



Fall 2011

The Winnetka Report

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IN THIS ISSUE

Improved Cost-Sharing for Sanitary Backups page 3

Landmark Preservation Awards page 4

Village Hall to Close on Saturdays page 4

Police/Fire Open House page 5

Trick/Treat Hours page 5

EAB, Fall Tree Planting page 6

Thanks to Boards, Committees page 7

Thanksgiving Refuse / Recycling Schedule page 8

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

A Message From the Village President

Dear Neighbors,
As part of the Village's efforts to improve communication with residents, I will be writing a quarterly column that will provide you with information about important issues facing our Village. If you haven't already done so, please go to the Village's website and subscribe to "E-Winnetka" for frequent email updates about Village activities.

I am continually thankful to live in such a great community where education is a priority, philanthropic and charitable interests are paramount, high quality public services are provided, and generosity and neighborliness is in wonderful abundance. Winnetka offers a high quality of life, and I am proud and humbled to represent its citizens.

Winnetka's long tradition of professional government administration combined with volunteer elected officials and an active and

engaged citizenry is the model that has created what we have today. As a community, we value public process and public input and as President I trust the process – as one wise Winnetka elder once advised me. Our informed

residents do their homework, as do the hard-working volunteers on our Boards, Committees and Commissions: they sort fact from fiction, and reality from rhetoric, as they labor to advise the Village Council on important policy matters.

Many issues face the Village today, such as stormwater and sanitary system upgrades, maintaining fiscal balance in a tough economy, legislative pressure from the State of Illinois to name a few. Clearly, addressing stormwater



Continued on p. 2

Village Advancing Stormwater Management in Wake of Storms

In the overnight hours of July 22-23, an intense thunderstorm and torrential rainfall passed through the Village of Winnetka. The Village's sewer systems were overwhelmed, leading to severe flash flooding and basement flooding throughout the Village. The Village received hundreds of emergency service calls during and immediately following the storm. These calls dealt with a variety of issues including tree damage and power outages, but the vast majority of the calls were for flooding of streets and basements.

A Cook County Precipitation Network rain gauge located in southwestern Winnetka, which remotely records precipitation in 10-minute intervals, recorded 3.99 inches of rain between 11:00 pm and midnight on July 22, including 0.98 inches between 11:40 pm and 11:50 pm alone. The heaviest rainfall occurred between 11:00 pm and 1:30 am, during which time 5.99 inches of rain fell. According to this rain gauge, a total of 6.61 inches of rain fell by the time rain completely stopped at 10:00 am Saturday morning.

There was particularly widespread basement flooding as a result of the storm. Some basements flooded

Continued on p. 3

Curbside Leaf Collection Oct. 17 - Nov. 28

The Village's annual curbside leaf collection program will run from Monday, October 17 until Monday, November 28. Under this program, residents may rake their leaves to the parkway just inside the edge of the curb for collection by the Village.



Please do not rake leaves into the streets for collection. This creates a hazard - leaves become very slippery when wet. In addition, leaves piled in the street may clog storm sewers, leading to flooded streets and yards.

Village collection crews will begin in the northwest corner of town along Scott Avenue, and work their way south, between Green Bay Road and the west Village limits. When the west side of town is completed, collection will begin in the southeast portion of town and work north, collecting leaves between Green Bay Road and Lake Michigan. When one such round is complete, crews begin again in the northwest section of town and continue in a like manner. The time needed to complete a round

Continued on p. 2



Message From The Village President

(continued from page 1)

improvements is our heightened priority. However, as in any other municipality, your Village officials must work on the broad range of issues that come before us. Our Village has never had the luxury of focusing on only one issue.

There will always be issues, some new, some recurring, some controversial, for any Council to address. Speaking from experience, I know that future Councils will appreciate a Council that has brought topics to closure rather than leaving them simmering for another day and another Council. We are elected to govern, and we need to tackle all of the issues that come before us as they are ready to be discussed. We might not all agree on the topic or solution, but we complete our discussions, make our decisions and move on.

If you'd like more information on any issue, I encourage you to go to the source. If you have a question about Village government or Village issues, visit the Village's website at: villageofwinnetka.org. You can also call our Village Manager, Rob Bahan, or any Council member.

