



Elk Grove Township

PUBLISHED JANUARY 2020

WE'RE MOVING!

Our new facility includes all Elk Grove Township services under one roof!

Elk Grove Township
600 Landmeier Rd.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
847-437-0300

February 18, 2020!

Happy New Year! I am wishing all of you a healthy and prosperous 2020. At Elk Grove Township we are looking forward to another exciting year of working with you and serving you in any way that we can. To all our generous donors who help us provide meals, warm clothes, gifts, and smiles during the holiday season, I cannot thank you enough for your kindness. Without your support we could not brighten the lives of those we serve. We have included words of thanks from some of our Operation Christmas recipients in this newsletter. For those who donated throughout 2019, your ongoing support means the world to us and our clients.

For those who may need some assistance, or have friends or family members in need of help, please take some time to review the services Elk Grove Township offers. Regardless of the difficulties you may be facing, the township has incredible staff members who are ready point you in the right direction. Through our direct services and community partnerships, individuals can receive property tax assistance, utility bill relief, access to oral health services, senior and disabled transportation, adult and family counseling, and more. In addition, Elk Grove Township processes passport applications, sells hunting and fishing licenses, and is available to answer your election questions.

Please contact the township if you have any questions. Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve you.

Regards, Michael H. Sweeney

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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Assessing the Situation

As we begin 2020, my staff and I wish you good health and happiness for you and your families. It is important to take stock at this time of year to make sure that you file for all of the property tax exemptions that you are entitled to.

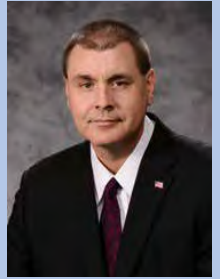


- Homestead Exemption (also known as Homeowner's Exemption)-You must have purchased and occupied your principle residence prior to January 1, 2019. This exemption reduces your assessed value by \$10,000 times the tax rate.
- Senior Citizen Exemption-You must be 65 years of age or older and living in your primary residence. This exemption reduces your assessed value by \$8,000 times the tax rate. If you have had the Senior Exemption in the past year you do not need to reapply, as the law has changed. The exemption now automatically renews. If you want to verify that your Senior Exemption is in place, simply call or come into our office.
- Senior Freeze Exemption- You must be 65 year of age or older with a total household income of \$65,000 or less. This exemption must be applied for every year, it does not automatically renew. To apply for a renewal, bring your 2018 Federal Income Tax return and my staff will assist you in filing. If you haven't qualified in the past, please bring in your 2018 tax return, ID and your last property tax bill. The forms for this exemption should be available in early January.
- Disabled Person Exemption-This exemption is valued at \$2,000 time the tax rate. Please call to learn what documents you need to apply.
- Disabled Veteran Exemption-If you are a veteran and 30-49% disabled, \$2,500 times the tax rate is available to you.
 - If you are 50-69% disabled, \$5,000 times the tax rate is available to you.
 - If you are 70% or more disabled, you will no longer pay a property tax bill. If this is an exemption you might qualify for, call or come into the office to learn the documentation you need to have for filing. Also, you will learn all of the benefits of this exemption.

Although this is not a triennial reassessment year, you need to be aware that you will still have two opportunities to appeal your assessed value. The first with the Cook County Assessor's Office, and the second is with the Cook County Board of Review. If you are not on our phone or email list, it would be in your best interest to share that information with us so that we can keep you informed regarding appeal windows and outreach programs.

My staff and I look forward to our new location. We have also embraced the newest technology to ensure that we provide you the best service and continue to be your taxpayer advocate.

News from your Highway Commissioner



As we approach the end of the 2019–2020 snow season, the Elk Grove Township Highway Department is well prepared for anything that Mother Nature might bring. We have a commitment to maintain Township roads and keep them free from ice and snow.

Please remember to check and be sure that drainage areas and culverts are free of any debris that might reduce the drainage of melting snow near other property owners' areas. This will help the flow of melting snow, and will help reduce flooding.

Lastly, please do not discharge any snow from private areas onto any streets. This practice is not only inconsiderate to our neighbors and the general public, but is also illegal. In the past, Cook County Sherriff 's Police have been aggressively monitoring and cracking down on such violators.

