

March 2013

## City Notes

### Daylight Saving Time Reminder

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 10. When you set your clocks ahead, the Wheaton Fire Department suggests that you replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, too. Replacing the batteries about every 6 months helps ensure they are functioning properly, and daylight saving time is a good way to remind yourself when you last replaced the batteries.

### Budget Workshop Sessions

If you would like to learn about the City's proposed Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget, attend the City's Budget Workshop Sessions, which will take place:

- 9 a.m. Saturday, March 9
- 7 p.m. Monday, March 11
- 9 a.m. Saturday, March 16

During the sessions, which will take place in the Council Chambers of City Hall, City staff and the City Council will discuss and review the proposed City budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

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## Nominate Good Citizens for Awards

It's time again to highlight the community members whose actions make Wheaton a better place to live. Wheaton's Community Relations Commission encourages you to help identify residents who have given unselfishly to the community as the commission seeks nominees for the 2013 Good Citizens Awards. These awards help the City recognize and thank those in Wheaton who make the generous and often extraordinary contributions that make this outstanding community.

Nominee categories include:

- High school student
- Adult
- Senior adult



#### • Group

Nominees may be recognized for outstanding volunteer service to the community, school or neighborhood. This may include volunteer service for school, church, a nursing home, civic group

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#### How to Nominate:

You can nominate someone for a Good Citizen Award by finding the [nomination form on the City's website](#) and emailing or mailing the completed application.

## Video Includes Tips to Prepare for Severe Weather

Spring often brings with it some wild weather in the Midwest, including severe storms. Before this season's severe weather arrives, the City of Wheaton encourages you to watch this video, ["Preparing for Severe Weather"](#), with tips for how you can be prepared for

thunderstorms, tornados or any natural disaster.

David Gervino with the DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management shares the three steps every Wheaton resident can take to be ready for spring weather. Gervino also addresses

common misconceptions about weather sirens, and he explains the difference between severe weather watches and warnings.

In addition to learning about how the County's emergency management

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## Contact the City

**Police/Fire: 911**

**After-Hours Water/Sewer Emergency: 630-260-2161**

**General Information: 630-260-2000, 630-260-8090 (TDD)**

**City Hall Hours: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday**

#### Feedback:

Please mail your comments to:

Mayor's Office, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187

Or, email comments to: [feedback@wheaton.il.us](mailto:feedback@wheaton.il.us)

# Voting Information for April Municipal Election

*Four district Council positions and remainder of one at-large position up for election*

In order to participate in the April 9, 2013 Consolidated Election to elect township, municipal, park district, library district, school district and fire district officials, residents who need to change their registration or register to vote must do so by Tuesday, March 28. Voter registration is offered at Wheaton City Hall from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, [see the City's website](#).

In Wheaton, the four district City Council positions

and one of the At-Large positions are up for election. The candidates, as registered through the DuPage Election Commission, are as follows:

**Councilman At-Large (to serve an unexpired 2-year term) Candidate:**

- John R. Prendiville

**Councilman North District Candidates:**

- Philip J. Suess
- Ted Rogers 4
- Alberta Adamson
- J.T. Del Alcazar

**Councilman South District**

**Candidate:**

- John K. Rutledge

**Councilman East District**

**Candidate:**

- W. Thoreson Saline

**Councilman West District**

**Candidate:**

- Todd Scalzo

Early voting is available for registered voters starting Monday, March 25, and concluding on Saturday, April 6. The Early Voting location

in Wheaton is at the DuPage County Election Commission office, 421 N. County Farm Road, Room 1-500B. The site is open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 30; 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 6; and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sundays.

On Election Day, Tuesday, April 9, polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. To check your registration or for more information, visit the DuPage County Election Commission website at [www.dupageco.org/election](http://www.dupageco.org/election).

## Award

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or non-profit organization. A person may also be nominated for service to an individual, such as tutoring or assisting an elderly neighbor. A nominee must be a current resident of Wheaton and have done something for the benefit of Wheaton and its citizens.

