

CITY OF WHEATON NEWSLETTER

December 2018

CITY NOTES

Holiday Garbage

Pickup Schedule

Due to the Christmas holiday, Lakeshore Recycling Systems will not collect garbage or recycling on Tuesday, Dec. 25, or Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019. All pickups will be one day later than usual for Tuesday through Friday routes during the weeks of Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

Business News

Welcome to new business **The Hen House of Wheaton**, 1060 College Avenue, serving breakfast and lunch from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

City Offices Closed

Non-emergency City of Wheaton offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 24 & 25. Offices will also be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019.

Important Snow Reminders

No on-street parking allowed after 2 inches of snow

As the snowy season continues, the City of Wheaton has a few reminders that will help crews to clear Wheaton streets efficiently and minimize safety hazards.

Please do not shovel, plow or blow snow into the roadway or into the parkway across the street. Snow that piles up in the street is a nuisance to other property owners, creates narrow traffic lanes, and produces safety hazards for drivers. It also can cause plows to hit the curb, which can damage the curb. For these reasons, pushing snow into the street or the opposite parkway violates City Code. Please help keep our streets safe by adhering to this ordinance. Violations yield a minimum fine of \$100 per day. If you use



Shoveling, plowing or blowing snow into the street is a violation of City Code. Please help keep our streets safe and clear.

a snow removal service, please inform crews of this ordinance.

You can also help by keeping fire hydrants

clear of snow and by removing obstructions – such as portable basketball hoops or decorative boulders – that are within 5 feet of the street. Please check your mailbox to make sure it's not leaning into the roadway and obstructing snow plows.

Also, please remember that after 2 inches of accumulated snowfall, parking is prohibited on

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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

CITY NOTES

Yard Waste 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. 10. Place items in biodegradable bags or containers no more than 35 gallons in size. Each bag or container must have a yard waste 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.

Commission News

The Wheaton City Council approved the following appointments to City commissions:

- Reappointed Steph McGrath to a 3-year term on the Downtown Design Review Board
- Reappointed Bob Gudmundson and Mark Plunkett to 5-year terms on the Planning & Zoning Board
- Appointed Alyse Kondrat and Doug Jones to 3-year terms on the Bicycle Advisory Commission
- Appointed Marcella Incarnati and reappointed Vickie Miller to 3-year terms on the Community Relations Commission
- Appointed Marcella Incarnati to a 3-year term on the Housing Commission.

Changes Coming to 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, computer equipment, televisions (a fee applies to recycle TVs and monitors), printers, DVD players, video game consoles, cell phones, tablets, phones, cable boxes, fax machines, servers, VCRs, phones, power supplies, wires/cables/adapters.

Electronic recycling

drop-offs take place from 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of each month at the Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W Liberty Drive.

Curbside Option

Please note that Lakeshore Recycling System's curbside electronic recycling program has not changed. To have your electronics collected at the curb on your garbage day, you must call Lakeshore Recycling Systems at 773-685-8811 at least one day before your garbage day. Place items at the curb with the appropriate sticker by 6 a.m. on your pickup day.

Curbside collection requires the following number of stickers:

- E-Waste single item: 1 sticker = \$2.81
- E-Waste bundle

(within brown paper bag):

5 stickers = \$14.05

- E-Waste TV or computer monitor: 10 stickers = \$28.10

E-Waste Items Accepted for Curbside Recycling

- Electronics such as televisions, printers, computers, computer monitors, laptops, gaming consoles, docking stations, fax machines, scanners, hard drives, stereos, copy machines, cell phones, keyboards/mice, extension cords, telephones, cameras, network cables, computer cords.

- Small household appliances such as blenders, microwaves, toasters, alarm clocks, hair dryers, etc. Nearly anything with a cord.

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

Snow

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any street for 24 hours or until streets have been cleared.

Significant snow and ice events can create other hazards as well. Look for broken tree limbs and branches, or tree limbs leaning near power lines. Also be aware of overhanging

ice that could fall from buildings and cause injury or damage.

Finally, please clear snow from sidewalks near your home or business. 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, follow the City of Wheaton on Facebook and Twitter (find us at @CityOfWheaton) or get information delivered to you through email updates. Sign up at www.wheaton.il.us/emailupdates.

Fire Safety Tips to Help Keep the Wreath Red



This 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.

Police Offer Tips to Avoid Scams & Stay Safe during the Holidays

Beware of requests to be paid by gift cards

As the holiday season brings a flurry of shopping and travel, the Wheaton Police Department encourages you to take extra safety precautions and be on the lookout for an anticipated rise in scam attempts. Here are some safety suggestions and red flags that will help you identify scams during the holidays.

Beware of Scams:

- You cannot pay bail, a lawyer, the IRS, or tech support using retail gift cards. If someone demands to be paid with a gift card, it's a scam.
- Never give gift card numbers on the back of gift cards to someone you don't know.
- Taxpayers should remember their first contact with the IRS will never be a call from out of the blue, but through official mail. A big red flag for these scams is angry, threatening calls from people who say they are the IRS, urging immediate payment.
- If someone who sounds like a loved one calls you claiming to be in trouble and demands payment, hang up the phone and call your loved



Planning to travel during the holidays? You can put in a request on the City's website for Wheaton Police to check on your home periodically. Go to www.wheaton.il.us/VacationHouseWatch.

one's cell phone.

