



**A MESSAGE FROM
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR
TIM KOBLER**

As we are moving into the holiday season, for many it is a season of giving. When considering where to give, I would ask that you please consider donating to the Township's Food Pantry. We have seen an increase in our neighbors in need as of late, as the Food Pantry is now feeding approximately 250 families every two weeks. No donation is too big or too small, every single can of food and every single dollar can help feed someone in need. You will find a list of our current most needed items inside, and we also can accept monetary donations to help purchase items that are less frequently donated such as meat, milk, and eggs. For every dollar we receive we can purchase up to \$10 of groceries through our partnership with the Norther Illinois Food Bank.

In our last newsletter I highlighted a couple of projects that were planned for at the Township that are now either completed or will soon be completed:

- The Highway Department is coming to the conclusion of their road resurfacing projects for the year.

- We have also completed installing a geothermal heating and air conditioning system. This geothermal system will result in an estimated 50% reduction in energy used and a cost reduction of 20%. The system reduces our carbon footprint by increasing efficiency.

We have also expanded the ways in which you can connect with us. We have begun a monthly e-newsletter that you can sign up for either on the Township's web page or the QR code provided in this newsletter. There are also more ways that you can connect with us on social media including Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube.

Looking forward, we will be making several improvements to William E. Peterson Park that should be completed by this summer. For the pool, there will be a new pool liner giving us



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to our new Enews

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The Vernon Township Newsletter is published periodically as a public information service for Township residents.

Vernon Township Administrative Center

3050 North Main Street
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Vernon Township Assessor's Office

2900 North Main Street
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Business Hours

Monday thru Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Township Phone Numbers

Administrative Center. (847) 634-4600
Assessor's Office (847) 634-4602
Township Fax (847) 634-1569
Assessor Fax (847) 634-0654

Supervisor

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Assessor

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Trustee

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Trustee

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msender@vernontownship.com



Blood Drives

The Township will continue co-hosting Blood Drives with State Representative Daniel Didech and the American Red Cross. Blood drives will be held at the Vernon Township Community Service Building, 2900 N. Main Street in Buffalo Grove from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. **To learn more, or to register for upcoming blood drives, visit www.repdidech.com.** **Giving blood saves lives, please consider participating!**

2025 Blood Drive Dates:

— February 27, 2025 — August 08, 2025
— July 10, 2025 — September 11, 2025



Township Board Meetings

Monthly board meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For more information, call (847) 634-4600. The Annual Town Meeting is held on the second Tuesday in April, no earlier than 6:00 p.m.

ADA Compliance

Vernon Township gives people with disabilities an equal opportunity to benefit from Township meetings. Any person who has a disability requiring an auxiliary aid, service for effective communication or a reasonable accommodation to participate in a Township meeting should contact Todd Gedville as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled meeting. Mr. Gedville can be reached Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at (847) 634-4600 or visited at 3050 North Main Street, Buffalo Grove.



**Improvements to
William E. Peterson
Park in progress!**

continued from front page

a fresh look along with upgrades to the pumps that will increase efficiency as the water is sanitized. Also, we plan to replace the playground equipment that is over 25 years old, partially funded through a grant that will make the playground more accessible and welcoming. This spring we also plan on replacing the 40-year-old windows and siding at the administration building along with the roof.

Our Highway Department is ready to keep our roads safe and clear from snow and ice this winter, and I would also like to remind everyone to please use extra caution

while driving in hazardous conditions due to the winter weather! Please give the crews space and time while they clear the roads.

Lastly, I would like to wish everyone a joyous holiday season and a happy and prosperous new year.

Tim Kobler
Vernon Township Supervisor

VERNON TOWNSHIP WELCOMES NEWLY APPOINTED CLERK FABIOLA "FABBI" VASQUEZ

Fabiola "Fabbi" Vasquez was recently appointed as the new Vernon Township Clerk. She replaces Tim Kobler, who was appointed to serve as the Township Supervisor in April. Vasquez oversees voter registration, voting by mail, early voting sites, and election information within Vernon Township, in addition to other responsibilities. Make sure to give her a warm welcome when you see her at the Township office.

