

**VILLAGE OF WINNETKA
ENVIRONMENTAL & FORESTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR VIRTUAL MEETING**

Cisco WebEx
June 10, 2020
7:00 PM

AGENDA

As the Village of Winnetka continues to follow social distancing requirements and Governor Pritzker's applicable Executive Orders, the Village of Winnetka Environmental & Forestry Commission Regular Meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 will be held virtually beginning at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be livestreamed via the Cisco WebEx platform.

The public has two options for observing and participating in this virtual Village EFC meeting including the ability to provide oral comments during the meeting.

- 1) Telephone (audio only Call 408-418-9388), when prompted enter the Meeting ID : 126-987-9460 (Please note there is no additional password or attendee ID required)
- 2) Livestream (both audio and video feed) Download the Cisco WebEx meetings app to your smartphone, tablet or computer and then join Meeting ID: 126-987-9460. Event Password: EFC061020

Public comments should be emailed to bmendoza@winnetka.org. Public comments received by 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, June 10, 2020 will be read at the appropriate time during the meeting. General comments for matters not on the agenda will be read at beginning of the meeting under the Public Comment agenda item. Comments specific to a particular agenda item will be read during the discussion of that agenda item. The Village will attempt to have comments received after the meeting has started read at the end of the meeting. Public comment is limited to 200 words or less. Public comments should contain the following information:

- In the subject line – “Environmental & Forestry Commission Meeting Public Comment”
- Name
- Address (optional)
- Phone (optional)
- Organization or agency representing, if applicable
- General comment or comment on topic of specific agenda item number

All emails received will be acknowledged either during or after the meeting, depending on when they are received.

If you do not have access to email, you may leave a message with your public comment at the Public Works office at 847-716-3550 or mail to Public Works, Village of Winnetka, 1390 Willow Road, Winnetka, IL 60093.



**Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission
Notice of Regular Virtual Meeting
June 10, 2020**

The Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission will convene on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 via Cisco WebEx, at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

Call to Order

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks | Presenter Dowding |
| 2) Public Comment | |
| 3) Review and Approval of Minutes | |
| a. Approval of the February 12, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes | Presenter Dowding |
| 4) New Business/Old Business Updates | |
| a. Village of Winnetka Comprehensive Plan Discussion | Presenter Dowding |
| b. Village Recycling Guidelines Communication | Presenter Kunkle |
| c. New Village Website Discussion | Presenter Dowding |
| 5) Communications | |
| a. Approval of June & July Communication Items | Presenter Mendoza |
| b. Discussion of August Communication Items | Presenter Mendoza |
| 6) Committee/Staff Reports | |
| a. EFC Green Award Nominations | Presenter Mendoza |
| b. Village Forestry Update and Discussion | Presenters Stier&Lueck |
| c. Village's Refuse & Recycling Programs Update | Presenter Mendoza |
| 7) Open Forum | |
| 8) Adjournment | |

Posted Time and Date

NOTICE

All agenda materials are available at villageofwinnetka.org (*Government > Council Information > Agenda Packets & Minutes*); the *Reference Desk at the Winnetka Library; or in the Manager's Office at Village Hall (2nd floor).*

The Village of Winnetka, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that all persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, contact the Village ADA Coordinator, at 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois 60093, 847-716-3543; T.D.D. 847-501-6041.

WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
February 12, 2020

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held in the Council Chambers at Village Hall, 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois, Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.; Voting Members present: Chairperson Chuck Dowding, Liz Kunkle, Mike Nielsen, and David Varca. Voting Members absent: Chris Foley, Barry Sylvester, and Rosann Park-Jones. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Ex-officio Members present: none. Village Council Representative present: Jack Coladarci. Student Representative present: Marcus Buccellato. Staff Representatives present: Brendon Mendoza, Public Works Analyst, David Schoon, Director of Community Development, and Ann Klaassen, Senior Planner. Public present: Approximately 12 members of the public were present.

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members and the public.

2) Public Comment: Public comment is included under Agenda Item 6) New Business Item A).

3) Review and Approval of Minutes:

a) Approval of the January 8, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the January 8, 2020 minutes, which was moved by Commissioner Nielson and seconded by Commissioner Kunkle.

4) Communications:

a) Approval of February & March Communication Items:

Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the February Communications Items which was moved by Commissioner Nielson, and seconded by Commissioner Kunkle.

Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the March Communication Items, which was moved by Commissioner Nielsen, and seconded by Commissioner Kunkle.

b) Discussion of April Communications Items:

Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the April Communications Items, which was moved by Kunkle, and seconded by Commissioner Nielson.

5) Commission/Staff Reports:

a) EFC Green Award Nomination(s):

Staff Representative Mendoza stated that included in the agenda packet is a nomination received for the Environmental and Forestry Commission (“EFC”) Green Award, for Jim Stier, the Village Forester for his service.

Staff Representative Mendoza mentioned that a copy of the EFC Green Award Nomination Application is included in the agenda packet and can be used if anyone has a nomination they would like to submit.

(Attached in the minutes is a nomination for Reprise Coffee Roasters (950 Green Bay Road) that was received at the meeting.)

6) New Business, Old Business/Updates:

a) Village of Winnetka Comprehensive Plan Discussion with the Lakota Group

Community Development Director David Schoon introduced the Lakota Group.

The Lakota Group introduced themselves to the Commission; Scott Freres, President, Becky Hurley, Senior Land Use Advisor, Siraj Asfahani, Project Manager, and Scott Ruhland, Senior Associate. Freres provided an overview of the Lakota Group comprehensive plan process.

Freres stated the Lakota Group is benchmarking the Village’s new comprehensive plan to ten other communities in the United States of comparable demographics. Freres stated many of the environmental recommendations the Commission has are similar to the other communities.

Chairperson Dowding asked if each Commissioner could discuss their goals with the Lakota Group.

Chairperson Dowding stated that a difficulty the Commission has struggled with is communication with the Park District through a staff liaison on the Commission. Chairperson Dowding mentioned the use of the GRC2 framework as a tool for incorporation of sustainability into the new comprehensive plan.

Commissioner Kunkle stated she is a fan of the Evanston “CARP” plan and how it is structured. Commissioner Kunkle mentioned that she developed a list that includes priorities within each GRC2 goal. Commissioner Kunkle discussed her list.

Commissioner Nielson stated that the Winnetka beaches are underutilized as they are often empty and that there can be improvements for use of the beaches. Commissioner Nielson discussed ideas of open space. Commissioner Nielson also mentioned that the Commission needs the ability to have action.

Commissioner Kunkle mentioned that a real issue is the jurisdiction of the EFC, and that the ordinance is very narrow. Commissioner Kunkle mentioned that the powers of the Commission need to be expanded and modernized. Commissioner Kunkle stated the Commission should change its name to the Climate Commission.

Commissioner Varca stated that representation from other commissions is important. He mentioned that a good idea would be assisting the Village Council with action items. Commissioner Varca mentioned water and the landfill as important items to consider. Commissioner Varca mentioned that he thinks incorporating environmental suggestions throughout the Comprehensive plan and as its own individual section with action items would be beneficial.

Student Representative Buccellato stated improvements to the Village bike transportation routes such as the bike path could improve the community by making residents want to bike. Commissioner Kunkle provided background to Student Representative Buccellato’s involvement with environmental initiatives and his role at New Trier High School with the Environmental Club. Buccellato stated that they discuss a lot regarding composting and recycling in the Environmental Club.

Trustee Coladarci mentioned that the EFC should discuss if it is a policy and education or an implementation commission. Trustee Coladarci mentioned another important consideration is the storm water agreements between different governing bodies, and that a good idea is to have liaisons between governing bodies as it provides helpful insight during discussions.

