



Winter 2011

The Winnetka Report

Published by the Winnetka Village Council

IN THIS ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT
page 2

STORMWATER UPDATE
page 3

FLOOD PROTECTION GUIDE
page 3

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING
Page 4

WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS
page 6

HOLIDAY REFUSE/ RECYCLING
page 8

Village of Winnetka
510 Green Bay Road
www.villageofwinnetka.org

Annual Winnetka Tree Lighting December 2nd at 6:00 pm Station Park

There truly is no place like Winnetka for the Holidays. Joyous festivities will spark the spirit - so start the season on December 2 at 6:00 pm when we gather for the Annual Winnetka



Tree Lighting to usher in the holidays in Station Park on Green Bay Road across the street from Winnetka Village Hall.

Village President Jessica Tucker, along with Winnetka-Northfield Chamber President Peggy Swartchild, will assist with lighting up the



tree. Bring your family, friends, and caroling voice! There will be festive carolers in Victorian costumes leading the carols and hot cocoa at Caribou Coffee after the lighting ceremony.

Enjoy Shopping in Winnetka This Holiday Season



The Winnetka-Northfield Chamber of Commerce invites you to EAT! SHOP! ENJOY! Winnetka this Holiday Season. The Holidays are a special time of year for you, your friends and family.

Enjoy the unparalleled service of our unique shops and sample the exceptional cuisine of our charming restaurants while drinking in the incomparable surroundings of our beautiful village.

On Saturday, December 3rd: Coldwell Banker Winnetka will host carriage rides, provide sweet treats and a visit from Jolly Old St. Nicholas.

On Sunday, December 4th: the merchants of Winnetka will open their doors and make available many wonderful gift choices for the holiday season. Participating merchants in the holiday sale offer refreshments and

discounts on fantastic items and they will help you select the perfect gift. Anything that your heart desires can be found in Winnetka. Look for the Red Invitation for details about this much anticipated weekend, or visit our website: winnetkanorthfieldchamber.com

After shopping, sit back, relax and stay in Winnetka. No need to fight the traffic – treat yourself to dinner at a local restaurant. Winnetka is convenient for shopping and dining, with variety throughout the village and plenty of free parking.

Please contact the Winnetka-Northfield Chamber of Commerce for more information: 847-446-4451.

May this season be bright and filled with joy and good wishes...

Happy Holidays!





A Message From the Village President

Dear Neighbors,

Big issues can make us ask questions that go beyond seeking solutions. Who are we as a people? How are we perceived? What do we want to be? These are timeless questions with no right or wrong answers.

Democracy can be a messy process. In Winnetka we have a strong tradition of a participatory public process that allows a diversity of opinion and perspective to be heard as we shape our future community.

I like to think that here in Winnetka we practice democracy the “Winnetka Way:” through a sense of fair play and neighborliness; through decency and respect for each other regardless of differences of opinion; through quiet dignity and shared responsibilities; through good government and common sense of purpose; through the way we are able to debate while maintaining integrity and civility; and through the way we collaborate to devise sound and equitable solutions to today’s challenges.

Winnetkans will benefit by working together to create a shared vision of our community. One vision many of us collectively share is mitigating the flooding that occurs during historic rain events.

The Council has heard your calls to action and is responding by giving stormwater improvements and sanitary system upgrades full attention and heightened priority. Recently we were requested to appoint a “Blue Ribbon” resident committee to study this issue further. However, determining the committee’s membership, allocating staffing and consultants, and following the proper public process would only serve to slow down the Council’s work. The Village is already staffed by experienced public professionals, and advised by one of the top stormwater consultants in the State. The Council’s

open, public process is already solidly in place. Your elected Village Council must assume responsibility for an issue of this magnitude, which will involve the expenditure of millions of taxpayer dollars.

The Council welcomes your input, and will not hesitate to reach out to individuals whose expertise will help to get this monumental public works project organized and constructed. If you feel you have a special talent that would serve the Council, please contact us. One way to provide your remarks is to access an e-mailbox which has been created specifically for your comments to the Village Council: Stormwatercomments@winnetka.org. This welcoming, transparent approach serves the community well. For example, the idea for the tunnel project currently under consideration came from a resident who contacted staff to discuss his proposal. We are grateful to him and to all residents who have provided constructive feedback.

We encourage you to stay informed. The Council receives a stormwater status update at every Council meeting, and you can view it on the Village’s web site: villageofwinnetka.org. Links to all of the documents and reports compiled to date are also on the Village’s web site, under the heading: “**Council Continues to Move Forward with Stormwater Mitigation Efforts.**”

The Council looks forward to hearing from you as it continues to make important decisions on stormwater construction projects and financing options. We welcome your participation in all of the matters the Council considers, as we work together to make our community a better place for all residents.

