



Winter 2008

The Winnetka Report

Published by the Winnetka Village Council

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

Enjoy Holiday Shopping in Winnetka

The Winnetka Chamber of Commerce invites you to come to WINNETKA! Bring friends and family to our four business districts: East Elm, West Elm, Indian Hill and Hubbard Woods.

Enjoy our appealing shops, clustered along tree-lined streets and filled with a wonderland of unique gifts for the holidays!

Relax in quaint restaurants where the freshest food is served with pride. Just 18 miles north of the Chicago Loop, Winnetka is accessible by bus, train and expressway. Parking is free and shopping is easy. Throughout the holiday season, many merchants extend store hours while offering refreshments, unique products, and unparalleled customer service.

Enhance your shopping experience. Make it convenient, easy, and fun without the hassle of crowded malls!

Winnetka, where beauty, taste and joyous festivities kindle the spirits, is the perfect destination for the holidays! For specific information on Winnetka's businesses, call the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce (847) 446-4451 or visit us at www.winnetkachamber.com.



From all of us who serve you throughout the year, may this season be bright and filled with joy and good wishes.

**Happy Holidays from the
Winnetka Chamber of Commerce!**

Register Now to Receive CodeRed Emergency Messages



The Police and Fire Departments in New Trier Township, including **Winnetka, Kenilworth, Wilmette, Glencoe and Northfield**, have

contracted with **CodeRed**, a company that provides

public safety officials with the ability to contact many homes by telephone in a short period of time.

This system will be used for Public Health & Safety situations only, such as lost children or challenged adults, emergency boil orders or environmental emergencies. It will not be used for non-emergency situations such as power outages, traffic re-routes or snow parking bans.

The system is activated by geographical area and uses phone numbers culled from various sources.

Not all homes will be eligible, due to extenuating circumstances. Some phones are not listed in public sources.

If you wish to ensure that your phone number is included in the call list, please visit the web at:

<https://login.coderedweb.com/codereddataentry/index.cfm?GroupID=1196>

You may also add cell phones or business numbers if you wish. CodeRed may have an email notification feature available in the future, so please enter any email addresses that you would like to have messages sent to.

If you have any questions, or do not have internet access, please contact the Winnetka Police Department at 501-6034, and ask for the CodeRed coordinator, or email rcarlson@winnetka.org



SUPPORT WINNETKA'S HOLIDAY LIGHTING FUND

Light up Winnetka for the Holidays!

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

Every holiday season, the Village of Winnetka business districts look festive and charming with evergreen decorations and lighted trees. This beautiful tradition is made possible, in part, from donations to the Holiday Lighting Fund.



The Winnetka Chamber of Commerce supports the Village's Lighting Fund by offering a series of commemorative porcelain plates for sale.

Since 2005, local artist Kaylyn Shelby has been designing the plates, starting with an illustration of the Village Hall and Moffat Mall, followed the next year by the Schmidt-Burnham Log House and last year, the Hubbard Woods Gazebo. The 2008 plate is a rendering of New Trier High School.

Each 6" plate is lead-free and dishwasher safe, perfect for use as an appetizer or dessert plate or as a thoughtful gift for anyone who has fond memories of Winnetka.

The plates can be purchased separately or as a set. If purchased separately, the 2005, 2006 and 2007 plates are offered for a donation of \$25 each (\$15 is tax deductible), and this year's New Trier plate can be purchased for a donation of \$45 (\$30 is tax deductible).

This holiday season, why not pick up a set of all four plates at the reduced price of \$85 (\$40 tax deduction). The set makes a handsome presentation, and proceeds benefit Winnetka's Holiday Lighting Fund. What a great way to support the Village and at the same time, share lovely gifts with friends, family and neighbors – or treat yourself to a set!

To place your order, contact the Chamber at 446-4451 or email wcc@winnetkachamber.com. (Additional discounts are available for quantities of ten or more plates.)

2008 Holiday Ornament Features Winnetka Congregational Church

Each year since 1992, a special handcrafted Christmas tree ornament has been created to help fund the festive holiday lighting of trees in Winnetka.

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

The 2008 ornament depicts the Winnetka Congregational Church,

founded in 1874. The current church was completed in 1936.

This is the second in a series of churches in Winnetka to be featured; the 2007 ornament was Christ Church on Sheridan Road.

There are a limited number of previous ornaments. The 2006 Lloyd House was Winnetka's first building to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the second Winnetka home to be honored with an ornament, following the 1992 "Home Alone House," released the same year as the movie that made the house the most photographed home in Winnetka.

