**Flood Protection Assistance**

The Village of Winnetka is a designated flood plain community. The Engineering and Sewer Divisions of the Public Works Department provide the community with one-on-one advice about property protection, drainage, flooding, sewer maintenance issues, and any available funding for making necessary repairs.

If you have any questions regarding drainage, flooding, flood plain, sewer management or maintenance, or would like to schedule an on-site visit, please contact the noted Village staff for assistance:

**Engineering (Drainage and Flooding Issues, Flood Plain Questions, Sewer Management):**
- Steve Saunders, P.E., Director of Public Works/Village Engineer
  [ssauders@winnetka.org](mailto:ssauders@winnetka.org), 847-716-3534
- James Bernahl, P.E., CFM, Assistant Director of Public Works and Engineering
  [jbernahl@winnetka.org](mailto:jbernahl@winnetka.org), 847-716-3261
- Susan Chen, P.E., CFM, Assistant Village Engineer
  [schen@winnetka.org](mailto:schen@winnetka.org), 847-716-3532
- Mehdi Vakil, Civil Engineer
  [mvakil@winnetka.org](mailto:mvakil@winnetka.org), 847-716-3530

**Sewer Maintenance:**
- Mike Rivard, Sewer Foreman
  [mrivard@winnetka.org](mailto:mrivard@winnetka.org), 847-716-3264

**Stormwater Intergovernmental Agreements Progress**

The Village of Winnetka and New Trier District 203 negotiated an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) authorizing the Village to utilize below-grade areas of Duke Childs Field for stormwater storage and conveyance related to flood control efforts in western and southwestern Winnetka. New Trier District 203 approved the IGA on June 10, 2019, followed by the Village on June 18, 2019.

As part of the agreement, District 203 will realize stormwater and drainage improvements to Duke Childs Field, and will be able to reconfigure the athletic fields and facilities on the property. The agreement specifies which parties are responsible for financing and building various parts of the project: the Village will make stormwater improvements and District 203 will make athletic improvements. Under the terms of the agreement, neither party is obligated to make their improvements, but if they do, they will not deviate substantially from those discussed in the plans approved by both the Village and District 203.

The Village is working toward IGAs with District 36 and the Winnetka Park District to create similar arrangements for stormwater improvements. Once these agreements are in place, the Village will work with the Cook County Forest Preserve to secure a license agreement and develop engineering plans for work on the project.

Construction will commence at Duke Childs Field, behind Crow Island School, and on Park District property once Intergovernmental Agreements are made, a license agreement is secured, and engineering plans are developed.

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**Mark Your Calendars**

- **September 22**  Pioneer Day (see insert)
- **October 4**    Hubbard Woods First Friday Art Attack
- **October 12**  Fire and Police Open House
- **November 6**  Pumpkin Composting
- **November 30** Small Business Saturday
- **December 6**  Tree Lighting at Dwyer Park and Chamber Holiday Market
- **December 8**  Winnetka-Northfield Chamber Red Invitation Sale
A Message from the Village President

As the long days of summer wane and we look forward to autumn, let’s pause to reflect on the notable activities of the summer months. The Village was again proud to sponsor the Winnetka Music Festival and Art in the Village, two annual events that showcase the charm and vitality of our Village to visitors. Winnetka’s 150th birthday was celebrated on the Village Green after the Independence Day parade. We will close out the Sesquicentennial celebrations with a fun-filled Founder’s Day event on September 22, which you can read all about in the special insert in this newsletter. Rounding out our summer, the Farmers’ Market is back for its second season until October 19; the Sidewalk Sale was a big success despite the dog-day heat; and Coffee & Classics continues to draw visitors to the East Elm business district the last Sunday of each month.

Also over the summer, the Village of Winnetka and New Trier District 203 finished negotiating an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) authorizing the Village to develop below-grade stormwater storage and conveyance under Duke Childs Field as part of flood control efforts in western and southwestern Winnetka. Reaching agreement on the IGA is a crucial component of the stormwater Memorandum of Understanding with Cook County, and significantly advances the wetlands stormwater detention project on Forest Preserve land west of Hibbard Road. Read more about stormwater management on the front page.

Phase I of the Streetscape and Signage program is underway in the West Elm business district; construction is expected to be substantially complete by October 18. More about the Streetscape Plan can be found on page 8. Also under construction: the Oak and Cherry Street bridges. The project includes the removal and replacement of the superstructure of each bridge; their foundations will also be supplemented to increase their capacity. Construction is scheduled to be complete by November 2019. The Village Council and Staff appreciate the community’s patience with this important project, which was financed at 80% from Federal funds. Keep updated about Village construction projects on our website: VillageofWinnetka.org.

