

# CITY OF WHEATON NEWSLETTER

January 2018

## CITY NOTES

### Holiday Garbage Schedule

Due to the Christmas holiday, Lakeshore Recycling Systems will not collect garbage or recycling on Monday, Jan. 1, 2018. All pickups will be one day later than usual during the week of Jan. 1.

### City Offices Closed

Non-emergency City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1.

### Job Opportunity

The City seeks applicants for a Plan Examiner. This position is primarily responsible for reviewing building plans and specifications to ensure proposed construction complies with all adopted code requirements and ordinances by means of a

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## City Council Passes 2017 Tax Levy

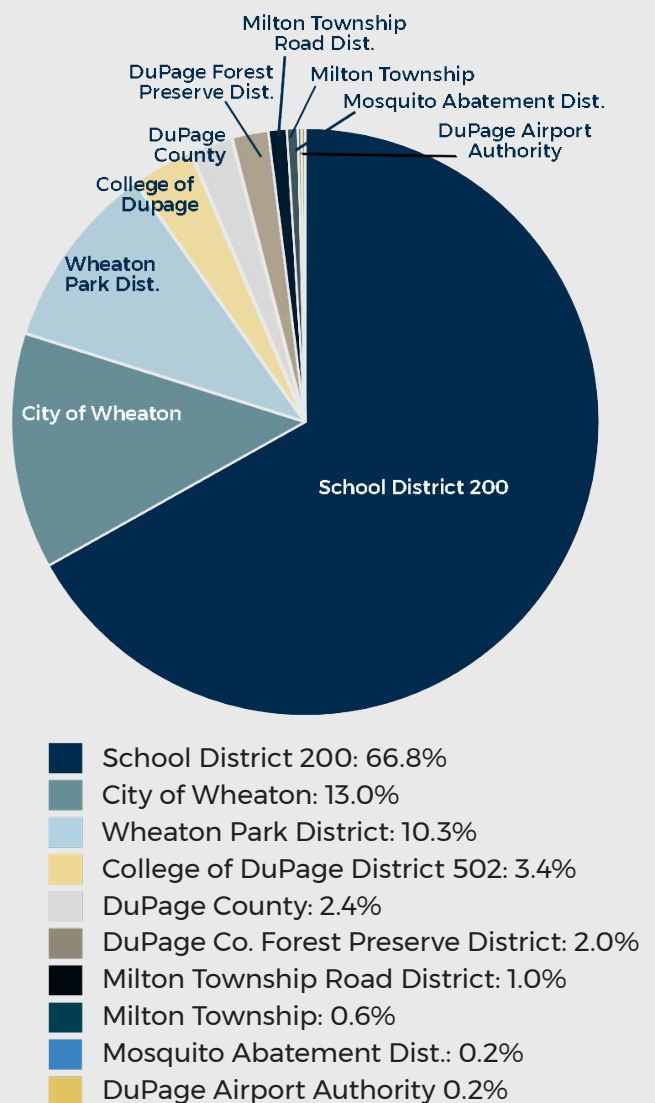
*Most will see no change in City's portion of bill*

At the Dec. 18, 2017 City Council meeting, the Council approved the annual property tax levy in the amount of \$20,105,413, which is an increase of 0.6% (or \$117,672) from the prior year's tax levy.

While the tax levy is a slight increase from last year's levy, it will not increase the City's portion of most residents' tax bills. The financial impact of the levy on each property owner depends upon the change in assessed value of their property from 2016 to 2017. Using an assumption of properties increasing in assessed value by 4.4%, there would be no change in the City's portion of the typical

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### How Your Property Taxes Are Distributed



## 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:  
Communications Department,  
303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187  
Or email [communications@wheaton.il.us](mailto:communications@wheaton.il.us)



## CITY NOTES

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comprehensive plan review. For more information, see the City's website.

### Police Auctioning Items on Website

The Wheaton Police Department periodically auctions off surplus, found and obsolete property through the Property Room online auction website. The City recently submitted items to the auction, including jewelry, electronic equipment, tools, children's clothing and fishing gear. To view these items, visit [www.propertyroom.com](http://www.propertyroom.com).

### New Business

Now Open: Burger Social, 108 N Hale Street in Downtown Wheaton. Offering comfort food with a modern twist.

### Library Hosting Traveling Exhibit

Wheaton Public Library is honored to host the World War I and America exhibit throughout the month of January in the library's Arts and Culture Center. This exhibit is part of World War I and America, a two-year national initiative of The Library of America presented in partnership with The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the National World War I Museum and Memorial, and other organizations, with generous support from The National Endowment for the Humanities.



