



02	President's Letter
03	2019 Budget
04	Historic Preservation Awards
05	New Businesses
06	Building Permits
07	Yard Waste Schedule

THE COMMUNICATOR

SPRING 2019

The Village of Wilmette Newsletter

2019 Vehicle Sticker Information

Vehicle stickers will be available for purchase starting March 1 and must be displayed by April 15. Any vehicle registered in Wilmette with the Illinois Secretary of State not displaying a 2019 sticker after April 15 is subject to receiving a violation. Purchase by May 15 to avoid a late fee. There are three ways to purchase vehicles stickers:

- Online at wilmette.com/finance/vehicle-stickers/
- In person at Village Hall 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday
- By mail for vehicles currently registered

Visit the website for information applicable to new residents, senior citizens, lost or stolen stickers, and transfer stickers.

Election Information

The Consolidated Election will be held April 2 from 6 a.m. – 7 p.m. Early voting begins March 18. The Village has three four-year Trustee positions on the ballot. In addition, there is one two-year Trustee position to fill the remainder of Trustee Steve Leonard's term following his resignation in 2018. The following candidates' names will appear on the ballot in the order presented:

Village Trustee (4-year term, vote for 3)

Joel I. Feinstein
Daniel E. Sullivan, Jr.
Senta Plunkett
Ryrie Pellaton
Gina Kennedy



Village Trustee (2-year term, vote for 1)

Peter H. Barrow
Jeff Axelrod

The Cook County Clerk's website, cookcountyclerk.com, offers information on:

- Voter registration
- Early voting locations and times
- Absentee ballots
- Polling locations
- Precincts

Polling and precinct information is also available from the Village's Deputy Clerk's Office, 847-853-7511 or hirschb@wilmette.com.

President's Letter

Thank you for supporting Wilmette businesses during the holiday season. As you know, two percent of every dollar you spend locally gets put back into the Village to help keep Wilmette a special place. That's Wilmettonomics!

Business is normally slow for restaurants and retail stores during the first few months of the year. So, please remember to patronize our local merchants. To receive great offers and discounts via text message from more than 50 Wilmette businesses, text WIL to 55678.

Economic Development

One of the questions I get asked most frequently is, "What is going to happen at the Carson's, Imperial Motors, and Treasure Island sites?" Please be assured that the Village staff is working diligently with developers and the respective property owners to ensure reuse and redevelopment of these sites in a manner consistent with the character of our community.

In 2018, the Village Board approved a new NorthShore University Health Care Pediatric Center at the former Carson's Furniture store space in Eden's Plaza. As part of this approval, the Village limited new, non-retail uses throughout the shopping center until such time as the Carson's department store space is occupied by a large retail store or hotel. Because the Carson's department store property is owned separately from the remainder of Edens Plaza, it will take some time to fill the vacancy as sale of the parcel proceeds through the bankruptcy process. Edens Plaza was recently sold, and the Village staff met with the new

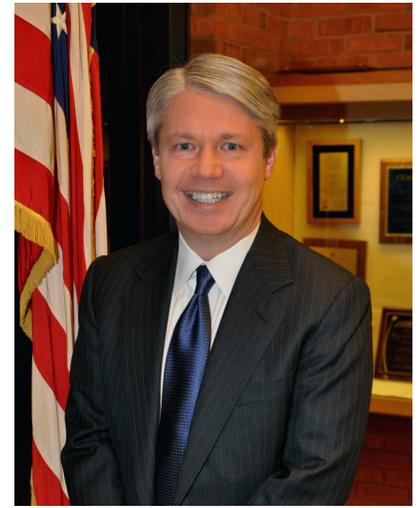
owner to talk about the future of the center.

At Imperial Motors, the Village staff has been working closely with the property owner and potential developers. At this time, the owner seeks to retain ownership of the site, as well as the existing building which limits the number of potential users. The Village's Zoning Ordinance encourages restaurants and retail uses in this area of the Village Center.

With regard to Treasure Island, the Village staff has contacted a number of grocers to determine their interest in filling the space, including Traders Joe's, Sunset Foods, Grand Food Center, and Foodstuffs. Unfortunately, these grocers have indicated that either the location or the size of the space does not meet their requirements. A grocer remains a very desirable use, and staff will continue these outreach efforts while Treasure Island's owners (who also own the adjacent shopping center) work to resolve their financial problems, which precipitated the closure of all stores in the chain.

