



CITY OF WHEATON — NEWSLETTER

December 2019

CITY NOTES

Holiday Garbage Pickup Schedule

Due to the Christmas holiday, Lakeshore Recycling Systems will not collect garbage or recycling on Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019 or Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020. All pickups will be one day later than usual for Thursday and Friday routes during the weeks of Dec. 23 and Dec. 30.

City Offices Closed

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

Yard Waste Pickup Ends

Lakeshore Recycling Systems' final week for yard waste and leaf pickup will be the week

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City Seeks Feedback on Proposed Building Code Amendments

Please submit your comments by December 13

The City of Wheaton is in the process of updating building codes to the 2018 editions of the International Code Council, Inc (ICC) and will be adopting local amendments of those building codes appropriate for the City of Wheaton. Adoption of the most recent ICC building code editions with local amendments promotes the health, safety, and welfare of our community.

City Staff is recommending adoption of the 2018 ICC initiated changes which are summarized below:

- Escape windows not required for basement bedrooms in homes with



The City of Wheaton is looking to adopt changes to its building code to align with 2018 editions of the International Code Council.

a sprinkler system.

- Basement alterations, without bedrooms, will not require an escape/rescue window.

- Battery-powered smoke detectors will now be allowed for additions.

- New requirements for carbon monoxide detector installation and connectivity.

- New requirements for emergency elevator communication systems.

- Fire watch required for construction that exceeds 40-feet (and may be considered hazardous) to protect adjacent properties.

- Requirement for exhaust inlet installation at manicure and pedicure stations.

- Requirement for an acceptance test following the installation

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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 mail your comments to: Communications Department, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187 Or email communications@wheaton.il.us

CITY NOTES

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of Dec. 9 on your normal pickup day.

Employment Opportunities

The City currently seeks applicants for the following job opportunities:

- Code Compliance Officer
- Executive Director, Downtown Wheaton Association
- Mechanic
- Part-time Administrative Assistant (City Hall)
- Part-time Administrative Assistant (Public Works)
- Seasonal Crossing Guard

To find out more about these opportunities and how to apply, visit www.wheaton.il.us/jobs.

Heating Assistance

DuPage County is accepting applications for the annual Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. To qualify for assistance with heating bills, households must meet income requirements (at or below 150% of the federal poverty level). This program is administered by DuPage County Community Services. Benefits are paid directly to the utilities on behalf of eligible households.

For more information, call 630-407-6500 or visit www.dupageco.org.

Police Officers Receive a Special Thank You



As part of their Kindness Challenge, Ms. Lindberg's 2nd grade class from Pierce Downer Elementary School in Downers Grove wrote thank you letters to members of the Wheaton Police Department and hand-delivered them to our officers this fall.

Christmas Tree Recycling Offered Curbside

The City's garbage/recycling hauler will pick up live Christmas trees for recycling on your collection day during the weeks of Dec. 30 and Jan. 6 at no charge, with no sticker needed. Please note that due to the New Year's Day holiday, pickups for Thursday and Friday pickups will be one day later than usual the week of Dec. 30.

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.



Building

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of boilers and pressure vessels.

- Increase in content and clarification regarding Solar Thermal systems.
- Clarified language

related to Solar Photovoltaics systems.

- Expansion of Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter protection.

The City is looking for feedback on the proposed amendments from the community by Friday, Dec. 13. All comments should be emailed to Fire

Chief Bill Schultz at bschultz@wheaton.il.us or delivered to Wheaton City Hall: 303 W. Wesley Street, Wheaton, IL 60187.

For questions or more information, please call the City of Wheaton Building Department at 630-260-2050.



Wheaton Fire Department is Asking for Your Help This Season

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.

Crime Prevention Tips for the Holidays

The holiday shopping season is upon us. Unfortunately, there are those who wish to ruin your holiday spirit by stealing from you. The Wheaton Police Department wants to ensure everyone has a joyous holiday season and recommends you minimize your chances of being victimized by:

- Never leaving your purse or wallet unattended in a shopping cart even when you're only a few feet away. Thieves can be swift and only need a brief moment while you're distracted.
- Never leaving gifts or purchases visible in your car. It is safer to lock the items in the trunk. Otherwise place



the items in the footwell area and cover with something to hide them.

