

November 2012

City Notes

No Garbage Pickup Nov. 22

Please remember that there will be no garbage pickup on Thursday, Nov. 22, in observance of Thanksgiving. Pickups on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 22-23, will be delayed one day.

Also, City offices will be closed on Nov. 22-23. They will reopen on Monday, Nov. 26.



Firefighter Application

The Wheaton Board of Fire and Police Commissioners is currently accepting firefighter applications. The application deadline is noon on Dec. 7.

Minimum requirements include: valid driver's license; associate degree or equivalent of 2 years of college; must be 20-34 years old (unless otherwise provided by Statute) at time of application deadline;

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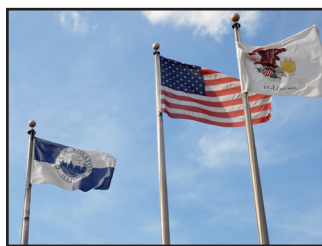
Deadline Approaching to Run for Wheaton City Council

Four spots on the Wheaton City Council will be up for election on April 9, 2013. If you are interested in running for one of these four district representative seats (one of each in the north, south, east and west districts), you must submit a petition for candidacy with the City Clerk at City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Nov. 19-26, excluding weekend days and holidays. Note: City Hall offices are officially closed on Thursday, Nov. 22, and Friday, Nov. 23. Petitions for candidacy are available from the City Clerk's office until the filing period begins.

Candidates must:

- Be registered voters of

Petition Filing Period is Nov. 19-26



the City of Wheaton

- Reside within the corporate limits of the city for at least one year before the election date
- Live within the district the resident wants to represent
- File Nonpartisan Primary Petitions for Nomination signed by at least 25 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.

A Consolidated Primary election will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2013 if more than four candidates file for each district position. The Consolidated Election will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2013.

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

Will Your Mailbox Survive the Winter?

As winter weather approaches, the Public Works Department encourages you to take the time to check the condition of your mailbox. If your mailbox needs repairing or is leaning, fix it before winter weather arrives. While snow

plow drivers do their best to avoid hitting mailboxes, sometimes – especially when visibility is poor – a mailbox can be hit by accident.

Also, move portable basketball hoops, landscape timbers, decorative rocks or other decorative items away

from the street. Landscape timbers and decorative rocks should not be located within 5 feet of the street to ensure that a car or snow plow does not hit these items and cause damage or injury.



Contact
the City

Police/Fire: 911
After-Hours Water/Sewer Emergency: 630-260-2161
General Information: 630-260-2000, 630-260-8090 (TDD)
City Hall Hours: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

Feedback:
Please mail your comments to:
Mayor's Office, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187
Or, email comments to: feedback@wheaton.il.us

Vote in Election Nov. 6

Registered voters can participate in the General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 6, for the election of federal, state and county candidates by an established party. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Check your registration status, find your polling place, find your precinct, see a sample ballot and more by visiting the DuPage County Election Commission website at www.dupageco.org/election or call 630-407-5600.

Holiday Light Recycling Program Offered Nov. 19 through Feb. 22

Copper and plastic parts will be recycled

The City of Wheaton will offer free holiday light recycling again this year in partnership with Elgin Recycling. This program offers an eco-friendly alternative to putting lights in landfills.

Starting Nov. 19, 2012, bring strands of incandescent or LED holiday lights and extension cords in any condition to the Public Works Storage Yard at 820 W. Liberty Drive any time between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Look for signs directing you to the holiday light recycling area just inside the gate. The Public Works Department will accept



lights for recycling through Feb. 22, 2013. The lights will be collected by Elgin Recycling, then stripped and recycled for their copper and plastic parts. No materials will

Holiday Light Recycling Program

- **Date:** Weekdays, Nov. 19-Feb. 22
- **Time:** 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- **Location:** Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive

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.

City Notes

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and U.S. citizenship.

Applications, eligibility information, procedures and forms are available at Public Safety Recruitment 800-373-4473 or www.publicsafetyrecruitment.com.

Change Smoke Alarm Batteries

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, Nov. 4. When you set your clocks back, the Wheaton Fire Department encourages you to replace the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. Changing the detectors' batteries about every six months helps ensure that they will function properly.

Maintenance Worker Position

The City's Public Works

Department is seeking applicants for a maintenance worker position in its Water Division. The position includes performing a variety of tasks in the maintenance of the water distribution system. For more information and to apply, see the City's website by at www.wheaton.il.us by clicking on the "Employment" link on the top blue bar.

Leaf Pickup Continues

Leaves will be collected on the same day as your regular garbage and recycling pickup through Dec. 14.