Financial News

Over the past several years, the Village has secured several state and federal grants to increase transportation-related infrastructure spending. In 2019, the Village will spend \$4.2 million on roads and related infrastructure, which is more than double the amount spent in 2015. We have been able to accomplish this increased investment while limiting annual property tax increases. For 2019, the property tax levy increase of 2.75 percent is the lowest percentage increase in



22 years. More information on the budget can be found on page three.

As a testament to the strength of the Village's financial management, Moody's Financial Services affirmed Wilmette's Aaa bond rating last year. A "triple-A" rating is the highest credit rating, and maintaining one is no easy task for a municipality in Illinois as several communities saw their ratings downgraded last year.

2019 Consolidated Election

Local government directly impacts your daily life more than any other level of government. Your vote shapes our community, and I urge all of you to become informed citizens by learning about the various candidates. Please be sure to exercise your right to vote this spring.

I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful holiday season, and I wish each of you a happy and healthy 2019!

Bob Bielinski
President
Village of Wilmette

2019 Adopted Budget

The 2019 Adopted Budget provides the resources needed to maintain and enhance the municipal services that makes Wilmette one of the best places to live and raise a family.

Highlights: Property taxes account for 29 percent of revenue. Almost 40 percent of water and sewer fees are generated by customers outside of Wilmette.

Highlights: Critical services including police, fire, public works, and water and sewer are 86 percent of expenditures.

How Do Residents Pay for Village Services?

To keep property taxes as low as possible while maintaining important services, the Village generates \$54 million in revenues from other sources, such as sales tax and user fees.

Highlights: No increases to permit fees, vehicle stickers, garbage collection, and taxes other than property tax.

Water/Sewer and Solid Waste Rates

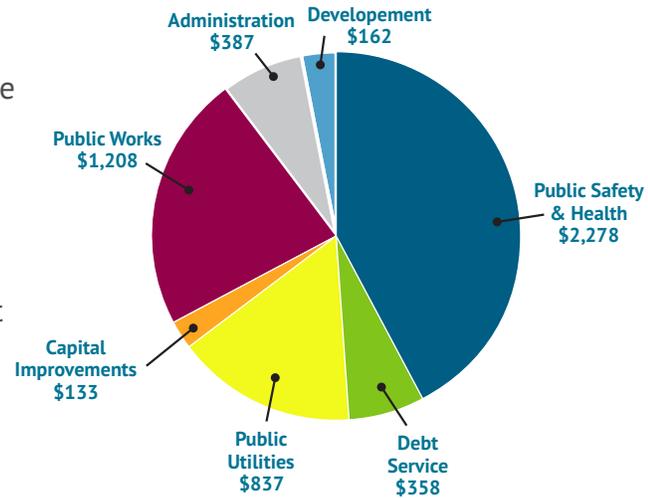
After avoiding water rate increases for five of the last seven years, the Village Board approved a modest 7 cent increase to the water rate. This will increase the average annual residential water bill by \$7. For the third year in a row, the sewer rate will not increase. The refuse and recycling rate will also see no increase.

Below are the combined water/sewer and solid waste rates for 2019.

Water/Sewer Rate	Refuse & Recycling Rate
\$6.99 / 100 cu. ft.	\$23.75 / month

What Services Do Residents Receive?

Highlights: While the average household contributes \$4,834 annually, it receives \$5,363 worth of services such as, police and fire protection, leaf collection, snow and ice removal, street improvements, and water and sewer service.



Where Your Property Tax Dollars Go...

The 2019 Budget provides for a property tax increase of 2.75 percent, the lowest increase in 22 years. This increase equates to approximately \$50 for the average homeowner and less than 0.5 percent of the average total property tax bill. The Village represents one of 11 taxing districts on your property and accounts for approximately 12 percent of the total bill.



Historic Preservation Awards

The Village of Wilmette Historic Preservation Commission is requesting nominations for its Annual Historic Preservation Awards Program.

Nominations are open to residential, commercial, public, and religious buildings, as well as landscapes within the village limits.

Nomination categories are:

- Stewardship
- Restoration
- Rehabilitation
- Landscape Conservation

- Sympathetic Addition
- Streetscape Compatibility

The nominated sites will be judged by a panel of preservation professionals and the winners will be honored at a special award ceremony co-sponsored with the Wilmette Historical Museum in May. Nomination forms are available at wilmette.com and at Village Hall. Completed nominations must be submitted by Friday, March 29. For more information, please contact Kate McManus at 847-853-7522 or email mcmanusk@wilmette.com.