A native Californian, Vasquez, holds a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from Loyola Marymount University. Vasquez and her husband have lived in Buffalo Grove for 24 years. Her son is a sophomore at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.



She has worked in the Finance Department at various organizations within the private sector, such as advertising, the apparel industry, embedded imaging systems, and supply chain management.

Additionally, she is in her 6th year in her role as District Director for State Representative Daniel Didech. This position has helped hone her skills in casework and identifying the needs of the community.

Vasquez was active in PTO and volunteered her time at Ivy Hall Elementary.

In her new role as Clerk, Fabbi will bring her talents to maximize efficiency and accountability to better serve the residents of Vernon Township.

DONATE HERE! >



Food Pantry Update

The food pantry is greatly in need of donations at this time! Supplies are very low, and we are now serving over 250 families twice a month. We are most in need of the staple items that usually always fill our shelves:

- Canned Chicken & Tuna
- Boxed Potatoes
- Rice
- Canned Soup

Donations can be dropped off at the Administration Building located at 3050 N. Main St., in Buffalo Grove anytime, there is a cart outside the front door 24/7 for non-perishable donations. We are also able to accept perishable donations such as milk, eggs,

bread, or meat Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Please bring any perishable items inside the building to ensure they do not spoil.

Monetary donations are also extremely helpful, as for every dollar donated, we can purchase \$10 worth of groceries through Northern Illinois Food Bank. These donations can be made through our website: <https://vernontownship.com/157/Food-Pantry> or at the QR Code above.

Questions about the Food Pantry?
Call Nancy at (847) 634-4600
or email her at nancy@vernontownship.com



Highway Department Update

PERMITS

Unincorporated Vernon Township residents planning to perform any work in the right of way in front of their property are required to obtain a permit from the Vernon Township Highway Department. Such work could include, but is not limited to plantings, culvert-ditch maintenance, and driveway replacement. The right of way is defined as the area from the property line to the edge of the road (for most homes this area is approximately 15 feet.)

Permit applications can be found online at <https://vernontownship.com/155/Right-of-Way-Work-Permits>. To learn more, or to have the Highway Department come out to identify your actual right of way, please contact Tracy at 847-634-4600 or email her at tgastfeild@vernontownship.com.

GENERAL SNOW REMOVAL INFORMATION

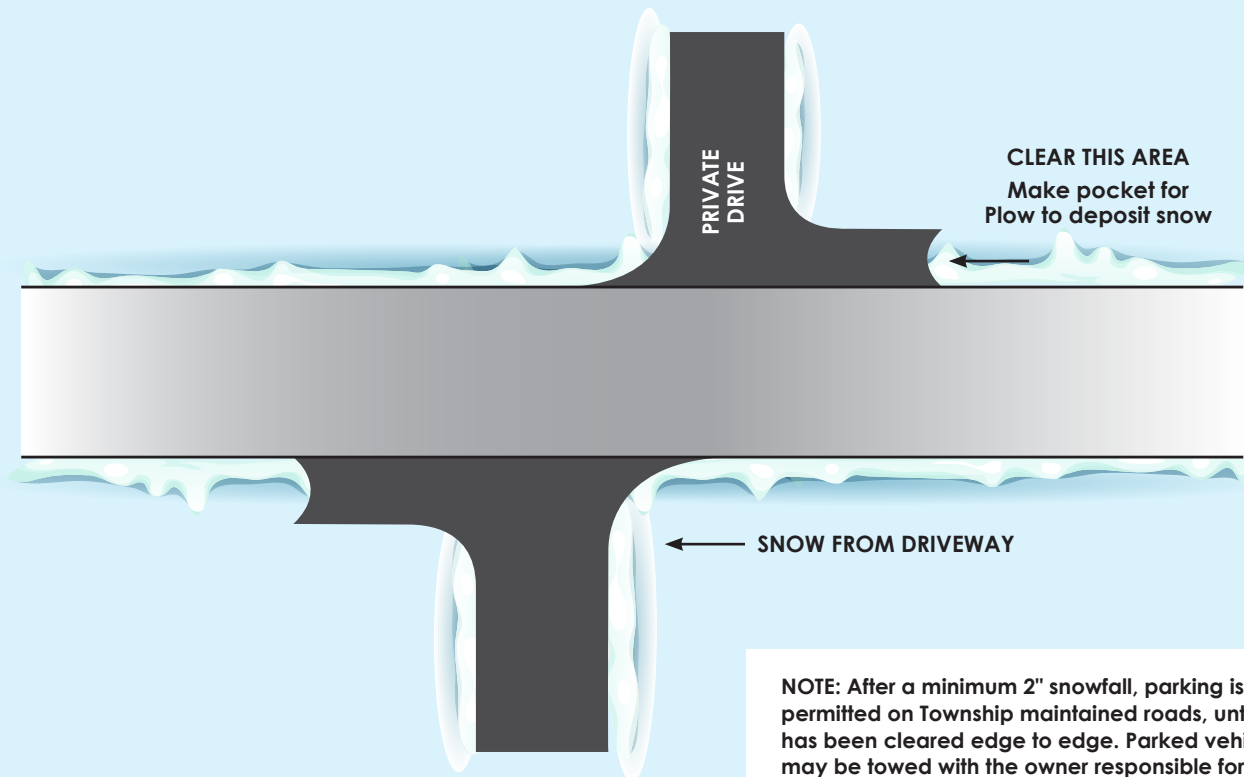
As we prepare for the winter season, we ask that our residents help our plow drivers out as they clear Township roads. Please don't put garbage receptacles on or near the road when plows come by. Vernon Township is not responsible for garbage receptacles that are left in the road.

