



MOUNT PROSPECT Village News

WINTER 2014
JANUARY-MARCH

WELCOMING OUR SISTER CITY TO TOWN— AN EXCHANGE OF CULTURE, CITIZEN DIPLOMACY AND FRIENDSHIP



Every four years, the Village of Mount Prospect's Sister Cities Commission welcomes the French Delegation of its sister city, Sèvres, France, to the Village. In the fall of 2013, over a dozen French Delegation members spent five days visiting local businesses, enjoying community events and learning about various American customs and traditions. The French

Delegation was hosted by Sister Cities Commission members, individual residents and families—a tradition that offers a glimpse of daily American life.

They began the week of September 15 with a visit to Marché Français-A Farmers' Market with a French Twist, where vendors sold a variety of goods, including crepes, French pastries, jewelry, French-imported

linens, photography, art, cheese and more. The Mount Prospect Public Library held a special storytime at the Market, which a number of families enjoyed. Despite the rain, people came out to support the Market and meet the French Delegation. To add to the ambiance, musicians played the violin and guitar at the entryway welcoming visitors to come enjoy the festivities.

Following the Market, the French Delegation had a barbecue at Lions Park. After lunch, a lesson in square dancing was shared and traditional picnic games were played.

Throughout the week, the French Delegation enjoyed a tour of the *Daily Herald* offices and printing facility, a tour of Bosch, a trip

continued on page 13

IN THIS ISSUE:

Village News	2-3	Human Services	7	Sister Cities	13
Community Events.....	4-5	Fire Department.....	8-9	Ribbon Cuttings	14
Police Department	6	Public Works	10-12	Community Development	15

2014 CELESTIAL CELEBRATION FEBRUARY 7

(See Page 5 for ticket information)

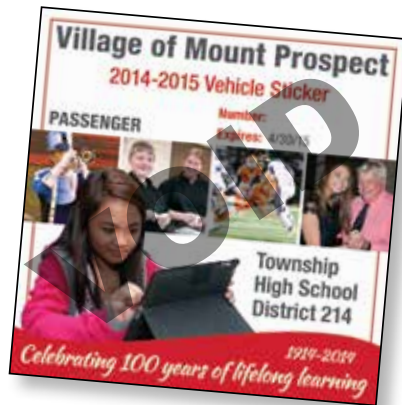
NEWS & NOTES

Vehicle Stickers

The deadline for displaying the 2013-2014 vehicle sticker was April 30, 2013. The Police Department may issue citations to drivers of locally registered vehicles if the 2013-2014 vehicle sticker is not displayed. Vehicle stickers that are purchased after the April deadline 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. For more information, call the Finance Department at 847/392-6000.

2014-2015 Vehicle Stickers

Residents should look for a renewal notice in the mail during the first week of February 2014. Residents who recently moved to the Village or those who do not receive a renewal notice by February 10 should come to Village Hall to pick up a renewal application. For more information, please call the Finance Department at 847/392-6000.



Water Rate Increase

The Village Board recently approved a 9.5 percent increase to water and sewer utility rates. The larger than usual increase to the water rate is necessary to cover the higher cost expected for water purchases. The City of Chicago, which provides water to the Village through the Joint Action Water Agency, has scheduled a series of excessively large rate hikes. A 15 percent rate increase took effect on January 1, 2013. Increments of 15 percent are planned for each of the next two years. The rate increase planned for the Village is primarily to cover the higher cost of water. The current combined rate for water and sewer is \$8.42. Effective with all billings after January 1, the new combined rate will be \$9.22. A Mount Prospect household typically uses 8,000 gallons of water during a one-month billing period. Based on this estimate their monthly water and sewer usage fee would be \$78.76, an increase of \$6.40. This includes the \$5 monthly sewer construction charge. There was no change for the sewer construction flat fee. For more information, please contact the Water Billing Department at 847/392-6000.



Where Do Property Taxes Go?

The Village of Mount Prospect provides a complete range of services for its residents and business community. These services include police and fire protection, street and highway maintenance, health and social services, refuse disposal, public improvements, planning and zoning, engineering and inspection, water and sewer utility service and general administrative services.

To pay for all this, the Village obtains revenues from a number of sources, including property taxes. Property taxes accounted for 21.8 percent of total Village revenues expected for 2013. Sales tax, service charges, licenses, fees, state income and motor fuel taxes, and several other revenues sources make up the balance. The Village uses the money it receives from property taxes for four basic purposes: police and fire protection, public safety pensions, refuse disposal and public improvements.

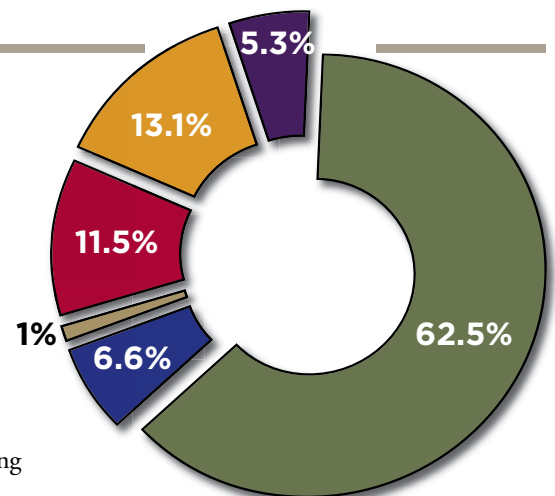
The owner of a residential property in Mount Prospect having an equalized assessed value of \$92,196 (approximate market value of \$350,000) will pay the Village about \$969 in property taxes as a result of the final 2012 levy (payable in 2013). Of this amount, \$462 is for police and fire protection, \$291 is for funding public safety (police and fire) pensions, \$111 is for refuse disposal, and \$105 is for public

improvements. This estimate assumes only the standard homeowner exemption when determining taxable value. Homeowners may also be eligible for the senior citizen exemption, senior freeze or other property tax exemptions offered by the Cook County Assessor's Office. These programs work to provide further relief to the annual tax bill.

