



Spring 2010

The Winnetka Report

Published by the Winnetka Village Council

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Village of Winnetka
510 Green Bay Road
villageofwinnetka.org

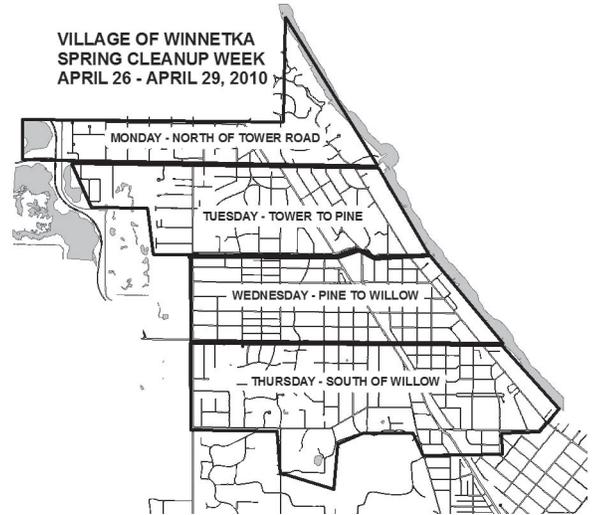
SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK IS COMING THE WEEK OF APRIL 26 – 29

Winnetka's Annual Spring Clean-Up week will be held the week of April 26 – April 29. Scheduled pickups are:

- Monday, 4/26:** north of Tower Road;
- Tuesday, 4/27:** Tower Road to Pine Street;
- Wednesday, 4/28:** Pine Street to Willow Road;
- Thursday, 4/29:** south of Willow Road.

Yard waste, dirt, stone, construction materials/debris, logs, paint, paint thinner, stains, chemicals, gasoline, oil, pesticides or herbicides, and other liquids will not be picked up.

The rubbish should be placed on residential parkways the evening before the scheduled pickup, or by 7:00 A.M. the day of the pickup, in order to minimize littering problems. There will be **no call-backs** if the material is not on the parkway by the scheduled time.



Demolition Permit Fees The rest of the story

To accurately compare Winnetka's building fees with those of other communities, it is necessary to compare the **total cost** of building permits, rather than to focus only on the demolition permit fee.

Recently, the North Shore–Barrington Association of Realtors (NSBAR) sent a flyer to Winnetkans contending that the Village of Winnetka has the “highest known demolition fee (or tax) in the United States.” However, NSBAR failed to advise Winnetkans of the **total cost** of demolishing a home and building a new one.

For example, although Glencoe does not charge a demolition fee and Winnetka does, the **total cost** of building permits to demolish an existing home and build a new 6,200 square foot home in Glencoe is about \$39,400, while in Winnetka the **total cost** is about \$36,600, which includes Winnetka's recently increased demolition fee. For a 6,200 square foot home, Glencoe's building permit fees are about \$6.20 per square foot of gross floor area (GFA) and Winnetka's fees are \$2.68 per square foot of GFA. **Therefore, the total cost of Winnetka's building permit fees to demolish an existing home and construct a new home in the Village is less than Glencoe's fees.**

The Village sets its demolition permit fee to recover the costs associated with the demolition and construction of a home **so that Winnetka taxpayers do not subsidize developers.** The demolition fee recovers staff time associated with demolitions and defrays the costs related to the overall impact of demolitions on Village infrastructure such as damage to sidewalks, reduction in the life span of roads, excavation in the roadway, and damage to parkways and trees. The methodology used in setting the current demolition fee of \$16,070 is explained in a February staff report, which can be viewed on the Village's website: villageofwinnetka.org, and click “Demolition Permit Fee Information” under Web Site Highlights (on the homepage).

Despite information circulated in the community by NSBAR, Winnetka's current demolition permit fee does not deter the redevelopment of properties in the Village. When developers purchase a property destined for demolition, they consider a number of factors in determining the value of the property: the purchase price of the land, demolition costs, construction costs, carrying costs, cost of infrastructure improvements, **the total cost of all building permits**, and the desired profit.



Elm Street Metra Station Construction Update

The elevators at the Elm Street Metra station will be out of operation while the renovation of the station continues. Metra officials expect the elevators to be out of service until November, 2010. The next station to the north with handicapped access is the Glencoe station; to the south, handicapped access is available in Kenilworth and Wilmette.

It is anticipated that the first phase of the station renovation, which includes the north-end platforms and stairs, will be completed this August. After the completion of Phase I, the second phase will begin, which includes work on the south-end platforms and stairs.

