Medicare Open Enrollment is Here!!

Medicare Open Enrollment starts on October 15th, 2022 and it ends December 7th, 2022. Until that date, individuals can make changes from original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan, join, drop or switch Medicare Part D drug plans, and switch Medicare Advantage plans. This is the ONLY time you can enroll or dis-enroll from either your current Part D drug plan or your Medicare Advantage plan with a drug component (Part C).

What can you do during the Open Enrollment Period?

- Anyone who has (or is signing up for) Medicare Parts A or B can join or drop a Part D prescription drug plan.
- Anyone with original Medicare (Parts A & B) can switch to a Medicare Advantage plan.
- Anyone with Medicare Advantage can drop it and switch back to just original Medicare (Parts A & B).
- Anyone with Medicare Advantage can switch to a new Medicare Advantage plan.
- Anyone with a Part D prescription drug plan can switch to a new Part D prescription drug plan.

If you are interested in re-evaluating and/or switching your current Medicare coverage;

- Contact Oak Park Township Senior Services to schedule an appointment with a Illinois Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselor .
- Through the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP), counselors are available to assist those trying to navigate the various options and provide recommendations on a drug plan for the upcoming year.
- Go to www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan for a personalized search for plans available to you, including cost estimates and coverage information.

To make an appointment with a SHIP counselor, please call (708) 383-8060.
River Forest Township and Library Events

River Forest Township Programming with River Forest Public Library: (everything will be held in the Barbara Hall Meeting Room at the Library unless otherwise noted) Adult Coloring Club is every Third Sunday from 2pm-3pm, Film Lovers Friday is every 3rd Friday of the Month from noon until 2:30 pm. See River Forest Public Library website for more details at riverforestlibrary.librarymarket.com/events. No need to register except Yoga.

October 3-Coffee Monday 10am-11am: Dan Wrzosek, Elevate Physical Therapy & Fitness, on Fall Prevention

October 9-2pm-4pm-Nina Kozial, on FallScaping: the Best Plants for Fall Color.

October 15-Chair Yoga-2pm-3pm:.Register on-line or by phone (708) 366-5205 to reserve your spot.

October 30-2pm-3:30pm- Radio Host Steve Darnall, Lights Out: Mystery & Horror in the Golden Age of Radio

November 6-2:00pm- 3:30pm-Learn about America’s greatest Historic Homes with Museum Educator, Paul Neumann.

November 7-Coffee Monday from 10am-11am: Age Friendly and Dementia Friendly River Forest.

November 13-2:00pm-3:30pm-Native American Heritage month Celebration - learn about a typical day in the life of an American Indian in the 1800’s.

November 19-Gentle Yoga-2pm-3pm-Register online with the library to reserve your spot or call (708) 366-5205.

December 5-Coffee Monday-10am-11am-Oak Street Health in Oak Park, will talk about their services

December 10-2pm-3:30pm- Jillann Gabrielle, original one-woman musical comedy about Bette Davis and Joan Crawford

December 17-All Levels Yoga-2pm-3pm:.Register online or by phone (708) 366-5205 to reserve your spot.

Please call Betsy Kelly at 708-366-2029 x13 or email her bkelly.rftownship@gmail.com with any questions or suggestions.

Oak Park Township
Upcoming Events

These free events are held at 130 S Oak Park Ave, Oak Park, unless otherwise specified. All communities are welcome! Registration required for all programs.

To Register: Call Oak Park/River Forest Townships Senior Services Activity and Nutrition Hotline at (708) 725-9129. www.oakparktownship.org/senior-services

* In Person ; **-Call-In ; *** Call-In AND In-Person

Oct 13-Afternoon Movie & Popcorn* 1:00pm-2:00pm

Oct 20-Painting/Drawing with Slowfire*1:00pm-2:15pm

Collage, mixed media and watercolor. Instructor: Joss Baron

Oct 27-Dave’s Magic Show * 1:00pm-2:00pm

Be in awe and delight of Dave’s extraordinary Magic Show.

Oct 31-Halloween Dance Party* 1:00pm-2:00pm

Do the monster mash this Halloween with us! A fun afternoon with tricks and treats! Costumes optional—but welcome!

Nov 3-Elvis is IN the building! *** 1:00pm-2:00pm

Calling all the Elvis fans! Entertainment from “The King!”

ONGOING EVENTS

Book Club*** - 1st Tuesday of each month; 1pm-2pm

Memory Café: *** A coffee house atmosphere with engaging programs for individuals living with memory changes and their care partners Meets virtually on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 2pm-4pm.

Join at https://us02web.zoom.us / Meeting ID: 838 8489 6252 or Call-In: (312) 626-6799

BINGO***: Every Wednesday, 10:30am-11:30am

Free Conference Call-In: (425) 436-6394 / Access Code: 506198 . Join us for lunch after BINGO!

Oak Park Township will be closed:

Monday October 10- Indigenous People’s day
Friday November 11- Veteran’s Day
Thursday November 24- Thanksgiving Day
Friday November 25- Friday after Thanksgiving
Friday December 23- Christmas Eve
Monday December 26- Christmas Day
Donate Your Old Cell Phones

Oak Park Township has partnered with Secure the Call to provide free 911 cell phones for those in need.