When shoveling your driveway of snow, the best way to assure that the snowplows clearing the street will minimize the amount of snow left in an already cleared driveway is to shovel snow in the direction of traffic and make a pocket on the opposite side of your driveway see illustration below.

- By doing this, snow that has accumulated on the plow will dump into that pocket and will reduce the possibility of snowplows inadvertently making your driveway snowbound.
- When piling snow at your driveway entrance, make low mounds so the roadway is clearly visible in both directions so children cannot hide behind them.

- When clearing your driveway of snow and ice, be sure not to push, shovel, or blow snow or ice onto the roadway.
- According to the Illinois Compiled Statutes of the Road and Bridge Laws of Illinois (State Statute 605 ILCS 5/9-126) no person shall plow or remove ice or snow from a driveway or parking lot and deposit such ice and snow upon a public highway or along the shoulder or edge of a public highway.
- Clear an area in front of your mailbox so the mail person can easily approach.
- If there is a fire hydrant on your property, shovel a path to and around it from the roadway.
- To prevent damage to vehicles and snowplows, please remove all decorative rocks, logs, or other objects at least 6 ft from the paved edge of the road.

The Highway Department thanks you in advance for your assistance in keeping our roadways safe during the winter weather.



NOTE: After a minimum 2" snowfall, parking is not permitted on Township maintained roads, until it has been cleared edge to edge. Parked vehicles may be towed with the owner responsible for related costs.



COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD UPDATE

The Vernon Township Community Mental Health Board recently awarded their first round of social agency grants for this fiscal year. \$703,500 was awarded to 14 local agencies that provide services in the areas of mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse treatment.

For more information about the Mental Health Board or about the agencies awarded funding, please visit www.vtcmhb.org.

The following agencies were awarded grants this year:

- Center for Enriched Living
- Clearbrook
- Erie Family Health Centers
- Faith in Action – Southeast Lake County
- A Safe Place
- Lambs Farm
- Little City Foundation
- OMNI
- Riverside Foundation
- Shelter, Inc.
- The Josselyn Center
- Willow House
- Youth & Family Counseling

Second Round Grant Funding Now Open!

The Community Mental Board has reopened applications for a second round of funding this fiscal year. The Vernon Township Community Mental Health Board may provide supplemental funding for any entity that demonstrates the ability to provide mental health, developmental disability, or addiction services to the residents of Vernon Township, and that have operated for a minimum of one fiscal year. Applicants will demonstrate they have the appropriate academic certification/licensure, and appropriate experience. Applicants will demonstrate service, fiscal, and administrative accountability.