Place leaves in containers 33 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 green leaf sticker, which is available at City Hall,



303 W. Wesley St., and at many local grocery and hardware stores.

Veolia also takes credit card orders by phone by calling 630-587-8282.

Volunteers Needed

The Environmental Improvement Commission needs your help. Please

consider helping with the monthly electronic recycling collection events, which take place on the second Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon at the Wheaton Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive. Call 630-690-1237 or 630-653-8877 to volunteer.

Four Simple Ways to Help Deter Coyotes

Success of City's coyote policy depends upon participation of the community

The City of Wheaton needs your help in dealing with coyotes in the community. There are four ways that you help: 1) [reporting coyote activity through the City's website](#), 2) removing things that attract coyotes 3) "hazing" coyotes that you encounter to reestablish their natural fear of humans and 4) watching your pets.

1. Report It

The City adopted a policy guiding its response to the presence of coyotes that spells out specific actions that should be taken by the City if certain issues are occurring. These actions depend upon receiving accurate information about coyote activities from observations in the community. The City encourages you to [report coyote activity through this online report form](#) to help the City determine when actions need to be taken. However, please note that if a coyote is acting in a threatening manner toward a human, you should first call 9-1-1, and an officer will respond. If you do not have internet access but would like to report a coyote incident, you can call the Police Department at 630-260-2161.

2. Remove Food Sources

Besides reporting incidents, it is important for you to understand how to discourage coyotes from becoming comfortable in your neighborhood. Coyotes can become a nuisance when they have easy access to food in residential areas, such as pet food or garbage. To discourage their

presence:

- Feed pets indoors or promptly remove dishes after pets eat outside. Store pet food indoors.
- Clear brush and dense weeds from around property to deprive rodents of shelter and reduce protective cover for coyotes.
- Use trash barrels equipped with tight clamping devices on the lids.
- Do not feed or provide water for wildlife. This practice abnormally attracts coyotes and promotes increased numbers of rodents, birds, snakes and other creatures that can provide major portions of the coyote's natural diet.

The City reminds you that feeding coyotes is also a violation of City Code. In May 2010, the City passed an ordinance prohibiting the feeding of coyotes, feral cats and dogs, raccoons, skunks and opossum.

3. Scare Away Coyotes

Equally important is helping teach coyotes where they are not welcome. Coyotes can lose their natural fear of humans if they have easy access to food and become used to seeing humans. You can use the effective method of "hazing" – which means to scare off coyotes through actions that make them uncomfortable – to teach coyotes that your yard is an undesirable place for them to be and the coyote must leave. Some hazing techniques include making eye contact and yelling at the coyote(s), waving your arms to make yourself appear as large as possible, using a noisemaker/whistle, throw-



ing objects toward the coyote, stomping and clapping, running toward the coyote, spraying a hose at the coyote, and acting threatening.

Hazing **does not** include weapons and **does not** physically harm coyotes. Be persistent and keep hazing until the coyote leaves. Coyotes are intelligent animals that will soon learn to avoid these places where they feel uncomfortable. Wildlife experts do not recommend hazing if a coyote is injured, sick or has

become cornered; in these situations, coyotes may act unexpectedly.

4. Watch Your Pets

Finally, while pets do not comprise a large portion of a coyote's diet, it is important to watch your pets, **even in a fenced yard**. Coyotes are opportunistic and will go for easy prey, such as an unattended pet.

For more information, see the [Coyote information section of the City's website](#).

Learn More About the Coyote Policy

The full City of Wheaton Coyote Policy is available through the City's website in the [Coyote Information section](#). It outlines the latest research on coyote behavior and how this can best be managed for the sake of public safety and coexistence.

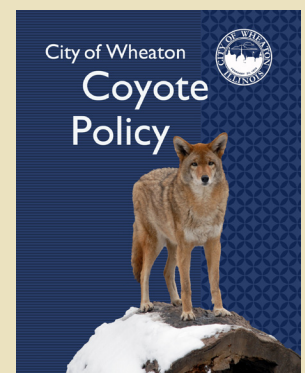


Useful Videos:

- ["Coexisting with Coyotes"](#)
- ["Coyotes in Suburbia"](#)

Report a coyote incident:

Visit the City's website at www.wheaton.il.us/coyotereport



Upcoming Events

Chili Cook-Off

When: Nov. 3, 1-5 p.m.

Where: Participating Downtown Wheaton businesses

Wheaton restaurants encourage you to help name the winner of this year's annual Chili Cook-off. The Downtown Wheaton Association event allows participants to try chili from all of the competing restaurants and then vote for their favorite. For more information, see the [Downtown Wheaton Association's website](#).

