

CITY OF WHEATON NEWSLETTER

November 2021

CITY NOTES

No Garbage Pickup Nov. 25

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, LRS will not pick up garbage, yard waste or recycling on Thursday, Nov. 25. Thursday and Friday routes will be one day later during this week.

City Offices Closed

City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 25 and Friday, Nov. 26. Offices will reopen on Monday, Nov. 29.

Halloween Pumpkin Collection

The City of Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission will host a "Pumpkin Smash" drop-off for pumpkins on Saturday, Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to noon in the commuter parking lot at Liberty and Carlton. This collection will allow you to drop off pumpkins (please remove decorations first) to be composted.

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"Light Up Wheaton" Scheduled to Return this Holiday Season

Help Make the Season Bigger & Brighter than Ever

The City of Wheaton and the Wheaton Park District are teaming up again to encourage everyone to "Light Up Wheaton" by adding lights and decorations outside their homes, businesses, churches, or other organizations.

Although everyone is encouraged to participate in lighting up Wheaton, those who want to show off their light displays can register for the official Light Up Wheaton decorating contest.

Entries in the Light Up Wheaton contest will be featured on the official tour map so the public can find their displays



and vote on them for the People's Choice Award. In addition to the People's Choice Award, entries will also be judged by members of the Wheaton City

Council for the Mayor's Choice Award. Also, new to this year, several additional awards will recognize outstanding creativity, interactive

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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

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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Change Smoke Detector Batteries

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 7. When you change your clocks, the Wheaton Fire Department recommends you also change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. You should change the batteries about every six months to ensure the detectors will work correctly. Using Daylight Saving Time as a reminder of when you last changed batteries is an easy way to remember when it's time to replace them.

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. 27 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.

Leaf & Yard Debris Disposal

Residents can place leaves and yard debris 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 yard waste/organics/excess garbage sticker, which is available at City Hall and at many local grocery and hardware stores. The City prohibits open burning of yard waste, garbage, or other materials including leaves.

Yard waste, food scraps and organic materials can be collected at the curb through the second full week of December (Dec. 18, 2021).

For [more information about leaf and yard debris disposal](#), please visit the City's website.

Business News

• Ditka's Grill is having a Grand Opening on Tuesday, Nov. 2. This is the third concept from the Ditka's Restaurant Group featuring a cooked from scratch menu at 225 W. Front Street in Downtown Wheaton.

• The Hale Street tents are being taken down. Please continue to enjoy all the restaurants and shops in Downtown Wheaton.

Commission News

The City Council approved the following appointments to City boards and commissions:

• Marco Scola, appointed to a three-year term on the Community Relations Commission

Employment Opportunities

The City currently seeks applicants for the following job opportunities:

- Administrative Assistant (Public Works)
- Media Assistant
- Crossing Guard
- Customer Service Representative
- Facilities Maintenance Technician
- Lateral Police Officer

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

Council & City Staff Set to Discuss Annual Budget



If you would like to learn about the City's proposed Calendar Year 2022 Budget, attend the City's Budget Workshop Sessions, which will take place:

- 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 8
- 8 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 13

During the sessions, which will take place in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 303 W Wesley Street, City staff and the City Council will discuss and review the proposed City budget for the upcoming year. The proposed budget will be available on the City's website before the budget workshop sessions.

The City will also stream these workshops live through Zoom. Please visit the City's website for a link to the Zoom meeting once the agenda is posted.

These workshop sessions will be recorded and will be available on the City's website.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



It is exciting to see more people choosing to call the City of Wheaton their home. Results from the 2020 U.S. Census show that the population of Wheaton has increased by 1,076 since 2010 bringing our City's total population to 53,970. This keeps our community the third largest in DuPage County behind only the City of Naperville and Aurora. In addition, Wheaton made WalletHub's list of Best Small Cities in America as one of the top 5 best small cities in Illinois and ranked 59th among 1,300 other small cities nationally.

One of the reasons we are able to attract new residents to Wheaton is our continued investment in our City, ensuring our community provides the amenities and

quality infrastructure citizens expect. Capital expenditures in 2021 will exceed \$20 million encompassing 73 specific projects. Some of the construction projects being completed this year include:

- Street reconstruction of Cole Avenue, Hawthorne Boulevard, Indiana Street, and Sunnyside Drive
- Pavement resurfacing in the Arboretum Mews, Butterfield Ridge, and Danada Farms subdivisions as part of the City's Road Program
- Pavement resurfacing of 2.9 miles and patching 1.5 miles of failing sections of asphalt roads by the City's Street Division
- Various water and sewer projects throughout the City.