To learn more about the grant process, or fill out an application, please visit: <https://verrontownship.com/292/Social-Service-Agency-Grant-Program>. Applications must be received by November 29th.



The current board from left to right: Phil Hirsh, Akrom Hossain, Al Dorfman, Mike Garfield, Sally Thoren, Carolyn Lewis, and Noelle Moore

Prairie View Metra Station Parking Permit

available for 2025 Commuters

Commuters can save themselves time and money by purchasing parking permits for the Prairie View Train Station. We offer Annual, Semi-Annual, Quarterly, or Monthly permits. Also, if commuters apply up to one month prior to their effective date, permits are offered at a reduced price. **Check, cash or credit/debit card payment is acceptable, but Vernon Township cannot take credit or debit card payment over the phone.**

Permit applications are available online at www.vernontownship.com on the Prairie View Metra Station page, found under the Community tab.

To submit the application, either apply online or mail in your application along with your payment to 3050 N Main Street, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. When mailing in a permit request please include a self-addressed and stamped return envelope.

Please make sure you apply for the correct permit as there are different permits available for Stevenson High School students.



2025 Commuter Parking Permits

Prices for the currently available 2025 Parking Permits are below and are available for purchase now!

QUARTERLY	BEFORE 1ST OF MONTH	REGULAR
January – March	\$94.00	\$109.00
April – June	96.00	111.0
July – September	97.00	112.00
October – December	90.00	105.00

ANNUAL	BEFORE 1ST OF MONTH	REGULAR
January – December	\$362.00	\$437.00

SEMI-ANNUAL (6 MONTH)	BEFORE 1ST OF MONTH	REGULAR
January – June	\$195.00	\$220.00
July – December	192.00	217.00
July – September	97.00	112.00
October – December	90.00	105.00

MONTHLY	BEFORE 1ST OF MONTH	REGULAR
Individual months	N/A	40.00



Assessor's Update

Understanding Property Assessments: How Values Are Determined

Property assessments are essential for determining your property taxes and ensuring fair taxation. Understanding how these assessments work can help you feel confident in the process. This article explains the assessment methodology, addresses common misconceptions about property improvements, and highlights the difference between mass and individual appraisals.

The Assessment Process

Assessments are conducted through a systematic approach known as mass appraisal. This method allows us to evaluate thousands of properties efficiently while maintaining fairness. Key elements influencing property values include:

- **Sales Data:** We analyze recent sales of comparable properties in your neighborhood. This information helps us identify market trends and establish baseline values.
- **Uniformity:** Ensuring uniformity among similar properties is a cornerstone of our assessments. Properties of similar size and characteristics should have comparable values, promoting equity in taxation.
- **Property Characteristics:** Factors such as overall square footage, lot size, and exterior features are considered in determining property value.

Common Misconceptions

Many homeowners believe that various home improvements will automatically increase their property assessment. However, routine updates such as kitchen or interior remodels, siding replacement, new roofs, and new windows (of the same size) typically do not lead to an increase in assessed value. While these

enhancements may improve your home's aesthetics, functionality, and marketability, they generally do not affect your assessment.

However, if you undertake significant improvements like adding a new deck, finishing your basement, or constructing an addition, these may increase your assessment. Fortunately, you may be eligible for a Home Improvement Exemption (HIE), which provides a four-year reduction of up to \$75,000 in the market value of your home—not exceeding the increase in value due to these improvements. This exemption helps alleviate the impact of a large assessment increase, allowing you to enjoy your upgrades without immediate financial stress. If you have made improvements and have not received your HIE or are unsure if you have received it, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office and we will be happy to check for you.

Once we receive notice of the improvement, one of our Field Inspectors may come to your property to measure and take pictures. Our Field Inspectors wear bright yellow safety vests that say "VERNON TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR" on the front and back, and "FIELD INSPECTOR" on the back. If you see someone on your property wearing this vest, please do not be alarmed; they are simply verifying details related to your improvement.

Mass Appraisal vs. Individual Appraisal

It's important to understand the difference between mass appraisal and individual appraisal:

- **Mass Appraisal:** This process evaluates a large number of properties at once, using statistical methods to ensure consistency and fairness across assessments. The focus is on general trends in the area.
- **Individual Appraisal:** This type of appraisal is more detailed and typically requested by individual homeowners or buyers. An appraiser assesses specific properties, considering unique characteristics that may not apply universally.