- In general, it's a good idea to ignore phone calls if you don't recognize the number. If it's someone you know, they will leave a voicemail or send you a text.

- Scammers often train their victims to give false information to retail clerks when clerks ask questions about large gift card purchases. If a retail clerk warns you that you may be the victim of a gift card scam, heed the advice of the cashiers and call your loved one, or call law enforcement officials.

Home Safety Tips for the Holidays:

Vacation House Watch is a police service that helps protect unoccupied homes while Wheaton residents are away on

business or travel. Police will inspect homes periodically to help ensure their security. You can enroll online through the City's website at www.wheaton.il.us/VacationHouseWatch.

Please note that requests may only be made by the homeowner. If your plans change and you will be returning sooner or later than the dates originally stated, please call the Wheaton Police Department at 630-260-2161 as soon as possible.

Do not use the vacation house watch program if someone is going to be at the home caring for pets, plants, etc. This program is also not for if the house is vacant due to being for sale or other circumstances.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Visits with Santa

Date: Saturdays, Dec. 1-22

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 is a free event.

Holiday Carriage Rides

Date: Saturdays, Dec. 1-22

Time: Noon-3 p.m.

Location: Martin Memorial Plaza, 134 W Front Street

The Downtown Wheaton Association offers free holiday carriage rides on Saturdays through Dec. 22 through downtown Wheaton. For more information, visit www.downtownwheaton.com.

Sunday Concert:

Random Ringers

Date: Sunday, Dec. 2

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N Cross Street

Join us for a holiday concert featuring the

Random Ringers! This hand bell ensemble will perform holiday classics to “ring” in the holiday season! No registration required.

Mindfulness

Meditation for Holiday Stress

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 12

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N Cross Street,

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. Registration required at wheatonlibrary.org/calendar or call 630-868-7520.

Christmas at Marshall

Field's

Date: Monday, Dec. 17

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N Cross Street,

Meeting Room A

For many Chicagoans, no Christmas season was complete without a visit to Marshall Field's. Leslie Goddard traces the store's beloved holiday traditions, including the Walnut Room Christmas tree, the holiday window displays, the toy department, Cozy Cloud cottage, and the Christmas catalog. Registration required at wheatonlibrary.org/calendar or call 630-868-7520.

Wheaton Public

Library Presents:

Wheaton Science

Theater at Dry City

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 18

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Dry City Brew Works, 120 N. Main Street

Get into the holiday spirit with a screening of the cult classic “Santa Claus Conquers the Martians” at Dry City Brew Works. No registration required, 21+ only.

Deadlines for Election Objection or Withdrawal

To file an objection for the 2019 municipal election:

Objections to nomination petitions for the 2019 municipal election may be filed Nov. 27, 2018 through Dec. 3, 2018, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., excluding weekend days.

To file a withdrawal from the 2019 municipal election:

Any candidate who has filed a nomination petition may cause his/her name to be withdrawn up to Dec. 19, 2018, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Objections and withdrawals are filed with the Wheaton City Clerk, Wheaton City Hall, 303 W Wesley Street, Second Floor, Wheaton, Illinois. For more information, contact the City Clerk's office at 630-260-2012.

The Consolidated General Election will be April 2, 2019 to elect two at-large City Council positions and Mayor. The successful candidates will take office at the latter of either the first regular or special meeting after receipt of the official election results or at the first regular or special meeting in the month following their election.

Free Christmas Tree Recycling Available for Two Weeks

No yard waste sticker is required during this time

The City's garbage/recycling hauler will pick up live Christmas trees for recycling on your collection day during the weeks of Dec. 31, 2018, and Jan. 7, 2019, at no charge, with no sticker needed.

Please note that because there is no pickup on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019, (due to the New Year's Day holiday), pickups for Jan. 1-4 will be one day later than usual.

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 live Christmas tree in order to have it collected.



Recycle Unwanted Holiday Lights

Drop off light strands for recycling through January 2019

Wheaton's holiday light recycling program is back. Now 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.



Location: Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W Liberty Drive

Times: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays

ComEd Trimming Trees in Some Areas

ComEd will be trimming trees near some Wheaton electric lines in December. This is a key component of ComEd's maintenance program to ensure system electrical reliability, as vegetation contact with ComEd

equipment is a leading cause of outages.

Affected customers and property owners received a notice of the upcoming work. To assist in preventing outages, ComEd sometimes needs to significantly trim or remove trees near

power lines. Qualified line-clearance workers contracted by ComEd will be performing the tree pruning work.

For more information, visit www.comed.com/SafetyCommunity/Safety/Pages/TreesPowerLines.aspx

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.

December 2018

- 1 Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 3 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 10 City Council Public Hearing & Planning Session
- 17 City Council Meeting
- 24 City Offices Closed
- 25 City Offices Closed; No Garbage Pickup