

CITY OF WHEATON — NEWSLETTER

November 2018

CITY NOTES

No Burning Leaves

Please remember that burning leaves is a violation of Wheaton City Code. Burning leaves can release pollutants and mold spores into the air through its smoke, in addition to being a nuisance to neighbors.

Instead, you can dispose of them with one yard waste/garbage sticker per container or biodegradable bag at the curb on your garbage day, or you can compost leaves. Yard waste/garbage stickers are available at City Hall and local grocery and hardware stores.

See www.wheaton.il.us/yardwaste.

Holiday Garbage Schedule

Lakeshore Recycling Systems will not pick up garbage, recycling and

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Spotlight on the New Features You Will Find on Front Street

Have you seen Front Street lately? In addition to work completed underground last fall (including replacing sewer pipes and installing new water mains), recently completed upgrades above-ground are providing new gathering spaces and features in downtown Wheaton. Crews are putting the finishing touches on the first of four phases in the Downtown Streetscape Project.

"We're thrilled to wrap up the first phase of work and for our community to be able to enjoy the newly improved Front Street," said Assistant City Manager John Duguay. "We appreciate our local businesses and business owners, who have been patient



The new Martin Memorial Plaza features new planters with a nod to Wheaton's railroad history, seating areas, streetlights, an outdoor fireplace and more.

through an extensive construction project. There's no easy way to dig down as much as 15 feet underground to take out 100-year-old pipes, and we are thankful to have fantastic business owners who worked with us throughout this process."

These improvements range from the noticeable items –

like the new outdoor fireplace – to the features you may not have noticed, like new benches and streetlights. Here are some of the many elements that are part of this project:

- Outdoor fireplace
- Water feature
- Large event tent
- Decorative planters

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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

Downtown

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- “Amenity zone” with new trees, permeable pavers and room for roots to flourish
- Wider sidewalks for a more pedestrian-friendly downtown
- New LED streetlights and new banners
- Festive light strands over Martin Memorial Plaza
- Benches for seating
- Bike racks
- Reconfigured parking & pavement striping



for maximum parking efficiency

- Wayfinding signs

The next phase is



well underway, as crews complete underground infrastructure improvements on Hale from Willow to Seminary, Wesley from Wheaton to Cross, and Cross from Front to Wesley.

Crews from John Neri Construction Company are replacing water main and sanitary sewers on these street segments. This underground work is expected to be complete the week of Nov. 5. Crews will resume Phase 2 in late spring 2019 with above-ground work including sidewalks, roadways, lighting, landscaping and signage.

To see progress so far and what's coming up for the Downtown Streetscape Project, visit www.wheaton.il.us/downtownstreetscape.

CITY NOTES

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yard waste on Thursday, Nov. 22 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Thursday and Friday routes that week will be one day later than usual.

City Offices Closed

Non-emergency City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 22 and Friday, Nov. 23. They will reopen on Monday, Nov. 26.

Change Smoke Detector Batteries

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 4. When you change your clocks, the Wheaton Fire Department recommends you also change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon

monoxide detectors.

You should change batteries about every six months to ensure the detectors will work correctly. You can use Daylight Saving Time as a reminder of when it's time to replace them.

Business News

Welcome to new business Moveable Feast + Company, 112 N Hale Street, a neighborhood café and catering company featuring farm-to-table artisanal food and drink.

Employment Opportunities

The City seeks applicants for the following opportunities:

- Maintenance worker in the Public Works Department

- Part-time customer service representative in the Building & Code Enforcement Department
- Seasonal crossing guard

For information, visit www.wheaton.il.us/jobs.

Commission News

The City Council appointed Kay Frederick to a 3-year term on the Community Relations Commission and reappointed Barbara Dutton to a 3-year term on the Historic Commission.

How to Report Damage

Roosevelt Road and Main Street in Wheaton are both being resurfaced by the Illinois Department of Transportation. If your vehicle has experienced

damage while work was being completed, the City can assist you in reporting this to the State. Please email engineering@wheaton.il.us or call 630-260-2065 for more information.

Railroad Crossing Safety

Rail safety reminders for drivers and pedestrians:

- When the bells and lights are flashing, it is illegal to cross the tracks.
- Pay careful attention at crossings at night and in bad weather.
- Never stop on the tracks for any reason.

