



# CITY OF WHEATON

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## NEWSLETTER

December 2017

### CITY NOTES

#### Yard Waste Pickup Ends

Your final pickup for the season for yard waste (including leaves), food scraps and organic materials will be on your normal garbage day the week of Dec. 11. Please place items in biodegradable bags or containers no more than 35 gallons in size. Each bag or container must have a yard waste/organics sticker attached to be picked up.

Lakeshore Recycling Systems will resume its yard waste/food scrap/organic material collection during the first full week of April 2018.

#### Holiday Garbage Pickup Schedules

Due to the Christmas holiday, Lakeshore Recycling Systems will not collect garbage or

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## First Phase of Downtown Construction Complete

#### *Front Street improvements resume in spring*

With the first phase of construction complete on Front Street, the City has reached an important checkpoint in the Downtown Streetscape project.

Initial construction involved digging below ground and replacing aging sanitary sewer pipes and water main. Crews worked on Front Street from West Street to Cross Street. While this phase required temporary lane closures and limited parking along Front Street, crews were able to complete the project on schedule and with at least one lane open for through traffic.



The City appreciates the continued patience shown by local businesses, residents and those doing business in downtown Wheaton. Please remember that local shops, restaurants and other downtown businesses appreciate the community's continued patronage during this extensive project to improve

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Crews replaced underground utility pipes. In the process, crews uncovered original cobblestone streets from many decades ago.

### CONTACT THE CITY

**Police/Fire:** 911

**General Information:** 630-260-2000

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

**Feedback:** Please email comments to us at: [communications@wheaton.il.us](mailto:communications@wheaton.il.us)

## Martin Memorial Plaza concept drawing



## Construction

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infrastructure and enhance citizens' downtown Wheaton experience.

The next step for this project involves finalizing design plans for Front Street, including Martin

Memorial Plaza. Then, in the spring, crews will begin replacing the elements you see above-ground on Front Street, such as sidewalks, lights, roads and other amenities. Some of the improvements you can enjoy once this portion of the project is complete

are wider sidewalks, a new gathering plaza, LED streetlights, new signage, new trees, plantings and more.

To stay up-to-date with this project, you can visit the City's website at [www.wheaton.il.us](http://www.wheaton.il.us) or [sign up to receive email updates](#) from the City.

## New Wheaton Videos

Check out these new videos on the City's website at [www.wheaton.il.us/videos](http://www.wheaton.il.us/videos) or on City of Wheaton Channel 10 to see what's happening in Wheaton:

- [Wheaton Christmas Parade](#)
- [Veterans Day Ceremony](#)
- [Chat with the Mayor: Northern Illinois Food Bank](#)
- [Talk About Choices: Pam Sharar-Stoppe](#)

## CITY NOTES

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recycling on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017 or Monday, Jan. 1, 2018. All pickups will be one day later than usual during the weeks of Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

## City Offices Closed

Non-emergency City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017, and Monday, Jan. 1, 2018.

## Bicycle Committee Seeks Members

The Bicycle Advisory Committee is looking for committee members to join the group. People

interested in promoting biking and a bike-friendly Wheaton would be a great fit. For information contact [BikeWheaton@gmail.com](mailto:BikeWheaton@gmail.com).

## Thanks for the Pumpkins

The City thanks the community for participating in the Pumpkin Compost collection last month. The event kept 576 pumpkins out of landfills.

Thank you to student volunteers from Wheaton North and College of DuPage and the Environmental Improvement Commission for running the event on a wet day!



## Commission News

The City Council appointed Shayne Moore to the Community Relations Commission, appointed Laurie Oberhelman to the Fine & Cultural Arts

Commission, appointed Thomas Zullo to the Housing Commission, and reappointed Dottie Mackie to the Band Commission. All appointments are for three-year terms.

# Snow Removal Reminders

**A**s snowy weather arrives, the City of Wheaton has a few reminders that will help City crews to clear Wheaton streets and minimize safety hazards.

Plowing, blowing or shoveling snow into the roadway or across the street to the opposite parkway creates several problems. Snow that piles up in the street is a nuisance to other property owners, creates more narrow traffic lanes, and produces safety hazards for other drivers. It also can cause plows to hit the curb, which can damage the curb. For these reasons, the City enacted an ordinance that makes pushing snow into the street or onto an opposite parkway a violation of City Code. Please help keep our streets



safe by adhering to this ordinance. Violations yield a minimum fine of \$100 per day.

