

# CITY OF WHEATON — NEWSLETTER

October 2023

## CITY NOTES

### Trick-or-Treating Hours

The official trick-or-treating hours in Wheaton are 3:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31. Please use extra caution if you are driving on Halloween to ensure the safety of trick-or-treaters. If you do not want trick-or-treaters to visit your house, turn off your outside lights and/or place a sign on your door stating that you're not participating. Trick-or-treaters should be respectful of all neighbors' property and only cross at marked crosswalks or at the end of the street. Have a happy and safe Halloween.

### Board/Commission Reappointments

The City Council approved the reappointments to the

*(Continued on next page)*

## Dinos Downtown Wheaton Exhibit Has Arrived



**T**he dinosaurs have invaded downtown Wheaton! This large outdoor exhibit presented by the Downtown Wheaton Association features 10 life-sized animatronic dinosaurs throughout downtown now through Oct. 8. From a T-Rex to a Herrerasaurus, there's sure to be a dino that you won't want to miss. This limited-time exhibit is free for the community to enjoy, so be sure to head to downtown Wheaton to enjoy this exciting experience.

#### *Dino Deals Downtown Wheaton:*

Dig in and get some great deals! From special menu offerings to dino-themed promotions, this is the perfect opportunity to try a new

shop or restaurant or visit one of your local favorites.

#### *Dino Activity Passes:*

Can't get enough dinos? Purchase your Dino Activity Passes and make a day of your visit to the Dinosaurs Downtown Wheaton exhibit! Choose from different dinosaur-related activities suited for the whole family. In addition to your activity of choice, all Dino Activity Passes include a complimentary beverage from The Protein Spot and coupons to downtown Wheaton businesses.

For a map of all the dino locations and more information on the deals and fun activities, visit [www.downtownwheaton.com/dinos](http://www.downtownwheaton.com/dinos).

**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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Send feedback to [communications@wheaton.il.us](mailto:communications@wheaton.il.us)



## CITY NOTES

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following City Boards and Commissions:  
*Downtown Design and Review Board*

- Nathan Bossenga was reappointed for a three-year term

*Environmental Improvement Commission*

- David Popham was reappointed for a three-year term

### Employment Opportunities



The City of Wheaton has the following employment opportunities available:

- Maintenance Worker (Public Works, Streets Division)
- Police Services Representative

To apply, visit [www.wheaton.il.us/jobs](http://www.wheaton.il.us/jobs).

## Participate in this Year's "Wheaton Gives Back" Program



**T**he Wheaton Community Relations Commission is once again providing opportunities for Wheaton residents to make a difference in the community through its "[Wheaton Gives Back](#)" program, which includes a winter gear drive throughout October and a volunteer opportunity to unload food for residents in need on Oct. 27.

*Winter Gear Drive — Throughout October*

In partnership with the People's Resource Center (PRC), Downtown Wheaton Association, Wheaton Park District, and other locations, the Commission is collecting new or gently used coats, hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens for the PRC throughout the month of October. Collection boxes are located throughout Wheaton at the following locations:

#### **Downtown Wheaton:**

- 302 Wheaton
- Adelle's
- Alphagraphics
- Amante Marketplace
- Best-Way Rug and Furniture Cleaners
- Cedarstone Partners
- DuPage Art League
- Edge Financial Advisors
- Edward Jones
- Egglectic Café
- Frocks and Frills Vintage
- Jovie/College Tutors
- Miroballi Shoes
- NEXT Yoga
- Noteable Notes Music Academy

- Wheaton City Hall
- Wheaton Public Library

#### **Southside locations:**

- Arrowhead (*Note: Arrowhead will begin collecting items on Oct. 9.*)
- The Perfect Thing
- Wheaton Community Center (*Note: The Wheaton Community Center will begin collecting items on Oct. 3.*)

#### **Other location:**

- Central Athletic Complex
- New items will be part of the PRC's Clothes Closet. Additionally, there will be a special collection on Saturday, Oct. 28 during the Downtown Wheaton Association's Trick-or-Treating event that will include additional collection sites: C'zar Salon and Spa, Pedego Wheaton, and Wyckwood House.

*Unload Food Truck — Oct. 27*

The Commission is also looking for volunteers to unload food collected as part of the PRC's Stuff-A-Truck event. Volunteers are needed for two shifts on Oct. 27: 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-4 p.m. Note that this volunteer opportunity includes lifting and prolonged standing. A representative from the PRC will contact volunteers. The deadline to sign up is Oct. 13. [To volunteer, please complete the online signup form.](#)

The Wheaton Community Relations Commission strives to promote increased participation in all aspects of community life and a sense of shared community among all residents.

