



Winter 2006

# The Winnetka Report

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Village of Winnetka  
510 Green Bay Road  
[www.villageofwinnetka.org](http://www.villageofwinnetka.org)

## Don't Dial and Drive in Winnetka

On November 7, the Winnetka Village Council adopted an ordinance which makes it illegal for a person to talk on a hand-held cell phone while driving in Winnetka. **This ordinance becomes effective on February 1, 2007.**

The intent of this new law is to make our Village safer for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians. According to the Illinois Secretary of State, using a cell phone while driving increases your chances of getting into a crash by 400%.

The Council took action on this important public safety issue in response to residents' concerns as identified by the Winnetka Village Caucus.

Responses to the 2005 Village questionnaire indicated that "Winnetka residents overwhelmingly favor (71% to 25%) greater regulation of cell phone use while driving, with slightly more supporting the hands-free option (38%) than an outright ban

(33%).” As a result, the Caucus recommended Winnetka enact regulations restricting the use of hand-held cell phones while driving.

After lengthy discussions, the Council enacted such an ordinance, similar to the one adopted by the City of Chicago.



## Emerald Ash Borer Update

As reported in August, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been found in one tree in the far southern portion of the Village of Winnetka. Currently, this is the only known infestation in Winnetka. Winnetka is the fourth suburban area where the presence of EAB has been confirmed, along with Wilmette, Evanston, and an unincorporated town near St. Charles.

The EAB is an invasive beetle native to Asia that was first discovered in the  
*Continued on page 2*



## Post Office Committee Explores Options

The Ad Hoc Post Office Committee continues to explore and evaluate redevelopment options for the Post Office site located on Chestnut Street between Elm and Oak Street.

The Village of Winnetka owns this property, and the Post Office's lease with the Village is set to expire in 2009. The Committee has focused recently on the economic aspects of various concept proposals.

In early 2007, the Committee will seek comments from interested Winnetkans regarding the various redevelopment options.

Residents will be notified of these opportunities for public input in a special mailing.

The Committee has been charged with the tasks of recommending (1) proposed uses for the site, i.e., institutional, commercial, residential,

or some combination thereof; (2) the appropriate role of the Village with respect to ownership, financial participation, and regulatory oversight; and (3) a process for selecting the developer(s) for the project. In addition, the Committee has been asked to outline design guidelines for the proposed project.

The Post Office Committee's agenda and its draft *Use and Design Principles for the Post Office Site* are posted on the Village's web site: [www.villageofwinnetka.org](http://www.villageofwinnetka.org). Copies of all POC's documents are available in the Manager's office at Village Hall.

The Post Office Committee's meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers in Village Hall.

However, because New Year's Day falls on the first Monday of the month, the January meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 15.

All interested Winnetkans are encouraged to attend.



## Emerald Ash Borer

*Continued from page 1*

U.S. near Detroit in the summer of 2002. Infestations have since spread to Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Ontario, and Maryland.

EAB has been responsible for the destruction of nearly 16 million Ash trees since its discovery in the U.S.

The adult beetles nibble on ash foliage, but cause little damage. However, the larvae feed on the inner bark of ash trees, disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients and ultimately killing the tree.



Ash leaves arranged oppositely

In an attempt to combat the spread of EAB, the Illinois Department of Agriculture has set a quarantine zone for the immediate area which prohibits the movement of Ash products.

The quarantine zone is 64 square miles of northern Cook County extending from the Lake County Line to the city limit of Chicago and from Lake Michigan to Interstate 294.

As a result of this quarantine, no Ash trees, limbs, branches, logs, lumber or wood chips over one inch in diameter may be moved in or out of the quarantine zone.

Residents having any type of work done on Ash trees should ascertain that

the person doing the work is familiar with the EAB and the quarantine requirements, and that they have signed a compliance agreement with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

In addition to the quarantine, the Village of Winnetka is requiring that all removals of Ash trees be monitored by a Village inspector who will inspect for signs of an infestation. No Ash removals will be allowed during the beetle's flight season (mid-May through early-September).

These requirements will be enforced under the Village's Tree Preservation ordinance, which requires that a permit be obtained prior to removal of trees over 8 inches in diameter. Residents can call the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568 for tree removal permit information or to schedule an inspection of any Ash Tree removals.

Firewood transport is the primary way EAB has spread from state to state; therefore, do not transport firewood.

Campers or vacationers should purchase firewood from a local source and should not bring firewood home from summer homes or vacations.