Other Taxing Districts. Within and including the Village of Mount Prospect, there are 34 separate and independent taxing districts. They include the Mount Prospect Public Library, Cook County governments, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, six public school districts, five park districts, and 14 other tax districts, plus Elk Grove and Wheeling townships.

With the exception of the Village and Public Library, the taxing districts in Mount Prospect do not share common boundaries. As such, not all of the 34 tax levies appear on every tax bill for a Mount Prospect resident or business. Typically, there are 16 or 17 districts on each individual tax bill.

Village's Share. The chart on this page shows the breakdown of property taxes for the Village of Mount Prospect in Elk Grove



Distribution of 2012 Property Taxes

(Example of resident who lives in Elk Grove Township)



Township from the 2012 tax bill. The Village is to receive \$16.5 million, or 11.5 percent, of the total. The percentages vary depending on the area of the Village and the taxing districts included.

For more information on property taxes and the Village budget, visit www.mountprospect.org (click on Government tab>Village Departments>Finance), or contact the Finance Department at 847/392-6000.

Gubernatorial Primary Election Tuesday, March 18, 2014

Voter Registration

- To be eligible to vote in the March 18th Primary Election, you must be registered to vote by February 18. (If you have moved or changed your name since the last election you need to re-register).

Voter Registration Requirements

- United States Citizen
- At least 18 years of age by Election Day – November 4, 2014*
- 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.

* *High School Students - If you are 18 or will be 18 by November 4, 2014, be sure to register to vote and be a part of the electoral process.*

Offices Up For Election - 2014

U.S. Senator	State Senators
Governor	Representatives in the General Assembly
Lieutenant Governor	Cook County Commissioners
Attorney General	County Clerk of Cook County
Secretary of State	Treasurer of Cook County
Comptroller	Sheriff of Cook County
Treasurer	Assessor of Cook County
Representatives in Congress	County Commissioners of Cook County
Commissioner of the Board of Review of Cook County	
President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners	
Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago	
Supreme, Appellate, Circuit Court and Sub-circuit Judges	

Resources for additional election/voter registration information including:

- On-line voter registration
- Grace period voter registration and voting
- Mail Voting
- Early Voting dates and locations

www.cookcountyclerk.com

www.mountprospect.org

Mount Prospect Village Clerk's office at 847/818-5355

Don't Forget to Register and Vote

**Last Day To Register –
February 18, 2014**

**GUBERNATORIAL PRIMARY ELECTION –
March 18, 2014**

**GENERAL ELECTION –
November 4, 2014**



Residents enjoy the Downtown Merchants Association's Fall Festival/Oktoberfest, an annual tradition in downtown Mount Prospect. Photo Credit: Mike Zarnek.

Mount Prospect Makes Top 10 Places to Call Home

Mount Prospect makes “Top 10 Best Cities in Illinois,” according to Movoto Real Estate, which ranks cities and towns across America. The post cited that the Village’s “high home values and low crime pushed Mount Prospect into the top 10.” Movoto’s blog has been recognized for its unique approach to city-based research by leading news organizations, such as *Forbes* and CBS News.

The story notes, “Mount Prospect is most known for the Randhurst Village, the public library, and for being the home of actress Jennifer Morrison—but maybe that’s just because people don’t know about how very safe it is (49 percent safer than the rest of the state), or how very happy the residents seem to be (after all, they do make 17 percent more than the rest of their state.)”

Village Mayor Arlene A. Juracek said, “It’s just further testament to what those who live in Mount Prospect already know—that Mount Prospect is a great place to call home. From top-ranked schools to great shops and restaurants, it’s a community whose wonderful amenities and events give it home town charm.”

In order to come up with the Illinois Top 10 Best Places to Live, Movoto narrowed the search down to six criteria:

- 1 Amenities (shopping, dining, entertainment, etc.)
- 2 Cost of living (percent above or below state average)
- 3 Crime (percent above or below state average)
- 4 Education (high school graduation rate compared to state average)
- 5 Employment (income and unemployment compared to state average)
- 6 Home value (percent above or below state average).

Movoto applauded the Village’s and other organizations’ commitment to outdoor festivities—including the Chamber of Commerce Irish Fest, Village Fridays on the Green, the Lions Club Farmers’ Markets, and more. The top ten municipalities include: Village of Northbrook, City of Highland Park, Village of Glenview, City of Park Ridge, City of Elmhurst, City of Wheaton, Village of Arlington Heights, Village of Downers Grove, Village of Palatine and Village of Mount Prospect.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PROGRAMS



Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce Dynamic Year Luncheon

Thursday, January 9

11:30 a.m.

Victoria in the Park Banquets

1700 S. Elmhurst Rd.

Open to the Public. Reservations required.

\$30 per person

This is a great event for the community and businesses to kickoff the dynamic year ahead in Mount Prospect! Come enjoy excellent food, a beautiful atmosphere, and a presentation of the Annual Business Awards. Also, 2013 YEA! Young Entrepreneurs Academy grads will share some of what they gained from the YEA! Experience. For more information, visit www.mountprospectchamber.org or call 847/398-6616.



Sister Cities Commission Trivia Night

Friday, January 24

7 p.m.

