

LINCOLNWOOD

CONNECTIONS



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025

TURKEY TROT RETURNS!

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A large, rust-colored metal sign spelling out 'LINCOLNWOOD ILLINOIS' is mounted on a bridge structure. The sign is set against a background of a green landscape with trees and a clear sky.

After a wonderful Summer, with its weather lasting into October, fall is finally here. The Turkey Trot is right around the corner and before we know it we will be preparing for the Holiday season as we look forward to 2026.

Here in this newsletter, and also on our website, you'll find plenty of information on the upcoming programs and events we have planned for the rest of the year. But, before we get there, we still have quite a lot going on here in town.

Construction of this year's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in various neighborhoods continues with anticipated completion in November. For information on the CIP work for this year and future years you can visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/Infrastructure.

Around town there are additional projects ongoing including sidewalk upgrades, water main work on Lincoln Avenue north of Touhy, and the multi-year MWRD project on Devon Avenue, all of which we hope to be concluded by the end of the year.

Of course, the work never ends when it comes to our infrastructure. Before this year's work is complete, we are already planning for next year and beyond.

Our Village is surrounded and bisected by large roadways which are not under our jurisdiction, controlled either by the State of Illinois or Cook County.

Managing these roadways, their condition, operation, and changes from time to time is critically important for all residents and businesses of Lincolnwood.

Needed changes to major intersections such as Touhy and Cicero, Touhy and Lincoln, and Pratt and Cicero require approval and action from beyond our borders and it is an ongoing effort to keep these projects moving.

As we work through our Annual Budget and Capital Improvement Program process, I want to emphasize the critical role that grants play in funding our community's finances. While property and sales taxes form the backbone of our municipal budget, relying solely on them limits our ability to address pressing needs without overburdening taxpayers.

Infrastructure elements such as roads, bridges, water systems, parks, and public facilities are essential for economic growth, public safety, and quality of life. However, these projects often require substantial investments that local taxes were not designed to support.

Seeking and securing grants from Federal, State, and private sources allows us to fill the gap that would otherwise require significant property tax increases or diminishment of our services and facilities. Grants provide funds specifically earmarked for infrastructure improvements, allowing us to focus more of our tax revenues on high quality operations.

In just the last few years, we have successfully obtained grants for large scale projects such as renovation of the firearms range for our Police Officers, upcoming extensive rehabilitation of space in our public safety facilities, aquatic center operations, and stormwater management projects, as well as lower cost initiatives such as electric vehicles for the Village's fleet and charging stations.

Grants have allowed us to save millions in taxpayer funds while enhancing community resilience. These opportunities not only reduce the fiscal strain on households but also enable us to undertake ambitious initiatives that might otherwise be deferred or scaled back.

In 2024, the community saw the replacement of Flowers Park, which was made possible with a \$400,000 Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant (OSLAD). The Village has secured an additional \$600,000 OSLAD Grant for future renovations at Proesel Park.



Flowers Park (2024)

In the last five years, the Police Department alone has received approximately \$500,000 in grant awards from both the U.S. Dept. of Justice and the State of Illinois to support the hiring of officers, enhanced traffic enforcement for speeding, distracted driving, impaired driving and use of seat-belts, support in the acquisition of technology, and overtime for investigating certain criminal offenses.

Soon we hope to see two long awaited projects, both primarily grant funded, move forward: the Devon Avenue Streetscape Project www.lincolnwoodil.org/devon and the Pratt Avenue Pedestrian Bridge www.lincolnwoodil.org/prattbike.

The Devon Avenue Streetscape Project was approved almost 10 years ago but due to the large MWRD sludge-line project along McCormick and Devon it had been delayed.

Now, with that project moving South of Devon along Cicero, ours can commence, hopefully in 2026. The Village has secured \$5,780,000 in State funding to proceed with this project.

The Pratt Avenue Pedestrian Bridge has long been sought-after by residents of the east side of town but the effort to install one only began in 2022. We are in Phase I now and will move into design (Phase II) in 2026. We look forward to construction as early as 2027. With nearly \$6 million secured, this project is almost entirely funded by State and Federal grants.

Pursuing grants fosters partnerships with higher levels of government and organizations and we have also hired a professional lobbyist as an enhancement to our resources, amplifying our efforts and results.

Ours is a proactive strategy that diversifies our revenue streams and ensures equitable development across neighborhoods, and our team is dedicated to identifying and applying for these funds. Of course community input is invaluable—your feedback helps prioritize projects that matter most.

