

January 2012

City Notes

No Garbage Pickup Jan. 2

There will be no garbage collection on Monday, Jan. 2, 2012 in observance of the New Year's holiday. Pickup for the week of Jan. 2-6 will be delayed by one day.

In addition, Veolia will observe the following garbage holidays in 2012:

- **Memorial Day:** No pickup on Monday, May 28, 2012
- **Independence Day:** No pickup on Wednesday, July 4, 2012
- **Labor Day:** No pickup on Monday, Sept. 3, 2012
- **Thanksgiving Day:** No pickup on Thursday, Nov. 22, 2012
- **Christmas Day:** No pickup on Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2012

Pickup for the remaining days of these weeks will be delayed one day.

Christmas Tree Recycling

Christmas trees will be collected for curbside recycling the first two full weeks in

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Construction Crews Making Progress on Butterfield Road

Crews have made significant progress toward an expanded, four-lane Butterfield Road. This Illinois Department of Transportation project to improve traffic flow along the busy state highway began this past spring, with an estimated cost of \$52.5 million.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has switched traffic to the newly constructed lanes along Butterfield Road (Route 56), although traffic will continue to use the old roadway on Butterfield Road west of Herrick Road.

The project has also involved reconstruction of Naperville Road near its in-



tersection with Butterfield Road due to modified traffic patterns. The contractor has opened the newly constructed lanes on Naperville Road to southbound traffic. There are two through lanes, one dedicated right turn lane and one dedicated left turn lane at the intersection of Naperville Road and Route 56.

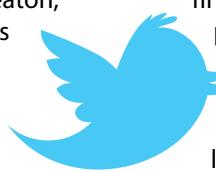
Naperville Road north of Butterfield Road has two lanes open to traffic and a turn lane into the Danada West shopping complex.

Cold weather prevents crews from continuing roadway construction, however, subcontractors will work on

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Follow 'CityOfWheaton' on Twitter

Twitter fans: Get ready to follow Wheaton, now known as "CityOfWheaton" on Twitter. The City has added Twitter to its list of communication tools it uses to reach residents, businesses



and anyone else interested in finding out what's happening in Wheaton.

Twitter is a free social media website that allows users to send messages and links to web pages, photos and vid-

eos in 140 characters or less. Twitter will enable the City to supplement its press releases, newsletter, email updates and more with short, timely messages for Twitter users who opt to "follow" the City.

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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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January (Jan. 3-13; no pickup Jan. 2 due to the holiday) without a sticker. Remove all decorations and place your tree at the curb on your regular garbage pickup day. Please do not place your tree in a bag.

City Closed Jan. 2

City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 2, 2012. They will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

Reminder: New Seatbelt Law

On Jan. 1, 2012, a new Illinois law requires back-seat passengers to buckle up. Previously, Illinois law required only drivers, front seat passengers and certain passengers younger than 19 years old to wear seat belts. The new law states that every driver and passenger of a motor vehicle operated on a street or highway must wear a properly adjusted safety belt, with few exceptions.

The law, HB 219, exempts passengers of emergency vehicles and taxi cabs. The law does not apply to motorcycles, motor vehicles that are not required to be equipped with safety belts by federal law, or motor vehicles with a model year prior to 1965. The full text of the law is available on the [Illinois General Assembly's website](#).



Christmas Light Recycling

Take advantage of the City's free holiday light recycling program now through Feb. 17. Bring strands of incandescent or LED holiday lights in any condition to the Public Works Storage Facility at 820 W. Liberty Drive any time between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Look for the holiday light recycling area just inside the gate.

The lights will be collected by Elgin Recycling, stripped, and recycled for their copper and plastic parts. No materials will be shipped overseas.



Public Hearing for Bicycle Plan

The City Council will conduct a public hearing to review the City's proposed Bicycle Plan at 7 p.m. Jan. 23, 2012 at City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St. The City developed the proposed Bicycle Plan using federal grant funding to encourage energy efficiency and conservation. The City presented the draft plan during a public meeting Nov. 9, 2011.