Familiarize yourself with Ash trees, the appearance of the EAB, and the



Serpentine larval tracks under bark  
*Emeraldashborer.info*

signs of an infestation. Symptoms of an EAB infestation may include:

- Jagged holes produced by woodpeckers working to extract larvae from the tree
- D-shaped exit holes (approximately 1/8 inch in diameter) on the branches and trunk
- Vertically split or cracked bark above the larval feeding galleries
- Wilting and yellowing foliage throughout the tree or limited to certain branches
- Canopy thinning and branch dieback occurring initially in the upper third of the tree
- A large number of shoots that arise below the dead portions of the tree, particularly at the tree base
- Distinct serpentine shaped galleries under bark.



EAB shown on a penny  
*Mortonarb.org*

If you believe that you have spotted a borer, or signs of an infestation, please contact the Village Forester at 716-3535 or 716-3568.

For further Emerald Ash Borer information, please visit the following sites:

[www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info)

[www.villageofwinnetka.org](http://www.villageofwinnetka.org)

<http://www.winnetka.americast.us/index.html>

<http://www.illinoisarborist.org/EAB.htm>

<http://www.mortonarb.org/plantinfo/plantclinic/EAB.htm>



## PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

**C**andles provide a warm and festive atmosphere - but they can also be a fire hazard if left unattended or placed near anything flammable.

The Winnetka Fire Department encourages families to always keep fire safety in mind when enjoying candles.

Never leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish all candles before going to sleep or leaving the room.

Do not permit children to keep or use candles and/or incense in their rooms. Candles should only be used when an adult is present and awake.



Never use lighted candles on or near a Christmas tree or other evergreens.

Keep candles at least three feet away from anything that will burn, including other decorations and wrapping paper.

Always use stable, nonflammable candle holders.

Place candles where they will not be knocked down or blown over.

Always keep burning candles up high, out of the reach of children and pets. If you have children in your home, store candles, matches, and lighters out of sight and reach.



**W**hen buying a space heater, be sure it carries the mark of an independent testing laboratory, and have fixed space heaters installed by a qualified technician, according to manufacturer's instructions or applicable codes.

Keep or maintain a 36-inch clearance between space heaters and anything that can burn.

Turn off portable space heaters every time you leave the room or go to bed.

Install gas-fueled heating devices with proper attention to ventilation. If unvented natural gas space heaters are used in bedrooms or bathrooms, be sure they are small and well-mounted. NFPA codes prohibit use of liquefied petroleum gas heaters with self-contained fuel supplies.

Have wood and coal stoves, fireplaces, chimneys, connectors and all other solid-fueled heating equipment inspected annually by a professional, and cleaned as often as inspections suggest. Use only wood that is properly seasoned to reduce creosote build-up.

Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room. Allow fireplace and woodstove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container.

Test smoke alarms monthly. To comply with Illinois law, by January 1st install carbon monoxide alarms within 15 feet of all sleeping areas.

**U**se 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., use clips, not nails).

Keep children and pets away from light strings and electrical decorations. Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving the house or going to bed.





## 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!



Treat yourself to unparalleled customer service from friendly, helpful salespeople. Many shops will gift-wrap packages and deliver them too!

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! 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.

For more information, call the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce (847) 446-4451 or visit us at [www.winnetkachamber.com](http://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 to all!



*Santa joins some young carolers on Elm Street.*

## Caucus Town Meeting Jan. 18

Attend the **Winter Town Meeting, Thursday, January 18**, at 7:30 at the Skokie School Auditorium. All voting-age residents will have the opportunity to discuss and vote on the policy platforms for the Village Council, Park and School Boards. These platforms are based on the results from more than 1300 surveys completed by residents in early fall.



Residents will also have a chance to vote on the recommended candidates for the Village Council and Boards. The Village Council candidates are: Ed Woodbury, president; Ken Behles, Sandra Berger, and King Poor, trustees. Slated for the Library Board are Susan Boatman-Garland, Josh McQueen, and Carole Smith; Park Board candidates are Julie Hanna Goodman, Richard Pierce, Susan Snyder, and Robert Vanden Bosch. The slate for the School Board is: Van Barletta, Nancy Fehrenbach, Jeff Hoch and Anne Kelly.

Some of the issues addressed on the survey and in the 2006 platforms are: (1) requiring that dogs be leashed while on public property; (2) establishing a virtual "suggestion box" on the Village website for input by residents; (3) maintaining and renovating the Maple Street Beach House; (4) gathering more detailed input from residents before proceeding with a privately-funded recreational facility on vacant Park District land near the Ice Arena; and (5) continuing to maintain low utilization parks in Winnetka and Northfield.

