

Business Matters

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A Trade Sharpened Through Generations: Estal Tool Sharpening

Inside Estal Tool Sharpening, some of the hardest-working equipment has been in the family for generations. Owner Chuck Schrum learned the sharpening trade from his grandfather and continues to use machinery from his grandfather's original shop today.

As part of the Village's Business Ambassador program, Village officials had the opportunity to visit the company at 1485 Landmeier Road, Unit Q, where Chuck has operated since 2009. During a tour of the shop, he demonstrated how Estal restores the cutting edge on everything from drill bits and knives to lawn mower blades and specialized industrial tools.



The visit offered a closer look at a skilled trade where precision still matters and experience cannot be replaced. By combining time-tested equipment with knowledge passed down through his family, Chuck is keeping his grandfather's craft sharp in Elk Grove Village. ■

New Businesses: Welcome to Elk Grove Village!

Bye Bye Brands

Continental Express Lines Inc.

Fastech Solutions of Illinois

Stonewolf Studios Inc.

Real Deal Natural Health

Yellow Bus Group of America

The Business Behind the Fun: AVS Companies

Arcade games, vending machines and the ways people pay have changed dramatically since AVS Companies was founded in 1971. During a recent Business Ambassador visit to its headquarters at 750 Morse Avenue, Village officials saw how the family-owned company has evolved alongside those industries.

What began as vending has grown into a full-service distributor serving the amusement, gaming and self-service retail markets. From Elk Grove Village, AVS supplies arcade games, vending machines, and automated retail systems. Its team also installs, repairs and refurbishes equipment, helping customers keep their machines operating long after delivery.



More than 50 years after its founding, AVS now serves customers from locations in Illinois, Wisconsin, Texas, and Minnesota, while continuing to call Elk Grove Village home. ■

“Elk Grove Village has always been a trusted and helpful partner for our business. The Village’s central location to the entire metro and suburban area, and it’s proximity to O’Hare, have proven to be a great asset to our business, our customers, and our suppliers.”

– Jeff Yoder, CEO, AVS Companies



A New Chapter for Chic Chef

Village officials recently joined Chic Chef Catering for a ribbon cutting celebration at their new location at 1000 Pauly Drive. Founder Ravi Jayara launched the company in 2016, drawing on his experience in food and hospitality. Today, Chic Chef caters weddings, corporate events, and social and cultural celebrations throughout Chicagoland. It also serves as the exclusive caterer for several area venues. Congratulations to Ravi and the Chic Chef team on this milestone! ■



Going the Extra Mile: TWE, Inc. / TWE Logistics

At TWE, Inc. / TWE Logistics, warehousing is personal. During a recent Business Ambassador visit to the company's 53,000-square-foot facility at 1401 Mark Street, co-founder Jennifer Bunger explained how her team stores products and coordinates shipping for small businesses and entrepreneurs.

The warehouse holds everything from cell tower antenna dishes and textiles to magnesium used in rocket production. However, the relationships behind those products are what matter most to Jennifer. Many clients have worked with TWE for more than a decade and have become an extension of her family.

When a longtime client who sold umbrellas passed away, Jennifer stepped in to manage the business while the family worked through the loss and decided what came next. She has also helped clients build online stores, place products with retailers and recover after natural disasters. After 16 years in business, TWE continues to deliver something beyond logistics: support when its customers need it most. ■



"Elk Grove Village has been a great place for TWE to grow. The location is hard to beat, with easy access to O'Hare and the major highways. After 16 years, we've built strong relationships here—with our customers, our employees, and the community—and Elk Grove Village feels like home. We're proud to be part of it."

– Jennifer Bunger, Co-Founder, TWE Logistics

Let's Talk About Your Business

Interested in hosting a Business Ambassador Visit? Invite Village Officials and the Business Development team to your Elk Grove Village business for a conversation and facility tour.

These visits help us better understand what your business does, learn how we can support you, and how we can work together to keep Elk Grove Beyond Business Friendly.

To get started, reach out to the Business Development team at BusinessDevelopment@ElkGrove.org. ■



Sign Up for a Ribbon Cutting!

New to Elk Grove Village or expanding to a new location?

Celebrate your milestone by hosting a ribbon-cutting with the Village, and let us help welcome your business to the community.

Contact the Business Development team at BusinessDevelopment@ElkGrove.org to get started. ■



See What Illinois Is Made Of

October is Manufacturing Month, celebrating the people, technology and ideas powering Illinois industry. The occasion is especially meaningful in Elk Grove Village, where more than 350 manufacturers strengthen our Makers Wanted community.