Encouraging Understanding

We recognize that property assessments can be complex, and our goal is to ensure transparency and fairness. While we strive to make accurate assessments based on available data, we appreciate your understanding as we work together to maintain a fair assessment process for everyone in our community.



Resident Assistance Programs

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open Enrollment takes place from October 15th to December 7th each year. During this time, it's important to review and decide whether you want to keep or change your prescription drug coverage (Part D) or Medicare Advantage plan to best suit your needs in 2025.

Medicare drug plans (Part D) and Medicare Advantage plans typically modify their benefits and costs, including premiums, deductibles, drug coverage, extra benefits, and in-network and out-of-network providers and pharmacies.

Appointments are available to speak with a SHIP counselor to discuss the new changes in your benefits and/or to receive guidance in signing up for a new plan.

**Vernon Township is a host site for the Illinois Department on Aging Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP). SHIP is a national program that provides FREE counseling and information on Medicare.*

BENEFIT ACCESS PROGRAM (BAP)

The Illinois Department on Aging along with the Illinois Secretary of State and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) created a program called Benefit Access for seniors 65+ and people with disabilities that are income-eligible receive a discount on their license plate renewal sticker and a Ride Free RTA card.

REDUCED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FARES

Reduced fares are available to all seniors 65+ and people with disabilities thanks to the RTA, CTA, Metra, and Pace which offer various programs to assist qualified riders in lowering their costs to ride public transportation.

For more information, answers to questions, or appointments regarding any of these programs, please contact Alex at 847-634-4600 or by e-mail at alex@vernontownship.com.

VERNON TOWNSHIP 50/50 TAXI PROGRAM

Vernon Township has partnered with American Taxi Company to provide a Reduced-Fare Taxi Coupon Program for Seniors 60+ and Disabled residents.

The program offers voucher coupons that are purchased for \$1.50 with a coupon value of \$3.00. Coupons are sold in \$15 increments and limited to \$75 per household, per month, to be used with American Taxi Company. The coupons may be used for transportation anywhere in the Chicagoland area **except to any airport**. Coupons must be purchased with **check or cash only**. First time users must register for the program and prove residency with a valid state ID card or driver's license.





Vernon Township Summer Camp

June 16th, 2025- August 1st, 2025

Learn more,
register starting
1/27/25



Registration Opens:
Returning Campers January 27th
New Campers January 29th

Vernon Township is dedicated to creating a fun, educational, and enjoyable camp experience for all participants. Each day is filled with engaging activities such as arts and crafts, games, sports, swimming, complete with swim lessons every third day—and much more! Vernon Township summer camp is for children who will be 4-7 years old on or before September 1st, 2025.

Registration will open on January 29th, 2025, to all residents. All registrations must be completed through our website Vernontownship.com. Camp enrollment will be accepted on a first come first served basis, priority will be given to Vernon Township residents and returning campers. Follow the QR code above for more information.

Days: Monday-Friday **Time:** 9am-2pm
Fee: Resident: \$1495 Non-Resident \$2245
Location: Peterson Park- 16652 N. Buffalo Grove Rd.

VERNON TOWNSHIP IS HIRING FOR SUMMER POSITIONS!

Applications will open in February at Vernontownship.com. All applicants must be 15 or older. We are looking for enthusiastic and responsible applicants to join our team.

CAMP COUNSELORS

- Camp runs June 16th- August 1st
- Gain experience working with children
- Gain leadership experience while leading groups of 4-7-year-olds.

LIFEGUARDS

- Flexible hours, and Red Cross training provided
- Supplement income with private swimming lessons
- Monitor pool areas and ensure safety

POOL ATTENDANTS

- Flexible hours, and Red Cross certification
- Develop skills in customer relations
- Help maintain a fun and welcoming environment

Looking to Rent Event Space?

Vernon Township Community Service Building
2900 N. Main St. Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

The Community Service Building (CSB) is available for rent to host your next event. Birthdays, anniversaries, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, HOA meetings, holiday parties, etc. are all welcome.