It has been said that politicians often speak of ‘giving’ the people good government. But one can’t really give good government to the people. Good government is not a gift; it is an

achievement. It has a price – the price that must be paid in time and energy and mental sweat in order to understand and to inform others



of our concerns; the price of examining all sides of public issues; the price of subordinating your own immediate interest to the long range welfare of the whole people. That’s the price of good government, and is required of a functioning democracy.

As we enter the holiday season, let us also celebrate each other and our community – for it is the people who participate in the democratic process and who exemplify the Winnetka Way that make our community great. I am privileged to serve you.

Jessica Tucker
Village President

The Village Welcomes your Stormwater Comments!

The Village Council welcomes residents’ input regarding stormwater mitigation efforts. Therefore, we have opened a new e-mailbox to receive your comments directly:

Stormwatercomments@winnetka.org

We encourage all residents to share their thoughts and suggestions. Although we will be unable to respond personally, your emails will be reviewed and forwarded in their entirety to the Village Council.



STORMWATER UPDATE

The Village Council and Village Staff have been working diligently to find solutions to the problem of flooding and sewer backups in Winnetka. Here is a summary of actions that have been taken at recent Council Meetings/Study Sessions:

On August 16th, preliminary discussions about financing options for stormwater improvements were begun and a timeline was established for management actions.

September 6 – President Tucker and Manager Bahan reported on conversations with the Winnetka Park District and New Trier Township regarding possible opportunities to pursue open space for future detention.

On September 13th Village Trustees reiterated their intent to keep stormwater and sanitary sewer flooding issues their first priority and Manager Bahan referred Winnetkans to the aggressive timetable put forth at the August 16th meeting.

On September 20th Village Engineer Steve Saunders updated the Council on the status of conversations with the Park District and reported on the responses to the sanitary sewer survey. The Council adopted an ordinance increasing the amount of the assistance available to owners of homes built prior to 1970 who wish to install a backflow preventer or overhead sewer.

On October 4th the Council considered potential service enhancements, such as assisting with residential flood-proofing assessments to help evaluate drainage problems and potential solutions for property owners.

On October 11th after the Council considered the CBBEL Flood Risk Reduction Assessment, there was a consensus to continue to explore the Lake Michigan Outlet tunnel option. CBBEL was asked to prepare a critical path schedule and Staff was asked to begin firming up the engineering for the smaller study areas and to continue studying financing options.

On October 18th the Council reviewed the Preliminary Survey Results of the Village-wide survey of basement flooding during the July storm and discussed the *Guide to Flood Protection in Northeastern Illinois*, prepared by The Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management.

On November 1st, Village Engineer Steve Saunders and Village Manager Rob Bahan reported on preliminary meetings with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, saying that no significant concerns were expressed. Other agencies that need to be brought on board include the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers.

On November 8th, the Council heard a presentation from the Finance Director and financial consultant Kevin McCanna of Speer Financial. Different scenarios for funding stormwater projects were discussed and staff was asked to further refine the project timeline and financing comparisons.

Visit the homepage of the Village's website – villageofwinnetka.org > **Summary of Council Meetings Dealing with Stormwater Mitigation Efforts** – to see all of the reports compiled so far.

Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management's *Flood Protection Guide*

In an effort to assist and inform residents about flood protection, the Village has made a flood protection guide available to residents.

The *Guide to Flood Protection in Northeastern Illinois* is published by the Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management, and contains information about what to do during a flood as well as steps to take in the aftermath of a flood.

The *Guide* also contains a flood protection checklist and lists steps that can be taken to protect your property from flooding. Flood protection laws and flood barriers are discussed, as well as wet and dry floodproofing methods.

The booklet explains how sanitary sewer backups can be alleviated, and gives illustrations of the different methods. The Village has a program in place to help owners of homes built before 1970 to retrofit their home with a backflow preventer or overhead sewer. The standards for the program are found in Section 15.64.080 of the Village Code. For more information about the program, call the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568

There is even a section on how to choose a reputable contractor for flood repairs.