Another way to join the fun: Share how your manufacturing business is celebrating and tag Elk Grove Village on LinkedIn. Let's show off the people and innovations that make our local manufacturing community strong. ■



MAKERS WANTED
ELK GROVE VILLAGE, IL

ELK GROVE VILLAGE
BEYOND BUSINESS FRIENDLY

TAG US ON LINKEDIN: @ELKGROVEVILLAGE

Upcoming GOA Events

Chamber Net - Networking Breakfast

Wednesday, October 21, 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Garden Terrace Room - 1000 Wellington Avenue
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Networking activity can vary month to month but everyone will have 15 seconds to stand up and introduce themselves and their business to the room full of members and guests.

Lip Sync Battle 2026

Thursday, November 5, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Westin Chicago Northwest - 400 Park Boulevard
Itasca, IL 60143

Join the GOA for a night out and watch members, co-workers and friends battle it out for the belt! Includes full buffet dinner, soft drinks and 1 drink ticket for beer or wine. Winners will be determined by audience vote. Be there to vote for your favorite performer!

Boo-siness After Hours

Thursday, October 29, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Express Employment Professionals - 1506 Elmhurst Road
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Join the GOA for some relaxed networking with fellow members and guests. Make new connections while enjoying complimentary food & drinks.

Holiday & Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Friday, December 4, 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Belvedere Banquets - 1170 W. Devon Ave.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Join the GOA as they celebrate their volunteers and the holidays. Please bring an unwrapped toy donation for Toys for Tots and help make the holidays brighter for a child in need. ■

For more information about these events, please visit the GOA's website at thegoa.com.

ELK GROVE Villager

October 2026

In This Issue

- 2026 Gubernatorial Election Information
- Fall Leaf Collection Program
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- Halloween House Decorating Contest
- Help Keep Our Stormwater Clean!

Elk Grove Village Remains the Most Affordable Community for Residents

A 2026 survey of eight comparable communities shows that Elk Grove Village continues to provide the lowest cost of living for residents. The Village of Elk Grove routinely compares itself to neighboring municipalities and we are proud of our reputation of offering high-quality services at affordable prices.

Not only has Elk Grove Village maintained its place as the most affordable community since we began this survey over fifteen years ago, this also marks the 28th year that our residents have had the lowest combined property tax rate in the area.

The annual cost-of-living survey is intended to account for the entire range of municipal taxes and fees that impact residents—this includes property tax, sales tax, natural gas tax, cable franchise fees, waste/recycling services, water/sewer rates, and various other costs.

The graph on page 7 shows that Elk Grove Village has the lowest annual municipal impact for these taxes and fees, coming in at under \$10,000 per year.

The Village is able to maintain this low cost of living in large part to our robust business community. We work hard to cultivate relationships and provide value to our business community to help keep costs low for residents. Elk Grove Village is dedicated to offering residents an incomparable quality of life in an affordable community—this is just one factor that makes Elk Grove Village the Exceptional Community.

“We are proud to provide residents with award-winning municipal services while maintaining the lowest tax burden in the local region. We remain committed to limiting residents’ municipal tax burden by ensuring the continued success of the Business Park.”

- Mayor Craig Johnson

continued on page 7

Halloween Trick-or-Treating Hours

Halloween is right around the corner! Please keep the following trick-or-treating guidelines in mind when celebrating this year.

Interested in participating in trick-or-treating? Please turn on your porch or outdoor lights and place the green “Trick-or-Treaters Welcome” sign (p. 9) on your front window or door. Those not interested are asked to keep outdoor lights off and place the red “No Trick-or-Treaters, Please” sign (p. 10) on your front door.

**Trick-or-treating will be permitted in Elk Grove Village on
Saturday, October 31 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Trick-or-treaters are asked to only approach homes with a green sign indicating that they are participating this year. Please be respectful of others and their decision to participate or not to participate in trick-or-treating.

Additional information is available online at elkgrove.org/halloween. Have a safe and spooky Halloween! ■

Message from the Board

Community Blood Drive

You have one last chance to participate in the “Roll Up Your Sleeves and Save a Life” campaign!

Our next and final blood drive of 2026 will take place on Saturday, December 12 from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Village Hall.

Need more reasons to give?

- Special 70th Anniversary Blood Drive Giveaway Item - Elk Grove Village Holiday Ornament
- Entry into raffle for one \$20,000 gift card*
- Culver's coupon for one free pint of ice cream *

*Incentives are provided by Vitalant. For details, visit vitalant.org/PromoDetails.

Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are highly recommended. You can schedule by going to vitalant.org and using code ORD0GR98 or calling 877-258-4825.

For more information, please visit elkgrove.org/blooddrive.

Coffee with the Board

Join us for the next Coffee with the Board on Saturday, November 7 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at 75 Turner Avenue. Coffee with the Board is held on a quarterly basis and provides an opportunity for residents to meet with Board members in a relaxed atmosphere.

This newsletter is published by the Village of Elk Grove Village
901 Wellington Avenue
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Telephone 847-357-4000
TDD 847-357-4088
www.elkgrove.org

Village Hall is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday for payment of water bills, local fines and general Village information.

Village Board meetings are held on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For the full schedule, visit www.elkgrove.org.

Oktoberfest Weekend Recap

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's Oktoberfest. While we were unable to safely put on the lovely Parade we had planned, we thank all of our participants and committee that worked tirelessly to organize and participate in this year's parade.

We hope those who attended Oktoberfest had a fantastic time despite the rainy weather.

This celebration wouldn't be possible without the dedication of our staff and the many volunteers who make it all happen. Special thanks to all who helped create another memorable Oktoberfest weekend!



Contact Us Any Time!

Residents are always invited to share thoughts, concerns, or questions by clicking “Contact Us” on the Village website (www.elkgrove.org). ■



Pictured in the back row from left to right are Trustee Stephen Schmidt, Trustee Joseph Bush, Trustee Keith Lasken, and Trustee Jeffrey Franke. Pictured in the front row from left to right are Trustee Tammy Miller, Mayor Craig Johnson, and Trustee Kathy Jarosch.

Holiday Tree Lighting

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27
BEGINS AT 4 P.M.
VILLAGE GREEN

Join us for an evening of holiday magic and cheer!

Featuring
The Canterbury Carollers
from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.



National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

Saturday, October 24
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Police Department Lobby
(901 Wellington Ave.)

Safely dispose of expired, unused, and/or unwanted prescription drugs at this event.

Prescription drugs are also accepted 24/7 at the drop-off box in the Police Department lobby.

If you have any questions, please contact the Police Department at 847-357-4100.



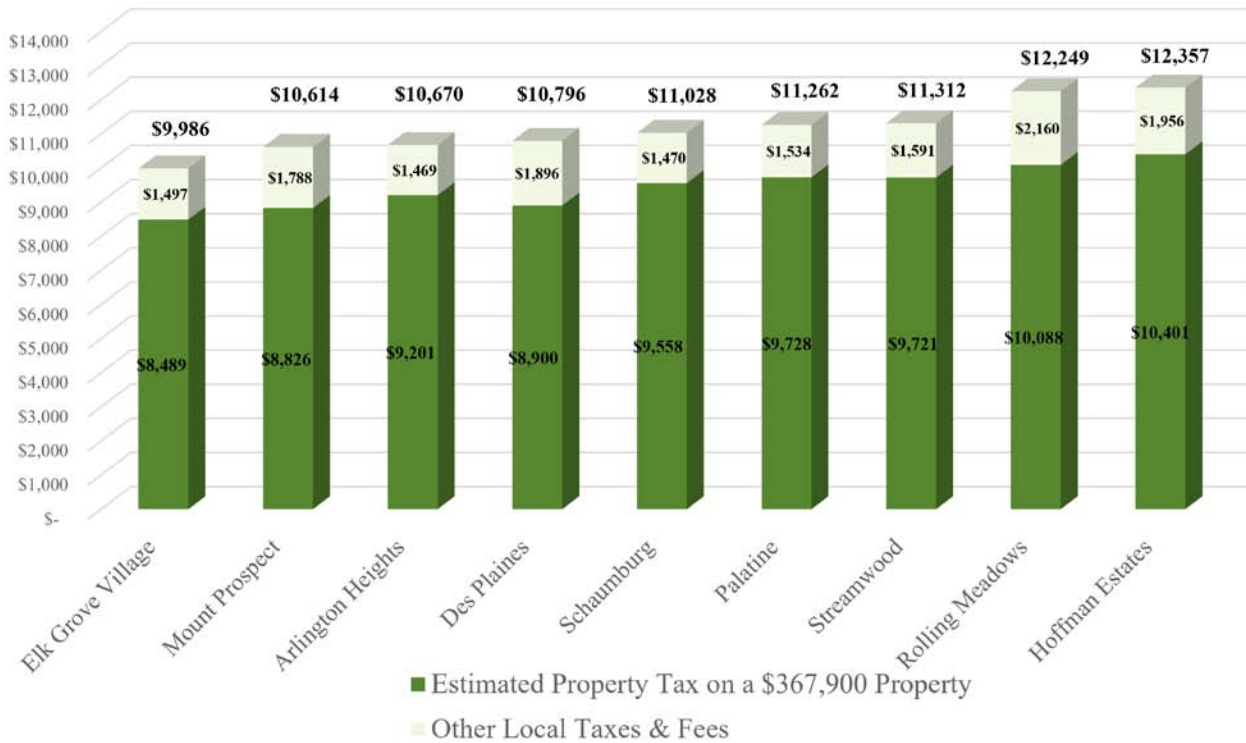
Needles, sharps, and liquids not accepted at this event.