Spring 2019 Tree Planting

Request to have a tree planted on the parkway this spring through the Village's Cooperative Tree Planting Program. This is a cost-share program in which residents can select the species and the size of the tree to be planted. Pick up an application at the Village Hall or download it from wilmette.com to review the available tree species, sizes, and costs. Applications are due by Friday, March 29 and will be considered in the order they are received. Contact the Forestry Division with questions at 847-853-7587 or email forestry@wilmette.com.



01

Vehicle Stickers
Available

18

Early Voting
begins

Wilmette Historical Museum events February – May

Family Program

Meet the Lincolns
Sunday, February 17
2 – 3 p.m.
Members free, \$5 per family non-members

Lecture

The Politics of Prohibition and
American Identity
Sunday, March 3
2 – 3 p.m.
Members free, \$5 non-members

Kids' Class

Design Your Dream Home
Sunday, March 17
1:30 – 4 p.m.
\$10 members, \$20 non-members

Lecture

Property Tax Assessment Freeze for
Historic Houses
Sunday, April 7
2 – 3 p.m.
Members free, \$5 non-members



Wilmette Historical Museum

Special Event

Annual Spring Housewalk
Sunday, May 19
1 – 5 p.m.
Advance tickets begin at \$40
and are available to purchase on
wilmettehistory.org beginning
March 1

For more information, visit
wilmettehistory.org or call
847-853-7666.

RainReady Wilmette Grant Opens to Wilmette Homeowners

Homeowners interested in making their yards eco-friendly can benefit from a new program, RainReady Wilmette, being offered by the Village. RainReady Wilmette aims to reduce the amount of rain that enters the Village's sewers, improve yard drainage at homes, and benefit the environment by using less resources like water and energy. Each participating homeowner will receive a free assessment of their yard, a customized landscape design, and a grant of up to 50 percent of the cost of sustainable landscaping. The maximum grant amount is \$1,300.



Residents can apply for the program online or pick up a paper application from Village Hall. The deadline to apply is March 31. While only 25 grants are available, applicants who aren't selected this year will be put on a waiting list for the future. The application and a comprehensive list of answers to frequently asked questions about the RainReady program are available at wilmette.com/green-initiatives/rainready/.

The program is funded by the Village of Wilmette and administered by RainReady, an initiative of the Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT).

Going Green Matters

Join the Village and Go Green Wilmette at the area's premier environmental fair, Going Green Matters, on Sunday, March 10 from noon to 4 p.m. at Michigan Shores Club, 911 Michigan Avenue. The theme this year is "Waste Not, Want Not" and the exhibits will help people learn about consuming wisely and wasting less. Explore more than 100 exhibits on plastic solutions, saving energy, transportation choices, green landscaping, and more. Spread the word, volunteer, and bring family and friends. Find more details at goinggreenmatters.org.

29

**Historic Preservation
Award Nominations Due**

**Cooperative Tree
Planting Program
Applications Due**

31

**RainReady
Applications Due**

Welcome to New Businesses

The Village welcomes its newest businesses and thanks them for choosing Wilmette. Please remember to visit these and other Wilmette businesses while shopping this spring. Did you know that 2 percent of almost every dollar you spend at Wilmette retailers goes directly back to the community? By supporting our businesses and buying locally, your sales tax dollars help pay for things like streetscape improvements, summer concerts and village services.

@properties

1100 Central Ave.,
847-251-1100
New north shore residential
brokerage office.

OsteoStrong

126 Skokie Blvd.
224-408-2383
A unique system for developing
your skeletal strength.

Bella Cosa Jewelers

1149 Wilmette Ave.
bellacosajewelers.com
Diamonds and fine jewelry.

Secure Futures

411 Linden Ave.
847-446-2790
Financial wellness and
personalized insurance coverage
for your peace of mind.

Loft 415

415 4th St.
847-920-5379
Linden Square salon.

Codeverse

517 Green Bay Rd.
codeverse.com
Where kids learn to code.

Big City Optical

1515 Sheridan Rd.
847-251-7211
Eye doctors and opticians with
curated collections of eyewear.

Paradise Point Spa

3207 Lake Ave.
847-728-0908
Acupuncture, facials, and
hydrotherapy.

Don't Forget your Building Permit

Many home improvement projects, both inside and out, require a building permit to ensure that the project meets the requirements of the building code, zoning ordinance, and grading ordinance. Permits are required for your protection and the protection of your neighbors and help make sure the work is done right.

With spring around the corner, keep in mind that projects, such as pergolas and landscape improvements require permits. Ordinary landscaping and gardening generally does not

require a grading permit, but if your project includes changing any grading, replacing the grass with new sod, or installing things like landscaping beds or a retaining wall that may change overland water flow, a grading permit will be required.

