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Elk Grove Relaunches Websites for Businesses & Residents

Elk Grove Village recently reviewed its public-facing websites and relaunched these resources with features you may find valuable.

EGV Biz Hub is considered the Online Center for Elk Grove Business Resources. Whether your company is considering relocating to Elk Grove Village or expanding its footprint beyond your existing location, the Business Resources Guide is a great place to find information and answers to frequently asked questions about TIF funds, Choosing a Site, Taxes, Business Financing, Business Development, Workforce Development, Utilities, and Elected Officials.



Companies located in Elk Grove can now take advantage of a free business listing in order to be discoverable to a wider online audience. Business leaders can also share their story in the Business Block Party feature section or learn from other industry experts by tuning in to the Strictly Business Podcast, both available at www.EGVbizhub.com.

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Showcase Your Business with a Visit from the Village



Elk Grove Village Trustees and staff are continuing Business Ambassador Visits in 2022. We make it easy to connect with the Village leadership by coming to your location for an introduction and tour. Pick a time that works for you, and together we will discover new ways to support your business and help your team thrive! To schedule your visit, contact Josh Grodzin, Director of Business Development and Marketing at (847)-357-4005, or by email at jgrodzin@elkgrove.org. ■

Dexter Magnetic Technologies Expands Locally to Drive Innovation

Dexter Magnetic Technologies provides complex engineering and precision manufacturing services for a wide range of highly regulated markets, including medical devices, life sciences, aerospace and defense, semiconductor capital goods, and oil and gas applications.

Dexter has a multi-disciplinary team of highly educated electrical and mechanical engineers that deliver exceptional service that enables product excellence for its customers.

The 70-year old company has become a trusted and vital partner for customers with mission critical applications by stabilizing their supply chain and collaborating with cross-functional teams to provide accountability and confidence related to their end market needs.

The company's growth over the past decade attracted private equity interest from a group that immediately understood Dexter needed to move out of the 1050 Morse Ave. location it had inhabited since the early 1980s.

"We outgrew our previous facility and needed to move, but that was a good thing," Dexter Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Erik Petersen said. "We saw it as an opportunity to get more organized and add new layers of support for our on-site employees."

After considering a variety of existing and new build out options in many cities, a number of factors convinced Dexter to choose a site in the Elk Grove Village Technology Park. The Village's 6B property tax credit positioned Elk Grove ahead of municipalities in nearby DuPage County. And when Dexter

moved into its new space on Valentine's Day 2022, it did so while minimizing the impact on its nearly 200 employees, all of whom it was able to retain during the move.

The opportunity to build from scratch also allowed Dexter to put design front and center, ensure work is collaborative and efficient, and make the new facility its own, a decision which hasn't gone unnoticed.



"Our employees have been thrilled—not just with the physical space, but also how we have been able to reorient our teams and our operations to flow better," Petersen said.

The facility's more modern meeting spaces also better suit the needs of a technology and engineering business like Dexter. On top of that, employees experienced a morale boost, now able to enjoy climate-controlled machine

shop and assembly operations, more natural light and a large lunch room area with vendor provided food and marketplace options to choose from.

The impressive space has also helped recruiting efforts as well as impressing customers when visiting the technology-oriented business.

Dexter expects to grow even faster following the March acquisition of a Torrance, California based competitor. This investment and expansion of the company (Magnetic Component Engineering) will provide high quality precision manufacturing with faster time to market.

To learn more about Dexter Magnetic Technologies, visit www.dextermag.com or email info@dextermag.com. ■

Elk Grove Relaunches Websites for Businesses & Residents

(continued from page 1)

Shop Elk Grove was originally created to help businesses find local government resources and to help customers find them through a free directory.