# Changes to Garbage, Recycling and Yard Waste Rates Effective Oct. 1



Garbage Cart Size:	Year 1 (10/1/21-9/30/22)	Year 2 (10/1/22-9/30/23)	Year 3 (10/1/23-9/30/24)
35 gallons	\$3.05	\$3.11	\$3.17
65 gallons	\$4.30	\$4.39	\$4.47
95 gallons	\$5.10	\$5.20	\$5.31
Recycling Cart Size:	Year 1 (10/1/21-9/30/22)	Year 2 (10/1/22-9/30/23)	Year 3 (10/1/23-9/30/24)
35 gallons	\$2.00	\$2.04	\$2.08
65 gallons	\$2.75	\$2.81	\$2.86
95 gallons	\$3.25	\$3.32	\$3.38
Sticker-Based Collection (Yard stickers or stickers for other items)	Year 1 (10/1/21-9/30/22)	Year 2 (10/1/22-9/30/23)	Year 3 (10/1/23-9/30/24)
Cost per sticker	\$2.99	\$3.05	\$3.11

In 2021, the City approved a 3-year contract extension with LRS (formerly Lakeshore Recycling Services) to provide garbage, recycling, and yard waste removal services for Wheaton residents. The contract included price adjustments for the second and third years of the contract. Prices will increase 2% per pickup, which equates to a

total of between \$0.04 and \$0.11 per pickup depending upon the type of service and cart size.

Starting Oct. 1, 2023, the new prices per pickup for garbage, recycling and yard waste will be as reflected under "Year 3" in the chart above.

[Read more information on the City's garbage, recycling, and yard waste service.](#)

## Stay Safe Online; October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month



Every day, organizations and individuals alike fall victim to cybercrimes, often through criminals accessing banking and personal information.

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) offers these tips to better secure your data:

- Choose long, complicated, and different passwords for each application
- Use multi-factor authentication
- Regularly update computer software
- Use a critical eye on all emails

More information and online safety tips can be found on [the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's \(CISA\) website](#).



## Environmental Commission Seeking Nominations for New Sustainability Awards



**B**ecause each person's sustainability efforts help improve our local environment, Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission will be recognizing outstanding individuals and businesses/organizations through its first-ever Wheaton Sustainability Awards.

The commission will be accepting nominations now through Oct. 11 to recognize one Wheaton adult, one student (K-12 or college) and one organization/business who demonstrate exemplary sustainability practices in our community.

Some areas where individuals or groups can be recognized include:

- Energy efficiency
- Waste reduction
- Recycling
- Water conservation
- Sustainable home construction/remodeling
- Habitat conservation

Nominees must live or work in Wheaton, and special consideration will be given to nominees who influence others to adopt sustainable practices. Winners will be recognized during the Nov. 20 City Council meeting.

For examples of sustainable actions within these areas, please see the nomination form on [the City's website](#).

## *Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Accepting Applications Beginning Oct. 2*

**D**uPage County will be scheduling appointments for this year's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which helps income-eligible households with their natural gas, propane and/or electric bills and furnace assistance for inoperable heating systems. A new scheduling system is being installed to facilitate scheduling. The program will begin taking applications on Oct. 2, 2023, for seniors, the

disabled, and families with children under the age of six years.

Applications will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis through Aug. 15, 2024. For more information, see [dupagecounty.gov/liheap](http://dupagecounty.gov/liheap). Call 630-407-6500 to make an appointment at the County. Call 211 to find other agencies taking LIHEAP applications throughout DuPage County.





## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

# Welcoming Fall in Wheaton



**Mayor Sueess**

Following a summer packed with exciting events, Wheaton is ready to welcome a new season full of returning fall favorites and one

BIG attraction that would be hard to miss.

Whether you're new to Wheaton or have been here for decades, it's safe to say you have never seen downtown Wheaton with the unusual visitors who recently made their way into the City. The season kicks off with the Downtown Wheaton Association's Dinos Downtown Wheaton exhibit. This family-friendly outdoor exhibit features 10 life-sized animatronic dinosaurs throughout downtown now through Oct. 8. Whether you're visiting the new pavilion at

Liberty & Main or spending time at the Wheaton Public Library's West Plaza, there are dinos around each corner! Residents and visitors alike can also enjoy dinosaur-themed specials, activities, and more at downtown shops and restaurants. Visit [downtownwheaton.com/dinos](https://downtownwheaton.com/dinos) for a map of the dinosaur locations and all of the activities.

There's much more in store in October, notably, the 15th Annual Wheaton Chili Cookoff takes place on Saturday, Oct. 7 in the downtown, the Community Relations Commission

is hosting its annual Wheaton Gives Back winter clothing drive throughout the month, and both the Wheaton Park District and Downtown Wheaton Association offer many fall-themed events fit for the whole family to enjoy.

