

March 2017

## City Notes

### Change Smoke Alarm Batteries

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 12. 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 approximately every six months helps ensure they are functioning properly, and Daylight Saving Time is a good way to remind yourself when you last replaced the batteries.

### Let's Stay in Touch

Did you know it's easier than ever to stay updated on what's happening in your community and get in touch with the City? Find the City of Wheaton on Facebook (@CityOfWheaton), Twitter (@CityOfWheaton), or sign up to have information sent to your email inbox at [www.wheaton.il.us/emailupdates](http://www.wheaton.il.us/emailupdates).



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## Nominate Someone for a 2017 Good Citizens Award

*Commission's award honors outstanding Wheaton residents*

**D**o you know someone who you think deserves to be recognized for his or her service in the community? Wheaton's Community Relations Commission encourages you to nominate a person or group for Wheaton's 2017 Good Citizens Award.

This award helps recognize those who make the generous and often extraordinary contributions that make Wheaton an outstanding community. This may be volunteer service for a school, church, nursing home, civic group or nonprofit organization. A person may also be nominated for service to an individual, such as tutoring, assisting an elderly neighbor, etc.

The categories for nominees are: high school



**Above are the recipients of the 2016 Good Citizens Award in the student category.**

student, adult and group. A nominee must be a current Wheaton resident who has done something for the benefit of Wheaton and its citizens.

**Nominations are due by April 10, 2017.**

The Community Relations Commission will review nominations.

The City will honor award recipients at the Wheaton City Council meeting on May 15, 2017.

### Ways to Submit a Nomination:

- Online:** [wheaton.il.us/goodcitizen](http://wheaton.il.us/goodcitizen)
- By email:** [lqualkenbush@wheaton.il.us](mailto:lqualkenbush@wheaton.il.us)
- By mail:** Send to Attn: Lindsay Qualkenbush, Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187

## Contact the City

**Police/Fire: 911**  
**After-Hours Water/Sewer Emergency: 630-260-2161**  
**General Information: 630-260-2000**  
**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)

# City Notes

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## Wheaton Pedestrian Tunnel Closed

The pedestrian tunnel at Wheaton Avenue that runs under Roosevelt Road will be closed until further notice. Engineers are assessing the structure for safety.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 630-260-2116.

## Employment Opportunities

The City currently has the following employment opportunities posted on its website:

- Part-time Media Assistant
- Summer Temporary Seasonal Workers – College students

To read more, [visit the City's website](#).

## Yard Waste Pickup Resumes April 3

Yard waste, food scraps and organic materials are collected at the curb from the first full week of April through the second full week of December. Please do not place yard waste at the curb before the week of April 3, as Lakeshore Recycling Systems can't accept these materials before the pickup season begins.

Use containers no larger than 35 gallons in size or biodegradable paper bags. Each container/bag must weigh no more than 50 pounds and must have one Lakeshore Recycling Systems sticker attached to be collected. For more about yard waste, [visit the City's website](#).

## Commission News

The City Council appointed Tim Bayee to a two-year term on the Police Pension and reappointed Bill Gilbertson, Andrea Petti and Jeannie Iseman to three-year terms on the Housing Commission.



# Beware of IRS Tax Scams

As Tax Day for 2017 approaches, criminals will be trying to take advantage of taxpayers by impersonating Internal Revenue Service and Treasury employees. The phone fraud scam uses automated robocalls to contact victims. The criminals provide fake names, badge numbers and may even have basic information about the victim.

The Wheaton Police Department would like to remind community members that the Internal Revenue Service will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment, nor will the IRS call about

*Wheaton Police offer tips for tax season*

taxes owed without first corresponding by mail.

- Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
- Require you to use specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.

- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

- Threaten to have members of the Wheaton Police Department or DuPage County Sheriff's Office come to your home and arrest you for not paying.

If you don't owe taxes and receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS asking for money:

- Do not give the caller any information and hang up immediately.
- Contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration <https://www.treasury.gov/services/report-fwa/Pages/ReportFWA.aspx> or 1-800-829-1040
- Report it to the Federal Trade Commission at [www.FTC.gov](http://www.FTC.gov)
- Report it to the Wheaton Police Department.

