

# CITY OF WHEATON

## NEWSLETTER

December 2022

### CITY NOTES

#### Christmas Garbage Collection & City Office Holiday Closures

Pickup will be delayed for all pickup days the week of Dec. 26. Additionally, City offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 26, 2022, in observance of the Christmas holiday.

#### Holiday Light Recycling

##### Now Open

Wheaton's holiday light recycling program is back now through Friday, Jan. 20. Bring strands of incandescent or LED lights in any condition to the Public Works Storage Facility at 820 W. Liberty Drive between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays. This program is for light strings only. Please do not drop off lawn ornaments or other decorations, and do not put lights in a bag or box.

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## Light Up Wheaton Decorating Returns



The City of Wheaton and the Wheaton Park District present [Light Up Wheaton](#) and encourage the community to brighten the winter season together. All are encouraged to decorate their homes, businesses, non-profits, churches or other places of worship and other organizations. This program welcomes everyone in the community to help brighten all of our spirits. This competition is open to all themes and holidays.

For those interested in a friendly community

competition, enter in this FREE decorating contest. Show the community your most creative, out-of-the-box and festive seasonal decorations and take part in Wheaton's newest tradition.

Register your home or business now through December 9. Registered participants must submit a photo of their submission by Friday, Dec. 9 at 12:00 p.m. to [jviso@wheatonparks.org](mailto:jviso@wheatonparks.org). Judging will be from December 10-18. Judges will be observing houses during this period from 6-9P daily. Participants have the

chance to compete in Most Creative, People's Choice Award and Mayor's Choice Award. All winners will receive a commemorative prize and \$100 in local gift cards.

Photos will be shared on the City of Wheaton and Wheaton Park District Facebook pages for public voting and all homes participating will be listed on the website for families looking to drive by and see the entries in person. Winners to be announced on December 20.

### 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](mailto:communications@wheaton.il.us)

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## New Location for Daily Fee Parking in Lot 9

Due to a decreased demand for parking in the City's Commuter Parking Lot 9 (located at Carlton & Liberty), daily fee parking spaces are moving from the west side of the lot to the north side, near Liberty Drive. This will allow the City to more cost-effectively clear snow from the lot this winter. In the coming days, portions of the west and south sides will be blocked off.

Daily fee parking signs have been installed on the north side to show the new area for daily fee parking.

## Employment Opportunities

The City has the following employment opportunities:

- Building Inspector
- City Attorney
- Civil Engineer - Capital Improvements
- Crossing Guard
- Facilities Maintenance Technician
- Lateral Police Officer
- Maintenance Worker, Water Division (Public Works)

## 2023 Municipal Election Nomination Objections and Candidate Withdrawals

**N**otice is hereby given that the Office of the City Clerk, local election official in and for the City of Wheaton, at 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, Illinois, will accept objections to nomination petitions and candidate's withdrawing his or her name from the 2023 municipal election.

Objections to nomination petitions may be filed within five (5) business days following the last day



of filing - November 29, 2022, through December 5, 2022, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Any candidate who has filed a nomination petition may cause his/her name to be withdrawn up to December 21, 2022,

between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Objections and withdrawals are filed with the Wheaton City Clerk, Wheaton City Hall, 303 West Wesley Street, Second Floor, Wheaton, Illinois.

## Beware of Scam Involving Impersonation of Police Officer

**T**he Wheaton Police Department has received numerous reports from area residents and businesses that were called by an individual claiming to be associated with the Wheaton Police Department. In this scam, the suspect, who is using the name of a retired police officer, claims that the resident failed to appear in court as a witness, and he has warrants for their arrest. He instructs them to send money through Zelle or Venmo to an address in Washington D.C. to resolve the arrest

charges. The Wheaton Police Department does not contact individuals by phone to request payment for an arrest, nor would the Police Department instruct individuals to wire or send money. Residents can always contact the Wheaton Police Department at 630-260-2161 to confirm the legitimacy of a caller claiming to be from the Police Department.

If you are contacted by this individual or have information related to this scam, please contact Sgt. Potter at 630-260-2059.

