

August 2013

City Notes

**City Hall Entrance Temporarily Closed**

The front entrance to City Hall (on Wesley Street) will be closed starting in August for approximately four weeks while crews perform repairs to the front steps. To enter City Hall, please use the north entrance, which is the entrance on the same side as the City Hall parking lot.

**Library Book Sale Accepting Items**

The Wheaton Public Library is accepting donations for its upcoming Friends Book Sale.

(Continued on next page)

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**

“Fight the Bite” During Prime Mosquito Season

The West Nile virus (WNV) season is here, and the DuPage County Health Department is urging residents to take precautions to “Fight the Bite” and avoid mosquito bites.

Mosquitoes become infected with WNV when they feed on infected birds and then spread WNV when they bite humans and other animals. WNV is potentially serious, and there is no specific treatment for people with WNV infection. In most cases, people experience mild symptoms and recover on their own.

However, people of all ages can be infected with WNV, with those over the age of 50 being more likely to develop serious symptoms of WNV. Residents over age 50 should take special care to avoid mosquito bites.

Which mosquitoes carry West Nile virus?

There are many types of mosquitoes, but “floodwater” or “nuisance” mosquitoes are the ones most likely



It is nearly impossible to distinguish between the type of mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus and those that don't, so it's best to “fight the bite” of all mosquitoes.

to be biting you this summer. Because of all of the rain and flooding, the DuPage County Health Department expects a bumper crop of floodwater mosquitoes this year. These mosquitoes do not carry WNV.

The type that spreads WNV is *Culex pipiens*, which breeds in stagnant water during the hot and dry months of July and August, when there is typically little rain. Since it is nearly impossible for the naked eye to distinguish between floodwater and *Culex* mosquitoes,

it is best to “fight the bite” of all mosquitoes.

What can you do to prevent West Nile virus?

Use repellents containing these active ingredients: DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (also known as PMD) or IR3535. The EPA characterizes the active ingredients DEET and Picaridin as “conventional repellents” and Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus and IR3535 as “biopesticide repellents,” which are derived from natural materials.

(Continued on next page)

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

(Continued from page 1)

New and used hardback and paperback books, audio books, DVDs, VHS tapes, CDs, LPs and cassettes may be dropped off at the library beginning Aug. 21. Please bring items in a box or bag that can be left behind.

Framed and unframed art also is being collected for sale at a later date.

The Book Sale is Sept. 26-29, 2013, with a Friends Member Preview Sale on Sept. 25.

RxBox Closed Until August 10

The Wheaton Police Department is temporarily closing the RxBox collection and will resume collecting medicine for disposal on Saturday, Aug. 10, 2013. Please hold on to medications that you would like to dispose of until the program resumes and drop off your items for proper disposal on or after Aug. 10.

For more information about this program, [please see the program guidelines](#) for what will be accepted and how to prepare items for disposal (for example: do not include pill bottles or pill packaging to ensure anonymity and cut down on shipping costs).

Flood Assistance Deadline Extended

If you experienced flood damage from the April 18, 2013 flooding, the City of Wheaton encourages you to apply for assistance with storm-related losses through FEMA by Aug. 8. You can apply for help with things such as home repairs, disaster-related expenses, losses of household goods,

and low-interest SBA loans to residents and businesses.

Apply for assistance in either of these ways:

- Online: Register online at www.disasterassistance.gov; or on a smartphone at m.fema.gov
- By phone: Call the Federal Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362).



Watch Video of Parade

The City of Wheaton broadcast the Fourth of July Parade live on City of Wheaton Channel 10 (CWC10), and [this video is also available on the City's website](#) for viewing any time. You can view all of the City's videos at www.wheaton.il.us/video.aspx.

Commission News

The Wheaton City Council reappointed Desiray Young and Ronnie Gillis to the Community Relations Commission; appointed Thomas Schreiber to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners; reappointed Trent Nichols to the Historic Commission; and appointed Carl Cho and James Harding to the Library Board for three-year terms, respectively.



West Nile

Continued from page 1

For more information on repellents, see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <http://www.cdc.gov/westnile/faq/repellent.html>.