The *Guide* can be downloaded at from the homepage of the Village's website: villageofwinnetka.org. > **Web Site Highlights**



Discarded Electronics Banned From Landfills Public Works Yards Will Accept Drop-Offs Tuesdays 10 am - Noon and Thursdays 1:00 - 3:00 pm

The State of Illinois has enacted legislation that bans all televisions and computer monitors from being put in Illinois landfills. Recently, Governor Quinn signed additional legislation that expands the number of banned electronic products to include the following items:

- Computers – PCs, Laptops + Monitors
- DVD Players, DVR/Cable Boxes/Satellite Receivers
- Fax Machines
- Mobile Phones
- MP3 Players, PDAs
- Computer Peripherals (Mice, Keyboards, Drives)
- Printers, Scanners
- TVs, VHS Players
- Video Game Consoles
- Stereo Equipment

Under the new legislation, Winnetka refuse workers will no longer be able to collect these items for disposal through the backdoor residential waste program.

To provide a convenient and environmentally-sound recycling alternative for all banned electronics, the Village, in partnership with Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) and Supply-Chain Services, Inc. (SSI), has established an electronics recycling drop off site at the Winnetka Public Works Yards - 1390 Willow road.

Items will be accepted Tuesdays between 10:00 am - Noon and Thursdays between 1:00 - 3:00 pm. Only residential waste items listed can be accepted.

Do not bring household hazardous waste or home appliances such as microwaves, dehumidifiers, humidifiers, air conditioners or other unlisted items.

Electronics from businesses institutions or schools will not be accepted. Please do not drop-off electronics other than during the posted dates and times. Thank you for your cooperation!



For a list of additional recycling opportunities, visit SWANCC's Green Pages directory at swancc.org

Holiday Light Recycling - Public Works Yards 1390 Willow Rd.

**Drop off M-F
7:00 am - 5:00 pm**

Once again, the Village of Winnetka is pleased to offer its **Holiday Lights Recycling Program**. All types of holiday string-type lights, rope lights and extension cords will be accepted for no cost at the drop-off location at Public Works, 1390 Willow Rd during regular business hours.

The Village cannot accept garland, live greens, wreathes, or other non-recyclables. This program is free to residents and businesses of any town, and is drop-off only.

The last day for Holiday Light Recycling drop off is Friday, February 3, 2012. Please contact the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568 with any questions.

March 20, 2012, Presidential Primary Key Dates

Date	Event
2/9/2012	First day absentee ballot applications are accepted
2/21/2012	Last day to register to vote
2/22/2012	First day of grace period registration and voting
2/27/2012	First day of Early Voting
3/13/2012	Last day of grace period registration and voting
3/15/2012	Last day of Early Voting
3/15/2012	Last day to request a mail-in absentee ballot
3/16/2012	In-person absentee voting begins
3/19/2012	Last day mail-in absentee ballots can be postmarked for acceptance
3/19/2012	Last day of in-person absentee voting
3/20/2012	Election Day



Village Licenses and Commuter Parking Permits Expire December 31

Village licenses for the coming year are on sale at the Cashier's Counter at Village Hall. The counter is open from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Vehicle Stickers

Vehicles are required to have the Village license affixed to the lower right-hand corner (passenger's side) of the windshield, where it is easily visible from outside the vehicle.

Dog Licenses

All dogs over the age of six months must be licensed, with a current Village license attached to their collars or harnesses.

A current rabies vaccination certificate must be provided to the Cashier's office along with the license application before a dog license can be issued. The actual certificate must be presented, after which it will be returned. Dog license fees are \$10 for males and spayed females and \$15 for unspayed females. Documentation that the dog has been spayed is required.



Commuter Parking Permits

Renewals for Commuter Parking Permits will be arriving in the mail around December 10th.

Prescription Drug and Sharps Disposal

The Winnetka Fire Department participates in a sharps (needle) and prescription drug disposal service provided by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County's (SWANCC) Residential Prescription Drug & Sharps Disposal Program.

Residents are encouraged to drop off expired prescriptions or those that are no longer needed (excluding narcotics, which by law cannot be accepted) at the Fire Department, 428 Green Bay Road. ***Please do not flush them down the drain or throw them out in the regular garbage.*** Using this service protects our water and ground from pollution.



The Fire Department will also accept needles used at home for the administration of medicine. Residents can pick-up free sharp containers at the Fire Department. These containers are then returned for proper disposal, and a new container will be provided for as long as needed. ***Please use only the sharps containers for returning used needles.***

Both services are free to residents and available during normal business hours unless alternate arrangements are made.

If you have any questions, please call the Fire Department's non-emergency number at 847-501-6029.



Help Keep Fire Hydrants Clear of Snow

With 647 fire hydrants in Winnetka, it is not possible for Village staff to clear off all of them after a major snow storm.



Fire hydrants that are buried or blocked by piles of snow may result in the Fire Department not being able to find them in an emergency. The ensuing delay in firefighting operations could result in additional property loss or endangerment of residents.