CSB RENTAL RATES

Monday-Friday \$50/HR
Friday Evening- Sunday \$100/HR



** New rental rules are coming in January, please visit our website for more information**

Senior Programs

PRIME TIMERS

Join us on Mondays at the Community Service Building (2900 N Main St. Buffalo Grove) from 11:45am-3:00pm to play Hand and Foot, a variation of Canasta. Never played? We would love to teach you how. Light snacks and coffee will be provided.

MAHJONG OPEN PLAY

Join us in the CSB 2900 N. Main St. for Mahjong (American version), open play on Tuesdays 10:30-1:30. This activity is self-led and open to experienced players.

JCC COMMUNITY DAYS

Twice a month on Thursdays, the Jewish Community Centers of Chicago (JCC) will offer entertainment, a presentation, or discussion. Meet old friends and make new ones in a relaxed and inclusive environment. Meetings will be held at 2900 N. Main St., Buffalo Grove. Registration is required, please contact Hillary Wenk, hwenk@jccchicago.org or call (224) 406-9257.

For more information or answers to questions regarding any of these programs, please contact Chris at 847-634-4600 or by e-mail at chris@vernontownship.com unless otherwise noted.

Marriott Lincolnshire Theater



Looking for something fun to do on a Wednesday afternoon? Treat yourself and your friends to an unforgettable experience with these fan-favorite musicals! Arrive early to enjoy lunch at one of the restaurants at Marriott Lincolnshire Resort, then settle in for a delightful matinee performance starting at 1 PM. Tickets for the show are just \$44 each. Don't miss out on a great day! Descriptions of the musicals can be found on the Marriott Website: Marriotttheatre.com.

Name: _____

Phone # _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

All Shows Are Wednesday at 1:00pm

Send your payments to Chris at Vernon Township, 3050 N. Main St., Buffalo Grove IL 60089. Checks should be made out to Vernon Township, the tickets will be mailed to your home prior to each performance.

Performance	Performance Date	> Payment Due	# Of Tickets: \$44 Each
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	February 26, 2025	January 17, 2025	
Titanic	May 7, 2025	March 28, 2025	
Always Something There...	July 16, 2025	June 6, 2025	
Catch Me if you Can	September 17, 2025	August 8, 2025	
Million Dollar Quartet	December 10, 2025	October 31, 2025	

(Limit of 4 tickets per household, nonrefundable, nontransferable)



Tim Kobler, Supervisor
3050 N. Main St.
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No.22
Lincolnshire, IL
60069

ECRWS POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL

Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicapped Status. The Vernon Township Government does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment of employment in, its programs or activities. Todd Gedville of 3050 N. Main St., Buffalo Grove, Illinois has been designated to coordinate compliance with federal nondiscrimination requirements.

SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY THIS GIVING TUESDAY!

Looking to donate this upcoming Giving Tuesday?
Why not keep your donation local and help your
neighbors in need.

Consider giving to the Food Pantry at:
<https://verrontownship.com/157/Food-Pantry>



< DONATE HERE!

Public Safety Phone Numbers



NON-EMERGENCY/POLICE

Lake County Sheriff's Police.....(847) 549-5200
Buffalo Grove Police Department(847) 459-2560
Lake Forest Police Department(847) 234-2601
Lincolnshire Police Department(847) 883-9900
Riverwoods Police Department.....(847) 945-1130
Vernon Hills Police Department.....(847) 362-4449

FOR ROAD CONDITIONS

IDOT(800) 452-4368
Tollways(800) 865-5394

NON-EMERGENCY/FIRE

Buffalo Grove Fire Department(847) 537-0995
Countryside Fire Protection District(847) 367-5511
Lake Forest Fire Department.....(847) 234-2601
Long Grove Fire Protection District.....(847) 634-3143
Lincolnshire / Riverwoods Fire Protection...(847) 634-2512

OTHER NUMBERS

Illinois Poison Center.....(800) 222-1222
Commonwealth Edison.....(800) 334-7661
NICOR.....(888) 642-6748
Peoples Energy.....(847) 336-7400
Ride Lake County.....(800) 201-6446