You can also help by keeping fire hydrants clear of snow and by removing obstructions – such as portable basketball hoops or decorative stone boulders – that are within 5 feet of the paved street. Please check your mailbox, too, to make sure it's not leaning into the roadway. Leaning

mailboxes become obstructions for snow plows.

Also, please remember that after 2 inches of accumulated snowfall, parking is prohibited on any street for 24 hours or until streets have been cleared.

Finally, please clear snow from sidewalks near your home. Keeping sidewalks clear, especially near intersections, is very helpful for children walking to school or their bus stops and other neighbors who use the sidewalks.

To receive timely information during severe winter weather, you can follow the City of Wheaton on Facebook, follow @CityOfWheaton on Twitter or get information delivered to you through [email updates](#).

# Keep the Wreath Red

**T**his holiday season, the Wheaton Fire Department will decorate Wheaton's three fire stations with wreaths that have a special significance. The wreaths are part of the Keep the Wreath Red fire safety campaign, a statewide program that reminds you to practice fire safety during the holiday season. The wreaths feature red lights, and for each Wheaton fire caused by holiday decorations, the Fire Department will replace one red bulb with a white bulb.

Help the Fire Department Keep the Wreath Red by unplugging holiday lights before leaving home or sleeping, being careful with candles, using flame-retardant decorations, ensuring lights are in good condition and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) listed, and keeping trees watered.

# Christmas Tree Recycling in Early January

**T**he City's garbage/recycling hauler will pick up live Christmas trees for recycling on your collection day during the weeks of January 1, 2018, and January 8, 2018, at no charge, with no sticker needed. Please note that collection will be one day later for all pickups the week of January 1, 2018, due to the New Year's

Day holiday.

During this free two-week collection period, place your tree at the curb, and make sure trees are free of all decorations and are not in plastic bags. After the collection period, you will need to attach 1 garbage/organic sticker to a Christmas tree in order to have it collected.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Festival of Lights and Trees

**Dates:** Through Dec. 30  
**Time:** 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; lights come on at 3 p.m.  
**Location:** Cosley Zoo, 1356 N. Gary Ave.

Visit Cosley Zoo during December to see a winter wonderland of 20,000 twinkling lights, Christmas trees and more. Admission is free. Proceeds from donations support the zoo. For more information, visit [www.cosleyzoo.org](http://www.cosleyzoo.org).

## Visits with Santa

**Dates:** Saturdays through Dec. 23  
**Time:** Noon-3 p.m.

**Location:** Martin Memorial Plaza, 134 W Front Street

Come pay Santa a visit as he gets ready for Christmas! This free event is presented by the Downtown Wheaton Association. Visit Santa in Martin Memorial Plaza.

## Holiday Carriage Rides

**Date:** Saturdays through Dec. 23

**Time:** Noon-3 p.m.

**Location:** Martin Memorial Plaza, 134 W Front Street

Enjoy complimentary horse-drawn carriage rides through downtown Wheaton, courtesy of the Downtown Wheaton Association. Rides will begin at Martin Memorial Plaza, which is located on Front Street just west of Main Street.

## Living Wheaton Christmas Festival

**Date:** Saturday, Dec. 2  
**Location:** Downtown Wheaton

Come to downtown Wheaton for a family-



friendly festival with an art walk, carolers, ice carving demonstrations, and in-store offerings at many downtown shops. For information, see the Downtown Wheaton Association's website.

## Living History: General Charles Dawes

**Date:** Wednesday, Dec. 6

**Time:** 7-8 p.m.

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

Actor RJ Lindsey portrays General Charles Dawes of WWI and narrates a slide program with animated battle maps, military strategies, and period photos. (Note: This event was originally scheduled for October 19.) Please call to register 630-868-7520.

## Mindfulness Meditation for Holiday Stress

**Date:** Wednesday, December 6

**Time:** 7:30-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Wheaton Public

Library, 225 N. Cross St.