With the site's relaunch, local restaurants, retailers, and hospitality businesses gain an opportunity to move into the spotlight. Shop Elk Grove gives area residents and visiting workers a more intimate look at the incredible businesses that serve them every day. Whether you're looking for a great spot to plan a client meeting or a nearby mom and pop shop to recommend, you can now visit www.shop.elkgrove.org to find businesses in a sortable directory or learn more about your favorite Elk Grove community cornerstones.

Each website has a fresh new look, improved security, and a user-friendly experience to help you find exactly what you need quickly and easily. We hope you'll find the sites helpful and informative as you continue to grow your business.

For more regular updates, news, and events, please follow Elk Grove Village on your favorite social media sites. ■



Strictly Business Podcast

The Village's Strictly Business Podcast is the official podcast of the nation's largest industrial park. Hosted by Josh Grodzin, the podcast shares news and information about the Village's diverse business community, highlighting the people and companies that make, invest, and live in Elk Grove Village.

EP 54: What will the future of the tourism industry look like?

This episode of Strictly Business is sponsored by Shop Elk Grove, a free online resource highlighting and celebrating the restaurants, retailers, and service providers that are woven into our community.

Meet Chicago Northwest is the convention and visitors bureau that serves Elk Grove Village as well as seven other communities in Chicago's Northwest suburbs. President and CEO, Heather Larson, recently joined us on the Strictly Business podcast to discuss a variety of current economic development drivers impacting restaurants, attractions, and the hospitality industry.

Learn more about where to eat, shop, play and stay in the area by visiting Meet Chicago Northwest today. To listen, please visit www.egvbizhub.com or find us on Soundcloud or Apple iTunes. ■



Look Before You Lock

With summer season's high temperatures, the Elk Grove Village Police Department is encouraging everyone to make it a habit to "Look Before You Lock" to keep children and pets safe from the risk of heatstroke:

- Do not leave children or pets unattended and alone in a vehicle.
- If you see a child or a pet in a hot vehicle, take action and call 9-1-1.
- Always keep your vehicle locked when unattended to ensure children do not have access.
- Put your keys out of children's reach and sight, and teach them not to play inside vehicles.
- Create reminders by placing your daily necessities such as a cell phone in the back seat. ■

Meet Your Elk Grove Economic Development Team!



Josh Grodzin, CEcD

Director Business Development and Marketing

With over 20 years of experience in economic development, Josh Grodzin is Elk Grove's leader of business development and marketing. He works side-by-side with businesses looking to expand in, or relocate to, the Village.

Contact Josh at 847-357-4005 or jgrodzin@elkgrove.org. ■

Upcoming GOA Events

Business After Hours - July 28 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Jameson's Charhouse Bloomingdale

Join the GOA Regional Business Association for some relaxed networking with fellow members and guests. Make new connections while enjoying complimentary food and drinks. Appetizers and beverages provided by host. Advance reservations are appreciated. Bring plenty of business cards for the GOA's very own Business Card Blitz.

Business
After Hours

Annual Summer BBQ - August 3 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. GOA Regional Business Association

Its Tiki Time! Grab your finest Hawaiian shirts and Hula skirts for some fun in the sun. Join the GOA Regional Business Association for their signature event the 6th Annual SUMMER BBQ and LUAU complete with beer from Church Street Brewing Company, authentic Hawaiian cuisine from Pau Hana Tiki Lounge, and a Bags Tournament! Pau Hana will also be hosting an After Party following the event. Be sure to stop by the registration table before you leave for your FREE DRINK ticket at the After Party. Enter our first ever Bags Tournament! 1st place gets \$200!



For more information on the GOA and upcoming events, visit thegoa.com.

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- Guidance for Severe Weather
- Wildlife Deterrence

Elk Grove Rotary Fest Kicks Off July 20!

Two of the Village's popular summer events are uniting this month! For the first time ever, Rotary Fest will be held on the fourth weekend of July and will feature a concert from the Village's "Unity within the Community" Mid-Summer Classics Concert Series.

Starting on Wednesday, July 20 through Sunday, July 24 Rotary Fest takes place at Rotary Green, adjacent to Elk Grove High School.