Chairperson Dowding stated that the EFC is the only commission that is administered by the Public Works Department and all of the other Village commissions are through the Village Manager’s Office.

Trustee Coladarci asked Freres if the Lakota Group could determine which of the 10 benchmarked communities have environmental commissions that are implementation based and which are advisory based.

Commissioner Kunkle mentioned that environmental and sustainability initiatives are not an “add-on” and should not be prioritized last when developing the comprehensive plan.

Chairperson Dowding asked for public comment.

Scarlett Harper, a fifth grader at a local school, wanted to mentioned that it is really important to consider where we are at now and to make changes now, and to include kids. She mentioned that kids are open to change and can bring change into action. Mrs. Harper mentioned a few initiatives of the local school she attends.

Jessica of 538 Meadow, is representing Go Green Winnetka and provided a brief background of Go Green Winnetka. She stated her review of the GRC2 framework and wanted to mention the important aspects. She stated that benchmarks are important. She went through each of the GRC2 framework objectives and provided feedback.

Craig Witty of 654 Ash Street, mentioned he is a member of Go Green Winnetka. Mr. Witty mentioned the GRC2 framework provided a good response to environmental issues. He stated the benefits of residents volunteering to accomplish goals and address environmental issues.

Rick Prohof, a resident of Wilmette, stated sustainability is the key to preserve the Earth. He mentioned how he in the past participate in recycling initiatives to save the planet, and that it is up to the younger generation to help sustain the Earth.

Lynn Sanders of 995 Pine Street, stated it is important to involve the youth with sustainability. She stated she is concerned with the lack of understanding with the Park District. She was concerned as there is a project to modify the local bluffs for concessions stands. She stated she is hopeful that collaboration takes place between different groups for sustainability.

Joan, resident of Winnetka, stated she became aware of the bluffs being modified for parking spots and was concerned. She stated that she attended a Park district meeting and found out that they are designing the bluffs in ways that she would be not prefer for environmental reasons. She stated its best to keep Winnetka configured in a way to use the Winnetka environment. She also mentioned that she wants the quality of water to be good enough where she does not have to use a filter system.

Dwight of 434 Berkeley, provided a brief history of Winnetka. He provided history on various environmental landmarks throughout the Village. He stated that bluff protection from a past plan “bluff protection” has not been achieved and stressed its importance.

Ted Wynnchenko, stated he appreciates everything that the EFC does, he mentioned that the future pay to throw refuse program is exciting, and he mentioned the importance to do things now. He stated he is disappointed that things are not changing, and stated that if the EFC does not have “teeth” then it is not going to matter as people will not change.

Steve Huels of 804 Prospect Avenue asked that the Commission ask themselves why not lead as Winnetka with the best examples.

(Also included as Public Comment is an email concerning the Green Bay Trail sent by Elisha Gray and has been attached to the minutes.)

b) Village Recycling Guidelines Communications: None.

7) **Open Forum**: None.

8) **Adjournment**:

There being no further business, Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Varca and seconded by Commissioner Nielson. The motion passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

From: Elisha Gray [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 1:32 PM
To: Liz Kunkle; Charles Dowding
Subject: Fwd: Winnetka Comprehensive Plan 2040 -- Green Bay Trail

Dear Chuck and Liz,

As I will bet unable to attend the upcoming Environmental and Forestry Commission meeting, I want to convey my thoughts to you regarding the Green Bay Trail for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

*Re: Recreation, Arts & Culture focus group. Winnetka Futures 2040 Plan
Green Bay Trail*

I understand that the Lakota Group will be conducting a series of sessions to engage community input for Winnetka Futures 2040 Plan. Unfortunately, I will be out of town during currently scheduled sessions in February.

Among our the valuable community assets is the Green Bay Trail. It provides a transportation and recreation path connecting communities of the North Shore used by walkers, runners, cyclists, dog walkers, nature lovers and many others. While the paved path has been kept in pretty good shape, the rest of the property has generally been neglected, allowing invasive species to proliferate, paint to peel on dark underpasses and water to collect along and occasionally on the trail.

I recommend the 2040 plan address the following issues regarding improvements to the trail:

- *Remove and control alien and invasive species*
- *Install and maintain local, non-invasive plantings along the trail*
- *Paint and maintain in good condition bridge underpasses*
- *Address drainage issues on the trail*
- *Improve signage linking the trail to our community and commercial areas*
- *Increase accessibility to the trail from the Elm Street commercial district*
- *Renegotiate and clarify responsibilities of the Village and Park district**

I am not alone in these sentiments, results from the 2018 Winnetka Caucus noted that 68 % of 1071 respondents agree that we should improve the Green Bay Trail.

I thank you for including my comments in your deliberations regarding Winnetka's 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Regards,

Elisha Gray

KEY THEMES

VITAL COMMERCIAL AREAS

VARIETY OF HOUSING

HEALTHY & ENGAGING LIFESTYLES

SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

CULTURE AND COMMUNITY CHARACTER

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

STORMWATER AND INFRASTRUCTURE

TECHNOLOGY

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

REGIONAL COORDINATION

Materials in Support of a Sustainable Thrust in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Introduction and Short History of Sustainability and Climate Considerations in Winnetka

Writing of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan will involve more consideration of sustainable action than in the 2020 plan written in 1999. Interest in and realization of the negative consequences and local impact of unsustainable linear economics and climate change is increasing. Writing of the 2040 Plan offers an opportunity to develop long term strategies for Winnetkans to adapt to and mitigate local and global effects of unsustainable practices.

Winnetka had the foresight to create a municipal code or ordinance-based Environmental and Forestry Commission (EFC) in the late 2000's. Subsequent maturation of the EFC has led to development of a framework for discussion of sustainable action. Many other municipalities are just now looking to develop environmental commissions. Relative to other Winnetka Village commissions the EFC is predominantly an educational and advisory commission. Resident interaction with the EFC is required by ordinance only if one wishes to remove a tree on Village parkway property. Its current ordinance is found in Chapter 3.04 in the Village Code.

When first adopted the EFC included a voting liaison from the Planning Commission and a non-voting member from the Winnetka Park District (WPD) Board appointed by the WPD board. Sometime in the early 2010's the ordinance was rewritten to eliminate the Planning Commission and WPD liaisons. Given that the WPD is the largest land holder (other than the Village), absence of this liaison inhibits coordination of activities such as pesticide application, beach pollution, storm water control, etc.

Documents for Consideration for Inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan

Winnetka's sustainability plan is a combination of the EFC's foundational mission, operational process and context, which overlays the more specific, goal oriented Greenest Regions Compact (GRC2). Presented on the Village web site are both the EFC foundational documents in an electronic, hyper linked form and the GRC2 as a multi tab excel spread sheet. An example of the hyper linking is WEFC=>Strategy, Process, Context => Process. <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/government/boards-and-commissions/environmental-and-forestry-commission/>. Review of the EFC foundational documents will be enhanced by visiting all links and printing the content for comparative study.

As described in the presentation made to the Village Council during its adoption, GRC2 is a municipal pledge (made by Winnetka and 125 other municipalities and 3 counties in NE Illinois) that articulates high-level goals for communities and a future sustainable region. <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/assets/1/7/adv-GRC2-presentation-pp-20190416.pdf>. The multi tabbed GRC2 excel document is best understood by reading the first tab "Directions" It describes the organization of 300 some strategies for achieving the 49 consensus goals organized into 10 categories (each with its own tab). <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/government/boards-and-commissions/environmental-and-forestry-commission/greenest-region-compact/>

EFC's recommendations for actions/strategies/goals to be considered for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan can be subdivided into two classes: short term (1 to 3 years) and longer term (1 to 2 decades). Short term goals are contained in the accompanying 2 page PDF entitled "Proposed

Consensus Recommendation from the GRC2 Framework”. Recommendations were subdivided into Council 1) proposes ordinance, 2) directs staff to undertake, and 3) directs EFC to undertake.

