



Village of River Grove, Illinois November 2022

Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Lynn M. Bjorvik Trustee

Robert C. Thomas Trustee

Michele M. Obaya Trustee

Christopher J. Lilly Trustee

Lora M. Lantgen Trustee

Benjamin E. Ramirez Trustee

From the Mayor's Desk

Dear Friendly Neighbors,

Autumn is in full swing. We are surrounded by colorful leaves and changing weather all while there are a few extra chores to do around the yard, as we get ready for winter. October was a fun month. We had a great turnout for our annual **Fall Flannel Fest**. It was nice to see all the families dressed in their flannel shirts, riding ponies, petting animals, and enjoying a beautiful day at River Front Park. **Unwined** had a record number of craft vendors this year. I went home with spooky wooden pumpkins made by Harry The Lumberjack, jewelry made by Tracy Aller, a decorative water bottle from Kathy Vargas and a book wrote by local author Mary Ann Pisano. The jazz was great, and it was a nice day at the park. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make both events a great success. I can't wait for next year as we continue to grow our village events.

Halloween has come and gone; I hope you were able to attend our **White Elephant Senior Bingo** and or our **Trunk or Treat** event, both sponsored by our Recreation Department. We have lots going on in November: be sure to get out and exercise your right to Vote on Tuesday November 8, polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Village will be closed on Friday November 11th in honor of **Veterans Day**. We thank all who served defending our great country. On November 30th we will have our **Village Tree Lighting ceremony** at River Front Park and the gazebo. The fun starts at 6 p.m. - we hope all can come out.

Please remember to be a friendly neighbor and follow the street signs in front of your residence. Moving your car after a snowfall allows our diligent public works to remove the snow efficiently.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving! I am thankful for the opportunity you have given me to serve the Village of River Grove as your mayor.

Your Mayor, David B. Guerin, follow me on twitter [@davidbguerin](https://twitter.com/davidbguerin)



For the second year in a row, during the month of October, River Grove police officers had the option of wearing pink badges and/or pink uniform patches to support and recognize **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. Many of our officers did. October is designated as Breast Cancer awareness month, this international health campaign is organized by major breast cancer charities. Hopefully it raises awareness to this disease in our community.



On September 30, 2022 **John "Bucky" Bjorvik** retired from the Village of River Grove after 43 years with our Public Works Department. Bucky also spent 39 years as a Firefighter/EMT. The RGFD honored him for his service in a special ceremony and flag raising. He will be missed, but we hope he enjoys retirement.



Please Remember STOP Speeding...STOP Littering...and STOP at Stop Signs...FOR OUR KIDS!

Shout Out!

This month's shout out goes to Water Department Foreman Bill Pazdzioch. Bill was raised here in River Grove. His family moved here 44 years ago this past Halloween and he currently resides in that same house along with his beautiful wife Amber and their 3 children and some occasional furry friends (cats, dogs, guinea pigs) that may need a temporary home and some extra love.

Bill graduated from East Leyden High School and was heavily focused on the performing arts. He was a member of multiple bands and choirs including The Leyden Chamber Singers. Bill was a member of both Cub Scout Pack 142 and Boy Scout Troop 142 growing up; later serving as Assistant Scoutmaster (5 years) then as Scoutmaster for River Grove Troop 142 (7 years). He occasionally volunteered at West Suburban Special Recreation (WSSRA) as a youth and The Scottish Home and St Andrew Society more recently.

Bill started working for the Village at age 16 as summer help with the Water Department in 1996 and became full time in 1999 when a position opened in the Streets & Alleys Division. Two years later after passing the state's water operator's exam, he returned to the water department.

His hobbies include playing music and singing, woodworking, tinkering with tech, gardening, and just spending time with family and friends.



From the Public Works Department

A CHANGE OF SEASONS

Fall has arrived and winter will soon be upon us. The change of seasons is a great time to review some Village services.

YARD WASTE

Monday, November 28th will be the last home yard waste pick up by our contractor. Yard waste pick-up will resume on Monday, April 3rd. **REMINDER:** Leaves are not to be raked into the street. (This law is enforced to keep our street storm sewers clear.) Leaves must be put into your **"red X"** yard waste cans or biodegradable yard waste bags; **DO NOT PUT LEAVES OR YARD WASTE IN PLASTIC BAGS.** All garden waste (tomato vines, plants) must be put into yard waste containers, not in piles on the ground.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE PICK UP

With a few exceptions, garbage pick-up for all single-family homes in River Grove is on Mondays. When the following holidays fall on a Monday, pick up will be pushed back to Tuesday: **Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.**

GARBAGE CANS/BULK WASTE/RECYCLING

If you have a problem with a cracked lid or broken wheel on your garbage can or recycle can, call the Public Works Department at (708) 452-7055. These garbage cans are leased from LRS Recycling and will be repaired or replaced, if necessary, within a ten-day period by the garbage company. Please remember, any items that do not fit in the containers must have a yellow "bulk waste" tag. Tags are \$2 each and can be purchased at the Village Office and the River and Grand BP station. In addition, recyclables must be placed loose in the recycle can, not in plastic bags inside the can. Plastic garbage bags are not recyclable, therefore, if you put your recyclables in a plastic bag your can will not be emptied by the driver.

PARKWAY TREES

Trees are a vital part of the landscape here in River Grove, a Tree City USA town for over 25 years. We strive to keep our trees healthy with watering and trimming, but we need your help. Your parkway tree requires more water in the hot, dry summer months, and if we have a dry fall, watering can continue until the first hard freeze. Lack of water will severely impede the natural growing cycle of your trees, so please consider giving your trees a drink! If you notice any problem with your parkway trees, please call Public Works, our crews are trained to deal with all tree problems.

ANIMAL TRAPS

As River Grove is split in half by the Des Plaines River and the Forest Preserve, many residents often find raccoons, possums, and skunks in their yards. If these animals are just roaming and not causing a nuisance, please consider using natural methods to keep them out of your yard such as sprinkling spices like black pepper, cayenne pepper, or cinnamon liberally in areas where you do not want them to linger. You can also place ammonia soaked cotton balls around your property in areas such as under decks or porches, or inside garages or sheds; however be careful not to breathe in the scent and keep pets away. If these methods do not work, Public Works will set a humane trap to catch and relocate the animal. Please call (708) 452-7055 for details regarding this process.

GROUND FEEDING

Spreading bird feed, bread, or other vegetable scraps on the ground is prohibited. Ground feeding of animals attracts rodents and is unhealthy for humans and animals alike. Bird feeders may be used but they must be elevated to prevent the attraction of rodents. As ground feeding is prohibited by law, violation notices will be issued and you will be assigned a court date.

SNOW PLOWING GUIDELINES

Please follow your posted street maintenance signs after a heavy snowfall. One unmoved car will cause 3 parking spaces not to be plowed.