

April 2015

City Notes

Yard Waste Pickup Resumes

Starting on April 6, 2015, yard waste pickup in Wheaton resumes on your collection day. As a reminder, yard waste can be placed either in containers no larger than 33 gallons in volume or in biodegradable bags. Each container or bag needs a blue sticker – the same sticker that is used for garbage collection.

If containers are not feasible, brush and tree trimmings must be placed in stacks no longer than 4 feet in length and 18 inches in diameter. Stacks do not need to be bundled with twine but must have a garbage/yard waste sticker attached.

For more information about yard waste and garbage collection, [visit the City's website](#).

Senior Housing Assistance

It's not too late for senior residents 65 and older to apply for 2015/16 Wheaton Housing Assistance. Contact Lindsay Qualkenbush, 630-260-2019, at Wheaton City Hall for more information.

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Get Ready for Recycling Event

Extravaganza will take place April 11

Start gathering items for the upcoming Recycling Extravaganza, a popular annual event where you can drop off many items not accepted in your blue recycling cart.

From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 11, 2015, the [commuter parking lot at Liberty Drive and Carlton Avenue](#) will be transformed into drop-off stations with volunteers ready to unload your stuff.

The Recycling Extravaganza is run by Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission, and volunteers are greatly appreciated. To volunteer, groups or individuals high school age or older can call 630-690-1237 or 630-653-8776.

Annual Recycling Extravaganza

- **Date:** Saturday, April 11
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Location:** [Commuter parking lot at Liberty Drive and Carlton Ave.](#)



Things accepted:

1. Electronics: Anything with an on/off switch and all electric cords. Examples: TVs, computers, cell phones, printers, blenders, stereos, etc. Limit of two TVs and two monitors per car.

2. Scrap metal: Pots, swing sets, hangers, shelving, lawn furniture, tomato cages, drained lawn mowers, washers, dryers, etc.

3. Batteries: All household batteries, plus large batteries. Examples: AA batteries, car batteries, boat batteries, sump pump batteries

4. Fluorescent tube bulbs (No CFLs accepted)

5. Cooking oil

6. Bicycles: In any condition

7. Paper for on-site shredding. 3 box limit (letter/

legal paper-size box). Must remove rubber bands, binders, cardboard and plastic bags

8. Wheel chairs, eye glasses, hearing aids

9. Re-sellable building supplies for ReStore, such as gently used cabinets and plumbing supplies. No bricks or pavers accepted.

10. Miscellaneous: Buttons, rulers, LP records, musical instruments, keys, worn American flags

Do Not Bring:

- Refrigerators, freezers
- CFL light bulbs
- Hazardous waste
- Books (But books can be taken to SCARCE in Glen Ellyn for reuse and recycling. Visit [www.scarce.org](#) for information.)

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

City Notes

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City offices closed

City offices will be closed on Friday, April 3. Garbage pickup will be unaffected.

Watch Wheaton's Budget Workshops

If you would like to learn about the City's proposed Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget, you can [view the three Budget Workshops online](#) or as scheduled on CWC10: 5 and 10 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays; and 5 a.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays. The City Council will hold a public hearing on April 13, 2015.

Commission Seeks New Members

The Wheaton Sister City Commission is seeking a few new members. Are you interested in England or Sweden? Would you like to communicate with our sister cities by email, video chat or social media? Would you enjoy virtually traveling to these countries?

The commission seeks residents who are available to attend six Wednesday evening meetings a year and who want to help connect Wheaton, Illinois with its sister cities, Wheaton Aston, England, and Karlskoga, Sweden. Bring your ideas to the commission and help share photos, news and culture with our sister cities.

To apply, [fill out an application](#) and return it to the Wheaton City Clerk.

Commission News

The Council appointed Kevin Illia to the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners and Robert McNeily to the Community Relations Commission. Each of these appointments is for a three-year term.

Vote in Local Election April 7

Registered voters can vote in the April 7 Consolidated General Election for the election of Municipal, Park District and School District officials.

