

# Rose CLIPPINGS

Spring 2011

Est. 1892

*The Village of La Grange Park*

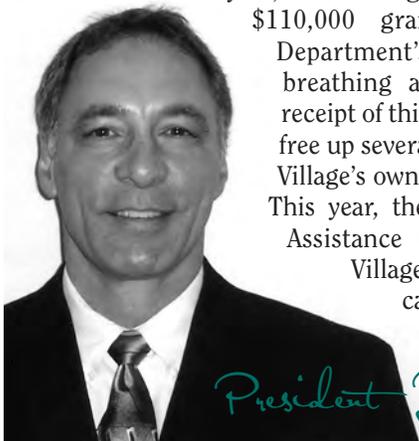
## President's Corner

**I**t is official – it's Spring – and after the snow we had this Winter, it is most welcomed! As always, I am looking forward to the season in its full bloom and the promise of new things to come. This year we continue to move forward as a Village and I am pleased to be able to give you the update.

The Village Board's tough budgetary decisions in the last couple of years have thus far sustained us through the impacts of the recession. Last year's projected shortfall in the general revenues motivated the Village Board's quick response in implementing cost cutting measures, making adjustments wherever possible to ensure financial stability today and to better position the Village in the future. Due to strong fiscal management, and although the budget is preliminary, it looks as though the Village will be able to proceed with some capital projects in the upcoming fiscal year. I encourage residents to visit the Village's website to view the draft budget to see what is being considered.

Being proactive with grant opportunities will help the Village accomplish some of the projects listed in the draft budget. The Village received a \$192,000 IDOT grant to reconstruct one block each of Blanchan and Morgan from 31st Street to 30th. The Village has also received a \$150,000 grant to replace the emergency generator at Village Hall, which provides backup power for the Village's 911 communication's system. This fiscal

year, the Village was successful with a \$110,000 grant to replace the Fire Department's SCBA (self contained breathing apparatus) equipment. The receipt of this grant allowed the Village to free up several thousands of dollars of the Village's own funds in the Five Year Plan. This year, the Village received a Justice Assistance Grant, which allowed the Village to purchase a new squad car, also saving the Village



*President James J. Discipio*

several thousands of dollars. The draft budget includes the replacement of 75 Ash trees, as part of the Village's Emerald Ash Borer Readiness Plan, which is mostly grant funded through a federal government program.

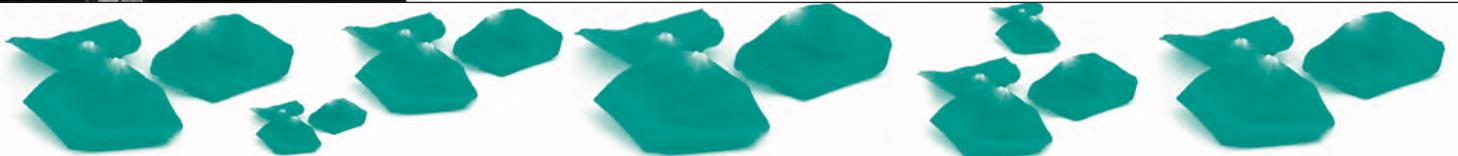
This spring will bring some new changes for the Village. In late March, the Village signed a new three-year contract with Allied Waste, its current waste hauler. With the new contract, program fees increases were kept to a minimum while providing residents with the additional benefit of a Twin Toter program. For more information, please turn to page 3. The Twin Toter program is not only convenient, but it will keep the Village cleaner on garbage pick up day.

In anticipation of the springtime "showery" weather, the Village is working hard to get some new programs in place. Through the Village's Engineering and Capital Projects Committee, the Village is working on evaluating a number of strategies to mitigate flooding and the impacts of heavy rain. To read more about what the Committee is working on, turn to page 6.

This springtime, I encourage residents to think about those in our community who have made a difference. The Village's Arbor Day Tree Planting Program is our way of commemorating those in our Village who have given so much. To nominate someone deserving for this award, see page 5. Finally, the Village's Youth Commission will be hosting the Community Volunteering weekend on April 30th and May 1. If you know a neighbor who is in need of assistance with outdoor chores, please read up on this program on page 4.