- Keeping an eye on your credit card. Store employees rarely need to leave the register or point of sale with your credit card. Even when a waiter or waitress takes your credit card

the register is typically in public view. It only takes seconds to copy the credit card information or use a secreted card reader to quickly swipe the card's magnetic strip.

For more crime prevention tips, visit the City's website at www.wheaton.il.us.

Holiday Light Recycling Available

Drop off light strings at Public Works Storage Yard now through Jan. 13

Wheaton's holiday light recycling program is back. From Nov. 23, 2019, through Jan. 13, 2020, 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.

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.

Changes to Electronics Accepted at Drop-offs

From 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of each month, the City offers residents an opportunity to drop off many types of electronics for proper recycling. This is organized by the City and the Environmental Improvement Commission, in cooperation with DuPage County and provided by eWorks Electronic Services Inc. Due to the changing nature of the recycling industry, eWorks occasionally needs to adjust the types of items it accepts.

The current items being accepted at the monthly drop-off include:

- Computer monitors* and televisions*
- Computers, laptops, servers, mice, printers, scanners, fax machines, wires, cords & cables, adapters, power supplies, ballasts, circuit boards, computer batteries,

- computer drives, mainframes, modems, small-scale servers, wires
- VCR & DVD players/ recorders, cable & converter boxes, satellite receivers, video game consoles, docking stations, scanners
- Portable music players, electronic keyboards, stereos, CD players
- Cell phones, tablets, phones, projectors
- Cameras
- Coffee pots (not the glass part)
- Fans (metal fans only)
- Humidifiers
- Holiday light strings
- Microwaves
- Speakers (no large wooden speakers)
- Toasters
- Vacuums (no cloth bags)
- Cooking oil (for recycling into biofuel)
- Fluorescent tube lights (no CFL light bulbs)
- *Tax-deductible donation fee applies for all televisions and monitors:
 - \$25 per TV/monitor

with screens smaller than 21 inches

- \$35 per TV/monitor with screens 21 inches and larger

eWorks Electronic Services Inc. will accept cash or credit card payments at the drop-off (no checks), or you can prepay at recycle.eworksesi.org. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt at the time of drop-off.

Items NOT ACCEPTED at the monthly events include:

- DVDs, video/audio cassettes
- Large home appliances/ white goods (stoves, washing machines, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, extra-large wooden-box speakers)
- Electronics from businesses
- Hazardous and chemical waste (mercury-containing devices, thermostats, thermometers, smoke detectors, and liquids

- and gases)
- CFL light bulbs
- Batteries

Before you attend one of these monthly drop-off events, check the City's website at www.wheaton.il.us/electronics for the most current list of items you can drop off.

Questions about what is/is not accepted? Contact eWorks Electronic Services Inc. at 217-364-7543.

The City's website also lists information about a separate program for curbside electronic recycling run by the City's waste hauler, Lakeshore Recycling Systems.

For that program, you need to contact Lakeshore Recycling Systems at 773-685-8811 at least one day before your garbage day, and electronics require between 1 and 10 waste stickers, depending on the type of item.

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

Visit Olcott Arboretum

Gardens, walking labyrinth and more open to the public year-round

Olcott Arboretum is open to the public from sunrise to sunset year round, and all are warmly welcomed. Located within the arboretum is a Buddhist meditation garden, a

Mother Mary statue and prayer circle, a walking labyrinth, and a peace garden. The Olcott Arboretum is located at 1926 N. Main Street in Wheaton. For more information visit www.theosophical.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Festival of Lights & Tree Sale

Dates: Nov. 29-Dec. 30

Time: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. (lights come on at 3 p.m. daily)

Location: Cosley Zoo, 1356 N Gary Avenue

This winter wonderland features 20,000 twinkling lights, Christmas trees, hot chocolate, and holiday gifts. The zoo is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily; lights come on at 3 p.m. All proceeds support the zoo, its animals, programs, and exhibit development.

Living Wheaton Christmas Parade

Date: Friday, Nov. 29

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Downtown Wheaton

Wheaton comes together to celebrate the coming of Christmas with a hometown parade. Stick around till the end because someone special and jolly pays his first visit to Wheaton! The parade will begin at City Hall near Karlskoga and Wheaton Avenue, continuing south on Wheaton Avenue. It will turn east (left) onto Front Street, concluding at Cross Street.

Living Wheaton Christmas Festival Weekends

Date: Saturdays, Nov. 30-Dec. 21

Time: 12 p.m.-3 p.m.