In Wheaton, the position of Mayor and two Councilman At-Large positions are up for election.

The candidate running for Mayor is: Michael J. Gresk.

The candidates running for the two Councilman At-Large positions are:

- Tony Lyons
- John R. Prendiville
- Ron Almiron
- Suzanne Fitch

Voters can choose to cast their ballots through the early voting period through April 4, or they can vote on Election Day, which is Tuesday, April 7, 2015. The Wheaton Early Voting site is at the DuPage County Election Commission Office, 421 N. County Farm Road, Room



[Watch the Video](#)

[Watch the March 26 Candidates Forum](#) on the City's website.

1-500B. Hours are 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday.

To learn more about the candidates, [watch a video](#)

[of the March 26 Candidate Forum](#) hosted by the League of Women Voters and the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce. This video is available on the City's website and on City of Wheaton Channel 10 (CWC10).

To look up your voting status, polling place and for more election information, see the DuPage County Election Commission's website at www.dupageco.org/election.

Good Citizen Award Nominations Due April 10

Do you know someone who you think should be recognized for his or her service in the community? Help the Community Relations Commission select Wheaton's 2015 Good Citizens Award Recipients. These awards help recognize residents who make quiet, generous and often extraordinary contributions to the community.

This includes volunteer service for a school, church, civic group or non-profit organization. A person may also be nominated for service to an individual, such as tutoring or assisting an elderly neighbor.

The four categories for nominees are: 1) high school student, 2) adult, 3) senior



adult and 4) group. A nominee must be a current resident of Wheaton and have done something for the benefit of the community.

To nominate someone, you can either:

- Fill out and submit the online nomination form at www.wheaton.il.us/good-citizen, or
- Email a completed

[nomination form](#) to sbarrett-hagen@wheaton.il.us, or

- Mail a copy of the [nomination](#) (also available at the Wheaton Public Library, Park District Community Center, Leisure Center and City Hall) to: City Clerk, Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187.

Nominations are due by April 10, 2015.

Grow Native: Attend Native Illinois Plant Sale

As spring temperatures return, start thinking about your yard and how you can "grow native" with the help of this popular plant sale. The 15th annual Native Illinois Plant Sale will take place from 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 25, 2015 at the Wheaton Public Works Building, [821 W. Liberty Drive](http://821WLibertyDrive).

Organized by the Wheaton Environmental Improvement Commission and Wheaton Park District, this event features native northern Illinois trees, shrubs, grasses and flowers, which provide important environmental services.

Native Plant Sale

- **Date:** Saturday, April 25
- **Time:** 8:30 a.m.-noon
- **Location:** Wheaton Public Works Building, [821 W. Liberty Drive](http://821WLibertyDrive)

In addition to being beautiful, hardy choices for your yard, native plants attract birds, conserve water, improve habitat for pollinating insects like butterflies, and survive the wild extremes of weather we have in northern Illinois.

Rain barrels can be pre-ordered for pickup at this

event. Contact the Conservation Foundation at 630-428-4500 or visit www.upcycle-products.com/static.asp?path=5081. Also available for pre-order is food scrap-amended compost, available by calling 630-545-9710 to place an order ahead of the sale and bringing your own container. Free wood chips will be available at the sale; bring your own container.

For information on plants and prices, [see the Wheaton Park District's website](http://WheatonParkDistrictsWebsite). Please note that organizers can only accept cash and checks at the sale.



Scout troops, families, individuals and other groups can participate in the Prairie Path Cleanup April 25.

Help with Annual Prairie Path Cleanup Event on April 25

Each year hundreds of Wheaton volunteers take time one Saturday in April to clean up 16 miles of the Illinois Prairie Path that runs through Wheaton. The Environmental Improvement Commission encourages you to join in from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 25, 2015.

To participate, simply show up with work gloves at [WW. Stevens Park](http://WWStevensPark), located at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Western Avenue. Groups and individuals will be assigned a portion of the path

to clean up, and garbage bags will be provided.