## March Workshops Discuss City Budget

If you would like to learn about the City's proposed Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget, attend the City's Budget Workshop Sessions, which will take place:

- 9 a.m. Saturday, March 11
- 7 p.m. Monday, March 13

- 9 a.m. Saturday, March 18

During the sessions, which will take place in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., City staff and the City Council will discuss and review the proposed City budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

The proposed budget will be available on the City's website before the budget workshop sessions.

These workshop sessions will be recorded and will be available on the City's website at a later date.

# Changes Increase Available Downtown Parking

*Garage now includes customer parking and daily fee parking option for employees*

In an ongoing effort to increase available parking for customers, employers and employees, the City made the following changes to public parking areas in Downtown Wheaton:

- Replaced 3-hour and 4-hour parking in the Wheaton Place Garage (located on Wheaton Avenue between Wesley Street and Front Street) with customer-only parking
- Changed 94 parking spaces to 6-hour free parking in several downtown locations, including:  
1) Along the west and north sides of Adams Park (Main Street and Seminary Avenue)  
2) Along Wesley Street just west of City Hall  
3) Just south of the Wheaton Public Library (along Wesley,

Cross and Scott streets)

- Added 20 \$1.00 daily fee spaces available on the top floor of the Wheaton Place Garage

A committee consisting of City staff, members of the Downtown Wheaton Association, and the Wheaton Police Department Parking Enforcement Division initiated these changes. They will free up parking spaces in the lower level of the Wheaton Place Garage for customer use, provide longer-term free parking in convenient areas for employees, and encourage employee use of leased spaces in the garage.

Look for new signage in the downtown that will help increase awareness of the diverse parking options.



## City of Wheaton Receives Financial Reporting Award

The City of Wheaton recently received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and it recognizes that the City published an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report.

This is the 34th consecutive year the City of Wheaton Finance Department has received



this award.

An impartial panel judged the report, which is intended to clearly communicate the City's finances to the public.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals.

## Election for Wheaton City Council is April 4

Registered Wheaton voters can cast their ballots for Wheaton City Council during the April 4, 2017 Consolidated General Election. This election also includes candidates for the Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioners and School Board.

Each of the four District City Council positions are up for election. Voters can select a candidate in their respective District: north, south, east and west. If you are unsure of your District, [see this map on the City's website](#).

The candidates for Wheaton City Council, as they will appear on the ballot, are:

Councilman, North District:

- Philip J. Suess

Councilman, South District:

- John K. Rutledge

Councilman, East District:

- Thomas Dymit
- W. Thoreson Saline II
- Michael Barbier

Councilman, West District:

- Robert "Bobby" McNeily
- Todd Scalzo
- Lynn Robbins

For information, see

the DuPage Election Commission's website at  
<https://www.dupageco.org/Election/Voting>.

# Upcoming Events

## In Good Taste Restaurant Week

**Date:** Through March 5

**Location:** Participating downtown Wheaton restaurants

Visit downtown Wheaton restaurants during Restaurant Week, which features special menu items, discounts, pre-fixe menus, special events and more. The Downtown Wheaton Association organizes this event. For more information, see [www.downtownwheaton.com](http://www.downtownwheaton.com).

## Electronic Recycling

**Date:** Saturday, March 11

**Time:** 9 a.m.-noon

**Location:** Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive (just east of the Wheaton Police Department)

Bring unwanted electronics to the monthly electronic recycling collection. This is a drive-through event where volunteers will help unload items from your car.

Please note that there is a charge for all TVs and monitors at this event. [More information](#)

## Real News About Fake News

**Date:** Monday, March 13

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Location:** Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St.

Learn how the internet has helped foster the "fake news" phenomenon and how you can distinguish between credible, unbiased news and media bias or outright misinformation. Register online at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.

## Soon to be Famous Illinois Author Visit

**Date:** Thursday, March 16



**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Location:** Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St.

Geralyn Hesslau Magrady, 2016 winner of the Soon to be Famous Illinois Author Project for her historical fiction novel, Lines, will discuss her writing journey and the STBF award experience. Part of the Inside Writing & Publishing series, co-sponsored by Warrenville Public Library. Register online at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.

## Native Plants: The Basics

**Date:** Thursday, March 23

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Location:** Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St.