The Village asks that you help to keep fire hydrants accessible to the Fire Department by clearing space around all sides of the hydrant as you do your shoveling or snow-blowing.

If you notice a damaged or leaking fire hydrant, please call the Fire Department at 501-6029, or the Water & Electric Department at 716-3558.





SUPPORT WINNETKA'S LIGHTING FUND

Light up Winnetka for the Holidays!

Treat Yourself or a Loved One to a Set of Commemorative Plates

Each holiday season, the Village of Winnetka illuminates and decorates Winnetka's business districts.

To help support Winnetka's annual project, the Chamber of Commerce had a series of commemorative porcelain plates produced. Local artist Kaylyn Shelby illustrated all the designs for each plate: Village Hall, Moffat Mall, Schmidt-Burnham Log House, the Hubbard Woods Gazebo, and New Trier High School.



Each 6" plate is lead-free and dishwasher safe. Boxed for gift-giving or mailing, they make thoughtful gifts, especially for those with fond memories of Winnetka.

Purchase the plates at Village Hall, 510 Green Bay Road, or the Winnetka-Northfield Chamber office, 841 Spruce. They are available separately for a donation of \$20 each (\$5 is tax deductible) or as a set for \$75 (\$25 is tax deductible). All donations go to Winnetka's Holiday Lighting Fund.

What a great way to support your Village and at the same time, share lovely gifts with friends, family and neighbors – or treat yourself to a set!

For more information call 847-446-4451 or email wcc@winnetkanorthfieldchamber.com.

www.villageofwinnetka.org

2011 Ornament Features Sts. Faith, Hope and Charity Church

Each year since 1962, (except for 2010) a special handcrafted Christmas ornament has been created depicting a building in Winnetka. Proceeds go to help fund the festive holiday tree lights in Winnetka's downtown business districts.

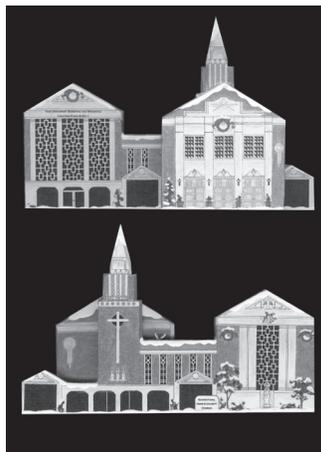
Over the years, thousands of dollars have been donated in order to brighten the Village throughout the holiday season.

The 2011 ornament depicts Sts. Faith, Hope and Charity Church, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary.

This is the fourth in a series of churches to be featured – Sacred Heart Church, Winnetka Congregational Church, and Christ Church have all been selected in previous years as the featured ornament.

There will be a limited number of New Trier High School ornaments available as well. The ornament can be yours for a donation of \$42 (\$25 of which is tax deductible) and they are available at Phototronics – 740 Elm; and Ellen's on Elm – 841 Elm.

The ornaments will be available through December 25th. For more information, call Phototronics at 446-7510.



Winter Parking Restrictions in Effect When Two or More Inches of Snow Fall

Village Code prohibits parking on Village streets during a snow emergency. A snow emergency exists whenever two or more inches of snow falls within a 24-hour period or when two or more inches of snow remains on any roadway in the Village.

Vehicles parked on roadways during snow emergencies will be fined \$200.00 and may be relocated or towed at the owner's expense. A snow emergency in any of the Village's business districts will be indicated by snow emergency signs temporarily posted in the district.



During a declared snow emergency, residential parking permission will normally not be authorized until the location has been cleared of snow, or the emergency has ended.

The snow emergency remains in effect on residential streets until snow has been cleared from the streets, and remains in effect in the business districts until the removal of the snow emergency signs by Village personnel.



Clean up After Storms Safely & Efficiently

One of the joys of living in Winnetka is the beauty and quiet that settles over the area after a snowstorm. Trees take on myriad forms as their branches become draped with snow or ice, and the Village snuggles in under its downy white blanket. Noises are softened, and an air of peace and quiet prevails. As wonderful as this time can be, the enjoyment eventually turns



to work as we begin to clean up after the snow. Here are several things that you can do to help make the process of cleaning up after a snowstorm easier, safer, and more efficient.

We've all experienced the frustration that occurs when the snowplow comes by just as we've cleared the last of the snow from our driveway. One thing you can do to minimize the amount of snow that may be plowed across your driveway is to pile shoveled snow on the "downstream" side of the driveway. That way, when the snow is plowed the pile will be plowed to the parkway, rather than back into your driveway.