To nominate someone, fill out the nomination form, which is [available on the City's website](#).

[website](#), at the Wheaton Public Library and at the Wheaton Park District Community Center. Submit completed forms by email to [sbarrett-hagen@wheaton.il.us](mailto:sbarrett-hagen@wheaton.il.us) or mail it to: City Clerk, Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187. Nominations are due by April 12, 2013.

Nominations will be reviewed by the Community Relations Commission, and award recipients will be honored at the Wheaton City Council meeting on May 20.

## Weather

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office operates during severe weather, you can also learn about how the City of Wheaton works with the County in

widespread events like the severe storm July 1, 2012 that left more than half of DuPage County without power in sweltering conditions.

This video is [now available on the City's website](#) and on City of Wheaton Channel 10.



## Enter Native Illinois Plant Photo Contest

In preparation for the 13th annual Native Illinois Plant Sale, which is scheduled for April 27, 2013, organizers want to see your best photos of plants from their previous sales growing in your yard. The winning photo submission will receive a certificate for free plants at this year's Native Illinois Plant Sale.

All photo submissions will be showcased at the April 27 sale, giving attendees a glimpse at what the various types of plants might look

like growing in their own yards.

To participate, you can send the photo by email to Steve Hinchee of the Wheaton Park District at [shinchee@wheatonparks.org](mailto:shinchee@wheatonparks.org). Please indicate the type of plant shown, along with your name, address and phone number. Submissions are due by April 15.

Look for more information coming soon on the City's website about the 13th annual Native Illinois Plant Sale.

## City Notes

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### Business News

New businesses in Wheaton include:

- SOMA Intimates: women's lingerie and apparel, 71 Wheaton Town Square
- Bricks Wood Fired Pizza: 103 E. Front St.



Wheaton's adopted Army battalion recently shared this photo of the soldiers wearing their Wheaton shirts that were part of the care packages sent through the Community Relations Commission.

## Adopted Battalion Thanks Wheaton for Support

*Community Relations Commission project provides care packages for entire battalion*

More than 800 soldiers at Fort Riley, Kansas, recently paired their camouflage with a bit of Wheaton-wear. As a way to thank Wheaton for care packages sent through the Community Relations Commission, soldiers in the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment of the First Division lined up in formation to share the above photo with Wheaton residents.

Back in October, Wheaton's Community Relations Commission began collecting card games, iTunes gift cards, candy and other treats for care packages as its Make a Difference Day project. The commission wanted each of the more than 800 soldiers in the battalion to receive a care package – including a specially made T-shirt with Wheaton's City seal on it – in time for the holidays. Soldiers with children also received a holiday stocking filled with additional gift items and a gift card.

"Our goal was to be able to reach out to our adopted battalion to show them a small token of how much we

truly appreciate them and to let them know that the City of Wheaton cares for them," said Desiray Young, a member of the Community Relations Commission.

Several Wheaton schools – including Lowell, Johnson and Sandburg elementary schools – set up school-wide collections to help with the project. Local businesses assisted with some of the costs for the T-shirts and shipping, and volunteers from the commission, Wheaton-Warrenville South

### 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, First Infantry Division

To learn more about Wheaton's adopted battalion, [visit the City's website](#).

High School Key Club, and others helped assemble the care packages. The end result was a token of appreciation for each soldier.

"The contributions from the community far exceeded our expectations," Young said. "Together, we brightened the day of a soldier, and that's what really counts."

The soldiers asked the commission to let the residents of Wheaton know how deeply grateful they are for the community's generosity and thoughtfulness, especially during the holidays.

In response, Community Relations Commission Chairperson Renée Webb said, "The commission believes that we and the people of Wheaton received much more than we gave."

Wheaton's special relationship with this battalion began in 2006, when the community pulled together to provide special needs housing to a local resident and 18th Infantry soldier who was severely injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2008, the City of Wheaton formally adopted the soldiers as honorary citizens.