The same applies for information regarding our schools, parks and library. Your fellow residents who serve as volunteer members of the Council and other boards are a terrific resource, as are the experienced, professional staff members who serve our boards and Village.

Continue to involve yourselves in issues about which you are passionate. Educate yourselves. Speak with your elected officials. If you have a question, call me at home: 847.441.9561. I am at your service, and it is my privilege to serve you.

Jessica Tucker,
Village President

www.villageofwinnetka.org

Curbside Leaf Collection

(continued from page 1)

varies depending on the volume of leaves and whether the leaves are wet or dry; however, the Village aims to complete 6 to 8 rounds during the length of the program.

Leaves must be placed on the parkway no later than 7:00AM by the last day of collection, November 28. Leaves placed out after this time are required to be placed in Winnetka yard waste bags or in plain paper yard waste bags with a Village yard waste sticker affixed. Winnetka bags and stickers are available at Village Hall for \$2.00 each. These bags should weigh no more than 70 pounds each when filled and will be collected as part of the regular curbside yard waste program.

Please follow these guidelines to ensure safe and efficient service:

Rake leaves into a pile(s) in the parkway adjacent the back of the curb and not in the street to reduce hazards and enable crews to move more quickly and collect leaves more efficiently.

Remove stones, litter, branches or other landscape debris. Piles containing these items will not be collected as they can damage our equipment and can injure our workers!

Avoid placing leaves in front of storm drains or utility covers.

Avoid piling leaves around cars, boulders, fire hydrants, trees or posts.

Avoid parking on top of, or adjacent to, the leaf piles.

Do not rake to alleys or service roads.

Leaf piles that are mixed with grass trimmings, branches, brush or other yard waste will not be collected under the leaf collection program. They must be bagged and collected as part of the regular curbside yard waste program.

CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS CHANGE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES

When you change your clock back to standard time on November 6th, remember to change the batteries on your smoke alarm at the same time.

More than half of all fatal home fires happen at night. The smell of smoke may not wake a sleeping person because the poisonous gases and smoke produced by a fire can numb the senses and put one into a deeper sleep.

Fire experts see increasing evidence that smoke alarms more than ten years old may start to lose their effectiveness. If your smoke alarms are more than ten years old, play it safe and replace them.

In addition, Illinois law now requires installation of at least one CO alarm within 15 feet of every bedroom.

Have your heating system and all household gas appliances inspected every year. Recognize the flu-like symptoms associated with CO poisoning, such as dizziness, headaches, nausea and drowsiness.

For a brochure on carbon monoxide poisoning, call the Winnetka Fire Department at 501-6029.

Watch for Blinking Streetlights

The Winnetka Electric Department needs your help to keep streetlights burning.

Have you ever noticed a streetlight that is on for a while, then goes off, and then comes back on? When a street light bulb is at the end of its life, it will do just that: blink on and off.

If you notice a street light not working properly, please call 716-3558 to let the Electric Department know. If you are connected to voice mail, please leave a message leaving the location of the malfunctioning light.



Stormwater Management

(continued from page 1)

because sump pumps failed or were overwhelmed by the amount of water coming in; many basements flooded as a result of sanitary sewer backups; some basements flooded as a result of water overtopping foundations or flowing in through window wells. A complete and accurate count of flooded basements may never be available, but a combination of counts (calls received during and after the storm, debris piles placed on the parkways on the Monday and Tuesday after the storm, and damage assessment forms submitted in response to Cook County's request) indicated that over 1,100 basements experienced flooding, representing over 25% of the Village's homes.

The July 22-23 storm also produced a large number of sanitary sewer backups throughout the Village. A survey was recently distributed to Village residents to identify locations where sanitary sewer backups occurred so that detailed system investigations can be performed in these areas. The



data generated by this survey will be very useful to the Village in addressing sanitary sewer backups, so please complete and return the survey if you have not already done so.

Many of you submitted uninsured loss data to the Village in response to Cook County's request to determine

eligibility for potential Federal Disaster reimbursement. Unfortunately, the level of uninsured damage did not meet the required County-wide threshold for Federal assistance, so no Federal Disaster reimbursement will be forthcoming.