## DuPage Forest Preserve District Program a Finalist for the Illinois Governor's Hometown Award

**D**uPage Forest Preserve District's volunteer program was one of four finalists for the Illinois Governor's Hometown Award. During the pandemic, the pop-up program hosted 115 volunteer events throughout 2021 in several DuPage forest preserves and provided socially distanced outdoor opportunities for people to connect with nature and each other. A major congratulations to the DuPage Forest Preserve District.

# Officer Kaufman Receives the Life-Saving Award



These are the kinds of stories we like to share: On October 15, Wheaton Police Officer Kaufman was the first responder arriving to a Wheaton residence

in response to a 9-1-1 call for a woman in full cardiac arrest. Upon arrival, Officer Kaufman identified that the woman was unconscious and had no pulse, and he immediately began administering chest compressions while instructing the victim's husband how to prepare an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for use. Each of Wheaton's Police Department squad cars are equipped with AED devices for situations like this. Officer Kaufman continued chest compressions until Wheaton Fire Department personnel arrived to continue care and deliver an AED shock

to the victim. They were able to establish a pulse and breathing, and the victim was transported to Central DuPage Hospital to receive advanced care. The resident has returned home and is expected to make a full recovery! In recognition of Officer Kaufman's actions that directly contributed to saving this individual's life, Officer Kaufman received the Life-Saving Award. And, making the presentation of this award even better, Officer Kaufman was joined by the woman whose life he helped save and her husband, who thanked Officer Kaufman for his extraordinary efforts.

## DuPage County Launches 211

DuPage County launched 211 which is a free, confidential information and referral service that will provide a 24-hour central access point to local health and human services 365 days a year.

The 211 line enables DuPage County residents to use an easy three-digit number to access help by phone – or via the new 211 web address, 211dupage.gov. Over the years, DuPage County has compiled a database of roughly 640 service providers offering thousands of services for DuPage County residents.

Board allocated \$1.6 million from federal funds distributed to the County from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to create County 211 service. The DuPage County 211 database of services includes:

- Clothing/Personal Household Items
- Disaster Services
- Education
- Food
- Health, Wellness and Dental
- Housing and Utility Assistance
- Income Supports
- Legal Aid
- Mental Health
- Older Adults/ Disability Services
- Transportation
- Veterans

## Nights of Lights, Christmas Parade, & Tree Lighting

Thanks to all who participated in the City's Nights of Lights, Christmas Parade, & Tree Lighting Ceremony!



# Holiday Safety Tips from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)

With the holiday season in full swing, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) is offering tips to help people stay safe now and into the new year. From decorating the tree to traveling to grandma's house with a sleigh full of new toys, be sure to take simple steps to keep your family safe.

## Holiday Shopping Safety

- If shopping online, only use secure sites and think before you click.
- Keep track of your bank and credit card statements.
- Try to use a credit card over a debit card.
- Websites with <https://> are generally safer than those with URLs beginning with <http://>

as the "s" indicates it is website using secure communication.

## Winter Heating

- Chimneys and fireplaces should be regularly inspected and cleaned.
- Additionally, furnaces should be checked every year by professionals.

## Holiday Travel

- If traveling by car, remember to pack an emergency supply kit.
- Before you drive, check road conditions and avoid traveling during winter storms.
- Let your in case of emergency (ICE) contact know your travel plans and location.

## Snow Parking Reminders

Knowing where and when you can park when it snows helps crews clear streets as quickly as possible. Under City Code 70-344, after 2 inches of accumulated snow, parking is prohibited on any City street, and Downtown Wheaton parking is prohibited from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Vehicles obstructing plows may be towed by the Wheaton Police Department at the owner's expense. This allows Wheaton's Public Works Department to clear the roadways efficiently and safely.

Other reminders during snow:

- Do not blow, plow or, shovel snow into the street, as this hinders the efforts of City crews and creates a safety hazard for other drivers.
- Help keep fire hydrants visible by clearing snow and ice 3 feet away from the hydrant.
- The City encourages you to keep the sidewalks near your home clear of snow for the safety of children walking to school or bus stops and other pedestrians.
- The City's snowplows are designed to push snow to the side of the roadway. This is the fastest and most efficient means available to remove snow from the street and

open the street to traffic. There is no way to plow the street so that every driveway remains free of piled snow, and the clearing of driveway aprons is the responsibility of the resident.