Horticulturist Sharon Yiesla will discuss basic concepts for using native plants in your garden, including plants that are relatively low maintenance. Native plants are better for our local environment,

have few disease and insect problems, and adapt to a range of growing conditions. Register online at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.

## The History of Writing and the Alphabet

**Date:** Thursday, March 30

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Location:** Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St.

For over 5,000 years, people have made use of writing to make language visible and permanent, from cuneiform and Egyptian hieroglyphics to today's alphabet. PhD student Andrew Burlingame will discuss how these writing systems emerged, why their earliest inventors used them, and how they have changed. Register online at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.



## Submit Photos for Native Plant Sale Contest

Wheaton's popular annual Native Illinois Plant Sale returns Saturday, April 29, 2017 at the City's Public Works building, 821 W. Liberty Drive. From 8:30 a.m. to noon, you will find flowers, grasses, trees and other plants native to Illinois available for sale. This event is a partnership between the City of Wheaton, Wheaton Environmental Commission and Wheaton Park District to promote environmentally friendly planting in the community.

Sale organizers are seeking photos of native plants growing in your yard that were purchased at a past Wheaton Native Plant Sale. The photos will be showcased at the sale to help attendees see what plants look like in a natural setting. The person who submits the best photo will receive a certificate for free plants to use at the April 29 sale.

To submit a photo, email the image to Steve Hinchee of the Wheaton Park District at [shinchee@wheatonparks.org](mailto:shinchee@wheatonparks.org). Be sure to include the type of plant shown, along with your name, address and phone number. Entries are due by April 8, 2017.

# How to Keep Skunks & Other Pests Away

The mating season for many animals – including skunks and coyotes – is in early spring. As temperatures warm up, you may find yourself with unwelcome wildlife in your yard. Here are some tips to keep them away.

## Add Light

Animals like skunks prefer dark places to make their home. Try adding light in your yard as an effective deterrent.

## Get Rid of Food Sources

Coyotes, raccoons, skunks and many other animals will take advantage of an easy meal. If you leave pet food, garbage or food scraps outdoors, it's an invitation for animals to come to your yard.

## Seal Holes

Holes under your deck, concrete steps or under your house are prime locations for wildlife. Seal these spots with metal screening to keep animals out.



# Nicor Work Will Affect Some Areas

Some areas in Wheaton will be affected by Nicor Gas's multi-year project to modernize aging natural gas infrastructure. This could include sewer line inspections, marking existing utilities, and installing new gas line infrastructure in some Wheaton neighborhoods.

If you live in one of the affected areas, you will receive further notice from Nicor about when work will take place.

All Nicor Gas employees and contractors will have Nicor Gas or AGL Resources-issued ID cards and will present them if requested. If you have questions related to this project, contact Liz Goad at 630-669-9438 or [LGoad@southernco.com](mailto:LGoad@southernco.com). If you have questions related to landscaping and paving, call 800-730-6114



Ext. 4. For more information, visit [nicorgas.com/](http://nicorgas.com/) WorkInYourNeighborhood or call 630-388-3333.

The affected areas include:

- 502-704 and 806-836 N. Blanchard Ave.
- 1010-1543 and 1705 E. College Ave.
- 1704 E. Forest Ave.
- 1048 E. Garner Ave.
- 1203 and 1501 E. Harrison Ave.
- 1220 E. Jefferson Ave.
- 945-1011 N. Kingston Drive
- 1410 E. North Path
- 806-843 N. Pick St.
- 403 N. President St.
- 405-511 and 902-1021 N. Stoddard Ave.
- 650-716 N. Summit St.

# Save the Date for Paper Shredding Event

*Free event sponsored by Environmental Improvement Commission*

The City's Environmental Improvement Commission will host a paper shredding event from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 8, 2017, in the commuter

parking lot at Carlton Avenue and Liberty Drive. This is a drive-up event, and documents will be shredded on-site.

You must remove

rubber bands, plastic page protectors, plastic bags, plastic file tabs and binders. However, staples and paper clips do not need to be removed.

# 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 City Hall. Visit [www.wheaton.il.us](http://www.wheaton.il.us) for a complete list of meetings and events.

## March 2017

- 4 Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 6 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 11 Budget Workshop Session, 9 a.m.
- 13 Budget Workshop Session, 7 p.m.
- 18 Budget Workshop Session, 9 a.m.
- 20 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 27 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.