

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

Zoom
May 12, 2021
7:00 PM

AGENDA

In accordance with social distancing requirements and Governor Pritzker's Executive Orders 2020-43 and 2020-44, and Senate Bill 2135, the Village of Winnetka Environmental & Forestry Commission Regular Meeting on May 12, 2021 will be held virtually beginning at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be livestreamed via the Zoom platform. At least one representative from the Village will be present at Village Hall in compliance with the Bill, and the virtual meeting will be simulcast at Village Hall for members of the public who do not wish to view the virtual meeting from another location. Pursuant to Executive Orders 2020-43 and 2020-44 issued by the Governor, the number of people who may gather at Village Hall for the meeting is limited due to the mandated social distancing guidelines. Accordingly, the opportunity to view the virtual meeting at Village Hall is available on a "first come, first-served" basis.

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

- 1) Telephone (audio only Call 312-626-6799), when prompted enter the Meeting ID- 95805064302
Phone Passcode: 801128466
- 2) Livestream (both audio and video feed) Download the Zoom meetings app to your smartphone, tablet or computer and then join Meeting ID: 95805064302 . Event Password: EFC051221.

Public comments should be emailed to alueck@winnetka.org. Public comments received by 6:45 p.m. on the day of the meeting 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 Regular 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
April 14, 2021**

The Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission will convene on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 via Zoom, at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| <u>Call to Order</u> | |
| 1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks | Presenter Dowding |
| 2) Public Comment | |
| 3) Review and Approval of Minutes | |
| a. Approval of the April 14, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes | Presenter Dowding |
| 4) New Business/Old Business Updates | |
| a. Parkway Usage: Village Council Study Session Wrap-up | Presenter Dowding |
| b. Mayor's Monarch Pledge | Presenter Kunkle |
| c. Pyrethroid Pesticide Legislation | Presenter Wynnichenko |
| d. Sustainability Chapter for 2040 Comprehensive Plan | Presenter Gass |
| e. Sustainable Materials Management | Presenter Kunkle |
| 5) Communications | |
| a. Approval of June Communication Items | Presenter Lueck |
| b. Discussion of July Communication Items | Presenter Lueck |
| 6) Committee/Staff Reports | |
| 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
April 14, 2021

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held virtually via Zoom, Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.; Voting Members present: Chairperson Chuck Dowding, Commissioners Chris Foley, David Varca, Rosann Park-Jones, Ted Wynnychenko, Liz Kunkle and Barry Sylvester. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative absent: Jack Coladarci. Student Representatives present Marcus Buccellato and Scarlett Harper. Staff Representatives present: Andrew Lueck, Village Forester. Public present: One member of the public was present.

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members and the public. Staff Representative Lueck took roll call for attendance.

Oral Declaration Regarding In-Person Meetings

Chairman Dowding stated pursuant to recently adopted amendments to the Illinois Open Meetings Act included in Public Act 101-0640, public bodies may, in certain circumstances, hold entirely virtual public meetings without a quorum physically present in any one location. On March 17, 2020, President Rintz issued a Declaration of Emergency pursuant to the authority granted by the Village Code, the Illinois Municipal Code, and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act to address the health threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. On May 29, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued a Disaster Proclamation that declared in-person attendance at public meetings of more than ten people at the regular public meeting location to be infeasible, in accordance the Open Meetings Act, as amended by Public Act. 101-0640. On June 16, 2020, Village President Rintz executed a written determination that given the on-going emergency associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person meetings of the Village's Village Council are not practical or prudent at this time and until further notice. In accordance with the Governor's Disaster Proclamation and the Village President's Declaration of Emergency and Determination regarding meetings of the Village Council, I, as Chair of the Environmental & Forestry Commission hereby determine that in-person meetings of the Environmental & Forestry Commission are not practical or prudent at this time and until further notice.

2) Public Comment:

One member of the public was present. The member inquired about the general accomplishments of the Environmental & Forestry Commission over time. Chairperson Dowding remarked on the success of the Commission in meeting achievements under the Green Region Compact 2, as well as helping to pass various ordinances. Commissioner Kunkle remarked on the success of getting Winnetka youth more involved in environmental initiatives.

3) **Review and Approval of Minutes:**

a) Approval of the March 10, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the March 10, 2021 minutes. The motion was moved by Commissioner Wynnychenko and seconded by Commissioner Park-Jones.

AYES: FOLEY, SYLVESTER VARCA, PARK-JONES, WYNNYCHENKO,
KUNKLE
ABSENT: NONE
NAYS: NONE

4) **New Business, Old Business/Updates:**

Parkway Usage: Summary for Village Council

Chairperson Dowding explained that there are seven items (attached) to be discussed regarding the Commission's recommendations to Village Council regarding parkway usage.

Commissioner Kunkle inquired about when the EFC would be required to present findings to the Village Council. She stated that there should be no urgency to present to the Council before further consensus by the EFC, and that certain elements of the EFC's recommendations need further revising and updating.

Chairperson Dowding stated that he understands Commissioner Kunkle's concerns but that the Commission should move forward at a high level rather than at specific issue level. Staff Representative Lueck clarified that the Council is expecting to hear from the Commission on parkway permitting issues at a scheduled May 11, 2021 study session.

Commissioner Wynnychenko inquired about information on the approval various structures in the Village. Chairperson Dowding remarked that the information would be covered as part of the information to be discussed throughout the meeting.

Discussion of item number seven

Chairperson Dowding discussed number seven, and whether or not the requirement to cut weeds at eight inches is reasonable. Student Representative Harper inquired as to whether or not milkweed would be considered a weed, and Chairperson Dowding clarified that milkweed is defined by ordinance as a non-weed.

Commissioner Park-Jones introduced a motion to accept the language in item number seven. The motion was seconded by Wynnychenko

AYES: FOLEY, SYLVESTER, VARCA, PARK-JONES, WYNNYCHENKO,
KUNKLE,
ABSENT: NONE
NAYS: NONE

Discussion of item number six

Chairperson Dowding stated that there should be more specific examples included of what defines a right-of-way, as some homeowners may be confused as to the definition and a clearer definition might help eliminate confusion about land ownership.

Commissioner Wynnychenko stated that the ordinance clearly states that structures cannot be built in a right of way, so further definitions may not be necessary.

Commissioner Foley suggested commenting to Village Council that the definition of right of way be clearly defined.

Chairperson Dowding suggested the wording of item six should read “ensure that the definition of Village-owned right of way is clear.”

Commissioner Foley introduced a motion to accept the amended language of item number six. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wynnychenko.

AYES: FOLEY, SYLVESTER, VARCA, PARK-JONES, WYNNYCHENKO,
KUNKLE
ABSENT: NONE
NAYS: NONE

Discussion of item number five

Chairperson Dowding explained that the maximum vegetation height of 30 inches detailed in item five is what has been seen most often in codes that have been researched by the Commission.

Student Representative Harper inquired as to the reasoning for the 30-inch height limit, and Chairperson Dowding explained that it is a safety factor to ensure proper sightlines for drivers and pedestrians.

Commissioner Wynnychenko stated it would be beneficial for the Village to have a more general permitting process that is less prescriptive and would allow Village staff to use discretion in approval.