I encourage you and your family to safely celebrate fall in Wheaton by visiting our many parks, enjoying the many activities you'll find on pages 7-8, welcoming Halloween, or simply enjoying the beauty of our community with the colorful leaves.

## Thank You for Participating in this Year's Festival of Cultures



Thank you to all the organizations, performers, sponsors, and attendees for making the 2023 Festival of Cultures another success! Hosted by the City of Wheaton Community Relations Commission, the festival celebrated the vibrant cultures that make Wheaton a strong and diverse community. It was a fun afternoon filled with live performances, culture, and arts. Among the countries and cultures represented at this year's festival were Belarus, China, India, Ireland, Mexico, The Netherlands, Native Americans, South Korea, South Sudan, Turkey, and more.





## City of Wheaton Leaf Collection Reminders

**T**his fall, the City of Wheaton reminds you of the ways you can properly dispose of leaves. Place leaves 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 an LRS yard waste/organics/

excess garbage sticker, available at City Hall and at many local grocery and hardware stores.

When you're cleaning up leaves, please be careful not to blow or rake them into the streets. Doing so can prevent storm sewers from functioning properly and can lead to flooding. If your house is located near a storm

sewer catch basin, please help keep it clear by sweeping away leaves and debris from the sewer grate. Also, please note that burning leaves is not allowed.

LRS collects yard waste, food scraps and organic materials on your garbage day through the second full week of December.

An environmentally

friendly alternative to bagging leaves is to mulch them into your lawn and/or garden beds. Using a lawnmower with a mulching function can break down leaves into small pieces, allowing them to be either collected and spread into garden beds or finely shredded into lawns to break down.

## Environmental Improvement Commission Encourages You to "Pick Up Five"



**W**ith the beauty of autumn here to stay, the Wheaton Environmental Improvement Commission encourages residents to participate in a project that keeps the City both clean and beautiful. "Pick

Up Five" is a campaign encouraging everyone to pick up five pieces of litter each day. Whether walking through the downtown or in the neighborhoods, strolling through the Prairie Path, heading to the train station, or making your way anywhere

in Wheaton, keep a collection bag handy and, when it's full, put it in a receptacle for collection.

Cleaning up litter keeps waterways cleaner, prevents animals from getting tangled in plastic and other materials, helps

City drains flow freely, reduces visual pollution, and sets a good example for others, especially children and young adults.

Thanks to everyone for keeping the City of Wheaton and DuPage County environmentally sound!



# Upcoming Events

## Wheaton French Market

**Dates:** Each Saturday through November

**Time:** 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown pavilion near Liberty and Main Street



This popular outdoor market run by Bensidoun USA is styled after the quaint outdoor markets of France, offering fresh produce, flowers, handcrafted goods, specialty foods, jewelry, crafts, baked goods and much more. Vendors often change throughout the season, so visitors will find different items each week.

## Downtown Wheaton Chili Cookoff

**Date:** Saturday, Oct. 7

**Time:** 1-5 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton

The Chili Cookoff returns to Downtown Wheaton this month! Your favorite Downtown eateries compete

for your vote with their unique spin on this fan-favorite dish. Ticketholders will enjoy unlimited chili tastings before voting on the tastiest recipe. For more information and tickets, visit [the Downtown Wheaton Association's website](#).

## Halloween Happening

**Date:** Friday, Oct. 13

**Time:** 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Community Center, 1777 S. Blanchard St.



Photo credit: Wheaton Park District

It's a spooktacular night of crafts, games, and more! Join the Wheaton Park District for this traditional Halloween Happening event. For more information and tickets, visit [the Wheaton Park District's website](#).

## Movies Under the Stars

**Date:** Friday, Oct. 13

**Time:** 6 p.m., 8 p.m.

**Location:** Wheaton Public Library West Plaza, 225 N. Cross St.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets to the Wheaton Public Library's West Plaza for these free family-friendly movie showings presented by the Downtown Wheaton Association! This date is a special double feature with movies at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. In the event of rain or severe weather, the event may be canceled. See [the Downtown Wheaton Association's website](#) for movie selections and more information.

## Free Auto Inspection for Seniors Event

**Date:** Saturday, Oct. 14

**Time:** 9 a.m. - Noon

**Location:** Wheaton Fire Department, 1 Fapp Circle

Sponsored by the Milton Township Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (S.A.L.T.) Council, during this event, certified mechanics and volunteers will check your car's safety and make recommendations for the winter months ahead.

Fluid levels and tire pressure will be checked and filled as required. Cars are inspected on a first-come, first-served basis.