Report dead birds

The DuPage County Health Department also encourages residents to report dead birds that have no obvious cause of death other than disease. Certain types of birds can carry West Nile virus, and dead birds serve as an early sign of West Nile virus in an area. Birds known

to carry WNV include crows, blue jays, grackles, starlings, robins, cardinals, sparrows, finches, hawks and owls.

You can report dead birds using a [new online tool on the DuPage County Health Department's website](#). You will be asked the address where the dead bird was found, the number of birds being reported, the type of bird and an estimate of how long the bird has been dead. Be sure to protect yourself: do not touch the birds.

The data will be shared with the Wheaton Mosquito Abatement District so it can make informed decisions about appropriate control measures.

Do You Know Your PPI?

To help area residents protect themselves against West Nile virus (WNV), the DuPage County Health Department has created a Personal Protection Index (PPI), which is a rating system informing residents of the amount of WNV activity in the county and the corresponding prevention steps that the Health Department recommends.

The PPI, which is based on the Health Department's testing of mosquitoes throughout DuPage County, provides residents with a current rating of WNV activity, ranging from zero to four, with zero being no activity and four announcing multiple human cases of WNV in DuPage County. Each of the ratings lists the prevention steps, if any, that you should take based

on the current PPI.

The DuPage County Health Department's prevention steps include:

- **DRAIN:** Drain items that collect standing water around your home, yard or business. Scrub and refill pet water dishes and bird baths regularly.

- **DEFEND:** Use an insect repellent containing DEET when outdoors and reapply according to directions.

- **DRESS:** Wear long pants, long sleeves and closed-toe shoes when outside to cover the skin.

- **DAWN & DUSK:** Wear repellent if outdoors during these prime times for mosquito activity.

[The PPI is available on the City's website](#) and will be updated throughout the season each Wednesday at 3 p.m., or more often if needed.

New Ash Tree Removal Map

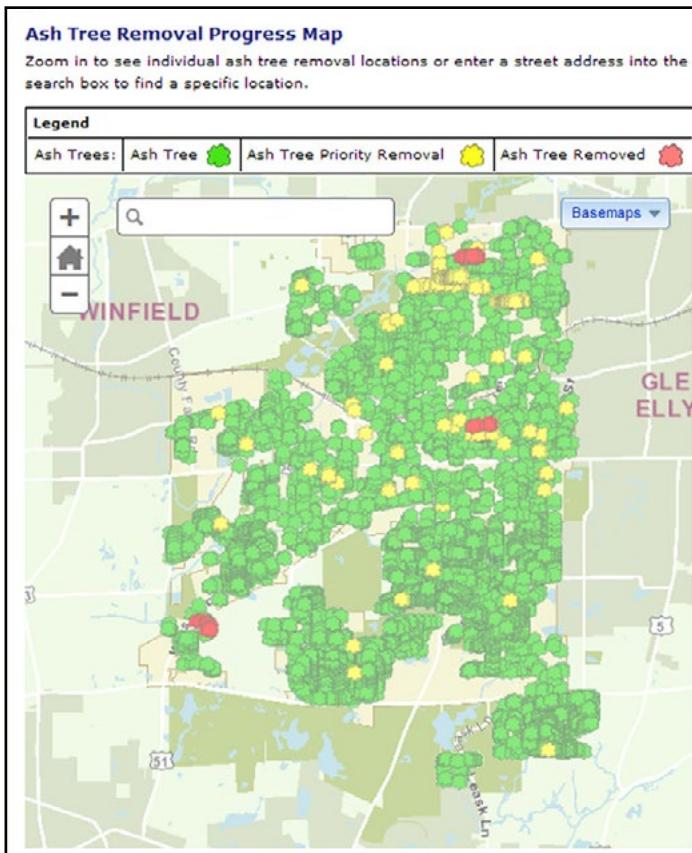
Map shows which trees already have been removed

The City recently added a tool to reflect progress on the City's ash tree removal program to take down parkway ash trees affected by the emerald ash borer.

