



Fall 2012

The Winnetka Report

Published by the Winnetka Village Council

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

Village to Host Stormwater Management Seminars

On Wednesday, September 19 at 6:30 pm, and again on Saturday, September 22 at 9:00 am, the Village will host a stormwater management seminar for residents at Village Hall, 510 Green Bay Road.

Among topics to be discussed at the seminar: (i) a basic understanding of the Village's storm and sanitary sewer systems; (ii) general information on the causes of various types of flooding; (iii) steps homeowners can take to help prevent future flooding; and (iv) what to do in the event of flood emergency.

Village staff will discuss the Winnetka Stormwater Management Plan and answer residents' questions.

Both seminars will present the same information. For your convenience, two dates have been chosen to ensure that interested residents have an opportunity to attend.

Leaf Collection Begins October 15 Ends November 26

The Village's annual curbside leaf collection program will run from Monday, October 15 until Monday, November 26. 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, and 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

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Leadership

A message from the Village President

In celebrating the splendid achievements of Winnetka's Olympic Champion, Conor Dwyer, I think of what it takes to be the best in the world at what you do. In some ways, all the world's a global stage, as we endeavor to achieve our own personal best. This November, we will elect leaders on the local, state and national level. As you contemplate who would best lead us, consider the following characteristics of strong and successful leaders:

1. Mission: They recognize their mission, clearly identify a purpose, and strive to achieve it.
2. Vision: They know what they want to accomplish and understand the needs of their organization.
3. Goal: They effectively articulate their mission and vision, and map out a strategy for measuring the success of their achievements.
4. A Strong Team: They assemble effective teams of experienced and capable individuals to help them stay true to their mission and vision.
5. A "Can do, Get it Done" Attitude: They focus on goals and outcomes, not obstacles.

All of these characteristics - and more, are necessary attributes of effective leaders as they tackle the challenges we face today in a capable manner and with a long-term perspective.

At the local level, flood mitigation continues to be a top priority issue, and the Village Council is moving forward with stormwater projects big and small. A detailed progress report on steps taken in the year since the July, 2011, historic rain event can be found on the Village website at: villageofwinnetka.org.

The Council continues to explore approaches that will energize and enhance our commercial districts. The Urban Land Institute has accepted the Village's request to take a global look at our three major shopping areas and provide concepts and recommendations for injecting vitality into the business districts, in light of the particular challenges posed by internet commerce, big box retailers, and the economy.

The Village continues to look for cost savings and increased efficiencies by collaborating with other taxing bodies, as well as regularly reviewing our own government organization, policies and practices.

As always, your hardworking Village Council and Village staff endeavor to be our best and do our best to lead Winnetka through our current challenges, and chart a course that will keep the Village strong, secure and vibrant - fulfilling our leadership role for Winnetka.

It is my privilege to serve you,
Jessica Tucker
Winnetka Village President





One Year after the 2011 Flood

On July 17, Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Steve Saunders briefed the Village Council on stormwater mitigation actions taken since the devastating flood of July 22-23, 2011. Below is a summary of his report; the entire agenda report is available on the Village's Website: villageofwinnetka.org.

At the time of the July, 2011 flood, stormwater management had already become an elevated concern for the Village, primarily as a result of severe flooding events in 2007 and 2008. After the 2008 flood, the Village had engaged Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) to evaluate areas of southwestern Winnetka that suffered significant flood damage and to develop flood risk reduction improvements to provide adequate protection against a 10-year flood event.

After receipt and discussion of the CBBEL report, the Village Council expanded the scope of work to include evaluation and improvements for six additional areas through Winnetka. This second study was presented to the Village Council at the July 12, 2011, Study Session – 10 days before the unprecedented storm of July 22 - 23.

In the ensuing year, stormwater control and flood relief have been elevated to the single highest priority for the Village Council, residents and staff. Following is a brief summary of the Village's efforts since July, 2011:

STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT STUDIES AND PROJECTS

Additional Stormwater Studies:

CBBEL was directed to expand their analysis to provide flood risk reduction against larger storms with 25-, 50-, and 100-year return periods. CBBEL's recommendations were presented to the Council 90 days after the flood, in

October, 2011, and included significantly increased storm sewer and detention facilities, which raised the project cost from rough \$15 million for 10-year improvements to an estimated \$47 million for 100-year protection.

Willow Road Tunnel Project: CBBEL's recommendations also identified a new storm sewer, known as the Tunnel Project, beneath Willow Road to convey water from Winnetka's west side towards Lake Michigan.

The Council directed staff to delve into the feasibility of the proposed Tunnel project, and the following steps have been completed or are nearly complete: (i) soil borings, (ii) meetings with political stakeholders and regulatory agencies, (iii) coastal engineering for the tunnel outlet structure, and (iv) independent cost evaluation. A final feasibility report, containing all of the foregoing information, is expected to be presented to the Council in early fall.

