



December 2014

City Notes

Garbage Holidays

There will be no garbage pickup on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2014 or Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015. Thursday and Friday garbage routes will be one day later during these two weeks.

Christmas Tree Recycling

Christmas trees will be collected as part of curbside recycling the first two full weeks in January (Jan. 5-16, 2015) without a sticker. Remove all decorations, including tinsel or garland, and place your tree at the curb on your regular garbage pickup day. Please do not place your tree in a bag.

Yard Waste Pickup Ends

Yard waste and leaf pickup in Wheaton will end the week of Dec. 8-12, 2014.

For leaf pickup, place leaves in containers 33 gallons in size or smaller, or in biodegradable bags. Containers or bags must

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Ordinance Targets Snow Removal Issues

Keep snow off the street; don't push snow to opposite parkways

As snowy weather arrives, the City of Wheaton has a few reminders that will help City crews to clear Wheaton streets and minimize safety hazards.

Plowing, blowing or shoveling snow into the roadway or across the street to the opposite parkway creates several problems. Snow that piles up in the street is a nuisance to other property owners, creates more narrow traffic lanes, and produces safety hazards for other drivers. It also causes plows to hit the curb, which can damage the curb.

For these reasons, the City recently enacted an ordinance



that makes pushing snow onto an opposite parkway a violation of City Code. Please help keep our streets safe by adhering to this ordinance. Violations yield a minimum fine of \$100 per day.

You can also help by keeping fire hydrants clear of snow and by removing obstructions – such as portable basketball hoops or decorative stone boulders – that are within 5 feet of the paved street.

Finally, please remember that after 2 inches of accumulated snowfall, parking is prohibited on any street for 24 hours or until streets have been cleared.

To receive timely information during severe winter weather, you can [follow @CityOfWheaton on Twitter](#) or receive information through [Email Updates](#).

To learn about Wheaton's snow removal procedures, [see the City's website](#).

Crews Treat the Streets with Beets

If you have ever wondered what it is that the City's snow plows are spreading on the street in the winter, you may be surprised to learn the answer.

Instead of just using salt, Wheaton's Public Works crews use a "supermix" of 70 percent salt brine, 20 percent beet juice, and 10 percent calcium chloride to treat Wheaton streets. By mixing salt with beet juice, the City is able to reduce the amount of chlorides that end up in the water table and reduce the amount of salt used by 30 to 50 percent without compromising safety.



[For a comprehensive look at Wheaton's snow operations, watch this video.](#)

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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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. Advanced Disposal also takes credit card orders by phone by calling 630-587-8282.

[More information about leaf collection is available on the City's website.](#)

City Offices Closed

City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2014 and on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015.

Business News

New businesses in Wheaton include:

- **Dry City Brew Works**, 120 B. N. Main St. – Family owned, small craft brewery

- **Mile Long Records**, 350 W. Front St. – New & Vintage vinyl records and rock & roll accessories

- **Peet's Coffee**, 390 W. Front St. – Founded in 1966 in Berkeley, California, Peet's is a premier nationwide coffee and tea company.

Commission News

The City Council reappointed Reneé Webb to the Community Relations Commission; reappointed Emilie Engling to the Historic Commission; appointed Piya Salgia and reappointed Joseph Tyna to the Environmental Improvement Commission; and reappointed Pat Schwarze and Chris Ellerman to the Group Care Home Commission, each for three-year terms, respectively.

Recycle Your Old Holiday Lights

Copper and plastic parts recycled

If your holiday lights have lost their twinkle, keep them out of the trash through a special recycling program. Between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays, Nov. 24, 2014 through Feb. 6, 2015, you can drop off your lights and extension cords in the holiday light recycling containers just inside the entrance to the Public Works Storage Yard at 820 W. Liberty Drive.

This collection is in partnership with Elgin Recycling (www.elginrecycling.com). It will accept incandescent and LED lights and extension cords in any condition. The lights will be collected and then stripped and recycled for their copper and plastic parts. No materials will be shipped overseas.