Chairperson Dowding suggested updating the wording of item number five to “Limit total height of plants where necessary for sightlines and safety” in order to make it less prescriptive.

Commissioner Wynnychenko introduced a motion to accept the amended language of item number five. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Park-Jones

AYES: FOLEY, SYLVESTER, VARCA, PARK-JONES, WYNNYCHENKO,
KUNKLE
ABSENT: NONE
NAYS: NONE

Discussion of item number three

Chairperson Dowding explained that previous discussions led to the thought that the term “bioswale” should be replaced with “rain garden” for parkway purposes.” Commissioner Foley inquired as to whether or not Village regulations are specific in regards to grading. Staff Representative Lueck explained that property owners cannot change the grade of their property in a way that increases runoff to other properties.

Commissioner Wynnychenko suggested that wording regarding rain gardens should read “rain garden grading to be sufficient to maintain safe pedestrian traffic consistent with Village ordinances with respect to grading.” Chairperson Dowding explained that wording regarding calling JULIE would be removed from the item.

Commissioner Foley introduced a motion to accept the amended language of item number three. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sylvester.

AYES: FOLEY, SYLVESTER, VARCA, PARK-JONES, WYNNYCHENKO,
KUNKLE
ABSENT: NONE
NAYS: NONE

Discussion of item number two

Chairperson Dowding suggested that the Commission present a principle-based approach to suggesting acceptable plants, and applicants could then detail how their suggested plantings meet any or all of the principles. There are five principles included in the draft language of item number two.

Commissioner Park-Jones suggested including the Evans-Kunkle summary of suggested plants to give examples of plants to meet the principles.

A member of the public suggested that detailing principles for applicants to meet is a good first step, and that including an example plant list would also be helpful.

Commissioner Varca inquired about whether or not vegetables would be appropriate for parkways if they are likely to rot or attract animals that could be a safety issue.

A member of the public stated that the better use of parkway space is at the heart of the parkway issue and that there are complications with all potential parkway usage examples.

Commissioner Kunkle suggested the best way to think about parkways is how they can be utilized for their best value, including for regulation of stormwater. She stated that the Commission's guidance to Village Council should include the idea that turf grass is likely not the best use for a parkway, and that alternative planting would be more useful.

Chairperson Dowding suggested changing the introductory wording to the guidelines to read "Recommend ground cover, plants and vegetables that are more sustainable and improve stormwater management including but not limited to..."

Commissioner Foley inquired about the reasoning of principle number five, and it was explained by Commissioner Kunkle and Chairperson Dowding that perennials reduce the resources and emissions used when planting annuals every year.

Commissioner Varca introduced a motion to accept the wording of item number two without including the word "vegetables", along with removing principle number three regarding edible plants.

A motion was introduced by Commissioner Varca to accept the amended language of item number two. The motion was seconded Commissioner Kunkle.

AYES: FOLEY, SYLVESTER, VARCA, PARK-JONES,
WYNNYCHENKO
KUNKLE
ABSENT: NONE
NAYS: NONE

Commissioner Park-Jones suggested that some vegetables could be included, mainly leafy greens that do not attract animals or cause a potential issue with rot. Commissioner Kunkle stated that any vegetables that are allowed for planting should adhere to other principles for plantings in the parkway. Chairperson Dowding suggested that the meeting minutes include the discussion that the Evans-Kunkle summary should include vegetables.

Parkway structure discussion

Chairperson Dowding explained that the code update recommendations detail that it is unlawful to construct any structure or portion thereof which encroaches on any public street without a permit.

Commissioner Wynnychenko asked about several areas where construction has taken place in the parkway, including pavement being placed in the parkway to serve as parking spaces and how those uses came about. Staff Representative Lueck explained that these parking areas were previously allowed by the Village, but that it is Village staff policy to no longer allow parking cutouts to be built. It is also policy that the cutouts would be eliminated when the adjacent residence is redeveloped.

Discussion of item number four

Chairperson Dowding explained that there are two methods by which people can request that a structure be built in the parkway - a long form, which is followed by commercial interests and a short form employed by several other municipalities. He explained that any person can request a structure be built in the parkway following the long form permit process similar to the Highland Park example, but that it is the Commission's charge to develop a shorter form for people to plant items other than turf grass in the parkway without structures.

Commissioners Varca and Foley both stated they are in favor of developing a system that is as easy as possible for residents and Village staff.

A motion was introduced by Commissioner Varca to accept the amended language of item number four, including substituting the words "flowers and vegetables" with the word "plants." The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foley.

AYES: FOLEY, SYLVESTER, VARCA, PARK-JONES, KUNKLE
ABSENT: WYNNYCHENKO
NAYS: NONE

Discussion of item number one

Chairperson Dowding discussed the approval of changes to proposed language relating to item number one (in red, attached).

Commissioner Varca inquired as to why language referencing sidewalks was struck from proposed language. Chairperson Dowding suggested that Village staff ensure that language on the definition of the right of way is clear to applicants.

Chairperson Dowding suggested that an asterisk be placed by right of way, pointing to item six for discussion that identifies the necessity to ensure that definition right of way is clear.

A motion was introduced by Commissioner Varca to accept the amended language in red. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foley.

AYES: FOLEY, SYLVESTER, VARCA, PARK-JONES, KUNKLE
ABSENT: WYNNYCHENKO
NAYS: NONE

5) Communications:

a) Approval of May Communication Items

The Commission reviewed the May Communication Items which included Green Awards, Stormwater and Recycling. Chairperson stated that he would develop information on the Green Awards for the Village newsletter. Student Representative Harper mentioned an item she drafted on the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District to include. Chairperson Dowding suggested replacing a Pesticide Alternative item with information on the Mosquito Abatement District. Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the May Communications Items which was moved by Commissioner Park-Jones and seconded by Chairperson Foley.

AYES: FOLEY, VARCA, PARK-JONES, KUNKLE
ABSENT: FOLEY, SYLVESTER, WYNNYCHENKO
NAYS: NONE

6) **Commission/Staff Reports:** None.

7) **Open Forum:**

Student Representative Harper gave an update on pyrethroid pesticide legislation she has been working on, stating that it has been passed out of committee. The legislation now has twelve cosponsors, but there are groups who oppose the legislation. It is hopeful that the bill would be in the House by the end of the week of April 19th, at which point it would be helpful to reach out to Senate co-sponsors upon passing.

8) **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Park Jones. The motion passed; the meeting adjourned at 9:34 pm.

AYES:	FOLEY, PARK-JONES, KUNKLE, VARCA
ABSENT:	SYLVESTER, WYNNYCHENKO
NAYS:	NONE

EFC Principle Based Recommendation for Village Council

- 1) The EFC concurs with all of Saunder's recommendation for changes to the code (in Saunders Dec 2020 slide pack repeated below)

It is unlawful to construct any ~~building, fence, cellar, vault door, coal chute, vent, fill pipe or structure or portion of any of the foregoing structure or portion thereof~~ which encroaches on any public street ~~or sidewalk or right-of-way*~~ in the Village. Structures include, but are not limited to, buildings, fences, vents, fill pipes, retaining walls, raised planter areas, light posts, and gates. All such encroachments, except cellar or vault doors lawfully in existence in 1932, are declared to be nuisances and the Director of Public Works is authorized to abate such nuisances.

