

# CITY OF WHEATON NEWSLETTER

January 2019

## CITY NOTES

### Holiday Garbage

#### Pickup Schedule

Due to the New Year's holiday, Lakeshore Recycling Systems will not collect garbage or recycling on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019. All pickups will be one day later than usual for Tuesday through Friday routes on Jan. 1-4.

### City Offices Closed

#### Jan. 1

Non-emergency City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 1. They will reopen on Wednesday, Jan. 2.

### Employment Opportunities

The City currently seeks applicants for a seasonal crossing guard for the Wheaton Police Department and a full-time systems & data analyst with the Information Technology Department. To read about

*(Continued on next page)*

## Year-Round Events Planned for Downtown Wheaton

If you haven't seen Front Street's new look, head downtown to warm up by the new fireplace in Martin Memorial Plaza, see the strings of lights, or enjoy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate in the new seating areas in the plaza. You can enjoy these features during several of the Downtown Wheaton Association's winter community events.

Sip, stroll and shop your way through downtown with the Winter Wine Walk. This event will be from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19. Featuring wine tastings at 24 downtown restaurants, shops and businesses, it's a unique way to experience some of the many things downtown Wheaton has to offer. This event is for ages 21 and older. For more information, visit [www.downtownwheaton.com](http://www.downtownwheaton.com).

Soon after, get a taste for Wheaton's dining options during Restaurant



Martin Memorial Plaza features an outdoor fireplace and seating.

Week 2019, Jan. 26 through Feb. 2. Downtown Wheaton restaurants will offer special menu items, discounts, prix fixe menus, special events and much more. For information, see the Downtown Wheaton Association's website.

Also mark your calendar for the return of Ice [Cubed] Fest from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9. Brave the cold and plan a day in Downtown Wheaton with the family to tour the many ice sculptures sponsored by

and displayed outside the local businesses. Be sure to stop by Martin Memorial Plaza from noon to 3 p.m. to enjoy a live ice sculpting demonstration too.

And, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Feb. 9, the Wheaton Park District will host Ice-A-Palooza at the Central Athletic Complex Ice Rinks. This free event includes ice skating, hockey, games, a DJ, bonfires, concessions, character visits and ice performances. For information, visit [www.wheatonparkdistrict.com](http://www.wheatonparkdistrict.com).

## 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)

# Note Changes to Electronic Recycling Program

**S**tarting this month, 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: large and small appliances; household batteries; electronics from businesses; and hazardous or chemical waste.

You can still 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, power supplies, cables/adapters. The City will also continue to collect cooking oil (for recycling into biofuel), fluorescent tube bulbs (no CFLs) and scrap metal.

Electronic recycling



You can still bring cooking oil to the monthly electronic recycling drop-off events, as well as computers and many other electronics.

collections are 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 grocery 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 the City's website at [www.wheaton.il.us/electronics](http://www.wheaton.il.us/electronics).

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these opportunities and how to apply, see [www.wheaton.il.us/jobs](http://www.wheaton.il.us/jobs).

### Commission News

The Wheaton City Council approved the reappointment of Christine Richardson and Carlo Treviso to 3-year terms on the Environmental Improvement Commission.

## Summer Job Opportunity Available



The City of Wheaton is accepting applications for its Seasonal Summer Laborer Program at Public Works. This paid opportunity offers full-time hours throughout the summer months and provides hands-on experience in various divisions such as the Forestry, Streets, Water

and Sewer divisions.

This is an excellent way to stay busy this summer, make some extra cash and get a behind-the-scenes look at the department that keeps the City running in many ways.

Early applications are encouraged and can be found at [www.wheaton.il.us/jobs](http://www.wheaton.il.us/jobs).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Gateway to Gut Health

**Date:** Thursday, Jan. 10

**Time:** 7 p.m.

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

Did you know that what you eat contributes to both digestive and immune system health? Join Laura Barr of the University of Illinois Extension to learn about prebiotics and probiotics, and their health advantages. Register at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.

## Electronic Recycling

**Date:** Saturday, Jan. 12

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

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

Bring electronics, cooking oil, scrap metal and compact fluorescent tubes to the City's monthly electronic recycling drop-off. Please note there is a charge to recycle televisions and monitors. See page 2.