In addition to residents, the City also welcomes businesses, schools and other organizations wanting to dispose of holiday lights to participate in the program. There is no limit as to how many lights you can drop off for recycling.

Please note that this collection will NOT accept other electronic devices.

Holiday Light Recycling

- **Dates:** Weekdays through Feb. 6
- **Time:** 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Location:** Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive

Tips Can Help Prevent Frozen Pipes



Do you know how to prevent water pipes in your home from freezing or how to thaw them if they do freeze? With cold winter weather approaching, a few valuable tips can save you the hassle of dealing with frozen pipes. Make sure to insulate pipes in unheated areas or against outside walls and seal any leaks that may let cold air in. Keep your garage door closed if your water meter is located in that area. Disconnect your garden hose and shut off the water supply to outside faucets.

If the temperature gets extremely cold, open cabinet doors under sinks to allow heat to get to pipes and let a faucet drip at a trickle if possible. Questions may be directed to the City of Wheaton Water Division at 630-260-2090.

Upcoming Events

Festival of Lights & Tree Sales

Dates: Nov. 28-Dec. 30

Times: 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; lights from 3-9 p.m.

Location: Cosley Zoo, [1356 N. Gary Ave.](http://1356nGaryAve.com)

Visit Cosley Zoo to see 20,000 twinkling lights creating spectacular displays. The event includes Christmas tree sales, hot chocolate, holiday gifts and more.

Admission is free during this festival. [More information](#)

Santa's Craft Corner

Dates: Saturdays, Nov. 29-Dec. 13

Times: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Location: Cosley Zoo, [1356 N. Gary Ave.](http://1356nGaryAve.com)

Cosley Zoo will host a special Santa's Craft Corner each Saturday, Nov. 29 through Dec. 13, where children can see Santa, make a craft and see the animals.

[More information](#)

Dickens of a Christmas Carriage Rides

Date: Saturdays, Nov. 29-Dec. 20

Time: Noon-3 p.m.

Location: Martin Memorial Plaza, [Front and Main streets](#)

The Downtown Wheaton Association will host complimentary carriage rides each Saturday, Nov. 29 through Dec. 20, through downtown Wheaton. [More information](#)

Visit with Santa

Date: Saturdays, Nov. 29-Dec. 20

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

Location: Martin Memorial Plaza, [Front and Main streets](#)



Visit Santa in his holiday house at Martin Plaza. Sponsored by the Downtown Wheaton Association, this is part of the Dickens of a Christmas Holiday Celebration. [More information](#)



Dickens of a Christmas Holiday Stroll

Date: Saturday, Dec. 6

Time: 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

Location: Shops and boutiques in Downtown Wheaton

The shops and boutiques in Downtown Wheaton will be sharing the spirit of the season with complimentary holiday treats throughout the day from roasted chestnuts, cider tastings, eggnog, peppermints, Christmas cookies and other holiday treats.

Complimentary carriage

Winter Home Energy Savings Workshop

Date: Monday, Dec. 8

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, [225 N. Cross St.](http://225nCrossSt.com)

Learn how to cut your electric and gas bills down during the cold winter months with representatives from CUB (Citizens Utility Board) and Elevate Energy. Become an expert on understanding your bills, avoiding scams, practicing energy efficiency, and boosting home comfort. Register online at wheatonlibrary.org/calendar or by calling 630-868-7520.

Jazz Spectrum Holiday Concert

Date: Sunday, Dec. 14

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, [225 N. Cross St.](http://225nCrossSt.com)

Celebrate the holiday season with [Jazz Spectrum](#). This energetic, jazz-influenced vocal quartet promises lots of fun and holiday cheer as they perform old and new seasonal standards with a twist. Pick up your free ticket at the Checkout Desk or reserve yours by calling 630-868-7510.