Needles and sharps are accepted for disposal at the Fire Administration front counter at Village Hall during regular business hours.

EGV Remains the Most Affordable Community for Residents

(continued from page 5)

2026 Cost of Living Analysis - Annual Municipal Impact



2026 Gubernatorial Election Information

Early Voting:

During the Early Voting period, citizens living in Suburban Cook County can vote at Village Hall or also turn in their mail ballot in-person to the drop box or election judges.

Village employees are NOT authorized to collect mail-in ballots. Please turn in mail-in ballots to election judges or drop boxes at Early Voting or to the Post Office.

Early Voting will be open:

October 19 - November 2

Monday - Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Registering to Vote:

Online: If you have an Illinois driver's license or state ID, you may register online through the Illinois State Board of Elections website at ova.elections.il.gov.

In-Person: During Early Voting periods, citizens can register and vote in person at one of the Cook County Clerk's designated Early Voting locations, which includes Village Hall. On Election Day, citizens can register and vote at their designated polling place. Please bring 2 forms of identification, one with your current address (e.g. photo ID, utility bill etc.).

Election Day:

On Election Day (Tuesday, November 3), polling places will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Voters must vote at their designated polling place on Election Day.

Village Hall is NOT a polling place on Election Day.

More Voting Information:

This QR code will take you to the Cook County Clerk's website where you can:

- Verify if you are registered to vote
- View what is on your upcoming ballot (sample ballots)
- Check your Election Day designated polling place
- Check your mail ballot status



For more information about upcoming elections, visit elkgrove.org/election.

If you have any questions about voting, contact the Village Clerk's Office at 847-357-4042. ■

Fall Leaf Collection Program

During the months of October and November, the Public Works Department offers residents convenient disposal of their fall leaves on a weekly basis. Leaf collection will begin on Monday, September 28 and conclude on Wednesday, November 25.