In addition, there are a few second versions of the New Trier High School ornament available at this time.

For a \$40.00 donation, \$25.00 of which is tax-deductible, the ornaments are available at Phototronics, 740 Elm Street, and Multiple Choices, 841 Elm Street.

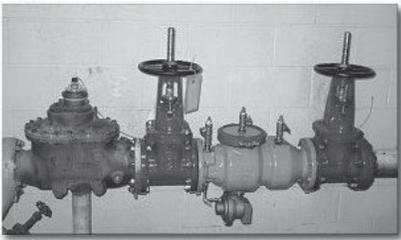
For further information, contact Betty Skalski at 446-7510.





Winnetka's Backflow Prevention Program

If you experience sanitary sewer back-up into your home's basement, and you own a single-family home that was built before 1970, you may be eligible to participate in the Village's "Sewer Back-up Prevention Program."



Newly Installed 4-Inch Reduced
Pressure Principle Backflow Preventer

A property owner who meets all of the eligibility standards of the program may apply for reimbursement of a portion of the cost of the initial installation of an overhead sewer or anti-back-up device.

The program has limited funding to allocate to this program each year, so funds will be apportioned 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, or \$2,500, whichever is less. Only those costs associated with the initial installation of a system shall be considered eligible for reimbursement.

If you would like to learn more about this program, you can read the entire ordinance on-line on the Village's website, villageofwinnetka.org. On the drop-down box, select **Village Code**. The Sewer Code can be found in **Title 15, Section 15.24.085, Sewer Back-up Prevention Program**.

A brochure is also available at the Public Works Facility at 1390 Willow Road. If, after reading the ordinance and brochure, you have questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 716-3568.

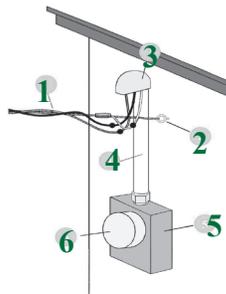
WHEN TO CALL AN ELECTRICIAN

When a major storm knocks out power, Winnetka's Water and Electric crews work diligently to restore your power as quickly as possible.

Residents are aware that damaged wiring inside the home is their responsibility to maintain, but may not know they are also responsible for any repairs that need to be done to the risers and brackets that physically connect service lines to the home.

After a heavy storm, Village electric crews will restore power to your home temporarily, but the customer is responsible for hiring a licensed electrician to make permanent repairs.

The diagram below illustrates that the Electric Department is responsible for the overhead service line (1) and electric meter (6). The customer is responsible for the other items; (2) service attachment, (3) service weather head, (4) metal riser pipe and electric wires inside the pipe, and (5) meter socket enclosure.



If you have any questions, please call the Water & Electric Department at 716-3558.

Village Licenses & Commuter Parking Permits Expire December 31

Village licenses and commuter parking permits 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, and Saturday from 8:30 AM - Noon.

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 read from the outside.

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.



Sharps & Prescription Drug Disposal at Winnetka Fire Dept.

The Village of Winnetka is participating in a program affiliated with The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook



County (SWANCC), for the disposal of hazardous medical waste (prescription drugs and sharps). Winnetka residents may drop off expired prescription medications and used "sharps" (medical needles) at the Winnetka Fire Department. The program is for residentially-generated material **ONLY**.

The prescription drug drop off dates and times are limited, due to storage restrictions. The Fire Department, 428 Green Bay Rd., will accept the disposal of these medical waste items at the following times:

Prescription drugs: Every Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. **ONLY**.

Keep pharmaceuticals in their original containers with labels to identify the contents (patient names are NOT required and may be obliterated)

Sharps: Any weekday from 8:30 am to 11:30 am & 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Sharps must be placed in a rigid container; empty containers are available upon request.

NO commercial or institutional waste will be accepted.

A limited amount of sharps containers are available for pick up at the Winnetka Fire Department.

If you have any questions about the program, please call the Winnetka Fire Department at 501-6029.

Additional participating communities and "drop-off" locations can be found at the SWANCC website (www.swancc.org) or call (847) 724-9205.

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 keeping clear 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.



Carbon Monoxide Warning

Take the following steps to protect your family from the dangers of CO poisoning:

Have your heating system and all gas appliances inspected by a qualified service technician every year.

Check chimneys, flue pipes and vents for rust, cracks or blockage.