The Caucus Council is recruiting **precinct reps** for the **2007 Caucus Council**. Each of the Village's 17 precincts sends 4 representatives to the Caucus Council. A resident is eligible to serve on the Council if s/he has lived in Winnetka for at least one year. For more information about the Caucus Council, and the functions of the representatives, please visit the Caucus website at [www.winnetkacaucus.org](http://www.winnetkacaucus.org). If you are interested in serving as a precinct rep, please e-mail the Caucus Council at [caucus@winnetkacaucus.org](mailto:caucus@winnetkacaucus.org) or call Mirela Gabrovska, vice-chair, at 446-8966.

The Caucus Council receives no tax dollars or government funds; donations from residents are its sole source of support. Please make a donation using the new Paypal feature on the website. For more information, call Ed Harney (652-1138) or Joni Johnson (446-0141).



## Moffat Mall Wins Award

The Moffat Mall/Chestnut Court renovation in downtown Winnetka was the Gold Award winner of this year's national "Brick In Architecture Award" in Paving and Landscape Architecture, sponsored by the Brick Industry Association.

This is the second of two awards in as many years won by the Moffat Mall project. It also won top honors at the "Excellence in Landscape Awards" sponsored by the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association.

Plans to transform the central median in the west Elm Street shopping district into an elegant pedestrian promenade began several years ago, when members of the Winnetka Garden Club began raising funds for the endeavor.

The renovation project was a joint public-private partnership undertaken by the Winnetka Garden Club and the Village.

The Mall now incorporates a broad and graceful plaza accommodating a sizable European style fountain and public seating.



## Support Winnetka's Lighting Fund

Purchase a commemorative ornament or plate



### Schmidt-Burnam Log House Plate

The Winnetka Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce an addition to the Village Commemorative Plate collection. The 2006 Schmidt-Burnam Log House scene was illustrated by local artist Kaylyn Shelby.

The six-inch lead-free, porcelain plate comes boxed and is available for a donation of \$25 made payable to the Village of Winnetka Lighting Fund.

Plates are offered at the Chamber office, 841 Spruce Street, and the following Winnetka locations:

As You Like It Framery, Bergelin Home Store, Designs of the Interior, Harris Bank (both on Elm Street and in Hubbard Woods), Victor Hlavacek Florist, Marian Michael, North Shore Art League, Phototronics, S'Agaro, Song O'Sixpence, Sunday Afternoon Gallery, and T. J. Cullen Jewelry.

For more information, contact the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce 446-4451 or [wcc@winnetkachamber.com](mailto:wcc@winnetkachamber.com).

### Lloyd House Ornament

Starting in 1992, a handcrafted holiday ornament has been created each year to benefit the Winnetka tree lighting fund.

The 2006 ornament depicts the Lloyd House, which in 1976 became the first building in Winnetka to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Henry Demarest Lloyd, a social reformer and editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, moved to Winnetka in 1878.



The ornament is available for a \$40.00 donation, of which \$25.00 is tax-deductible.

A full collection of the ornaments is on display at:

Multiple Choices  
841 Elm Street

Phototronics  
740 Elm

The Book Stall at Chestnut Court  
811 Elm Street

Woodstock Gallery,  
904 Green Bay Road



# WINNETKA GEARS UP FOR WINTER SNOW SEASON

## Safety is Priority During Plowing Operations

The Winnetka Public Works Department is committed to keeping Village streets clear throughout the winter months. We have recently updated and standardized our snow plowing equipment.

To check on the status of plowing operations, to report problems, or to obtain an update on weather and street conditions please call the Public Works Department at (847) 716-3568. It is not possible for us to give exact times as to when certain streets will be plowed.



Routes are assigned so that priority is given to the main streets such as Hibbard, Tower, Willow, Green Bay, Elm, etc. These routes move much of the traffic within the Village and must be kept clear as primary emergency access routes.

Residential streets are addressed next, and cul-de-sacs and alleys last. Sidewalks are also plowed throughout the Village, with areas of high-pedestrian traffic (schools, churches, commuter rail stations, etc.) receiving first priority. Plowing activities generally occur with expected snowfalls of more than 2-3 inches.

The Village uses salt on main streets, but limits salt use in residential areas to intersections and other locations where salt is required, such as curves or hills. This reduces costs and reduces salt

damage to the environment.

To keep drivers safe during plowing operations, we follow numerous safety precautions, breaks are scheduled at fixed intervals, and the length of drivers' shifts are monitored to reduce driver fatigue.

Motorists are asked to be alert to the presence of snowplows, and to not follow them too closely.

## Parking Prohibited During Snow Emergencies

One of the joys of living in Winnetka is the beauty and quiet that settles over the area after a snowstorm. 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.

