

CITY OF WHEATON

NEWSLETTER

March 2020

CITY NOTES



Save the Date for Native Plant Sale

Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission encourages the community to save the date for its annual Native Plant Sale in cooperation with the Wheaton Park District. The sale will feature flowers, bushes, grasses, shrubs and more that are native to Illinois, making them a hardy and environmentally friendly choice.

The sale will be from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 25 at the Wheaton Public Works building, 821 W. Liberty Drive.

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Next Phase of Downtown Improvements Begins Soon

Main Street improvements are from Illinois to Seminary

Preliminary work will begin the week of March 2 for the third phase of the City's Downtown Streetscape Project, which includes infrastructure improvements to Main Street from Seminary Avenue to Illinois Street. Main Street will receive the same upgrades and amenities as in the first two phases of work, including replacing underground utilities where needed, wider sidewalks, bike racks, more pedestrian-friendly crossings, new trees, energy-efficient lighting and more.

The contractor performing this work, Copenhagen Construction, will start preliminary work on Main Street north of the



Among the changes you will see are wider sidewalks, new trees, LED streetlights, benches and more.

railroad tracks.

The project will be divided into these four stages, with approximate dates:

- **Stage 1 (Utilities)** –

March-April 2020: Water main installation on Main between Front and Wesley; underground storm sewer and structure work on Main between Illinois and Seminary

- **Stage 2** – April-

June 2020: Streetscape construction on the west side of Main between Illinois and Seminary

- **Stage 3** – June-

August 2020: Streetscape construction on the east side of Main between Illinois and Seminary

- **Stage 4** – September 2020: Asphalt paving and striping on Main from Illinois to Seminary

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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

Downtown

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During some phases of work, lane closures will be necessary, but the City will keep a lane of traffic open in each direction whenever possible. Temporary detours may be necessary at some points.

The City will provide access to businesses with temporary ramps while sidewalks are under

construction.

Traffic at the intersection of Main and Willow will be controlled by a four-way stop for approximately six months while the traffic signals are upgraded.

Weather delays and unforeseen utility conflicts may impact the schedule, and the City will provide updated information as work progresses. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience during construction.



Main Street will receive the same types of upgrades as the earlier phases of improvements, including benches, wider sidewalks, new trees and landscaping.

CITY NOTES

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Commission Seeks Members

Wheaton's Historic Commission is seeking residents interested in promoting Wheaton's history to join the commission. You can [learn more about the commission and its activities on the City's website](#), and [fill out an application](#) if you are interested in joining.

New Business

Wheaton welcomes a new business, Mion Artisan Soap, now open at 204 W. Wesley Street. Handmade, small batch 100% natural body products. No preservatives, chemicals or parabens, only nourishing and natural ingredients like essential oils, butters and herbs.

Employment Opportunities

The City of Wheaton is currently seeking applicants for the following positions:

- Director of Engineering
- Part-time Community Service Officer
- Part-time Police Services Representative
- Part-time Property Maintenance Inspector
- Project Engineer – Capital Improvements
- Seasonal Summer Laborers

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

Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m. Sunday, March 8. When you change your

clocks, the Wheaton Fire Department also encourages you to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. Replacing the batteries about every 6 months helps ensure they operate correctly, and using Daylight Saving Time is an easy way to remember when you last replaced the batteries.



Paper Shredding, Syringe Collection and More

Save the date for the City's Recycling Extravaganza. The morning of April 4, the City will offer paper shredding, syringe & epi-

pen collection provided by the DuPage County Sheriff's office, and drop-offs for items like thermometers, bikes, eye glasses, hearing aids and more.

This event will take place in the City's Municipal Parking Lot located at Liberty & Carlton. Look for more information coming soon about this event.

Commission News

The City Council approved the reappointment of Kristine Eisenmann and Bill Gilbertson to three-year terms on the Housing Commission.

The Council also approved the appointment of Kristin Santiago to complete the remainder of a term through Nov. 7, 2022 on the Community Relations Commission.

Last Chance for 2020 Good Citizen Awards Nominations



Pictured above are recipients of the 2019 Good Citizen Awards.

Do you know someone who you think deserves to be recognized for his or her service in the community? Wheaton's Community Relations Commission encourages you to nominate an individual or group for Wheaton's 2020 Good Citizen Awards. Nominations are due by March 16.

New this year is an expanded student category, allowing residents to nominate students in elementary, middle school, high school and college.

This award helps

Nominations are due by March 16

recognize those who make the generous and often extraordinary contributions that make Wheaton an outstanding community. This may be volunteer service for a school, church, nursing home, civic group or nonprofit organization. A person may also be nominated for service to an individual, such as tutoring, assisting an elderly neighbor, etc.

The categories for nominees are:

- Student
- Adult
- Group.

A nominee must

be a current Wheaton resident who has done something for the benefit of Wheaton and its citizens.

To nominate someone, fill out an application and submit it at www.wheaton.il.us/goodcitizen or mail your application to Wheaton City Hall, Attn: Andrea Rosedale, 303 W Wesley Street, Wheaton, IL 60187.

The Community Relations Commission will review nominations, and the City will honor award recipients at the May 18 City Council meeting.