**We will be closed on
Monday February 17th
for**

**PRESIDENTS
DAY**

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Clerks Corner

The framers of the Constitution chose population to be the basis for sharing political power, not wealth or land. *"Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among several States which may be included with this Union according to their respective numbers..."* Article 1, Section 2. Every ten years a census is conducted that aims to count the entire population of the United States and gathers key information about them.



The census information is used for multiple purposes. *First* and foremost, the census count will determine the number of seats for each state in the House of Representatives. If a State loses population or is undercounted it will lose seats to other States that record an increase in population. *Second*, state and local officials use the census count to redraw boundaries for congressional districts, state legislative districts, school and other districts. An improper census count produces poorly drawn and, possibly, poorly represented/funded districts. *Third*, many federal programs use census information to help direct funding decisions. The census results will help determine how more than \$675 billion in federal funding will be allocated to states and communities. Incomplete census data could mean less money for your local schools, hospitals, roads and other public services. *Fourth*, state and local government use the census information for decisions concerning public services, public safety, and other public programs. Without proper information, services and programs in your community could be reduced or eliminated. Finally, *fifth*, businesses often use the census data to decide where to situate their offices, stores, and factories. Developers use the data to decide where to build homes and apartments. New businesses and homes usually bring jobs and higher incomes. In short, the information gathered through the census will directly impact you and your community in multiple ways. There is every reason to fully participate in the census in order to ensure that our communities receive the representation and funding that we deserve.

Census Day will be observed nationwide on April 1st. By this date, all households should have received a request to participate in the census. There will be three options for responding to the request: online, by phone or by mail. Note that the information collected by the census can only be used for statistical purposes. It is against the law for the Census Bureau to publically release or share your responses in any way that could identify you or anyone in your household.

For more information about the 2020 Census or to learn how to apply for 2020 Census job, check out the census website at www.census.gov.

Spotlight on the Young at Heart

55+

Are you aware of the wide array of services available to residents over 55 years old? Check out what Elk Grove Township can do for you!

Counseling Services- Professional counselors will see residents dealing with a variety of issues like depression, anxiety, trauma, family relationship issues, etc. Sliding fee scale.

Financial Assistance- See page 5 for more.

- Emergency Assistance
- LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)-
- PIPP (Percentage of Income Payment Plan)
- Com Ed Hardship
- Nicor Sharing
- Salvation Army Funds
- Community Empowerment Fund

Health Resources

- Access to Care
- Mobil Dental Clinic (see page 5)
- Prescription Drug Discount Card

Transportation Assistance- See page 9 for more information.

- Senior/Disabled Bus
- Taxi Vouchers
- TRIP program (low cost bus service outside township borders for medical appts.)

Food Assistance- See page 4 for more information.

Employment Help- See page 10 for more information:

- Employment Support Center
- Job Boards
- Job Fairs

**Don't see the type of assistance you need?
CALL US! We have a large information and
referral network and we're happy to direct you!**

847-437-0300



Exciting Food Pantry News!

One of the benefits of our move to a new facility is that we are now shifting from pre-packed bags of groceries to a Client Choice model. Here's more information about what you can expect about our new 2,400 square ft. food pantry!

What is a Client Choice Pantry? A Client Choice Pantry allows clients to select their own food instead of receiving a pre-packed or a standard bag of groceries. With this method, clients do not have to take items they already have, do not like, or cannot eat for health or personal reasons. In our new pantry, clients will "shop" from an array for shelf-stable items, meats, dairy, and fresh produce.

Why give clients a choice? Some of the benefits of Choice Pantries are:

- Limit food waste - customers take food they will use and leave the rest for others
- Save money for the pantry
- Make ordering easier - pantries know what popular food to stock
- Uphold the dignity of clients
- Meet clients' health needs
- Allows clients to enjoy the feeling of food shopping for their own food and needs
- Help pantry workers get to know clients better



How do I use the Elk Grove Township Food Pantry? Prior to using the pantry, all clients must first visit our Social Services Department in order to receive their Food Pantry Card. The requirements are that you reside in the township and bring proof of that residence (a current utility or medical bill mailed to your home address within the last 30 days) and a photo ID. Our friendly staff will also screen you for additional programs that may be of benefit to you. Once you have your card, you may visit the pantry ONCE per calendar month.

Our current hours of operation are:

Monday: 9:00am-3:30pm (closed from 12:00pm-1:00pm)

Tuesday: 9:00am-3:30pm (closed from 12:00pm-1:00pm)

Thursday: 9:00am-3:30pm (closed from 12:00pm-1:00pm)



We're here to help...