On August 6, the Village Council voted unanimously to repeal approvals for the One Winnetka development project due to the developer’s non-compliance with the development agreement. The agreement required the developer to provide a third-party financial guaranty of completion by November 18, 2018 and also required the developer to close on the Conney’s Pharmacy property and record the Plat of Subdivision no later than June 29, 2019. Both deadlines were missed, and caused a default of the agreement. The Village has filed a complaint in court against the developer to compel action on numerous property maintenance issues. The properties remain privately-owned; however, the Village continues to monitor the vacant buildings for health, building code, and safety issues. The One Winnetka site continues to offer an opportunity for a great development project, and the Village welcomes conversations about future site opportunities.

Village staff is currently assembling their recommended departmental budgets for the 2020 fiscal year, which begins January 1, 2020. The Village Council will meet on October 29 to review the proposed budget recommendations. The meeting is open to the public, and I encourage you to participate and offer your feedback on the development of the Budget, which provides for the high quality services residents and businesses expect. Please visit the Village’s website at VillageOfWinnetka.org for up-to-date news on Village Council meetings.

Best regards,

Chris Rintz
Village President

2020 Budget Planning Underway

Village staff have begun preparing the 2020 Annual Budget: a policy document that establishes the spending plan and framework for achieving strategic goals and objectives established by the Village Council. Each year, departments prepare fiscally responsible budgets in which all expenses, including recurring expenses, must be justified. This helps to ensure the efficient allocation of resources based on the needs of the Village. For 2020 there are a number of key issues affecting the budget including:

- Stormwater management / flood reduction
- Downtown revitalization
- Aging infrastructure
- Increased pension funding requirements
- State revenue cuts

The Village has previously been awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and will continue to prepare the budget document in accordance with GFOA standards. These standards provide for a more user-friendly, high-quality budget document that reflects guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting. In order to win the budget award, the Village has to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for an effective budget presentation which assess how well the Village’s budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.

Continued on page 3 >
Council Action Summary

• May 14: The Council discussed its options for a Village-owned parcel at 93 Green Bay Road, which was previously leased to a car dealership and New Trier High School for overflow parking. A Request for Proposals to developers was approved, with the goal of returning the property to a productive commercial use that will provide an attractive and pedestrian-friendly southern gateway to Winnetka.

• May 21: The Environmental & Forestry Commission presented Green Awards to Mercedes and Bernardo Sichel for their residential stormwater improvement project; and Amanda and George Hanley for a garden project that incorporated stormwater best management practices. A special use permit was approved for Robbins Architecture in Hubbard Woods, as the business is complementary to the Hubbard Woods Design District, and has an appealing and vibrant window display to attract pedestrians to the area. An Ordinance updating the Village's building codes was introduced; the code is regularly updated as national model codes become available to provide the most current building, fire, and safety protocols for the community. Finally, the Council reviewed Coldwell Banker's special use permit, which stipulates the realty office must activate its display windows with a limited retail component to attract pedestrians to the area. Several Trustees offered to work with Coldwell Banker to market the space for a popup store or other retail activity.

• June 4: The Council held a public hearing on a proposed banquet/reception hall, catering business, and cafe in Hubbard Woods. After hearing from the applicant and audience members, the Council approved the new use, as it will fill a void in Winnetka's business offerings and bring vibrancy to the district. Approval of the new business also required a Liquor Code amendment and new parking regulations for valet parking.

• June 18: Rick Swanson, of Swanson Development, LLC, gave a presentation of a proposed planned development for 688 & 694 Green Bay Road. A preliminary conceptual review of proposed developments is the first step in the new planned development approval process. Mr. Swanson will flesh out his proposal and present it to the Planned Development Commission for public hearings and a recommendation to the Council. A Resolution concerning the regulation of potential recreational cannabis businesses was passed. The Resolution stipulates that cannabis businesses are not a permitted use in Winnetka; a public hearing to gather community input on the issue of such businesses will be held by the Council in September.

• July 9: Potential changes to refuse collection in Winnetka were discussed. Several vendors who provide subscription food scrap composting services were endorsed to provide such service to residents who wish to subscribe. The Council approved outsourcing of commercial refuse collection by July 1, 2020, although the Village will retain a measure of control through licensing the vendors. A Study Session to discuss residential refuse collection will be scheduled in the fall to make a determination about “pay as you throw” and curbside collection programs.