Longer term goals are listed below and accompany this document as another word document entitled Long Term Goals. Each is accompanied by a reason, WEFC summary of GRC2 Category under which this goal falls, and the specific GRC2 goals associated with this recommendation. Open the “Land” tab of the GRC2 spread sheet to see the L1c GRC2 strategy relation to the WEFC “Develop Landfill...” goal and the depth and detail of GRC2.

- Reduce Winnetka’s Consumption of Water by 10%
- Develop Safe East-West Bikeway(s) to connect to Downtown Areas, GB Trail, Rail Stations, and Educational Institutions
- Stabilize Bluffs and Beaches, and Increase Enjoyment of Lake Michigan
- Reduce to Zero Beach Closures from Pollution
- Minimize or Eliminate Beach Closures Due to Bacteria and Other Contaminants
- Begin Planning for Extension or Transition Regarding Winnetka’s Local Electric Power Plant
- Consider Impacts of the Limited Remaining Lifespan of our SWANCC Waste Landfills
- Develop Landfill into Property That Can Be Utilized by the Village
- Manage Water Infrastructure to Ensure Water Quality and Efficiency
- Include WEFC Representation on other Village Commissions as well as Enabling Additional Environmental and/or Forestry Related Ordinances to Fall Under WEFC’s Review
- Replace lead service lines over time, minimizing exposure to lead in drinking water

Possible Thematic Organization of Sustainability Considerations in the Comprehensive Plan

Evanston has organized its sustainability actions around a central theme: Climate change as described in its Climate Action and Resilience Plan. A tabular summary of the Evanston plan is presented below. <https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showdocument?id=45170>

Focus Areas	Goals
Building Efficiency	Reduce building energy consumption by 35% by 2035 (from 2005 levels).
Renewable Energy	Achieve 100% renewable electricity supply for all Evanston accounts by 2030.
Zero Waste	Increase the community waste diversion rate to 50% by 2025, 75% by 2035 and Zero Waste by 2050 (from 2017 levels).
Transportation and Mobility	Reduce vehicle miles traveled; increase trips made by walking, bicycling and transit.
	Increase use of electric vehicles; decrease carbon emissions from vehicles and equipment.
Urban Canopy and Green Space	Preserve and restore Evanston's urban canopy, natural areas, native vegetation and green space to maintain and increase carbon sequestration, improve stormwater runoff detention, improve air quality, energy efficiency and livability and reduce adverse urban impacts on humans and key species such as birds and pollinators.
Outreach, Education and Behavior Change	Educate, motivate and empower Evanston residents, institutions and businesses to take meaningful action to fight climate change and improve community resilience.

Water Conservation

Goal:

Reduce Winnetka's consumption of water by 10%

Reason:

Winnetka may be required to share water to the collar counties within the next two or three decades. The demand for water in the collar counties, who already in 2020 have begun to run out of water, will require use of Lake Michigan water, which is limited by international treaty with Canada. Thus sending water to collar counties will result in less water for those already drawing LM water.

WEFC Water summary

The overall objective is to reduce pollution of the water in and near to Winnetka. One of the most valuable resources to Winnetka is Lake Michigan, which we drink and in which we recreate. Water shed by Winnetka as waste or storm water runoff will become increasingly scrutinized and regulated to reduce pollution and increase sustainability of the region. Given the increasing need for clean drinking water, it is important to reduce consumption and reduce pollution of the storm water. Winnetka benefits from separate sanitary and storm water sewer systems which reduces the complexity of pollution reduction. While the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District both treats the sanitary waste and regulates encroachment of the flood plain to control flooding, Winnetka may enforce stricter storm water regulations.

GRC2 Water Goals

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve and water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources
- Engage the community in water stewardship

Increasing Sustainable Mobility

Goal

Develop safe, east-west bikeway(s) to connect to downtown areas, GB trail, rail stations and educational institutions

Reason:

Increasing pedestrian oriented transportation will enhance Winnetka's ability to address greater restrictions of the use of automobile transport. It will also allow for a more healthy, walkable/bikeable village oriented life style.

WEFC Mobility Summary

The Village supports safe and effective transportation through a diverse and efficient transportation network. The Village offers various public transportation methods including three train stations, intersecting bus routes and an interstate highway less than one mile west of the Village. The Village also features a segment of the bike-friendly Green Bay Trail and supports bicycle use throughout the Village. The Village maintains its own roadways and regularly collaborates with IDOT and Cook County.

GRC2 Mobility Goals

- Support safe and effective active transportation
- Maintain a diverse, safe, and efficient transportation network
- Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely
- Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs, and regulations
- Promote public and sustainable transportation choices

Sustain “Lakeshore-Village” brand

Goal

Stabilize bluffs and beaches and increase enjoyment of Lake Michigan

Reason:

Planned bluff and beach stabilization by the Winnetka Park District and riparian residents (and the not unexpected legal entanglements) present an opportunity for a village-wide sustainable solution. Costs of stabilization can be reduced through coordination of efforts by Village, Park District and riparian residents. It may be possible to justify additional Village funding in addition to that from the Park District by increasing enjoyment of Lake Michigan between Village and Park access points.

WEFC Land Summary

This category pertains to the preservation of the land use patterns and natural environment that provide the Village-like ambiance of Winnetka. Land use patterns are defined by the transitions between types and densities of occupation which are controlled by zoning. However the natural environment is defined some form of ecologically balanced, publically accessible open space, green and blue, will provide the foundation for sustainable activity. These built and natural considerations overlap with Economic Development, Sustainable Communities, and Water.

GRC2 Land Goals

- Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles
- Conserve, restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems
- Support networks of accessible well-used and enjoyable parks
- Sustain a robust urban forest canopy
- Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services
- Achieve greater livability through sustainable land use and housing policies
- Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community

Sustain “Lakeshore-Village” brand

Goal

Reduce to zero beach closures because of pollution

At one time Winnetka was listed as having the most polluted beaches in the nation by counts of closures. After efforts by the “Village” to uncover cross connections between sanitary and storm sewers, beach closures have been reduced but not to zero. Given that all storm water east of Green Bay Rd flows to Lake Michigan, the source of our drinking water, such beach closures potentially have more serious consequences than preventing swimming. This issue is also a poster child for the need for greater integration of the operations of the Park and Village boards. Parks takes the hit for beach closures, the Village is responsible for outfalls to the lake, and Winnetka’s brand is besmirched.

WEFC Water summary

The overall objective is to reduce pollution of the water in and near to Winnetka. One of the most valuable resources to Winnetka is Lake Michigan, which we drink and in which we recreate. Water shed by Winnetka as waste or storm water runoff will become increasingly scrutinized and regulated to reduce pollution and increase sustainability of the region. Given the increasing need for clean drinking water, it is important to reduce consumption and reduce pollution of the storm water. Winnetka benefits from separate sanitary and storm water sewer systems which reduces the complexity of pollution reduction. While the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District both treats the sanitary waste and regulates encroachment of the flood plain to control flooding, Winnetka may enforce stricter storm water regulations.

