on the tree.

If you have any questions, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/818-5253.



## Fire Prevention Week October 7 - 13

The Mount Prospect Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) for Fire Prevention Week 2012 - October 7-13, urging residents to "Have Two Ways Out." This year's theme focuses on home fire escape plans and keeping you, your family and your community safe from fire.

Each year roughly 3,000 people die as a result of home fires. Only one-third of Americans however, have both developed and practiced a home fire escape plan. On average people estimate they will have six minutes until a fire in their home becomes life threatening. Studies however, show that this time is much less as fire is

unpredictable and moves faster than you realize. Having a tried and true escape plan with two ways out is essential to ensuring your family's safety.

In conjunction with the Fire Prevention Week theme, the Mount Prospect Fire Department will be conducting its annual poster contest for elementary school students and essay contest for junior high school students. All Mount Prospect schools are given the guidelines for the contest and we encourage your child to participate in this educational activity. If you have any questions about participating, please contact the Mount Prospect Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/818-5253.



## Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries

When you change your clocks on November 4, will you remember to also change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors?

According to the National Fire Protection Association, almost two-thirds of reported home fire deaths occur in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. Working smoke alarms provide you with a necessary early warning, especially when you are asleep. If a fire occurs, having a working smoke alarm reduces your risk of dying in a home fire by 50%. The leading causes of smoke alarm failure are missing, dead, or disconnected batteries.

The Mount Prospect Fire Department recommends the following guidelines for installing and maintaining your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

- Install new batteries at least twice a year and immediately if the alarm "chirps" warning of a low battery.
- Test your smoke alarm monthly.
- Choose a device that bears the label of a recognized testing UL laboratory.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of the home and outside all sleeping areas. Smoke alarms should also be installed in every room where people sleep.
- Replace your smoke alarms every 10 years and your carbon monoxide detectors every 5 years. An easy way to remember is to write the install date on the base of the device.

Residents who cannot afford a smoke alarm or have physical limitations that would hinder them from installing or maintaining their smoke alarm should contact the Mount Prospect Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/818-5253 for assistance.



# Drive Safe Near Schools

## Traffic Enforcement "Street Of The Week"

The Mount Prospect Police Department will be conducting the enforcement "Street of the Week" Program where officers concentrate their efforts on particular roadways for a one week period. The following is the list of dates and roadways for the "Street of the Week" Program:

**October 1st – October 7th**  
Elmhurst Rd./Main St. (RT 83)

**October 8th – October 14th**  
Central Rd.

**October 15th – October 21st**  
Rand Rd. (RT 12)

**October 22nd – October 28th**  
Lincoln St.

**October 29th – November 4th**  
Northwest Hwy. (RT 14)

**November 5th – November 11th**  
Golf Rd. (RT 58)

**November 12th – November 18th**  
Burning Bush Ln.

**November 19th – November 25th**  
Busse Rd.

**November 26th – December 2nd**  
Wolf Rd.

**December 3rd – December 4th**  
Euclid Ave.

School districts throughout Mount Prospect invest heavily in security hardware, video cameras, and hall monitors in an attempt to keep your children safe. Staff receives training in conducting lock down drills and how to identify and report suspicious vehicles or persons in and around the schools. However, the greatest threat to your child's well-being and safety is a parent dropping off and picking up their child.

Every parent who drops off or picks up a child at school knows the streets and neighborhoods surrounding schools get very congested during these times. Parents sometimes park blocking driveways preventing homeowners access to their property. Cars regularly park in fire lanes and crosswalks. The most dangerous incidents occur when parents double or triple park in the street and then call out to their children who dart out between parked cars to get to the waiting parent. Adult volunteers are verbally abused daily when they ask parents to comply with the safety



rules. The Mount Prospect Police are asking parents to schedule after school events and appointments accordingly so that you have the time to park safely and drive away from the school at a safe speed. If we all obey the traffic and parking laws and follow the school's pickup and drop off procedures, we can prevent the injury or death of a child.