There will once again be a large carnival with rides and games, live entertainment, a beer garden, and a great selection of local vendors selling a variety of food and drinks. The fireworks display from the cancelled Independence Day Concert will be added to the fireworks show on Saturday, July 23 at 9:30 p.m., making it the largest fireworks show ever in Elk Grove Village.

Rotary Fest offers free parking, free admission, as well as pay one price carnival promotions. The carnival will run all five days and live entertainment is scheduled for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Live entertainment will include:

Thursday, July 21: Rick Springfield (Mid-Summer Classics Concert Series)

Friday, July 22: Simply Elton, The Boy Band Night

Saturday, July 23: Mr. Myers, Starlight City, 7th Heaven

For carnival ride promotions, entertainment schedules, and more information, visit www.elkgroverotaryfest.com. ■



Village Earns Renewal of \$151,000 Grant to Help the Uninsured Access Substance Abuse Treatment

Elk Grove Village Cares, a program to improve access to substance abuse treatment programs, has received a \$151,000 renewal grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA). This grant will allow the program to continue its work to help uninsured individuals seeking substance abuse treatment get the help they need.

Since its inception in June 2018, Elk Grove Village Cares has served as an important link on the path to recovery for individuals in need, making 105 total connections to partnering treatment programs.

Under the initiative, anyone seeking treatment for their addiction can seek it through the Elk Grove Village Police Department. Those seeking help will not face arrest. Rather, police officers and counselors will connect individuals to nearby treatment programs. Visit www.elkgrove.org/egvcares for more details about the program. ■

Message from the Board

Mid-Summer Classics Concert Series Update

We are heartbroken and saddened by the tragic events that occurred in Highland Park on July 4. For the safety of community and respect for the victims, the July 4 concert featuring KC and The Sunshine Band and fireworks show was cancelled.

The fireworks from the cancelled Independence Day display will be added to the planned fireworks at the Elk Grove Rotary Fest on Saturday, July 23, making for the largest fireworks display ever in Elk Grove Village.

We look forward to bringing the community together to enjoy the remaining concerts in the Mid-Summer Classics Concert Series. Additional concert information is available on page 7.

Coffee with Mayor & Board

Our next Coffee with the Mayor & Board will take place on Saturday, July 30, from 9-11 a.m. at Village Hall in Meeting Room E.

This event provides an opportunity

for residents to meet with Board members in a relaxed atmosphere and discuss any topics, issues, or questions that matter most to the community.

Coffee with the Mayor & Board is held on a quarterly basis.

Storm Damage and Debris Cleanup

On July 5, Elk Grove Village was hit hard by severe thunderstorms. The storms caused several downed power lines, as well as fallen trees and debris. Our Public Works Department has worked diligently to clean up the debris. We would like to give our sincerest thanks to the communities of Wood Dale, Arlington Heights, and Mount Prospect for assisting the Village in our cleanup efforts.

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 front row from left to right are Trustee Tammy Miller, Mayor Craig Johnson, and Trustee Christine Prochno. Pictured in the second row from left to right are Trustee Jeffrey Franke, Trustee Stephen Schmidt, Trustee Samuel Lissner, and Trustee Patton Feichter.

Groot observes the following annual holidays:

- **New Years Day - 1/1/22**
- **Memorial Day - 5/30/22**
- **Fourth of July - 7/4/22**
- **Labor Day - 9/5/22**
- **Thanksgiving - 11/24/22**
- **Christmas - 12/25/22**

If these holidays fall on a weekday on or before your scheduled collection, service will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the holiday week. If the holiday falls on a Sunday, it will be observed on Monday.