Library Holiday Book & Art Sale

When: Nov. 8-11

Where: Wheaton Public Library First Floor East Reading Room, 225 N. Cross St.

Start your holiday shopping at the Friends of the Library Holiday Book & Art Sale running from Nov. 8-11 at the Wheaton Public Library. The sale features gift books for adults and children, collectibles, nostalgia items, first editions, pop-up books, and unique treasures of all kinds. Art work – framed and unframed – will also be on sale. This sale takes place in the library's First Floor East Reading Room from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 9-10; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 11. More information is available at www.wheatonlibrary.org.

Electronic Recycling Collection

When: Nov. 10, 9 a.m.-noon

Where: Wheaton Public Works Storage Facility, 820 W. Liberty Drive

Drop off your unwanted electronics for recycling during the City's monthly collection event. Electronics such



as televisions, computers, printers and small household appliances such as toasters and hair dryers are accepted. Please note that household batteries are not accepted at the monthly electronic recycling collection. More information is on the City's website.

Lighted Holiday Parade

When: Nov. 23, 6 p.m.

Where: Front Street, Downtown Wheaton

A tree-lighting ceremony and lighted holiday parade down Front Street in downtown Wheaton will kick off the Dickens of a Christmas Celebration. For more information, visit the [Downtown Wheaton Association's](#)

[website](#).

Dickens of a Christmas Celebration

When: Nov. 24-Dec. 15

Where: Downtown Wheaton

The Downtown Wheaton Association's Dickens of a Christmas Celebration will include carriage rides from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays, Nov. 24-Dec. 15, at Liberty Drive and Main Street. Also, Visit with Santa will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, Nov. 24-Dec. 15 at Community Bank. Finally, a holiday open house and ice sculpting will be featured on Saturday, Dec. 1, starting at noon. For more information, see <http://downtownwheaton.com/calendar-of-events/>.

Call ComEd About Broken Branches Near Power Lines

You can help prevent power outages. If you see broken or hanging branches near power lines, ComEd encourages you to report the condition. The utility company will come out to remove these branches. Otherwise, these branches may bring down a power line and cause an outage during windy conditions or other strong weather. For your safety, never attempt to trim or remove a tree that is growing near a power line.

To report broken or hanging branches near power lines, please call ComEd at 1-800-Edison-1.



Metra Open House Nov. 7

Annual budget also being discussed

In order to update the public about Metra's process in developing a new strategic plan, Metra will be hosting an open house from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7 at Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley. During the open house, Metra officials also will cover the agency's 2013 budget plans. You can share your opinions about the strategic plan and/or 2013 budget during the open house or online at www.metrarail.com/strategicplan.

Series Wins Third National Award

Edition focuses on 1940s and 1950s

For the third time in four years, the Video Division of the City's Communications Department has won a national Government Programming Award for its "Wheaton Remembers" series. This time, it was a second-place finish in the Seniors Category for an edition focusing on growing up in the 1940s and 1950s. The competition is sponsored by the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors.

In this video – one of seven produced by Municipal Producer Richard Sagen – four classmates reminisce about what Wheaton was like in the '40s and '50s. Their Wheaton was one in which the jitterbug was a popular dance, families practiced blackout drills to hide from World War II enemies, and teenagers frequented drive-in restaurants.

"The insights of these seniors help the community's history live on in an interesting, personal way, which reflects the Communications Department's mission in producing the series," Sagen said.

You can watch "[Wheaton Remembers: Growing Up in](#)



Classmates Pam Burt Lowrie, Sue Daleiden Denson, Fred Bennett and David Hennicke reminisce about their school days during an edition of "Wheaton Remembers" that won a Government Programming Award.

[the '40s and '50s](#)" any time on the City's website, and check out all of the "Wheaton Remembers" editions on the City's website.

The Communications Department continues to seek longtime residents to par-

ticipate in "Wheaton Remembers." If you, a group or someone you know would like to participate, call the Video Division at 630-260-2036 or send an email with your contact information to rsagen@wheaton.il.us.



Please 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 state-wide program that reminds you to practice fire safety during the holiday season. The wreaths feature decorative 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 and open flames, using flame-retardant decorations, ensuring lights are in good condition and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) listed, and keeping real trees watered.



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 Wheaton City Hall. Visit www.wheaton.il.us for a complete list of meetings and events.

November 2012

- 3** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 5** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 6** Election Day
- 12** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 19** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 22** City offices closed; No garbage pickup
- 23** City offices closed
- 26** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.