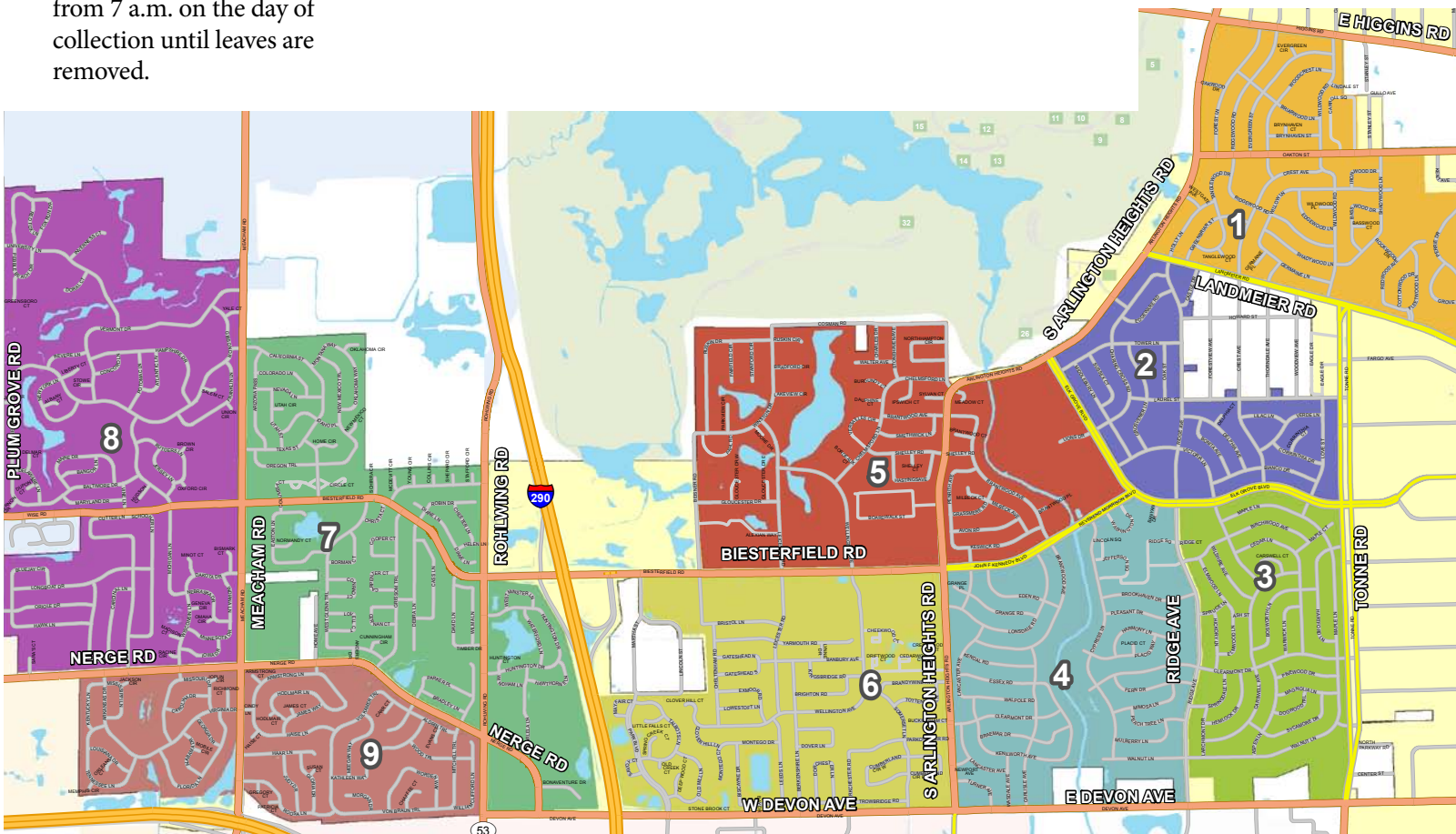
Elk Grove Village is divided into nine (9) collection sections and each section receives nine (9) leaf collection dates. Please note that during the week of Thanksgiving, sections regularly scheduled for Thursday and Friday will be shifted earlier in the week.

Important Program Rules:

- Leaves should be raked into the street after 3 p.m. the day before collection and before 7 a.m. the day of collection.
- Only rake leaves into the street. Grass, branches, and other yard waste are NOT permitted and will damage Village equipment.
- Place leaves in a continuous row on the pavement about 2 feet from the curb.
- In the event of rain, you should still place your leaves in the street. Leaves will be collected as soon as possible.
- Street parking is prohibited from 7 a.m. on the day of collection until leaves are removed.
- In the event of snow, leaf pickup will be rescheduled for another day. Additionally, any leaves that are placed on the street and not picked up by the initial collection will eventually be collected by crews at a later date.
- Do not place leaves on state or county roadways, nor on the following Village streets: Tonne Road, Oakton Street, Elk Grove Boulevard, Rev. Morrison Boulevard, J.F. Kennedy Boulevard, Biesterfeld Road, and Wise Road. Residents along these streets are asked to place leaves in the parkway.

Section Number	Regular Collection Days Excluding the Week of Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving Week Special Schedule Week of November 23
Section 1	Thursday	Wednesday
Section 2	Tuesday	Tuesday
Section 3	Wednesday	Wednesday
Section 4	Monday	Monday
Section 5	Monday	Monday
Section 6	Friday	Tuesday
Section 7	Tuesday	Tuesday
Section 8	Thursday	Monday
Section 9	Wednesday	Wednesday

If you have any questions, please call Public Works at 847-734-8800, Monday – Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. For more information, visit elkgrove.org/leaves. ■



TRICK -OR- TREATERS WELCOME!



NO



TRICK

-OR-

TREATERS

please!

**HAVE A SAFE &
HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**



As part of the 70th Anniversary celebrations, we are sharing the history of our beloved community.

ELK GROVE'S HOSPITAL AND CHURCHES

For a village so connected to progress and industry, it is perhaps not surprising that the most famous religious institution in Elk Grove is not a church, but Ascension Alexian Brothers Medical Center. The Alexian Brothers, a Catholic congregation, established a hospital in Chicago in 1866. By 1959, the hospital needed more space and they wanted to reach Chicagoland's growing suburban population.