Village Hall Community Room

(50 S. Emerson St., 1st floor)

Bring a friend, some snacks and beverages and enjoy a celebration of Mount Prospect's French American connection. Advanced tickets are \$10 per person or \$12 on the day of the event. To reserve and purchase tickets, email sistercities@mountprospect.org or call Sister Cities Commissioner Paula Randant at 847/922-7862. Children 17 years old and younger are invited to attend, but must be accompanied by an adult. Children are \$5 each. All proceeds go towards community activities and programs sponsored by the Sister Cities Commission. For more information, visit the Sister Cities page on the Mount Prospect website, www.mountprospect.org/sistercities.

Mount Prospect Historical Society Skate to Save History

Presidents' Day – February 17

Noon - 5 p.m.

The Mount Prospect Historical Society (MPHS) and the Mt. Prospect Park District will be hosting a Skating Party to preserve local history with DJ music at the Central Community Center (CCC), located at 1000 W. Central Rd. There is a \$5 admission charge. Inline skates can be rented at the facility or you can bring your own (with Park District's inspection). All proceeds will go towards the many MPHS educational programs. For more information, contact 847/392-9006 or visit www.mtphist.org.



Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce Mount Prospect Trivia Night III

Friday, February 21

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Games begin at 7 p.m.

Saint Paul Lutheran School

18 S. School Street, Mount Prospect

- \$200 per team, team table 8-10 people
- Bring your own food/snacks/beverages
- No on-site sales of any food or beverages
- Be creative and have fun choosing your team name/theme, bring decorations for your table and wear costumes!
- Music/DJ by Strictly Fun Entertainment

The Champions take home the coveted TRIVIA GARGOYLE TROPHY! For more details, visit www.mountprospectchamber.org or call 847/398-6616. This is a community event and open to the public.

Winter Wonderland Swimfest

Friday, February 21

6:30-8:30 p.m.

RecPlex, 420 W. Dempster St.

Ages: 5-12

Fee: \$5R/\$7NR

Drop your snow shovels, kick off your boots and join the fun at the Mt. Prospect Park District Annual Winter Wonderland Swimfest. Play Marco Polo, complete a craft, and participate in the Treasure Hunt and Iceberg Dive. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call 847/640-1000, visit www.mppd.org, or consult the winter brochure.



Spring it On!!

Saturday, February 22

1 - 4 p.m.

Weiss Community Center

1500 E. Euclid Ave.

Tired of being cooped up inside? Ready for Spring? If so, then SPRING IT ON! Our newest family event will challenge family against family...all in a very fun way! For more information, contact 847/255-1200 or visit www.rtpd.org.

Family BINGO Night

Friday, February 28

6:30 p.m.

Rob Roy Golf Course

505 E. Camp McDonald Rd.

Prospect Heights

Join the River Trails Park District for its next great event...all for a great cause! Bring out the family for a fun evening of BINGO. Great prizes, food and beverages! For more information, contact 847/255-1200 or www.rtpd.org.



Friday All-You-Can Eat Fish Fry

Friday, February 28

5:30 p.m.

Rob Roy Golf Course

505 E. Camp McDonald Rd.

Prospect Heights

Batter-dipped cod, homemade chips, coleslaw, tartar sauce and a crisp lemon wedge. For more information, contact 847/255-1200 or visit www.rtpd.org.

Mt. Prospect Community Band's Annual Spring Concert

Sunday, March 23

3:30 p.m.

The concert will be held in the beautiful sanctuary of St. Paul Lutheran Church located at 100 S. School St. in Mount Prospect. Tickets and further information can be obtained by calling the RecPlex at 847/640-1000.



Celestial Celebration

Friday, February 7

Victoria in the Park Banquets

1700 S. Elmhurst Rd.

Cocktails – 6 p.m.

Dinner – 7 p.m.

\$45 per person

Socialize, dine, dance and celebrate with the people that make Mount Prospect a great community in which to live and work. The Annual Shining Star Awards will be presented to some of Mount Prospect's outstanding residents and workers. Everyone is invited, but attendance is limited; make your reservations early. To reserve tickets online through Paypal or to download and mail in the registration form, visit www.mountprospect.org and click on the Shining Stars logo on the bottom left corner of the home page. Sponsored by the Mount Prospect Special Events Commission.



mount prospect

**IRISH
fest
2014**

**SAT. APRIL 12
2:00 PM - 11:00 PM**

**EMERSON STREET
BUSSE AVENUE AND
(CHASE BANK PARKING LOT)
WWW.MPIRISHFEST.COM**

entertainment:

Sullivan Irish Dancers • Trinity Irish Dancers
The Dooley Brothers • They Might Be Irish
The Larkin and Moran Brothers

IRISH FOOD AND DRINK



Get Fit! Get Healthy! Get Going!

The Mt. Prospect Park District has rolled out a new pricing structure making it easier and more affordable than ever for you to get and stay fit. Memberships start at just \$12 month. All include the indoor track at RecPlex and discounts on racquetball and babysitting. Some include use of the RecPlex indoor pool, the convenience of two fitness centers, free equipment orientation and multi-punch card for free Passport and Spin classes or babysitting.

Select from annual or monthly terms with an easy-pay plan, and there's never a penalty or cancellation fee with memberships. For an additional cost, personal trainers can design a program ideally suited to individual needs and fitness level. Also offered: nutrition consulting, weight loss classes and massage therapy.

Don't wait! It's never been easier to take good care of your health. For more information, contact RecPlex at 847/640-1000, Central Community Center at 847/255-5380 or visit www.mppd.org.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



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:

December 23 – December 29
Elmhurst Rd./Main St. (RT. 83)

December 30 – January 5
Central Rd.

January 6 – January 12
Rand Rd. (RT. 12)

January 13 – January 19
Lincoln St.

January 20 – January 26
Northwest Hwy. (RT. 14)

January 27 – February 2
Golf Rd. (RT. 58)

February 3 – February 9
Burning Bush Ln.

February 10 – February 16
Busse Rd.

February 17 – February 23
Wolf Rd.