Location: Downtown Wheaton

Enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, cookie decorating, a visit with Santa's reindeer, roaming entertainment and more in downtown Wheaton. Find out more on the Downtown



Wheaton Association's website for specific activities and dates.

Wheaton Community Christmas Tree Lighting

Date: Saturday, Nov. 30

Time: 5 p.m.

Location: Wheaton City Hall, 303 W Wesley Street

Join the festivities of a new tradition in Wheaton. The official City of Wheaton Christmas Tree is moving to City Hall this year and is a tree that we can watch grow from year-to-year.

Healthy Rivers, Healthy Streams Workshop

Date: Thursday, Dec. 5

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

Location: Morton Arboretum Thornhill Center, 4100 Route 53, Lisle, Founder's Room

DuPage County Stormwater Management and The Conservation Foundation will host a free "Healthy Rivers, Healthy Streams" workshop to discuss ways to reduce pollution in waterways, provide examples of healthy

ecosystems and highlight local projects that have improved the quality of streams. Attendees can also network with experts and peers interested in protecting waterways.

Sunday Concert: Beyond Glee

Date: Sunday, Dec. 8

Time: 2 p.m.

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

Celebrate the holidays with the Wheaton Park District chorale group Beyond Glee! This performance-based mixed adult community chorus sings a wide repertoire of songs and will have you singing along to your favorite holiday songs.

It's Christmastime in the City

Date: Monday, Dec. 9

Time: 7 p.m.

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

Did you know that one of Chicago's earliest industries was Christmas trees and wreaths? Or that Chicagoans have contributed some of the most beloved holiday songs? Join Chicago

historian Clarence Goodman as he discusses all things Yule in Chicago! Registration required.

Wheaton Science Theater: Holiday Double Feature

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 10

Time: 6 p.m.

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

Wheaton Public Library & Dry City have teamed up once again to bring you another Wheaton Science Theater, this time as a double feature!

Join us at Dry City Brew Works for "Santa Claus Conquers the Martians" at 6 p.m., followed by "Santa Claus" at 7:30 p.m.

Gingerbread House Contest

Date: Saturday, Dec. 14

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N Cross St.

Put your holiday decorating skills to work and create your best edible house for the Gingerbread House Contest. You do not need to register your gingerbread creation, just bring it with you to enter. Prizes will be awarded for the following categories: children, teen, adult, and people's choice.

Make & Take: Gift Tags

Date: Thursday, Dec. 19

Time: 5-7 p.m.

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

Create several gift tags to identify and trim your holiday packages! This is a drop-in program; no registration required.



City commissions organize events such as the Bicycle Advisory Commission's history ride, which stopped at historic spots on the Underground Railroad.

Opportunities Available to Serve on City Commissions

Are you looking for an opportunity to get involved and give back to your community? Several of the City's commissions are seeking volunteers to join their group:

- Environmental Improvement Commission
- Group Care Home Commission
- Historic Commission
- Housing Commission
- Sister City Commission

These groups meet on a regular basis and review specialized matters with the intent of developing recommendations to the City Council. You can [read about each commission on the City's website](#), and [fill out an application](#).

Return applications to sbarrett-hagen@wheaton.il.us or Attn: City Clerk, Wheaton City Hall, 303 W Wesley Street, Wheaton, IL 60187.

Holiday Safety Tips from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency

With the holiday season in full swing, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency is offering tips to help people stay safe now and into the new year.

Winter Heating

Be sure that your fireplace is ready. Chimneys, fireplaces and wood stoves should be regularly inspected and cleaned. Also, furnaces should be checked every year by professionals to ensure mechanical parts are functioning properly and that nothing is blocking the flue. Malfunctioning furnaces increase both the fire and carbon monoxide risks.

Under Illinois law, homes should be equipped with working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors within 15 feet of each sleeping area. Test

detectors monthly to ensure they're functioning and the batteries are still good. Never use a gas or charcoal grill inside your home or attached garage because of the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Holiday Travel

If traveling by car, pack an emergency supply kit with essentials for all your passengers. Let your in case of emergency contact know your plan. Before you hit the road, check local road conditions and avoid traveling during winter storms.

If traveling by plane, review the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) security screening tips. When packing for your flights, consider a small emergency kit that includes a flashlight and spare USB power bank.



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 list of all meetings and events.

December 2019

- 2** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 7** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 9** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 16** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 25** City offices closed