For more information on rail safety, please visit <https://www.metrarail.com/riding-metra/safety-environmental-compliance>.

Bring Pumpkins to Annual Pumpkin Smash

Green your Halloween by keeping your pumpkins out of landfills. The City's Environmental Improvement Commission is bringing back its Pumpkin Smash drop-off from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 3, at the City's Commuter Lot 9, located at Liberty Drive and Carlton Avenue.

As one of the three first pumpkin compost sites in Illinois, Wheaton is proud to have helped divert more than 163 tons of pumpkins from landfills since the program's inception in 2014.

Organizers ask that you please remove stickers, candles and



other decorative objects from pumpkins. Then, simply drive up and drop off your pumpkins for composting. From there, thousands of pounds of pumpkins will be hauled off and composted into nutrient-rich soil.

Why Keep Pumpkins Out of the Landfill?

- Decomposing organics make landfills the third largest producers of methane
- Composting returns nutrients and water back to the soil; pumpkins are

Pumpkin Smash

Date: Saturday, Nov. 3

Time: 9 a.m.-noon

Location: Commuter Parking Lot 9, Liberty & Carlton

nutrient-rich

- Pumpkins are 90% water: good for our soil, bad for our landfills
- Most of the pumpkins processed in the U.S. are grown in Illinois; keep the water and nutrients here.

This collection will be run by Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission, the City of Wheaton and SCARCE.

Three Workshops Set to Review Draft City Budget

New budget will follow calendar year

If you want to learn about the City's proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget, attend the City's Budget Workshop Sessions, which will take place:

- 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 10
- 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 12
- 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 17

During the sessions, which will take place in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 303 W Wesley Street, City staff and the City Council will discuss and review the

proposed City budget for the upcoming fiscal year. This upcoming budget will match the calendar year, as the City has transitioned from a May to April fiscal year to a calendar year budget starting with this budget.

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.



Election Filing Period Nov. 19-26

This spring, Wheaton voters will vote for the positions of Wheaton Mayor and two Wheaton City Council at-large positions. Residents interested in running for one of these positions must file petitions for candidacy, available from the City Clerk's Office at Wheaton City Hall, 303 W Wesley.

The filing period is Monday, Nov. 19, through Monday, Nov. 26, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding weekend days and holidays.

For more information on the requirements for filing a petition for nomination, visit the City's website at www.wheaton.il.us or contact the City Clerk's Office at 630-260-2012.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chili Cook-off

Date: Saturday, Nov. 3

Time: 1-5 p.m.

Location: Participating downtown Wheaton restaurants

Local Downtown Wheaton restaurants will once more enter the fun of the 10th Annual Chili Cook-Off taking place Nov. 3. Chili lovers will be able to sample a variety of chili recipes prepared and served by participating restaurants and eateries. For more information, visit www.downtownwheaton.com.

Printmaking Demonstration

Date: Saturday, Nov. 3

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N Cross Street, Arts and Culture Center

Instituto Gráfico de Chicago is a printing and art collective in Chicago dedicated to engaging new generations in DIY printmaking. Come to the library's Arts and Culture Center on the main floor to get a free original postcard print while you learn about the printing techniques used by the group. Mariachi los Rayos de Leman Middle School will perform prior to program. Drop in, no registration required.

The Pilgrims & the First Thanksgiving

Date: Thursday, Nov. 8

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N Cross Street, Meeting Room A

Nancy McCully investigates the origins of Thanksgiving at Plimouth Plantation and how the Pilgrims traveled across



Living Wheaton Christmas Parade

the ocean and made their home here. Registration required at wheatonlibrary.org/calendar or call 630-868-7520.

Friends of Wheaton Public Library Holiday Book & Art Sale

Dates: Nov. 8 – 11

Location: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N Cross Street, Arts & Culture Center

Featuring collectibles, like-new gift books, autographed copies, nostalgia items, quality children's books, Book Lover's calendars, unique gifts, as well as framed and unframed art. Proceeds benefit library programs. For more information, see www.wheatonlibrary.org.

French Market

Date: Saturdays through Nov. 10

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

Location: Municipal Parking Lot at Main Street & Liberty Drive

The popular outdoor Wheaton French Market's season comes to a close Nov. 10. Each week, vendors will sell specialty foods, fresh produce, locally made goods and more. Vendors vary by week.