Celebrate Arbor Day on Friday, April 30th

The Village is helping residents celebrate Arbor Day on Friday, April 30th, with free tree seedlings, which will be available in the lobby at Village Hall, 510 Green Bay Road, along with tree care brochures, which will be in the lobby all week.

Residents are also invited to register for a free tree raffle at Village Hall, anytime during the week of April 26th.



Winnetka Landmark Preservation Awards Nominations Due by April 21st

The Winnetka Landmark Preservation Commission will sponsor its popular Preservation Awards Program again this year. Nominate your house! Nominate your neighbor's house!

Award categories include Restoration, Rehabilitation, and New Construction for projects that have been completed during the last five years.

For nomination forms and contest rules, visit the Department of Community Development at Village Hall, or check the Village website at villageofwinnetka.org.



Nominations must be received by Wednesday, April 21st. Award winners will likely be announced in June. An awards ceremony will be conducted at Village Hall and award winners will receive custom display tiles and certificates to commemorate their winning projects.

Gasoline powered leaf blowers are prohibited in the Village from June 1 through September 20.

Fire Hydrant Flow Testing Begins in May

The Winnetka Fire Department will be flow-testing fire hydrants during the months of May through September. Flow testing will be conducted Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m..

Flow testing of fire hydrants aids the Winnetka Fire and Water departments in determining the water system capacities, and is used for pre-planning emergency procedures. Fire hydrants are also checked for visibility and accessibility to fire personnel in the event of a fire.

Sediment accumulations are removed from the system during flow testing. You may notice water discoloration for a brief period of time after the flow test in your area. While the water is safe to drink, it can discolor laundry.

If you experience discoloration of your water, run your sink for approximately twenty minutes or until the discoloration subsides.

If the water does not become clear after following the procedures described above, please contact the Water Department at 716-3558.





Call JULIE Before You Dig

You may be surprised by what's buried in your yard. Contacting JULIE (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators) before you dig is the law. The impact of unsafe or careless digging practices is real and costly.



Anyone planning an outdoor project that requires any type of digging in Illinois, regardless of depth or project size, should call JULIE at 811 or 800-892-0123 before they start digging. The call and the locating services are free.

According to state law, the person actually doing the digging is required to call JULIE at least 48 hours before the start of excavation.

Within two working days of your contact with JULIE, a representative from each member utility company will mark the location of their underground facilities with paint and/or flags at the excavation site. The utilities are only required to mark the facilities that they own, not privately installed facilities.

Simply call 811 or 1-800-892-0123. Call center representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Illinois Municipal Electric Agency Signs Long-Term Wind Energy Agreement

Winnetka's wholesale energy provider, Illinois Municipal Electric Agency, (IMEA) has signed a long-term contract for the purchase of renewable energy generated in Illinois.

IMEA and NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, a subsidiary of FPL Group (Florida Power & Light), signed a long-term contract under which the Springfield-based joint-action agency will purchase 70 megawatts of wind-generated electricity from NextEra's new Lee-DeKalb wind farm. IMEA estimates that it will receive nine percent of its total energy needs in 2010 from the NextEra wind farm.

Located near the intersection of Interstates 88 and 39 in Lee and DeKalb counties, the 217-megawatt wind farm began commercial operation in December 2009.

IMEA is a not-for-profit unit of local government comprised of 33 member municipalities, including the Village of Winnetka. The IMEA furnishes the power needs of all of its members' electric systems.



These wind turbines are among the 145 units which comprise NextEra Energy Resource's new Lee-DeKalb wind farm. IMEA signed a long-term contract (20 years) with NextEra late last year under which the Springfield-based, joint-action agency is purchasing up to 70 megawatts of wind-generated electricity. Combined, the 145 wind turbines can generate enough electricity to power approximately 55,000 homes.

Sprinkler Regulations Start May 15, Effective until September 15

During the warm weather months, water restrictions are imposed by the Village as required by the State of Illinois. Sprinkling is allowed only between the hours of 5 AM. to 11 AM., and 5 PM. to 11 PM.



Sprinkling during otherwise prohibited hours may be permitted for a limited time with special approval by the Director of the Water & Electric Department, for newly seeded or sod areas, and for the annual activation or repair of sprinkler systems.

To obtain the special approval, or if you have questions, call 847-716-3558, or email: bkeys@winnetka.org.

Illinois' ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebate Program

Illinois will receive nearly \$12.4 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to implement its ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebate Program.

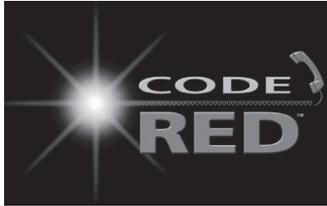
The program offers point-of-sale rebates on ENERGY STAR qualified refrigerators, freezers, clothes washers, dishwashers, air conditioners, and water heaters, as well as highly efficient heating and air conditioning systems.

