

# CITY OF WHEATON

## NEWSLETTER

September 2021

### CITY NOTES

#### No Garbage Pickup Sept. 6

Due to the Labor Day holiday, all garbage/recycling/yard waste pickups will be delayed one day during the week of Sept. 6-10.

#### City Offices Closed

Non-emergency City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Monday, Sept. 6. They will reopen on Tuesday, Sept. 7.

#### Temporary Order Suspending Water Service Shutoffs Lifted

The City of Wheaton has lifted its temporary order suspending water service shutoffs for delinquent bills during COVID-19. All customers of City water service should note that shutoffs will resume in October 2021 for unpaid accounts.

If you have questions about your bill or need assistance, please contact

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## Garbage and Recycling Rate Changes Begin Oct. 1



The City's garbage and recycling pickup service provider, LRS (formerly referred to as Lakeshore Recycling Systems), will update their service charges as part of a 3-year contract extension with the waste hauler. **The new service**

**rates will go into effect Friday, Oct. 1, 2021.**

The City's contract extension with LRS will allow you to continue to pay only for how much you use the service. This is achieved using trucks that scan garbage and/or recycling carts when they are emptied.

This "pay-as-you-throw" system is among the first in the country to use RFID scanning technology – similar to the Illinois Tollway System's IPASS – and gives you more control over your service costs than a flat monthly fee.

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### 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

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# Garbage

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The rate adjustments are necessary to offset costs resulting from low residential cart set-out rates in Wheaton and an overall market drop-off for recyclables. Wheaton households, on average, have a monthly set-out rate of less than 55%, meaning most households set out their garbage and recycling at the curb about every other week. The City compared the new rates with service rates in neighboring communities and found that these rates will still allow Wheaton households to pay competitive rates compared to neighboring communities.

Based on the City's satisfaction with LRS service to residents, the competitive price for service, and the community's desire to use a pay-as-you-throw model without requiring stickers for each pickup, the City Council opted to approve a contract extension with LRS.

Please see the following updated service fees per pickup beginning Friday, Oct. 1:

## Garbage

- 95-gallon cart: \$5.10 (increase of \$0.45)
- 65-gallon cart: \$4.30 (increase of \$1.20)
- 35-gallon cart: \$3.05 (increase of \$1.50)

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

## Recycling

- 95-gallon cart: \$3.25 (increase of \$2.05)
- 65-gallon cart: \$2.75 (increase of \$1.46)
- 35-gallon cart: \$2.00 (increase of \$0.71)

The sticker cost will remain unchanged at \$2.99 for yard waste/leaves/organics, bulk items, excess garbage that won't fit in your garbage cart, e-waste, and bulk items.

## *Cart Exchange Grace Period*

Continuing service with LRS will allow Wheaton customers to control their expenses by only being charged when you put out your cart. You may also elect to control your costs by choosing a different cart size, if you find that a different cart size would better suit your household's needs. If you would like to exchange your garbage or recycling cart for a different size (35-, 65- or 95-gallon), LRS will allow you to do so at no additional charge now through Sunday, Oct. 31. Please contact LRS at 773-685-8811 to arrange a cart exchange. After Oct. 31, LRS will charge a delivery fee for exchanging carts.

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



# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

**S**eptember 11, 2021 will mark the 20-year anniversary of the largest terrorist attack on the United States. This resulted in the direct loss of almost 3,000 people including residents of our community. We lost civilians, first responders, and military personnel in the conflict that followed, and our country forever changed that day.

As we observe the 20th anniversary of September 11, the City would like to invite the community to a special remembrance ceremony on Saturday, September 11 at 9 a.m. The ceremony will honor all those who were affected by this tragedy, especially those who once called Wheaton their home. This ceremony will take place in Memorial Park, 208 W. Union Ave. It will include remembrances of those who we lost, plus tributes to our first



responders and military personnel. You can visit the City's website for more information about this ceremony.

I know the City of Wheaton will never forget September 11, 2001. Wherever you are on this day, I hope you can take a moment to reflect on the tremendous impact this event had on us all, remembering the sacrifice and honoring the memory of those we lost.