(*) see item 6 below

Additional guidance

- 2) Include examples of preferred plantings of shrubs, ground cover, and plants
 - a. Evans-Kunkle summary is presented as an initial and unfinished recommendation
 - b. Principle-based guidelines as follows

Recommended shrubs, ground cover and plants should be sustainable and improve storm water management. They include but are not limited to those that

 - i. are native, drought resistant to decrease use of water and fertilizers
 - ii. attract pollinators and butterflies to increase biodiversity
 - iii. require less maintenance and thus are more naturally sustainable
 - iv. are perennial to reduce the CO2 producing efforts needed to replant and weed annually

Staff to give a few included but not limited to examples in above categories
Permit applicants to specify which sustainable objectives are being met by their choices
- 3) Rain garden grading should be sufficient to maintain safety for pedestrian traffic and consistent with drainage requirements.

Comment: The EFC felt that most parkways were too small for bioswales, as a bioswale connotes some form of channeled conveyance.
- 4) Provide a separate simple permit process for planting of shrubs, ground cover and plants in parkways. See Evanston and Seattle for simple permit and process. Staff to produce final design

Comment: One member of audience felt that exclusion of structures was arbitrary. Application can still be made, but not with the proposed simple process. The more complex process would have to be employed as it is too difficult to predefine what "structure" means. As in other municipalities, construction of a structure would involve indemnification of Village with resident or 3rd party construction on Village property.
- 5) Limit total height of shrubs, ground cover, and plants where necessary to maintain safe sight lines
- 6) Ensure that the definition of Village owned right of way is clear.

Comment: The EFC found the Dec 2020 suggested changes that define right of way to be difficult to understand with regard to parkways.

- 7) Cultivated flowers and Gardens as defined in 15.08 exclusions are non-weeds. Thus they are excluded from Code 8-20's requirement for 8 inch height restriction. Milkweed was defined as a non-weed in a 2002 Ordinance amendment.

The EFC gathered considerable information to reach these recommendations. These additional materials have been transmitted to staff for their use to produce the final simple permit form and examples. These documents contain details for staff consideration to meet the principle-based guidance. For instance, the general total height restriction is 30 inches. The EFC felt that there may be instances where taller plants could be allowed.

DRAFT

Winnetka:

Staff: summary of permit background

Source Dec. 8, VC study session; Parkway Planting Permit review

It has become apparent that additional clarity and guidance are needed in both the Village Code and the permit application materials for planting in public rights-of-way. Staff recommends the following changes to Section 12.04.040 (Encroachments) of the Village Code:

Proposed Language (markup):

1a)

It is unlawful to construct any ~~building, fence, cellar, vault door, coal chute, vent, fill pipe or structure or portion of any of the foregoing structure or portion thereof~~ which encroaches on any public street ~~or sidewalk or right-of-way~~ in the Village. 1b) ~~Rights of way include~~ ~~platted streets, sidewalks and land between.~~ Structures include, but are not limited to, buildings, fences, vents, fill pipes, retaining walls, raised planter areas, light posts, and gates. All such encroachments, except cellar or vault doors lawfully in existence in 1932, are declared to be nuisances and the Director of Public Works is authorized to abate such nuisances.

Elements of Parkway Planting Policy

The Village Code provides the Director of Public Works with a significant amount of discretion in evaluating and approving permits for planting in parkways. This discretion is important because there are a wide variety of conditions present on Village parkways that affect the feasibility and appropriateness of plantings. Some of the conditions that affect planting types include:

- Presence or absence of sidewalk and/or curb
- Proximity to an intersection
- Slope and elevation of parkway
- Width of parkway
- Presence or absence of existing trees
- Location of adjacent driveways
- Volume and speed of traffic
- Presence or absence of existing or planned overhead and underground utilities
- Character of adjacent land use (residential, multi-family, institutional, etc.)

While these varied conditions prevent a “one size fits all” approach, staff will update the permit form to provide additional clarity and guidance including:

- 2) A list of preferred tree and plant species will be included with the planting application, as well as a list of prohibited invasive species
- 3) Because green technologies are a part of the Village’s ongoing stormwater quality management efforts, guidance on constructing and maintaining rain gardens and bioswales – to be researched and developed by the Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission – will be included as part of the permit application

- 4) The permit application will be clarified to indicate that no structures, planters, boulders, fences, etc. are permitted in public rights-of-way
- 5) Guidance for height and location of plantings with respect to intersection and driveway sight distance, trees, utilities, and setbacks from curbs and sidewalks will be provided in the permit application
- A disclaimer statement will be included indicating that maintenance responsibility (except for trimming of trees) lies with the adjacent property owner, that the Village may revoke permission if the plantings are not properly maintained, and that the installation may be removed to allow construction of utility projects and Village infrastructure projects

Recommendation

1. Staff is seeking concurrence from the Village Council to prepare an ordinance that would modify Section 12.04.040 (Encroachments) as described above;
2. Staff is seeking concurrence to clarify the application and approval documents for plantings in the public right-of-way as outlined above; and
3. Staff recommends that the Village Council direct the Winnetka Environmental & Forestry Commission to research and develop guidance on planting rain gardens and bioswales in the Village's rights-of-way.

Source of Permit Information

Winnetka Website=> Residents=> Community Development=> Building Permits and Construction=>



Agenda Item Executive Summary

Title:

Presenter:

Agenda Date:

Ordinance

Resolution

Bid Authorization/Award

Policy Direction

Informational Only

Consent:

YES

NO

Item History:

Executive Summary:

Recommendation:

Attachments:

VILLAGE OF WINNETKA M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Winnetka Village Council

FROM: Charles Dowding, Chair of Environmental and Forestry Commission

DATE: May 5, 2021

SUBJECT: Environmental and Forestry Commission – Parkway Recommendations

The Environmental and Forestry Commission (EFC) was tasked by the Village Council with developing parkway policy recommendations. The EFC devoted 4 consecutive meetings to this investigation. Dates and foci of these meetings were publicized beforehand in the Village e-letter(s) in addition to the normal agenda packet publication and announcement. Its recommendations are summarized below. Further details on the EFC's recommendations are included in the agenda packet for the May 11 Village Council Study Session.

These recommendations are presented in principle rather than specification form. Principle-based form focuses discussion on goals to achieve and provides guidance for staff in unusual situations.

1. Proposed Code Changes

Several code changes were proposed by Steven Saunders, retired Director of Public Works at a December 8, 2020 Village Council Study Session. The EFC concurs with all of Mr. Saunders recommendations for code, with additional guidance provided in item 6 below.

2. Preferred Parkway Plantings

- a. A list of preferred plants (primarily hearty, native species) for planting in the parkway has been developed. However, the list is not inclusive, and other species can be planted that otherwise meet principles expressed below and Village requirements.
- b. Recommended shrubs, ground cover, and plants should be sustainable and improve stormwater management. These include but are not limited to those that:
 - i. are native and drought resistant to decrease use of water and fertilizers
 - ii. attract pollinators and butterflies to increase biodiversity
 - iii. require less maintenance and thus are more naturally sustainable
 - iv. are perennial to reduce the CO₂ producing efforts needed to replant and weed annually

Permit applicants will be asked to specify which sustainable objectives are being met by their plant choices.