You can [learn more about Wheaton's adopted battalion on the City's website](#).

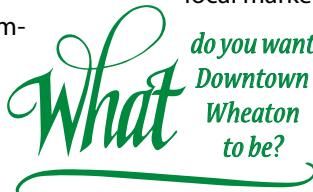


Each soldier received a specially made T-shirt with the Wheaton City seal, plus other gift items for the holidays.

# Online Forum for Downtown Plan is Back

The City continues to make progress in forming a long-term plan for Downtown Wheaton with another opportunity for the community to help guide the plan.

During the summer and fall of 2012, the Design Workshop consultant team solicited initial input from the community regarding the future vision for Downtown



Wheaton and some general ideas for its improvement over the next 20 years. The project team analyzed a number of factors – including traffic, infrastructure and the local market – to assist the

City Council in reaching a consensus “vision” for Downtown’s future.

The consulting team once again is using the Mind-Mixer online forum to solicit

input from the community. The online forum previously solicited feedback from the community, and it is being used again as a way for the community to continue the discussion.

Anyone can participate in this online forum at <http://wheaton.mindmixer.com> by registering with his or her name, email address, age and zip code. Once registered, you can share your idea(s) about one or more topics related to different aspects of the

downtown plan. Or, if you see ideas that you like, you can show your support for it and “second” it, or provide feedback about ideas others have posted.

Visit <http://wheaton.mindmixer.com> to share your thoughts on topics such as parking and the French Market. Check back often to see new ideas and topics.

For more information about the downtown plan, visit [www.wheaton.il.us/downtownplan](http://www.wheaton.il.us/downtownplan).

## Upcoming Events

### Electronic Recycling

**When:** Saturday, March 9, 9 a.m.-noon

**Where:** Wheaton Public Works Storage Facility, 820 W. Liberty Drive

Drop off your unwanted electronics for recycling during the City’s monthly collection event. Electronics such as televisions, computers, printers and small household appliances such as toasters and hair dryers are accepted. Also, Wheaton residents can now bring fluorescent bulbs for safe disposal (no businesses, please). For more information, see the article on the next page. CFLS and household batteries are not accepted at the monthly electronic recycling collection. [More information is on the City’s website.](#)

The Environmental Improvement Commission needs your help with these events. To volunteer, call 630-690-1237 or 630-653-8877.

### Candidate Forum

**When:** Thursday, March 14, 6:30-9 p.m.



**Where:** Wheaton Park District Community Center, 1777 S. Blanchard Road

The Wheaton League of Women Voters and the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce will host a Candidate Forum featuring residents who are running for Wheaton City Council, Community Unit School District 200 Board and Wheaton Park District Board.

Candidates will be given time to address the audience with an introduction followed by questions from the moderator.

### Celebrate Spring/Celebrate Easter

**When:** Saturday, March 30, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Where:** Memorial Park, Downtown Wheaton

This family-friendly event

begins with an Easter egg hunt at 10 a.m. in Memorial Park, followed by an Easter bonnet contest at 10:30 a.m. and a performance by Academy of Dance at 11 a.m. From noon to 1 p.m., children can visit participating downtown businesses for treats and goodies. This event is organized by the Downtown Wheaton Association.

# Fluorescent Tube Disposal Added to Monthly Electronic Collections

*Bulb Eater safely captures mercury vapor; prevents it from being released into air*

**A** new machine with a fierce-sounding name has the potential to reduce mercury in Wheaton. At last month's electronic recycling drop-off event, the City's Environmental Improvement Commission began using its new Bulb Eater Lamp Crusher, a machine that safely disposes of mercury found in certain types of fluorescent bulbs. Residents can drop off fluorescent tubes in addition to recycling nearly any type of electronic from 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of each month at the Wheaton Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive. Please note that compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) cannot be accepted.