Eliminate the frustration that occurs when the snowplow comes by just as you have cleared the last of the snow from your driveway. Pile shoveled snow on the "downstream" side of the driveway to minimize the amount of snow that may be plowed across your driveway. 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 by a private plowing service. The 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.

Do not deposit objects such as Christmas trees and recyclable items 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 create safety hazards for motorists.

**The Village prohibits parking on streets during a snow emergency, which is defined to exist whenever a minimum of 2 inches of new snow has accumulated within a 24 hour period or when 2 inches of snow remains on roadways.**

**Vehicles parked on roadways will be fined \$200.00 and may be relocated or towed at the owner's expense.**

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

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





## Help Prevent Ground Water Contamination



Many products used in the home contain chemical ingredients that are potentially harmful to people and to the environment. Hazardous chemicals can be found in the following:

**Cleaning Products:** Oven cleaner, floor wax, furniture polish, drain cleaner, spot remover;

**Car Care and Maintenance:** Motor oil, battery acid, gasoline, car wax, engine cleaner, antifreeze, degreaser, radiator flush and rust preventative;

**Home Improvement Products:** Paints, preservatives, strippers, brush cleaners and solvents;

**Other Products:** Products labeled toxic, flammable, corrosive. Products containing lye, phenols, petroleum distillates, or trichlorobenzene.

None of the types of products noted above should be disposed of down either the storm sewer or sanitary sewer system, including the home's interior drains, unless that is its intended purpose.

The sanitary treatment plant does not have adequate capability to remove hazardous chemicals from wastewater. Some of the toxins can be removed, but a significant portion of these chemicals pass through the treatment process and ultimately contaminate water resources.

Although the Village of Winnetka does not provide for hazardous waste pick-up, the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) has two permanent collection facilities that are open year-round. These facilities are open every weekend, except major holidays, for the collection of household hazardous waste.

The first location is in Naperville, at 1971 Brookdale Road, Fire Station #4 (630-420-6700 ext. #7559). Hours are: Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The second location is in Rockford at the Rock River Reclamation District, 3333 Kishwaukee (217-782-6762). Hours are: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturdays; 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Sundays.

In addition to these two permanent locations, SWANCC also provides an annual drop-off service at varying suburban locations. To find out more about their hazardous waste collection program, call (847) 296-9205 or visit their web site at [swancc.org](http://swancc.org).

Hazardous materials should never be poured onto the ground or into gutters, because they will eventually enter the storm sewer system and contaminate ground water that feeds into Lake Michigan or the Chicago River.

Less toxic or nontoxic alternatives can often be used effectively with less impact on the environment. SWANCC has developed an Alternative Cleaning Method Guide for household uses that is also available on their web site.

Care must also be taken in the storage of household hazardous materials. For example, when storing paint, ensure that the lid is tightly secured and store it upside down so that the paint forms a seal around the lid. Paint should be stored in a dry area, that is not subject to freezing, away from possible sparks or flames.

All hazardous materials in homes located within the flood plain are required to be stored a minimum of one foot above the base flood elevation.

### VILLAGE LICENSES AND 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 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday.

Village code requires that vehicle licenses be affixed to the lower right-hand corner (passenger's side) of the windshield in a manner that will allow them to be easily read from the outside.

Dogs must have current Village licenses attached to their collars or harnesses. Village code requires that all dogs over the age of 6 months be licensed.

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 to you.

Dog license fees are \$10 for males and spayed females and \$15 for unspayed females. Documentation indicating that the dog has been spayed is required.



## HOLIDAY REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

### CHRISTMAS

Week of December 25 - 29, 2006

Monday Refuse Collection will be on Tuesday.  
 Tuesday Refuse Collection will be on Wednesday.  
 Thursday and Friday Refuse Collection will be as usual.  
**Recycling Collection will be unaffected during this week.**

### NEW YEAR'S DAY

Week of January 1 - 5, 2007

Monday Refuse Collection will be on Tuesday.  
 Tuesday Refuse Collection will be on Wednesday.  
 Thursday and Friday Refuse Collection will be as usual.  
**Recycling Collection will be unaffected during this week.**

## CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP BEGINS DECEMBER 27

Christmas trees will be picked up from the curbside from December 27, 2006, through January 19, 2007. After January 20, 2007, a \$2 refuse sticker will be required to ensure pickup.



Items such as plastic bags or wraps, ornaments, tinsel, wires, and the stand should be removed as they will clog and damage the shredder.



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*Published by the Winnetka Village Council*

Village of Winnetka  
 510 Green Bay Road  
 Winnetka, Illinois 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	847.446.9550
Electric & Water Billing Services	847.716.3576
Community Development Department	

### Winnetka Village Council

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Edmund C. Woodbury	847.501.3525
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