Terminal Town Wrap-Up Event

Date: Sunday, Dec. 7

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, [225 N. Cross St.](http://225nCrossSt.com)

[Drop by the library's Terminal Town exhibit](#) and take your last look at the special display featuring Wheaton's transportation history. Dr. Schwieterman will discuss the impact of the monumental exhibit and recognize contest participants and winners. No registration required.

The Legend of Saint Nicholas

Date: Sunday, Dec. 7

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Wheaton Public Library, [225 N. Cross St.](http://225nCrossSt.com)

Learn about the origins of St. Nicholas characters in various countries, popular Christmas symbols, worldwide Christmas traditions, and more. Register online at wheatonlibrary.org/calendar or by calling 630-868-7520.

Indoor French Market

Dates: Saturdays through March 28, 2015

Time: 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Location: Downtown Wheaton Train Station, [West Street & Front Street](#)

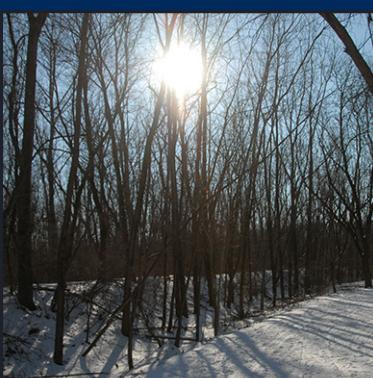
Find baked goods, winter fruits and vegetables, specialty foods, gifts and more during the indoor French Market. For more information, email bensidoun@yahoo.com.

Police Online Auction Begins Dec. 1

Annually the Wheaton Police Department sends surplus, found, unclaimed and forfeited property and evidence to an online auction called Propertyroom.com for disposal. When property remains unclaimed or the owner is unknown, it is sold at auction to the highest bidder pursuant to Section 2-506 of the Wheaton City Code.

Propertyroom.com will accept Paypal, Master Card, Visa and American Express. After Dec. 1, 2014, interested persons may view the items, submit bids and register for free on www.propertyroom.com or at <http://www.propertyroom.com/d/662> for items submitted by the City of Wheaton. If additional information is needed, frequently asked questions can be found at www.propertyroom.com/help/faq, which is on the main auction website.

For further information, contact Jan Barbeau, Police Services Manager and Property Control Officer at the Wheaton Police Department, 630-260-2071.



Help Keep the Wreath Red

Take extra steps to prevent fires during the holidays

This holiday season, the Wheaton Fire Department will decorate Wheaton's three fire stations with wreaths that have a special significance.

The wreaths are part of the Keep the Wreath Red fire safety campaign, a state-wide program that reminds you to practice fire safety during the holiday season. The wreaths feature decorative red lights, and for each Wheaton fire caused by holiday decorations, the Fire Department will replace one



red bulb with a white bulb.

You can help the Wheaton Fire Department Keep the Wreath Red by unplugging holiday lights before leaving home or sleeping, being careful with candles

and open flames, using flame-retardant decorations, ensuring lights are in good condition and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) listed, and keeping real Christmas trees watered.

French Market Moves Inside for Winter

While the outdoor French Market season has ended, shoppers can enjoy many of the same items and vendors indoors.

The indoor Winter Market will take place each Saturday through March 28, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the downtown Wheaton train station. Located at [Front Street and West Street](#), these indoor events will also include live music.

Indoor French Market

- **Dates:** Saturdays through March 28, 2015
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- **Location:** Downtown Wheaton train station, [Front & West streets](#)

Vendors will include a family-owned bakery specializing gluten-free breads, or-

ganic trail mixes and organic ingredients; a family-owned orchard offering winter fruits and vegetables; an organic specialty food company; a local company featuring artisan crafted pickles; a local sustainable farm with fresh organic produce from their greenhouse; a French-styled company featuring linens, pottery and home decor items; and many more. For more information, email ben-sidoun@yahoo.com.

City Calendar

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 for a complete list of meetings and events.

December 2014

- 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.
- 25 City offices closed; No garbage pickup