“Opportunities multiply as they are seized.”
- Sun Tzu

Sincerely,

Mayor Jesal Patel

Art From The Heart Exhibit Coming to Village Hall



An art exhibit featuring the work of The Douglas Center's Art From The Heart Creations program will be on display at Lincolnwood Village Hall from November 17, 2025, through January 7, 2026. The exhibit will showcase unique, handcrafted pieces created by adults living with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Items will include mosaic mirrors, jewelry, coasters, aprons, paintings, inspirational plaques, and more. All items will be available for purchase. The gallery will be open to the public Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Learn more about The Douglas Center at www.thedouglascenter.org.

Assist-A-Family Donations

The Village of Lincolnwood has launched the Assist-A-Family Program (formerly known as the Harice Leavitt Memorial Fund) to assist residents facing financial hardship with their water and utility bills.

Funded by public donations, the program offers subsidies for water and sewer bills to qualifying residents. To learn more or contribute, visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/Assist-A-Family.

Changes to Online Water Bill Payments

In June, the Village switched to a new payment processor for online credit card water bill payments. This change affects customers who had saved credit card information and enabled auto-pay in the previous system (Civic Pay). If you make one-time payments or use ACH auto debit, no action is needed.

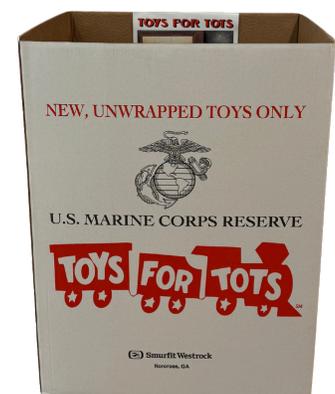
Customers with saved credit cards were asked to delete old payment methods and re-enter or add a new one. Auto-pay was turned off on August 29 for anyone who hasn't updated their information. Your payment details remain secure, and step-by-step instructions are available when you log into the online payment portal. For help, contact Utility Billing at 847-745-4730.

Toys for Tots

The Annual Toys for Tots drive is back now through December 13. This longstanding program, organized by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, collects and distributes new, unwrapped toys to children in need during the holiday season.

Donation boxes are available at Village Hall and the Lincolnwood Police Department.

Help make the holidays brighter for children in our community!



Programs for Kids

Glitzy Girls: Movies/Musicals Glam Dance Night

Join Glitzy Girlz to celebrate Movies and Musicals like Wicked and Descendants! Enjoy fun makeup, craft decorating, and make a themed charm bracelet. Dance to favorite songs with freeze dance and Limbo games. Each guest gets a goodie bag. This is a drop-off class.

- **Date:** Thursday, November 6 | 6:15–7:30pm
- **Fee:** Resident: \$34 / Non-Resident: \$42
- **Location:** Lincolnwood Community Center
- **Age:** 4–10

Winter Break Camp

Shake off the winter chill at our Winter Break Camp! A week of fun-filled field trips, games, arts and crafts, and winter activities. No camp on 12/24, 12/25, & 1/1.

- **Date:** December 22 through January 2
- **Fee:**
 - **Full Session:** Resident: \$480 / Non-Resident: \$600
 - **Per Day:** Resident: \$90 / Non-Resident: \$113
- **Location:** Lincolnwood Community Center
- **Age:** K-5