• July 16: An intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between Winnetka and New Trier High School was approved. See Page 1 for details.

• July 29: The Village Council voted unanimously to repeal approvals for the One Winnetka development project due to the developer’s default status with the development agreement. The Village has also filed a complaint in court against the developer to compel action on numerous property maintenance issues. The properties remain privately-owned; however, the Village continues to monitor the vacant buildings for health, building code, and safety issues. The Council discussed the 2018 Audit with the Village’s auditor, Ron Amen of Lauterbach & Amen. The Village has again been awarded the Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting, a prestigious award from the Government Finance Officers Association, which Winnetka has earned each year since 1993.

2020 Budget Planning Underway  cont.

The Village is committed to proposing a budget that continues our long-standing practice of controlling operating costs while investing in capital to repair and enhance the Village’s aging infrastructure. The final budget will be balanced, meaning that routine annual operating expenditures will be fully funded by routine annual operating revenues and will not rely on debt service for any one-time revenue sources.

The Village Council will hold a public hearing and conduct a full review of the proposed Annual Budget on October 29.
Winnetka Promotes Preferred Composting Vendors

In April 2019, Village Council tasked staff with exploring options for implementing a Village-wide composting program for residents. Three preferred vendors will be promoted by the Village. Each vendor has their own pricing structure and service levels, as well as porch/backdoor pick-up services. Vendors also provide their own five-gallon buckets and lids to residents.

If residents choose to work with a composting vendor, customer service and billing are separate from Village refuse collection services. Each vendor offers the ability to sign up via their website and make payments online.

The three preferred vendors are:

WasteNot: A zero-emissions service utilizing electric vans for pick-up. Weekly pickup is available, and residents have access to receiving “finished” compost on distribution days. Visit wastenotcompost.com to learn more.

Compost Club by The Urban Canopy: Biweekly pickups are available and composted material is used at local, urban farms to create healthy soil. Visit theurbancanopy.org/compost-club to learn more.

Collective Resource: Residential compost is taken to a commercial compost site. Pick-up schedules vary. Visit collectiveresource.us/residential-composting-service to learn more.

Pumpkin Composting Event

In an effort to expand environmental initiatives, the Village is hosting a one-day pumpkin collection. Residents are encouraged to bring in pumpkins for the Village to properly dispose of, limiting the amount brought to landfills. Public works will provide a designated drop-off location at the Municipal Yards Facility at 1390 Willow Road from 9 AM to 1 PM on Wednesday, November 6, 2019. Please remove any solid waste (candles, bags, etc.). Collection of garbage, food scraps, or other landscape waste will not be accepted.

Curbside Leaf Collection

The Village’s annual curbside leaf collection program will run from Monday, October 14 until Monday, November 25. Residents may rake their leaves to the parkway just inside the edge of the curb for collection by the Village. Leaves are then hauled to Antioch, IL for composting, which the Village then receives back in early spring for residents to use as compost material. For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568.

Earth-Friendly Updates

Fall Tree Planting

The Village is currently taking requests for the fall Parkway Tree Planting program, through which various species of 2 ½” trunk-diameter trees are planted in suitable parkway areas at no cost to residents. Larger diameter sizes are available, but adjacent homeowners are responsible for the cost difference. The deadline for planting requests is September 23, 2019. For more information, call the Assistant Village Forester at 847-716-3589, or e-mail at alueck@winnetka.org.

New Location for Holiday Tree Lighting

This year’s tree lighting festivities will take place in Dwyer Park, where the Village planted a new evergreen tree. Save the date and plan to join us on December 6 for holiday fun and the Winnetka-Northfield Chamber of Commerce’s Holiday Market.
New Businesses Coming Soon

Hubbard Woods has been the place to be for new Winnetka businesses in 2019:

- In August, the Shade Store opened its third Illinois location in the former E-Street Denim space at 908 Green Bay Road. Part of a national brand offering high-end custom blinds and window treatments, the new location joins two others in Merchandise Mart and Oak Brook Center.

- Local interior designer Sarah Dippold is also working on opening a showroom and design studio in the adjacent space that previously housed MMint Interiors. Dippold Home is expected to open at 906 Green Bay Road this fall and will offer design services as well as retail sales of home décor items.

- Construction is underway at Spirit Elephant, a new full-service restaurant concept coming to the former Village Carpet space at 924 Green Bay Road.

