

October 2012

City Notes



Trick-or-Treating Hours

Wheaton's official citywide Halloween trick-or-treating hours will be from 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2012. See **page 6** for Halloween safety tips from the Wheaton Police Department.

Report Coyote Sightings

With the weather changing and a recent pet attack in unincorporated DuPage County, the City reminds you to continue to be aware of coyotes in your neighborhood. The City's website contains a substantial amount of information about dealing with coyotes in our suburban environment at www.wheaton.il.us/coyote/. To assist the City and your neighbors, use the [online report form](#) to document coyote behavior.

(Continued on page 2)

Please Take Downtown Survey

Online survey available; next meeting Nov. 1

Here's something that you can do for your community in about 5 minutes that may have an impact that lasts decades. By taking a short online survey, you can help shape the future of Downtown Wheaton.

The City encourages all residents to [take this online survey](#) as it develops a long-term downtown strategic plan and streetscape plan. With questions ranging from topics concerning the appearance of downtown buildings and availability of parking to one-way streets



and how you would like to see downtown Wheaton evolve, your input is needed to get an idea of the community's priorities for the downtown and your vision for the future of Downtown Wheaton. Design Workshop, the

(Continued on page 2)

Take This Survey

Take this online survey to share your opinion on a number of topics related to Downtown Wheaton: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/wheatondowntown>

Water Bill Changes on the Horizon

A recent analysis of Wheaton's water rates by Municipal & Financial Services Group concluded the rate will no longer produce adequate revenues to cover the costs of operating and maintaining the water system. To address this shortfall, the City soon will

be implementing a change in the way Wheaton charges customers for water service.

The biggest change you will see on your bill is the introduction of a service fee based on your meter size. This fixed charge will help stabilize revenue for the City's Water Fund, assuring

that funding is available to maintain the water pipes and other infrastructure needed to deliver water to your home or business.

You will also see an increase in the rate charged for water. This is necessary in

(Continued on page 2)

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

Voter Registration Deadline Approaching

The next election – which will be the General Election to elect federal, state and county officials – will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2012. If you need to register to vote or change your registration, you must do so by Oct. 9, 2012 in order to vote in the Nov. 6 election.

In order to register to vote:

- You must be a United States citizen
- You must be at least 18 years old on or before the next election
- You must live in your election precinct at least 30 days before the next election
- You must not be convict-



ed and in jail

- You cannot claim the right to vote anywhere else

Voter registration is available between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., at the first floor Finance Department counter. Bring two forms of identification, one of which must have your

current name and address. You must know your Social Security number and provide at least the last four digits. Naturalized citizens need to know their date and place of naturalization.

If you do not register by Oct. 9, you may participate in grace period registration and voting at the DuPage County Election Commission office, 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton. The grace period will begin Oct. 10 and concludes Nov. 3.

For more information about voting or to check your registration status, visit the DuPage County Election Commission website at www.dupageelections.com.

Water

Continued from page 1

large part due to the significant increases that the DuPage Water Commission will be charging the City of Wheaton for the cost of water: a 20% increase in 2013, 18% in 2014 and 17% in 2015.

The change to your water bill is expected to take place near the beginning of 2013. More information will be forthcoming. You can also watch videos of the City Council's discussions of this matter during the [Aug. 27 Planning Session](#) and [Sept. 24 Planning Session](#) and view the [Water Rate Study Report](#) document on the City's website.

Downtown

Continued from page 1

consultant contracted to create the strategic and streetscape plans, first asked these questions of attendees at a community visioning session that took place Sept. 18.

The next community

Next Public Meeting

- **Date:** Thursday, Nov. 1
- **Time:** 7-9 p.m.
- **Location:** Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St.

meeting for the creation of the new Downtown Wheaton

Plan will take place at Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, 2012.

At this meeting, the consultant team led by Design Workshop will present several options or alternatives for various aspects of Downtown Wheaton's future design and evolution. The public will have

the opportunity to view more detailed information concerning these options in an open house session and then to provide input concerning the plans directly during a keypad polling session.

For more detailed information, check back closer to the date of this meeting on the [City's website](#).

City Notes

(Continued from page 1)

Receiving information helps the City alert residents in specific areas when there is increased activity.

Leaf Reminders

This fall, the City of Wheaton reminds you of its procedures for leaf disposal. 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.

Please note leaf burning is not permitted. It is also illegal to rake or blow leaves onto the street, as this practice can clog storm sewers and cause flooding.

Leaves will be collected on the same day as your regular garbage through Dec. 14, 2012.