Spruce Outlet Area – Tower Road Relief Storm Sewer and Lloyd Outlet Storm

Sewer: CBBEL's recommendations to split a single large watershed in northeast Winnetka into two smaller watersheds, and to divert the far northern portion of the watershed to the existing discharge to Lake Michigan at Sheridan Road and the "ravines" are less capital-intensive projects, with an estimated cost of \$1.9 million. Contracts for engineering and permitting have been awarded, and it is hoped that construction can be completed in 2013.

Northwest Winnetka Drainage

Improvements: Proposed improvements for this area contemplate using excess capacity from the existing large stormwater basin in the Forest Preserves at the western end of Tower Road. These improvements were targeted for re-evaluation in light of the area in the Forest

Glen neighborhood that was found to have clusters of properties that experienced overland flood damage from the 2011 storm. CBBEL's analysis is nearly complete and will be presented to the Council in the fall.

Stormwater Master Planning: The Village has engaged specialists to develop a stormwater master plan which will provide a clear, comprehensive and forward-looking framework that encompasses the Village's existing stormwater management program. Their final work product will help the Village guide the stormwater program for the next 5 to 10 years and beyond.

SANITARY SEWER STUDIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

In survey responses to the Village, a significant number of homes reported experiencing sanitary sewer backups. In February 2012, the Village engaged experts to complete a detailed analysis of the Village's sanitary sewer system to identify areas that are subject to inflow or infiltration (I/I) of stormwater (or groundwater) into the sewer system, which can contribute to basement backups.

A draft report was discussed by the Council on July 17, and will be used to develop a prioritized plan for detailed identification and elimination of I/I to reduce the risk of basement flooding.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND ASSISTANCE

In the aftermath of the 2011 flood, the Village undertook a number of steps to provide direct assistance and improve communication with residents. Following are some of the actions taken: (i) website information, (ii) flood survey, (iii) fast-track repair permit program, (iv) email

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One Year After the 2011 Flood (continued from p. 2)

box for stormwater comments was created; (v) regular updates at Council meetings; (vi) sanitary sewer anti-backup program enhancements, (vii) property visits and assistance, and (viii) resident flood risk reduction seminars to be given this month.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

The Village participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, administered by FEMA. Last April, the Village applied for FEMA's Community Rating System, which recognizes community efforts by reducing flood insurance premiums for the area's property owners. It is expected to take 12 to 24 months for the process to be completed and for the Village to be formally accepted into the program.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

The Village has undertaken numerous ongoing maintenance activities and small improvements designed to maintain the systems that convey stormwater and sanitary sewage. Actions taken to date include: (i) Elder Lane outfall cleanup has resulted in zero bacteria-related beach closures at Elder Beach in 2012; (ii) sanitary sewer lining program to reduce infiltration of groundwater; (iii) miscellaneous cleaning and repairs.

If you are unable to attend one of the seminars - or if you have comments you would like the Village to hear - please email: Stormwatercomments@winnetka.org

Leaf Collection (continued from p. 1)

between Green Bay Road and Lake Michigan. When one such round is complete, crews begin the process again.

Leaves must be placed on the parkway no later than 7:00AM by the last day of collection, November 26. Leaves placed out after the deadline must 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 Grand or Lakeside Foods 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 hurt 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.

Village's Efforts to Clean up Elder Beach Successful

Since the 2012 opening of Elder Lane Beach, beachgoers have enjoyed a safe and enjoyable experience.

Over the past few years, the Winnetka Park District and Village Staff cooperated with the Illinois Department of Public Health and researchers from the University of Illinois-Chicago, to attempt to identify the sources of bacteria negatively affecting Elder Beach. These investigations revealed that a significant - but not the only - source of bacteria at Elder Beach was most likely the storm sewer discharge located directly adjacent to the swimming beach.

For the last two years, Village Staff has been examining the storm sewer system tributary to Elder Lane beach in an effort to find cross-connections - where either public or private sewage pipes leak or directly discharge wastewater into the storm sewer system.

These cross-connections generally produce minor discharge volumes in the overall scheme of things, but their effects tend to be concentrated during periods of dry weather, when overall volumes in the storm sewer system are very low. The problem occurs primarily because of the age of both public and private wastewater infrastructure.

To-date, over 15 such cross-connections have been identified and corrected. The majority of these were found to be leaks in private service pipes serving single-family homes. In such cases, the property owner is required to repair the defect.

For the past several years, Elder Lane Beach has been one of the most frequently closed beaches on Lake Michigan. The Park District's daily water samples in 2012 resulted in only 7 bacteria-related beach closures at Elder Lane for the summer, compared to 33 in 2011. It appears that the Village's efforts are bearing fruit!