Over the years, the Village has completed a number of sanitary and storm sewer improvement projects; however, there are still areas where further improvements are needed. At the August 2nd Council meeting, the Village Council authorized the Village's consultant, Christopher Burke Engineering, to analyze options for improving the Village's stormwater mitigation for potential 25, 50, and 100 year storms. They also agreed to initiate and/or continue collaboration with other governmental units to identify and pursue open space for detention opportunities. Discussions on financing for stormwater improvements were also begun. Additionally, the Council plans to study potential service enhancements, such as assisting with providing residential flood-proofing assessments.

In addition, at the Council meeting on August 16th, there was Council consensus to increase the amount of the assistance available to owners of homes built prior to 1970 who wish to install a backflow preventer or an overhead sewer system. Staff was directed to prepare and present an ordinance enacting this change for the next Council meeting.

The Village's website - villageofwinnetka.org - contains a link to a compilation of documents pertaining to stormwater mitigation efforts, including an extensive FAQ sheet and a timetable for moving forward.

Village Adopts Improved Cost-Sharing Plan for Sanitary Backups

If your home was built before 1970, you may be at risk for periodic basement flooding caused by sanitary sewer backups. One of the most cost-effective ways a homeowner can protect their basements from sanitary sewer backups is to install an anti-backup device.



Newly Installed 4-Inch Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Preventer

On September 20, 2011, the Winnetka Village Code was amended to create an enhanced "Sanitary Sewer Backflow Prevention" program. The enhanced reimbursement program based on section 15.24.085 of the sewer code is a one-time cost-sharing program between the Village of Winnetka and the homeowners of single-family homes built before 1970. Under this program, a property owner who meets all of the eligibility standards set forth in the code may apply to the Village of Winnetka for reimbursement of a portion of the costs for the initial installation of either an overhead sewer or anti-back-up device.

Funding is limited; therefore, the program is on a first-come, first-served basis. The maximum reimbursement made to any homeowner under this program would be 50% of the cost of the initial installation of either an anti-backup device - not to exceed \$3,500; or an overhead sanitary sewer - not to exceed \$5,000. While the sanitary sewer anti-back-up device is generally less expensive than an overhead sanitary sewer, it is not failsafe. The Village Council shall retain the sole and exclusive discretion to determine the funding for each fiscal year.

For details, please contact the Public Works Department at 716-3568, or ebraun@winnetka.org.



2011 Landmark Preservation Awards

The Winnetka Landmark Preservation Commission recently awarded Preservation Awards to five Winnetka properties and the Cenotaph. The awards presentation took place at the September 20, 2011 Village Council meeting.

The Preservation Awards program seeks to honor those construction projects in the Village that have helped preserve the history and character of Winnetka.

The program has three categories of awards: Restoration, Rehabilitation, and New Construction.

The Winnetka Landmark Preservation Commission will be accepting nominations for next year's program beginning in March 2012.

The following properties were presented with awards on September 20th:



10 Indian Hill Rd. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: Eric and Cindy Mogentale
Architect: Lawton Thies, J. Lawton Thies Architects, Chicago



854 Lincoln Ave. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: Tim and Jeanne Murphy
Architect: Charles Cook, Cook Architectural Design Studio, Glencoe



1161 Spruce St. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: Jim and Bev Ingle
Architect: Mark Ver Bryck, Ver Bryck Architects, Northfield



1260 Spruce St. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: Mike and Nicole Jakob
Architect: Ken Alberts, Alberts Associates, Mundelein



717 Walden Rd. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: Chris and Alice Spahr
Architect: Mark Ver Bryck, Ver Bryck Architects, Northfield



Cenotaph - Village Green (Restoration)

Architect: Robin Whitehurst, Bailey Edward Architecture, Chicago

Village wins Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting

For the 18th consecutive year, Winnetka has been awarded a *Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting* by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). A panel of experts in the accounting field has judged Winnetka's CAFR for FY 2009-10 to meet the high standards of the awards program, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" in clearly communicating the Village's financial story and motivating potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

In acknowledging receipt of this award, Ed McKee, Director of the Finance Department, thanked Assistant Finance Director Hanna Sullivan for her invaluable assistance in writing the CAFR. The Village has won this prestigious award every year since 1993.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association with offices in Chicago and Washington, D.C., serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals.