February 24 – March 2
Euclid Ave.

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 a.m. and 6 a.m. This allows the Police Department to quickly notice suspicious vehicles in neighborhoods. On the occasion that residents have overnight guests or work being done on their driveway, permission to park on the street can be granted by calling the Police Department Front Desk at 847/870-5656.

"Now Where Did I Leave My Car?"

During the winter months, many citizens start their vehicles and let the engines run while sitting in the driveways or parking lots unattended. In 2013, several cars were stolen or taken for a joyride. This behavior is not only dangerous, but is also illegal regardless if the car is locked or not. Residents can also be held responsible in civil court for damages or injuries if their car is taken and involved in an accident. The bottom line is: never leave a car running unattended.

Winter Driving Tips

With winter upon us, it is important for all residents to remember safe winter driving tips. Even experienced drivers can find their nerves and skills tested by the winter road conditions in the Chicagoland area. Here are some tips to help one drive safely as the weather turns cold and nasty:

- Keep vehicles properly maintained. A properly functioning vehicle is key to surviving winter driving.
- Be prepared for the unexpected emergency and always carry a First Aid kit, ice scraper, snow brush, matches, candles, flashlight, warning triangles or flares, bag of sand, blanket, gloves, emergency HELP sign, and cell phone (if possible) in one's vehicle.
- Watch for hazardous road conditions. Take extra care when driving on icy roads and watch out for hard-to-see patches of ice (black ice), especially in shady spots and over bridges.
- Keep a safe distance of at least five seconds behind other vehicles.
- Use headlights during overcast and gloomy days.
- Remove all snow and ice from all vehicle windows before starting to drive.
- Keep the windshield washer reservoir full to help keep the windshield clear.

Finally, SLOW DOWN and try to leave home a few minutes earlier than usual to avoid rushing, as most accidents are caused by excessive speed.



New Concealed Carry Firearm Law

On July 9, 2013, Public Act 98-63, the Firearm Concealed Carry Act, became state law (430 ILCS 66). This law prohibits anyone who is licensed to carry a concealed firearm in the State of Illinois from carrying it in the following locations, but is not limited to:



- Schools and child care facilities
- Colleges and universities
- Courthouses
- Libraries
- Government buildings
- Public playgrounds
- Public parks
- Public transportation
- Bars and any restaurant deriving more than half of its profits from alcohol
- Permitted public gatherings, such as festivals or parades
- Museums
- Stadiums
- Zoos

In addition, any private property, such as businesses, may prohibit the carrying of concealed firearms on their property by posting the official sign at the entrance of their building, premises or property. For a full list of prohibited locations and more information on the new Concealed Carry Firearm Law, please visit www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs.asp.

HUMAN SERVICES



No Handheld Cell Phone Use While Driving Law

Beginning January 1, the recently amended Illinois Vehicle Code, Section 12-610 (Electronic communications devices) will take effect and states, "A person may not operate a motor vehicle on a roadway while using an electronic communication device."

"Electronic communication device" means an electronic device, including but not limited to a hand-held wireless telephone, hand-held personal digital assistant, or a portable or mobile computer, but does not include a global positioning system or navigation system or a device that is physically or electronically integrated into the motor vehicle.

This section of the Illinois Vehicle Code does not apply to the following, but is not limited to:

- Law enforcement officer or operator of an emergency vehicle while performing his or her official duties.
- A driver using an electronic communication device for the sole purpose of reporting an emergency situation and the continued communication with emergency personnel during the emergency situation.
- A driver using an electronic communication device in hands-free or voice-operated mode, which may include the use of a headset.
- A driver using an electronic communication device when the vehicle is stopped due to normal traffic being obstructed and the driver has the motor vehicle transmission in neutral or park.

For a complete list of exemptions from the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/12-610), please visit www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs.asp.

Thank You For Caring and Sharing

Thanks to the generosity of Village residents, employees, local businesses, churches, schools and civic organizations, the Human Services Department was able to provide assistance to 240 underprivileged families for the Holiday Season in 2013. Recipients were given several bags of groceries, a turkey or ham, and a gift certificate for perishable foods. This year, the need was greater than ever before. Thank you all.

Upcoming Appointments Needed For Senior Citizens Programs

- **Real Estate Senior Exemptions and Tax Freeze Applications** Senior Tax Freeze applications no longer need to be notarized; however, income from 2013 must be itemized on the back of the form.
- **Income tax appointments being made for residents 60+** Tax preparers are trained to complete standard forms. Individuals with very technical tax situations are advised to seek the services of a professional preparer.
- **State of Illinois Benefits Access Program** License Plate Discount, Seniors Ride Free and Persons with Disabilities Ride Free benefits. If you applied for the Benefits Access Program in 2013, you do not need to apply until 2015. People should apply 3 months before their license sticker is due to expire, and not before.

Driver Refresher Course

March 26, 1:30 p.m.

The Secretary of State sponsors Rules of the Road driver refresher classes for senior citizens who need to renew their driver's license. To register or for more information, contact Human Services 847/870-5680.



Powerful Tools For Caregivers

Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care will present the six-week program, "Powerful Tools for Caregivers." It will be held Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Village Hall beginning February 12. The program is designed for anyone who cares for a loved one and needs help, ideas and support. Those who attend will learn to reduce stress, improve self-confidence, learn about resources and gain ways to establish balance in their lives! There is a \$25 fee, which includes the Caregiver Help Book. No one will be turned away for inability to pay. To register or for more information, please call 847/692-8884.

Nurse's Lending Library

The Human Services Department now has a lending library of books that residents may borrow for up to two weeks. The majority of the library includes books on caregiving and memory loss written by professionals and those experiencing this journey personally. Books may be checked out at the front desk of the Human Services Department located on the second floor of the Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson St.