Rebates on water heaters and heating and cooling equipment have been available since January 31. For complete program guidelines and information, visit illinoisenergy.org or call 877-782-7005.

The second phase of the program runs from **April 16 - 25**, and provides a flat 15% rebate to consumers who purchase energy efficient appliances at participating retail stores. Consumers who turn in their old appliances for recycling will be eligible for an additional mail-in rebate of \$50-\$100.



What is RED Center?



What happens when you call 911 for a fire, rescue or medical emergency?

When you dial 911 for a fire emergency, your call will be transferred to the fire dispatch center-known as R.E.D. Center. R.E.D. stands for Regional Emergency Dispatch. RED Center is the fire and ambulance dispatch facility that sends help from your local fire department.

R.E.D. is a cooperative effort of 13 communities that have joined together to provide efficient cost-effective fire and medical dispatching, as well as monitoring of commercial and residential fire alarms. The Village of Northfield will join RED Center on May 1, 2010, for a total of 14 participating communities. In 2009, RED dispatched 34,733 calls for service for all 13 communities.

RED Center began in Niles with 5 communities and is now based in a new facility in Northbrook. The infrastructure, including the building, is debt-free and all member communities provide operational funds, as well as governance and operations oversight.

RED Center provides dispatch for each of the member communities and also serves as the dispatch center for larger local emergencies called "Box alarms". Additionally, RED serves as the operations fire dispatch center for declared State of Illinois emergencies.

The center is operated continuously 24/7 with at least 3 dispatchers on duty at all times. All dispatchers are trained in EMD (emergency medical dispatch) and they provide medical instructions to people on the scene of local medical emergencies until the paramedics arrive.

Prevent Vehicle and Bicycle Thefts

Bicycle thefts account for a large percentage of all thefts reported to the Winnetka Police Department. When a bicycle theft is reported, the owner often cannot provide the bike's serial number, and has not registered the bike with the Winnetka Police Department. This makes it very unlikely that a recovered bicycle will be able to be re-united with its owner.

Bicycle registration is free, and only takes a few minutes. The Winnetka Police Department, 410 Green Bay Road, will register bikes 24 hours, 7 days a week. For more information, please call 501-6034.

A similar number of auto burglaries also occurs each year. Theft is a crime that in many cases can be prevented; the obvious precaution to take is to keep property secured at all times. Get a good bicycle lock; keep autos locked, even when inside a garage or in a driveway. Garage doors should be locked, as well as house doors and windows when no one is at home.

Auto thefts and burglaries are often "crimes of opportunity." Many times these crimes are committed by individuals who just happen to be passing by and can't resist the temptation to take something that is easily within their reach.

Take simple, common-sense precautions to help to reduce the number of thefts that are committed in Winnetka; help keep our community a safe and secure place.



Invest in a high-quality bike lock - and use it - to help prevent bicycle theft.

Come to the WPD Bike Rodeo Thursday, May 20 3:30 – 5:00 Hubbard Woods School

May is National Bike Month, the start of bike season. Attend the annual Police Department Bike Rodeo on May 20th at Hubbard Woods School, 1110 Chatfield, and get a free bike safety check, register your bike and play fun games. Bicycle helmets are required to participate.



Prescription Drug Recycling Program

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) would like to remind member communities that its prescription recycling program is for unused or expired medications that have been prescribed to an individual. The medication must be recycled in its original container.



Medications will not be taken in bulk or in unmarked containers – you can black out your name and address if you choose.

Home prescription medications may be dropped off at the Fire Department Monday through Friday from 8:30 – Noon and 1 – 5 PM.



Summer Street Construction Planned

The Village will be undertaking three large construction projects during 2010, including:

<u>Street</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Work</u>
Chestnut Street	Hill Road	Willow Road	Reconstruction
Alles Road	Chestnut Street	Birch Street	Reconstruction
Tower Road	Hibbard Road	Sheridan Road	Rehabilitation

Residents of streets affected by this work will receive more detailed information, including scheduling, once the contracts have been awarded. Questions can be directed to the Public Works Department at 716-3568.

The State of Illinois plans to resurface Green Bay Road from Scott Street to Kenilworth this summer. Details have not yet been given to the Village; information will be provided on the Village's website, villageofwinnetka.org, as soon as it is available.



Reconstruction – Replacement or new installation of concrete curbs, pavement excavation and replacement where necessary, asphalt surfacing, and restoration.

Rehabilitation – Milling the existing surface, repairing curbs where needed, and resurfacing.