Chopra Center certified instructor Stephanie Frantz will teach you a simple mindfulness meditation technique and a stress-buster breathing exercise to relax and increase your overall sense of wellbeing. To register, call 630-868-7520.

## Electronic Recycling

**Date:** Saturday, Dec. 9

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

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

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.

## Festive Singers

**Date:** Sunday, Dec. 10

**Time:** 2-4:30 p.m.

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

**Ring in the holiday**

season with the Festive Singers! This four-person singing group will perform all your favorite holiday carols in 19th-Century period costumes. Seats are on a first-come-first-served basis. This is a free event.

## Holiday Gift Packaging

**Date:** Thursday, Dec. 14

**Time:** 6-8:30 p.m.

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

Learn how to make your own holiday gift tags, bags, and more! Sign up for 6 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. class. Register by calling 630-868-7520.

## Wheaton Gingerbread House Contest

**Date:** Saturday, Dec. 16

**Time:** 10 a.m.-noon

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

Create your best Gingerbread House for the annual contest at the library. No need to register your creations; just bring them with you to submit the day of the event.



# Help Kick off 200th Birthday Celebration

Wheaton's Historic Commission encourages the community to take part in a ceremony to kick off the state's yearlong celebration of its 200th birthday.

At noon on Monday, Dec. 4, communities throughout the state will host a simultaneous flag-raising ceremony at their main municipal building. Wheaton will raise the bicentennial flag in front of City Hall, 303 W. Wesley. Join the City in kicking off the state's celebration.

# Road Closures for Reindeer Run

**Streets closed from 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2**

**T**he Wheaton Lions Club / Wheaton Park District 5K Reindeer Run will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

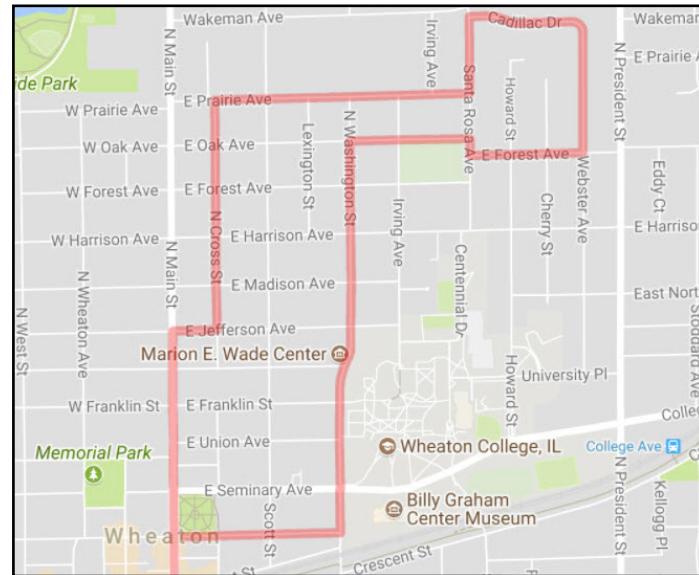
The following streets  
will be temporarily closed  
for this event:

- Main Street – between Front Street & Jefferson Avenue
  - Jefferson Avenue – between Main Street & Cross Street
  - Cross Street – between Jefferson Street & Prairie Avenue
  - Prairie Avenue – between Cross Street & Santa Rosa Avenue
  - Santa Rosa Avenue – between Prairie Avenue & Cadillac Drive
  - Cadillac Drive – between Santa Rosa & Webster Avenue
  - Webster Avenue – between Cadillac Drive & Forest Avenue
  - Forest Avenue – between Webster Avenue & Santa Rosa Avenue
  - Santa Rosa Avenue

- between Forest Avenue & Oak Avenue
  - Oak Avenue –
- between Santa Rosa Avenue & Washington Street
  - Washington Street –
- between Oak Avenue & Wesley Street
  - Wesley Street –
- between Washington Street & Main Street
  - Wesley Street –

These streets will be closed from approximately 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

To ensure the safety of runners, the Wheaton



## Watch the Video:

Want to learn more about the Reindeer Run? [Check out the most recent edition of Wheaton Insider.](#)

Police Department asks for your cooperation in not moving the barricades. During the event, streets will be adequately staffed with uniformed police officers to assist and direct traffic.



## 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.

December 2017

- 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