

May 2015

## City Notes

### No Garbage Pickup

City offices will be closed on Monday, May 25. Due to the Memorial Day holiday, Advanced Disposal Services will not pick up garbage/recycling/yard waste on May 25, so pickup will be delayed by one day the week of May 25-29.

### Lawn Watering Restrictions Begin

Annual lawn watering restrictions go into effect from May 15 to Sept. 15. Residents with odd-numbered street addresses can water their lawns on odd-numbered days and those with even-numbered addresses are limited to even-numbered days. Sprinkling is prohibited between noon and 6 p.m. every day. Contact the Water Division at 630-260-2090 for a 10-day new sod/seed variance.

### Commission Seeks Members

Are you passionate about environmental issues? Would you like to help promote eco-friendly activities in the Wheaton and help advise the City on environmental

*(Continued on next page)*

## Wheaton Could Lose \$2.6M in General Fund Revenue

*Governor proposes significant reduction to City's revenue distribution*

Governor Rauner has announced his intention to reduce the amount of Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) money that is distributed to municipal entities in the State of Illinois. Wheaton's lost revenue from this action would amount to \$2,615,000, or 6.4% of the City's General Fund revenues.

LGDF is State income tax money that has been distributed to local governments since the State income tax was implemented in 1969. To understand the magnitude of this revenue loss on the City's operations, this amount of money represents 65% of the General Fund's capital projects budget, 75% of the General Fund's Public Works personnel costs, 44% of the Fire Department's personnel costs or 23% of the Police Department's person-



**Proposed state cuts would significantly reduce the amount of revenue the City receives for its General Fund, which is used to fund things such as capital projects.**

*The proposed cut is equivalent to 65% of the General Fund's capital projects budget.*

nel costs. If this lost revenue were to be replaced by property tax dollars, the City would need to increase the General Fund property tax rate by approximately 11.6%,

or \$0.14 per \$100 of equalized assessed valuation.

This revenue loss is concerning to the City and should be a concern to our residents. Wheaton residents are urged to inform themselves about the proposals of the Governor and the legislature as they affect municipalities and the City encourages you to voice your opinions to the Governor and legislature. You can contact your state representatives and Governor Rauner using the form at [www.protectmytown.com](http://www.protectmytown.com).

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)



# City Notes

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issues? The Environmental Improvement Commission is accepting applications from residents interested in joining the commission. Regular events led by the commission include the annual Recycling Extravaganza, Prairie Path Cleanup, Arbor Day and monthly electronic recycling collections.

To apply, fill out a [Boards & Commissions Application](#) and return it to the City Clerk's Office.

## Hydrant Flushing

The City's Water Division began its 2015 Hydrant Flushing Program on April 26, and it will continue for two to three weeks. To minimize inconvenience to residents, hydrant flushing will be done between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday.

The purpose of this program is to flush out particles that accumulate in water lines. During or immediately following the hydrant flushing, water discoloration may occur. It is best not to draw large amounts of water if you experience discoloration.

Questions? Call the Water Division at 630-260-2090.

## New Businesses

Businesses that have recently opened in Wheaton include:

- American Mattress, 1910 E. Roosevelt Road: Family owned and operated bedding and mattress store
- Gia Mia Pizza Bar, 106 N. Hale St.: Farm-to-table Old World authentic Neapolitan pizza bar

## Commission News

The City Council reappointed John Dalby to the Band Commission, Robert Young to the Environmental Improvement Commission and Don Sender to the Liquor Control Commission. Each is for a term of three years.



# Wheaton Police Issue Warning about Door-to-Door Solicitors

**T**he Wheaton Police Department has received several complaints in recent weeks about an increase in the number of aggressive solicitors in door-to-door visits.

**Never allow a solicitor access to your residence for any reason.** If you feel threatened or in immediate danger, call 9-1-1 immediately.

Wheaton City Code (Ord. No. F-0764) provides:

1. It is unlawful for any solicitor to go onto any premises and ring a doorbell or knock prior 9 a.m. or after 9 p.m. on any weekday, or prior to 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on any weekend day.
2. Any citizen of the city

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*Never allow a solicitor access to your residence for any reason. If you feel threatened or in danger, call 9-1-1.*

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desiring to prohibit solicitors, canvassers or peddlers from their premises may post a sign indicating, "No Solicitors Invited" that solicitors are prohibited from entering onto their property. The same applies to apartments as well.

3. Solicitors are required to depart peacefully from the premises after a resi-

dent informs them they are no longer welcome on the premises.

Residents are not required nor should they feel compelled to answer the door if the resident believes that the individual is a solicitor.