As part of the Downtown Streetscape Project, crews planted new trees on Wheaton Avenue and Wesley Street, installed brick paver walkways and paved streets along Liberty Drive. Crews also installed retaining walls along the parking lots on Liberty Drive and poured new sidewalks throughout the area, along with making numerous updates to the City's sewer systems.

The conclusion of this 4-year project will



Renderings of area along Liberty Drive between Main and Cross with new multi-purpose canopy structure.

include the construction of a new multi-purpose canopy structure south of the tracks between Main and Cross, with solar panels incorporated, new gathering areas, bicycle parking, and additional amenities for all to enjoy. In total, this project will invest approximately \$35 million in important infrastructure work for our downtown.

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday and reflect on things for which we are thankful, we are grateful for the ability to make the ongoing investments necessary to maintain Wheaton as a great place to live.

I'm also thankful

for our veterans and for their service. This month, various community groups will host numerous events in Wheaton in honor of our veterans. I encourage all residents to take time to experience some of the Veterans Day events that are listed on Page 4 and to express their own gratitude for those who have served in our military.

As the holidays approach, please join us at Wheaton's Christmas Parade on November 26, 2021 at 6 p.m. in Downtown Wheaton. I very much look forward to once again continuing this annual tradition.

"Light Up Wheaton"

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creativity, interactive displays, along with best business/non-profit and best group displays.

If you'd like to enter the Light Up Wheaton contest and be added to the tour map, register through the Wheaton Park District at



The 2020 Light Up Wheaton People's Choice Award winner was 1555 Leabrook Lane.

wheatonparkdistrict.com/lightupwheaton by Friday, Dec. 10. Contest details

and prize information can be found on the City of Wheaton or Wheaton

Park District websites. Voting for the People's Choice Award will take place on both the City of Wheaton and the Wheaton Park District's Facebook pages, so be sure you are following @CityofWheaton and @wheatonparkdistrict on Facebook.

Let's all come together to make this holiday season bigger and brighter than ever!

Events Throughout the City of Wheaton Honor Veterans Day

The City encourages all residents to please remember to take time to honor those who served in the armed services by taking the opportunity to thank a veteran this Veterans Day on Thursday, Nov. 11. To celebrate our veterans, the following events will be held throughout the City beginning Monday, Nov. 1.

Veteran's Collection Drive

Nov. 1 through Nov. 11
Multiple Locations

Drop off items for veterans at the Wheaton Public Library, Doodlebug Workshop, Wheaton Park District Community Center, Arrowhead Restaurant, Wheaton



City Hall, Wheaton VFW, Warrenville VFW.

Items being collected include leftover Halloween candy, coats and jackets, dog food, small toiletries, protein bars and powdered drink mixes.

Old Glory on Display

Beginning Nov. 1
Downtown Wheaton

Residents and visitors are encouraged to visit Downtown Wheaton

restaurants and businesses as they honor our veterans with patriotic displays.

Field of Honor Flags

Nov. 7 through Nov. 11
Memorial Park, 225 Karlskoga Ave.

A presentation of American flags representing veterans in the community will be installed at Memorial Park beginning each day at 3 p.m. Flags can be

purchased for \$25 at the Doodlebug Workshop (314 S. Main Street) and will benefit American Legion Post 589.

Each day at dusk, the National Anthem will be sung followed by a performance of "Taps" and bagpipes.

American Legion Post 76: Annual Ceremony

Thursday, Nov. 11 at 10:45 a.m.

Memorial Park, 225 Karlskoga Ave.

The public is invited to the American Legion Post 76's annual Veterans Day ceremony at Memorial Park honoring those who have served. A flag presentation and "Taps" will be followed by a moment of silence.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Veterans Day Ceremony

Thursday, Nov. 11
10:45 a.m.

Memorial Park
225 Karlskoga Ave.

The public is invited to the American Legion Post 76's annual Veterans Day ceremony at Memorial Park honoring those who have served. A flag presentation and "Taps" will be followed by a moment of silence.

Library Holiday Book & Art Sale

Thursday, Nov. 11 through
Sunday, Nov. 14

Wheaton Public Library
225 N Cross Street

The Holiday Book & Art Sale features like-new gift books for adults and children, collectible books, leather-bound treasures, first editions, artwork, and much more! All proceeds benefit the library.

Visit the Wheaton Public Library for [event hours](#) and [more information](#).

Electronic Recycling Monthly Drop-Off

Saturday, Nov. 13
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](#).



Wheaton Christmas Parade

Friday, Nov. 26
6 p.m.