## Mysterious Myanmar

**Date:** Monday, Jan. 14

**Time:** 7 p.m.

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

Backpacker Brian Michalski presents on his trip to Myanmar and its untouched natural beauty, rich history, charmingly simple infrastructure, creative cuisine and generosity of locals. Registration required at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or call 630-868-7520.

## Winter Wine Walk

**Date:** Jan. 19

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

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton, 134 W Front Street

Sip, stroll and shop your way through Downtown Wheaton while tasting

fine wines. Sponsored by the Downtown Wheaton Association, visit [www.downtownwheaton.com](http://www.downtownwheaton.com) for information.

## Sunday Concert: Gypsy Jazz & More

**Date:** Sunday, Jan. 20

**Time:** 2 p.m.

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

Grammy-nominated Don Stille performs the accordion with acclaimed violinist Daniela Bisenius as they present an eclectic blend of high energy Gypsy Jazz, Gypsy Swing, and more. No registration required.

## Restaurant Week 2019

**Dates:** January 26-Feb. 2

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton, 134 W Front Street

Enjoy Wheaton's tastiest during Restaurant Week, the best week to visit Downtown Wheaton's restaurants as they offer special menu items, discounts, prix fixe menus, special events and much more.

## Putin's Russia

**Date:** Thursday, Jan. 31

**Time:** 7 p.m.

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

Since Vladimir Putin took power in Russia over 18 years ago, the relationship between the U.S. and this formerly sworn enemy has been in a state of flux. This lecture will examine Putin's background, style of rule, and overall relationship with the U.S. Presented by Dr. Ben Whisenhunt, professor of history at College of DuPage. Registration required at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or 630-868-7520.



Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out.

# Winter Fire Safety Tips

The Wheaton Fire Department encourages you to use the following tips this winter to maintain a fire-safe home.

First, ensure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working. The Wheaton Fire Department recommends you replace the batteries about every 6 months, and regularly test your detectors to make sure they are operational.

### Space Heaters:

- If you have a space heater, keep anything that can burn – such as bedding, clothing and curtains – at least 3 feet away from the heater.

- Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off so if it tips over, it shuts off.

- Turn heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.

- Plug portable heaters directly into outlets and never into an extension cord or power strip.

- Only use portable heaters from a recognized

testing laboratory.

### Fireplaces:

- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out.

- Do not burn paper in your fireplace.

- Put the fire out before you go to sleep or leave your home.

- Put ashes in a metal container with a lid, outside, at least 3 feet from your home.

### Wood Stove:

- Make sure your wood stove is 3 feet from anything that can burn.

- Do not burn paper in your wood stove.

- Put the fire out before you go to sleep or leave your home.

- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned each year by a professional.

### Furnace:

- Have your furnace inspected each year.

- Keep anything that can burn away from the furnace.

## Tips from Public Works to Prevent Frozen Pipes

Do 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.

## Council Passes Annual Tax Levy

**A**t the Dec. 10 City Council meeting, the Council approved the annual property tax levy. The property tax levy pays for police and fire protection services, library services, public safety pensions, and debt service on public improvements. The City's portion of a typical resident's property

tax bill is 13%.

The 2018 property levy of \$20,459,855 captured new growth by extending a property tax on the increase in assessed valuation for new construction. This is an increase of 0.7% (or \$151,175) from last year's extended tax levy.

The financial impact of the levy on each property

owner depends upon the change in assessed value of their property from 2017 to 2018. While the tax levy is a slight increase from last year's extended levy, assuming all properties has a base growth of 4.3%, it estimated there would be no change in the City's portion of a typical property owner's tax bill.



## Christmas Tree Recycling

**T**he 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), pickup 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.

## Keep Holiday Lights Out of Landfills

**T**hrough 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 for recycling.

Elgin Recycling, [www.elginrecycling.com](http://www.elginrecycling.com), will collect the lights, which will then be stripped and recycled for their copper and plastic parts.

This program is for light strings only. Please do not drop off lawn ornaments.



## 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 2019

- 1 City offices closed; no trash pickup
- 5 Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 7 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 14 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 22 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 28 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.