Village Hall To Close on Saturdays

The Village's Finance Department operations will be moving to the trailer in the parking lot south of Village Hall in approximately 6 weeks. Because of the limited space, we will not be able to sell yard waste bags. In addition, the Finance Department will be closed on Saturdays.

October 29th is the last Saturday Village Hall will be open. We expect to be back in our regular space in late spring 2012, when normal Saturday service will resume.

Customers who need assistance may visit the trailer during regular business hours, Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM. Residents may also purchase yard waste bags at Grand Foods, two blocks north of Village Hall, at 606 Green Bay Rd.

The Village thanks you for your patience during the renovation and restoration of Village Hall.



Police & Fire Department Open House

**Saturday, October 15th
10AM -- 2PM**

All Winnetka and Kenilworth residents are encouraged to attend this year's Fire and Police Department Open House. The theme for this year's Open House is "Protect Your Family From Fire."

Visitors to the Fire Department will have a chance to see new apparatus, equipment, demonstrations and displays, as well as having home fire safety questions answered by firefighters.



Children of all ages will have the opportunity to make their own fire safety button and get a temporary tattoo.

Activities at the Police Department will include tours of the Police Communications Center, Lockup, Firearms Range, and Fitness Center, as well as a display of various Police vehicles and equipment. This is a great opportunity for children to meet and talk with a Police Officer and to take home some gifts to remember the day, including child identification kits.

There will be balloons, treats and refreshments for all.



Fire Prevention Week is October 9 – 15 This Year's Theme: "Protect Your Family From Fire!"

This year, the National Fire Protection Association's fire prevention campaign is all about keeping you, your family, and your community safer from fire.

Visit the National Fire Protection Association's website: nfpa.org to find educational materials and tip sheets on the leading causes of home fires, information about life-saving technologies that help protect your home and family, and the importance of home escape planning.

At the NFPA's website you can also download a fire safety checklist; a calendar tearsheet to remind you to test smoke alarms once per month; an escape plan grid; and fun posters for the kids. You can even test your fire safety IQ with the NFPA's online quiz.

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, and continued into October 9, 1871.

While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire also occurred on October 8th, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

POST OFFICE SORTING/ DISTRIBUTION FACILITY TO VACATE WEST ELM LOCATION

The Village has been notified by the U.S. Postal Service that it anticipates vacating the mail-sorting facility located at 512 Chestnut, effective November 30, 2011.

The retail portion of the post office facility will remain at that location at least until the end of their lease with the Village on April 30, 2012. This means that the post office boxes will remain available to their users, and the front counter will still be open to residents who need to mail packages, buy stamps, etc.

In Winnetka, "trick or treat" takes place on Halloween night, Monday, October 31, between the hours of 3:00 and 7:00 PM

Homeowners:

Please leave a front light on so that children will know that they are welcome to visit.

Motorists:

Watch for children out "trick or treating."





Emerald Ash Borer in Winnetka

Winnetka's Arborists have been surveying the Village for Ash trees infested



with Emerald Ash Borer. Infested Ash trees have been found at over 500 private residences and over 250 Village parkway trees, in all areas of Winnetka. Residents who have Ash trees on their property - especially if the tree is showing symptoms of infestation, are encouraged to contact the Forestry Department at 847.716.3535.

Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive insect that eats at the cambium layer (the part of the tree which transports nutrients through the tree) causing significant and most often fatal injury to the trees.

There are insecticide treatments available, which can be applied by certified arborists or by homeowners; however, insecticide is not guaranteed to completely eliminate infestations.



Infested Ash tree - showing the tell-tale crown die-off

The longer an Ash tree remains infested before action is taken, the more insects are able to hatch and infest other trees.

Symptoms of infestation include: Woodpecker Holes, Chipping or Cracking of Bark, Suckering Sprouts, Dieback of Tree, etc.



Tell-tale borer exit holes in tree bark

Village Taking Requests for Fall Tree Planting Programs

The Village is currently taking requests for the Fall Parkway and Private Tree Planting Programs. **Deadline for planting requests is October 15, 2011.**

A variety of trees species are available. The 2 ½ trunk diameter parkway trees are planted at no cost to residents. Larger diameter-sized trees are available, but residents will be requested to pay for the difference in cost.