- The Wheaton Public Works Snow Desk can be reached at 630-260-7669 during most snow events. The voicemail is monitored, and citizens may leave messages for staff regarding any plowing complaints, damage to mailboxes, sod, and any other non-emergency requests or concerns. These requests can also be reported online using the City's [service request form](#).
- Emergency situations, including impassable or icy roadways, which may cause traffic crashes or stuck vehicles should be immediately reported to 9-1-1.

Clearing the City of snow and ice can be a tremendous task for Wheaton's Public Works.

Please help keep Wheaton's streets safe by reporting dangerous roadway conditions to 9-1-1 and clearing sidewalks adjacent to your residence or business.

## General Overnight Parking Reminders



Parking on all City streets is prohibited without prior approval between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. If you need to park your vehicle on a City street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m., you must submit a request online. No street parking is allowed after 2 inches of accumulated snow, and vehicles must be relocated off City streets.



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

# Mayor's Message: Reflecting on 2022

**A**t the end of the year, it's rewarding to take a look back at 2022 to see what we have accomplished and celebrate our community's successes. The City continues to maintain a level of activity in building out infrastructure, enhancing services and taking on difficult projects with respect to roads, flooding and sanitary sewers, which have historically not been aggressively addressed. Key accomplishments over the past year include the following:

### **Downtown Streetscape Project**

This year marked substantial completion of the Downtown Streetscape Project, with the final leg of this project constructing a pavilion at Liberty and Main that will be used for the French Market and other events, and creating beautiful gathering areas on the south side of the railroad tracks. In total, this project invested more than \$35 million in important infrastructure work in our downtown, including replacing century-old



**Mayor Suess**

underground pipes, reconstructing streets, converting to LED streetlights, creating wider pedestrian-friendly sidewalks, and adding trees, seating and native plant species. Other amenities include bicycle parking throughout the downtown, water and fire features and abundant planters to beautify the heart of our city.

### **Safety Initiatives**

The Wheaton Police Department rolled out the use of body-worn cameras for all sworn officers, a step to increase transparency. In addition, numerous community engagement events with the Police Department offered

opportunities for residents to meet the officers who serve their neighborhood and learn safety information pertinent to their part of the city. The City also hired two additional police officers.

### **Roosevelt Road Corridor Plan**

This year the City adopted the Roosevelt Road Corridor Plan as part of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Guided by community input, this plan established a shared vision for future development along Roosevelt Road and will help foster new opportunities for commercial and residential development.

### **Flood Mitigation Work**

Following an extensive process to identify the location and severity of issues throughout the community, the City kicked off the first capital improvement project to mitigate flood prone areas and introduced a shared cost program to reduce yard flooding. The City also increased funding levels for existing programs that help residents protect their

homes from sewer backups.

### **City's Finances Remain Strong**

We were able to complete all of the above projects and much more without seeking new sources of revenue or reducing service levels. The City remains in elite company, as one of only 19 municipalities in Illinois and only 426 nationwide to earn an AAA S&P Global Rating, the highest possible rating.

The past year has included exciting progress throughout the community, and there hasn't been a better time to live in Wheaton. Your City will continue working each day to ensure we are providing an exceptional place to live with quality infrastructure and excellent services.

As we close 2022, I wish you a Merry Christmas, a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year. I hope everyone is able to enjoy family and friends and enjoy the various holiday events that occur throughout our community.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## 11th annual Lions Club

### Reindeer Run 5K

**Date:** Saturday, Dec. 3

**Time:** 8:30 a.m.

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton

The Wheaton Park District and the Wheaton Lions Club Charities invite the community to get your holiday cheer on in the most festive, active environment imaginable with the Reindeer Run 5K! The community is invited to participate in this event in downtown Wheaton. To register, visit the [Wheaton Park District's website](#).

## Wheaton Nights of

### Lights

**Date:** Beginning Friday, Nov. 25 until Jan. 9

**Location:** Adams Park

The winter season is quickly approaching and so, too, is Wheaton's Nights of Lights! Adams Park will be lit with thousands of bulbs for another year of a festive celebration. This year, the light display will have new features

including an animated ice skater, and a custom poinsettia archway will mark the entrance to Adams Park at Main and Wesley streets. Adams Park will be lit from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. through Jan. 9.