An environmentally friendly alternative is to compost leaves into mulch for your yard.

Garbage Pickup Hours Reminder

As a reminder, please have your garbage/recycling/yard waste at the curb by no later than 6 a.m. on your collection day so you do not miss the day's pickup. You can put items at the curb starting at 7 p.m. the night before your pickup day. Crews may change their routes, so your pickup

time may not always remain the same. The City appreciates your assistance in assuring your house isn't missed for the week's collection.

Commission News

The City Council appointed Craig Doherty to a three-year term on the Historic Commission, appointed Linda Johnson to a five-year term on the Planning and Zoning Board and reappointed Barbara Dutton to a three-year term on the Historic Commission.

Street Banners Feature Community Artists

Fine and Cultural Arts Commission's community project decorates downtown streets

With the help of local artists, downtown Wheaton streets have a creative new look. The Wheaton Fine and Cultural Arts Commission is pleased to present its first-ever community arts banner project, which includes 15 original works of art on Wheaton's light poles.

The commission worked with artists who live in Wheaton and/or participate in the DuPage Art League or

Wheaton College Community School of Art. The banners feature art ranging from paintings and drawings to photos of nature, performers and sculpture.

"The purpose of this inaugural community arts banner project is to highlight the artistic and cultural life of Wheaton by featuring the works of local artists and beautifying our downtown area," said Paul Colgan, Wheaton Fine and Cultural Arts Commis-

The artwork chosen by the Commission represents a variety of artistic styles and a diversity of artists, from young to old, beginners to highly skilled."

sion president. "The artwork chosen by the Commission represents a variety of artistic

styles and a diversity of artists, from young to old, beginners to highly skilled."

This project was funded entirely by donations from a number of Wheaton business community sponsors, who are recognized on the banners.

The commission hopes to repeat this banner project as a community-wide competition in the future.

You can see image of all the street banners [on the City's website](#).



Petitions Available for 2013 Municipal Election Candidates

Thinking about running for one of four seats on the Wheaton City Council? One four-year position for each of the City's four districts (North, South, East and West) will be up for election in the 2013 municipal election. You can [see a map of the four election districts](#) on the City's website.

Petitions for candidacy for the election will be available in the Office of the City Clerk at Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL, until the filing period (Nov. 19-26). Candidates must:

Filing period is Nov. 19-26 with City Clerk

- Be registered voters of the City of Wheaton
- Reside within the corporate limits of the city for at least one year before the election date; and
- 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 indicat-

ing the candidate has filed a Statement of Economic Interest with the DuPage County Clerk.

Petitions for nomination must be filed with the Wheaton City Clerk, City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., Second Floor. The filing period is Monday, Nov. 19, through Monday, Nov. 26, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding weekend days and holidays. Note: City Hall offices are officially closed on Thursday, Nov. 22, and Friday, Nov. 23.

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, with the successful candidates taking office at either 1) the first regular or special meeting after receipt of the official election results or 2) the first regular or special meeting in the month following their election (whichever is later). For further information, please contact the Wheaton City Clerk's office at 630-260-2012.

You Can Make a Difference on Oct. 27

Many ways to give back during national day of volunteering

The Community Relations Commission encourages you to help continue a community tradition by participating in Make a Difference Day on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2012. Known as the national day of volunteering, this is a chance for you to give back to the community. Below are some activities and projects being planned by the Community Relations Commission, local organizations, students, churches and other groups. More information is available at www.wheaton.il.us/MADD.

Care Packages for our Adopted Battalion

The Community Relations Commission will be sending care packages to our adopted battalion (1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment of the First Division). In our ongoing efforts to support our troops, we will be collecting the following to send as a token of our appreciation:

- Uno cards
- iTunes gift cards (\$5 and \$10 denominations)
- Tic Tacs
- packages of Star Mints
- powdered individual drink packets (like Crystal Light)
- packs of gum
- Beef Jerky (individually wrapped)

All of these items will be wrapped in a T-shirt from the Community Relations Commission. Monetary donations and sponsorships will also be accepted and used to pay for shipping these care packages. Donation boxes will be located at City Hall, Wheaton Public Library and the French Market. Please contact Desiray Young desiray@jycon.com



2012 Make a Difference Day

- **Date:** Saturday, Oct. 27
- **Find out more:** www.wheaton.il.us/MADD

or 630-653-7579 for further information or collections.