This annual cleanup effort is open to all ages and serves as a volunteer opportunity for scout troops, church groups, families and anyone who would like to help make the Prairie Path clean and litter-free for all to use. Groups wanting to clean a specific location should email cleanup-thepath@yahoo.com ahead of time. This event will take place rain or shine.

[See a video of last year's event](#) on the City's website.

Monthly Electronic Recycling Collections Returning Soon

Wheaton's monthly electronic recycling events will be returning soon – and better than ever.

The annual Recycling Extravaganza on April 11 will serve as a kick-off event for you to recycle your electronics, household appliances and much more. This event will be held in the commuter parking lot at Liberty Drive and Carlton Avenue. (See page 1 for information.)

Then, on May 9, the regular monthly electronic recycling events will resume, taking place from 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of each month at the Public Works Storage Yard, [820 W. Liberty Drive](http://820WLibertyDrive) (near the Police Department).

New to the monthly events will be the collection of scrap metal and batteries of all types. As in the past, you can also bring cooking oil, fluorescent tube bulbs (no CFLs please) and many types of electronics.

Electronic Recycling

- **Dates:** Second Saturday of each month, starting May 9
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-noon
- **Location:** Wheaton Public Works Storage Yard, [820 W. Liberty Drive](http://820WLibertyDrive)

These events accept almost anything with an on/off switch and a power cord, from computers, radios, DVD players and alarm clocks to blenders, extension cords, video cameras, hair dryers and cell phones. While TVs and monitors will be accepted, there is a limit of two plastic-cased televisions, projection televisions or console televisions per car.

To ensure the security of confidential data, memory and hard disks will be removed and destroyed. More information is available on the City's website at www.wheaton.il.us/electronics.

Upcoming Events



Celebrate Spring, Celebrate Easter

Date: Saturday, April 4

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

Location: Memorial Park, Martin Memorial Plaza & participating downtown businesses

The Downtown Wheaton Association encourages families to join in its annual Celebrate Spring, Celebrate Easter event on Saturday, April 4, 2015. The event begins at 10 a.m. with 5,000 candy-filled eggs in the Easter Egg Hunt for kids in Memorial Park. Once all the eggs have been collected, children can follow the Easter Bunny down Hale Street to Martin Memorial Plaza for the Easter bonnet contest at 10:30 a.m. The contest will include several categories for children, and even one for pets.

After these events, children can visit with the Easter Bunny on North Hale Street, and from noon to 1 p.m., children can "hop" around downtown Wheaton in search of treats and goodies to fill their baskets.

This is a free event.

For information, [see the Downtown Wheaton Association's website.](#)



Recycling Extravaganza

Date: Saturday, April 11

Time: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Location: [Commuter Parking Lot 9 at Liberty Drive and Carlton Avenue](#)

The Environmental Improvement Commission hosts Wheaton's annual Recycling Extravaganza, where you can drop off many items for recycling or safe disposal. See page 1 for more information.

Home History Research Events

Dates: 1:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11, and 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, April 13

Location: Wheaton Public Library, [225 N. Cross St.](#)

In coordination with the Wheaton Historic Commission, the library will be holding two Home History Research Events. Call the Reference Desk direct line at 630-868-7520 to reserve a time slot.

Wheaton French Market

Date: Saturdays, starting on

April 18

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

Location: [Parking lot at Main Street and Liberty Drive](#), just south of the railroad tracks.

More than a typical farmers market, the Wheaton French Market offers a wide variety of vendors. From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday, visit the French Market near the intersection of Main Street and Liberty Drive to find fresh produce, locally made gifts, art, specialty foods, handmade jewelry, flowers and more. Items sold change seasonally, offering visitors variety from week to week. For more information, contact Bensidoun USA at 312-575-0286.

Arbor Day Celebration

Date: Friday, April 24

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: [Longfellow Elementary School](#)

For the 29th year, Wheaton will celebrate its designation as a Tree City USA when City officials, Environmental Improvement Commission members and Wheaton stu-

dents honor Arbor Day. Students will help plant a tree on the school's grounds with the City's Forestry Division.