Make sure gas appliance burner flames are blue (not yellow) and are properly adjusted.

Take note of any flu-like symptoms associated with CO poisoning, such as dizziness, headaches, nausea and drowsiness.

Install an UL-listed or Factory Mutual- tested CO detector for added protection.

The Fire Department Wishes You a Happy and Safe Holiday Season

The Winnetka Fire Department presents these safety reminders to keep residents safe during the holiday season:

Use caution with holiday decorations and whenever possible, choose those made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant or non-combustible materials.

Keep candles away from decorations and other combustible materials, and do not use candles to decorate Christmas trees.



Purchase only lights and electrical decorations bearing the name of an independent testing lab, and follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation and maintenance.

Carefully inspect new and previously used light strings and replace damaged items before plugging lights in. Do not overload extension cords.

Check your strands of lights to determine the number of strands that may be connected. Connect no more than three strands of push-in bulbs and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.

Always unplug lights before replacing light bulbs or fuses.

Don't mount lights in any way that can damage the cord's wire insulation (i.e., using clips, not nails).

Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving the house or going to bed.

Keep children and pets away from light strings and electrical decorations.





WINNETKA PREPARES FOR WINTER STORM SEASON

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 storm.

There 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 residents can do to minimize the amount of snow that may be plowed across the 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.

The Village is frequently 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 snow removal 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 prohibition.

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 Public Works Department 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, be sure to dress appropriately, and assess your physical capabilities and limitations before attempting to clear large snow accumulations.

Winter Parking Restrictions

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.



Fall is The Best Time to Have Your Trees Trimmed

The Village Forester would like to remind residents that after leaves have dropped in the fall, it's a great time to have trees trimmed. Once the tree's branches are bare, it's easier for arborists to observe the structure and architecture of the tree, as well as spot signs of trouble like weak branch attachments or insect damage.

Trimming trees in winter also reduces the danger of disease and insect problems that can occur during the spring and summer growing seasons. Proper tree trimming can reduce the potential for loss of limbs or tree demise through seasonal storms.

Residents can still mulch in the fall and winter. In fact, mulching is one of the most important plant care practices homeowners can employ for their landscapes.



Mulch retains soil moisture and protects against extreme temperatures, and also improves the nutrient levels of the soil.

Mulch adds an organic layer around trees and plants, and in addition to the benefits described above, prevents mower or weed-whipper damage around the base of trees.

Most common mulch materials are readily available from your local nursery, garden center, landscaper, or arborist. A **flat** layer of mulch 3 to 4 inches in depth spread over as large an area as possible is recommended. Annual replenishment of mulches may be necessary, so be sure to check levels periodically.

The biggest mistake made during the application and maintenance of mulch is the "piling" of dirt/mulch high up around the tree's trunk. This type of mulching is

called "volcano mulching" and is also a serious problem if not removed. The part of the trunk that is covered with mulch or soil is kept moist, which allows insects, disease and decay to enter easily into areas that are normally exposed and open. Leaving a gap of 2 to 3 inches between the tree's trunk and the layer of mulch or cultivated soil allows the area to stay dry.



Mulching tree root zone areas most closely resembles the way trees grow in nature. The lawns, compaction and lack of organic material typical for urban areas are unnatural, and raise the stress level of our urban forests.

CARE OF PARKWAYS AND VILLAGE RIGHTS-OF-WAY

The Village would like to remind residents that it is illegal to attach address signs, ropes, swings, wire, hanging baskets, outdoor lighting or any other device to parkway trees.

Nails, screws and other fasteners cause injury and wounding, which serve as entry points for decay and insects to spread internally within the trees.

In addition, the Village requires permits to plant anything other than grass and Village-approved tree species within parkway areas.

For more information contact the Village Forester at 716-3535.

The Police Department Wants You to Stay Safe

The Winnetka Police Department would like residents to take precautions against burglary.

Most residential burglaries occur due to an unlocked entry point into a home. Some people leave doors unlocked when they leave their homes or even when they are home asleep. Keeping the doors locked at all times reduces the chances of becoming a victim to a burglary.

Another basic prevention tip is to make use of home security systems if the house is so equipped. Many times residents have fallen victim to a burglary only to realize after the fact their alarm system was not active.

Be sure to report suspicious activity around your neighborhood immediately. Delayed reporting only hinders the Winnetka Police Department's efforts to effectively investigate a potential crime.