A collection barrel is located at the Township lobby at 105 S. Oak Park Ave. A Secure the Call cell phone guarantees that help from 911 is always available. Donated phones are also being used for video calls with patients in need who are hospitalized in COVID-19 units at local hospitals—truly a lifeline to the outside world.

Information from donated phones is cleared and “security”-wiping is completed to delete information. Visit their website or call for more information. 1-800-813-0344 or https://securethecall.org/how-we-do-it/

Public health services available for homebound residents

The Oak Park Health Department offers a variety of services to residents who are homebound. If you or a relative are homebound, you may contact the Health Department to schedule an in-home COVID test, COVID vaccination or booster shot. Call the Health Department at 708.358.5480 or email health@oakpark.us for more information about scheduling an in-home service.

Oak Park Township Assists with LIHEAP

The LIHEAP application period is September 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023, or until funding is exhausted.

Utility Assistance
- One-Time Benefit—Provided toward your gas and electric bill balance.
- Budget Billing Plan—To lower monthly payments
- Reconnection Assistance—Help get your utilities turned on after disconnection

ComEd Residential Special Hardship
- Up to $500 once every two years for credit toward ComEd electric bills.

Call to schedule your appointment at: (708) 383-8005

Need help staying at home?

Senior Services offers programs and services that make it possible for people to continue to live independently in their homes. These include home-delivered meals, completing applications for financial assistance, taking charge of your health, addressing social isolation, linkage to legal resources, assistance with transportation, housekeeping and more.

If you would like more information, please contact (708) 383-8060.

New Program! Grief Support Group for Family Caregivers

Senior Services, serving Oak Park and River Forest Townships, is now offering a free Grief Support Group for Caregivers, starting September 15, 2022, and every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

This is an opportunity for current and former family caregivers who have recently lost their loved ones to process their grief with others and share their experiences and sources of strength and resilience in a relatively laid-back setting.

“The Grief Support Group will provide a space for Caregivers who have experienced the recent death of their care recipients,” according to Devin Andrews, Caregiver Support Specialist. “It is a support for those who have found themselves out of place when their loved ones die and are struggling to cope with their loss.”

Registration is required and meeting location is dependent upon demand. Virtual and hybrid (in-person and online) options are available.

For more information and to register, call Devin Andrews, Caregiver Support Specialist, at (708) 383-8060 or email dandrews@oakparktownship.org.
Oak Park & River Forest Townships

Senior Services Personnel Directory

Township Officials

**Oak Park Township Supervisor:**
Clarmarie I. Keenan

**Trustees:**
Eric Davis
Tim Thomas
Ade Onayemi
Margaret Trybus

**Township Clerk:**
DaToya Burtin-Cox

**Assessor:**
Ali ElSaffar

**River Forest Township Supervisor:**
Carla Sloan

**Trustees:**
Helene Connolly
Deana Herrman
Keith Strom
Karen Taubman

**Township Clerk:**
Vanessa Druckman

**Assessor:**
Pamela Kende

Senior Committee Members:

**Oak Park Township**
Valerie Lester, Vice Chairperson
Patricia Koko, Joy Aaronson
Andrew Roskos, Sabryna Joi King-Bell
Tim Thomas, Trustee Liaison

**River Forest Township**
Ruth Reko, Chairperson
Jean Buckley, Lydia Manning
Margaret Rudnik, Jim Flanagan
Carolyn Foster
Karen Taubman, Trustee Liaison

Administrative Offices:

**Director**
Pamela Mahn
Christopher Fox
Caroline Wilz
Pleshette Davis
Torie Moody Sims
Yazmin Morales
Marsha Steen

**Operations Manager**

**Older Adult Benefits Administrator**
Bianca Ingwersen
Mary Ann Ojeda
Devin Andrews
Vivian Holt
Bonnie Noel
Taylor Gilbert
Michael Joffe
Amanda Bradley
Ericka Fox
Jatese Barbour
Audrey Crowder
Jennifer Fryer
Susan Hooper
Tovara Poffenberger
Rochelle Blanchard

**Older Adult Benefits Clerk**

**Aging & Disability Resource Center Manager**

**Information & Assistance/Housing Specialist**

**Information & Assistance Specialist**

**Case Management:**

**Adult Protective Services Supervisor**
Laura Valcour
Jessica Lainez
Janice Underwood
Colleen Nash
Pat Riley

**Community Support Service Manager**

**Caregiver Support Specialist**

**Money Management Coordinator/Care Coordinator**

**Billing & Quality Assurance Specialist**

**Team Lead for Care Coordination**

**Behavioral Health Care Coordinator**

**Intake Specialist/Care Coordinator**

**Behavioral Health Care Coordinator**

**Care Coordinator**

**Care Coordinator**

**Care Coordinator**

**Care Coordinator**

**Case Liaison**

**Lunch Program:**

**Nutrition Program Manager**

**Activity Assistant**

**Nutrition Program Assistant**

**Food Service Worker**

**Data Entry Clerk/Greeter**

**Transportation:**

**Transportation Manager**

**Transportation Dispatcher**

**Bus Driver**

**Bus Driver**

**Bus Driver**