We know it's hard to ask, but... small problems can quickly turn into large ones, if not attended to immediately. We know, and we are here to help. If you're a resident and find yourself in need, **DON'T WAIT!**

We have lots of different financial funds to draw from, in addition to information and referral resources. Please take the first steps to move forward by calling the Social Services office at:

847-437-0300

IMPORTANT Energy Bill Assistance

Elk Grove Township is an application site for the LIHEAP program, please see program details below.

Direct Vendor Payment (DVP) and Reconnection Assistance (RA) is designed to assist income-eligible households with energy services, in the form of a one-time benefit payment to the utility companies that is applied directly to the household's energy bills. The amount of the payment is determined by income, household size, and fuel type. RA is used to prevent or reconnect disconnected households.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

To Schedule your appointment, please call **847-437-0300** and speak to our Social Services office. We will be happy to pre-screen you, set up your appointment, and give you a list of documents necessary for application. **Please note, in order to give our full attention to each client we cannot accept walk-ins.**

Gas Bill Relief

The Nicor Gas Sharing Program may be available to those over income for LIHEAP. The



program offers a one-time annual grant, with **no** requirement to be paid back, to qualified residential customers who meet the required income guidelines. Nicor Sharing program is through direct contributions from Nicor Gas' customers and employees. If you're approved for a Sharing Grant, the Salvation Army will make payments to Nicor Gas on your behalf. Customers can receive a Sharing Grant of up to \$450 and special programs are designed for veterans and customers in crisis situations. Call our Social Services office for more information.

847-437-0300

Mobile Dental Clinic



There is an undeniable link between overall health and oral health. Studies show that poor oral health may be linked to heart disease, stroke, pre-term childbirth and oral cancer.

The Mobile Dental Clinic program provides preventive and restorative oral health services to individuals and families who are without dental insurance and who live at less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The program emphasizes the importance of overall oral health and establishing a permanent dental home. Staff includes a full-time dentist, program manager and dental assistant.

Elk Grove Township residents are screened by the township's Social Services staff to determine eligibility for treatment. A \$30 co-pay is charged for each adult appointment and there is no co-pay for children. For more information and to schedule an appointment, please contact Elk Grove Township General Assistance Office at 847-437-0300.

Holiday Programs 2019

We are most grateful to those of you that donated to our holiday programs this year. You are the reason that so many of our residents in need celebrated the season with joy and hope.

You help us to live out our mission: Empowering People through Community.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS:

Christmas gifts mean the world to a child and the parents that are fortunate enough to be able to provide exactly what the child needs and desires. Many of Elk Grove Township residents are struggling financially and cannot afford this simple pleasure.

It is with an abundance of gratitude that we thank the residents of Elk Grove Township for the kindness shown to their neighbors in need. It is only through you that Elk Grove Township was able to provide for children in need this holiday season. Moms and Dads picked up holiday gift cards that enabled them to purchase toys, books, and games, along with necessities like winter coats, clothes, and shoes for their children.

Here are some of the words of thanks that we received from the families:

"Thank you so much for the gift card. I am excited to purchase boots from my child!"- R

"Thanks you for the gift cards. Your kindness, generous and giving means so much to my family. I am excited purchase some baby outfits for my little one. Happy holidays!"- C

"This has been a devastatingly hard year for our family and I am tremendously grateful for your help in providing my little ones with gifts to go underneath the Christmas Tree!"- E

"I am excited to purchase a DVD and maybe an outfit for my daughter."- R

"This is a very special Christmas and it's because of your help. Thank you so much."- D

"Thank you for help with Christmas presents, especially for my son who wants items of sport—he loves to play soccer!" - Y

"I appreciate your help in providing for my family."- G

"This has been the hardest year of our lives and I want to sincerely thank you for the generous gift you have made for my 3 year old toddler. I am so excited to purchase Disney pajamas and a winter coat for her. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!"-E

"I appreciate your help in getting my daughter her Christmas wish."- M

"I appreciate your kindness. Without your help, I would not have the funds to purchase any FUN things for my 3 year old. Being on a fixed income, it is a struggle to provide 'extras' like presents. Because of you, our family will have a happy Christmas."- K

"I am excited to go Christmas shopping for my kids to bring some joy into their lives."- V

"This is so kind of you...for helping and making Christmas time more joyful for people who can't afford to buy presents. I wish you a wonderful Christmas!"- L

"Gracias de todo Corazon por el regalo que me dieron...Tengan una Feliz Navidad y prospero Ano Nuevo." -G

Marijuana is Now Legal: What Parents Should Know

From the Adult and Family Counseling “Parenting Tool Box.”