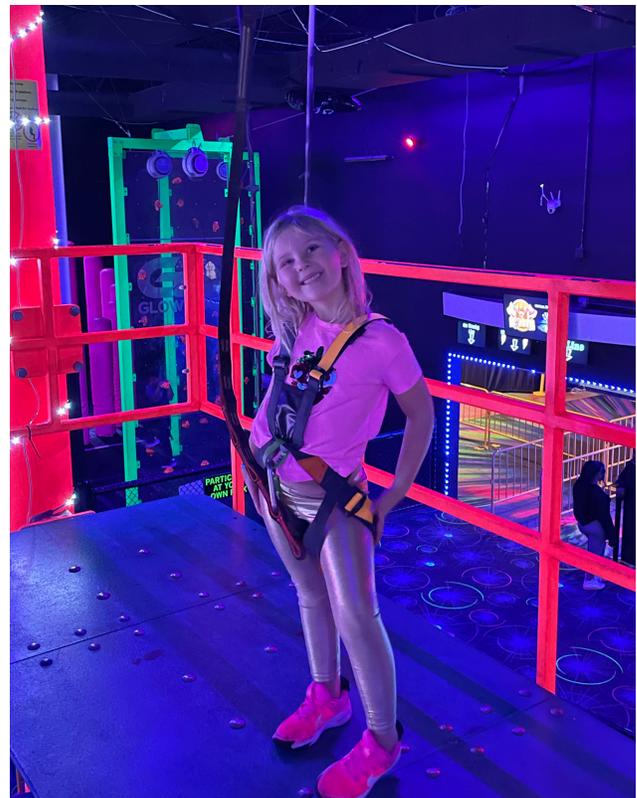
DAILY CAMP SCHEDULE & TRIPS

- Mon., Dec 22: Fun City
- Tue., Dec 23: Funtopia
- Fri., Dec 26: Urban Air
- Mon., Dec 29: Dave & Buster's (Lunch included)
- Tue., Dec 30: Climb Zone
- Wed., Dec.31: Nickel City
- Fri., Jan. 2: Main Event (Lunch included)

Santa's Workshop | New!

Step into a winter wonderland at Santa's Workshop with crafts, photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and festive fun for the whole family. Cost is per person.

- **Date:** Saturday, December 13 | 1-4pm
- **Fee:** Resident \$18 / Non-Resident: \$22
- **Location:** Lincolnwood Community Center
- **Age:** All ages (Children must be accompanied by an adult)



Programs for Seniors (Ages 55+)

Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Indiana

Lincolnwood Seniors are heading to Horseshoe Casino in Hammond for a fun day of games, socializing, and snacks. Early registration required.

- **Date:** Wednesday, November 5 | 9:45am-4pm
- **Fee:** Resident: \$10 / Non-Resident: \$20
- **Location:** Meet at the Lincolnwood Community Center



For program registration, scan the QR code or visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/registration.



Lincolnwood TURKEY TROT

5k, 10k, 5k Walk, Drumstick Dash

Join us for the 49th annual Lincolnwood 5K/10K, Walk and Dash on Sunday, November 23, 2025. This flat, fast course takes you through scenic Lincolnwood and features races for all ages and abilities.



2025
MEDALS

Date: Sunday, November 23

Location: Proesel Park

Time: 8:45am; Drumstick Dash is at 10:10am

Ages: All ages

Fee: 5K/10K/Walk \$45 until 5pm on 11/7;
\$50 until noon on 11/22

Dash: \$25 until 5pm on 11/7;
\$30 until noon on 11/22

For the course map, parking details, and registration, visit
www.lincolnwoodil.org/Trot.

LINCOLNWOOD LIGHTS

Thursday, December 4
Village Hall Promenade | 5-6pm

Celebrate the season with music, stories, and hot chocolate at the annual Holiday Tree Lighting.

HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

Thursday, December 18
Community Center | 5:30pm

Experience the Festival of Lights with Hanukkah crafts, games, music, snacks, and more.
R: \$15 / NR: \$25

NOON YEAR'S EVE

Wednesday, December 31
Community Center | 11am

Music, games, party favors, and a noon balloon drop for kids up to age 12; adult supervision required.
R: \$10 / NR: \$14

For a full list of upcoming Lincolnwood events, visit
www.lincolnwoodil.org/Events.

Protect Your Vehicle & Packages

As winter approaches and the holidays draw near, our days fill up with shopping, traveling, and preparing for the season. But this time of year also brings a rise in theft, especially from unattended cars and delivered packages. A few simple precautions can help protect you and your belongings.

Winter Vehicle Safety:

- Never leave your car running unattended with the keys inside, even for a minute.
- Use a remote starter to warm up your vehicle while keeping it locked.
- If you don't have remote start, stay with your car while it warms up.
- Always lock your doors, even for quick errands.
- Hide valuables from plain sight and consider using a steering wheel lock.
- Park in well-lit areas, and report suspicious activity to Lincolnwood Police at 847-673-2167 or call 9-1-1.

Package Theft Prevention:

- Track your packages and sign up for delivery alerts.
- Have items delivered to a secure location like your workplace, a trusted neighbor, or a parcel locker.
- Request signature confirmation when possible.
- Install video doorbells or security cameras to deter theft.
- Choose in-store pickup or lockers for high-value items.
- Ask a neighbor to grab your packages if you won't be home.

With some planning, you can enjoy a safer, more secure holiday season.