Trees are also available for purchase and planting by the Village in easily accessible areas of private residences. Planting trees increases the wonderful aesthetics of Winnetka and improves the health of the urban forest for future generations. *Plant a tree today for a greener tomorrow.*

For more information, call the Village Forester at 847.716.3535.

Trim Shrubs to Eliminate Hazards on Sidewalks and Intersections

With all the rain we experienced this spring and summer, the Winnetka flora has been thriving and growing vigorously. Unfortunately, some of this plant life has been growing over public areas and is causing a hazard on streets, sidewalks, intersections, etc.

The Village asks residents to check their properties and trim back any bushes that are overgrowing the sidewalks;



These shrubs overhang the sidewalk and need trimming

trim any private trees that hang too low over the sidewalk; and help to keep intersections free from sight obstructions from shrubs.

Village inspectors have been doing a systematic survey of the entire Village and have been sending out letters to properties who have vegetation overgrowing public areas. This summer over 180 letters have been sent already!

Please help in keeping Winnetka hazard-free by trimming any private vegetation that is overgrowing the public areas.



The many elected and appointed volunteers who donate their time and energy to making Winnetka a great place to live and work deserve a special

“THANK YOU!”

By serving on Village boards, commissions and committees your fellow Winnetkans help to insure that our community's charm and beauty are preserved.

The residents of Winnetka owe them a debt of gratitude for their willingness to give so generously of their own time and energy.

Winnetka Boards & Committees

Village President

Jessica Tucker

Board of Trustees

Arthur Braun
Gene Greable
Bill Johnson
Richard Kates
Chris Rintz
Jennifer Spinney

Business Community Development Commission

Cicely Michalak, Chair
Terry Dason, Chamber Rep.
Paul Dunn
Tom Eilers
Jason Harris
Mike Leonard
Peggy Swartchild
Jeni Spinney, Council Rep.

Design Review Board

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Robert Dearborn
Cindy Galvin
Brooke Kelly
Janet Shen
Peggy Stanley

Environmental & Forestry Commission

Debbie Ross, Chair
Caryn Adelman
John Canfield
Chuck Dowding
Terri Lowinger
Scott Madlener
Katie Stevens
Lawson Whitesides
Bill Johnson, Council Rep.

Landmark Preservation Commission

Louise Holland, Chair
Hugh Brower
Susan Curry
Marilyn Garcia
Laura Good
Anne Grubb
Beth Ann Papoutsis

Plan Commission

Becky Hurley, Chair
Jan Bawden
Chuck Dowding, EFC Rep.
Paul Dunn
Louise Holland, LPC Rep.
John Golan
John Iberle

John Jansson, Library Board Rep.
Joni Johnson, ZBA Rep.
Midge Powell
Gene Greable, Village Council Rep.
John Thomas, Park Board Rep.
Susan Whitcomb, School Board Rep.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Joe Adams, Chair
Mary Hickey
Joni Johnson
Bill Krucks
Carl Lane
Jim McCoy
Scott Myers

Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

Stephen Presser, Chair
Margaret Benson
Michael Duhl

Police Pension Board

Richard Glenn, President
John O'Malley, Vice President

Fire Pension Board

David Bender, President
Mark Fuller



The Winnetka Report

Published by the Winnetka Village Council

Village of Winnetka
510 Green Bay Road
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

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60093

Postal Customer
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Village Telephone Numbers

	911
Police/Fire/Paramedics Emergency	847.501.6034
Police (Non-Emergency)	847.501.6029
Fire (Non-Emergency)	847.501.2531
Electric or Water Outages	847.716.3568
Refuse and Recycling Collection	847.501.6000
Manager/Finance Offices	847.716.3568
Public Works Office	847.716.3558
Water & Electric Office	847.716.9550
Water & Electric Billing Services	847.716.3576
Community Development Department	

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

Residential Holiday Refuse/Recycling Schedule

Since Thanksgiving falls on a Thursday, the refuse and recycling will be collected one day earlier than usual.

Thanksgiving - Week of November 21-25

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