Information and a copy of the draft plan are [available on the City's website](#).

Commission News

The Council approved the appointment of Nancy Flannery to the Community Media Commission and the reappointment of Dottie Mackie to the Band Commission.

Butterfield

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non-weather sensitive items within the project. This will include installing a noise wall along the north right-of-way, removing the old pavement and beginning storm sewer

work as weather permits.

According to the Illinois Department of Transportation, construction of the roadway should resume in March, focusing work on Route 59 and Naperville Road. Weather permitting, work at these intersections should be complete in the summer of 2012.

The contractor and the state will continue to monitor all traffic control devices during the interim and correct any deficiencies if required.

Residents with questions or complaints should contact the Illinois Department of Transportation online at www.dot.il.gov/contact.html.

Twitter

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To register for a Twitter account, visit www.twitter.com and enter your name and valid email address into the signup fields. The signup process will lead you through a few simple steps to create a user name and get started using Twitter. If you are already registered with Twitter, you can find @CityOfWheaton at www.twitter.com/#!/CityOfWheaton or visit the



City's website at www.wheaton.il.us for a direct link to the City's

profile. Click on the "follow" button to receive messages from Wheaton on your Twitter home page.

The City will use Twitter to share important messages, such as Wheaton's response to severe weather or other emergencies; issue reminders about City services; send notifications when the latest City newsletter or other content on the City's website is available; and much more.

"Social media is a powerful, instantaneous tool that so many people use to communicate now," said Public Relations Coordinator Susan Bishel. "The City will use Twitter to reach out to the community with information more quickly, more effectively and with an extended reach as information is spread to followers' networks of connections."

You can find information about Twitter and other ways to receive information from the City by visiting the ["Stay Connected"](#) section of the City's website.

Energy Show Highlights Green Savings

City leveraged federal and state grants for projects

Why strive for energy efficiency in Wheaton? Watch a new video to find out why for our community, it just makes "cents."

Federal and state grant funds are making a significant impact on Wheaton's energy efficiency, carbon footprint – and its bottom line. A new video, "[Energy Efficiency: It Just Makes Cents](#)," takes a broad look at how a number of programs are benefitting the environment, the community and the City of Wheaton.

Special Projects Assistant Susan Wallace explains how the City was able to obtain a \$514,000 federal grant and how far that funding has gone. From dramatic reductions in costs and energy use for lighting in municipal facilities to individual grants for homeowners, the video introduces some of the residents, businesses and organizations who applied for grant funding and were able to make their home or workplace more energy efficient.



Wheaton has used federal and state grants to decrease emissions some of its most frequently used public works trucks and to retrofit the Police Station with more energy efficient lighting.

Also, see how the City has cut emissions nearly in half from some of its most widely used trucks that are on Wheaton's streets every day.

This [new video is available on the City's website](#) and on City of Wheaton Channel 10.



State's Yellow Dot Program Can Help in Emergencies

If you're in a crash, will first responders know about your medical needs? A new program introduced by the Illinois Department of Transportation called Yellow Dot provides personal health information to emergency responders in order to promptly care for a crash victim.

Yellow Dot is a voluntary, federally funded program for motorists that targets the

"golden hour" – the most crucial first hour following an injury. Program participants receive a yellow decal that is applied in the lower left-hand side of your vehicle's rear window (driver's side) and a corresponding yellow folder to record medical information. The folder is then placed in your vehicle's glove compartment, so if you are unable to communicate with respond-

ers, these emergency personnel will know where they can find important information.

The yellow folder contains the following medical information about the motorists: participant's name, close-up photo, emergency contact information, patient's physician information, medical conditions, recent surgeries, allergies and a list of current medications. Having access to

this information allows first responders to make important decisions regarding emergency treatment and can better prepare emergency hospital staff in the receiving room.

You can receive a Yellow Dot kit by calling the DuPage County Health Department at 630-682-7400. For more information about the program, visit www.yellowdotillinois.org.