- c. Originally a fifth principle (edible to reduce transport induced CO2 emissions) was included. The EFC eliminated this broad articulation that included fruit and vegetables, whose decaying products would attract animals and prove unsightly in favor of including only leafy and root vegetables in the preferred plantings guidance.

3. Guidance for bioswales and rain gardens

Rain garden is a better term for natural rainwater collecting areas in the parkway, as bioswale connotes conveyance of water over larger land parcels.

- a. Surface of the rain garden should be generally level
(e.g. maximum deviation of 3-6 inches and slope equal to 1-3 inches per foot)
- b. Subsurface soil enhancements should avoid conflict with underground utilities
(e.g. extend no deeper than six inches)

4. Permitting Process

The Village should provide a standalone, simple permit process for planting of shrubs, ground cover, and plants in the parkway. The permit application would be processed by Village staff.

5. Plant height

Limit total height of shrubs, ground cover, and plants where necessary to maintain safe sight lines.

While 30 inches is the typical restriction to avoid visual obstruction for motorists, cyclists or pedestrians, a principle-based expression allows staff to make exceptions in unusual situations.

6. Right-of-way Definition

Ensure that the definition of Village owned right of way is clear with respect to parkways.

The December 2020 suggested changes that define right of way were difficult to understand with regard to parkways. A clearer definition might reduce any misunderstanding about the implications of ownership.

7. Cultivated Flowers and Gardens

Cultivated flowers and gardens should continue to be allowable as plantings. As currently defined in Village Code section 15.08, cultivated flowers and gardens are considered non-weeds. Thus, they are excluded from the requirement in section 8.20 requirement for an 8-inch height restriction.

Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission
Village of Winnetka Parkway Uses and Plantings Discussions
April 2021

The Environmental and Forestry Commission (EFC) has been tasked with preparing recommendations to the Village Council (VC) regarding Village Parkway Plantings that will yield positive benefits for the Village while maintaining consistency with neighborhood aesthetics and not interfering with Village utilities, snow removal, or pedestrian, biker, or motor vehicle safety. The EFC/VC recognizes Parkways are part of the solution to flooding, declining biodiversity, tree stress, and climate change. Parkway plantings are consistent with area Climate Action Plans, which encourage urban canopy and natural areas to shade and cool streets, soak up rainwater, absorb noise, reduce energy use, sequester carbon, filter pollutants from the air and water, ease our stresses, and help us breathe easier.

Native Plants

- are effective for managing stormwater
- have deeper and more extensive root systems that
 - stabilize the soil and increase soil cohesion;
 - increase the absorptive capacity of soil;
 - reduce the impact of rainfall;
 - slow surface runoff;
 - facilitate infiltration of rainwater into the soil; and
 - decrease erosion
- do not require chemical fertilizer, pesticides, or herbicides
- can tolerate some salt
- can grow low (30" - 36")
- are sun/soil adaptable
- provide food and shelter for birds and beneficial insects
- contribute to biodiversity
- help sequester carbon
- are beautiful

Prairie Plants for Full Sun (sunny spots in yard or no parkway trees)

- Blazing Star
- Mountain Mint
- Thimble Anemone
- Wild Bergamot

Marsh Plants for Full or Part Sun (for parts of the yard that get at least half a day of sun and/or a parkway tree does not shade the entire area)

- Blue Flag Iris
- Great Blue Lobelia
- Marsh Marigold
- Purple Cress

Woodland Plants for Mostly Shady Areas (for areas with parkway trees with low/large/dense canopies; these need at least a few hours of sun but like shade, especially in the afternoon)

- Early Meadow Rue
- Jacob's Ladder
- Starry Campion
- Zig Zag Goldenrod

Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission
Village of Winnetka Parkway Uses and Plantings Discussions
April 2021

Rain Garden considerations

- Designed to clean and process water as well as redirect it
- Bottom typically planted with sedges, rushes, and water-loving plants
- Sloping sides, which tend to be drier longer, have native shrubs or trees and low-growing grasses

Miscellaneous considerations

- Consider the best, highest-value use of the Parkways, which are uniquely valuable as part of stormwater management
 - From this perspective, turf grass is perhaps the lowest value use of a Parkway
- Non-flowering options could include groundcovers, shrubs, sedges, grasses, and/or vegetables
- Consider requiring finished compost be used in Parkway Plantings
- Include non-native and non-invasive plants in any final list of suggested or recommended plants, as the goal is not to discourage these types of plants, but to encourage the addition of native plants.
- Education will be key
 - There will be some maintenance, particularly in the beginning, but over time there will be less maintenance than with traditional turf grass.
 - There are different aspects of “pollinator-friendly,” e.g., some plants attract pollinators (like bee balm), while some provide habitat for everything, including other plants, and they contribute to soil structure in ways turf grass does not.
 - When planting under a tree, plant away from the trunk and plan for the spread so that foliage doesn’t abut the trunk and create a possible environment that would contribute to disease to the tree (bark that remains constantly damp can become weak over time).

Let’s maximize the value of, reclaim this forgotten territory, and create some native habitat with intentional Parkway Uses and Plantings that will absorb and filter rainwater, cool ground temperatures, support pollinators, and bring a smile to passersby.

Sources:

- https://www.chicago.gov/dam/city/depts/cdot/SustainableBackyards/NativePlantsRebate_English811.pdf
- <https://www.asla.org/nativeplantssavemoney.aspx#:~:text=Native%20plants%20help%20the%20environment.&text=They%20require%20much%20less%20watering,for%20mowers%20and%20other%20equipment.>
- http://www.midwestgroundcovers.com/page/Salt_Tolerant_List
- http://www.wildonesrrvc.org/Documents/Misc/Salt_Tolerant_Natives.pdf
- <https://www.thespruce.com/how-to-make-a-lasagna-garden-2539877>
- <https://www.noble.org/news/publications/ag-news-and-views/2018/june/why-roots-matter-to-soil-plants-and-you/>
- <https://westcook.wildones.org/>
- <http://www.sustainedgewater.org/native-plants.html>



Agenda Item Executive Summary

Title: Parkway Planting Permit review

Presenter: Steven M. Saunders, Director of Public Works

Agenda Date: 12/08/2020

Consent: ☐ YES ☒ NO

☐	Ordinance
☐	Resolution
☐	Bid Authorization/Award
☒	Policy Direction
☐	Informational Only

Item History:

This summer, a Village resident installed a raised planter garden in the public parkway (the strip of grass between the sidewalk and the street) adjacent to their property. The Village Code, Section 12.28.010, requires permission from the Village for planting on Village parkways. The Village Code also prohibits structural encroachments in Village rights-of-way, in Section 12.04.040. This planter garden was constructed without a planting permit from the Village. After several communications between Village staff and the resident, it has become apparent that additional clarity and guidance are needed in both the Village Code and the permit application materials for planting in public rights-of-way.