If residents do not want solicitors to knock on their door, they are encouraged to place a "No Solicitors Invited" sign on their doors. Door decals are available at the Police Department for \$1 each, or [you can print out this No Solicitors sign](#) (pdf).

If for any reason residents feel uncomfortable or if a solicitor refuses to leave, they should call 9-1-1 immediately.

# City Council Members Sworn in May 4

*One new, two returning members will begin new terms*

**I**n the April 7 Consolidated General Election, Wheaton voters cast their ballots for Wheaton Mayor and two At-Large positions on the Wheaton City Council. Voters elected

Michael Gresk as for another four-year term as Mayor of Wheaton.

Also, voters elected newcomer Suzanne Fitch to a four-year term as a City Council At-Large represen-

tative and incumbent John Prendiville for another four-year term as a City Council At-Large representative.

They will be sworn into office at the May 4, 2015 City Council meeting.

# Video Urges Riders to “Think, Ride, Survive!”

*Bike safety tips, proper bike fit and more explored in locally-shot video*

As we welcome warmer weather, more children and adults are picking up their bikes to get around town, for a ride on the Illinois Prairie Path or as a way to get to work or school. Before your next ride, the Wheaton Bicycle Advisory Committee encourages you to take a few minutes that could save your life.

[“Think. Ride. Survive!”](#) is a new video covering the fundamentals of bicycle safety – including some pointers for bicyclists that are especially helpful for Wheaton riders, like common Prairie Path riding etiquette and how to safely cross railroad tracks.

This video is a project of the Wheaton Bicycle Advisory Committee, produced by the City’s Communications Department. Students from Community Unit School District 200 and Wheaton College appear in the video, which has universal safety tips that apply to riders of all ages.

“As an offshoot of the Wheaton Environmental Improvement Commission, our group is passionate



The video gives tips on local riding situations, such as proper Prairie Path rider etiquette.



## Watch the Video

[“Think. Ride. Survive!”](#) is available on the City’s website and is being shown on City of Wheaton Channel 10 (CWC10).

in encouraging people to consider biking as an eco-friendly, healthy alternative to driving,” said Jim Knasel, a Bicycle Advisory Committee member who led the planning of this video. “We were excited to involve local students because we thought it would make the video especially fun for the commu-

nity to see local kids helping spread messages about bike safety.”

Because the video was shot entirely around Wheaton, the community will recognize some familiar landmarks and spots in the city.

“We wanted to give this video a local flavor, but what’s most important is the safety information it contains,” Knasel said. “Whether you’re a seasoned rider or a kid just taking off your training wheels, I think everyone will get something out of this video.”

You can watch [“Think. Ride. Survive!”](#) on the City’s website or catch it on City of Wheaton Channel 10 (CWC10).

## Free Class Teaches Bike Safety Tips

The Wheaton Bicycle Advisory Committee and Wheaton Park District are teaming up to provide a free bike safety class to encourage biking for transportation and fun. This year’s class will have two sessions on Saturday, May 9. The class from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. is for ages 12 and older, while a class for younger riders, ages 5-11, is from 11 a.m. to noon. Children ages 5-11 must be accompanied by an adult. Both classes meet in the parking lot of Rice Pool at the Community Center. In case of rain, the class will meet in the Community Center.

This class will teach children and their parents proper bike and helmet fit, bicycle safety checks, light bike maintenance and proper handling skills. Participants will ride through the neighborhood to practice. Laurel Salvador, League of American Bicyclists Cycling Instructor and Wheaton Bicycle Advisory Committee member, will lead.

Bring your bike and helmet to class and wear comfortable clothing. While this class is free, registration is required by going to [www.wheatonparkdistrict.com](http://www.wheatonparkdistrict.com) and registering for class 215406-01 for ages 12 and older, or 215406-02 for ages 5-11.

## Construction for Sidewalk Replacement Program Begins

During the week of April 6, 2015, crews began preparatory work for the 2015 Sidewalk Replacement Program, including marking sidewalk squares slated for removal. This is the fourth year of a long-term program to replace sidewalk squares deemed “highly de-

*Map of sidewalk squares to be replaced is on City’s website*

fective” according to the City’s survey of more than 265 miles of sidewalks in Wheaton.

This year’s program will focus on the area west of Main Street, south of Franklin Street, south to Wiesbrook Road. You can [see a map of](#)

[the squares scheduled for replacement and track the program’s progress on the City’s website](#). The City anticipates this portion of the project will be complete by the end of summer.

Strada Construction will

be removing the existing sidewalk, framing and pouring the new sidewalk, and completing restoration work. Questions about work in your area can be addressed to the City’s Street Superintendent at 630-260-2116.