As most of you know, on January 1st recreational marijuana (cannabis) became legal for adults over 21 to purchase and consume in Illinois. This new environment may present a more complex set of challenges for parents who are trying to raise their children to make healthy choices, while worrying about the “mixed message” that legalization may send to them.

So, let’s take a moment to clarify what has, and what has NOT changed.

- 1) Marijuana is still ILLEGAL for young people up to age 21, and there are consequences for violating possession/use laws, just as with any other violation of the law.
- 2) Marijuana use does impact performance: impairing short-term memory, attention, and problem-solving.
- 3) Marijuana can impair the safe operation of a motorized vehicle.
- 4) Marijuana use can permanently impair brain functioning if used during adolescence (the human brain is still developing until the early 20’s, and research is showing long term effects for adolescent use).
- 5) Talking about marijuana with your children does NOT lead to them using.
- 6) Parental marijuana use in front of kids is associated with risk of use by their children.

So, all of the above have NOT changed. The only thing that has changed is that adults (over 21) can legally purchase small quantities of marijuana, and use it in the privacy of their homes.

The best advice for parents, therefore, is to talk with your children about marijuana—not in a “preachy” way but in a conversation, where you “listen,” and give them a chance to share what they think about it. Of course, you should feel free to express your concerns about marijuana use (not unlike alcohol use), and even share the concern about the effects of use on current performance, safety, and long-term brain development. And, as with other expectations, set clear boundaries around substance use: rules and consequences. Even be open to asking for a commitment to call for a ride if impaired (you don’t get out of some consequence, but you are SAFE).

For More Information, call the Adult and Family Counseling Department. 847-981-0373

Youth Services



The Elk Grove Township Youth Services Department proudly serves Township residents with an array of services intended to empower area youth. Initially launched in 1972, the Youth Services Department has served thousands of residents.

Youth Services provides one of the most innovative youth programs in the Chicago area. Its key feature is utilizing experiential learning which engages learners in direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, develop life skills, clarify values, and develop people’s capacity to contribute to their communities.

The skills we help develop are goal setting, problem-solving, listening, managing emotions, and becoming a good team member. Youth Services Coordinator, Renee Dorn says, “we empower young people to improve life skills and to give them the tools they need to be successful with families and friends, at school and in their future work lives.”

We provide programs for various groups such as boy scouts, girl scouts, sports teams and church groups.

Please contact our Youth Services Department by calling 847-981-0373 or email rdorn@elkgrovetownship.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING

January 28- Woodfield Mall/Bus Trip-Culvers

February 17- Office closed for President's Day

February 18- **NEW LOCATION OPEN!**

Elk Grove Township
600 Landmeier Rd.
Elk Grove Village, 60007

February 20- Panera Bread/Bus Trip

March 24- Senior Celebration Day

Senior/Disabled Transportation

Elk Grove Township Transportation department can offer a solution to get you to doctor appointments or the grocery store safely during these hazardous winter months. You can use our services exclusively, or just when you need to. We offer curb-to-curb service to senior citizens (over 55) and disabled residents (over 18).

Township buses can take you to your favorite local places to do your shopping and to the pharmacy, fitness center, as well as to your doctor, dentist, optometrist or dialysis appointments. All rides within the township borders are FREE (free-will offering) and you can take one round trip ride each day Monday-Friday, as buses are available.

In addition to curb-to-curb services, we also offer occasional bus trips (See schedule above↑ bus trips are in purple) and the TRIP program that will take residents to medical appointments outside our township boundaries. Discount taxi vouchers are also available.



Give us a call at 847-437-0300 to get more information about our transportation services and to find out how to register!

THANK YOU!

We would like to say a HUGE "Thank You" to our generous (and often "ongoing") donors.

We could not do what we do without YOU!