Winnetka to Participate in Electronic Recycling Program

10 AM – Noon Tuesdays

1 – 3 PM on Thursdays

The Winnetka Public Works Department is happy to partner with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) to provide free electronic recycling to Village residents on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The program began Tuesday, March 16th and will run until half a million pounds of material has been collected.

Discarded electronics will be accepted at the Public Works Yards at 1390 Willow from **10AM – Noon on Tuesdays**, and from **1 – 3PM on Thursdays**.

Items that will be accepted include: computers and peripherals, DVD players, fax machines, mobile phones, MP3 players, game consoles, zip drives, printers, televisions and VHS players.

Home appliances **will not** be accepted. Look at the list to the right to see a more complete list of items that will and will not be accepted by SWANCC at the drop of facility at 1390 Willow. For more information visit swancc.org or call 847-724-9205.

Acceptable Devices

Computers	DVD players	Fax Machines
Keyboards	Laptops	Mobile Phones
Monitors	MP3 Players	PCs
PDA Game Consoles	Peripherals	Printers
Scanners	Televisions	VHS players
Zip drives		

Unacceptable Items

Air Conditioners	Answering Machines	Blenders
Calculators	Camcorders	CDs/DVDs (Games)*
Copy Machines	Dehumidifiers	Digital Cameras*
Home Appliances	Humidifiers	Microwaves
Print Cartridges*	Postage Machines	Power Tools/Cords
Refrigerators	Shredders	Software
Stereo Equipment	Telephones	Toasters
Toasters	Typewriters	Vacuum Cleaners



Spring Tree Planting Deadline is April 19th

The Village is currently preparing for the spring Parkway and Private Tree Planting Program. Each year the Village plants over 300 trees in parkway areas



throughout the Village, which is vital to Winnetka's aesthetics and improves its urban forests for future generations. The

Village plants 2 1/2" trunk diameter parkway trees at no cost to residents, however larger diameter-sized are available upon resident request. Residents are responsible for the cost difference for upgrading to a larger tree. If you would like to have a tree planted in front of your residence, please contact the Village Forester at 847-716-3535. The deadline for planting requests is April 19, 2010.

EAB Update



In order to help control the spread of the destructive Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), the Village will continue removal of selected Ash trees from public parkways in 2010. Ash trees that have symptoms of EAB such as: woodpecker evidence, sprouting, dieback or d-shaped exit holes on branches and trunk areas will be removed, along with trees of poor health or structure.

The Village has annually treated over 300 specimen-quality public Ash trees since 2007. The treatment is an insecticide applied by a certified village tree contractor in hopes to save some of its native Ash tree pollution.

Residents can assist the Village Forester by inspecting their own private Ash trees for symptoms of EAB or call the Forester at 716-3535 to arrange an inspection.

Help Preserve and Protect Our Water

Homeowners and landscapers can employ simple lawn and garden techniques that benefit the environment, such as landscape designs that promote natural vegetation growth and minimize water loss and contamination.



Native plant species are generally more water efficient and disease resistant, and replacing turf with wildflowers, shrubs, trees and other types of ground cover is encouraged because they require less water and maintenance. Local nurseries or landscapers can help you select native plants that will thrive in particular conditions.

When watering, if water is applied too quickly, it is lost as runoff, along with the top layers of soil. Use low-volume watering approaches such as drip-type or sprinkler systems, and water the lawn only when necessary. Watering lawns during the coolest time of the day helps minimize the evaporation of the water. When mowing lawn areas, keep the grass no shorter than 3 to 4 inches in height, and leave mulched clippings on the lawn as a natural fertilizer.

Use less toxic alternatives to commercial fertilizers, such as composted organic material. Pesticides should not be used on lawns and gardens except when absolutely necessary and can be avoided entirely by selecting hardy plants that are native to the area and keeping them healthy. Pesticides and fertilizers must **not** be disposed of down the storm sewer drain or storm sewer system.

Proper landscaping techniques can effectively increase the value of a property while benefiting the environment, and proper landscaping activities are very cost effective.

Sewer Back-Up Prevention Program

If you experience sanitary sewer back-up into your home's basement, you may be eligible to participate in the Village of Winnetka's "Sewer Back-up Prevention Program". The Sewer Back-up Prevention Program is a one-time cost sharing program between the Village of Winnetka and the homeowners of single family homes built before 1970.

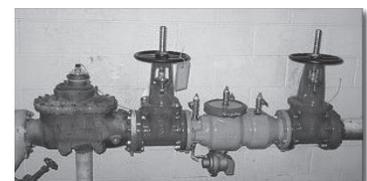
If you meet all of the eligibility standards set forth in the ordinance, you may apply for reimbursement for a portion of the costs of the initial installation of either an overhead sewer or anti-back-up device.

