

CITY OF WHEATON NEWSLETTER

October 2020

CITY NOTES

Leaf Collection Reminders

This fall, the City of Wheaton reminds you of its procedures for leaf disposal. Place leaves in containers 35 gallons in size or smaller, or in biodegradable bags. Containers or bags must weigh less than 50 pounds when filled. Each container or bag requires a Lakeshore Recycling Systems yard waste/organics/excess garbage sticker, which is available at City Hall and at many local grocery and hardware stores.

City Prohibits General Burning of Yard Waste, Garbage, or Other Materials

General open burning of yard waste, garbage, or other materials including leaves is prohibited. Recreational and food-related fires conducted

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City Asks Riders to Walk Your Wheels in Downtown Wheaton

Riding on Downtown Sidewalks is Prohibited

With current activities limited by COVID-19, many people have taken up riding bikes, scooters, skateboards and in-line skates for recreation or transportation. In response, new signs have gone up around the downtown to remind residents and visitors where you need to “walk your wheels” on sidewalks for the safety of pedestrians.

The City of Wheaton does not allow riding bicycles, skateboards, scooters or in-line skates on the sidewalks within the heart of the downtown, which includes:

- Wesley Street to the north
- Cross Street to the east
- Willow Street to the south



New signs have gone up around the downtown to remind riders where to “walk your wheels.”

- West Street to the west

While you can still ride on the streets, if you choose to go on the sidewalk, you must walk your wheels on the sidewalks. This rule is set by City Code, and violators can be fined.

Please note that riding

is allowed on the portion of the Illinois Prairie Path that runs through the downtown, just south of the railroad tracks.

The City appreciates your cooperation in helping make our downtown a pedestrian-friendly place for all to enjoy.

CONTACT THE CITY

Police/Fire Emergency: 9-1-1
General Information: 630-260-2000
Wheaton City Hall: 303 W. Wesley Street
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

Follow Us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by searching for "City of Wheaton."
Send feedback to communications@wheaton.il.us

CITY NOTES

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within commercial and approved containers such as grills and manufactured portable fireplaces are allowed with only seasoned firewood to be burned in fireplaces or permit-approved fire pits. Residents must obtain a special permit from the Fire Department for small ground bonfires. View [information about open burning](#) on the City's website.



Applications for Vote by Mail Ballots Available for DuPage County Voters

DuPage County voters may apply for Vote by Mail ballots for the Nov. 3, 2020 General Election. In compliance with new state election law in response to COVID-19, the DuPage County Clerk Election Division has increased the ballot application period by nearly seven weeks.

Registered voters can securely [apply online for Vote by Mail ballots](#) on the DuPage County website.

Halloween Message from the City of Wheaton

As Halloween approaches, the City of Wheaton would like to address questions we have received about trick-or-treating and Halloween during the COVID-19 pandemic. The information below has been updated to reflect guidance issued by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is providing guidance to help residents celebrate safely as we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. While the IDPH advises that the safest way to celebrate is to stay home and plan virtual gatherings, if individuals decide to gather, the IDPH is issuing [recommendations for safer ways to celebrate](#). Considerations include the three W's: wear a mask/face covering, watch your distance and wash your hands; plus the recommendations below that are specific to Halloween activities.

Specific recommendations from the Illinois Department of Public Health include:

If you think you could have COVID-19 or have been exposed



to someone who has COVID-19, do not participate in any in-person Halloween activities.

Trick-or-treating:

- Anyone participating in trick-or-treating, including those passing out candy, should maintain 6 feet of social distance and wear proper face coverings.

- Consider leaving individually wrapped candy (spaced apart) on a table in driveways or in front of walkways, sidewalks, or any outdoor space where 6 feet of distance can be maintained.

- A Halloween costume mask is not a substitute for a cloth mask. Ensure that breathing is not impaired if a cloth mask is worn under a costume mask. If so, discard the costume mask.

- Trick-or-treat in groups with household members only.

- Candy collected during trick-or-treating should not be eaten until after handwashing.

Adult costume parties, social gatherings:

Gatherings of more than 50 people or 50% or more of a building's maximum occupancy are prohibited. (Lower limits may apply for regions in additional mitigation.)

The more time you spend at a gathering, the closer the contact, the more people, the higher your risk of exposure to COVID-19.

[Follow small social gathering safety tips from IDPH.](#)

After participating in any of the above activities, if you think that you may have been exposed during your celebration, take extra precautions for 14 days after the event to help protect others. You should stay home as much as possible, avoid

Halloween

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being around people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19, and consider getting tested for COVID-19.

Full IDPH Halloween guidance is available on the [IDPH website](#).

Additional information from the City of Wheaton:

It is up to each resident to decide whether you would like to engage in Halloween activities – including whether you allow trick-or-treaters to visit your home or not – and how you will do so.

Trick-or-treating hours are from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31.

If you do not want trick-or-treaters to visit your home, [hang a sign on your door](#) indicating

you are not participating and/or you can turn off your porch light. We are providing this [sign to print out for your use](#), or you can pick up a copy at City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays.