Indeed there is much happening in our Village, and it is important that residents stay informed. The Village will soon be planning its 2nd Annual State of the Village Address, which will be held in late May. Stay tuned for that meeting date – as the public is most welcomed to attend.

Again, it is a privilege to serve as your President. Please feel free to contact me at anytime. My door is always open, my phone is always on. Thank you! Jim.



## 2011 Yard Waste & Brush Collection Program

Spring is here! It's time for baseball, golf, backyard barbecues and of course, yard work! Just as a reminder, the Village has two programs to help you keep your yards looking beautiful:

The **Yard Waste Program** is available through our waste hauler, Allied Waste. Allied Waste will accept yard waste with an Allied Waste service sticker from April through early December. All containers and bundles should be at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on Thursday. A yard waste sticker must be affixed to each bag or bundle. If you use a can, please loop the yard waste sticker around one of its handles. Yard waste is collected either in heavy-duty paper bags or smaller garbage cans. To be used for yard waste, garbage cans must have two handles, be no larger than 35 gallons, and be marked for yard waste. The "Yard Waste" marking must be visible from the street. "Yard Waste" decals are available at Village Hall. Cans or bags should weigh no more than fifty pounds. Oversize cans are the largest cause of injury to garbage truck drivers. When you purchase a garbage can, please verify its size. Oversized cans will not be emptied.

Allied Waste collects bundled brush along with other yard waste. Brush and branches must be securely bundled with bio-degradable twine or rope. Each bundle must be no more than four feet in length, two feet in diameter and weigh no more than fifty pounds. Individual branches must be no larger than three inches in diameter. A yard waste sticker must be affixed to each bundle. Please call the Village of La Grange Park at 354-0225 or Allied Waste Customer Service at 708-345-7050 if you have any questions.

The **Brush Collection Program** begins May 2. Through the program, Village Public Works crews pick up tree branches and brush debris that are stacked in neat piles on the parkway. (Please see guidelines for pick-up). The Village will conduct a pickup during the first full week of each month from May 2 through the week of October 3. The Public Works Department will rotate the order of collection from week to week so that different areas of town will be serviced first each week. Therefore, it is very important that all brush to be collected be set out prior to Monday of the collection week.

### The Village's 2011 Brush Removal Schedule

AREA 1 is West of La Grange Road

AREA 2 is all streets from La Grange Rd east to the IHB Railroad

AREA 3 is all streets east of the IHB Railroad

Start of Program each Month/Week      Estimated progress of program per week Days/Area

START DATE	AREA 1	AREA 2	AREA 3
May 2	Mon/Tues	Wed/Thurs	Thurs/Fri
June 6	Thurs/Fri	Mon/Tues	Wed/Thurs
July 5	Wed/Thurs	Thurs/Fri	Tues/Wed
August 1	Mon/Tues	Wed/Thurs	Thurs/Fri
September 5	Thurs/Fri	Tues/Wed	Wed/Thurs
October 3	Wed/Thurs	Thurs/Fri	Mon/Tues



## Guidelines for the Brush Collection Program

*Brush should be on the parkway prior to the Monday of the brush pickup week.*

*Brush not on the parkway when crews go by may not be picked up.*

- Brush must be stacked neatly on the parkway, piled no more than 4-feet high, with the butt end facing the curb.
- Keep brush piles away from trees and signs in the parkway.
- If narrow parkways would cause your brush to extend into the sidewalk, the brush may be piled parallel to curb.
- Brush must be no longer than 6-feet in length and 4-inches in diameter.
- Logs must be cut into small, manageable pieces, and should be kept separate from brush.
- Stumps and root balls will not be picked up. They should be removed from trees or bushes.
- Brush should not be piled in such a manner as to interfere with motorist visibility at intersections.
- Brush must be free of all wire, tape, rope, or other inorganic materials.
- General yard waste (*grass clippings, leaves, weeds, etc.*) will not be picked up during brush pickup.
- Brush pickup is for residents who have performed tree or brush work on their property only. If no evidence exists that work has been performed on the property, the Village reserves the right to charge the resident for this service. The brush will not be picked up until it is possible to add to our work schedule in the future and a check for payment of services is received.
- Contractors working for the homeowners are not allowed to use this service since we are not able to handle the quantity of brush that they produce. If evidence exists of contractors placing tree or brush debris at the curb, the Village will charge the resident for this service.