- In June, catering operator Boutique Bites received zoning approval to open a café and event venue in the former Antique Emporium space at 915 Green Bay Road.

Work is ongoing at 507 Chestnut Street in West Elm, which will soon be home to Italian restaurant Tocco, which is relocating from Wicker Park and is expected to open this fall. New Women’s clothing retailer Bunny & Babe is also in the works for the former McElroy Furs space at 555 Chestnut, with plans to open in early 2020.

Fall Business District Events

Although summer may be winding down, there’s still plenty to do in Winnetka’s business districts. The weekly Farmers’ market in the Village Hall parking lot continues on Saturday mornings until October 19.

The 5th annual East Elm Wine Walk returns to Lincoln Avenue on Saturday, September 14. Attendees at the event will sample wines from Wilmette Wine Cellar and appetizers from local restaurants while exploring local businesses on Lincoln Avenue and Elm Street. Proceeds from the event benefit Boys Hope Girls Hope of Illinois, and tickets are available on Eventbrite (search for “East Elm Wine Walk”).

October’s First Friday (October 4) also includes the North Shore Art League’s annual Art Attack event, which brings artist demonstrations and exhibitions to participating shops and restaurants throughout Hubbard Woods.

Be sure to also save the dates for annual holiday events, including Small Business Saturday on November 30, the Holiday Tree Lighting on December 6 in Dwyer Park, and Red Invitation Sale on December 8.

Anniversaries and Award Winners

Winnetka businesses made a strong showing in the annual Better (formerly Make it Better) Best-of-Chicago poll, with nine taking top honors in their respective categories, including:

- George Trois – Best Fine Dining*
- Grateful Bites – Best Pizza*
- Mino’s – Best Italian*
- Stacked & Folded – Best Sandwiches*
- New Trier – Best Public School
- Winnetka Music Festival – Best Neighborhood Festival* & Best Music Festival*
- Children’s Theatre Winnetka – Best Children’s Theater*
- North Shore Weddings & Events – Best Wedding Planner*
- Bella Bleu Bridal – Best Bridal Shop*

Three Winnetka businesses also observed milestone anniversaries this year. Avli marked 10 years in business this June. In July, Bleachers Sports Music and Framing celebrated 20 years in Winnetka and 15 years in their current location on Chestnut Street. In August, Massage Therapy Center of Winnetka celebrated 30 years.

*Received recognition in the category of “Best of Suburbs”
Safety Updates

Fire Prevention Week
According to the National Archives and Records Administration Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest-running public health and safety observance on record. In 1925, President Coolidge signed a proclamation declaring a national observance of fire prevention each year. The Great Chicago Fire occurred on October 8 to October 10, 1871 and was selected as the annual week of observance.

During Fire Prevention Week in Winnetka, public, private, and parochial students are given fire safety presentations by our Firefighter/Paramedics. The National Fire Protection Association has announced this year’s theme as "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!"

Fire safety should be observed year round with these following tips:

- Make sure you have working smoke detectors in all bedrooms and on each floor of the house. Carbon monoxide detectors are also required by law.
- Never leave cooking processes unattended. Many residential fires occur when someone leaves the stove or oven on and leaves the house or falls asleep.
- If you use candles, make sure they have a sturdy, non-combustible base and that they are completely extinguished prior to going to sleep or leaving the home.
- Always turn pot handles inward to avoid children pulling them down, causing burns.
- If you use a fireplace, make sure you are familiar with the damper operation. If you have young children in the room, keep them a safe distance from the fireplace to avoid burn injuries.
- Small combustible material fires can be quickly extinguished with water or a fire extinguisher. Never let a fire get between you and your exit, and always call 911 regardless. We will make sure the fire is completely extinguished and has not spread into a wall or hidden space.

Public Safety Open House
Mark your calendars! On Saturday, October 12 from 10 AM to 1 PM, the Winnetka Fire and Police Departments will be hosting their annual Public Safety Building Open House in recognition of Fire Prevention Week. This event is for the whole family: guests will have the opportunity to explore the fire engine, ambulance, police cars and motorcycles up-close, watch a vehicle extrication demonstration, tour the police station, and use a real fire hose to put out a pretend fire. Other events include puppet shows, interactive fingerprinting, button-making, and a fire extinguisher simulator. We hope to see you there!