GRC2 Water Goals

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve and water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources, Engage the community in water stewardship

Goal

Minimize or eliminate beach closures due to bacteria and other contaminants

Reason:

Winnetka beaches routinely land at or near the top of the Natural Resources Defense Council's most-contaminated list of Illinois beaches, posting dozens of closure days every year. One likely cause for heightened bacteria levels is likely the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) lock system in Wilmette Harbor, opened during major rainstorms to release sewer overflow into Lake Michigan. But another is leaks and cross-contamination between the Village's separated storm and sanitary sewers. While Winnetka has little control over MWRD, the 2040 Plan should encourage the Village to increase efforts to investigate possible cross connections that allow domestic sewage to enter the storm sewers that outfall into Lake Michigan, as well as consider new storm water outlets and improvements near beaches to filter sediments and solid materials, as well as bacteria.

More sophisticated water testing and analysis should also be encouraged. Most towns north of Chicago, including Winnetka, monitor their beaches along Lake Michigan for E. coli and other harmful bacteria. That monitoring ranges from traditional water measurements (with results received up to 24 hours later, or longer) to real time monitoring to predictive modeling. Depending on the results, swim advisories and bans are issued if the bacteria levels exceed acceptable levels. Beaches in Winnetka are monitored every day during the summer swimming season using traditional sampling. Instead of Winnetka relying on the 24-hour bacteria sampling test, use of a predictive method to provide relatively accurate and up-to-date E. coli estimates would help better identify sources of contamination and help keep clean beaches open.

WEFC Water Summary

The overall objective is to reduce pollution of the water in and near to Winnetka. One of the most valuable resources to Winnetka is Lake Michigan, which we drink and in which we recreate. Water shed by Winnetka as waste or storm water runoff will become increasingly scrutinized and regulated to reduce pollution and increase sustainability of the region. Given the increasing need for clean drinking water, it is important to reduce consumption and reduce pollution of the storm water. Winnetka benefits from separate sanitary and storm water sewer systems which reduces the complexity of pollution reduction. While the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District both treats the sanitary waste and regulates encroachment of the flood plain to control flooding, Winnetka may enforce more strict storm water regulations.

GRC2 Water Goals

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve and water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources
- Engage the community in water stewardship

Goal

Begin planning for extension or transition regarding Winnetka's local electric power plant

Reason:

Unique among many municipalities, Winnetka generates its own electric power plant. To complement this capability, since 1991 Winnetka's power and energy requirements continue to be ensured pursuant to contracts between the Village and the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA). On the Village's behalf, IMEA acquires power and energy by: generating it at an IMEA-owned plant; purchasing it from other entities; and utilizing the capabilities of the Village's electric plant or of other members' plants. This blend of resources is designed to ensure an economical cost of wholesale power. Therefore, by contract, the output capacity of the Village's electric plant is dedicated to IMEA. Upon request by IMEA, the Village will generate electricity that is used by IMEA to meet electrical demand or offset the cost of higher priced wholesale power from another source. In return for IMEA's right to use our plant's capacity, the Village receives a credit on its wholesale power bill.

Winnetka's current IMEA contract extends through 2035. Even though the Village buys all its electricity from IMEA, it is contractually obligated to own and operate the electric plant through 2035 or secure comparable replacement power. [note: this is an assumption that needs to be verified]. By 2035, and likely well before then, plans will need to be in place to continue or discontinue operation of the electric power plant, a timeline that falls well within the window of our developing 2040 Plan. These decisions are not to be undertaken lightly – the benefits and costs that must be analyzed and weighed in coming to a decision about the future of the electric power plant are material to the Village. It is in the best interests of the Village, and its residential and business electric customers, to begin planning now for an eventual extension or transition regarding Winnetka's local electric power plant. Such a process will necessitate Village leadership, Staff, and the public coming together to carefully and comprehensively consider issues including, but not limited to, available alternatives for sourcing energy, economics and rate impacts, environmental considerations, the potential for alternative site uses, and of course the effects on the quality of life in the Village.

WEFC Municipal Operations Summary

Village municipal services are divided into Village, Schools, Park, and Library boards and functions. The Village board provides life safety, transportation, water, and waste infrastructure. Winnetka also provides electrical power to the Village through the Illinois Municipal Energy Agency. A Village lifestyle is provided through a high performing municipal operation governed by a Village Manager and elected Trustees. Sustainable life styles are encouraged through ordinance, pricing, education, and expenditure of Village funds to facilitate stewardship and conservation. The Village has a standing Environmental and Forestry Commission with a dedicated staff liaison. The Village operates a safe, clean and efficient fleet through its in-house fleet services division and has in place an anti-idling policy for Village-owned vehicles.

GRC2 Municipal Operations Goals

- Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices
- Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations
- Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet
- Collect and manage data to advance sustainability

Goal

Consider impacts of the limited remaining lifespan of our SWANCC waste landfills

Reason:

The Village provides refuse collection services which includes weekly back-door residential garbage collection, weekly commercial refuse collection, twice-a-week residential yard waste collection, and special refuse collections. Collected refuse is transferred for disposal under a contractual arrangement with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC). SWANCC, in turn, utilizes privately owned regional landfills for disposal capacity.

SWANCC member communities rely on a number of facilities to manage their waste. The majority of waste collected within SWANCC member communities is delivered to transfer stations prior to being hauled to more distant regional landfills for disposal. Waste from Winnetka, via the Glenview Transfer Station, is currently hauled to the Winnebago Landfill in Rockford, IL for disposal.[note: need to confirm] A number of additional landfills in northern Illinois, as well as southern Wisconsin, northwestern Indiana, and southwestern Michigan are unavailable to receive waste because of limited remaining capacity (in some cases combined with restrictions on their service areas, primarily accepting special wastes (not municipal wastes), or not being economically accessible due to an increase in state-imposed fees).

Consequently, in addition to promoting continuing conservation, recycling, and composting programs for the Village that reduce landfill disposal quantities at the source, the 2040 Plan should propose a set of goals that produce a framework for addressing the eventual inevitable limitations on available disposal facilities for Winnetka and the other regional municipalities served by SWANCC. As this is a regional issue, the Plan should recommend that the Village work cooperatively with SWANCC and other regional planning agencies and area counties where appropriate to evaluate and implement solid waste management programs and services.

WEFC Waste and Recycling Goals

Sustainable activity must include reduction, reuse and recycling of materials. So far the Village has focused principally on recycling through its contract with Lakeshore Recycling Systems and its partnership with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County. While recycling refers to all materials, it is helpful to separate solid waste from water. Water recycling is controlled by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District through its treatment of waste water and regulation of water that may returned to Lake Michigan or the North Branch of the Chicago River. Reduction of solid waste within Winnetka is facilitated through separate collection of recycled materials from solid waste. Separation and collection of food waste is becoming of increasing interest. Recycling is encouraged through ordinance, pricing, education, and expenditure of Village funds. The Village operates its own in-house refuse collection services, in which operations are regularly assessed. The Village also hosts a weekly electronics recycling drop-off program for residents and offers special recycling programs for materials such as Styrofoam, CFL bulbs and batteries.

GRC2 Waste and Recycling Goals

- Support sustainable material management
- Recycle materials across all sectors
- Divert waste from landfills
- Enact policies that cause sustainable material management
- Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling

Develop Underutilized Land

Goal:

Develop landfill into property that can be utilized by the Village.

Reason:

The landfill represents space that can be utilized by the Village for other purposes. The property might be able to be used in its current form as a solar or wind farm or the site would have to be completely remediated for other uses.

WEFC Land Summary:

This category pertains to the preservation of the land use patterns and natural environment that provide the Village-like ambiance of Winnetka. Land use patterns are defined by the transitions between types and densities of occupation which are controlled by zoning. However, the natural environment is defined by some form of ecologically balanced, publically accessible open space, green and blue, will provide the foundation for sustainable activity. These built and natural considerations overlap with Economic Development, Sustainable Communities, and Water.