For interested residents, the Police Department provides a House Watch service to all Winnetka residents. If you will be away from home for a few days, weeks, or even months, please let the Police Department know. We are happy to provide you with a special watch on your home.

Requesting a House Watch is easy. You can call the Department at 501-6034, stop by the Police Station, or download a form from the Village website by visiting villageofwinnetka.org and clicking on the link for Forms/Police.

In addition to creating a safer environment for our community through preventive patrols, House Watch enables the Winnetka Police Department to get in touch with your emergency contact person if the need arises while you are away.





Sustainable Development Principles and Stormwater Management

September's severe rainstorm served as a reminder of how important it is for each property in the Village to manage stormwater runoff properly. Proper management of stormwater runoff directs runoff away from neighboring properties, slows the rate of runoff to the storm sewer system, and filters pollutants.

Appropriate management of stormwater runoff is also a key principle of sustainable development, and provides two important benefits.

First, by slowing the rate at which stormwater leaves a property and enters the storm sewer system, stormwater flooding can be reduced.

Second, as stormwater flows over and through vegetation, it is naturally filtered, which can reduce the load of pollutants that reach our waterways.

There are a few simple things you can do to incorporate sustainable development principles on your property and help the Village manage stormwater runoff in the process.

Install rain barrels.

Lawn and garden watering can account for up to 40% of your household water use during the summer months. Installing a rain barrel can significantly reduce the amount of water that is being used for this purpose. Rainwater collected in rain barrels can be used to water your garden, wash your car or



bicycle, water potted plants, water the lawn, clean garden tools, or many other possible uses. To install a rain barrel, choose a downspout on your house or garage that is close to the plants you water the most. Then, place the rain barrel under the downspout, so that the water from the downspouts enters through a screen on top of the barrel.

Install a rain garden.

A rain garden is a depressed area in your yard planted with deep-rooted,



water-loving plants that can collect stormwater runoff from the downspouts, sump pump discharge or runoff from your yard or impermeable

surfaces on your property. Deep-rooted, native plants can absorb more water than turf grass, and once established, require minimal maintenance.

The rain garden should be kept at least ten feet away from your home or your neighbor's home to prevent possible flooding, and should be located in an area that receives at least 6 hours of sunlight a day. Rain gardens help to filter pollutants out of stormwater runoff, protecting rivers and lakes, and help to recharge the local groundwater.

In addition, rain gardens provide these benefits: removes standing water from your yard, reduces mosquito breeding, increases beneficial insects

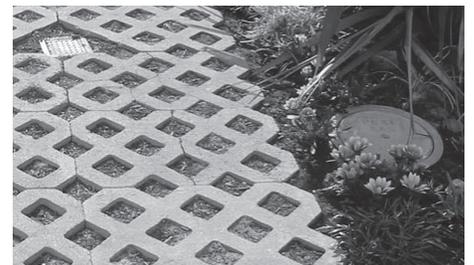


that eliminate pest insects, and reduces the potential for home flooding. In addition, they create a habitat for birds and butterflies, reduce garden maintenance and enhance garden enjoyment.

Use permeable paving.

Permeable paving material has openings within the material that can allow water to pass through the surface and infiltrate into the ground. Concrete or asphalt driveways, walkways and patios can be replaced with paving bricks or other pavers; stone or gravel.

If you have questions about sustainable stormwater management activities, please contact the Public Works Department at 716-3568, or schen@winnetka.org.



Please remember, when doing any work on your property, check with the Village of Winnetka Community Development Department to determine whether a permit is required for the proposed work.



HOLIDAY REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS

Week of December 22 - 26

Monday & Tuesday Refuse Collection will be as usual.
 Thursday Refuse Collection will be on Wednesday.
 Friday Refuse Collection will be as usual.
Recycling Collection will be Wednesday as usual.

NEW YEAR'S

Week of December 29 - January 2

Monday & Tuesday Refuse Collection will be as usual.
 Thursday Refuse Collection will be on Wednesday.
 Friday Refuse Collection will be as usual.
Recycling Collection will be Wednesday as usual.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP BEGINS DECEMBER 26

Christmas trees will be picked up from the curbside for shredding, chipping, and composting starting December 26, 2008, and ending on January 16, 2009. After January 16 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.



The Winnetka Report

Published by the Winnetka Village Council

Village of Winnetka
 510 Green Bay Road
 Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Postal Customer
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

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

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Kenneth L. Behles	847.441.6676
Bill Johnson	847.446.3481