Executive Summary:

The attached Memorandum contains suggested modifications to Village Code Section 12.04.040 - Encroachments, to clarify the prohibition on constructing structures and encroaching into public rights-of-way. The Memorandum also contains suggested clarifications to the permit application form to better communicate policy on plantings in Village rights-of-way.

Staff will present this item for discussion at the December 8, 2020 Council Study Session.

Recommendation:

1. Staff is seeking concurrence from the Village Council to prepare an ordinance modifying Section 12.04.040 (Encroachments) as described in the attached Memorandum;
2. Staff is seeking concurrence to clarify the application and approval documents for plantings in the public right-of-way as outlined in the attached Memorandum; and
3. Staff recommends that the Village Council direct the Winnetka Environmental & Forestry Commission to research and develop guidance on planting rain gardens and bioswales in Village rights-of-way.

Attachments:

- 1) December 2, 2020 Memorandum: Parkway Planting Permit Review

MEMORANDUM

TO: VILLAGE COUNCIL

FROM: STEVEN M. SAUNDERS, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

SUBJECT: PARKWAY PLANTING PERMIT REVIEW

DATE: DECEMBER 2, 2020

CC: ROBERT BAHAN, VILLAGE MANAGER

This summer, a Village resident installed a raised planter garden in the public parkway (the strip of grass between the sidewalk and the street) adjacent to their property. The Village Code, Section 12.28.010, requires permission from the Village for planting on Village parkways:

"It is unlawful for any person without a written permit from the Village to injure, trim, treat, plant or remove any tree, shrub, vine or flower in any street, parkway or other public place in the Village, or injure, misuse or remove any device set for the protection of any such tree, shrub, vine or flower. Application for a permit from the Village shall be made in writing to the Director of Public Works or the Director's designee (in this chapter referred to collectively as the "Director"). If in the judgment of the Director the desired work is necessary, beneficial, in compliance with applicable Village standards and regulations, and if the proposed method is such as the Director approves, he or she shall issue a written permit for such work. Such permit shall contain a detailed statement of the nature of the work permitted to be done. Any work done under such written permit must be performed in accordance with the terms of such permit."

The Village Code also prohibits structural encroachments in Village rights-of-way, in Section 12.04.040.

"It is unlawful to construct any building, fence, cellar, vault door, coal chute, vent, fill pipe or structure or portion of any of the foregoing which encroaches on any public street or sidewalk in the Village. All such encroachments, except cellar or vault doors lawfully in existence in 1932, are declared to be nuisances and the Director of Public Works is authorized to abate such nuisances."

This planter garden – photo below – was constructed without a planting permit from the Village.



After several communications between Village staff and the resident, staff issued a citation and initiated enforcement proceedings for violating the Village Code. Since that citation was issued, it has become apparent that additional clarity and guidance are needed in both the Village Code and the permit application materials for planting in public rights-of-way. Staff recommends the following changes to Section 12.04.040 (Encroachments) of the Village Code:

Current Language:

It is unlawful to construct any building, fence, cellar, vault door, coal chute, vent, fill pipe or structure or portion of any of the foregoing which encroaches on any public street or sidewalk in the Village. All such encroachments, except cellar or vault doors lawfully in existence in 1932, are declared to be nuisances and the Director of Public Works is authorized to abate such nuisances.

Proposed Language (markup):

It is unlawful to construct any ~~building, fence, cellar, vault door, coal chute, vent, fill pipe or structure or portion of any of the foregoing~~ structure or portion thereof which encroaches on any public street ~~or sidewalk~~ or right-of-way in the Village. Structures include, but are not limited to, buildings, fences, vents, fill pipes, retaining walls, raised planter areas, light posts, and gates. All such encroachments, except cellar or vault doors lawfully in existence in 1932, are

declared to be nuisances and the Director of Public Works is authorized to abate such nuisances.

Proposed Language (clean):

It is unlawful to construct any structure or portion thereof which encroaches on any public street or right-of-way in the Village. Structures include, but are not limited to, buildings, fences, vents, fill pipes, retaining walls, raised planter areas, light posts, and gates. All such encroachments, except cellar or vault doors lawfully in existence in 1932, are declared to be nuisances and the Director of Public Works is authorized to abate such nuisances.

Staff does not recommend any changes to Section 12.20.010 of the Village Code.

Elements of Parkway Planting Policy

The Village Code provides the Director of Public Works with a significant amount of discretion in evaluating and approving permits for planting in parkways. This discretion is important because there are a wide variety of conditions present on Village parkways that affect the feasibility and appropriateness of plantings. Some of the conditions that affect planting types include:

- Presence or absence of sidewalk and/or curb
- Proximity to an intersection
- Slope and elevation of parkway
- Width of parkway
- Presence or absence of existing trees
- Location of adjacent driveways
- Volume and speed of traffic
- Presence or absence of existing or planned overhead and underground utilities
- Character of adjacent land use (residential, multi-family, institutional, etc.)

While these varied conditions prevent a “one size fits all” approach, staff will update the permit form to provide additional clarity and guidance including:

- A list of preferred tree and plant species will be included with the planting application, as well as a list of prohibited invasive species
- Because green technologies are a part of the Village’s ongoing stormwater quality management efforts, guidance on constructing and maintaining rain gardens and bioswales – to be researched and developed by the Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission – will be included as part of the permit application
- The permit application will be clarified to indicate that no structures, planters, boulders, fences, etc. are permitted in public rights-of-way

- Guidance for height and location of plantings with respect to intersection and driveway sight distance, trees, utilities, and setbacks from curbs and sidewalks will be provided in the permit application
- A disclaimer statement will be included indicating that maintenance responsibility (except for trimming of trees) lies with the adjacent property owner, that the Village may revoke permission if the plantings are not properly maintained, and that the installation may be removed to allow construction of utility projects and Village infrastructure projects

Recommendation

1. Staff is seeking concurrence from the Village Council to prepare an ordinance that would modify Section 12.04.040 (Encroachments) as described above;
2. Staff is seeking concurrence to clarify the application and approval documents for plantings in the public right-of-way as outlined above; and
3. Staff recommends that the Village Council direct the Winnetka Environmental & Forestry Commission to research and develop guidance on planting rain gardens and bioswales in the Village's rights-of-way.

From:
To: [Andrew Lueck](#)
Subject: Welcome to the Mayors' Monarch Pledge program!
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 9:47:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Lueck,

Thank you to Village Manager Robert Bahan for taking the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge! You are joining a growing network of leaders across North America to save the monarch butterfly and other important pollinators. Over the next year, you will embark on completing actions to support monarch and pollinator conservation in your community. Our team at the National Wildlife Federation is here to help!

There are many resources available online to support your efforts, including our guide: "Monarch Conservation in America's Cities: A Guide for Municipal Leaders." You can access this report and other resources by logging in and visiting our [Resource Center](#) in the online portal. To help you navigate the Mayors' Monarch Pledge online portal and platform, please refer to our [online platform how-to manual](#). The manual guides users on how to update your profile to show your work, add team members, report on your progress, and much more! Please also consider joining our [Facebook group](#) to talk with other signatories in our program and share your community's progress. Lastly, you can visit our Resource Center to download a [template press release](#) for you to customize and share with media to announce your pledge.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to our team at mayorsmonarchpledge@nwf.org. Thanks for all you are doing to help save the monarch!