Please Respect Your Neighbors

We remind those who are participating in trick-or-treating not to approach homes or

knock on doors of homes that have “no trick-or-treating here” signs or have exterior lights off. Please treat all neighbors with respect and courtesy.

For additional information and updates regarding public health restrictions or guidance on Halloween trick-or-treating, please visit [www.wheaton.il.us](#) and [see the CDC's recommendations for holiday celebrations here](#).

Recycling Extravaganza Event Collects Syringes, Documents & More

The City and Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission Recycling Extravaganza event is Saturday, Oct. 31 from 8:30 a.m. through 11:30 a.m. located at the commuter parking lot at Liberty and Carlton.

The Recycling Extravaganza is a drive-through recycling and reuse event where residents can bring recyclable items listed below for free (unless noted) and then have volunteers unload the items to be safely disposed of at the event.

The following materials will be accepted at the upcoming Recycling Extravaganza:

- Syringes & EpiPens-Household-generated medical sharps (needles, syringes, lancets etc.) in a thick plastic container, such as a detergent



The Recycling Extravaganza is a free drive-through recycling and reuse event for residents.

bottle, secured with a lid and tape then labeled as “sharps.”

- Paper shredding (up to 4 standard office-sized boxes) - Please remove binders, rubber bands, binder clips, page protectors, plastic bags, plastic file tabs, CDs, vinyl checkbook holders, batteries, and other hard items (items are fire hazard for shred

truck). Staples and paper clips do not need to be removed. Boxes will be returned to vehicle(s).

- Eye glasses
- Hearing aids
- Used bikes and bike parts (helmets, working pumps, bicycle parts)
- Mercury thermometers, thermostats & barometers (no light bulbs)
- Brita filters & pitchers

(only this brand)

- Books
- Music records (45's, LP's)
- Musical instruments & sheet music
- Latex paint (Fees: quart: \$1, gallon: \$3, 5 gallons: \$10)
- Aerosol paint cans (\$1 per can)

Due to COVID-19, all participating residents are required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing at the event, and items are to be placed as far back in their trunks as possible for staff/volunteers to handle.

This event is offered in partnership with the City of Wheaton, the Wheaton Environmental Improvement Commission, SCARCE, the DuPage County Sheriff's Office, DuPage County, Wheaton Lions Club, Working Bikes, Flat Can, and ePaint Recycling.

Petitions for Candidacy: 2021 Municipal Election



Petitions for candidacy for the 2021 Wheaton municipal election will be available in the Office of the City Clerk at Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley Street, Wheaton, IL for one four-year position for each of the City's four Districts (North, South, East, and West). Candidates shall:

- Be registered voters of the City of Wheaton and candidates must reside within each specific district boundary within the corporate limits of the city at least one year before the election; and
- File Nonpartisan Primary Petitions for Nomination signed by no less than 5% and no more than 8% of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in each district of registered City of Wheaton voters residing within the corporate limits of each specific district (North, South, East, and West) together with a Statement of Candidacy, Loyalty Oath (optional), and a receipt indicating the candidate has filed a

Statement of Economic Interest with the DuPage County Clerk.

Petitions for nomination are filed with the Wheaton City Clerk, City Hall, 303 West Wesley Street, Second Floor, Wheaton, Illinois. The filing period is Monday, November 16, 2020 through Monday, November 23, 2020, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding weekend days and holidays.

A Consolidated Primary election will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 if more than four candidates file for each district position (North, South, East, and West). The Consolidated Election will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, with the successful candidates taking 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.

For further information, please contact the Wheaton City Clerk's office at 630-260-2012.

Garbage & Recycling Service Charge Changes Begin October 1

The City's garbage and recycling pickup service provider, Lakeshore Recycling Systems, will be updating their service charges. The new service fees will go into effect Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020 and last through Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021. Garbage and recycling service is charged per pickup separately, so you are only charged when you set out your garbage cart or recycling cart for pickup.

Please see the following updated service fees (per pickup) beginning Thursday, Oct. 1 listed below.

Garbage
35-gallon cart: \$1.55 (previously \$1.52)
65-gallon cart: \$3.10



(previously \$3.04)
95-gallon cart: \$4.65 (previously \$4.56)

Recycling
35-gallon cart: \$1.29 (previously \$1.26)
*65-gallon cart: \$1.29 (previously \$1.26)
95-gallon cart: \$1.20 (previously \$1.18)

*65-gallon cart is the standard recycling cart size provided by the City's previous waste hauler

For [more information about garbage and recycling services](#) please visit the City's website.

Halloween Pumpkin Collection

The City of Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission will once again host a "Pumpkin Smash" drop-off for pumpkins right after Halloween. This collection will allow you to drop off pumpkins (please remove decorations first) to be composted, rather than going to the landfill. The event will take place

on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to noon in the commuter parking lot at Liberty and Carlton.

Due to COVID-19, all participating residents are required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing at the event, and items are to be placed as far back in their vehicle trunks as possible for staff/volunteers to handle.

Early Voting Available at DuPage County Fairgrounds



DuPage County voters can cast their ballots in the 2020 Presidential Election at the DuPage County Fairgrounds located at 2015 Manchester Road.