Place your tree at the curb with no decorations, and do not place it in a bag.

## Christmas Tree Recycling Offered

*No sticker required during first two weeks of January*

If you receive service from the City's garbage/recycling hauler, Lakeshore Recycling Systems, crews will pick up live Christmas trees for recycling on your collection day during the weeks of Jan. 1, and Jan. 8, at no

charge and with no sticker needed. Please note that collection will be one day later for all pickups the week of Jan. 1 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. Make sure your tree has no lights or ornaments. After the collection period, you will need to attach 1 garbage/organic sticker to a Christmas tree to have it collected.

## Tax Levy

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property owner.

The City's portion of your property taxes pays for police and fire protection services; infrastructure; library services; public improvements and more. For your 2016

property tax bill, the City's portion represents 13.0% of your tax bill. The remainder of your property tax bill goes to:

- School District 200: 66.8%
- Wheaton Park District: 10.3%
- College of DuPage District 502: 3.4%

- DuPage County: 2.4%
- DuPage Co. Forest Preserve District: 2.0%
- Milton Township Road District: 1.0%
- Milton Township: 0.6%
- Mosquito Abatement Dist.: 0.2%
- DuPage Airport Authority 0.2%.

# Snow Reminders to Help Crews Clear Streets

**T**he winter months are upon us, and the City has a few reminders that will help crews quickly clear streets of snow and ice during winter storms.

## Don't Shovel into the Street

When homeowners or snow shoveling services blow snow, shovel or plow snow into the roadway, it's a problem for everyone. It creates narrower traffic lanes, creates safety hazards for other drivers, and can cause snow plows to hit and damage the curb.

For these reasons, pushing snow into the street or onto an opposite parkway is a violation of City Code. Violations yield a minimum fine of \$100 per day.

## Keep Hydrants Clear

Just as the City asks property owners to help keep storm sewers near your home clear of leaves and debris, we also ask you to lend a hand if there is



a fire hydrant near your property. Please clear snow away from fire hydrants so that the Fire Department can quickly access hydrants in an emergency.

## Clear the Way for Plows

Several things can make plowing Wheaton streets challenging for snow plow drivers, especially unnecessary obstacles that prevent them from clearing the street all the way to the curb.

You can help by making sure that portable basketball hoops, decorative boulders, planters, etc. are at least 5 feet away from the street. Also, make sure your mailbox isn't leaning into the roadway, where snow plows can inadvertently hit it.

Cars parked on the street are another problem for snow plows, as crews are not able to clear an area where a car is parked. Because of this, after 2 inches of

accumulated snowfall, parking is prohibited on any street for 24 hours or until streets have been cleared.

## Don't Crowd the Plow

To do a great job clearing the streets, snow plow drivers need some space. Please use caution around snow plows and other City vehicles that are treating streets, and don't follow snow plows too closely.

## Be a Good Neighbor

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, mail carriers, dog walkers, and other neighbors who use the sidewalks.

To reach the City's snow command desk during snow operations, call 630-260-7669. [More information is also available on the City's website.](#)

## How Crews Clear Cul-de-Sacs

**L**ast year the City tried out a different way to clear cul-de-sacs to make the City's snow-clearing efforts as efficient as possible. Based on crews' success last year, here's what you can look for again this year if you live in or near a cul-de-sac.

To remove snow as promptly as possible and reduce the likelihood of snow piles blocking mailboxes, the City's snow removal crews are moving snow into the middle of the circle in cul-de-sacs. Previously, crews would push snow to the curb like other streets, but due to the larger roadway surface to clear and the circular shape, clearing snow this way proved to be challenging and time-consuming for plows. There are approximately 300 cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets in Wheaton.

Note that crews do not push snow into the middle of some smaller cul-de-sacs, as there is not enough room to store snow there. In these small cul-de-sacs, crews will push snow to the curb like other streets.

Using a more efficient method to clear larger cul-de-sacs allows City crews to save time and clear all streets as quickly and safely as possible.





# Bring Cooking Oil to Monthly Recycling Event

**W**hether you're deep-frying a turkey, cooking with some olive oil or have cooking oil in your cabinet that is past its prime, what you do with that cooking oil can cause costly problems.

Pouring cooking oil down your sink's drain

can cause blockages and sanitary sewer backups. And pouring anything down the storm drain is illegal. Even though vegetable oil is not toxic like petroleum, pouring it down the storm drain will harm animals, plants and anything it coats.