Tunes of Glory Veterans Day Tribute

Date: Sunday, Nov. 11

Time: 6 a.m.

Location: Northside Park

Bagpipes from around the world will be playing at the same time to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the end of WWI.

Electronic Recycling

Date: Saturday, Nov. 10

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. For more information, visit www.wheaton.il.us/electronics.

Sunday Concert: WWII Radio Hour

Date: Sunday, Nov. 18

Time: 2-3 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N Cross Street, Meeting Room A

Nostalgia Entertainment presents a costumed and piano-accompanied trio reenacting a 1940s radio hour paying tribute to heroes of WWII. No registration required.

Living Wheaton Christmas Parade

Date: Friday, Nov. 23

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Downtown Wheaton

A time-honored tradition, Wheaton comes together to celebrate the coming of Christmas with a hometown parade. Stick around until the end because someone special and jolly pays his first visit to Wheaton!

The parade begins at Wesley Street and Wheaton Avenue, heading south toward Front Street. Then, it heads east on Front Street, ending at Cross Street.

Visits with Santa

Date: Saturday, Nov. 24

Time: Noon-3 p.m.

Location: Martin Memorial Plaza, 134 W Front Street

Come pay Santa a visit as he gets ready for Christmas! Santa will also be available on Dec. 1, 8, 15 & 22. This is a free event.

Holiday Carriage Rides

Date: Saturday, Nov. 24

Time: Noon-3 p.m.

Location: Martin Memorial Plaza, 134 W Front Street

The Downtown Wheaton Association offers free holiday carriage rides on Saturdays, Nov. 24 through Dec. 22 through downtown Wheaton.

For more information, visit www.downtownwheaton.com.

Changes Coming to City's Electronic Recycling Drop-off Program

Starting in January, the types of items being accepted at the monthly electronic recycling drop-off will change due to state legislation involving electronics companies. The following items will not be accepted at the monthly events: small appliances such as toaster ovens, coffee pots or microwaves; household batteries; stereos/radios.

You will still be able to drop off computers, televisions (a fee applies to recycle TVs and monitors), printers, DVD players, video game consoles, cell phones, tablets, cable boxes, fax machines, servers, VCRs, phones, power supplies, wires/cables/adapters.

Look for information coming soon on the City's website and December newsletter.

Holiday Light Recycling Available

Wheaton's holiday light recycling program is back. From Nov. 19 through Jan. 25, bring strands of incandescent or LED lights in any condition to the Public Works Storage Facility at 820 W. Liberty Drive between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays. Look for signs directing you to the holiday light recycling area just inside the gate.

This program is for light strings only. Please



do not drop off lawn ornaments or other decorations, and do not put lights in a bag or box.

Elgin Recycling, www.elginrecycling.com, will

collect the lights, which will then be stripped and recycled for their copper and plastic parts. No materials will be shipped overseas.

In addition to residents, the City also welcomes businesses, schools and other organizations wanting to dispose of holiday lights to participate in the program. There is no limit as to how many lights you can drop off for recycling.

Protect Pets & Discourage Coyotes from Your Area

Feeding wild animals such as coyotes and feral cats violates City Code, and violators can face fines. Please help make sure wild animals such as coyotes are not fed - either intentionally or unintentionally. Feeding wild animals abnormally attracts coyotes and promotes increased numbers of rodents, birds and other creatures that can provide major

portions of the coyote's natural diet.

How to Protect Pets:

- Keep small pets (cats, rabbits, small dogs) indoors. Don't allow them to run free at any time. They are easy prey.
- Use a short leash when walking your pet. Never let a coyote get between you and your pet.
- Dogs should be brought inside after dark

and never allowed to run loose. This is especially important during mating season, which is February through April.

- Do not leave domestic pet food outside. Wildlife will soon depend on it.
- Fences do not guarantee your pet's safety. Always attend to small pets outdoors.

For more information, visit www.wheaton.il.us/coyote.



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 for a complete list of meetings and events.

November 2018

- 3 Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 5 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 10 Budget Workshop Session, 9 a.m.
- 12 Budget Workshop Session, 7 p.m.
- 17 Budget Workshop Session, 9 a.m.
- 19 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 22 City Offices Closed, no garbage pickup
- 23 City Offices Closed
- 26 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.