Morgan Retires

Human Services Director Nancy Morgan retires February 20 after 30 years with the Village. "After receiving NASW's (National Association of Social Workers) Northeast District Lifetime Achievement Award, retirement just seemed like the next step. It's been an honor to work for the Village," Morgan said.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

More Than Just Fire & EMS...

The Fire Department found numerous ways to give back to the community in 2013:

March 6 – Fire Administration prepares “Meals from the Heart” at the Ronald McDonald House.

August 2 – Union Local 4119 raises over \$4,500 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

August 12 – Union Local 4119 donates to the Village school supply drive.

August 29 – Paid-on-call firefighters raise funds by scooping ice cream at Oberweis Dairy.

October 12 – Firefighters work the food drive at Randhurst Village for the Village Emergency Food Pantry.

December 14 – Firefighters sponsor a toy drive for underprivileged families.

“Top 10” Space Heater Safety Tips

- 1 Look for a space heater equipped with a guard around the heat source to keep children and pets safe.
- 2 Select a heater approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- 3 Follow manufacturer instructions for proper use and safety measures.
- 4 Only use space heaters in well-vented areas and at least three feet away from any objects such as curtains, clothing or furniture.
- 5 Always place a space heater on a flat, level surface.
- 6 Do not use an extension cord to power the space heater.
- 7 Use K-1 kerosene only for kerosene space heaters. Do not use gasoline, camp stove fuel, or any other flammable liquid.
- 8 Store all fuel outdoors. Never refuel the heater inside the home.
- 9 Never leave a space heater on overnight or unattended.
- 10 Never place objects on the space heater to dry.

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





Calling All Kids – Help Keep Fire Hydrants Clear!

Help the Mount Prospect Fire Department locate fire hydrants this winter! When it snows, clear a fire hydrant near your house. This way, firefighters can easily locate it. It's best to clear the snow at least three feet around the fire hydrant and, if possible, make a path from the hydrant to the street.

Email a picture of you and your cleared hydrant* to bloomis@mountprospect.org to be entered into a drawing to win a FIRE TRUCK RIDE TO SCHOOL! Make sure to include your name, address and telephone number with your picture. Two winners will be announced in late April. **BONUS: You can enter multiple times, but only once for each snowstorm!*

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE AVAILABLE ONLINE

In times of emergency, one of the Village's greatest challenges is finding ways to effectively communicate with you. We have numerous communication methods already in place—both high and low tech. The 2014 Community Preparedness Guide is available online at www.mountprospect.org/ema.

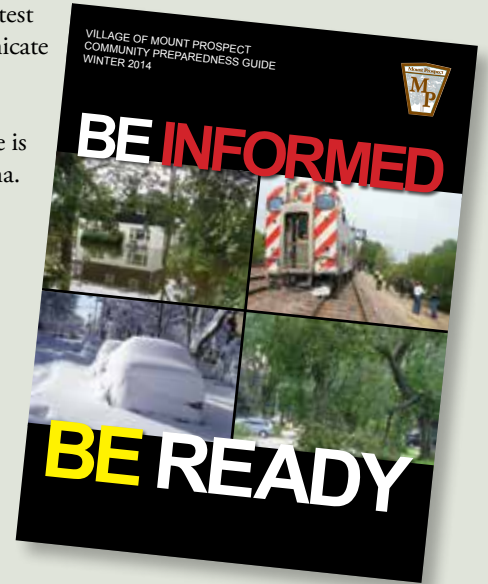
Check the Village's facebook and twitter pages for regular updates during local emergencies.



facebook: [facebook/mountprospectIL](https://www.facebook.com/mountprospectIL)



twitter: [MountProspect](https://twitter.com/MountProspect)

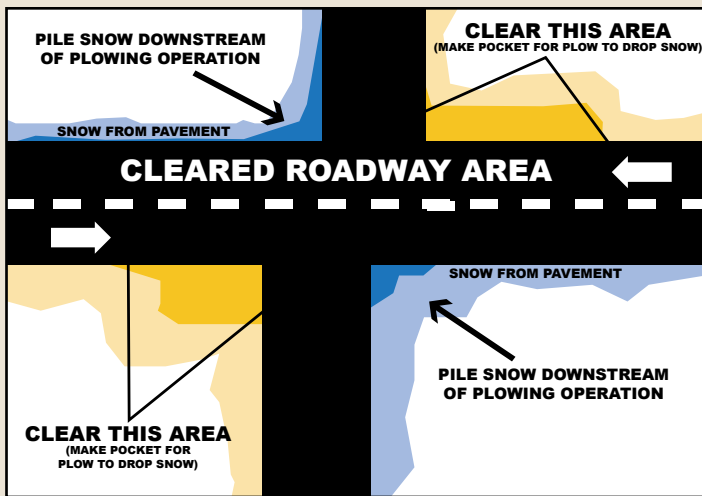


Thank You for Celebrating With Us!

Thank you to all the Mount Prospect residents that came out to help the Fire Department celebrate its 100-Year Anniversary! The Open House and Pancake Breakfast on September 28 and 29 were a huge success thanks to your support!



PUBLIC WORKS



Snow Shoveling

Please remember that it is hazardous to shovel, plow, or blow snow onto any public street. All shoveled, plowed, or blown snow should be piled in the yard or parkway. Please follow the suggestion below to minimize windrows in the driveway opening.

Shovel the snow to the side, in the direction of traffic, and clear a pocket of snow on the opposite side of the driveway.

The accumulated snow in the plow will dump into the pocket and NOT in your driveway. This simple procedure will minimize the amount of residual snow being plowed from the street into a driveway.