# Upcoming Events

## Wheaton French Market

**Date:** Saturdays through Nov. 14

**Time:** 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Location:** Parking lot at Main Street and Liberty Drive, just south of the railroad tracks.

More than a typical farmers market, the Wheaton French Market offers a wide variety of vendors. From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday, visit the French Market near the intersection of Main Street and Liberty Drive to find fresh produce, locally made gifts, art, specialty foods, handmade jewelry, flowers and more. Items sold change seasonally, offering visitors variety from week to week. For more information, contact Bensidoun USA at 312-575-0286.

## Go Fly a Kite

**Date:** Saturday, May 2

**Time:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Location:** Graf Park, 1701 Manchester Road

The Wheaton Park District will bring back this community event, where attendees can try to break Wheaton's record of 843 kites in the air simultaneously. Bring your own kite or purchase one at the event,



which features entertainment for all ages. Free admission. [More information](#)

## Electronic Recycling

**Date:** Saturday, May 9

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

**Location:** Wheaton Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive

Bring your unwanted electronics, household batteries, cooking oil and fluorescent tube bulbs (not CFLs) to the Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty

Drive, between 9 a.m. and noon. It is a drive-through event; volunteers will unload items from your car. No refrigerators, air conditioners or other items with refrigerant/coolant liquids. [Read the list of items that will be accepted.](#)

## Wheaton Preservation Week Events

**Dates:** May 15-25

See page 5 for information about [Wheaton Preservation Week](#).

## Memorial Day Parade

**Date:** Monday, May 25

**Time:** 10 a.m. parade, 11 a.m. ceremony

Location: Steps off from Memorial Park, heading south on Hale Street, turning west onto Wesley street, then turning south onto West Street (which becomes Warrenville Road once it crosses Roosevelt Road).

The parade will conclude at the Wheaton Cemetery on Warrenville Road. A Memorial Day Ceremony at the Wheaton Cemetery will take place at 11 a.m. For more information, visit [www.americanlegionpost76.org](http://www.americanlegionpost76.org).

## Vintage Rides

**Date:** Fridays, May 29-Aug. 28

**Time:** 6-9 p.m.

**Location:** Front Street near Main Street, downtown Wheaton

Rev up your summer with Vintage Rides, a weekly car show featuring classic cars, custom vehicles, muscle cars and more each Friday night in downtown Wheaton. From 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. each Friday, May 29 through Aug. 28, 2015, classic cars, collectibles, concept cars and muscle cars will be displayed along Front Street between Main and Cross streets. This family friendly event is an annual tradition of the Downtown Wheaton Association. [More information](#)





# Preservation Week Celebrates Wheaton History

*Historic Commission has events planned for annual celebration May 15-25*

If you've ever wondered about the role Wheaton played in the Civil War, you might be surprised to learn that it served as a station on the Underground Railroad. Hear from Dr. David Maas, Wheaton College Emeritus Professor of History, in a lecture: "The Underground Railroad in Wheaton" as a kickoff to the Wheaton Historic Commission's Preservation Week.

Dr. Maas will present his lecture at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, 2015 in the Lower Level Large Meeting Room of the Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St. The lecture is free and open to the public. Hear about the Freedom Line and Maas's discoveries, which led to Wheaton being added to the National Register of Historic Places' official list of Underground Railroad sites.

Following this lecture, celebrate Wheaton's history with [Preservation Week](#), an annual event coordinated by the Wheaton Historic Commission, May 15-25, 2015.



**Dr. David Maas**

## Look for Purple Signs

As part of Preservation Week, the Historic Commission places "Pride in Preservation" purple lawn signs throughout Wheaton at various sites designated Wheaton Historic Landmarks and locations listed on the Wheaton Register of Historic Places.



Many of these sites include a plaque with the estimated date of construction or a permanent interpretive sign with more information.

See an online tour of some of these sites with images and brief information [on the City's website by selecting "Wheaton's Landmark Homes."](#)

## Explore Cantigny Park

Also, the Historic Commission encourages Wheaton residents to take advantage of free parking at Cantigny Park May 15-22, organized by the commission. Cantigny Park is the 500-acre estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955), longtime editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune. The Robert R. McCormick Museum was listed on the Wheaton Register of Historic Places in 2011 by the City of Wheaton Historic Commission.

For information about Cantigny Park, visit [www.cantigny.org](http://www.cantigny.org).

## Mid-Century Modern Tour Maps

The commission, in cooperation with Boy Scout Troop 303, will be distributing free Historic Wheaton Mid-Century Modern Tour maps featuring the Wheaton homes designed by Edward Dart and built by Wheaton developer Graeme Stewart.