### Santa & Mrs. Claus at the "W" Tent

**Date:** Saturday, Dec. 3, Saturday, Dec. 10,

Saturday, Dec. 17

**Time:** 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 3 p.m.-5p.m.

**Location:** W Tent Ho, Ho, Ho! Santa and Mrs. Claus visit Downtown Wheaton this holiday season, and they want to see you! This is the perfect time to take a picture with Santa and even check if you made the nice list this year.

### Strolling Carolers

**Date:** Friday, Dec. 2, Friday, Dec. 16

**Time:** 5 p.m.-7 p.m., 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton

Music is one of the best parts of the holiday season! Enjoy strolling carolers throughout Downtown Wheaton as you saunter between shops. On Friday, December 2, singers from Wheaton Drama will perform and on December 16, Canterbury Carollers will spread holiday cheer with Christmas carols.

### Jolly Trolley

**Date:** Saturday, Dec. 3

**Time:** 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton

Have a holly jolly time on the jolly trolley! For one day only, the Downtown Wheaton Association and Town Square Wheaton are partnering to bring you the Jolly Trolley... a Christmas-themed trolley shuttling shoppers between Downtown Wheaton and Town Square. It's the perfect opportunity to take care of all your shopping while

celebrating the most wonderful time of the year!

While you're Downtown Wheaton, visit Santa and Mrs. Claus from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., and get a head start on your holiday shopping at your favorite shops and restaurants!

Then take the trolley over to Town Square and visit with Buddy the Elf and Olaf; enjoy a magic show at 11 a.m. and holiday crafts and performances starting at 12 p.m.

### Holiday Movie Night: The Polar Express

**Date:** Thursday, Dec. 22

**Time:** 6 p.m.

**Location:** The Moment on Main

"Seeing is believing, but, sometimes, the most real things in the world are the things we can't see." Bring your blankets and lawn chairs for a free holiday movie night.

# LIBRARY EVENTS

Visit the Wheaton Public Library website for details and for registration at [wheatonlibrary.org/](#)

## Concert: Cello Choir

**Date:** Sunday, Dec. 4

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**In-person**

Join us for a special performance of the Wheaton College

Community School of the Arts Cello Choir! This ensemble consists of advanced cello students from ages 11-18 that perform locally and nationally. No

registration required.

## Midcentury Christmas

**Date:** Wednesday, Dec. 7

**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Hybrid event**

Christmas in America from the 1940s through the 1960s meant aluminum trees, department store Santas, and cartoon specials. Historian Leslie

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Goddard explores this optimistic era and explains why this era was a turning point for how we celebrate the holidays. Registration required.

### Funniest Heartwarming Holiday Scenes

**Date: Monday, Dec. 12**  
**Time: 7 p.m.**  
**Virtual**

We'll laugh at the funniest, and tear up with the most touching moments from modern and classic holiday movies. Join expert Steven Frenzel of Marquee FilmTalks

to learn fascinating trivia and behind-the-scenes stories from beloved holiday films. Registration required.

### Gingerbread House Contest

**Date: Saturday, Dec. 17**  
**Time: 1-3 p.m.**  
**In-person**

Join us in the Arts & Culture Center on the main floor for our Gingerbread House Contest! Bring your creation between 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or stop by and vote for your favorite house between 1-3 p.m. Enjoy a showing of Elf at 1 p.m.!

## Yard Waste Pickup Ends Week of Dec. 12

The final week for yard waste and leaf pickup will be the week of Dec. 12. Your final pickup for 2022 will be on your pickup day of that week.

### Welcome New Firefighters

At the Nov. 21 City Council meeting, Mayor Suess presided over the swearing in of two new firefighters who have joined the Wheaton Fire Department. Please help us welcome firefighters Kevin Howell and Ethan Schullo.



### Follow the City of Wheaton on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

To receive timely updates from the City of Wheaton, we encourage you to follow us on your favorite social media platform. Find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter by searching for @CityOfWheaton.



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 City Hall. Visit [www.wheaton.il.us](http://www.wheaton.il.us) for a complete list of meetings and events.

## CITY CALENDAR

### December 2022

- 5** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 12** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 12** City Council Public Hearing - Budget, 7 p.m.
- 19** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 26** City Offices Closed, No garbage pickup