Fire Prevention Week is October 7th – 13th This Year's Theme is: *Have Two Ways Out!*

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme is **HAVE 2 WAYS OUT!** When fire strikes, your home could be engulfed in smoke and flames in just a few minutes; therefore, it is important to have a home fire escape plan that prepares your family to think fast and get out quickly at the first sound of the smoke alarm.

What if your first escape route is blocked by smoke or flames? That's why having two ways out is such a key part of your plan. This year's theme, *Have 2 Ways Out!* focuses on the importance of fire escape planning and practice. You can never be too prepared for fire emergencies.



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 tear sheet 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.

Did you know that Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire? The Great Chicago Fire was the tragic 1871 city-wide fire that

killed more than 250 people, left more than 100,000 people homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. Although the fire started on October 8, the fire grew and caused the most damage on October 9.



A rendering of the Great Chicago Fire

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 8, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

Because of these devastating fires, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation in 1920. Since 1922, Fire Prevention week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls. It is an interesting fact that Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record.

The fire prevention themes throughout the years have included: Fire Drills (The Great Escape); Use Candles With Care; Prevent Cooking Fires; Smoke Alarms (A Sound You Can Live With); Fire Won't Wait, Plan Your Escape; Learn Not To Burn; and When Fire Strikes, Get Out! Stay Out!

Fire and Police Department Open House 10AM – 2PM Saturday October 13th

FEATURING "A TASTE OF WINNETKA"

All Winnetka and Kenilworth residents are encouraged to attend this year's Fire and Police Open



House. Visitors to the Fire Department will be able to see all of the apparatus, fire and rescue equipment, talk to and meet the Firefighters and see live demonstrations, including vehicle extrication and use of fire hoses. Children may make their own fire safety button and receive balloons temporary tattoos.

Activities at the Police Department will include tours of the 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 gifts to remember the day.

To add to the festivities, the Village of Winnetka and the Winnetka-Northfield Chamber of Commerce will present a **Taste of Winnetka** at the Open House. All open house attendees will have an opportunity to sample, **at no charge**, the specially crafted items that Winnetka's food establishments have to offer.

There will be lots of refreshments, learning - and fun for all!





Water Your Trees to Reduce Stress Caused by the Drought

During the summer of 2012, the Midwest has suffered drought conditions - and the stress is evident on trees, shrubs and urban landscapes.

Stressed plants are more susceptible to insects and diseases and other harmful damaging agents.

Proper watering is an important weekly practice during droughts. Sprinklers are ideal because they allow slow infiltration of water to roots without water runoff. It is recommended that the canopy area or dripline be watered to ensure coverage. To measure the amount of water being applied, place a can or pail in the area to be sprinkled and use a ruler to measure the accumulated water inside the can.

It is also important to water even in the fall because most roots are still actively growing. Watering should continue until the soil freezes, especially for evergreens, as they lose moisture even in winter through their needles/leaves.

Mulching with a 3- or 4-inch layer will help conserve soil moisture and protect roots. There are various forms of mulches, which are available at home improvement or landscaping stores.

Please do your part to preserve Winnetka's beautiful trees. If you have any questions, please contact the Village Forester at 847.716.3535.



Change Your Smoke Alarm Batteries When You Change Your Clocks On Sunday, November 4th

The Fire Department has a simple reminder for residents this autumn: when you change your clocks for daylight savings time on November 4th, change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, and please remind your friends, family and neighbors to do the same.

Smoke alarms that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries.

Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half. The following are some smoke alarm safety tips:

1. Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement. Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
2. An ionization smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires, and a photoelectric smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. For the best protection, both types of alarms, or a combination alarm (photoelectric and ionization), should be installed in homes.
3. Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
4. Smoke rises; install smoke alarms following manufacturer's instructions high on a wall or on a ceiling. Save manufacturer's instructions for testing and maintenance.
5. If the alarm "chirps," warning the battery is low, replace the battery immediately.

6. Replace ALL smoke alarms, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they are 10 years old - or sooner if they do not respond properly.

7. Be sure the smoke alarm has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.

8. Alarms that are hard-wired (and include battery backup) must be installed by a qualified electrician.

9. If cooking fumes or steam sets off nuisance alarms, replace the alarm with an alarm that has a "hush" button. A "hush" button will reduce the alarm's sensitivity for a short period of time.

10. An ionization alarm with a hush button or a photoelectric alarm should be used if the alarm is within 20 feet of a cooking appliance.

11. Smoke alarms that include a recordable voice announcement in addition to the usual alarm sound, may be helpful in waking children through the use of a familiar voice.

12. Smoke alarms are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. These devices use strobe lights. Vibration devices can be added to these alarms.