This newsletter is published by the Village of Elk Grove Village
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Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Telephone 847.357.4000
TDD 847.357.4088
www.elkgrove.org

The Village Hall is open 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for payment of water bills, local fines and general Village information. In addition, the Finance and the Community Development counters are open on the first Saturday of the month of May through August from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Village Board meetings are generally held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Illinois Secretary of State Extension Ending Soon

The extension for Illinois driver's licenses, instruction permits, and identification cards that have an expiration date between January 1, 2020 and July 31, 2022 will be ending on July 31, 2022.

Please remember to renew your expired identification cards before July 31, 2022 by visiting www.ilsos.gov or by making an appointment at a Driver Services facility near you. ■

Remembering Elk Grove Bowl

For nearly six decades, Elk Grove Bowl has served as a local landmark and gateway to the Village as residents and visitors pass the intersection of Higgins and Arlington Heights Road.

Elk Grove Bowl first opened in November 1962, just six years after the Village of Elk Grove was established. Since its opening, Elk Grove Bowl has been a community staple for families and friends to enjoy time spent together on the lanes.

After hosting a bittersweet “Final Fling” event on April 30, 2022, Elk Grove Bowl permanently closed, allowing third-generation owner Debbie Handler to enjoy retirement after aspiring to sell the bowling alley for several years.

Elk Grove Bowl was purchased by the Village in late 2021, along with the Elk Grove Woods shopping center. The Village’s ultimate goal is to reinvent the area through a mixed-use development, which would attract both residents and visitors alike.

The Village plans to issue a request for proposals later this summer to find a developer who can put forth a bold vision to create a gateway to Elk Grove Village. Please note that the RFP process, which will be followed by the development planning and permitting process, will take some time. ■



Pictured above: Former owner Debbie Handler with Elk Grove Mayor Craig Johnson inside the partially deconstructed Elk Grove Bowl.

Mid-Summer Classics Concert Series



The “Unity within the Community” Mid-Summer Classics Concert Series, hosted by the Village and the Elk Grove Park District, continues through the month of July!

For the very first time, the concert series will feature a Thursday night performance by Rick Springfield at the Elk Grove Rotary Fest on July 21. Tuesday night concerts on the Village Green continue on July 26.

Thank you to the supporters of this free concert series: Comcast, Tasty Catering, Rocco Vino’s, Groot Industries, Elk Grove Village Bank & Trust, Gullo International, and Meet Chicago Northwest.

For more information regarding the concert series, including parking locations, chair set-up times, and answers to frequently asked questions, visit www.elkgrove.org/concerts. ■

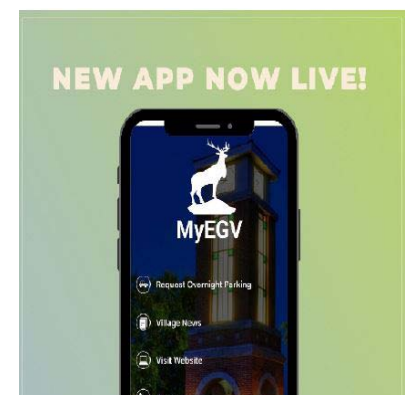
New Service Requests System Now Live!

The Village’s new service requests system, MyEGV is now live! MyEGV is powered by the software SeeClickFix. All residents will need to create a new account to submit a service request through the new system.

Download the app by searching “MyEGV” on the Google Play Store or the App Store.

Beyond being able to submit concerns to Elk Grove Village, your SeeClickFix account will allow you to receive notices and notifications, follow issues or areas you care about, submit concerns when traveling in other cities and towns, and more.