This tool located on the City's website is a map of all ash trees within the City's parkways. It is color-coded to illustrate trees marked for removal and show which trees have already been removed.

Before contracted crews remove a tree in your parkway, you will receive a notice at least one week before removal. Crews also will mark trees selected for removal with a red dot for identification.

If your parkway ash tree is removed, you can consider participating in the Shared-Cost Parkway Tree Program,



which will begin in May 2014.

You can view the map at www.wheaton.il.us/ash-treemap.

For more information on the City's response to the emerald ash borer infestation, [visit the City's website](#).

Is Your Grass Too Long?

With all the rain Wheaton has received this summer, lawns have been growing quickly. The City reminds you that grass and weeds must be less than 8 inches high on the entire property. Please ensure that your lawn complies with this requirement.

For everyone's safety, please remove branches or shrubbery that overhang the sidewalk in a way that interferes with pedestrian traffic or inhibits the visibility of vehicle traffic. For more information, see Section 78-92 of the [Wheaton City Code on the City's website](#).

Follow Tips to Stay Safe in Heat

Strong storms causing power outages coupled with record-setting heat made for potentially dangerous conditions in this area in July 2012. David Gervino of the DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management points to this as one recent example highlighting the importance of knowing the signs of heat illness and keeping yourself and others safe in extreme heat.

Watch a new video from the City of Wheaton, ["Keeping Safe in the Heat"](#), to be prepared for excessive heat, which may return this month. Because excessive heat has caused more deaths



Watch the Video

Watch ["Keeping Safe in the Heat"](#) any time on the City's website.

in recent years than any other weather-related incidents, Gervino urges people to pay close attention for warning signs of heat-related illness. Learn about the common warning signs, how to prevent heat illness and who might be most at risk in this new video. It is now available on the City's website and on City of Wheaton Channel 10 (CWC10).

City Seeks Residents for Boards & Commissions

Members make recommendations to City Council

More than 100 residents serve the community and assist the overall communication process between the City and its residents by serving on various boards and commissions. These groups meet on a regular basis and develop recommendations to the City Council.

The City is seeking a number of residents to participate in various boards and commissions, including the following:

- 4 vacancies on the Community Relations Commission
- 2 vacancies on the Environmental Improvement Commission
- 2 vacancies on the Fine & Cultural Arts Commission
- 2 vacancies on the Housing Commission
- 2 vacancies on the Sister City Commission
- 2 vacancies on the Wheaton Downtown Design Review Board
- 1 vacancy on the Historic Commission

If you are a Wheaton resident and are interested in serving on one of the boards and commissions, visit the City's website to read more about the commissions or call the City Clerk at 630-260-2012 for more information. To apply for the boards or commissions, fill out a [Boards and Commissions Volunteer Application form](#).

Upcoming Events

Wheaton Brew Fest

When: Saturday, Aug. 3, noon-4 p.m.

Where: Memorial Park

The Wheaton Park District will sponsor Wheaton Brew Fest in Memorial Park from noon to 4 p.m. Aug. 3. The event will feature samples of more than 100 brews, food and music. For information, visit www.wheatonparkdistrict.com/brewfest/.

Summer Band Concerts

When: Thursdays through Aug. 8, 8 p.m.

Where: Memorial Park Band Shell, Karlskoga and Wheaton avenues

Join the Wheaton Municipal band for a community tradition: Thursday night concerts in Memorial Park. Concerts are free and begin at 8 p.m. Memorial Park is located near City Hall at the corner of Wheaton and Karlskoga avenues. The band plays a variety of styles, and each concert has a different theme. For more information, visit the [Wheaton Municipal Band's website](#).

Electronic Recycling

When: Saturday, Aug. 10, 9 a.m.-noon

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

Drop off your unwanted electronics for recycling during the City's monthly collection event. Electronics such as televisions, computers, printers and small household appliances such as toasters and hair dryers are accepted. Also, Wheaton residents can now bring fluorescent bulbs for safe disposal (no



businesses, please). Bulbs accepted include T-12, T-8 and T-5 fluorescent bulbs; aquarium tubes; under-counter fluorescent tubes. CFLs and household batteries are not accepted. [More information is on the City's website](#).