The Village has limited funding to allocate to this program; therefore, it is administered on a first-come, first-served basis. The maximum reimbursement made to any homeowner will be 50% of the cost of the initial installation of an overhead sewer or anti-back-up device, but not to exceed \$2,500.

Only those costs associated with the initial installation of a system shall be considered eligible for reimbursement. While the sanitary sewer anti-back-up device is generally less expensive than an overhead sanitary sewer service, it is not failsafe.

You may read the entire ordinance on the Village's website at villageofwinnetka.org. Under the "Quick Links" tab select "Village Code," and look for Section 15.24.085 in the Sewer Code.

A brochure is available at the Public Works Facility located at 1390 Willow Road, or you may contact the Public Works Department at 716-3568 to speak with someone about the program.



A newly installed backflow preventer



Private Tree Planting Program

Once again, the Public Works Department is offering residents the opportunity to participate in the Village's private property tree planting program. Planting will be limited to accessible front and side yards only. Residents will be responsible for the cost of the trees, which includes planting and 1-year guarantee. Six tree species will be available to choose from including:

Autumn Blaze Maple – Oval, upright fast growing. Best in full sun locations. Orange to red color in fall. Fifty feet tall when mature.

Hybrid Elm – Upright; fast growing. Best in full sun. Yellow color in fall similar to American Elm; resistant to Dutch Elm Disease. Mature size 50 feet or taller.

Red Oak – Rounded crown; grows to a height of 50 feet or more. Large leaves; will take partial shade. Red color in fall. Medium to fast growing.

Swamp White Oak – Rounded and open crown; grows to 50 feet in height. Medium growth rate. Will grow in moist sites. Leaves change to yellowish-brown color. Bark is interesting and exfoliating.

Japanese Tree Lilac – Upright ornamental tree that grows to 20-30 feet in height. Partial shade tolerant. Large 6 to 12 inch long creamy white flowers in early summer. Six-foot clump multi-stem form.

Crabapple - Roundish form with pink or white flowers 1"-1/2" size. Good fruit (no mess) of 1/4' diameter red in color. Many forms to choose from.

Please remember that shade trees should not be planted within 10 feet of a driveway and at least 25 feet from other trees and structures. Trees will be planted in April or May or as specified. The Forester can assist in proper species selection and placement.

2010 Private Tree Planting Application

Address _____

Date _____

Name _____

Phone _____

<u>Tree Species</u>	<u>Diameter Size</u>	<u>Price Per Tree</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Autumn Blaze Maple	2 inches	\$185.00		
Hybrid Elm	2 Inches	\$185.00		
Red Oak	2 Inches	\$200.00		
Swamp White Oak	2 Inches	\$220.00		
Japanese Tree Lilac	2 inches or clump	\$155.00		
Crabapple	2 inches or clump	\$155.00		
			Total Due:	

Payment must accompany the application. Please call the Village Forester at 716-3535 if you have questions. **Application deadline is April 19 2010.** Checks made payable to the Village of Winnetka. The Village will provide residents with follow-up care instructions.

Deliver or mail application to: Village Forester
Winnetka Public Works Department,
1390 Willow Road, Winnetka, Illinois. 60093

By signing below....

- I grant the Village of Winnetka, its agents and its contractors, permission to enter upon my property at the above address for the purpose of locating and planting trees as described above.
- I agree to be responsible for follow-up care for the tree(s), and I agree to follow the Village's follow-up care guidelines (to be distributed by the Village with the trees.) I understand that the trees are guaranteed for a one-year period.

Signature _____



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

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	
Gene Greable	847.446.6356
Bill Johnson	847.784.9177
Linda Pedian	847.446.2291
King Poor	847.441.4011
Chris Rintz	847.441.5718
Jennifer Spinney	847.446.7945

Caucus Spring Town Meeting

Wednesday, May 19 – 6:30 PM
Washburne School Auditorium
515 Hibbard Road

At the Caucus Spring Town Meeting on May 19th, Village President Jessica Tucker will speak on the state of the Village.

The meeting will also feature platform status reports from representatives of the Village, School, Library and Park District Boards.

To learn more about the Caucus, your current leaders, and how to volunteer to serve, please visit the Caucus' website at winnetkacaucus.org.

Refuse/Recycling Collection Schedule *Memorial Day Holiday* **Week of May 31 – June 4**

Monday's pickups will be on Tuesday

Tuesday's pickups will be on Wednesday

Thursday & Friday will be as usual