Remember, use of cell phones by drivers in school zones is strictly prohibited when in the vehicle unless the vehicle is parked.

## Overnight Parking

Citizens are reminded that overnight parking on Village streets is prohibited. All vehicles must be off the street between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. This allows the Police Department to quickly notice suspicious vehicles in your neighborhoods and allow our Public Works Department to remove snow from the streets in the most efficient manner. On the occasion that you have overnight guests or work being done on your driveway, permission to park on the street can be granted by calling the Police Department at 847/870-5656.

## Being A "Nosey" Neighbor



When people hear someone say they have a "nosey" neighbor, it is usually thought of as a bad thing. A simple internet search on the topic resulted in hundreds of thousands of hits on how to get rid of one, but not many praising them for watching out for everyone. But is having a "nosey" neighbor all that bad? Often times we fall into the routine of our own lives and do not pay a whole lot of attention to what is going on around us. With the majority of residential burglaries taking place during the daytime while most people are out of their homes, we need to rely on those neighbors to watch out for us. Our neighborhoods could benefit from everyone being a little more nosey and calling 9-1-1 whenever they see or hear any suspicious people or activity. Dialing 9-1-1 is the best way to get a police officer to respond to your location. The police department encourages all residents to call 9-1-1 if any suspicious activity is seen in their neighborhood.



# Security Tips

As another season approaches, we find our schedules become quite full of activities and we become very busy. We need to take a moment out of our busy schedules to remind ourselves of general safety. Typically as the holidays approach we see an increase in thefts and burglaries. Here are some tips to keep you and your home safe and secure.

- Make your house look as if someone is always home. Keep lights on the inside and outside, using timers to achieve this when no one is home. If your house is the only dark one on the block, it sticks out as no one being home. Remember to close your garage doors.
- When shopping, don't overburden yourself with too many packages or bags, your purse or wallet could be an easy mark for thieves. Don't become too engrossed in your shopping as to let your guard down.
- When you park your car, make sure all your vehicle doors are locked. This simple prevention measure makes a big impact. The vast majority of thefts from motor vehicles occur from vehicles with unlocked doors even in your driveway.
- Don't place valuables inside your vehicle for all to see while you are away from your vehicle. Place bags and packages in your vehicle's trunk or out of sight. If a thief can't see that they are assured of a good score, they usually won't risk getting caught.
- Don't forget to hide your GPS units, phone charges, and coin holders when away from your vehicle.



# Halloween Safety

Halloween is approaching fast and will be here soon. Here are some helpful tips to keep all of our little vampires and princesses safe.

- Make sure kids only trick or treat during the suggested times of 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- Avoid dark colored costumes, they are much harder to see at night. If dark costumes are worn, make sure your kids carry a flashlight, glow stick, or wear a reflective belt or vest to make sure they are seen.
- Avoid wearing masks as they restrict vision, use face paint instead.
- Make sure kids trick or treat in groups and an adult should always tag along for extra safety.
- Trick or treaters should always cross at the cross walks and never go between parked cars.

- A quick note to the drivers out there ... make sure you drive a little bit slower in the residential areas and watch for those kids that forgot the last tip and run out from between parked cars.

- And finally, an adult should always check all candy.

Try to keep these tips in mind and it will help make this a safe and happy Halloween.



## Space Heater Safety

With proper use, portable heaters provide warmth and comfort. Improper use however can have serious consequences.

The following tips will ensure your safety when using a space heater:

- Buy a space heater equipped with a guard around the flame or heating coil to keep children, pets, and combustibles from the heat source.
- Select a heater, approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory (look for a label indicating approval).
- Follow manufacturer instructions for use and safety measures.
- Keep space heaters in a well-vented area and at least three feet away from anything combustible.
- Always place a space heater on a flat, level surface.
- Do not use an extension cord to power the space heater.
- Use K-1 kerosene only for kerosene space heaters (do not use gasoline, camp stove fuel, or any other flammable liquid).
- Store all fuel outdoors in approved containers, and refuel the heater outdoors.
- Never leave a space heater on overnight or unattended.
- Never use a space heater as a drying rack.