The earlier you submit your application for a permit, the smoother your permit process will go.

For more information about building permits, see our website at wilmette.com/permits.

Switch to Paperless Utility Billing

Residents can sign up for an online utility account to manage paperless billing options, sign-up for automatic payments through direct debit from a checking or savings account, and make updates to the name and mailing address for linked accounts. The online paperless billing guide is available on wilmette.com.



01

Yard Waste and
Composting Collection
Begins

02

Consolidated
Election

Public Works Projects

Stay in the know by visiting the project websites for public works projects active in spring 2019.

Locust Road - Grant funded reconstruction from Wilmette Ave. to Lake Ave.

Stormwater Improvement Project - Neighborhood storage project to provide 10-year flood protection to 98 percent of at-risk homes west of Ridge Road.

Master Bike & Active Transportation Plan - Community-wide consensus building project for bike and walking routes.

Downtown Streetscape Plan - Improvements to Wilmette and Central Avenues including lighting, sidewalks, roadways, plantings, and amenities.

For more information on these projects, go to wilmette.com.

CPR Class Dates

February 27, 7 p.m.

June 5, 7 p.m.

September 4, 7 p.m.

December 4, 7 p.m.

To register for one of the fire department-hosted CPR/AED certification classes, contact the fire department at 847-251-1101 between 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at least five business days prior to the class date. The course is \$25 per person.

Sustainability Update

Wilmette has joined many other Chicago communities to promote sustainability across the region by endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact (GRC). The GRC addresses ten areas including: climate, economic development, energy, land, leadership, mobility, municipal operations, sustainable communities, water, and waste and recycling. Visit wilmette.com/green-initiatives/ for updates. The Village will use the GRC as a guiding document to help prioritize sustainable actions and articulate our commitment to a sustainable future.

New Collection Schedule for Yard Waste

Yard waste and composting collection begins on Monday, April 1 and extends through November. Advanced Disposal will collect yard waste and organic compost materials on the same day as trash and recycling. Residents are reminded of the following provisions to ensure timely collection:

- Place yard waste out in same location as recycling totes by 7 a.m.
- Materials must be contained in either a bundle tied with biodegradable twine or a 30-gallon biodegradable

paper bag. 96-gallon totes are available at no charge from Advanced Disposal. Call 847-272-4145.

- Each bundle/bag must be affixed with a Village sticker and totes require three stickers.
- Village stickers are available for purchase (\$2.25 each) at Village Hall, Chalet Nursery, Millen Hardware, and both Jewels in Wilmette.

Yard Waste Will No Longer be Collected on Wednesdays



15

**Deadline to display
2019 Vehicle Sticker**

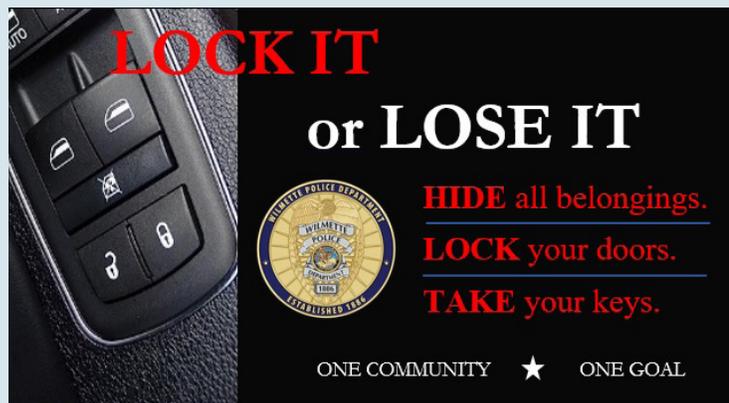
27

**Memorial Day
Village Hall Closed
Garbage Collection
Delayed**

Downtown Development

Downtown Wilmette continues to be a desirable location for new businesses and residents. The recently constructed apartments at 1121 Greenleaf Avenue are fully leased, as is the commercial space on the first floor.

At The Wilshore, the five story luxury apartment building at 611 Green Bay Road, 93 percent of the apartments are leased and a new, 3,000 square foot Italian restaurant has signed a lease on the ground floor. The restaurant is expected to open later this year.



Lock It or Lose It

Many communities, including Wilmette, continue to be targeted due to vehicles being left unlocked. In some cases, keys have been left inside and the cars have been stolen. Several of these cars have been used in the commission of violent crimes in Chicago. Make locking your cars part of your nightly routine.