## Electronic Recycling

**Dates:** Saturday, Oct. 14

**Time:** 9 a.m. - Noon

**Location:** Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive

Bring unwanted electronics to the monthly electronic recycling collection. This is a drive-through event where volunteers will help unload items from your car. Please note that there is a charge for all TVs and monitors at this event. Find out more about items that will be accepted by visiting [the City's website](#).

## Cosley Zoo Spooktacular

**Dates:** Friday, Oct. 20

**Time:** 5:15-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Cosley Zoo, 1356 N Gary Ave.



Photo credit: Cosley Zoo

Experience an evening stroll through the zoo while enjoying the family-friendly decorations and activities. Finish your visit by decorating a

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pumpkin or take one to go and decorate it at home! Get your costumes together and register early to secure your spot. All ages are welcome. For more information and to register, visit [the Cosley Zoo website](#).

**Night at the Museum: Halloween Party**

**Date:** Friday, Oct. 20

**Time:** 6-8 p.m.

**Location:** DuPage County Historical Museum, 102 E. Wesley St.

There's more to explore after dark at the DuPage County Historical Museum! Join the Wheaton Park District for Night at the Museum, a family-friendly Halloween celebration hosted by the DuPage County Historical Museum

Foundation. Come dressed in your Halloween costume and enjoy a flashlight scavenger hunt, character visit, and crafts. For more information and to register, visit [the Wheaton Park District's website](#).

**Downtown Wheaton Trick-or-Treating**

**Dates:** Saturday, Oct. 28

**Time:** 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown Wheaton

Now with an extended time, bring your little ghosts and goblins to downtown Wheaton for a head start on this year's candy collection! For more information, visit [the Downtown Wheaton Association's website](#).

## LIBRARY EVENTS

Register for these events at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](http://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar)

**The Science of Jurassic Park**

**Date:** Monday, Oct. 2

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Location:** In-person

Biologist and fossil enthusiast Donald Baumgartner, M.S., will separate the scientific facts from Hollywood fiction. What was true? What was wrong? What action scenes just didn't make sense? For more fun, re-watch your favorite Jurassic series movies before the program! Actual dinosaur fossils will be available for purchase. Suitable for ages 10 and up. *Registration required.*

**Chicago True Stories of the 1920s**

**Date:** Tuesday, Oct. 10

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Location:** In-Person &

Virtual

Join edu-tainment performer Martina Mathisen as she portrays an amusing, charming flapper to tell us how fashion, crime, and prohibition combined with explosive creativity to shape this fascinating decade of history. *Registration required.*

**Cheers to 100 Years Celebration**

**Date:** Saturday, Oct. 14

**Time:** 6:30-9 p.m.

**Location:** In-person, \$50 per ticket

WPL is celebrating 100 Years as a tax supported city public library! Event is 21 and over and includes appetizers by Angeli's, wine and craft beer by Tasting deVine, and music by

jazz ensemble Beyond Standard. All attendees will receive a special celebration gift. Visit [wheatonlibrary.org/Cheers](http://wheatonlibrary.org/Cheers) for more info and to purchase tickets.



**Silent Movie with Live Organ**

**Date:** Thursday, Oct. 26

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** In-person

Considered one of the greatest films of the silent era, watch The Kid (1921), directed by and starring Charlie Chaplin. An introduction and live theatre organ accompaniment will be provided by Jay Warren. *Registration required.*

**Concert: The Hot Fedoras**

**Date:** Sunday, Oct. 29

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Location:** In-person

Specializing in music from the Gatsby era, The Hot Fedoras bring the era of gangsters and flappers alive through their classic renditions of 20s and 30s jazz tunes. *No registration required.*



# Preparing for the Colder Months: Start with Window Insulation



**W**ith the colder months quickly approaching, now is the perfect time to inspect your windows to determine if it is time for replacement. Replacing older, single-pane windows with modern energy-efficient windows will improve your home's energy efficiency. Also, replacing windows that have cracks, leaks, broken seals, or rotted frames will save on energy costs. By improving the thermal capabilities of your windows, you

will create a more comfortable living environment within your home and can enjoy lower energy bills year-round.

The City of Wheaton requires a permit for all window replacements. For questions, contact the City of Wheaton Building Department at 630-260-2050 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

For more information pertaining to window replacement requirements, please visit [the City of Wheaton's website](http://www.cityofwheaton.il.us).

## Wheaton Welcomes New Firefighters



**T**he City of Wheaton is pleased to welcome three new firefighters to our community (pictured from left): Luke Solatka, James Marcinkowski, and Robert Lewis IV. The three new firefighters were recently sworn in before the City Council and are now part of the Wheaton Fire Department. Please help us in welcoming Firefighter Solatka, Firefighter Marcinkowski and Firefighter Lewis to Wheaton!

## 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.

### October 2023

- 2** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 7** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 9** Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 16** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 23** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.