For more information about the new service requests system, please visit www.elkgrove.org/myegv. ■



Live Entertainment (PG)
Good Clean Fun 12:30-2pm
Rosie & The Rivets 2:15-3:45pm

Event Attractions 12-4pm

Pavilion Grounds (PG)

Chair Swing
EuroBungy
Red Ball Challenge
Gyroscope Spaceball
Water slides
Inflatables

Village Green (VG)

K9 Demos
Pot - a - Plant
Zoo to You
Touch a Truck
Balloon Artists
Popular Characters

Library (L)

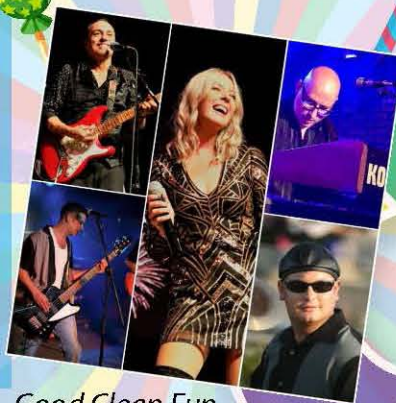
Friends of Library DVD Sale
Dunk Tank
Child/Adult Make & Take Craft
Raffle
Caricature Artist - Roger Hurtado
Costumed Characters
Dippin' Dots \$2.00
Cotton Candy \$1.00

**Attractions may be subject to change.*

Play, Picnic & Party with us on July 17th!

Day & Time: Sunday, Noon-4pm

Locations: Pavilion (1000 Wellington)
Village Green (901 Wellington)
Elk Grove Village Public Library (1001 Wellington)



Good Clean Fun



Village Green



Rosie & The Rivets



Play, Picnic & Party

The event will take place rain or shine!

We recommend families attend together since some activities require a signed waiver to participate. Please note: Activities and performances may be subject to change.

Elk Grove Village's Water System Meets All Water Quality Standards

We are pleased to announce that the Village's water system has met all water quality standards and is in compliance with federal and state regulations. The 2021 Elk Grove Consumer Confidence Report highlights the results of those tests.

As the Village provides water to approximately 33,000 residents and 5,600 businesses, the Village of Elk Grove is required to publish the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) each year. The CCR contains information regarding the Village's water sources, any detected contaminants, test results, and educational information. The report emphasizes that the water supplied from Lake Michigan is safe and there have been no major contaminants found in the Village's water system.



The Village has met all water quality standards in part by complying with federal and state regulations pertaining to the storage and distribution of drinking water. By the Public Works Department continually performing maintenance and quality testing, the Village is able to provide adequate and safe drinking water. The information contained in the CCR indicates the efforts of the Elk Grove Village Public Works Department and shows continued positive results for our community.

The 2021 Consumer Confidence Report is now available and can be viewed by going to www.elkgrove.org/2021waterreport. To obtain a copy by mail, contact the Public Works Department at (847)-734-8800. The report is also available to be picked up in person at the Village Hall located at 901 Wellington Avenue and the James P. Petri Public Works Facility located at 450 E. Devon Avenue. ■

Elk Grove Youth Committee Awards College Scholarships



Last month, the Elk Grove Youth Committee, in partnership with the Village of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Parks Foundation, issued seven \$1,000 college scholarship awards this year—five by the Village of Elk Grove and two by the Elk Grove Parks Foundation to recognize high school seniors for their outstanding leadership, community participation, and service within the community.

The Village is able to offer three additional scholarship awards, thanks to the generosity of Mikerphone Brewing, who donated proceeds from their 2018 craft beer festival to support youth scholarships in the community.

Congratulations to Katie Auyeung, Graziella Defrenza, Jillian Windbiel, Allison Stanislawski, and Nicholas Ihren from Conant High School and Megan Steffens and Magnolia Goodin from Elk Grove High School. These graduated high school seniors are beginning their college studies in the Fall of 2022.

The Village of Elk Grove and Elk Grove Parks Foundation congratulate all seven scholarship award recipients and wish them the best of luck in their college endeavors! ■

Internet Purchase Exchange Location

The Elk Grove Village Police Department lobby and the parking lot are designated Internet Purchase Exchange Locations. The purpose of these spots is to provide a safe space for buyers and sellers to exchange their goods and money.