Holiday Fire Prevention

Whether you're cooking, decorating, or staying cozy by the fire this holiday season, simple precautions can help protect your home and loved ones. Follow these safety tips:

- **Heating & Fireplaces:** Have your furnace and chimney inspected annually. Burn only dry wood, use a fireplace screen, keep space heaters at least 3 feet from anything flammable, and test smoke alarms regularly.
- **Candles:** Never leave candles unattended or near anything that can burn. Keep them out of reach of children and pets.
- **Cooking:** Stay in the kitchen when cooking. Fry turkeys only outdoors and away from structures. Keep a fire extinguisher nearby and never use water on grease fires.
- **Fire Escape:** Practice fire drills at home. Teach "stop, drop, and roll," and make sure everyone knows how to call 9-1-1.
- **Decorations & Gifts:** Wear gloves when handling "angel hair." Inspect holiday lights for damage. Keep breakables and toxic plants away from kids. Choose safe, age-appropriate gifts and watch out for button batteries.
- **Food & Travel:** Cook meat to safe temperatures, refrigerate leftovers promptly, and wash hands often. Use a designated driver, buckle up, avoid distractions, and be ready for winter weather.
- **Around the Home:** Provide night lights for guests and store medications safely out of children's reach.

Winter Parking & Snow Removal Updates

To keep Lincolnwood streets clear and safe, follow alternate side parking rules when it snows 2" or more (Monday–Friday, 8:30am–3:30pm):

- **Even days:** Park on the even-numbered side.
- **Odd days:** Park on the odd-numbered side.
- **No parking on Pratt Ave** during snow events (2" or more), anytime.

Reminders:

- Not enforced on Thanksgiving, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and the day after Christmas.
- Move cars off the street when snow is expected.
- Don't shovel snow back into the street.
- Sign up for Reverse 911 alerts at www.lincolnwoodil.org/reverse911.

Yard Waste Reminders

As fall turns to winter, please follow these guidelines to keep our community clean:

- **Yard Waste Pickup:** Groot will collect yard waste through November 24, 2025. After this date, homeowners are responsible for proper disposal. Remember, no yard waste in regular garbage bins.
- **Leaf Disposal:** To prevent street clutter and storm drain blockages, leaf piles are not allowed at the curb. Violations may result in fines.

Proper Disposal:

- **Leaves:** Use brown yard waste bags or designated bins.
- **Branches:** Bundle sticks and branches no longer than 4 feet, weighing under 50 pounds, and no thicker than 4 inches in diameter.

Riding in Lincolnwood

The Village of Lincolnwood regulates motorized vehicles to ensure safety; use the chart below for a quick overview of where you can and cannot ride. For more information, visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/e-bike.

	Sidewalks	Bike Lanes	Union Pacific Trail	Valley Line Trail	Parks Paths	Grass
Bicycles	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
E-Bikes	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
E-Scooters	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
Mini Bikes	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	

Recycling Dos and Don'ts

Recycling the right way keeps our community clean and sustainable. The Village's waste hauler, Groot, now accepts paper cups in your recycling cart. Just make sure they're empty, clean, lid removed, and placed loose in the bin. Use the lists below to see what goes in, and what stays out.



Do



GLASS

- Bottles
- Jars



PLASTIC

- Bottles
- Jars
- Tub
- Jugs



METAL

- Steel
- Aluminum



MIXED PAPER

- Paper Cups
- Non-Greasy Pizza Boxes
- Aluminum Foil Packaging
- & more!

Don't



- Electronics
- Batteries
- Sharps



- Plastic Bags
- Wrap
- Clothes
- Shoes



- Shredded Paper
- Diapers
- Foods
- Liquids



- Hoses
- Hangers
- Wires

Lincolnwood Pumpkin Smash

Bring your Halloween pumpkins to Lincolnwood's annual Pumpkin Smash on Saturday, November 8, from 9am to 12pm. The event takes place in the parking lot south of Public Works at 7001 N. Lawndale Avenue.

Smash and compost your pumpkins with neighbors at this fun, eco-friendly event, hosted in partnership with School & Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education (SCARCE), the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), and Groot Waste Hauler. The event helps keep pumpkins out of landfills and turns them into nutrient-rich soil.



Holiday Light Recycling

Starting November 3, 2025, through January 31, 2026, the Village offers free holiday light recycling with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County and Elgin Recycling.

Accepted: Mini-lights, C7, C9, rope lights, LED lights, and extension cords.

Not accepted: Garland, live greens, wreaths, or other non-recyclables.