# New Refuse Agreement - Same Great Service

After reviewing a number of proposals from the Village's current residential waste hauler, the Village Board approved a new three-year agreement with Allied Waste that goes into effect on April 1, 2011. The Village chose to renegotiate with the current hauler because prices continue to be lower than the competition and the Village wanted to maintain its reliable service with the same program structure and have the entire Village served on the same garbage day.

**Under the new agreement, the existing program remains the same and one additional service option is added to the mix.**

## Newly Added – Twin Toter Program!

Residents now have the option of subscribing to the 65 Gallon Twin Toter program for the monthly cost of \$14.70 plus the monthly fee of \$4.80, for a monthly total cost of \$19.50. This program includes one 65 gallon roll-out toter (with lid) for waste and one for recycling and is ideal for families who throw out two cans of garbage per week, as they will realize a \$8.68 savings per month over the sticker program. Residents who currently subscribe to the 96 gallon toter will receive a 65 gallon recycle toter at no additional cost. Soon residents will be notified as to the option to switch from the 96 gallon toter to the 65 gallon toter, or opt in to the Twin Toter Program altogether. Watch your mail for information on this program. Residents may also contact Allied Waste at 708-345-7050 or Village Hall at 354-0225, to get started with the Twin Toter program.



## Contract Summary:

- Effective April 1, 2011
- Same garbage day – Thursday
- Affects single and two-unit homes
- Each 35-gallon can (50 lbs. limit) requires one sticker - \$2.70 each
- Residents may continue the sticker option or choose the Toter option
- Toter (65 or 96 gallon) programs now include a Recycle Toter at no additional cost
- Backdoor pick-up continues to be an option – call Allied to request
- Annual community clean-up day (typically in October) where households can purge all unwanted (non-hazardous) waste for just four stickers.

## New Prices

The pricing structure stays the same with one waste sticker for each can / bag of trash or waste and a monthly fee on the water bill. Effective April 1, 2011, the new fees will be:

	<i>April 1, 2011</i>	<i>Previously</i>
Sticker	\$2.70	\$2.60
Monthly Fee	\$4.80	\$4.50
96 Gallon Toter (+65 gal. recycling toter!)	\$18.20 (+the monthly fee)	\$18.00
65 Gallon Twin Toters ( <i>New!</i> )	\$14.70 (+the monthly fee)	Not offered

Overall, the Village's program offers the same hybrid volume based + monthly fee as it has since 2007. The monthly fee acts as a minimum charge in the same way as utilities charge a minimum fee - there is a cost associated with just getting the service to the door. The company has to pass your house whether or not you put out the trash. The minimum fee covers that basic cost and stabilizes the sticker price.

Now the Village's residential waste program offers the Twin Toter option – which is a cleaner, more convenient, and more affordable option for families who have greater refuse and recycling on a weekly basis. Below is a guide for determining which program is the most cost effective option per household.

## Which Program Is Best For You?

### If You Throw Away

One bag or can per week (or less) . . . . . Sticker Program

Two bags or cans per week (6 to 8 per month) . . . . . 65 Gallon Twin Toters

Three bags or cans per week (9+ per month) . . . . . 96 Gallon Toter  
(w/ 65 Gallon recycling bin)

### Then Choose...



## Village of La Grange Park Seeking New Members for Youth Commission

The Village is seeking applications to serve on the La Grange Park Youth Commission. The Youth Commission is comprised of ten young people in grades 7 through 12. Commissioners serve one or two-year terms beginning in September of each year.