Library Outdoor Concert

When: Tuesday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m.

Where: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St., west plaza

The Wheaton Public Library invites you to fasten your seat belt for a guided

musical tour through rock 'n' roll history. Starting at 7 p.m. Aug. 20, The Neverly Brothers will play an outdoor concert at the library with favorite Rock n' Roll and Rhythm & Blues hits from the 1950s American pioneers to the 1964 British Invasion groups. This concert is free; no tickets are required.

Vintage Rides

When: Fridays, 6:30-9 p.m. through Sept. 13

Where: 100 East and 100 West blocks of Front Street (on either side of Main Street)

Check out antique and classic cars during this popular weekly summer car show



on Front Street each Friday night. The free event is hosted by the Downtown Wheaton Association, and a different make or model of a classic car is featured each week. Enjoy music, cars and more on the 100 East and 100 West blocks of Front Street (on either side of Main Street) in downtown Wheaton. To see the model of cars featured each week, [visit the DWA's website](#).

French Market

When: Saturdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Where: Parking lot at Main & Liberty, downtown Wheaton

Wheaton's popular outdoor French Market takes place from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. each Saturday near the intersection of Main and Liberty, just south of the railroad tracks in downtown Wheaton. Inspired by the outdoor markets of France, vendors at this weekly event sell much more than your typical farmers market, such as pastries, flowers, art, jewelry, handmade gifts and locally grown produce.

Employment Opportunities with the City of Wheaton

The City of Wheaton has several employment opportunities currently posted on its website.

The City seeks a full-time Maintenance Worker in the Public Works Department, Sewer Division, to perform maintenance, service, repair and construction to maintain the City's sanitary and storm sewer systems. Work includes the operation of motorized equipment and the expenditure of heavy physical labor.

The City seeks a full-time Maintenance Worker in the Public Works Department, Streets Division, to perform maintenance, repair and construction to maintain the City's Streets. Specific work



assignments are provided on a daily basis. Work includes the operation of motorized equipment and the expenditure of heavy physical labor.

The City seeks a part-time Special Projects Assistant in

the Human Resources Department. The position has flexible hours and is responsible for performing a variety of research, administrative and analytical work, including comprehensive and sensitive special projects and studies, in support of Administration and the HR Department.

The City seeks a full-time or part-time Systems Analyst in the Information Technology Department. This position involves applying technical and non-technical solutions to solve problems and maximize staff efficiency.

[Find out more about these opportunities and how to apply by visiting the City's website.](#)

Get Connected with the City

Twitter, email lists and more keep you up-to-date with what's happening

Looking for how you can receive information from the City of Wheaton? Check out the "Stay Connected" page on the City's website to find all the ways you can find out what's happening from your municipal government.



From Email Updates to Twitter, videos, the monthly newsletter and more, visit www.wheaton.il.us/connect to stay connected.

Changes to Parking Program for People with Disabilities

Some upcoming changes to the state's parking laws for people with disabilities means that all residents with disabled parking permits/placards must register again with the State of Illinois before the end of this year.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2014, only people with specific types of disabilities will be

exempt from paying parking meter fees. If a person has a disability that exempts him/her from paying meter fees, he/she will be issued a yellow-and-gray striped Metered-Exempt Parking Placard.

Any person who does not have a Metered-Exempt Parking Placard will be required to pay for metered parking, regardless of whether he/she

has a temporary or permanent disabled parking placard. The yellow-and-gray striped Metered-Exempt Parking Placard can only be issued by the Secretary of State's office.

The changes require the Illinois Secretary of State to re-issue new credentials to ensure that those who qualify for metered-exempt parking receive the appropriate plac-

ard. Recertification will take place throughout calendar year 2013, with enforcement starting on Jan. 1, 2014.

If you have questions, contact the nearest Secretary of State Driver's License Facility or visit the Illinois Secretary of State's website at: www.cyberdriveillinois.com/services/persons_with_disabilities/disabilities.html.



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 for a complete list of meetings and events.

August 2013

- 5** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 12** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 19** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 26** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.