Specific GRC2 Land Goals:

Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles

Reduce sprawl by promoting infill development to reduce adverse impacts on natural resources and infrastructure demands (L1)

Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties (L1c)

Manage Water Infrastructure

Goal:

Manage water infrastructure to ensure water quality and efficiency.

Reason:

The Village is in the process of modernizing storm sewer lines. A long term, comprehensive plan has been created to continue to maintain the sewer system. At some point, the sewer system is going to have to be replaced to ensure water quality and efficiency.

WEFC Water Summary:

The overall objective to reduce pollution of the water in and near to Winnetka. One of the most valuable resources to Winnetka is Lake Michigan, which we drink an in which we recreate. Water shed by Winnetka as waste or storm water runoff will become increasingly scrutinized and regulated to reduce pollution and increase sustainability of the region. Given the increasing need for clean drinking water, it is important to reduce consumption and reduce pollution of the storm water. Winnetka benefits from separate sanitary and storm water sewer systems, which reduces the complexity of pollution reduction. While the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District both treats the sanitary waste and regulates encroachment of the flood plain to control flooding, Winnetka may enforce more strict storm water regulations.

Specific GRC2 Water Goals:

Manage water system assets sustainably

Operate an efficient water utility that delivers clean, healthful, water. (W 15)

Comprehensively and sustainably manage water infrastructure. (W 16)

Goal

Include WEFC representation on other Village commissions as well as enabling additional environmental and/or forestry related ordinances to fall under WEFC's review.

Reason:

The various Village commissions encounter environmental and/or forestry topics, directly or indirectly, on a regular basis. As a result, it is appropriate to have representation from the WEFC to assist the respective commissions with these topics. In addition, the WEFC can be a greater resource to the Village Council by reviewing environmental and/or forestry related issues relating to ordinances.

WEFC Municipal Operations Summary

Village municipal services are divided into Village, Schools, Park, and Library boards functions. The Village board provides life safety, transportation, water, and waste infrastructure. Winnetka also provides electrical power to the Village through the Illinois Municipal Energy Agency. A Village lifestyle is provided through a high performing municipal operation governed by a Village Manager and elected Trustees. Sustainable life styles are encouraged through ordinance, pricing, education, and expenditure of Village funds to facilitate stewardship and conservation. The Village has a standing Environmental and Forestry Commission with a dedicated staff liaison. The Village operates a safe, clean and efficient fleet through its in-house fleet services division and has in place an anti-idling policy for Village-owned vehicles.

GRC2 Municipal Operations

Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices (Village specific goal under GRC2)

Support or create an interdisciplinary team (or a Sustainability Coordinator) to coordinate internal sustainability efforts (MO 1)

Formalize sustainability goals and plans (MO 6)

Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations (Village specific goal under GRC2)

Collect and manage data to advance sustainability (Village specific goal under GRC2)

Formalize sustainability goals and plans

Replacement of Lead Service Lines

Goal: Replace lead service lines over time, minimizing exposure to lead in drinking water

Reason:

Winnetka was founded as a village in 1869. High-quality drinking water is provided to Winnetka residents which exceeds both State and Federal standards. As stated on the Village's website, lead does not come from the treatment plant and water mains but from lead service lines that run between the water main in the street and individual homes, and from plumbing inside homes. As an older Village, there are still Winnetka homes that utilize lead water service lines. Currently the Village doesn't replace lead water service lines because the service lines are on private property and are considered the responsibility of the customer.

The Village of Winnetka monitors the drinking water in the distribution system for lead. The standard for lead in tap water is set by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) at 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/l}$) or parts per million (ppm) in at least 90% of the samples taken. This standard is from the US EPA's Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) designed to protect public health and reduce exposure to lead and copper in drinking water. Test results from sampling Winnetka tap water in 2014 are well below the action level (see the Winnetka Water Plant 2018 Annual Consumer Report which included the 2014 results). The Village of Winnetka did not have any sampled sites that exceeded 15 ppm lead action level. The lead 90th percentile was reported as 5.9 ppb. The US EPA's Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) for lead is 0 ppb.

According to the Village's website, since 1994 the Village has been taking steps to prevent lead corrosion from occurring. The Water Plant treats the water with a corrosion control treatment that is safe for human health and helps to build a protective coating around pipes.

The EFC recommends that the Village of Winnetka replace lead service lines as part of planned upcoming roadwork projects, so this proactive action can be taken to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water for the remaining lead-containing service lines. Removing lead service lines can be paid for using a number of funding sources. The US EPA has compiled Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) challenges and best practices (See "Strategies to Achieve Full Lead Service Line Replacement, October 2019, US EPA 810-R-19-003).

GRC2 Water Goals

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve the water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources
- Engage the community in water stewardship

Leadership: collaborate to achieve a more sustainable Village and region

1. Partner with federal, regional, state, other local governments, and other entities to undertake initiatives that promote energy efficiency and sustainability (EFC)

Mobility: support diverse, safe, and efficient transportation that uses resources wisely

1. Review existing bicycle and pedestrian plans, then propose recommendations for implementation by the Village (EFC)
2. Incorporate sustainable roadways into capital improvement planning, and proactively plan for major transportation infrastructure improvements (DS)
3. Collaborate to provide alternative fuel infrastructure at public sites, and to support a network of alternate fueling infrastructure elsewhere (DS, EFC)

Municipal Operations: set the example by demonstrating sustainable values and practices, operate a safe and efficient fleet, and collect and manage data to advance sustainability

1. Ensure municipal finance practices and purchasing policies are consistent with sustainability and re-invest cost savings into sustainability initiatives (PO, DS)
2. Evaluate opportunities to migrate fleet to alternate fuel vehicles (DS)
3. Track, analyze, and manage data to advance sustainability (DS)

Sustainable Communities: cultivate community values and principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable, and that promote a sustainable identity for the Village

1. Cultivate and preserve a welcoming and inclusive community character (PO, DS, EFC)
2. Promote third party certification for sustainable private facilities (EFC)
3. Establish or strengthen an inter- and intra-entity Green Team (EFC)

Waste & Recycling: support policies and actions that contribute to sustainable material management and increased recycling

1. Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program (PO)
2. Make public events Zero Waste (DS)
3. Support and incentivize expansion of existing services to include food scrap composting, commercial & multi-family recycling, and discouraging the use of unrecyclable products (e.g., plastic bags) (DS, EFC)

Water: use and distribute water efficiently and sustainably, protect and improve water quality, and optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater

1. Reduce community water consumption by implementing water efficiency measures in Village operations and encouraging residents and businesses to identify and mitigate water losses (DS, EFC)
2. Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination, support post-development runoff reduction and mitigation, and encourage residents and businesses to address flood risks on their property (DS)

Proposed Consensus Recommendation from the GRC2 Framework

PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action

DS: Council directs Staff to undertake

EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

Climate: undertake efforts to reduce GHGs, develop resiliency to climate change impacts, and engage the Village community in climate change mitigation and adaptation

1. Measure emissions from Village operations to develop a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction target for those operations, followed by monitoring to validate success or propose further efforts to reduce GHGs **(DS)**
2. Engage the Village community in climate change mitigation and adaptation by educating the public about climate change, its effects, and opportunities for the community to meaningfully respond **(EFC)**

Energy: adopt policies that promote energy efficiency, reduced energy usage and renewables, and engage the Village community in clean energy practices