Frequently the Village is called to send a plow back to a previously cleaned street to remove snow deposited in the street by a private plowing service. Village Code prohibits removal of snow from private property in such a way that it results in decreasing the driveable width of a street.

If you use a private service to remove snow, please inform them of this requirement.

When placing objects such as Christmas trees and recyclable items at the curb for pick-up, please do not deposit them in the roadway after a snowfall. Items so placed can be struck by plow trucks as they clean the street, which may damage the equipment, or they may create safety hazards for motorists.

After heavy snows, the Village first works to clear the streets, then returns to relocate or remove piles of plowed snow.

Please make sure that children know that they should not play in piles of snow adjacent to roads and parking lots, because these piles are subject to removal.

When shoveling snow, wear appropriate clothing to guard against exposure or frostbite, wear appropriate boots with non-slip soles, and do not over-exert yourself. Shoveling wet, heavy snow is a very strenuous activity. Be sure to assess your physical capabilities and limitations before attempting to clear large snow accumulations.

Snow & Ice Control Operations

The Winnetka Public Works Department is committed to keeping Village streets clear of snow and ice to maintain safe vehicular and pedestrian traffic on publicly maintained streets and sidewalks throughout the winter months.

To ensure streets and sidewalks are free from snow and ice and to maximize department snow and ice control resources, priority is given to main streets such as Hibbard, Tower, Willow, Green Bay, Elm, etc. These streets receive much of the traffic within the Village and must be kept clear as primary emergency access routes.

The next priorities are streets and sidewalks around schools & churches,

residential streets, alleys, and public parking lots & decks.

After larger snows, typically over 3 to 4 inches, the Village also plows snow from residential sidewalks. In order to prevent ice buildup on the sidewalks, residents should remove snow from the sidewalks in front of their homes after slushy events or



smaller snowstorms. This will go a long way towards helping keep our sidewalks free from ice and easier for pedestrians to navigate.

Air temperature, type of precipitation, and road surfaces influence the method for applying salt and other snow fighting applications. The Village's policy is to minimize salt use to control costs, by applying salt at intersections and on street surfaces that may pose a traffic hazard.

A non-corrosive liquid known as Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA) is used on bridges and the Hubbard Woods Parking Deck. CMA enables the Public Works Department to control ice build up in an environmentally friendly manner, while preventing premature deterioration of the bridge's and the parking deck surface.

The Public Works Department snow and ice fighting team is comprised of highly skilled and well trained individuals determined to provide motorists and pedestrians the highest level of snow and ice control services possible to ensure a safe and enjoyable winter season. The Public Works Department will work around the clock, when necessary, to provide the maximum level of service possible.



The Winnetka Report

Published by the Winnetka Village Council

Village of Winnetka
510 Green Bay Road
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Standard Presort
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 7
60093

Postal Customer
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Village Telephone Numbers

	911
Police/Fire/Paramedics Emergency	911
Police (Non-Emergency)	847.501.6034
Fire (Non-Emergency)	847.501.6029
Electric or Water Outages	847.501.2531
Refuse and Recycling Collection	847.716.3568
Manager/Finance Offices	847.501.6000
Public Works Office	847.716.3568
Water & Electric Office	847.716.3558
Water & Electric Billing Services	847.446.9550
Community Development Department	847.716.3576

Winnetka Village Council

Village President	
Jessica Tucker	847.441.9561
Village Trustees	
Arthur Braun	847.501.2565
Gene Greable	847.446.6356
Bill Johnson	847.784.9177
Richard Kates	847.441.6221
Chris Rintz	847.441.5718
Jennifer Spinney	847.446.7945

HOLIDAY REFUSE & RECYCLING COLLECTION

CHRISTMAS DAY (Monday Holiday)

Week of December 25 - 31, 2011

Monday's pickups will be on Tuesday
Tuesday's pickups will be on Wednesday
Thursday & Friday will be as usual

NEW YEAR'S DAY (Monday Holiday)

Week of January 1 - 7, 2012

Monday's pickups will be on Tuesday
Tuesday's pickups will be on Wednesday
Thursday & Friday will be as usual

Please remember to shovel a path to your refuse containers after a snowfall, to help the Village's refuse collectors to finish their routes in a timely manner.

Christmas Tree Pickup to Run Through January 18th

Christmas trees will be picked up from the curbside for shredding, chipping, and composting through January 18, 2012. After January 18, 2012, a \$2 refuse sticker will be required to ensure pickup.

Please remove everything from trees, including plastic bags or wraps, ornaments, tinsel, wires, and the stand, as these will clog and damage the shredder.