## SEPTEMBER 11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Saturday, Sept. 11 | 9 a.m.  
Memorial Park

## CITY NOTES

### Continued from page 1

the City's Finance Department at 630-260-2000 or [waterbilling@wheaton.il.us](mailto:waterbilling@wheaton.il.us).

### Lawn Watering Restrictions End

Lawn watering restrictions will end on Sept. 15. Until then, residents can water on odd- or even-numbered days corresponding with odd- or even-numbered addresses. Watering is prohibited between noon and 6 p.m.

### COVID-19 Vaccination Information

The CDC recommends everyone 12 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccination to help protect against COVID-19. To find a location for a COVID-19 vaccine, [visit the DuPage County Health Department's website](#).

Wheaton paramedics are assisting homebound individuals who are unable to travel to a vaccination site. If you are homebound and seeking a vaccine, contact the DuPage County Health Department at 630-682-7400, and they can help coordinate a vaccination in your home.

### Commission News

The City Council approved the following appointments/

reappointments to City boards and commissions:

- Joseph Szczepaniak, appointed to a three-year term on the Historic Commission
- David Duve, appointed to a term ending Oct. 7, 2022 on the Bicycle Advisory Commission
- Stephanie Henry, appointed to a term ending March 20, 2023 on the Community Relations Commission
- George C. Schmidt, appointed to a term ending May 17, 2024 on the Bicycle Advisory Commission.

### Employment Opportunities

The City currently seeks applicants for the following job opportunities:

- Part-time Administrative Assistant
- Part-time Media Assistant
- Lateral Police Officer
- Part-time Emergency Management Specialist
- Maintenance Worker (Public Works, Sewer Division)
- Crossing Guard

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

# Applications for Senior Housing Assistance Now Being Accepted

The City of Wheaton's Housing Commission sponsors a program to provide monthly financial assistance to senior Wheaton residents who qualify.

Senior Wheaton residents must meet the three (3) following requirements to apply for Wheaton Housing Assistance:

- Age: must be at least 65 years or older
- Residency: must be an incorporated Wheaton resident for at least the last consecutive 3 years
- Income: senior's annual household income cannot exceed \$27,800

If you meet all 3 of these qualifications, you can [download an application on the City's website](#), or contact Andrea Rosedale with the City of Wheaton at (630) 260-2019 for more information. If you are receiving Section 8 or DuPage Housing Authority assistance, you are NOT eligible to apply for this program.

Applications are accepted at any time, however, to start receiving assistance in January 2022, applications will need to be received by Sept. 24, 2021.

# Historic Site Marker Plaque Installed on Wheaton Metra Station



The "Down at the Depot" historic site marker plaque has been installed on the exterior east side of the Metra Station, Front and West Streets. Stop by to read and learn about the history of the railroad and its depots in Wheaton.

# Back to School Safety Tips from Wheaton Police Department

A new school year has started, and the Wheaton Police Department would like to share some tips to make this another safe and successful school year.

## Back-to-School Safety Tips

- Ensure students know their address and phone number.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Whenever possible, walk or bike with another person.
- Stay in well-lit areas.
- Limit the use of distracting devices.
- Avoid engaging with or answering questions from strangers.
- If something occurs that makes you feel unsafe, report it immediately to a trusted adult.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to role play possible situations with students and discuss personal safety and awareness tips.

## Pedestrian Safety

- Cross using marked crosswalks designated with a crossing guard.
- Look before you cross and follow the direction of school crossing guards.
- Always walk on



The Wheaton Police Department wishes everyone a safe and successful school year.

designated sidewalks or paths, never along the side of the road.

## Driver Safety

- Obey speed limits and school zones.
- Avoid distracted driving.
- Watch for students walking or on bikes.
- Do not pass a stopped school bus.
- Ensure everyone in a vehicle wears their seatbelt.

• Adhere to the directions of crossing guards to ensure the safety of children and drivers.

## Bicycle Safety

- Helmets are required for riders ages 14 and younger but are recommended for ALL riders.
- Keep right and ride with traffic.
- Please note that if you are riding your bike in the downtown, you must

walk (not ride) your bike on sidewalks.

- Secure your bike with a lock when not in use.
- Know and follow the rules of the road.

## When to Stop for School Buses:

- On a two-lane road, vehicles traveling in both directions MUST stop when a school bus is loading/unloading.