The Environmental Improvement Commission purchased a Bulb Eater Lamp Crusher in order to help reduce the amount of harmful mercury that ends up in our local environment. When fluorescent tubes break, they release mercury vapor into the atmosphere, a highly toxic substance that can affect the human nervous system and harm the brain, heart, kidneys, lungs and immune system.

Previously, the closest location for residents to safely dispose of fluorescent tubes – such as the long tubes found in utility rooms and basements – was at the regional hazardous waste drop-off site in Naperville. By adding fluorescent tube disposal to the City's monthly collections, the Environmental Improvement Commission hopes that resi-



## Next Fluorescent Tube Disposal

- **Date:** March 9
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-noon
- **Location:** Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive

dents will choose this safe and convenient option rather than tossing bulbs in the trash.

"I see these types of tubes in people's trash all the time," said Kay McKeen, a member of the Environmental Improvement Commission. "We hope that residents will take advantage of this program so that we can reduce the amount of mercury in and around Wheaton."

This program is currently limited to Wheaton residents, and not businesses. The types of bulbs accepted include T-12, T-8 and T-5 fluorescent tubes, aquarium tubes and under-counter fluorescent tubes. The machine works using vacuum force to draw



**Forestry Division Superintendent Kevin Maloney demonstrates how the Bulb Eater uses a vacuum force to take in fluorescent bulbs. The machine crushes the bulbs and collects mercury vapor in an environmentally safe way.**

in the tube into an air-tight container that simultaneously crushes the bulb and captures the mercury vapor.

For more information about the electronic recycling collections, [see the electronic recycling section](#).

# Start Preparing for April Environmental Events

*Popular Recycling Extravaganza, Native Plant Sale and more in April*

Mark your calendar for a number of events organized by the Environmental Improvement Commission. In the month of April, you can safely dispose of many things, including propane tanks, musical instruments, office paper and scrap metal. Also, plan to help clean up the Illinois Prairie Path, see a tree planting ceremony, and buy some low-maintenance plants at the Native Illinois Plant Sale.

Special events include:

**Recycling Extravaganza:**

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 20 at the commuter parking lot at Liberty Drive and Carlton Avenue. This drive-through event will take your scrap metal, eye glasses, electronics, propane tanks, fluorescent tube bulbs, clothes, bedding, shoes, building supplies (in good condition only), SLA batteries, musical instruments, of-



**The Recycling Extravaganza is a convenient drive-through event set up with many different stations for you to dispose of many different types of items, such as cell phones, keys, hearing aids, scrap metal, propane tanks, clothes, propane tanks, musical instruments and paper.**

fice paper (for shredding) and more. To volunteer, groups or individuals high school age or older can call (630) 690-1237 or (630) 653-8877.

**Arbor Day Celebration:**  
April 26 at a Wheaton school. Look for more information coming soon about the location and time of this event, which celebrates

Wheaton as a Tree City USA.

**Native Illinois Plant Sale:**

8:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 27, Wheaton Public Works Building on Liberty Drive across from the Wheaton Police Station. Find environmentally friendly native northern Illinois trees, shrubs, grasses and flowers at this sale.

**Annual Prairie Path Cleanup**

9 a.m.-noon Saturday, April 27 - Stevens Park at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and The Prairie Path. Volunteer groups and individuals are needed; bring work gloves. Any group wanting to clean a specific area should e-mail [cleanupthepath@yahoo.com](mailto:cleanupthepath@yahoo.com) ahead of time to request that specific area.



## City Calendar

City Council Meetings and Planning Sessions are held in the Council Chambers at Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St. Coffee with Council takes place in the Gamon Room at Wheaton City Hall. Visit [www.wheaton.il.us](http://www.wheaton.il.us) for a complete list of meetings and events.

### March 2013

- 2** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 4** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 9** Budget Workshop Session, 9 a.m.
- 11** Budget Workshop Session, 7 p.m.
- 16** Budget Workshop Session, 9 a.m.
- 18** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 25** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 29** City offices closed