Thank you,
The National Wildlife Federation Mayors' Monarch Pledge Team

Mayors' Monarch Pledge Reporting

* Action Item Reporting

Required Section 1 of 2

Please use this form to track progress throughout the year and report on the actions your community committed to and completed. You will be asked to attach photos, documents, and provide other relevant information to report on your community's progress. Please keep answers detailed and concise.

If you wish to make changes to the action items you have committed, please [click here](#).

** Answers to the following questions are required.*

Get Started

* Your Action Item Selections (3)

Required Section 2 of 2

Action 1:

Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat.

Get Started

Action 12:

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

Get Started

Action 27:

Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

Get Started

BACK

CONTINUE

RESOLUTION NO. R-x-2021

A RESOLUTION URIGING THE STATE OF ILLINOIS TO REPEAL PREEMPTION
OF LOCAL REGULATION OF PESTICIDES

WHEREAS, The Village of Winnetka is a home rule unit of government pursuant to Article VII, Section 6, of the Illinois Constitution; and

WHEREAS, The Village of Winnetka has issued a proclamation advocating for monarch butterflies and committing the Village to take steps toward a healthy environment for pollinators; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, the State of Illinois adopted an amendment to the Illinois Pesticide Act of 1979, 415 ILCS 60/1 *et seq.*, that prohibits local governments, including home rule units, with a population of less than 2,000,001, from regulating the registration, purchase, use, storage, and disposal of pesticides; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, the United State Supreme Court ruled that, absent state law to the contrary such as exists in Illinois, federal pesticide law does not preempt local regulation of pesticides (*Wisconsin Public Intervenor, et al., v. Ralph Mortier*, 501 U.S. 597); and

WHEREAS, in *Wisconsin Public Intervenor*, the United States Supreme Court held that the federal statute that governs the registration, distribution, sale, and use of pesticides in the United States, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA, 7 USC 6 § 136 *et seq.*), leaves local regulation of pesticides in the purview of local authorities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Village of Winnetka, Cook County, Illinois:

SECTION 1: The Village of Winnetka urges the General Assembly of the State of Illinois to repeal the preemption of local government regulation of pesticides.

SECTION 2: The Village of Winnetka supports an amendment to the Illinois Pesticide Act to provide for the right of local home rule governments to adopt local pesticide regulations that align with local priorities.

SECTION 3: Resolution R-x-2021 shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

RESOLUTION NO. R-x-2021

A RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE OF ILLINOIS TO ADOPT HB3118, AN
AMMENDMENT TO THE ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

WHEREAS, The Village of Winnetka has issued a proclamation advocating for monarch butterflies and committing the Village to take steps toward a healthy environment for pollinators; and

WHEREAS, HB3118 has been introduced in the 102nd General Assembly amending the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5 *et seq.*); and

WHEREAS, HB3118 attempts to provide guidance in the use of pesticides to limit effects of those pesticides on pollinators;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Village of Winnetka, Cook County, Illinois:

SECTION 1: The Village of Winnetka urges the General Assembly and Governor of the State of Illinois adopt HB3118.

SECTION 2: Resolution R-x-2021 shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

**102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
State of Illinois
2021 and 2022
HB3118**

Introduced 2/19/2021, by Rep. Robyn Gabel

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

415 ILCS 5/21.8 new

Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that a pyrethoid pesticide may only be applied by a commercial applicator for commercial or residential use if evidence-based model of application complying with specified requirements is used. Requires Agency to adopt rules creating a process meeting specified requirements for the licensure of commercial applicators for residential treatment of pyrethoid pesticides. Provides that the Agency may adopt any rules it deems necessary to implement and administer the amendatory provisions.

LRB102 15736 CPF 22287 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY
APPLY

A BILL FOR

HB3118

LRB102 15736 CPF 22287 b

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Environmental Protection Act is amended by
5 adding Section 21.8 as follows:

6 (415 ILCS 5/21.8 new)

7 Sec. 21.8. Pyrethoid pesticides; mosquito control;
8 pollinator protection.

9 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
10 pyrethoid pesticide may only be applied using the
11 evidence-based model under subsection (b) and may not be
12 applied using a subscription-based model of treatment.

13 (b) A pyrethoid pesticide may only be applied by a
14 commercial applicator for commercial or residential if the
15 following evidence-based model of application is used:

16 (1) Documentation of species the pyrethoid pesticide
17 is targeted towards.

18 (2) A domestic inspection of the property for mosquito
19 sources is conducted before application of the pyrethoid
20 pesticide.

21 (3) The commercial applicator of the pyrethoid
22 pesticide has undergone the course and licensure
23 requirements under subsection (c).

HB3118

- 2 -

LRB102 15736 CPF 22287 b

1 (4) Chemical spraying of pyrethoid pesticide may not
2 be applied outdoors where wind speed is 3 miles per hour or
3 greater.

4 (5) At least 24 hours before the treatment is
5 scheduled to occur, the commercial applicator must notify
6 neighbors of the property to which the impending pyrethoid
7 pesticide treatment is to be applied.

8 (6) For at least 24 hours after the treatment has been
9 applied, the property to which the pyrethoid pesticide is
10 applied must display yard signage indicating that the yard
11 has been treated with pyrethoid pesticides.

12 (7) A commercial applicator must have available, at
13 all times while a treatment is being conducted, copies of
14 the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
15 (FIFRA) product label describing the specific health and
16 environment risks from pesticides for distribution if
17 requested.

18 (8) The owner of the property to which the pyrethoid
19 pesticide is applied must be given a copy of the FIFRA
20 product label describing the specific health and

21 environment risks from pesticides by the applicator.
22 (c) The Agency shall adopt rules creating a process for
23 the licensure of commercial applicators for residential
24 treatment using pyrethoid pesticides. The licensure process
25 shall include:
26 (1) a course and material specific to mosquito control

HB3118

- 3 -

LRB102 15736 CPF 22287 b

1 and pollinator protection in a residential environment;
2 (2) requirements for domestic inspections;
3 (3) the collection of surveillance evidence of
4 mosquitoes;
5 (4) identification of mosquitoes;
6 (5) mosquito life stages;
7 (6) pesticide-free source reduction methods;
8 (7) bystander protection;
9 (8) product label requirements; and
10 (9) any other topics the Agency determines relevant.
11 (d) The Agency may adopt any rules it deems necessary for
12 the implementation and administration of this Section.



WINNETKA SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This draft Sustainability Plan consists of this Introduction, ten Sustainability Focus Areas, and two Appendices. The ten Focus Areas are Climate, Economic Development, Energy, Land, Leadership, Mobility, Municipal Operations, Sustainable Communities, Waste, and Water.

The ten Focus Areas come from the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' (MMC) Greenest Region Compact 2 (GRC2). The GRC2 rests on 49 high-level "consensus" goals that are aligned with other local, regional, national, and global goals and that are broadly supported by MMC members and allied organizations. The GRC2 Framework is a companion document that provides suggested objectives, strategies, and tools to help communities achieve the GRC2 consensus goals. The GRC2 Framework is built on the sustainability plans and other guiding documents of more than 30 Illinois municipalities. The Winnetka Village Council adopted the GRC2 in March 2018.