- On a multi-lane road that is paved all the way across both directions of traffic (where there is no raised median, physical barrier, or unpaved space at least 5 feet across), vehicles traveling in both directions MUST stop. Exception: If the road has 4 or more lanes, the vehicles traveling in the opposite direction from the bus may proceed with caution.

- On a divided highway (where there is an unpaved space at least 5 feet wide, a raised median or physical barrier), vehicles behind the bus MUST stop. Vehicles traveling in the opposite direction may proceed with caution.

The Wheaton Police Department welcomes all students back to school and wishes everyone a safe and successful school year.

# Join City Commissions for Mid-Century Modern Historic Bike Tour of Wheaton

**B**ring your bike and join the Wheaton Bicycle Commission and the City of Wheaton Historic Commission on Saturday, Sept. 25 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for a bicycle tour of iconic Mid-Century Modern architecture in Wheaton.

Led by local developers like Graeme Stewart and Fred Zarbock, Wheaton in the 1950's and 1960's responded to the demand for single family housing with a surge of new buildings designed by Mid-Century Modern architects such as Paul Schweikher, Winston Elting, Edward Dart,



Charles Goodman, Ralph Rapson, John Van der Meulen, Maxwin Heimann, and Harry Harmon among others.

Join this special tour and discover what set these buildings apart and how they shaped

Wheaton's future. This moderately-paced 7.5-mile docent-led bike tour will not only be fun and good exercise but it will provide a new way to experience this glimpse into Wheaton's role in Mid-Century Modern

design.

All riders must provide their own bicycle and wear a bike helmet during the tour. All riders must submit a signed waiver, which can be obtained at <https://forms.gle/vKTgTd3a1dgke9G96>.

Please bring the completed waiver to the ride. A parent or guardian must sign the waiver for riders under 18 years of age. Children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult rider. This tour will meet at the bike racks by west side of library at 2 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Rain date is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 2, 2021.

## Festival of Cultures is Sept. 12



**T**he 2021 Festival of Cultures, planned by the Wheaton Community Relations Commission, will take place on Sunday, Sept. 12 from 1 until 5 p.m. at Wheaton's Memorial Park, 225 Karlsgoga Ave. Families, residents, and visitors of all ages are welcome to participate in this free, fun afternoon of storytelling, music, culture, and arts.

Celebrating the diverse cultures that make up the Wheaton

community, this year's festival will feature live performances from Funkadesi, Murphy Roche, and Salsa del Norte at the bandshell and cultural groups highlighting the heritage of some of Wheaton's diverse residents through storytelling, displays, and interactive experiences.

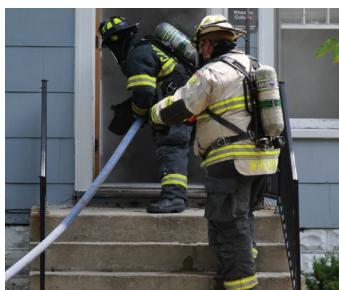
Among the cultures represented at this year's festival are Brazilian, Irish, Mexican, Native American, Turkish, Belarusian, Swedish,

English, South Sudanese, Korean and more.

The Wheaton Community Relations Commission's purpose is to be the catalyst to connect all people and make them feel united with the Wheaton community through events, key partnerships, and opportunities to give back.

Visit the City's website at [www.wheaton.il.us/crc](http://www.wheaton.il.us/crc) for more information about this event and the Community Relations Commission.

# Fire Department Testing Process is Open



The Wheaton Fire Department has opened its testing process to seek candidates for firefighter positions with the City of Wheaton. Applications can be completed at

<https://iosolutions.com>.

Completed applications and release forms are to be signed and submitted by hand or mail to IOS Solutions along with all required documentation by

Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021 at 4 p.m.

Visit the City's website for a full list of minimum requirements and more information about this opportunity.

## Be Prepared for Flooding In September

**F**looding can occur without warning and is especially dangerous for several reasons. It can wash away vehicles and mobile homes and cause extensive property damage. Seniors and individuals who need special assistance or cannot swim face a heightened risk of drowning. Finally, downed power lines can fall into pools of water and cause electrocution.