Next time you need to sell or buy items, please feel free to use either of these designated exchange spots for safe exchanges! ■

Neighborhood Watch Meeting July 28, 2022

Residents are invited to attend a Neighborhood Watch Meeting on Thursday, July 28 at 7:00 p.m. at 901 Wellington Avenue in Meeting Room E. The Elk Grove Village Crime Prevention Unit will discuss current trends and other police related information.

If you have any questions, please contact Crime Prevention Officer Malek at 847-357-4151, or at TMalek@elkgrove.org. ■

Save the Date for the 2022 Oktoberfest & Hometown Parade!



The Village's Oktoberfest will take place on Friday, September 16, from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and on Saturday, September 17, from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Enjoy live music, German food, beer, drinks, fun activities, and more! More information will be posted to the website, www.elkgrove.org/oktoberfest, as it becomes available.

Held on September 17 at 2 p.m., the 2022 Hometown Parade theme will be "Falling into Oktoberfest" featuring various community organizations and their floats created around the theme. The Hometown Parade route map and application to participate in the parade can be found online at www.elkgrove.org/parade. The application deadline to participate in the Hometown Parade is August 15.

For questions about the parade, please contact the Parade Committee at gkaplan@elkgrove.org. Stay after the Hometown Parade for Oktoberfest! ■



Register to Receive Emergency Alerts!

In the event of an emergency, the Village sends out alerts and important information by phone and text. If you haven't been receiving these alerts, you may need to register for the Citizen-Alert program through the Northwest Central Joint Emergency Management System.



The regional Citizen-Alert program is a mass notification system which enables communities to provide residents with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, critical road closures, missing persons, and the potential evacuation of buildings or neighborhoods. Citizen-Alert has access to registered landline phone numbers, which can be used to alert residents based on geographical area; however, an increasing number of residents no longer use landlines.

Residents without landlines, or those who want to stay connected while not at home, can register online to receive time-sensitive and location-specific messages on devices of their choosing, including cell phone, business phone, email, hearing impaired receiving devices, and more. Register online at www.elkgrove.org/stayconnected. ■

Prevent Stormwater Pollution

Help keep our waterways free of harmful pollutants! Follow the tips below to help the Village keep pollutants out of our stormwater system and local waterways:

- Always Pick Up Pet Waste - When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain.
- Limit Use of Fertilizers & Pesticides - When using fertilizers or pesticides in your yard, please carefully follow the instructions and apply the recommended amounts. Excess chemicals can be washed away into the stormwater system. Don't apply fertilizers or pesticides when the forecast calls for rain.
- Never Dump Motor Oils, Paints & Chemicals - Never dump motor oil, chemicals or any other toxic materials down drains, into a septic system or on the ground.
- Report Illegal Dumping - Contact the Public Works Department at 847-734-8800 to report illegal dumping into the Village's stormwater system. ■

Wildlife Deterrence

The Environmental Health Division offers some basic tips for deterring wildlife that may seek refuge on your property. Below are suggestions to make your home or business less inviting.



- Do not feed wildlife as feeding sites can bring many different animals into the same area.
- Feed family pets indoors when possible. Do not leave food or water dishes outside overnight and clean up any spilled food.
- Secure garbage cans and close dumpster lids at night.
- Harvest or dispose of ripe food from vegetable plants in the garden or fruit trees in the yard.
- Stack firewood at least two feet above ground and away from buildings or fences.
- Reduce possible places for animals to hide on your property by removing grass clippings, vegetation overgrowth, brush piles, or debris.
- Routinely inspect the exterior of your property to ensure there are no gaps in the structure or damage to the roof which would provide animals easy access to the building's interior.
- Install a motion-sensitive light to deter animals and provide an extra level of safety by making them more visible.

If you have determined wildlife is living on your property, the Environmental Health Division recommends working with a licensed wildlife removal company.

For more information regarding specific laws pertaining to animal trapping, reference the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov or call the Environmental Health Division at 847-357-4240 for a list of local wildlife control companies. ■

Connect with Us!