1. Audit, benchmark, and track energy usage in Village facilities, and promote energy audits and retro-commissioning studies of residential and commercial entities, and other governmental units, in the Village **(DS)**
2. Where feasible and economic, adopt energy efficiency measures, procure from or install renewable energy resources for Village facilities, and develop renewable energy resources on underutilized Village properties (i.e. brownfields, rooftops, etc.) **(PO, DS)**
3. Support the adoption of renewable energy technologies, particularly those that expand economic development opportunities in the Village or access to alternative energy options for residents (i.e., community solar) **(DS, EFC)**

Land: encourage strategic development that incorporates sustainability principles, conserve, restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems, and ensure accessibility to and use of parks and other outdoor space

1. Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties **(PO)**
2. Prioritize redevelopment and infrastructure projects, and public-private partnerships, that support public transit-oriented locations and uses **(PO, DS)**
3. Adopt guidelines for future development that encourage management and conservation of natural resources, existing topography, views, drainage patterns, existing ecosystems (including vegetation and biodiversity), and historic or cultural assets **(PO, DS)**
4. Continue to maximize the amount of public spaces and parks accessible to residents **(PO)**
5. Where practical, replace turf with sustainable landscaping alternatives **(DS)**
6. Enact and enforce land use policies that protect valuable natural assets, support resiliency, and increase the quality and amount of sustainable landscaping in the community **(PO, DS)**
7. Enact and enforce land-use policies that preserve open space **(PO, DS)**

3. Support regional and state initiatives to protect water supplies and support stewardship of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River (EFC)
4. Comprehensively and sustainably manage water infrastructure (DS)
5. Collaborate to enhance wetlands for improved ecosystem services (DS)
6. Adopt codes that enable rainwater harvesting for non-potable uses (PO)
7. Review and adopt codes to eliminate barriers to green infrastructure BMPs including cisterns, green roofs, bioswales, and permeable paving (PO, DS)

EFC Achievable 2 – 5-Year Goals (Distillation Doc) and Moon Shot 20-Year Goals (Comp Plan)

- Substance - GRC2 Consensus Goals
 - Climate
 - Understand and improve Winnetka's Climate Resilience
 - Carbon Neutral by XXXX date
 - Economic Development
 - Create business recognition/certification program (e.g., Sustain Evanston)
 - Energy
 - Reduce building energy consumption by XX% by XXXX date
 - Achieve XX% renewable electricity supply for all Winnetka accounts by XXXX date
 - Power Plant
 - Land
 - Preserve and restore Winnetka's urban canopy, natural areas, native vegetation, and green space to maintain and increase carbon sequestration, improve stormwater runoff detention, improve air quality, energy efficiency, and livability, and reduce adverse urban impacts on all species (e.g., humans, skunks, coyotes, birds, pollinators)
 - Leadership
 - Village Council should lead proactively, not reflect reactively
 - Enact ordinances and policies
 - Educate, motivate, and empower Winnetka residents, institutions, and businesses to take meaningful action to improve resilience and adapt to and mitigate climate change
 - Mobility
 - Decrease miles traveled by vehicle and increase miles traveled by walking, bicycling, and public transit
 - Connect and complete bicycle and pedestrian networks
 - Municipal Operations
 - Electrify the municipal fleet
 - Adopt a Zero Waste goal internally and for the Village
 - Sustainable Communities
 - Partner with other taxing bodies and organizations
 - Decrease carbon emissions from vehicles and equipment
 - Increase Village-wide use of electric vehicles
 - Waste & Recycling
 - Increase community waste diversion rate to XX% by XXXX date and to Zero Waste by XXXX date
 - Water
 - Lake Michigan; conservation; stormwater; runoff; Skokie Lagoons
- Procedure - Commission
 - Expand ordinance authority beyond forestry
 - Change name from Environmental and Forestry Commission
 - ⇒ **Climate Commission**
 - Progression from 'Environmental' to 'Sustainable' to 'Climate'

June 2020 EFC Communications Content

1. Coal Tar Sealant Reminder

E-Winnetka Newsletter

In August of 2014, the Village of Winnetka implemented a ban on the use of coal tar-based sealing agents on all public and private driveways, parking lots and other roadway surfaces with Village limits. Coal tar is a waste material generated during coal processing that contains high levels of chemical compounds shown to be harmful to aquatic life and pose a potential risk to humans. This initiative was studied by the Village's Environmental and Forestry Commission as an effort to benefit water quality. As required by this ban, all contractors and multi-family property owners must obtain a Pavement Sealant Applicators License through the Public Works Department. Property owners of single family lots applying sealant themselves do not need a Pavement Sealant Applicators License.

As an alternative to coal tar-based sealants, the Village recommends using asphalt-based sealants (sold in most home improvement stores), replacing asphalt with concrete driveways, or leaving driveways unsealed.

In April, letters were sent to previously licensed contractors reminding them to renew their applicator license in 2020 to confirm their sealant meets Village requirements. For more information, please call Brendon Mendoza in the Public Works Department at (847) 716-3550.

2. Ban of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers from June 1 through October 1

E-Winnetka Newsletter

No noisy landscaping activity is to begin before 7:00 AM on weekdays, 9:00 AM on Saturdays and 10:00 AM on Sundays and holidays. No such activity may continue after 7:00 PM on any evening. In Winnetka, it is illegal to operate gasoline powered leaf blowers at all times from June 1 to October 1. At other times of the year, they may be operated only between the hours of 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday, and from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Saturday, Sunday and on holidays. Lawn care must be neighbor-friendly, so we can all enjoy as much of our few months of good weather as possible.

Electric blowers do meet summer landscaping needs. Most importantly, they have safer decibel levels and minimize dangerous airborne particulate matter.

3. Removal of Buckthorn and other Invasive Species

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Unlike native trees and shrubs, invasive species like buckthorn spread quickly across our woodlands, prairies, wetlands, and parks, competing with native species for resources needed for a stable, healthy environment. Examples of invasive species in northern Illinois include buckthorn, Lesser Celandine, Callery pear, Amur maple, burning bush, Norway maple, tree of heaven, and barberry. These invasive plants, trees, and shrubs thrive in our area mainly because of their ability to reseed.

A good way to remove and lessen the risk of spreading buckthorn is to remove the plants before they flower (May-June) and produce seeds (August-September). If you suspect that removed buckthorn or other invasive plants contain seeds, bag them in landscape waste bags and place them out on the same day as your trash pickup rather than composting them, as landscape waste is banned from landfills in Illinois.



4. Recycling Tip – Make sure all containers are free of liquid and food residue

E-Winnetka Newsletter

When recycling used food containers, it is important to remove leftover food waste or liquids. Containers or cardboard that have excessive food waste on them may contaminate other recyclable materials they are mixed in with. When recyclables are heavily contaminated with food waste, they become less desirable for resale. Items with minimal amounts of food waste on them are acceptable if the food waste is minimal. For example, you can recycle a pizza box if you wipe off any cheese or sauce stuck to the box.

5. Recycling Tip – Plastic bags and film

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Plastic bags, wraps, and film can be recycled into new materials – they simply require a different collection system and processing equipment than many curbside recycling programs provide. So please DO NOT put plastic bags/wraps/film in your bin as the Village's recycling provider, Lakeshore Recycling Services, does not accept these items.

Plastic bags may be brought to grocery stores for recycling. Plastic bags are made out of "film", or thin flexible sheets of plastic. The majority of plastic films are made from polyethylene resin and are readily recyclable if the material is clean and dry. Plastic wrap and film packaging are generally #2 and #4 plastic, both of which are recyclable. Most plastic bags are recycled into composite lumber, but can actually become a wide variety of products.