Coyote Mating Period Approaching

Keep pets leashed; report incidents

From approximately February through April, you may see more coyotes in the community, as this is their typical mating period. While pets do not comprise a large portion of a coyote's diet, it is especially important to keep your pets on a leash during this time of year, when you may be more likely to encounter a coyote. Coyotes are opportunistic and will go for easy prey, such as an unattended pet.

Coyotes can become a nuisance when they have easy access to food in residential areas, such as pet food or garbage. To discourage their presence, eliminate these outdoor sources of food.

Many wildlife experts believe that coyote "hazing" can help deter coyotes. This is the term used for actions such as making loud noises or threatening gestures toward coyotes in an attempt to re-establish a healthy fear of hu-

mans. Hazing is not intended to physically harm coyotes. If you encounter a coyote, make yourself look as large as possible, and use the hazing techniques mentioned above.

The City encourages you to help report coyote incidents so that it can respond appropriately. The Coyote Incident Report Form is an online questionnaire available on the City's website that you can use to help report coyote incidents with questions specific to the incident. However, please note that **if a coyote is acting in a threatening manner toward a human, you should call 9-1-1**, and an officer will respond. If you do not have internet access but would like to report a coyote incident, you can call the Police Department at 630-260-2161.

For more information, visit the City's website, and select "Residents," then "[Coyote Information](#)".



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Upcoming Events

January Electronic Recycling

Jan. 14, 9 a.m.-noon

Remember that state law now prohibits disposal of electronics in your curbside

garbage. Drop off your unwanted electronics and old batteries for recycling during the City's monthly collection event from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Jan. 14 at the Public Works Storage Facility, 820 W.

Liberty Drive. Electronics such as televisions, computers and printers and small household appliances such as toasters and hair dryers are accepted along with household batteries. [More information is on the City's website](#).



State of the City Address

Jan. 19, 11:30 a.m.

Mayor Michael Gresk will present his annual State of the City Address at the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce's Jan. 19 luncheon at Arrowhead Golf Club. The

City of Wheaton will tape the event, and the video will be available after the event on the City's website and on City of Wheaton Channel 10 for Wheaton cable subscribers. For more information about the Chamber's luncheon, visit www.wheatonchamber.com.

Bus Routes Changing Due to Pace Restructuring

Route 747 combined with Route 301

Pace has made some significant changes to its weekday bus service in Wheaton, DuPage County and western Cook County as the result of service restructuring. The changes are aimed at providing better connectivity between Pace, Metra and CTA services in the western suburbs. Changes also provide greater service coverage in Wheaton and Winfield. The changes went into effect Dec. 11 and Dec. 12.

One of the most significant changes for Wheaton users will be the combining of weekday service on Route 301 and Route 747. All weekday trip times on these routes will change. This combined route will now be known as Route 301.

A new Call-n-Ride serves the Wheaton-Winfield area



in order to provide replacement service for the low ridership segments on Route 747 that were discontinued. This Call-n-Ride is a reservation-based, curb-to-curb service that picks up general public riders and takes them any-

where within the designated zone. This Call-n-Ride also provides scheduled shuttle service between the Wheaton Metra Station and the DuPage County Judicial Center. Visit PaceBus.com or call 630-379-1976 for more information.

Most trips on Route 301 will have timed connections with Route 714 and the Wheaton-Winfield Call-n-Ride at the Wheaton Metra Station. Connections will also be possible with a number of trains at the Wheaton Metra Station.

Tax Levy Decreased for Second Consecutive Year

For the second consecutive year, the City Council decreased the annual property tax levy for the

city of Wheaton. At its Dec. 19, 2011 meeting, the City Council approved ordinances that establish the City's tax levy for

2011. The ordinances represent a decrease of \$132,864, or 0.7% from the 2010 tax levy.

The City will receive revenues generated by the 2011 Property Tax Levy in fiscal year 2012-2013.



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 Wheaton City Hall. Visit www.wheaton.il.us for a complete list of meetings and events.

January 2012

- 2** City offices closed; No garbage pickup
- 3** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 9** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 14** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 17** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 23** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.