Stuff-a-Truck with Food

The Wheaton Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the People's Resource Center is leading this effort to collect healthy, non-perishable food for those in need. Collection boxes will be placed at numerous locations in the community during the month of October and at a table at the French Market on Saturdays through Oct. 27. The Stuff-a-Truck food collection will culminate with a "Thanks Tons Festival" from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at the IIT campus, 201 E. Loop Drive. Join local businesses and neighbors at this special event and remember to bring food items to help stock PRC's food pantry. Please visit www.wheaton-chamber.com or contact Laurie Swanson, lswanson@lasocareers.com, 630-260-7821, for more information on how you can participate.

Walk for Awareness

The Wheaton Park District will host its 5th annual walk to support breast cancer awareness and benefit Lincoln

Marsh Natural Area on Oct. 6. Visit www.wheatonparkdistrict.com for more details.

Monster Mash Dash

From 8-9:30 a.m. October 27, Edison Middle School will host its Monster Mash Dash. Donations of healthy, non-perishable food items will be accepted to help those in need. Walk the "Monster Lap" around the school grounds while enjoying some apple cider.

Keeping it Clean

From 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 27, there will be an Adams Park Clean-Up in the park. Please contact Alan Grant at 630-653-1054 for details.

Let's Kick Diabetes

This will take place from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 27 at Edison Middle School. A soccer skills contest for all elementary and middle school kids, fun soccer games for all participants, diabetes friendly bake sale and a DJ. Please visit www.kickingdiabetes.org or contact Shannon Moran at shansoccer@yahoo.com or 630-292-5407. All proceeds

benefit the American Diabetes Association.

Kids Making a Difference

Various schools within our community are Making a Difference.

- Edison Middle School: Monster Mash Dash, Stuff-a-Truck food drive, and Let's Kick Diabetes
 - Jefferson PreSchool: Collections for Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans
 - Madison Elementary: Stuff-a-Truck food drive
 - Sandburg Elementary: Stuff-a-Truck food drive and care packages for our adopted Battalion
 - Whittier Elementary: Stuff-a-Truck food drive and Letters of encouragement to our Troops and the elderly.
- To find out how you can contribute to these efforts please contact Desiray Young at 630-653-7579 or desiray@jycon.com for assistance.

Stockings for Soldiers

The Women's Department Club of Wheaton will be making and stuffing stockings for Operation Support Our Troops. If you would like to donate items, please contact Dee Garner at 630-665-1487.

Start Your Own Project

You can join one of the activities listed below or start your own project to give back in a way that is meaningful to you. If you opt to start your own activity, please send a brief description of your project or event to desiray@jycon.com so your efforts can be recognized along with all of the community's Make a Difference Day efforts.

Upcoming Events

Pretty in Pink

When: Thursday, Oct. 4, 6-9 p.m.

Where: Participating Downtown Wheaton stores

The [Downtown Wheaton Association](#) will host its annual Pretty in Pink Ladies Night Out, with participating businesses donating 10 percent of all purchases to the Chicagoland chapter of the American Cancer Society. Participating businesses will have pink balloons outside.

Safety Saturday

When: Saturday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Where: DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 W. Manchester Road, Wheaton

The DuPage County Sheriff's Office will host Safety Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 6 at the DuPage County Fairgrounds. This family-friendly event includes child safety seat checks; jail and crime lab tours; and exhibits with the S.W.A.T. Team, police cars, fire trucks, K-9 dogs and more. Free admission. For more information, call 630-407-2010.

Document Shredding Event

When: Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-noon

Where: DuPage County Administration Building, 421 S. County Farm Road

Free document shredding services available and open to the public (intended for residents only, no businesses) at the DuPage County Administration Building, 421 S. County Farm Road. All documents shredded on site. Limit of 4 boxes. For more information, call 630-407-6700.



Electronic Recycling

When: Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-noon

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

Drop off unwanted electronics for recycling during the City's monthly collection event. Electronics such as televisions and printers and small household appliances such as hair dryers accepted. Household batteries are not accepted. [More information is on the City's website.](#)

Downtown Trick-or-Treat

When: Saturday, Oct. 27, 10 a.m. Costume contest, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. trick-or-treating

Where: Participating Downtown businesses

This family event sponsored by the Downtown Wheaton Association will feature a new costume contest at 10 a.m. by the Martin Memorial Plaza fountain. Trick-or-treating will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at participating Downtown stores.

Make a Difference Day

When: Saturday, Oct. 27

Where: Throughout Wheaton

The Community Relations Commission encourages you to participate in this national day of volunteering. See page 4 for more information on specific events.

Pumpkin Fest at Cosley Zoo

When: Month of October

Where: Cosley Zoo, 1356 N. Gary Ave.