The Youth Commission serves alongside other Village Committees that make recommendations to the Village Board. Youth have been involved in Village decision-making as a way to gain new perspectives and original insights into issues that the Village encounters on a regular basis. The Village Board hears and considers the input of our ten Youth Commissioners, and the Village as a whole benefits from their

contributions. In addition, the Village hopes to help secure the future of La Grange Park by fostering a life-long appreciation and interest in public services within this generation of our future leaders.

Individuals interested in serving should fill out an application (available on the Village website, [www.lagrangepark.org](http://www.lagrangepark.org)). Applications should be sent to the attention of Julia Cedillo, Interim Village Manager, email: [jcedillo@lagrangepark.org](mailto:jcedillo@lagrangepark.org) or Fax to: 708-354-0241. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Cedillo at 708-354-0225, ext. 108.

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO THE VILLAGE  
NO LATER THAN JUNE 15, 2011.**

## Youth Commission Organizes Community Volunteering Weekend

The La Grange Park Youth Commission is planning its sixth annual Community Volunteering Weekend to take place on April 30 and May 1. This is an event where the commissioners and other volunteers perform various projects around the community, including assisting senior citizens or others who need help completing spring projects around the house. The Commission hopes to enlist other volunteers from the community to perform various service projects around La Grange Park, and would like to get as many additional volunteers to participate as possible in order to make the weekend a success.

### Need help at your house?

Though some of the projects the volunteers will work on will be around the Village Hall, in public parks, or around Forest Preserve Property, they also are willing to help out at your house. If you have a difficult time managing outdoor spring cleaning on your own property or know of someone else who does, a

Community Volunteering Team made up of Youth Commissioners and other volunteers will help! Projects could include cleaning out gutters, general yard cleanup, planting flowers or bushes, fixing shutters, painting, or other projects that can easily be accomplished by a

small team in one 3-hour shift. All Volunteering Teams will have at least one adult supervisor to help. All necessary tools and supplies should be provided by the homeowner. In the event that we receive more requests for assistance than our volunteers can address in one weekend, projects will be selected based on priority of need.

### Want to serve on a Community Volunteering Team?

If you can give three hours of your time on either Saturday, April 30 or Sunday, May 1, you can be on a Community Volunteering Team! Volunteers will be divided into teams and dispatched to various areas of the community that need assistance. Tools and work gloves will be provided. If the thought of meeting new people and giving back to the community appeal to you, then this is the weekend for you!

### Summary

**When:** Saturday, April 30 from 9am – noon  
Sunday, May 1 from 1pm – 4pm

### Types of Projects:

Painting	Gardening / planting
General yard cleanup	Clean gutters
Trash pick up	Light home repairs

**To sign up:** To register to have a team come to your house or to serve on a Community Volunteering Team, please contact Andrea Bagley at 708-354-0225 or via email at [abagley@lagrangepark.org](mailto:abagley@lagrangepark.org) no later than April 23.



*The La Grange Park Youth Commission was founded in 2002 and serves alongside the other Village Committees that make recommendations to the Village Board. The ten Youth Commissioners receive the same agenda and discuss the same issues that the Village Board discusses at their Workshop meetings with the goal of making a recommendation to the Village Board. In addition to discussing the Board agenda items, Youth Commissioners also discuss various issues that they have highlighted as important and perform various activities in the community.*



# Arbor Day 2011

La Grange Park has been designated a "Tree City USA" for the past 23 years by the National Arbor Day Foundation. In keeping with our status as a "Tree City," the Village has planned a special event for this year's Arbor Day Celebration.

## Honorary Tree Planting

For the eighth consecutive year, the Village will plant a tree in memory or in honor of a special person. In the same manner that many people plant trees to celebrate the birth of a child, a marriage, or to memorialize someone who has passed away, the Village will publicly honor a La Grange Park resident or group with the planting of a tree. Planting a tree can be a terrific tribute to someone; trees grow tall and strong, provide shade for cooling in summer, release moisture into the air, help reduce flooding and erosion, and are a source of beauty from season to season over a lifetime.