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- Faith Community Homes
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- Kindred at Home
- Community Consolidated School Dist. 59
- Friends of My. Prospect Library
- Ready to Learn
- Lions Club of Elk Grove Village
- Grand Prarie Transit
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- Wings
- The Hearn Company
- The South Church
- TOPS 151 MP
- Topco
- Lions Club of Arlington Heights
- Encore of Arlington Heights
- Aritsu Infivis Inc.
- Breakfast Club of Elk Grove Village
- Peacock Middle School
- United Rentals
- American Eagle
- Ceva
- Apple Vacations
- Arc-Tronics Inc.
- OHI
- Elk Grove Village VFW 9284 and Auxillary
- Fastmore
- Mueller Ornamental Iron Works
- NW Village Realty
- St. Paul Lutheran Bible Study
- Superior Corporation of Illinois
- Bancroft Architects and Engineers
- Rogers Vending Co. Inc.
- Redemption Bible Church
- Ceridian
- Porte Brown

Elk Grove Township Employment Support Center

Local People. Local Jobs.

Contact us:

(224) 222-0935 or
jobhelp@elkgrovetownship.com

Hours of Operation:

Wednesdays. 9:00am-2:00pm

Services Available:

- Impactful Introductory Emails
- LinkedIn Profile Critique
- Networking Ideas
- Job Search/Interviewing Practice
- Employment-related Websites
- Current Local Employer Job Brd

Did you know:

A Pew Research Center analysis of 2018 labor force data found that 29% of Boomers ages 65 to 72 were working or looking for work. More older Americans are working than in previous decades. Give us a call if you are a job-seeking "Boomer". We may be able to help you.



Do you have plans to travel in the coming months?

Elk Grove Township provides Passport services! Please call 847-437-0300 to schedule an appointment with us. Appointments for passport book or card can be made for both adult and children. Please allow a 6-week turnaround time. (Expedited services are available.)

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Journey of the Heart

Caregiver Support Group



A support group designed
to address the unique
needs of those caring for
someone with memory loss

Every 1st Wednesday of the Month
4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Caregiving requires courage, fortitude, and perseverance. It is a **Journey of the Heart**. Join us to:

- Learn practical caregiving information
- Get mutual support
- Learn about your local community resources
- Find solutions to challenging behaviors

Adult day care will be provided by qualified staff. Please ask for this service when making your reservation.

RSVP: 847.534.8815 or ElkGrove@arden-courts.com



arden-courts.com

Arden Courts
Memory Care Community

1940 Nerge Road • Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
847.534.8815 • ElkGrove@arden-courts.com

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847-741-4100 elginrecycling.com

Mention the **EGT NEWSLETTER**, you will receive **\$5 OFF** the recycling fee of each TV/monitor brought in to our Arlington Heights Location.

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can help!

se habla español

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WITH HIGH DEDUCTIBLES.

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Eligibility is income based: at or below \$37,470 for a family size of one, at or below \$77,250 for a family size of four. Access to Care is a primary health care program.

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Elk Grove Township



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Trapp FINANCIAL

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Whether you are new to utilizing professional financial services, or if you would simply like a thorough second opinion on how your portfolio is being managed, we invite you to contact our office to schedule your no pressure, no obligation appointment.



When you partner with us, we are your advocate.

We work with individuals and business owners to articulate your investing goals, creating a strategy that is consistent with your objectives and values.

Entrepreneurs & Business Owners

We know that running a business can be exhilarating but all-consuming. Let us help you protect your family and your business by building a plan that considers your full financial picture. Whether you need assistance with a company sponsored retirement plan such as a 401(k) or SEP IRA, benefits for key employees, or a business continuity plan, we will help tailor a strategy that suits your needs.

Tax Analysis & Planning

We review your tax return and determine if there are any opportunities to save on taxes. We also review how much tax should be withheld from your investments if you are utilizing them as an income stream. In coordination with your estate planning, we also discuss estate and inheritance taxes and if they will have any implications on your loved ones when you are gone.

Retirement Planning

We assist you with identifying your retirement goals and objectives as well as review your sources of income during your retirement years. Your income sources include things such as social security, pensions, and your other investments that may provide an income stream to develop your "paycheck" in retirement.

Why Work with a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™

At all times when providing financial advice to a client, a CFP® professional must act as a fiduciary, and therefore, act in the best interest of the client.

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CFP® professionals understand the complexities of the changing financial climate and are committed to make financial planning recommendations in your best interest.

Contact our office to schedule an appointment today!

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Elk Grove Township Information

Hours Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Phone (voice) (847) 437-0300
Email admin@elkgrovetownship.com

Highway Department & Storm Water Issues
(847)437-0430
Fax (847) 437-0434

Board Meetings
4th Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
2400 S. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005