Mailbox Policy and Damage

Mailboxes physically hit by a Village snowplow or truck, will be replaced by the Village at no charge. Mailboxes that are damaged by snow thrown from snow plowing operations are the responsibility of the homeowner to repair, but the repair costs are eligible for reimbursement by the Village. To be eligible for reimbursement, the mailbox must be installed per Village code. Please visit www.mountprospect.org to view mailbox installation guidelines. The Village will provide a temporary mailbox until weather allows for repairs to be made. Most importantly, if a mailbox is damaged during snow plowing operations, please contact the Public Works Department at 847/870-5640 before making any repairs.

Snow Parking Reminder

After a minimum 2-inch snowfall, parking is not permitted on any Village street for at least 24 hours. This ordinance supersedes any overnight parking permission that previously may have been granted. Illegally parked vehicles will be towed by the Village to allow for snow removal crews to plow the streets. The cost of the towing will be the responsibility of the vehicle owner. The responsibility falls on the vehicle owners to monitor weather conditions and to avoid problems if a snowfall two inches or greater occurs, regardless of the time of day.



Movement of Firewood Spreads Invasive Pests

For residents who use firewood, the Village encourages them to burn all of the wood before April. Gypsy Moth, EAB and other invasive pests are easily spread by firewood movement. Residents who purchase firewood to heat their home, should make sure it comes from a vendor certified by the Illinois Department of Agriculture or has a compliance label from the USDA. Also, make sure any tree care company hired to work on private ash trees can produce a signed Illinois Department of Agriculture "EAB Compliance Agreement."



2014 Holiday Solid Waste Collection Schedule

There will be **NO Solid Waste** collection on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

Please Note: If a holiday falls on a weekday and the regularly scheduled pickup is on that day or after, the pickup will be delayed by one day. Friday pickups will be done on Saturday.



When will my Street be Plowed?

Since all streets cannot be plowed at the same time after a snowfall, there is a priority system:

1. Principal intersections are plowed and salted first.
2. Primary collector streets are then plowed enough to allow two-way traffic to pass safely. Cul-de-sacs are plowed after a two-inch accumulation of snow.
3. Feeder streets and dead-end streets are plowed last.
4. When all roads have been opened, repeat passes will be made to clear them curb-to-curb, and intersections also will be cleared completely.

Holiday Light and Extension Cord Recycling Program

Did you purchase a new set of holiday lights this year and don't know what to do with your old lights? Do you have a set of holiday lights or an extension cord that you can't get to work? Don't throw them in the garbage, recycle them free of charge.

The Village and the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC)* are offering a free Holiday Light Recycling Program. Residents can take their spent lights and cords to:

Mount Prospect Public Works
 1700 W. Central Road
 December 28 - February 28
 Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The Village cannot accept garland, live greens, wreaths, or other non-recyclable materials. For more information, call 847/870-5640.

*SWANCC and the participating communities have partnered with Elgin Recycling Inc. to recycle the lights and cords. The strands are separated, baled and sent to be chopped or shredded then sold as a commodity to U.S. foundries and mills.

Make Your Home the Solution to Stormwater Pollution

As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants. Stormwater can flow into a storm sewer-system or directly into a lake, stream, river or wetland. Anything that enters a storm-sewer system is discharged untreated into bodies of water used for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.

By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants, like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings and automotive fluids, off the ground and out of the stormwater. Listed below are 10 tips homeowners can follow to improve the quality of stormwater runoff:

- Cover piles of soil, sand or mulch to stop them from being transported in stormwater. Plant grass where soil is exposed.
- Sweep sidewalks and driveways rather than hosing them down.
- Put leaves and grass clippings in the compost, on the garden as mulch or mow back into the lawn to recycle nutrients.
- Divert roof water to lawns or gardens where it can safely soak in.
- Keep pesticides, oil, leaves and other pollutants off streets and out of storm drains.
- Keep cars tuned up and repair leaks.



- Wash vehicles on grass or over gravel. Use as little detergent as possible and pour any leftover soapy water onto the lawn.
- Dispose of household hazardous waste according to the label directions.
- Clean up pet waste, bury it or flush it down the toilet.
- Never dump anything down storm drains! Water from these drains flows untreated to the river.

PUBLIC WORKS

EAB—The Battle Continues Ash Tree Losses in Mount Prospect Continued to Climb Rapidly in 2013

2013 proved to be the year when highly visible decline of ash trees became evident throughout Mount Prospect and surrounding suburbs. As of November, the total number of parkway ashes removed in 2013 was expected to reach 749 trees. This exceeds last year's total of 715 removals. The parkway ash tree population now numbers approximately 2,350 trees, down from more than 4,000 when EAB was first found in Mount Prospect in 2010. The Village will continue performing parkway ash inspections throughout this winter. Property owners adjacent to infested parkway trees are routinely notified when the trees are scheduled for removal.

The Village continues to preventively treat, with insecticide, about 800 parkway trees of selected ash species that were in excellent condition before the EAB outbreak began. Property owners may also receive permits to treat parkway ashes at their own expense. Those who may be interested in this option are encouraged to investigate well before a tree begins showing signs of decline, as the odds of success decline rapidly once a tree is infested. Treatment permits and additional information are available from Public Works.

Village code also requires prompt removal by property owners of infested ashes on private property. Private ashes will continue to be monitored as staffing allows and notifications will be sent to property owners who have an infested tree.

The Next Steps

The Village is trying to replace the lost parkway trees as funding allows. When a parkway tree is marked for removal, the adjacent property owner is informed as to whether or not there is room for replacement trees. New plantings must follow current Village code guidelines in regards to species, spacing and plant quality.

For 2014, ash replacements are expected to proceed as follows. As long as funds are available, the Village will offer 1½" diameter replacements for removed parkway ashes where there is a suitable planting site at no cost to the adjacent property owner. The Village will select the species, and plant trees that are currently underutilized in the Village's urban forest.