Water is one of the ten Focus Areas included in the GRC2. The EFC opted to divide Water into two Focus Areas for purposes of this Sustainability Plan, one for Lake Michigan water and one for Stormwater, to highlight the unique roles Water plays in Winnetka.

Each Focus Area includes introductory language, a "Previous Village Efforts" section, and a "Proposed Future Initiatives" section, and "2040 Proposed Village Goals".. The introductory language in each Focus Area was previously adopted by the EFC and is currently included on the EFC page of the Village website. "Previous Village Efforts" are those efforts and initiatives the EFC had previously identified as "Completed" or "In Progress" as part of its analysis of the GRC2 Framework from March 2018 through April 2019. "Proposed Future Initiatives" were also previously identified by the EFC as possible shorter-term (3 - 5 years) priorities for the Village to pursue, as identified in the Proposed Consensus Recommendation document adopted at the January 2019 meeting. Each Proposed Future Initiative includes a red parenthetical that reflects the type of action needed to pursue the initiative, e.g. , PO: Council proposes ordinance or other Council-level action; DS: Council directs Staff to undertake; EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake. The 2040 Proposed Village Goals were prepared for the February 2020 introductory 2040 Comprehensive Plan meeting with Lakota.

There are two Appendices, A and B. Appendix A includes documentation of strategies and/or goals that the EFC previously identified as achieved or achievable in the next 3 - 5 year timeframe. Appendix B includes the current and original versions of the introductory language for each Focus Area and helps "track changes" in this introductory language.

SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS AREAS

- GRC2 consensus goals for each focus area

CLIMATE

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Maintain clean and healthful air
- Develop resistance to climate change impacts
- Engage the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Cultivate local and sustainable economic development, jobs, and businesses
- Attract, retain, reorganize, and support businesses that practice and promote sustainability
- Engage the community in understanding and supporting local businesses

ENERGY

- 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

LAND

- Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles
- Reduce sprawl by promoting infill development to reduce adverse impacts on natural resources and infrastructure demands
- Sustain a robust urban rainforest 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

MOBILITY

- Support safe and efficient active transportation
- Maintain a diverse, safe, and efficient transportation network
 - policies, programs, and regulations
- Promote public and sustainable transportation choices

MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

- Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices
- Support or create an interdisciplinary team to coordinate sustainability efforts
- Formalize sustainability goals and plans
- Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations
- Collect and manage data to advance sustainability

WASTE

- 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

WATER

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve 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

SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS AREAS

- GRC2 consensus goals for each focus area

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

- Partner with other taxing bodies and organizations
- Decrease carbon emissions from vehicles and equipment
- Increase Village-wide use of electric vehicles

LEADERSHIP

- Village Council should lead proactively, not reflect reactively
- Enact ordinances and policies
- Educate, motivate, and empower Winnetka's residents, institutions, and businesses to take meaningful action to improve resilience and adapt to and mitigate climate change



Previous Village Efforts

- Regulate burning of landscape waste by banning the burning of leaves
- Reducing the use of high-emitting small engines, such as gas leaf blowers
- Preparing pre-disaster hazard mitigation plan
- Reducing volatile organic compounds (VOC) emissions by banning products containing coal tar for pavement sealant.
- Assessed infrastructure and public safety threats from extreme weather events through Stormwater Master Plan

The overall Village climate objective is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in and near Winnetka. Given the increasing need for clean air, reducing greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere is vital. Winnetka is dedicated to reducing GHG emissions, and the Village holds an Illinois Green Fleets Community by supporting environmentally-friendly vehicles and fuels to improve air quality. The Village also enforces a gas-powered leaf blower ban during the summer to reduce community emissions.

Proposed Future Initiatives

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

Legend

PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Winnetka is divided into three main commercial districts: Central Business District, Hubbard Woods, and Indian Hill. The Village employs a full-time Economic Development Coordinator that serves as a facilitator between the Village and businesses. Our local businesses are the cornerstone of the community and central to limiting Winnetka's environmental footprint. The Village promotes local goods and regularly supports and advertises Shop Local and Small Business Saturday initiatives. Additionally, the Green Awards program recognizes businesses that practice and promote sustainability while attracting and attaining similar organizations and individuals.

Previous Village Efforts

- Connecting local businesses with education training and jobs related to sustainability
- Encouraging green innovation among residents and local businesses through the Green Awards
- Recognizing and supporting local businesses who practice and promote sustainability through press releases
- Promoting tourism featuring natural and cultural assets of the community as Members of the Chicago North Shore Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Legend

PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake



Previous Village Efforts

- LED lighting upgrades to Village-owned buildings to improve energy efficiency
- Procuring some renewable energy for public facilities from the IMEA power plant
- Enrollment in SolSmart, a national program to make it faster, easier, and more affordable to implement solar energy technology
- Promoting the use of ENERGY STAR certified appliances and equipment
- Publicly recognizing institutional and private buildings that achieve specific energy efficiency targets through the Green Awards

Winnetka's principal energy objective is to reduce energy consumption and advance the use of renewable energy sources. In Winnetka, village-owned buildings regularly undergo LED lighting upgrades and are equipped with motion sensors for lighting. The Village is also an active member of the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA) and utilizes available funding through IMEA's Energy Efficiency Upgrade rebate program. To promote community energy sustainability, Winnetka offers a rebate program to residents to install NEST thermostats.

Proposed Future Initiatives

- Audit, benchmark, and trade 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)
- 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)
- 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)

Legend

PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

2040 Proposed Village Goals

- Develop landfill into properties that can be used by the village
- Stabilize bluffs and beaches and increase enjoyment of Lake Michigan



LAND



Previous Village Efforts

- Working with Winnetka Park District to protect greenfields and open spaces in the community
- Evaluating proposed developments on groundwater levels and water quality with the community Flood Plain information
- Creating the Green-Bay trail to prioritize the acquisition and management of lands to create connected greenways.
- Enhancing parks, open spaces, and recreational opportunities accessible to all residents.
- Collaborating with park and forest district
- Fostering healthy community relationships through the use of open space
- Planting tree's to renew urban forest and diversify for long-term resilience
- Enacting a tree preservation ordinance to protect trees on private property
- Engaging the community in programs and events to celebrate nature, such as Arbor and Earth Day
- Engage residents through natural resources and conservation

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 controlled by zoning. However, the natural environment has defined some form of ecologically balanced, publically accessible open space, green and blue, which will provide the foundation for sustainable activity. These built and natural considerations overlap with Economic Development, Sustainable Communities, and Water.