For more information, please call the Mount Prospect Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/818-5253.

## Celebrating the Center's Expansion

The Community Connections Center's expansion is projected to be completed this Fall! Services provided at the Center focus on social services, library services, health, personal safety, quality education, economic self-sufficiency and cultural enrichment for all residents. Please watch for announcements regarding the upcoming open house in the local newspapers and our Village Civic Event sign. Everyone is invited!

## Winter Weather Clothing Drive

New and gently used warm clothing will be collected at Village Hall, the Police Department Lobby and at the Community Connections Center from October 8 through November 6, 2012. Clothing will be distributed at the Center to those who are confronting great financial hardship.

## Tenants' Rights Classes

Pat Lyons, Mount Prospect's Crime Free Housing Coordinator, and Community Development's Health Inspector provides a monthly Tenants' Rights Class at the Community Connections Center every 4th Friday of the month from 6:00-7:00 p.m. The class begins with a short presentation and is followed by an open question and answer period. To register, contact the Community Connections Center 847/506-4930.

## Call Check

The Call Check Program provides support for residents in the form of telephone reassurance, advocacy, and referrals to appropriate parties. It is intended for frail individuals who do not have the physical or mental resources; or family available, to provide such support. This program will go into effect in times of widespread extreme weather conditions, including a combination of extreme cold and ice; extreme temperatures and power outages; heavy winds and power outages. Contact Human Services 847/870-5680 to register.

## October Is Senior Health Month

Several events will be held throughout the month related to health and wellness for seniors. Programs take place in the Village Hall Community Room. Register by contacting Human Services at 847/870-5680.



### All About Eyes

October 10, 1:00 - 2:30 pm

### Nordic Walking Presentation

October 18, 1:00 - 2:30 pm

### Senior Health Fair,

October 25, 9:00 am - Noon

Hosted by State Representative David Harris

### Senior Sexuality and the Increasing Risk of HIV in the Golden Years

October 30, 9:30 am.

## Senior Advisory Council Christmas Party

The Annual Senior Advisory Council Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 9, at Atlantis Banquets, 1273 North Rand Road, Arlington Heights. This party is open to all senior citizens. Cash bar at 12:00 noon, Luncheon starts at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person, paid in advance, reservations must be made in person at the Human Services Department by December 4. For further information please call 870-5680.

## Medicare D Prescription Drug Open Enrollment Period

Open enrollment for Medicare D begins October 15 and goes through December 7th, 2012. Anyone wanting assistance with enrolling or wishing to review their current plan should call now for an appointment with one of the Village's social workers. You will need to bring your Medicare card and a list of your medications with the dosages and frequencies of use for each medicine. Residents can go on-line to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) to look at plans and apply or change plans for a family member or themselves.



ALL former participants of the State of Illinois Cares Rx/Circuit Breaker Program should be reviewing the 2013 plans at this time. Even if you made a change in July or August, the new year brings changes of premiums, co-pays, deductibles and drugs covered for all drug plans!

Please call 847/870-5680 to make an appointment.



# New Business



## BlackFinn American Grille

Randhurst Village  
157 Randhurst Village Drive, • 847/398-5501  
[www.blackfinnmtprospect.com](http://www.blackfinnmtprospect.com)

*BlackFinn will add a fun, social dining component to the center with its vibrant atmosphere and extensive food and drink offerings. The Saloon at BlackFinn is sure to become a go-to destination for after work and late night crowds.*



## The Children's Place

Randhurst Village  
98 Randhurst Drive, • 847/590-9850 • [www.childrensplace.com](http://www.childrensplace.com)

*The Children's Place makes shopping for kids easy, fun and affordable! Moms are greeted by the latest fashions and everyday essentials for kids in sizes newborn to 14. Our one-stop shopping experience offers a wide assortment of quality clothing, shoes and accessories... all available at unmatched value.*