The free replacement trees will be offered to property owners more or less in order of the ash tree removal dates. Thus, property owners adjacent to ashes removed in summer 2013 will be offered replacements sooner than those where ashes were removed in fall 2013 or will be removed in spring 2014. Once 2014 funds for this program are expended, the ash replacement program will be placed on hold pending any new funding in the 2015 budget.

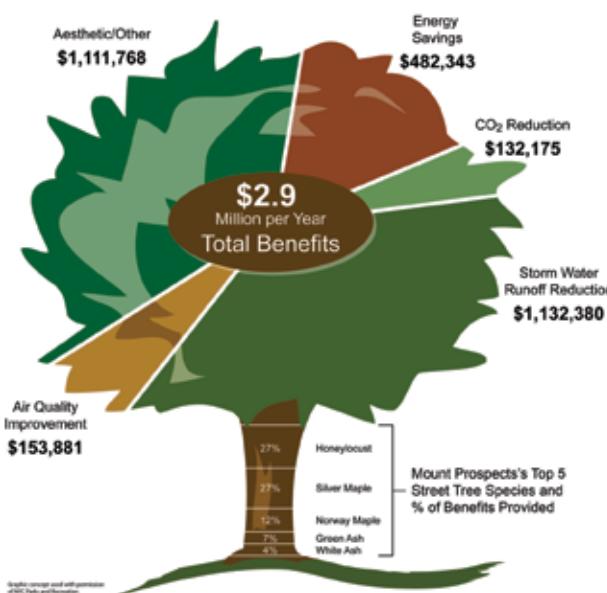
At any time, property owners who do not want to wait for the offer of a free 1½" tree may elect to be placed on the mailing list for the Village's next available "Full Cost" planting



program. In this program, property owners with suitable parkway planting sites can order a larger, 2½" diameter replacement tree by bearing the full cost of planting. Participants can select from a list of eight to ten tree species that grow well in parkways. Prices are expected to range from about \$150 to \$275 per tree, depending on species, and include planting and a one year guarantee. Deadlines for ordering information are typically March 1 for spring planting and August 1 for fall planting.

The Forestry/Grounds Division also continues to encourage property owners to plant diversified tree species on their private properties. For more information, visit www.mountprospect.org (click on Government tab>Village Departments>Public Works>Forestry/Grounds) or call Public Works at 847/870-5640.

Mount Prospect Adopts New Urban Forest Management Plan



In September 2013, the Village Board adopted a plan to help guide the ongoing management of the thousands of trees growing on Village parkways. The plan was prepared by Urban Forestry LLC, a highly regarded arboricultural consulting firm, after working for eight months with Public Works Forestry/Grounds staff.

Here are just a few highlights included:

- The 23,724 Village parkway trees have an appraised value of \$118 million, and the majority of these trees are in very good to excellent condition largely owing to routine maintenance.
- Using methodology known as i-Tree Streets modeling, Urban Forestry LLC determined that the current Village urban forest management program provides a return of \$2.29 for each dollar spent on the care of Village parkway trees.

- On nearly all accounts, the Village has maintained a progressive and effective tree management program over the past twenty years.
- In spite of challenges, such as diseases, insects and storms, the average longevity of Village parkway trees is significantly above average.

Arborists from the Public Works Forestry/Grounds Division are anxious to share more details from the plan with the public. They are now scheduling presentations to interested community organizations in January and February. For more information or to access a link to the full plan, visit www.mountprospect.org (click on Government tab>Village Departments>Public Works>Forestry/Grounds) or call Public Works at 847/870-5640.

Sister Cities continued from page 1

to downtown Chicago, tours of local schools and daycares, a reception at the Mount Prospect Library, a tour of the Community Connections Center, a presentation at the Mount Prospect Historical Society, and more. The visit culminated with a special community reception and dinner in honor of Mayor François Kosciusko-Morizet at Victoria in the Park. A number of local mayors were invited to attend and Consul General of France Graham Paul shared a few words on the important French-American connection.

According to Mount Prospect Sister Cities Commissioner and Illinois Sister Cities Association President Paula Randant, “The reception was a great opportunity for the French Delegation to speak to local community members and to share the rich bonds between cities who have Sister City relationships.”

Sister Cities Reception at Victoria in the Park



As part of this Mount Prospect visit, the Sister Cities Commission chose a number of local restaurants for their guests to explore a variety of culinary experiences. In addition, the host families also offered meals in a traditional home setting, which offered opportunities for conversations and cultural exchange.

Since 2000, several community exchanges have taken place on individual and group levels on both sides of the Atlantic. The Mount Prospect Sister Cities Commission is looking forward to visiting Sèvres, France in 2015.

Mount Prospect and Sèvres, France officially began their relationship as Sister Cities in May of 2000, under the direction of then Mayor Skip Farley. Sister Cities is an international organization that promotes citizen diplomacy.

Marché Français — A Farmers’ Market with a French Twist



RIBBON CUTTINGS



Mount Prospect Child Care

On September 17, 2013, Michael G. Davey, Executive Director of Mount Prospect Child Care Center (406-408 Northwest Hwy.) hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to showcase the new playground enhancements and fence to the visiting Sister City Delegation from Sèvres, France. The delegation also toured the facility and entertained many of the classrooms with a few favorite English/French story books. Davey is the current chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and also served as the Mount Prospect's business ambassador during the Mount Prospect Sister Cities Commission's 2011 visit to Sèvres. For more information, call 847/253-5877 or visit www.mpccc.net.

Advance Auto Parts

On October 9, 2013, Mayor Juracek, Chamber members and Advance Auto Parts' staff joined for a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the opening of the Mount Prospect store at 1668 S. Elmhurst Road. Advance Auto Parts has a wide assortment of car parts, truck parts, and accessories. For more information, call 847/979-5746 or visit shop.advanceautoparts.com.