Visit Cosley Zoo during the month of October for Pumpkin Festival. Apples, gourds, pumpkins, cider, cornstalks and straw bales will be available for purchase, with proceeds benefitting the continued development of Cosley Zoo. For more information, see www.cosleyzoo.org.

French Market

When: Saturdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., through Nov. 10

Where: Main Street and Liberty Drive

Flowers, locally grown produce, baked goods, jewelry, crafts and more are sold from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday at Wheaton's outdoor French Market. For information, contact Ben-sidoun USA at 630-784-0862.

Why Shop Wheaton First?

Why should you shop in Wheaton when there are regional malls close by and online shopping is convenient? Here are a few reasons why you might think again before going elsewhere:

- Shopping locally generates nearly 25 percent of Wheaton's tax revenue. Taxes from retail sales provide revenue for essential City services, such as police and fire protection and street maintenance.

- Higher retail sales tax revenue decreases dependency on property taxes and other forms of municipal revenue.

- For every dollar spent at a locally owned independent store, 68 cents stay in the community in the form of taxes, payroll and other expenditures. For every dollar spent at our national chain businesses, 43 cents stay here.

- Many local businesses are owned by fellow residents who provide jobs for neighbors and friends.

Wheaton offers convenience, competitive prices, great selection and friendly service. Shop Wheaton first!

Transit Study Open House

An open house for the County Farm Road Transit Service Study will take place at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 25 at the Village of Hanover Park, 2121 W. Lake St. The open house will include an overview of the preliminary service design alternatives and implementation priorities for the study. The study involves Wheaton, Winfield, Carol Stream, Bloomingdale, Roselle, Hanover Park, RTA, Metra and Pace. To learn more and provide comments, visit www.landvision.com/countyfarmroad.

Trick-or-Treat Safely

Police Department offers safety tips

Halloween is a festive and fun time of the year for children of all ages. The Wheaton Police Department offers the following tips to promote safety and protect children.

Remind children to trick-or-treat on one side of the street at a time. Refrain from crossing the street in the middle of the block or between parked cars. Cross the street only in the crosswalk or at the corner, using caution.

Trick-or-treat while it is light outside. If you must be out after dark, wear white or light-colored clothing, put reflective tape on your costume and treat bag, and carry a flashlight so you can be seen. Never carry a lit torch or candle.

Dress children in non-flammable costumes that fit properly – short enough to prevent tripping. Avoid wearing facial masks, which obstruct vision. Use face paint and makeup instead.

Trick-or-treat with friends and stay in a group; there is safety in numbers. Never trick-or-treat alone.

Make sure young children are accompanied by an



adult (parent) or responsible teen (older brother or sister) while trick-or-treating.

Advise children not to enter any residence or vehicle for the promise of anything. Children should wait outside the door for their treats.

Plan your trick-or-treat route ahead of time, staying in your own immediate neighborhood along well-lit streets. Do not wander far from home.

Instruct children never to eat any treats until they return home and the treats have been examined under sufficient light by an adult.

Check the wrappers of commercial candy for signs of tampering. Wash and cut fruit before eating. Throw

away anything unwrapped. Notify the police if there are any suspicious treats.

Always walk on the sidewalk while trick-or-treating. If there is no sidewalk on the street, keep to the left, next to the curb, and walk single file facing (against) traffic.

Children should be courteous and respectful of other people's property. Damaging or defacing property will not be tolerated.

Parents should know with whom their children are trick-or-treating and which route they are taking through the area.

Homeowners should leave outside porch lights on.

Have a safe and happy Halloween!

State Launches New Program for Unclaimed Property

One in eight Illinois residents has an asset waiting to be claimed from the State Treasurer's Office. The State of Illinois encourages you to check out its [new unclaimed property program, I-Cash](#), to see if you have cash and assets that are owed to you. I-Cash was previously called "Cash Dash." The program was established to help Illinois residents through the process of reclaiming money or assets.

Oftentimes, Illinois residents will lose track of assets when they move or loved ones pass away, and businesses and banks are then required to turn over unclaimed accounts to the treasurer's office. The state has approximately \$1.6 billion in unclaimed property. Some examples of unclaimed property include money from inactive savings/checking accounts; unpaid wages or commissions; stocks, bonds and mutual funds; money orders and bill overpayments; paid-up life insurance policies; and safe deposit box contents.

To see if you have unclaimed property, visit www.icash.illinois.gov and enter your name into the search field.

City Calendar

October 2012

- 1** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 6** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 8** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 15** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 22** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.

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.