13. Smoke alarms are an important part of a home fire escape plan.

Illinois law 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 of CO poisoning: dizziness, headaches, nausea and drowsiness. If you have any questions concerning smoke and CO alarms, please call the Winnetka Fire Department at 847.501.6029.



2012 Landmark Preservation Awards

The Winnetka Landmark Preservation Commission is scheduled to award Preservation Awards to six Winnetka properties at the September 18, 2012, 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 the Village.

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

Congratulations to all the award recipients! The Winnetka Landmark Preservation Commission will be accepting nominations for next year's program beginning in February 2013.

The following properties will be presented with awards on September 18th:



411 Linden St. (Restoration)

Owners: Winnetka Historical Society
Contractor: Rob Bozarth, Lynch Construction, Lake Bluff



931 Oak St. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: David & Lisbeth Scharf
Architect: Mark Ver Bryck, Ver Bryck Architects, Northfield



1125 Gage St. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: Christopher & Christine Donnelly
Architect: Dean Botes, Dean Botes Architects, Lake Zurich



400 Sheridan Rd. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: Gary & Linda Stephans
Architect: Healy M. Rice, Wilmette



321 Linden St. (Rehabilitation)

Owners: Andrew & Elizabeth Parkinson
Architect: Mark Ver Bryck, Ver Bryck Architects, Northfield



58 Warwick Rd. (New Construction)

Owners: Giff & Paula Zimmerman
Architect: Steve Munson, Biondi + Munson Architects, Highland Park

Keep Away From Downed Power Lines

During storms, high winds, and other emergencies, power lines may come down onto the ground.

It is best to assume that all lines are live. Always maintain a safe distance (10ft. or greater) from power lines. Many of these lines are not insulated, and any contact with them, direct or indirect, can cause harm. Keep yourself and others away from any fallen lines! Wires touching the ground may still be energized.

Never let children climb trees near power lines. Hire a qualified contractor to perform any tree trimming near power lines. If you have questions about removing limbs near power lines, call the Water & Electric Department at 847.716.3558.

To report a downed power line, power outage, or electric emergency, contact the Water & Electric Department's emergency number at 847.501.2531.



Watch for Blinking Streetlights

The 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 and leave a message with the location of the malfunctioning light.



BULLETIN BOARD

Sign up for E-Winnetka

If you haven't already done so, please visit the Village's website at villageofwinnetka.org and sign up for E-Winnetka.

It's easy - just type your email address into the box at the top left corner of the homepage, and you're done!

E-Winnetka alerts will keep you informed about what's happening in the Village. As always, the Village website is your trusted source for information about pending Council actions, policy initiatives, capital projects, community alerts and more.

Winnetka Welcomes New Businesses

The Community Development Department announces that the following new businesses opened in Winnetka over the summer:

Hair Couture
813 Chestnut Court
Hair salon

Skandal
907 Green Bay Road
Scandinavian gifts and apparel

Café Fleurette
Elm Street Train Station
Coffee and pastries

Lake Shore Acupuncture
914 Green Bay Rd, Suite 201
Acupuncture

In addition, the Village has been informed that Once Upon a Bagel, 1050 Gage Street, is expected to be open for business in October.

Yard Waste Bags to be Sold at Grand and Lakeside Foods

No More Saturday Hours at Village Hall

The Village would like to announce a few minor changes in operations at the Finance Department in Village Hall: Village Hall is no longer open on Saturday mornings. In addition, yard waste bags will no longer be available for sale at Village Hall. They can be purchased at both Grand Foods and Lakeside Foods – this change will provide easier access to residents, and expands the hours that the bags are available for purchase.

Trick or Treat Hours

3 - 7 PM

Wednesday, October 31st



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."

All are welcome to plant flags at the Cenotaph on the Village Green on September 10, in memory of the 2,977 killed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The flags will be taken down at dusk on September 11. Participants should arrive at 4:00 PM; flags will be provided.



Parkway Tree Planting Program

The Village is currently taking requests for its Fall 2012 Parkway Tree-Planting Program. Residents have the option of choosing from over 40 tree species. The Village will plant 2 1/2 -inch-trunk-diameter trees on the parkway at no cost to residents. Larger trees are also available, but residents are responsible for paying for the cost difference. Contact Jim Stier, the Village Forester, at 847.716.3535 for more information.



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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	
Arthur Braun	847.501.2565
Jack Buck	847.446.4450
Patrick Corrigan	847.784.1748
Richard Kates	847.441.6221
Stuart McCrary	847.501.3039
Jennifer Spinney	847.446.7945

Residential Holiday Refuse/ Recycling Schedule

Thanksgiving
Week of November 18 - 24

Monday & Tuesday collection will be as usual.
Thursday collection will be on **Wednesday**.
Friday collection will be as usual.

