



Village of River Grove, Illinois December 2022

Newsletter



David B. Guerin Mayor

Marjorie A. Manchen Clerk

Lynn M. Bjorkvik 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 Friends,

It's the most wonderful time of the year. By the time you are reading this we will have lit up River Front Park at our annual tree lighting ceremony. Thanks to the Public Works Department for all the lights around town and thanks to our Recreation Department for organizing the event. A special thanks to Santa who was escorted to the lighting ceremony by our great Fire Department. Santa visited with all the kids and grabbed their wish lists. We hope many of our residents will participate in the Village's house decorating contest. It is always great to see the creativity of our residents.

I also want to take a moment to thank everyone who came out to vote this past election cycle. As your nonpartisan mayor it's important to encourage everyone to come out and vote. Our county, state and federal officials know that River Grove is an active community who fulfill their civic duty and vote. Now more than ever it's important that your voice be heard. Voting has never been easier with mail in, early and traditional day of voting. So again, thanks for voting!

Please stay tuned to our Facebook page and website for updates on construction, public hearings, meetings and much more. Also, be sure to sign up for Village alerts and information via text, email, or phone call.

Go to: <https://www.rivergroveil.gov/289/Alerts>

Wishing everyone Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Your friend and neighbor,

Dave Guerin

Reimagine River Grove Comprehensive Plan

The Village of River Grove and local stakeholders are working with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), to create **Reimagine River Grove**, the village's comprehensive plan. The plan will establish a vision and land use strategy for the village and help guide future actions, decisions, and development in the community. The Reimagine River Grove Comprehensive Plan will strengthen River Grove's vitality and create a more livable, walkable, and resilient community for years to come.

Visit the Reimagine River Grove web page at www.engage.cmap.illinois.gov/river-grove-comprehensive-plan to see plan updates, share your feedback, explore documents, and take the community survey. We want your feedback!



Sunday, December 11th 10:00am until 1:00pm.

Call (708) 716-5033 to schedule a visit from Santa, who will pick up your non-perishable donation to the River Grove food pantry and pose for a photo; Covid guidelines apply.

Shout Out!

Our December Shout Out goes to River Grove's Village Clerk, **Marjorie A. Manchen**, JD, RMC, CMC. Marjorie was born in Oak Park and attended Ascension Grammar School, and then St. Vincent Ferrer after her family moved to Elmwood Park. She graduated from Mother Theodore Guerin High School and then Western Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Law Enforcement Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in both French and Political Science. Marjorie also holds a Juris Doctorate from the Northern Illinois University School of Law.



After being appointed Village Clerk in early 2009 Marjorie was elected as Village Clerk in April 2009 and was re-elected in 2013, 2017, and 2021. She is a graduate of the Municipal Clerks of Illinois Institute, an intensive course that is administered over a 3-year period by the University of Illinois in Springfield, Illinois. Marjorie also has earned designations as a Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), and a Registered Municipal Clerk (RMC) by the Municipal Clerks of Illinois. Marjorie is a member of both associations as well as the Municipal Clerks' Association of the North and Northwest Suburbs, Cook County, Illinois (NNWCCMA), in which she has served as vice president for numerous years. She recently gained the title of Master Municipal Clerk granted by the IIMC which grants the MMC designation only to those municipal clerks who complete demanding educational requirements and who have a record of significant contributions to their local government, community and state. There are just 38 MMCs in Illinois.

Marjorie is a licensed attorney for nearly 30 years, and is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association. Marjorie has a huge outreach of community service, and has been an appointed Commissioner to the Cook County Commission on Women's Issues since 2008, representing the 9th District of Cook County. She also currently serves as the President of the River Grove Lions Club. She is a member of the River Park Moose, a volunteer for Special Olympics Illinois, and the Glass Slipper Project. The Village is proud of all of her accomplishments and is grateful to have her serve as our Village Clerk.

From the River Grove Water Department

WINTER WATER REMINDER

Unprotected water pipes can freeze and burst from the cold. Is your home water system ready for that cold weather? Just a reminder from the Water Department to make sure all exterior wall pipes are insulated or have exposure to heat and are not hidden behind that new remodeling job. This also includes water and drain pipes located in crawl spaces. In prolonged sub-zero weather, it is recommended to have water trickle from a faucet as running water will not freeze.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

Have you had your backflow prevention device tested this year? A federal mandate issued to protect public water systems from contamination is the installation of backflow prevention devices where needed. Our village program includes all commercial buildings and all apartments over 2 units. These devices should be inspected annually by an authorized plumber and results sent to BSI. Please contact the Building Department at (708) 453-8007 for more information.

HELP US CONTACT YOU

Since February of 2007, our Village has been using a communications service that provides all village departments the ability to reach local residents, within minutes, through a single telephone recorded message, text message, or e-mail. This system is not only for use in case of emergency, it can also update residents about other important information that affects them, such as water main breaks, construction, or weather related problems. You can receive this important information on one or all of the following; your home phone, answering machine, cellular phone, or texted to your e-mail address or cell phone. **If you have never received such a message, you have not been included on our computer list. Please contact the Village at (708) 453-8000 or email jwalsh@rivergroveil.gov to be added to our call list.**

ALL VILLAGE EMPLOYEES HAVE PHOTO I.D.'s

Please, if any stranger, claiming to work for the village, wants to enter your home or business, **ALWAYS ASK FOR IDENTIFICATION**. All village employees have been issued a picture I.D. and will gladly present it if asked. **Know who you are letting into your home or business.**

River Grove Senior Snow Removal Program

The Village of River Grove and East Leyden High School students have partnered to assist River Grove senior citizens with snow removal. A shovel may need to be provided, the Village will verify with the students. The rate will be \$10.00 per house and includes the following:

- A path from your front door to your sidewalk/street/stairs
- A path from your back door to your garage door
- Additional charges will apply for the following and will be discussed and handled with the student that is assisting you:
 1. Salting (resident must provide salt)
 2. Shoveling driveways, carport, parking space(s)



Payment must be made at the time of service. **Please contact Gina Leder at (708) 453-8000 ex. 308** and she will assign a student to assist.



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