Instead, pour it into a

container and bring it to one of the City's monthly electronic recycling events. The City collects cooking oil from 9 a.m. to noon the second Saturday of each month at the Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive. This is a drive-through event, and

volunteers will unload items you bring to this collection from your car.

The collected cooking oil is turned into biofuel. Please note that this program cannot accept bacon or meat grease.

The next event will take be Saturday, Jan. 13 from 9 a.m. to noon.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Mediterranean Diet

**Date:** Thursday, Jan. 11

**Time:** 7 p.m.

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

Laura Barr, Nutrition & Wellness Educator, will discuss how this ancient way of eating can improve your health. Registration required at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.

### Healthy New Year's Resolutions

**Date:** Monday, Jan. 15

**Time:** 7 p.m.

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

Jen Paleracio from Lean Bellas Kitchen will discuss healthy New Year's resolutions complete with recipes and healthy, delicious samples. Registration required at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.

### State of the City Address

**Date:** Thursday, Jan. 18

**Location:** Arrowhead Golf Club

Mayor Michael Gresk will present the annual State of the City Address during

the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon. Reservations are required to attend. The City will make the State of the City Address video available shortly after the presentation.

### Our Lady of the Angels School Fire

**Date:** Thursday, Jan. 18

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

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

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Our Lady of the Angels School fire in Chicago. Jim Gibbons will give an in-depth presentation based on his research of the 1958 tragedy. Registration required at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.

### Winter Wine Walk

**Date:** Saturday, Jan. 20

**Time:** 4-7 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton

Sip, stroll and shop your way through downtown Wheaton. Your wine tasting begins at Martin Memorial Plaza (Front and Main Streets), where you check in. For more information,



see the Downtown Wheaton Association's website at [www.downtownwheaton.com](http://www.downtownwheaton.com).

### 3rd Annual Ice (Cubed) Fest

**Date:** Saturday, Jan. 27

**Time:** 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton

Brave the cold and plan a day in Downtown Wheaton with the family to tour the many ice sculptures displayed outside local businesses. Be sure to stop by Martin Memorial Plaza from noon to 3 p.m. to enjoy a live ice sculpting demonstration. This is a free event.

### In Good Taste Restaurant Week

**Dates:** Jan. 27-Feb. 3

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton restaurants

Enjoy Wheaton's tastiest during the In Good Taste Restaurant Week. Downtown Wheaton restaurants will offer special menu items, discounts, pre-fixe menus, special events and more. For more information, see the Downtown Wheaton Association's website at [www.downtownwheaton.com](http://www.downtownwheaton.com).

### Sueños Latin Jazz

**Date:** Sunday, Jan. 28

**Time:** 2 p.m.

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

Utilizing the talents of Chicago's most in-demand jazz musicians, iSueños combines masterful improvisation over jazz and pop songs, all while grounded in the musical traditions of the Latin world. Attendees are seated on a first-come, first-served basis. This concert is part of the WDCB Jazz Jammin' in the Stacks series.

## Learn How to Prevent Frozen Pipes

**D**o you know how to prevent water pipes in your home from freezing or how to thaw them if they do freeze? With cold winter weather here, a few valuable tips can save you the hassle of dealing with frozen pipes.

- Make sure to insulate pipes in unheated areas or against outside walls and seal any leaks that may let cold air in.

- Keep your garage door closed if your water meter is in that area.

- Disconnect your garden hose and shut off the water supply to outside faucets.

- If the temperature gets extremely cold, open cabinet doors under sinks to allow heat to get to pipes and let a faucet drip at a trickle if possible.

Questions may be directed to the City of Wheaton Water Division at 630-260-2090.



## Apply for Senior Housing Assistance through Program

**T**he City of Wheaton and the City's Housing Commission sponsor a program to give monthly financial assistance toward housing to senior residents who qualify. Seniors who meet the three following requirements may apply for Wheaton Housing Assistance:

- Age: must be at least

65 years or older

- Residency: must be an incorporated Wheaton resident for at least the last consecutive 3 years

- Income: senior's annual household income cannot exceed \$25,800

If you meet these three qualifications and would like to apply for Wheaton

Housing Assistance, please contact Lindsay Qualkenbush with the City of Wheaton at 630-260-2019 for an application and more information.

Please note that if you are receiving Section 8 or DuPage Housing Authority assistance, you are NOT eligible to apply for this program.



## 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.

### January 2018

- 1 City offices closed; no garbage pickup
- 2 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 6 Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 8 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 16 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 22 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.