## Nutphree's Cupcakes

259 E. Rand Rd. • 847-754-4320 • [www.nutphrees.com](http://www.nutphrees.com)

*Nutphree's Cupcakes is now open in Mount Prospect! Nutphree's is a family-owned and operated bakery specializing in delicious cupcakes that are 100% free of peanuts & tree nuts.*



## Illinois Fire Safety Alliance

426 W. Northwest Hwy., • 847/390-0911 • [www.ifsa.org](http://www.ifsa.org)

*Illinois Fire Safety Alliance Executive Director Mary Werderitch and President James Saletta are joined by members of the organization's Board of Directors, staff and supporters to celebrate their new offices. The Alliance promotes programs related to fire safety and burn prevention.*



## Hampton Inn & Suites

Randhurst Village  
1 Randhurst Drive, • 847/590-1860 • [www.hampton.com](http://www.hampton.com)

*Mayor Wilks congratulated Mount Prospect's newest hotel, the Hampton Inn and Suites, now open at Randhurst Village. This new 120 room hotel features custom-furnished oversized rooms (36 of which are suites), a state of the art fitness center, meeting rooms and large swimming pool are just some of the amenities this Hampton Hotel has to offer.*



## Panera Bread

Randhurst Village  
1065 N. Elmhurst Rd. • 847/398-5362 • [www.panerabread.com](http://www.panerabread.com)

*Mayor Wilks (right) joined Mount Prospect's Panera Bread store manager Tracy Michelli (center), Trustee John Korn (left), Mount Prospect Chamber member Richard Sassan of B&E Accounting, and Trustee Steve Polit at a traditional Panera "bread breaking" to celebrate their new Mount Prospect at Randhurst Village (with a drive-thru!)*

VILLAGE OF MOUNT PROSPECT  
50 S. Emerson Street  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056  
www.mountprospect.org

VILLAGE HALL HOURS  
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

## VILLAGE PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency ..... 911

Village Hall ..... 392-6000  
(includes Finance, Village Administration)  
TDD ..... 392-6064

Village Clerk ..... 818-5355

Television Services ..... 870-5685

Community Development  
Building Division ..... 870-5675  
Environmental Health ..... 870-5668  
Planning Division ..... 818-5328

Fire Dept. (non-emergency) ..... 870-5666

Human Services Dept. .... 870-5680

Police Dept. (non-emergency) ..... 870-5656

Public Works Dept. .... 870-5640

Water Billing ..... 392-6000

All phone numbers are (847) area code unless otherwise noted.

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

### MAYOR

Irvana K. Wilks

### TRUSTEES

Paul Wm. Hoefert	John J. Matuszak
Arlene A. Juracek	Steven S. Polit
A. John Korn	Michael A. Zadel

### VILLAGE MANAGER

Michael E. Janonis

### VILLAGE CLERK

M. Lisa Angell

### Mount Prospect E-News

Sign up to receive the latest information on community events, news and alerts at [www.mountprospect.org](http://www.mountprospect.org).

**NO PARKING ON VILLAGE STREETS  
2:00 A.M. TO 6:00 A.M.**

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## experiencemountprospect.org

If you want to know where to go and what to do in Mount Prospect, then check out Experience Mount Prospect. The program includes a web site, e-newsletter and Twitter and Facebook pages that are designed to keep you "in the know" with the latest news local businesses and the community on sales, specials, events and much more.



# SHOP LOCAL

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[www.experiencemountprospect.org](http://www.experiencemountprospect.org)

## COFFEE WITH COUNCIL



Meet informally with the Village's Board of Trustees and Department Directors about anything concerning Mount Prospect that's on your mind. Coffee with Council is held on the second Saturday of every month (unless there is a conflict with a holiday) from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson Street. For more information about Coffee with Council, please call the Village Manager's Office at 392-6000, or visit the Village's web site at [www.mountprospect.org](http://www.mountprospect.org).