### Familiarize yourself with the following terms to stay alert and prepared

- Flood/Flash Flood Watch - conditions are favorable for flooding in the next day or two. Flash floods occur very quickly, usually as a result of heavy rainfall in a short period of time.

- Flood Warning - flooding is expected to threaten life and property a few hours after the onset of heavy rain, ice jams, reservoir releases or snowmelt. Flood warnings may be in effect

for days or even weeks depending on weather and soil conditions, land topography, and river size.

- Flash Flood Warning - rapidly rising water which poses an immediate threat to life and property within a few hours due to small stream or urban flooding and dam or levee failures. Quickly move to higher ground or stay away from flooded areas - especially in vehicles.

- Flood Statement - ponding of water in urban areas or minor flooding of streams is occurring. Also used to convey supplemental information, updated observations, and impact information for Flood Warnings.

### Before a flood

- Avoid building in a floodplain unless you elevate and reinforce your home.
- Elevate the furnace, water heater, and electric panel if susceptible to flooding.
- Install check valves in sewer traps to prevent

floodwater from backing up into your home.

- Construct barriers (levees, beams, sandbags, floodwalls) to stop floodwater from entering the building.

- Seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds to avoid seepage.

- Keep an adequate supply of food, drinking water, and flashlights (with extra batteries) in case you are trapped inside your home.

### During a flood

- Seek higher ground. Do not wait for instructions.
- Be aware of flash flood areas such as canals, streams, drainage channels, and underpasses.
- Be ready to evacuate with your Go Bag.
- If time allows, move essential items to upper floors.
- If instructed, turn off main valves and switches. Avoid electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.

- If you must leave your home, do not walk through moving water. Six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet.

- Do not try to drive over a flooded road. If your vehicle stalls, abandon it immediately.

### After a flood

- Avoid floodwaters. Do not let children play in the water.
- Be aware of areas where water has receded. Roadways may have weakened and could collapse.
- Avoid downed power lines and muddy water where power lines may have fallen.
- Return home only when authorities say it is safe to do so.
- Discard food that may have been contaminated.
- Check on sewage systems. If damaged, these can be a serious hazard.

Visit [ready.illinois.gov](http://ready.illinois.gov) for additional information on flooding hazards.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Electronic Recycling

### Monthly Drop-Off

Saturday, Sept. 11

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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. Visit the City's website for [more information](#).

## September 11

### Remembrance

### Ceremony

Saturday, Sept. 11

9 a.m.

Memorial Park

208 W. Union Avenue

The community is invited to join the City of Wheaton for the September 11 Remembrance Ceremony. The City will honor the lives lost on Sept. 11, 2001 and commemorate the 20-year anniversary of the event. This ceremony

will include remarks by Mayor Suess, the Wheaton Fire and Police Departments and more.



## Festival of Cultures

Sunday, Sept. 12

1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Memorial Park

208 W. Union Avenue

Join the Community Relations Commission for an afternoon of storytelling, culture, food, arts, activities, music and more. For more information on this free event, see page 5.



## Mid-Century Modern Historic Bike Tour of Wheaton

Saturday, Sept. 25

2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Join the Wheaton Bicycle Commission for a bicycle tour of iconic Mid-Century Modern architecture in Wheaton. For more information on this free event, see page 5.

## Wheaton French Market

Visit the Wheaton French Market Saturdays through Nov. 27 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the new temporary 2021 location of Reber Street and Liberty Drive near Courthouse Square and the City's Water Department facility. Visit

the City's website for more information or to [review the health and safety guidelines](#).

## Wheaton Public Library Events

Visit the Wheaton Public Library's website at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) for more information about virtual and in-person events.

*Concert on the Park: Kaleidoscope Eyes*  
Wednesday, Sept. 8  
6:30 p.m.

*Canine Massage Workshop*  
Thursday, Sept. 9  
7 p.m.

*Aging & Caregiving Engagement & Support: Protection & Advocacy*  
Wednesday, Sept. 15  
7 p.m.

*The First Civil Rights March in Wheaton*  
Tuesday, Sept. 21  
7 p.m.



# 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](http://www.wheaton.il.us) for a complete list of meetings and events

## September 2021

- 6** City Offices Closed/No Trash Pickup
- 7** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 13** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 20** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 27** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.