LA Fitness

On Saturday, November 9, 2013, LA Fitness celebrated its Grand Opening at 1145 Mt. Prospect Plaza with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The public was invited to tour the new facility while enjoying festive activities. LA Fitness is a privately owned American health club chain with over 500 clubs across the United States and Canada. For more information, call 847/463-9295 or visit www.lafitness.com.

AAA Complete Automotive Repair

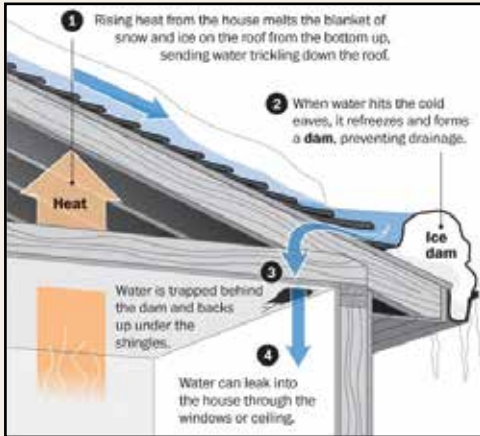
On Thursday, October 24, 2013, AAA Complete Automotive Repair hosted a Ladies' Night event and a ribbon cutting ceremony. This family-owned and operated business is located at 1805 S. Busse Road. For more information or to schedule a winter check-up, call 847/437-2177 or visit www.aaacompleteautomotive.com.



Ice Dams: What are They and How Can I Fix Them?

Ice dams typically occur after a significant snowfall which is followed by several days of freezing temperatures. They are caused by warm and dry air leaking from inside a home into the attic space or roof overhangs. The warm air melts the snow on the roof. The melted snow drains along the roof and freezes when it crosses a cold roof overhang. An ice dam is created and may continue to increase in size as more ice accumulates. Dams can damage a roof surface or cause water leaks into the home.

According to www.energystar.gov, here are some helpful solutions:



- Don't get on any roof to solve this problem, as it could be dangerous.
 - Avoid standing on the ground and “chipping away” at the ice. Not only could this cause damage to a roof, but one can be seriously injured by falling ice, debris, or tools.
 - Contacting a roofing contractor to fix a roof leak will not prevent future ice dams.
 - Seal air leaks in attic or ducts to stop warm air leakage (the source of the problem).
 - After sealing leaks, add additional insulation in an attic.
- Provide adequate attic ventilation so that the underside of the roof and outside air is at the same temperature. Check to make sure attic insulation is not blocking roof ventilation.
 - Clean leaves and other debris from gutters before the first snow.
 - Hire a contractor who is an energy specialist or specializes in air sealing to do an in-home evaluation. A good specialist will use diagnostic equipment to evaluate the performance of a home and generate a customized list of improvements.

For further questions, contact the Village Building Division at building@mountprospect.org or 847/870-5675.

Thinking About a Building Project? Attend a FREE Pre-Submittal Meeting to Help Get Started!

Refreshing a bathroom? Updating a kitchen? Adding on to the house? The Building Division offers FREE pre-submittal meetings. These meetings are meant to ease individuals through the application process, explain the requirements of what the Village is looking for, and make the permit review process go smoothly and quickly! The Village Building Staff is happy to meet for any size project.

A pre-submittal meeting is required for larger projects, such as remodels, additions, or new construction. To schedule a pre-submittal meeting, please contact the Permit Coordinator at 847/818-5396 or at building@mountprospect.org.

Downtown Implementation Plan Wrap-Up

The Village, in partnership with the Regional Transportation Authority and the Lakota Group, is pleased to announce the completion of the Downtown Implementation Plan. The plan is comprised of two volumes:

- Volume 1: State of the Downtown Report
- Volume 2: Vision + Implementation.

A detailed implementation strategy is included within the plan that will be used to guide the future success of Downtown Mount Prospect over the next 15-to-20 years.

In addition to a thorough analysis of the current state of Downtown, the plan identifies key opportunity sites and related concept plans, includes recommendations for signage and provides marketing strategies. A series of plan initiatives and an associated timeframe for each project are also included.

The Village wishes to thank the hundreds of participants who provided feedback through survey responses, open houses, and focus group interviews. Residents' participation was vital to the success of the plan!

The final plan is available to view at www.mountprospect.org, (click on Business tab>Downtown>Downtown Implementation Plan) or visit www.thelakotagroup.com/mountprospect.

If you have any questions regarding the Downtown Plan, contact Village Long-Range Planner Nellie Beckner at 847/818-5312.

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



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- 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

Arlene A. Juracek

TRUSTEES

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John J. Matuszak	Steven S. Polit
Richard F. Rogers	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.

NO PARKING ON VILLAGE STREETS

2 a.m. to 6 a.m.

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Several photos are courtesy of Photographer/Resident Mike Zarnek.



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**Shining Stars
CELESTIAL CELEBRATION**

**Friday, February 7, 2014
6:00 p.m. - Midnight**

Victoria In The Park Banquets
1700 S. Elmhurst Rd., Mount Prospect

- Shining Star Awards will be presented
- Dancing until Midnight
- Silent auction table
- \$45 per person
- Mystery wine grab

Online reservations available at www.mountprospect.org

Mount Prospect
Special Events
Commission

COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

Meet informally with the Village Board of Trustees and Department Directors about anything concerning Mount Prospect. Coffee with Council is held on the second Saturday of every month (unless there is a conflict with a holiday) from 9 to 11 a.m. at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson Street. For more information, please call the Village Manager's Office at 847/392-6000, or visit www.mountprospect.org.