Summer Positions Available

It's not too early to start thinking about summer. The City of Wheaton is currently hiring Summer Laborers to work out of Public Works Department over the months of May through August.

This position works both independently and in groups and assists various divisions: Facilities, Forestry/ Parks and Grounds, Streets, Signs, Water and Sewer, with multiple projects that directly impact the City and our residents.

This an excellent opportunity for those who enjoy staying busy, working outdoors, and want to learn new skills and gain experience. Come see what it takes to keep the City going from a behind-the-scenes perspective. For more information, please see the City's website at www.wheaton.il.us/jobs.

New Building Codes Effective March 4

On Feb. 3, the Wheaton City Council voted to adopt the most recent International Code Council (ICC) building codes in order to promote the health,

safety and welfare of our community.

The changes, which consist of the 2018 editions of the ICC building codes with local amendments appropriate for Wheaton, go into

effect on March 4, 2020.

[The full ordinance is available to review on the City's website.](#)

If you have questions, please contact the City's Building Department at 630-260-2010.

Invitation to Take U.S. Census Coming Soon

Households will begin receiving an invitation in the mail to complete the 2020 U.S. Census this month. This is the first time the U.S. Census Bureau will allow you to complete the census online, in addition to by mail or by phone. The mail from the U.S. Census Bureau will provide instructions on how to complete the census.

Why is it important?

- Census data determines how federal, state and local funds are distributed. These funds pay for things like education, infrastructure improvements and public health programs.
- Census numbers also

WHEATON CENSUS 2020 Count Me In!



reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state receives.

- Boundaries of congressional and state legislature districts are made based on population shifts reported in the census.

YOU can help shape Wheaton's future by simply being counted.

Assistance Available

The Wheaton Public Library is helping make sure all residents can complete the census. If you need help, bring your census postcard to the library, and their staff will be happy to assist you. The library will provide iPad kiosks for easy access to the census online and desktop & laptop computers to

access the census.

In addition, the library will celebrate Census Day on April 1. Stop by the library to celebrate with refreshments.

The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential. The law ensures that your private information is never published and that your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.

Be on the lookout for official mail from the U.S. Census Bureau with information on how you can complete the census.

For more information, visit www.2020census.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday Concert: Shamrock Ragsters

Date: Sunday, March 8

Time: 2 p.m.

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

Celebrate St. Patty's with the Shamrock Ragsters as they perform a medley of Celtic, Bluegrass, and Dixieland jazz! Attendees are seated on a first come, first served basis.

Living History:

Louisa May Alcott

Date: Thursday, March 12

Time: 7 p.m.

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

Leslie Goddard portrays Miss Alcott as she reminisces about her life, including her struggles to succeed as a writer, and the unexpected success of *Little Women* in 1868. Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Wheaton. Registration required.

Electronic Recycling

Date: Saturday, March 14

Time: 9 a.m.-noon

Location: Wheaton Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive

Bring unwanted electronics, cooking oil, clothing, and scrap metal

for recycling at the City's monthly drop-off collection. Please note that there is a charge to recycle TVs and monitors. For program specifics, please visit www.wheaton.il.us/electronics.

The Life of Judy Garland

Date: Thursday, March 19
Time: 6:30 p.m.

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

History enthusiast Jim Gibbons discusses the beautiful yet tragic life of Judy Garland. Registration required.

The Women of

Cantigny

Date: Thursday, March 26

Time: 7 p.m.

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

A lack of male heirs propelled the women in the Medill, McCormick and Patterson families to do amazing things, including serving in Congress, breaking flight records, winning the Pulitzer Prize and owning their own newspapers.

Presented by Laurie Russell of the Robert R. McCormick Museum at Cantigny. Registration required at www.wheatonlibrary.org.

Yard Waste Pickup Resumes April 6

Food scraps can be included with yard waste

Yard waste, food scraps and organic materials are collected at the curb from the first full week of April through the second full week of December. Please do not place yard waste at the curb before the week of April 6, as Lakeshore Recycling Systems can't accept these materials before the pickup season begins.

Use containers no larger than 35 gallons in size or biodegradable paper bags. Each container/bag must weigh no more than 50 pounds and must have one Lakeshore Recycling Systems sticker attached to be collected. [For more about yard waste, visit the City's website.](#)



To be prepared for severe weather, you can learn the difference between National Weather Service watches and warnings.

March is Severe Weather Preparedness Month

This month, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency encourages all residents to prepare themselves for severe weather.

One action you can take is to familiarize yourself with the following terms to stay alert and prepared.

- **Tornado Watch:** conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes.

- **Tornado Warning:**

a tornado has been reported by spotters, or National Weather Service (NWS) meteorologists have determined that one is about to form in the next several minutes. Go to a substantial shelter immediately.

- **Severe Thunderstorm Watch:** conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms containing large hail and damaging wind.

- **Severe Thunderstorm Warning:** large hail and/or damaging wind has been reported by spotters, or is about to develop. Go to a substantial shelter immediately.

For more severe weather preparedness tips and information, please visit the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/iema>.



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.

March 2020

- 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.
- 23 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.