



# Westmont Park District Administrative Office

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55 E. Richmond St., Westmont, IL 60559

p: (630) 969-8080 f: (630) 969-7923

## Village of Westmont Hotel/Motel Grant Request Haunted Forest Narrative

### Description:

The Westmont Park District is requesting a Hotel/Motel grant for its Haunted Forest Event.

The Haunted Forest Event at Smith Woods has grown into something that families throughout DuPage County look forward to every year. Since its inception in 2006, we have seen exponential growth in attendance. Last year we had over 1,000 participants. Our record number of attendance was set in 2017 with 1,229 visitors.

In 2016 staff surveyed participants waiting in line to gather information and determine where people were coming from to enjoy our event. 2017 participant data is as follows:

- Westmont – 675
- Downers Grove – 174
- Darien – 52
- Willowbrook – 44
- Clarendon Hills – 37
- Chicago – 22
- Brookfield – 18
- Hinsdale – 15
- Woodridge – 14
- Bolingbrook, Oakbrook – 11
- Plainfield, Lagrange – 10
- Berwyn, Lombard, Romeoville – 7
- Riverdale – 6
- Naperville, Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates – 5
- Bellwood, Glenview, Homer Glen, Itasca – 4
- Wheaton, Western Springs, Villa Park, Lockport – 3
- Oregon, Lyons, Lisle, Lemont, Glendale Heights, Chicago Ridge, Bloomingdale – 2
- Oak Park, Oak lawn – 1
- Indiana – 5
- Iowa city, IA – 2
- Boulder, CO. – 1
- Spain – 1

We are requesting the maximum grant allowed in the amount \$2,500. In order to continue to grow this event for the

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### Board of Commissioners

John Karesh, *President* | Mike Conneely | Karen Moffett | Jason Pecard | Susan Zapinski

Robert Fleck, *Executive Director*

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



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Park District and Village of Westmont, we have to continue to be creative in our offerings. New and more elaborate sets, better costumes and more realistic props are needed and anticipated. The people attending this event want and deserve the best experience possible starting from their wait in line through the end of the tour.

The Haunted Forest has become part of a community great offering the Saturday before Halloween. We have Trick or Treat trail downtown Westmont, Pumpkin Smashing, Casket Races with the Haunted Forest anchoring the day's lineup. In addition to bringing individuals from outside Westmont, our Haunted Forest provides a great way to bring the community together.

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