Elk Grove Village uses social media as another resource for communicating with residents about recent news and upcoming events. Please visit our social media pages and connect with us to receive updates and information.



Follow us on Instagram!

Elk Grove Village: [@elkgrovevillage_il](https://www.instagram.com/elkgrovevillage_il)
([instagram.com/elkgrovevillage_il](https://www.instagram.com/elkgrovevillage_il))



Like us on Facebook!

Elk Grove Village: [facebook.com/elkgrovevillage](https://www.facebook.com/elkgrovevillage)
EGV Police Department: [facebook.com/EGVPD](https://www.facebook.com/EGVPD)
EGV Fire Department: [facebook.com/ElkGroveVillageFire](https://www.facebook.com/ElkGroveVillageFire)
Elk Grove Television: [facebook.com/EGTV6](https://www.facebook.com/EGTV6)



Follow us on Twitter!

Elk Grove Village: [@EGVBusinessPark](https://twitter.com/EGVBusinessPark) (twitter.com/EGVBusinessPark)
EGV Police Department: [@EGVPD](https://twitter.com/EGVPD) (twitter.com/EGVPD)
EGTV Channel 6: [@EGTV Channel 6](https://twitter.com/EGTVChannel6) (twitter.com/EGTV6)



Scan the QR code above for quick access to all of the Village's social media platforms!



The Village posts information on Nextdoor, a social networking service for neighborhoods. Nextdoor requires users to create an account with their name and address to receive notifications and updates (www.nextdoor.com). ■

Guidance for Severe Weather

Outdoor Warning Sirens

The Village of Elk Grove maintains six (6) warning sirens located throughout the community. The warning sirens are not designed to penetrate the walls of homes and businesses, which means you may not always hear them inside your home. They are sounded primarily to alert people who are outdoors to seek cover.

The sirens are not activated by the Village, but by the Northwest Central Dispatch System (NWCDS). The following criteria is used to determine the activation of the outdoor warning system:

- A confirmed sighting of a tornado tracking toward the community that is reported by a trained weather spotter within the community or surrounding communities.
- A tornado warning for the community is issued by the National Weather Service.
- Reports of storm damage due to winds of 70 mph or greater, along with golf ball sized hail.



If you are outside when a warning siren is activated, seek shelter indoors immediately. Head to the basement or lowest level of the building. Move to an interior room and stay away from outside walls, windows, and doors. If there is no other alternative, lie flat and face down in a ditch or low area, and cover your head until the tornado passes.

When activated for a weather alert, the sirens will run for a minimum of 3 minutes and automatically shut off after 5 minutes of continual sounding. If the threat has not passed, the sirens will re-activate within 10 minutes. Note: There is no “All Clear” sound. Instead, keep updated on conditions via a weather radio or weather app on your phone.

Do not call 9-1-1 for siren information. The dispatch center needs to concentrate on calls coming from those who are reporting injuries or damage from the severe weather. Non-urgent calls inquiring about the status of the sirens takes telecommunicators away from what could be critical life-impacting calls for assistance.

Monthly Testing

NWCDS tests the local outdoor warning system on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. The sirens are activated and then typically canceled after about one (1) minute. Please note that the sirens are manually activated and must also be manually cancelled. The test sirens may sound for longer than normal if dispatchers get multiple emergency 9-1-1 calls right after activating the sirens and don't get the cancel signal out quick enough.

Monitor Weather Conditions

On average, there are 50 tornadoes per year in Illinois. Thunderstorms can escalate quickly, so be prepared ahead of time by having multiple ways to get updates on weather conditions. You can purchase an “All Hazards” weather radio, which can be programmed to provide information on your specific area. Check with your cell phone provider to ensure that your phone is set up to receive emergency messages from the federal Emergency Alert System (EAS). Make sure to activate notifications through a weather app on your phone and stay tuned to local television broadcasts. ■