Native Illinois Plant Sale

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: 8:30 a.m.-noon

Location: Wheaton Public Works Building, [821 W. Liberty Drive](#)

Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission and the Wheaton Park District sponsor this annual sale of plants native to northern Illinois. See page 3

for more information.

2015 Prairie Path Cleanup

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: 9 a.m.-noon

Location: Meet at Stevens Park, [corner of Lincoln Avenue and Illinois Prairie Path](#)

Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission encourages you to get involved in the annual cleanup of the Illinois Prairie Path. Bring work gloves and meet at Stevens Park at 9 a.m. April 25. See page 3 for more information.





Sign up to Help with DuPage River Sweep

Make plans today to join hundreds of volunteers in improving DuPage County waterways. From 9 a.m. to noon May 16, 2015, the community is encouraged to participate in the DuPage River Sweep, a cleanup event that focuses on cleaning up and restoring our local waterways.

Last year, 700 volunteers from all over the area collected more than 9 tons of trash and restored land surrounding DuPage County waterways.

This event is organized by the Conservation Foundation. Find out more and register at www.theconservationfoundation.org/sweep.



Tips to Avoid Online Tax Scams

It is tax season, which means it is also time for tax frauds, with numerous online frauds that attempt to steal people's tax refunds, bank accounts or identities. Last year, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) estimates it paid \$5.2 billion in fraudulent identity theft refunds in filing season 2013. Websense Security Labs reported in 2014 it saw approximately 100,000 IRS-related frauds in circulation every two weeks.

This year, residents need to be especially careful in light of the Anthem Breach, in which data from approximately 80 million customers was exposed, triggering new phishing attacks offering false claims of credit monitoring services.

Users who have already filed their taxes this season can still be vulnerable to tax-related scams. Many schemes take advantage of users by alleging to have information about the filer's refund, or noting a problem with the return that was previously filed.

One scam that has already been impacting users this season involves phishing emails claiming to be from Intuit's TurboTax. The emails prompt users to click on links to verify their identity or update their accounts in an attempt to download malware to the

Wheaton Police Offer Tips for Tax Season

victim's machine, or steal data such as Social Security numbers or financial information.

Common email scams:

- **The email says the user is owed a refund** and should forward a bank account number where the refund may be deposited. Once the scammer has the bank account information, that account will see a big withdrawal, not a deposit.
- **The email contains exciting offers** or refunds for participating in an "IRS Survey." This fake survey is actually used to acquire information to perform identity theft.

- **The email threatens the user** with fines or jail time for not making an immediate payment or responding to the email.

- **The email includes a "helpful" downloadable document** (e.g. "new changes in the tax law," a tax calculator, etc.). In reality, the download is a malicious file intended to infect computers.

How to Avoid Becoming a Tax-Scam Victim:

Do not respond to emails appearing to be from the IRS. The IRS does not initiate taxpayer communications

through email or social media to request personal or financial information. If residents receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, send it to phishing@irs.gov.

Do not respond to unsolicited emails and do not provide sensitive information via email. If the email appears to be from an employer, bank, broker, etc., contact the entity directly. Do not open any attachments or click on links contained in unsolicited or suspicious emails.

Carefully select the tax sites visited. Use caution when searching online for tax forms, advice on deductibles, tax preparers, and other similar topics. Do not visit a site by clicking on a link sent in an email, found on someone's blog, or in an advertisement. The website landed upon may look just like the real site, but it may be a well-crafted fake.

Secure all computers and Internet devices. Make sure all computers have all operating system and application software updates. Anti-virus and anti-spyware software should be installed, running and receiving automatic updates. Ensure use of a strong password and different passwords for each account.

City Calendar

City Council Meetings and Planning Sessions are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St. Coffee with Council takes place in the Gamon Room at City Hall. Visit www.wheaton.il.us for a complete list of meetings and events.

April 2015

- 3 – City offices closed
- 4 – Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 6 – City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 13 – City Council Budget Public Hearing, 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.