Connect with Us

Village Board

President

Bob Bielinski bielinskib@wilmette.com

Trustees

Kathy Dodd doddk@wilmette.com

Joel Kurzman kurzmanj@wilmette.com

George Pearce pearceg@wilmette.com

Senta Plunkett plunketts@wilmette.com

Dan Sullivan sullivanand@wilmette.com

Julie Wolf wolfj@wilmette.com

Business hours:

Monday – Friday

7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



1200 Wilmette Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091

PRESORT STD.
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
WILMETTE, IL 60091
PERMIT NO. 26

Local Postal Customer
Wilmette, IL 60091



Village Board Meetings

7:30 p.m. Village Hall

January 8, 22	April 9, 23	July 9, 23	October 7, 22
February 12, 26	May 14, 28	August 13, 27	November 12, 26
March 12, 26	June 11, 25	September 10, 24	December 10

Village Hall Closed

New Year's Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Thanksgiving
Day after Thanksgiving
Christmas Day

Fire/Police Emergency

911

Fire Department

fire@wilmette.com

847-251-1101

Museum

museum@wilmette.com

847-853-7666

Police Department

police@wilmette.com

847-256-1200

Public Works Department

pubworks@wilmette.com

General 847-853-7500

After Hours Emergency 847-256-1200

Water Management

847-853-7535

Village Hall

847-251-2700

Community Development 847-853-7550

Engineering 847-853-7660

Finance 847-853-7609

Clerk 847-853-7511

Village Manager

Timothy J. Frenzer frenzert@wilmette.com

847-853-7509

Other

Library

847-256-5025

Park District

847-256-6100

New Trier Township

847-446-8202

Advanced Disposal Services

847-272-4145

AT&T

800-244-4444

Comcast

866-594-1234

Commonwealth Edison

888-334-7661

Nicor Gas

888-642-6748

NEW!

Food Scrap & Organics Composting Program

Beginning April 2019!



Acceptable Food Items



Fruits & Vegetables (cooked or raw) including unpainted holiday pumpkins



Breads, grains, pasta and cereal (cooked or raw, non-meat sauce okay)



Dairy & eggs including egg shells — but no liquids!



Coffee grounds & filters, Teabags

Yard Waste



Select food scraps can now be composted in your yard waste cart!

Recycling food scraps is easy and has many benefits:

- 1. It's easy!** Save acceptable food scraps in a kitchen container or lidded bucket and then place it in your organics yard waste cart with all other organic yard waste materials before your garbage collection day.
 - 2. No subscription needed!** Compost collection is available to all Wilmette residents, but you must have a yard waste cart to participate! Food scraps are not permitted in paper yard waste bags. To request a yard waste cart, please call Advanced Disposal and one will be delivered to your home free of charge.
- NOTE:** 3 yard waste stickers must be affixed to the lid of your yard waste cart to ensure collection.
- 3. Reduces greenhouse gas emissions** from landfills caused by rotting food.
 - 4. Creates compost!** Food scraps are made into a nutrient rich soil amendment that improves soil health and function.

Unacceptable Items

- No** meat, poultry or seafood
- No** bones or seafood shells
- No** fats, grease or oil
- No** service ware (even if marked compostable)
- No** liquids
- No** pet waste or litter
- No** packaging
- No** plastics, Styrofoam, glass, metal, diapers or other garbage

This program will begin the first week in April and run through the end of November annually.



Advanced Disposal

847-272-4145

www.AdvancedDisposal.com

RECYCLE RIGHT

YES!

Clean & Empty

Replace lids & caps



METAL

Steel & Aluminum Containers and Foil



PAPER

Cardboard (flattened),
Office Paper, Newspaper, Magazines



GLASS

Containers: Bottles & Jars Only



PLASTIC

Containers: Bottles, Tubs, Jugs,
and Jars Only



FOOD & BEVERAGE CARTONS

NO!

Put material in loose
- Not in Bags



No Plastic Bags
No Product Wrap
(return clean to retailer)



No Big Items (Electronics, Wood,
Propane Tanks, Scrap Metal or Styrofoam
– check with local authority for other options)



No Tangles (Hangers, Hoses,
Wire, Cords, Ropes or Chains)



No Clothing
Textiles or Shoes (donate)



**No Food, Liquid, Diapers,
Batteries or Needles**



No Shredded Paper
(check with local authority
for other recycling options)

Clean Recycling is Recycling Right! These Guidelines represent the common items accepted in most recycling programs in Illinois.
Remember---When in doubt, toss it in the garbage!

For more information, please call **Wilmette Public Works** at **847.853.7500** or visit www.advanceddisposal.com/recycleright



Acceptable & unacceptable recyclable items subject to change.