July 2020 EFC Communications Content

1. Paper Shredding Event

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Winnetka's Document Destruction Event will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Public Works Yards at 1390 Willow Road. The goal of the program is to assist residents with recycling outdated or sensitive documents. As a continuing program, the Solid Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) is providing a one-day document destruction event for residentially-generated paper, such as medical forms, bank statement, personal files, retired tax forms, etc. Paper clips and staples do not need to be removed, but please remove binders.

There is no cost to participate, but residents must live in one of SWANCC's member communities and ID's will be checked for proof of residency. Residents will be limited to six file-size boxes or paper shopping bags per vehicle. Please do not bring documents in plastic bags. As residents drive up in their vehicles, workers will unload the paper documents into large carts. When full, the carts of paper are emptied into the truck's cross-shredding machine.

2. Hosting a Zero-Waste Event

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Hosting a Zero Waste event is not hard, but takes a little advanced planning.

1. Start by determining all the food and serving products you will need, such as food, drinks, cups, plates, bowls, utensils, tablecloths, and centerpieces. Make sure all are recyclable, compostable, or reusable. It's best if all plastic looking products are compostable (especially beer & wine cups) to avoid confusion.
2. Tell your caterer that you do not want any single-serve packets—they are usually not recyclable or compostable (i.e. sugar, ketchup, butter in foil)—or non-compostable materials (i.e. plastic coffee stirrers, tea in foil bags, small creamers, ice cream wrappers, sandwiches wrapped in plastic or in plastic lunch bags, etc.) that can contaminate the compost & recycling.
3. Request "Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) certified" compostable materials from your caterer or order some from OfficeMax.com or EcoProducts.com.

3. Recycling Tip – Plastic Silverware

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Americans dispose of enough paper and plastic cups, forks and spoons every year to circle the earth 300 times. The Villages' recycling provider, Lakeshore Recycling, accepts plastics #1-5 and #7. If plastic utensils are marked with #1-5 or #7 they can be recycled. If they are marked with #6 they cannot be recycled. Some utensils may even be identified as compostable.

4. Recycling Tip – Styrofoam

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Winnetka has year-round Styrofoam recycling. This program is offered through a partnership between the Winnetka Public Works, the Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission, and Dart Container Corporation. To participate, simply drop off #6 Styrofoam (both block-style and food service items) at the Winnetka Public Works Yards, 1390 Willow Road, weekdays from 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM. Styrofoam can be dropped into boxes located in the main lobby of the building.

5. Stormwater-Friendly Landscaping

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Stormwater-friendly landscaping can be an environmentally-sound means to moderate the effects of stormwater during rainfall events. Some examples of stormwater-friendly landscaping practices include use of rain barrels and downspouts, permeable pavement, rain gardens, natural landscaping, bioswales and bioretention basins. It is also important to consider stormwater-friendly lawn care practices during the summer months. To learn more about stormwater-friendly landscaping and lawn care practices, visit the following link to the Environmental and Forestry Commission's Stormwater Best Management Practices Guide for Residents.

<https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/263/Tips-to-Go-Green>

2020 EFC Communications Plan

EFC Communication Process for Monthly Postings

1. EFC and Staff work together to draft and finalized monthly topics and supporting text.
2. Topics and supporting text are discussed and approved by the EFC at monthly meetings.
3. Topics and supporting text are sent to Village Manager's Office each month to be published in the appropriate communication channel (Weekly email newsletter, Winnetka Report, etc).

January

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- EFC Green Awards Application Reminder
- Reduce - Consider how to reduce energy use and costs in your home and business
- Reduce - Switch from incandescent bulbs to LED bulbs (and put incandescent into garbage/landfill and recycle LED bulbs in the lobby of the Winnetka Public Works)

February

Spring Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – February 17

EFC Green Awards Application Deadline – February 28

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Reduce – Think before you buy
- Reduce - Think before you pack

March

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Coal Tar Sealant Reminder
- Paper Shredding Event
- Electronics Recycling Program Resuming
- Clean-Up Week

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Electronics Recycling Program Resuming
- Reduce - Use your car less
- Reduce - No Idling
- Composting - Backyard

April

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Compost available at Village Yards
- Paper Shredding Event
- Phosphorus Ordinance
- Earth Day – April 22, 2020 and Arbor Day – April 24, 2020

- Clean-Up Week

May

Summer Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – May 15

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Green Award Recipients

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- EFC BMP Guide – Summary & link to document
- Recycling - Break down all boxes
- Recycling - Leave lids on plastic containers

June

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Coal Tar Sealant Reminder
- Ban on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers from June 1 through Oct. 1.
- Recycling - Make sure all containers are free of liquid and food residue
- Recycling - Plastic bags & film
- Forestry - Remove buckthorn and other invasive species

July

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Paper Shredding Event
- Recycling - Plastic silverware
- Recycling – Styrofoam
- Stormwater - Friendly Landscaping
- **Green Award Recipients – Moved from May**

August

Fall Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – August 14

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Pumpkin Composting Event
- Curbside Leaf Collection
- Green Award Recipients

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Recycling - Paper napkins, towels, and tissues

September

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Recycling - #3 plastics
- Recycling - Pizza boxes
- Recycling - Lids from glass bottles

October

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Pumpkin Composting Event
- Recycling – Leaf Collection

November

Winter Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – November 13

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Holiday Lights Recycling

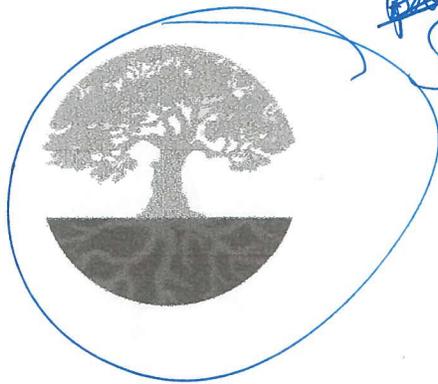
Weekly E-Newsletter:

- America Recycles Day (11/15)
- Composting - Leaf collection
- Battery Recycling
- Plastic bag, film and wrap recycling
- Recycling – Textiles
- Use of natural light during winter

December

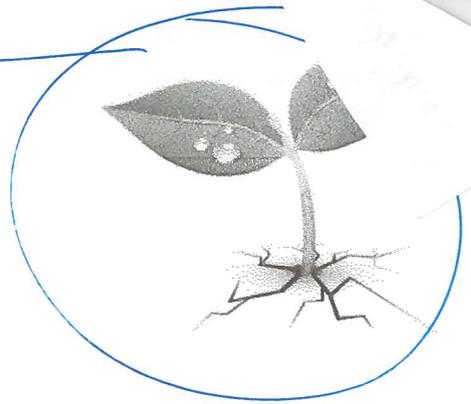
Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Christmas Tree Pick-Up
- EFC Green Awards Application Reminder
- Holiday Lights Recycling
- Commercial District Business Lighting
- Use of natural light during winter



WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION

Chuck Dowding, *Chairperson*
Barry Sylvester
Rosann Park-Jones
David Varca
Chris Foley
Elizabeth Kunkle
Mike Nielsen
~~Anne Wedner~~
Jack Coladara



GREEN AWARD NOMINATION

Green Awards were developed by the Village's Environmental and Forestry Commission to recognize properties and households within Winnetka that demonstrate exceptional commitment to sustainable and environmentally friendly practices within the Village of Winnetka.