Look for a Boy Scout near the Wheaton French Market (near Main Street and Liberty Drive) between 10 a.m. and 1



**Look for purple "Pride in Preservation" signs in May. They designate many Wheaton Historic Landmarks and locations listed on the Wheaton Register of Historic Places.**

p.m. Saturday, May 16 to get your free map.

## Mid-Century Modern Open House

Stop in between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, May 17 at 816 W. Elm St. to learn about this Graeme Stewart project designed by Chicago modernist-architect Edward Dart, who designed numerous churches, homes and businesses in Chicago and its suburbs. Matt Seymour, who has written extensively on Dart, will speak about the architect's life and design philosophy.



**Matt Seymour**

## Home History Research Event

Ever wondered about the

history of your home? Take part in a Home History Research Event at the Wheaton Public Library from 1-4 p.m. May 23. Reservations are required by calling 630-868-7520. The library will also feature a Home History Exhibit throughout May.

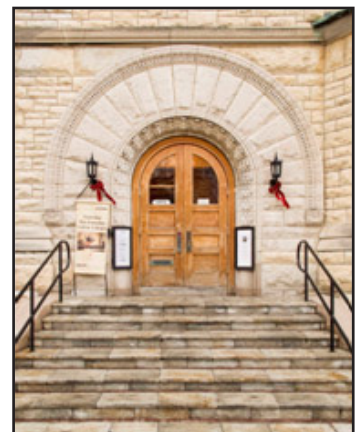


Photo by William D'Arcy

**DuPage County Historical Museum, 102 E. Wesley St.**

## Historic Walking Tour

DuPage County Historical Museum is offering an architecture walking tour at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 23. The tour begins at the museum, 102 E. Wesley St. A small fee applies for the tour.

# West Nile Virus Update

**M**osquito population surveillance is performed by the Illinois Department of Health, DuPage County Health Department, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County and Clarke Mosquito Control. While DuPage County recorded 5 human WNV cases in 2014, compared to 6 in 2013, surveillance confirmed 93 adult mosquito samples positive for WNV within DuPage County in 2014, demonstrating an ongoing risk for West Nile virus activity.

Symptoms of the disease are initially similar to the flu, with muscle weakness and disorientation. Though the majority of those infected will have mild or no symptoms, West Nile Virus can cause inflammation of the brain and in severe cases, paralysis, coma or death. The disease is most serious – even fatal – in those with compromised immune systems and the elderly.

The City of Wheaton is within the boundary of the Wheaton Mosquito Abatement District. The district has contracted with Clarke Mosquito Control to control nuisance mosquitoes, reduce the potential of mosquito-borne disease transmission, and provide a comfortable and healthy atmosphere for district residents.

Environmentally sensitive mosquito control is accom-



plished using Integrated Pest Management, which includes: larval site monitoring, biological control, and the careful and strategic use of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-labeled and registered pesticide products.

## What Can You Do?

- If outdoors when mosquitoes are active, dress in light-colored, long-sleeved clothing, long pants and socks. Apply mosquito repellent with DEET to clothing and exposed skin.
- Neglected swimming pools can be ideal sources for larval development to the mosquito species that transmits WNV. Report neglected pools to the mosquito hotline at 1-800-942-2555. Technicians will be dispatched to inspect and treat the pool to eliminate the risk.
- Discard any outdoor container that might hold water or empty water from wading

pools and birdbaths once a week.

- Keep grass cut short and shrubs well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes will not hide there.
- Do not dump grass clippings into low-lying areas that collect water to prevent mosquito larvae development. Use a mulching lawnmower to eliminate grass clipping disposal.
- Report dead birds on your property to the DuPage County Health Department. Dead crows, blue jays and raptors can be the first indicators of WNV in the area.

For the latest information, consult the DuPage County Health Department website at [www.dupagehealth.org/ftb](http://www.dupagehealth.org/ftb). Residents can report standing water areas that could develop larvae, and mosquito annoyance conditions by calling contractor Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management Inc. at 1-800-942-2555.

## City's Medication Disposal Closed

*Other locations available for medicine disposal*

**T**he Wheaton Police Department has permanently closed its anonymous RxBox medication disposal program due to safety-related concerns.

Alternate RxBox disposal locations are:

- DuPage County Sheriff's Office, 501 N. County Farm Road
- Addison Police Department
- Bloomingdale Police Department
- Burr Ridge Police Department
- Carol Stream Police Department
- Glendale Heights Police Department
- Lemont Police Department
- Lisle Police Department
- Oak Brook Police Department
- Schaumburg Police Department
- Wood Dale Police Department

## 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.

### May 2015

- 2** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 4** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 11** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 18** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 25** City offices closed; No garbage pickup
- 26** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.