Downtown Wheaton

Enjoy a celebration of the season as this colorful, light-filled parade moves down Wheaton Avenue and Front Street in Downtown Wheaton.

Visit the Wheaton Park District's website for [more information](#).



Nights of Lights

Friday, Nov. 26 through
Thursday, Dec. 30
Adams Park

Enjoy a seasonal light display from dusk to 11 p.m. in Adams Park in downtown Wheaton.

Christmas Window Walk & Reindeer on Parade

Friday, Nov. 26 through
Thursday, Dec. 30
Downtown Wheaton

Celebrate the holidays with a stroll through downtown Wheaton to enjoy all the festive painted windows and decorated reindeer.



Festival of Lights & Christmas Tree Sale

Friday, Nov. 26 through
Thursday, Dec. 30

Visit Cosley Zoo as it's transformed into a winter wonderland with thousands of twinkling lights, an amazing selection of Christmas trees, wreaths and greenery, hot chocolate, and a unique assortment of holiday gifts in the Wild Side Gift Shop.

Visit the Wheaton Park District's website for [more information](#).

Cider & Cookie Stroll

Saturday, Nov. 27
3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Downtown Wheaton

Celebrate Small Business Saturday with the Cider & Cookie

Stroll as you wander through the retail shops of downtown Wheaton! Participating businesses will offer cider with their own unique flavorings and toppings and a festive holiday cookie. Pre-registration is required.

Visit the Downtown Wheaton Association's website for [more information](#).

Wheaton French Market

Visit the Wheaton French Market Saturdays through Nov. 27 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Reber Street and Liberty Drive

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](#) for more information.

Versiti Blood Drive
Tuesday, Nov. 2

Living Room Conversation: Political Dysfunction
Monday, Nov. 8

Holiday Organizing
Tuesday, Nov. 9

ACES: Legal Concerns
Wednesday, Nov. 17

An Afternoon w/ Lynsey Addario
Sunday, Nov. 21

Wheaton Bicycle Advisory Commission Recommends County Biking Resource

Eighty percent of residents in DuPage County are an 8-minute bike ride away from a bicycle trail in DuPage County. The [DuPage County Bikeways webpage](#) provides a wealth of information for bike riders! The website identifies bikeways and trails, provides links to maps, explains rules of the trails, and even has a trail app - just to name a few resources found there.

Here are resources on the website the Wheaton Bicycle Advisory Commission thinks you may find especially useful.

- View maps, estimated bicycling distances, and trails— both planned and existing from the [maps tab](#).

- [Trail closures](#) can be found on this webpage.

- Bird watching? Exercising? The website provides [suggested rides](#) and identifies trail heads with parking lots and those accessible to Metra and Pace services.

- Trails and bikeways that cross counties,



municipalities, and recreational areas require careful planning, engineering, and coordination in order to be completed. DuPage County is an active partner in making regional trail connections a reality. View [information about current projects](#).

- A trail mapping application enables users to actively navigate the county's trail system. You can find bathrooms, parking, rest stops, destinations, fire & police, and even bike shops along your planned route. You can also report an issue you find while out biking for the county to address. Checkout [DuPage Trails App Website](#).

November is Winter Preparedness Month

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) is recommending people start taking steps now to ensure they're prepared to stay safe and warm throughout the winter months.

Driving on snow or ice-covered roads can be extremely hazardous. Before starting a trip when the weather is bad, be sure to check road conditions on the Illinois Department of Transportation's Winter Road Conditions Map at www.gettingaroundillinois.com.

Drivers should be sure to stock their vehicles with an emergency supply kit, in the event they are stranded on the roadside and need to wait for assistance. The emergency supply kit should include:

- Blankets/sleeping bags
- A flashlight with extra batteries

- A first aid kit
- Non-perishable food
- Water
- Sand or cat litter
- A shovel
- Booster cables
- A cell phone charger

Winter storms also can cause power outages that can last several hours or several days. It's important to have an emergency supply kit at home that includes a battery-powered National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio, water and non-perishable food, flashlights, extra batteries, a first aid kit and supplies for pets and family members with special medical needs. More tips for staying safe at home and on the road are available in a guide developed by IEMA and the National Weather Service, which is available on the Ready Illinois website at www.Ready.Illinois.gov.

CITY CALENDAR

November 2021

- 1** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 6** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 8** City Budget Workshop Session, 7 p.m.
- 13** City Budget Workshop Session, 8 a.m.
- 15** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 25** City Offices Closed/No Garbage Pick-up
- 26** City Offices Closed

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