Early Voting at the Fairgrounds will be by paper ballot only. Eighteen additional Early Voting sites offering touchscreen voting will be available throughout DuPage County beginning Monday, Oct. 19.

In addition to social distancing, there will be personal protection supplies including hand sanitizer for voters and poll workers.

Hours for Early Voting at the Fairgrounds are:

Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (September 24 - October 16)

Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (September 26 - October 17)

Weekdays: 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (October 19 - November 2)

Weekends: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (October 24 - November 1)

Voters can find a complete guide to all Early Voting locations and dates, as well as information on voting by mail, at the [DuPage County Clerk's website](https://www.dupageco.org/election) or www.dupageco.org/election.

Continue to Mask Up Wheaton

Remember to Mask Up Wheaton to help take COVID-19 down! The City continues to ask community members to do their part in slowing the spread of COVID-19 by wearing a mask/face covering when in public settings where social distancing cannot be maintained. One of the simplest things we can do to keep one another safe is to wear a mask when out in the community.

Community members can help promote the City's "Mask Up Wheaton" initiative by using the hashtag #MaskUp-Wheaton while sharing



photos of themselves or others wearing masks/face coverings on social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram). In addition to using the hashtag, community members can also apply a special Facebook profile frame that has the "Mask Up Wheaton" logo to help show support of the initiative. The City may even use your photos in its promotional materials like its recent [Mask Up Wheaton video](#).

Cooking Oil Collection

The City and Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission will be hosting a drop-off event for the collection of cooking oil on Saturday, Nov. 28 from 9 a.m. through 11 a.m. at the Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive. This is a drive-through event, where volunteers will unload items you bring to this collection from your car.

Strained corn oil, olive oil, peanut oil and any type of vegetable oil contained within a safely sealed container will be collected and

turned into biofuel. Please note that this program cannot accept bacon or meat grease. The City reminds residents that pouring cooking oil down your sink's drain can cause blockages as well as sanitary sewer backups and pouring anything down the storm drain is illegal.

Due to COVID-19, all participating residents are required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing at the event, and items are to be placed as far back in their trunks as possible for staff/volunteers to handle.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wheaton French Market
Saturdays through
November
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.*
Parking Lot at Main & Liberty

*8 a.m. to 9 a.m. is reserved
for seniors and those with
underlying health condi-
tions.

Please see [safety protocols](#)
on the City's
website.

**Electronic Recycling
Monthly Drop-Off**
Saturday, Oct. 10
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
820 W. Liberty Drive

Please see [safety protocols](#)
on the City's website.

Make a Difference Day
Make a Difference Day, a
national day of volunteer-
ing, takes place on Oct. 24.
Check the City's website at

www.wheaton.il.us/MADD
for more information about
Make a Difference Day and
updates leading up to the
event.

**Wheaton Public Library
Virtual Events**
Register for virtual events
at wheatonlibrary.org/cal-endar.

*Talking About Racism:
Should We Be Colorblind?*

Thursday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m.

*1918: Spanish Flu Pandem-
ic, WWI & Wilson*
Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.

*Antislavery Activism in Il-
linois*
Thursday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m.

*Discussion with N.Y Times
bestselling author, Mary
Kubica*
Thursday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m.

October is National Cyber Security Month

During October, the
Illinois Emergency
Management
Agency (IEMA) is
joining with the Illinois
Department of Innovation
and Technology (DoIT),
as well as county and
municipal emergency
management agencies,
to increase awareness of
online risks.

The Ready Illinois
website at www.Ready.Illinois.gov
provides links
to information and tips to
help people minimize the
risk of being a cybercrime
victim. Some of those tips
include the following:

**Configure your
computer securely**
Use privacy and security

settings in your software,
email system and web
browsers. Regularly
update your anti-virus
software to identify and
thwart new strains of
malicious software.

**Keep software and
operating systems
updated**

Install all software
updates as soon as they
are offered; using the
"auto update" setting is
the best way to ensure
timely updates.

**Use strong
passwords**

Cybercriminals use
automated programs
that will try every word
in the dictionary in a

few minutes. When
creating a password, use
at least 10 characters,
with a combination of
uppercase and lowercase
letters, numbers and
symbols.

**Be cautious about
links and attachments**

Even communications
you receive that appear
to be from friends and
family may contain links
to malicious sites, so be
careful when clicking on
links in those messages.
When in doubt, delete it.

Illinois Emergency
Management Agency
(IEMA) also reminds
everyone of the

following steps:

1. If it's too good to be
true, it probably is;
2. Hover your cursor
over the links to
determine the true web
address;
3. Look for misspellings
and poor grammar, which
are warning signs of
fraud;
4. Be suspicious of
emails requesting urgent
action;
5. Never give away
sensitive personal
information.

To learn more about
tips for cyber safety, visit
www.ready.illinois.gov.



CITY CALENDAR

City Council Meetings and
Planning Sessions are held
in the Council Chambers at
Wheaton City Hall, 303 W.
Wesley St. Visit www.wheaton.il.us
for a complete list of
meetings and events

October 2020

- 5 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 12 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 19 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 26 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.