Alan Berkowsky, Fire Chief

The Winnetka Police Department would like to share a few tips and thoughts to help promote a safe and enjoyable back-to-school and Halloween season:

Considerations when commuting to school
Children under 10 years of age who walk to school should be accompanied by an adult or older sibling who can ensure they walk safely. Use the sidewalk whenever possible and use marked cross walks to cross the street. Remember to watch for traffic and never assume that a car will stop for you. When crossing the street, be aware of your surroundings and refrain from looking down at devices!

When driving in a school zone, obey the posted speed limit; be mindful of buses with an extended stop-arm and flashing red lights that alert you to stop. Do not text and drive!

Halloween Safety
Halloween is Thursday, October 31. "Trick or Treat" hours will be from the end of school until dusk. Residents who choose to participate are encouraged to illuminate the outside of their home to let children know they are welcome. Parents are encouraged to walk with their children as they "Trick or Treat" throughout the neighborhood.

Continued on page 7 >
Village Downtown Streetscape Construction

In June 2018, the Village Council adopted the Downtown Streetscape and Signage Master Plan. The Plan was created to:
- improve the pedestrian experience with a more walkable, bike-able and safe downtown
- improve the aging infrastructure
- enhance the connectivity to storefronts and signage through sidewalk improvements and strategic repositioning of trees
- make the landscape more sustainable by bundling trees and planted material in areas more conducive to growth and survival
- intentionally create more robust gathering spaces, allowing for outdoor dining/event opportunities and residents to congregate

The Plan is based on the concept that making Winnetka more walkable and livable will also enhance the economic health of our existing businesses and attract new ones in the coming years.

In August, the Village began construction on Phase I, which consists of improvements to Chestnut Street between Spruce Street and Elm Street, the south side of Spruce Street west of Chestnut Street, and the intersection of Elm Street and Chestnut Street. Construction includes new sidewalks and curbs, enhanced pedestrian scale lighting, larger corner gathering spaces, additional street furniture such as benches and bike racks, and larger tree pits designed to accommodate new trees in a manner that better ensures their long-term health and survivability. The project also includes new underground electric infrastructure to support an expanded holiday lighting system, and drainage and water system upgrades.

Construction is being phased to minimize disruption to local businesses, allow for some on-street parking, and maintain access to stores. Construction is expected to be substantially completed, with the exception of landscaping, by October 18. You can keep up with the construction progress on the Village's website: villageofwinnetka.org/residents/downtown-streetscape.

Fall Message from the Police Chief cont.

Motorists should be cautious of increased pedestrian traffic along side streets. Dark costumes and low light conditions can create visibility challenges. Please slow down and be aware of your surroundings when driving throughout the Village.

A note on scams

Scams and spoofing can happen any time of year. Spoofing is the act of impersonating or disguising communication from an unknown source and making it appear to be from a known source, including caller ID and email address impersonation. If you are suspicious of a phone call you receive, hang up and verify the source of the call. Avoid giving out personal information over the phone unless you know for certain whom you are speaking with. Additionally, don’t ever pay a bill, fine, or an unknown person with a gift card.

Marc Hornstein, Police Chief

Chief Berkowsky and Officers Taylor and Harrison attended the Hands of Peace Picnic on July 23, 2019 at Elder Park. Hands of Peace is a local organization that brings Israeli and Palenstinian teenagers to the North Shore for three weeks of activities to promote peace and understanding.
### Thanksgiving Week Refuse and Recycling Schedule

**Week of November 24 – November 30, 2019**

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

### 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 Department: 847-501-6000
- Public Works Department: 847-716-3568
- Utility Department: 847-716-3558
- Utility Billing Services: 847-446-9550
- Community Development Department: 847-716-3576

### Sign up for Smart911 and Winnetka Alerts

Smart911 is a secure system that allows you to create a safety profile for your household or business that includes any information important for first responders to know in an emergency. 911 operators have very little information about you: only your phone number and a general sense of your location if you are calling from a cell phone. Signing up for Smart911 will allow you to receive Winnetka Alerts: real-time Village alerts about parking, special events, hydrant flushing, and road closures.

Visit [smart911.com](http://smart911.com) to register.

### Village Council Meetings

Meetings start at 7 PM at Village Hall, 510 Green Bay Road. Agenda materials are available at [villageofwinnetka.org](http://villageofwinnetka.org) “Meetings & Agendas” or at the Winnetka Library Reference Desk and Village Hall Manager’s Office.

Webcasts of the meetings are available the following morning at [villageofwinnetka.org](http://villageofwinnetka.org) “Watch Council Meetings.”