Drop off at:

- **Village Hall:** 6900 N Lincoln Ave, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
- **Public Works:** 7001 N Lawndale Ave, Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 3:30pm

Holiday Tree Collection



Start the new year sustainably by composting your natural holiday tree! Groot will collect trees at the curb on your regular pickup day during the first two Mondays in January: January 5 and January 12, 2026.

- **Accepted:** Natural, real holiday trees only. Trees must be completely free of lights, ornaments, tinsel, plastic bags, stands, and decorations.
- **Not accepted:** Artificial trees; wreaths, garlands, or flocked trees; trees with decorations or lights still attached.

Please place your tree at the curb by 7am on the collection day.

Household Hazardous Waste At-Home Pickup

Lincolnwood residents can now safely dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) like chemicals and paint through an at-home collection program, in partnership with SWANCC and Clean Harbors.

How it works:

- Pickups occur every three months; the next is in January
- Residents must register with Clean Harbors at least two weeks prior
- A \$75 fee covers up to 70 pounds of material per pickup
- Multiple households can combine waste to share the cost

For full details and to register, visit www.lincolnwoodil.org/HHW.

Shop Local This Holiday Season

As the holiday season arrives, we encourage you to support Lincolnwood's local businesses. Whether you're shopping for gifts, dining out, or booking services, our community offers a wide variety of great options.

Not sure if a business is located in Lincolnwood? Visit the Chamber of Commerce Business Directory at www.lincolnwoodchamber.com or contact the Community Development Department at 847-673-7402.

Even online orders can make a difference when shipped to your Lincolnwood address.

Thank you for shopping local, and happy holidays!



Planning Winter Projects? Don't Forget Your Permits!



Before starting any remodeling, repairs, or new construction this winter, remember that many projects require a permit. You can easily apply, track, pay for, and print your building permits online through the Village's Land Management portal at lincolnwood.onlama.com.

Permits are also needed for certain tasks like disconnecting or installing irrigation systems to ensure work meets safety codes and protects the Village's water system.

Not sure if your project needs a permit? Call the Community Development Department at 847-673-7402 or check the FAQ section on the Village website for guidance.

New Businesses

Classic Disaster Services

6901 N Lincoln Ave
Emergency property restoration and damage response services.

KA-LA-JU Transportation Services

6699 N Lincoln Ave
Vehicle pre-booking services and secure storage solutions.

Km Revolutions

3916 W Touhy Ave
Retail store offering a wide range of general merchandise.

Village of Lincolnwood
6900 N Lincoln Ave
Lincolnwood, IL 60712
www.lincolnwoodil.org

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 124
PLATTEVILLE, WI

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER
LINCOLNWOOD IL 60712

BOARD AND COMMISSION MEETINGS

- **Village Board:** 1st & 3rd Tuesday
- **Park & Recreation Board:** 2nd Tuesday
- **Economic Development Commission:** 4th Wednesday
- **Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals:** 1st Wednesday (3rd Wednesday if needed)
- **Traffic Commission:** 4th Thursday
- **Environmental Commission:** 4th Monday (every other month)

For up-to-date schedules, agendas, and minutes, visit www.lincolnwoodil.org. To receive agendas by email, contact subscribe@lwd.org.

Meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Channel 6, RCN Channel 49, and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99. You can also watch live or on-demand at www.lincolnwoodil.org/mediacenter.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Village President: Jesal Patel
Trustee: Jean Ikezoe-Halevi
Trustee: Grace Diaz Herrera
Trustee: Craig Klatzco
Trustee: Atour Sargon
Trustee: Christopher Martel
Trustee: Neal Gussis
Village Clerk: Sokol Delisi
Village Manager: Anne Marie Gaura

STAY CONNECTED

- **Download Our App:** Search “Lincolnwood” in the Apple App Store or Google Play
- **E-Newsletter:** Sign up at www.lincolnwoodil.org/GetLincolnwoodLocal
- **Reverse 9-1-1:** Register at www.lincolnwoodil.org/Reverse911
- **Construction Updates:** www.lincolnwoodil.org/InfrastructureUpdates
- **Social Media:** Follow us!

- Village of Lincolnwood:



- Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department:



Village Hall	(847) 673-1540
Public Works	(847) 675-0888
Community Development	(847) 673-7402
Parks and Recreation	(847) 677-9740
Police Non-Emergency	(847) 673-2167
Fire Non-Emergency	(847) 673-1545