Arbor Day this year is Friday, April 29. To mark this Arbor Day, the Village is accepting nominations to plant a tree in honor or in memory of a person or group that has made a positive contribution to the community, or whose achievements deserve special recognition. Previous years' honorees included a tree planted at the Library in honor of Mary Lou Hurley who has served as President of the Library Board for many years, and a tree planted at Forest Road School in memory of Mrs. Robin Lid who was an active and inspirational volunteer in the community.

To submit your own nomination, please use the form below, or create your own, and send it to Tree Planting, La Grange Park Village Hall, 447 N. Catherine Avenue, La Grange Park, IL 60526, or via email to [abagley@lagrangepark.org](mailto:abagley@lagrangepark.org) no later than April 15, 2011. Be sure to tell why the person or group you are nominating deserves to be recognized, and indicate what kind of tree you feel would most appropriately honor their achievements and community spirit. After reviewing all the nominations, the Village will select one from among all nominations received to honor with a public tree planting. The tree will be planted in a public space (in a park, parkway, etc.) during a public ceremony in late April or early May, and a small plaque mentioning the honoree will be installed at the base of the tree.

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ to be honored with the planting of a \_\_\_\_\_ tree because:

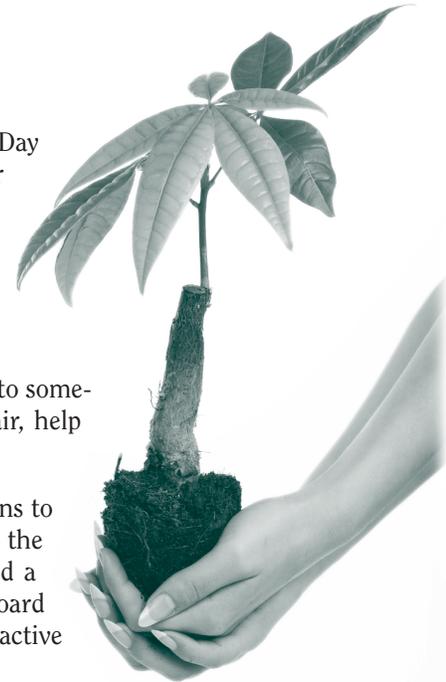
---

---

---

---

---



## Free Wood Chips

Soon, wood chips will be available for pick up at the Public Works facility at 937 Barnsdale Road Monday through Friday. Public Works crews may also be able to deliver the wood chips to residents, depending on availability. When calling to request a wood chip delivery, please call the Public Works Department at 352-2922 with your address, when you would like the delivery, where the woodchips should be left, and the quantity in cubic yards you would like delivered. Generally, one cubic yard will cover a 6-foot x 9-foot area. A truckload equals about 3 cubic yards.

## New in 2011 FREE COMPOST!

The compost is made from leaf mulch and will be available for a limited time. You can view this compost material at the Public Works facility located at 937 Barnsdale Road. It will be located in the outside material storage area and the bin will be clearly marked as compost. You can follow the same instructions as listed under *Free Wood Chips* for delivery.

## Annual Garden Club of La Grange Park Plant Sale

The Garden Club of La Grange Park will hold their plant sale on Saturday, May 7 from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Memorial Park Gazebo. The public is invited to attend this annual event which features both annuals and perennials, most of which have come straight from the gardens of the green-thumbed Garden Club members. By purchasing plants already proven to do well in this area, you know they'll do well in your La Grange Park garden, too.



# How Your Property Tax Is Calculated - *Correction*

Residents please note that there was an error in the Winter Rose Clippings in the calculation and formula for the model property tax bill. In the article, it stated that in Cook County, residential property tax is assessed at 16% of its fair market value. This should have stated 10%. The Village apologizes for this error.

## We Can't Help You If We Can't Find You!

Posting your address on your home can be critical to Village fire and police personnel if you need them in an emergency. If you don't have your address displayed, or it has faded, been obstructed by bushes, trees, etc., this should be corrected. It might even be a great start to your spring projects. The address should be at least 4" tall, in contrasting color to the background, and be plainly visible from the street. Please take a look at your own home, and make sure we can find you.