Please complete the following information to nominate a property within Winnetka for a Green Award:

Property Address: 950 Green Bay Rd
Owner: Adam Paronto
Owner's Phone and E-mail: [REDACTED]

1. Award Category (check one):

- Climate:** Projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, maintain clean and healthful air, and develop resiliency to climate change impacts.
- Economic Development:** Project that promote innovation and cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs and businesses.
- Energy:** Projects that reduce energy output such as increasing efficiency or utilizing renewable energy.
- Land:** Projects that conserve, utilize or restore existing land such as native landscape planting.
- Leadership:** Projects that work collaboratively towards a sustainable region or advocate for policies that align with sustainable practices.

- Mobility:** Projects that support safe and effective transportation, support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely, integrates sustainability into transportation policies, programs and regulation, or promote public and sustainable transportation choices.
- Municipal Operations:** Projects that lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices, integrate sustainability into all municipal operations, operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet, collect and manage data to advance sustainability.
- Sustainable Communities:** Projects that promote cultural vibrancy in the community; foster a culture of health, safety and wellness; increase access to sustainably grown local food; promote a sustainable identity for the community; or cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability.
- Water/Stormwater:** Projects that filter stormwater runoff or store stormwater on property such bioswales, rain gardens or rain barrels.
- Waste & Recycling:** Projects that substantially reduce waste or use of recycled material. Such projects may include use of a composter, reusing recycled materials or diverting waste from landfills.
- Innovation/Other:** All other projects that do not fit into an above category.

2. **Property Type** (check one):

- Private
- Commercial
- Public

3. **Brief Description of the Project and Benefits** (use extra pages if needed):

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Formed in 2015, Reprise passionately roasts & serves award-winning coffees, all while focusing on sustainability. Reprise works to create an environment that thanks everyone in the supply chain from farmer to barista. Reprise gives jobs, increases income, & fights poverty. Reprise also protects a private rainforest preserve, ~~endangered~~ endangered species, and the air we breathe. And, through sales of ~~of GIVN~~ (givnwater.com) water, Reprise has provided 335 days of clean water to people in need.

4. **Approximate Date of Project Completion:** Reprise opened in 2015; all projects ongoing since then or thereafter

5. **Name, Address, Phone Number and Email of Nominator:** ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
 Liz Kunkle [Redacted]

6. **Photos Enclosed**

7. **Signature of Nominator:** _____

8. **Signature of Property Owner:** _____

Please contact Brendon Mendoza with any questions at (847) 716-3550 or bmendoza@winnetka.org

Please send this form with photos attached and other documentation to:

Brendon Mendoza
Public Works Analyst
1390 Willow Road
Winnetka, IL 60093

Guidelines:

- You can nominate your own property or as many projects as you like, as long as you get the owner's signature.
- The project must have been completed within the past 5 years.
- Commercial, public or private properties are eligible.
- All applications are reviewed and awarded by members of the Environmental and Forestry Commission.
- Deadline for application is February 28, 2020. Awards are announced at the Village Council meeting closest to April 22nd (Earth Day).

Award Criteria:

Applications will be evaluated by the Village of Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission based on how well the projects or initiatives meet the following criteria:

- **Positive Impact** - The project must have a meaningful and demonstrable impact in Winnetka by helping protect the environment or enhance the quality of life for residents.
- **Embraces Innovation/Creativity** - The project should reflect a new concept, technology, or practice in Winnetka and should employ new ideas in the industry.
- **Overcomes Challenges** - The project should explain what challenges were overcome.
- **Transferable** - The project should be able to be replicated by others in similar situations.
- **Demonstrates Initiative** - The project should reflect how the individual or group took action to move sustainability forward in their position or community.



WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION



Chuck Dowding, *Chairperson*
Barry Sylvester
Rosann Park-Jones
David Varca
Chris Foley
Elizabeth Kunkle
Mike Nielsen
Anne Wedner

GREEN AWARD NOMINATION

Green Awards were developed by the Village's Environmental and Forestry Commission to recognize properties and households within Winnetka that demonstrate exceptional commitment to sustainable and environmentally friendly practices within the Village of Winnetka.

Please complete the following information to nominate a property within Winnetka for a Green Award:

Property Address: 1390 Willow Road, Winnetka, IL 60093

Owner: Jim Stier, Village Forester

Owner's Phone and E-mail: 847-716-3535

1. **Award Category** (check one):

- Climate:** Projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, maintain clean and healthful air, and develop resiliency to climate change impacts.
- Economic Development:** Project that promote innovation and cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs and businesses.
- Energy:** Projects that reduce energy output such as increasing efficiency or utilizing renewable energy.
- Land:** Projects that conserve, utilize or restore existing land such as native landscape planting.
- Leadership:** Projects that work collaboratively towards a sustainable region or advocate for policies that align with sustainable practices.

- Mobility:** Projects that support safe and effective transportation, support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely, integrates sustainability into transportation policies, programs and regulation, or promote public and sustainable transportation choices.
- Municipal Operations:** Projects that lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices, integrate sustainability into all municipal operations, operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet, collect and manage data to advance sustainability.
- Sustainable Communities:** Projects that promote cultural vibrancy in the community; foster a culture of health, safety and wellness; increase access to sustainably grown local food; promote a sustainable identity for the community; or cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability.
- Water/Stormwater:** Projects that filter stormwater runoff or store stormwater on property such bioswales, rain gardens or rain barrels.
- Waste & Recycling:** Projects that substantially reduce waste or use of recycled material. Such projects may include use of a composter, reusing recycled materials or diverting waste from landfills.
- Innovation/Other:** All other projects that do not fit into an above category.

2. **Property Type** (check one):

- Private
- Commercial
- Public

3. **Brief Description of the Project and Benefits** (use extra pages if needed): _____

See attached

4. **Approximate Date of Project Completion:** Ongoing

5. **Name, Address, Phone Number and Email of Nominator:** Chris Foley, [REDACTED]



6. Photos Enclosed

7. Signature of Nominator: _____

8. Signature of Property Owner: _____

Please contact Brendon Mendoza with any questions at (847) 716-3550 or bmendoza@winnetka.org

Please send this form with photos attached and other documentation to:

Brendon Mendoza
Public Works Analyst
1390 Willow Road
Winnetka, IL 60093

Guidelines:

- You can nominate your own property or as many projects as you like, as long as you get the owner's signature.
- The project must have been completed within the past 5 years.
- Commercial, public or private properties are eligible.
- All applications are reviewed and awarded by members of the Environmental and Forestry Commission.
- Deadline for application is February 28, 2020. Awards are announced at the Village Council meeting closest to April 22nd (Earth Day).

Award Criteria:

Applications will be evaluated by the Village of Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission based on how well the projects or initiatives meet the following criteria:

- Positive Impact - The project must have a meaningful and demonstrable impact in Winnetka by helping protect the environment or enhance the quality of life for residents.
- Embraces Innovation/Creativity - The project should reflect a new concept, technology, or practice in Winnetka and should employ new ideas in the industry.
- Overcomes Challenges - The project should explain what challenges were overcome.
- Transferable - The project should be able to be replicated by others in similar situations.
- Demonstrates Initiative - The project should reflect how the individual or group took action to move sustainability forward in their position or community.

As a representative of the Village's Environmental and Forestry Commission, I am nominating Jim Stier for a Green Award. As a community, we have benefitted from Jim's tireless efforts to ensure one of our most prized assets - our trees - are preserved and maintained to the highest possible standards. As a Commission, we have benefitted from Jim's expertise in addressing issues around tree removal, reforestation, and the improving the quality of life in the Village. Of particular note is Jim's own personal investment of time and effort in inspecting trees requested for removal, and overseeing removal of damaged or diseased trees and subsequent replanting. Our Commission, and our community, owes Jim a tremendous debt of gratitude for his many years of service.