Alexian Brothers Hospital broke ground in Elk Grove Village on December 14, 1963 on 30 acres of land, five of which were donated by the Centex Corporation, and was supported by \$8 million in funding from the federal government and other donors. The completed structure was seven stories tall and housed 224 patient beds. In 1971, the psychiatric unit was moved to an unused pavilion (now the Rehabilitation Hospital across the street), which added 200 beds. In 1975, a 20-bed alcoholic treatment

center opened and was the only such facility in the immediate area. Over the years, the hospital, now known as Ascension Alexian Brothers Medical Center has gone through several major, multimillion dollar remodels and expansions which have put Ascension at the forefront of medical treatment in the region.

Ascension Alexian Brothers Medical Center is a general medical and surgical facility recognized for its high performance in 12 adult procedures and conditions. The hospital is especially known for its comprehensive stroke program and has earned a series of progressively more significant awards from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association since 2006. Just this year, Ascension Alexian Brothers was recognized as a top hospital in Illinois.

While there is a chapel in the hospital, there are a variety of standalone places of worship and spirituality in Elk Grove Village, some of which opened as early as the 1950s. The first was the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, founded by Reverend Martin E. Marty, which had its first Divine Service on December 15, 1957. A few years later, Cardinal Albert Meyer of the Catholic Church sent Reverend John Ward Morrison to establish a parish and school west of O'Hare. The school, Queen of the Rosary Catholic School, was completed in 1959. In 1967, the present church located at 750 Elk Grove Boulevard began construction. Its first Mass was held on February 5, 1969.



Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, 1960s.



Aerial view of Alexian Brothers Hospital, mid-1970s.

Today, there are many places of worship in Elk Grove Village, including: Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic (Queen of the Rosary Catholic Church and St. Julian Eymard Catholic Church), Christus Victor Lutheran Church, Prince of Peace United Methodist Church, Village Point Baptist Church, Palm Tree Wesleyan Church, Shinnyo-En Buddhist Temple, First Baptist Church, Living Hope Church, Trinity Gospel Church, Anjuman-e-Shujaee, and St. Nicholas Episcopal Church.

Halloween House Decorating Contest

The Elk Grove Village Leo, Cubs, and Lions Clubs are holding the Annual Halloween House Decorating Contest for residents during October.

Entries will be judged in one of four categories:

- Outstanding Overall Halloween Theme
- Outstanding Scariest Display
- Outstanding Children's Display
- Outstanding Use of Decoration on a Condo/Apartment

All entries must be received by October 14.

Judges will select a winner in each category.

Judging will take place from October 16 to October 24 from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

To enter, please email your name, address, and phone number to lionbarbara@comcast.net.

Help Keep Our Stormwater Clean!

Stormwater is rainwater that runs off rooftops, lawns, driveways, and streets into our stormwater system.

As the stormwater flows over surfaces, it picks up dirt, leaves, grass clippings, pesticides and fertilizers, oil, and other harmful contaminants. All of these pollutants are carried by stormwater into storm drains and ultimately into our creeks, rivers, and in large bodies of water like Lake Michigan.

However, there are a few simple ways that residents and businesses can all help reduce the amount of pollutants that enter our waterways.

- Do not dump motor oil, antifreeze, or other hazardous materials on the ground or into sewers. Recycling programs are available for these hazardous materials, and many service stations accept used motor oil for recycling.
- When cleaning your driveway, dock, or parking lots use a broom instead of water and dispose of debris in the trash; not in the street or storm sewer.
- Do not dump branches, leaves, or grass clippings along creek beds, in open ditches, or in the street.

- Minimize the use of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers on your lawn and plant native plants whenever feasible to lessen the need for herbicides.

- Please pick up litter and place it into trash cans. This will prevent it from getting washed into the storm sewers and eventually into our waterways.

- Cover piles of dirt and wood mulch while doing landscaping projects, and sweep up debris (do not wash it into the street).

For more information, please contact Public Works at 847-734-8800 or visit elkgrove.org/stormwater.

FALL HOME SAFETY & MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

Keep Gutters Clean and Clear
Clean gutters to prevent clogs and water buildup.

Check Your Downspouts and Sump Pump Discharges
Ensure downspouts and sump pump discharges are directed away from public sidewalks to prevent ice.

Ensure Your Home's Address Numbers Are Visible
Make sure your address numbers are clear and easy to read from the street so first responders can find you quickly.

Check Your Fireplace
Clean out soot and debris to ensure your fireplace is ready to use.

Check Your Furnace
Schedule and perform routine furnace maintenance to ensure it is operating properly.