## Village Board Highlights

The Board of Trustees conducted the following business during the months of December, January & February:

- Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Recipient Agreement with Cook County, Illinois for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Funds
- Authorized Purchase of 2011 Ford Crown Victoria Police Vehicle
- Authorized Purchase of New Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Engineering Services with Hancock Engineering in Connection with the Blanchan and Morgan Road Repair Project
- Resolution Approving Audit Services Agreement
- Resolution Approving an Extension of the Contract for Residential Collection and Transportation of Municipal Solid Waste
- Ordinance Amending Chapter 153 of Title XV (Land Usage) of the La Grange Park Municipal Code to Adopt the Revised Village of La Grange Park Zoning Code and to Revise the Official Zoning Map

## Flood Relief & Response

As most of you are all too well aware, large storms can at times create flooding concerns in portions of our Village. Although various projects have been undertaken by the Village over the years to reduce the impact of heavy rains, resident concerns over damage from last year's storms have prompted Village officials and staff to take additional action.

The Engineering & Capital Projects Committee has been tasked with investigating various options, and the costs associated with such, to further improve how our Village infrastructure handles sewage and storm water flows. The Committee is made up of Village trustees, and has been meeting regularly, supported by Village staff and engineers. A good amount of work has already been done, but much more is needed, as most of the projects needed to address this flooding can be very costly. Each idea must be evaluated as a cost vs. benefit, while realizing that residents living in different areas of the Village may have different needs, depending upon the impact storms have on an area. This is further complicated by the fact that homes have different plumbing systems, where some are more susceptible to sewer back-up, while others are immune from it.

One immediate result of these meetings is the development of a Flood Response Incident Action Plan, which is in the final stages of being completed. Although Village staff has overall responded very well to storms, the committee tasked the supervisors from Fire, Police and Public Works to develop a formal plan for dealing with flooding. This is being done to ensure readiness, to make certain systems in place are working properly, and to try to prevent further property damage by identifying additional actions which could be taken by staff. One added component as a result of the planning is to have information made available for residents, to provide guidance in how to reduce potential flood damage, and what can be done to limit damage in the event of flooding.

Please look for further information about flood relief and response, especially guidance for residents, on our Village website in the upcoming weeks and months.





 Printed on recycled paper



PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
LA GRANGE, IL  
PERMIT NO. 3

Published quarterly by  
The Village of La Grange Park  
447 North Catherine Avenue  
La Grange Park, Illinois 60526  
(708) 354-0225

[www.lagrangepark.org](http://www.lagrangepark.org)

PRESIDENT  
Dr. James L. Discipio  
VILLAGE CLERK  
W. Kerry Brunette

TRUSTEES

Tim Hayes                      Scott Mesick  
Rimas Kozica                Marshall Seeder  
LaVelle Topps

INTERIM VILLAGE MANAGER  
Julia Cedillo

**La Grange Park Postal Customer**  
**La Grange Park, Illinois 60526**

**RESIDENT FEEDBACK**

Please use this section to give us your comments, suggestions, questions, problems or compliments. If you have something on your mind . . . let us know! Just jot it down and send it to us.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please mail to: Interim Village Manager, Village of La Grange Park, 447 North Catherine, La Grange Park, IL 60526. Email address: [jcedillo@lagrangepark.org](mailto:jcedillo@lagrangepark.org). If you would like a response, please include your name, mailing address, email address or daytime phone number.

Stay connected with Village news and community happenings, subscribe to E-Briefs, the Village's weekly electronic newsletter. Send an email to [abagley@lagrangepark.org](mailto:abagley@lagrangepark.org) and type "sign me up!"

## VILLAGE *HALL*

Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### LOST & FOUND

From time to time the Village of La Grange Park maintains a gathering of lost and found items. To reclaim any items left behind at Village Hall, call 708-354-0225, ext. 102.

## VILLAGE *HOLIDAYS*

Just a reminder that Village offices will be closed for the following holiday:

**Monday, May 30 – Memorial Day**  
**Monday, July 4 – Independence Day**