Proposed Future Initiatives

- Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties (PO)
- Prioritize redevelopment and infrastructure projects, and public-private partnerships, that support public transit-oriented locations and uses (PO, DS)
- 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)
- Continue to maximize the amount of public spaces and parks accessible to residents (PO)
- Where practical, replace turf with sustainable landscaping alternatives (DS)
- 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)
- Enact and enforce land-use policies that preserve open space (PO, DS)

2040 Proposed Village Goals

- Enable additional environmental and/or forestry related ordinances to fall under WEFC's purview



LEADERSHIP

This category pertains to the support of the GRC2 through regional, state, and national collaboration. The Village encourages and supports environmentally friendly practices when possible and partners with various groups to support the health and sustainability of the community. Winnetka is an active member of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, Northwest Municipal Conference, and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. The Village also works in partnership with the Winnetka Park District through various efforts.



Previous Village Efforts

- Engaging with academia and non-governmental organizations to support the GRC2
- Engaging with the state and national municipal association to align actions with GRC2
- Report local and regional environmental data to advance national and international collaborative efforts
- Sharing information about municipal leadership in sustainability broadly within and outside the community.
- Creating the EFC Green Awards to encourage and report sustainability behaviors for residents and local businesses.

Proposed Future Initiatives

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

Legend

- PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
- DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
- EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

2040 Proposed Village Goals

- Reduce vehicle miles traveled; increase trips made by walking, bicycling and transit
- Develop safe, east-west bikeway(s) to connect to downtown areas, GB trail, rail stations, and educational institutions



MOBILITY

Winnetka 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 bike-friendly Green Bay Trail segment and supports bicycle use throughout the Village. The Village maintains its roadways and regularly collaborates with IDOT and Cook County to ensure reliable transportation for the community.



Previous Village Efforts

- Implementing a diverse and efficient transportation network which include:
 - three train stations
 - intersecting bus routes
- Bike-friendly Green-Bay Trail and supports bike use throughout the village
- Maintaining roadways and regularly collaborating with IDOT and Cook County
- Synchronizing traffic signals at Green Bay & Elm to reduce and Hibbard & Willow vehicle idling
- Incorporating trees and other green infrastructure into roadway design and maintenance for functionality and aesthetics
- Encouraging municipal employees to use alternate modes of transportation to commute to work
- Encouraging active transport and community building in open streets events
- The addition of two e-charging stations in West Elm

Proposed Future Initiatives

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

Legend

- PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
- DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
- EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

2040 Proposed Village Goals

- Include WEFC representation on other Village Commissions
- Enable additional environmental and/or forestry related ordinances to fall under WEFC's purview



MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

Winnetka's 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 lifestyles 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.



Previous Village Efforts

- Creating the Environmental and Forestry Commission to coordinate internal sustainability efforts
- Educating and dedicating staff to direct sustainability initiatives
- Adopting the Greenest Region Compact 2 to begin to formalize sustainability goals and plans
- Extending the useful life of physical assets through in-house fleet services
- Operating a safe, clean, and efficient municipal operations, such as fleets, roads, waterways, and other services.
- Becoming a certified IEPA Illinois Green Fleet
- Tracking, analyzing, and managing data to advance sustainability

Proposed Future Initiatives

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

Legend

PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES



The Village supports a sustainable food culture and local farmers through its farmers market. The Village is committed to preserving and maintaining its historic assets through its Landmark Preservation Commission while supporting culture and art through its annual Music Festival. The Winnetka Community House and the Winnetka Park District promote health and wellness through their various youth programs. The Village also promotes beauty and livability in community design through its Design Review Board and strict permitting process. Go Green Winnetka engages residents in sustainability initiatives through an environmentally-focused citizen advisory group.

Previous Village Efforts

- Preserving and maintaining natural assets through the Landmark Preservation Commission
- Promoting beauty and liveability in community design, stewardship, and partnerships
- Preparing the community for potential disasters with FEMA training and the stormwater master plan
- Educating the community about sustainability initiatives using EFC communication items and the Winnetka report.
- Utilizing strategic partnerships with other community organizations to promote sustainability
- Engaging residents in sustainability initiatives such as Go Green Winnetka & Forestry Commission citizen advisory groups
- Hosting environmentally focused events, such as Electronics Recycling, Paper Shredding event, Pumpkin Composting event, exc.

Proposed Future Initiatives

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

Legend

PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

2040 Proposed Village Goals

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



WASTE

Community sustainability 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 partnership with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County. While recycling refers to all materials, it is helpful to differentiate recycling processes for solid waste and water. Reduction of solid waste within Winnetka is facilitated through a separate collection of recycled materials from solid waste, and 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.



Previous Village Efforts

- Curbside recycling for residence
- Access to recycling infrastructure and services in public place
- Establishing recycling program to properly dispose of
 - electronic waste
 - hazardous waste
- Enacting biofuel reuse in the community through
 - compost at PW yards
 - Christmas tree recycling
- Collaboration with SWANCC to manage solid waste sustainably
- Adopting a Pay-As-You-Throw program (PO)

Proposed Future Initiatives

- Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program (PO)
- Make public events Zero Waste (DS)
- 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)

Legend

- PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
- DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
- EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

2040 Proposed Village Goals

- Continue to manage water infrastructure to ensure water quality and efficiency
- Minimize or eliminate beach closures due to bacteria and other contaminants
- Replace lead service lines over time, minimizing exposure to lead in drinking water



WATER

LAKE MICHIGAN AND
DRINKING WATER



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

Previous Village Efforts

- Provide water audits to customers
- Avoid the use of coal tar sealants on municipal property
- Salt-education for plow drivers to reduce chloride contamination from road salting
- Control water loss by annual IEPA reporting using AWWA protocols
- Repair and replace inefficient water supply infrastructure with continuous upgrades
- Encourage property owners to disconnect downspouts from sewers and direct flow to landscaping
- Participate in watershed planning and stewardship
- Enact Summer Hours Sprinkler Hours ordinance to encourage water conservation.

Proposed Village Initiatives

- 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)
- 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)
- Support regional and state initiatives to protect water supplies and support stewardship of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River (EFC)
- Collaborate to enhance wetlands for improved ecosystem services (DS)
- Adopt codes that enable rainwater harvesting for non-potable uses (PO)

Legend

PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action
DS: Council directs Staff to undertake
EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

2040 Proposed Village Goals

- Reduce community water consumption by 10%
- Reduce to zero beach closures from pollution



WATER

STORM AND WASTEWATER

Effective, sustainable stormwater management is a major goal of Village leadership. Flooding is not a new problem in Winnetka, as is naturally a lowland marsh environment: various initiatives to hold or redirect stormwater when major storms occur have been implemented in the Village since the 1930s. Today, the Village is undertaking a large-scale initiative that will result in a major change in the way stormwater is handled.



Previous Village Efforts

- Provide water audits to customers
- Avoid the use of coal tar sealants on all municipal properties
- Salt-education for plow drivers to reduce chloride contamination from road salting
- Control water loss by annual IEPA reporting using AWWA protocols
- Repair and replace inefficient water supply infrastructure with continuous upgrades
- Participation in the community rating system for flood mitigation and planning
- Community access to flood insurance through participation in the National Flood Insurance Program
- Encouraging property owners to disconnect downspouts from sewers and direct flow to landscaping
- Participate in watershed planning and stewardship
- Enacted Summer Hours Sprinkler Hours ordinance to encourage water conservation.

Proposed Village Initiatives

- Comprehensively and sustainably manage water infrastructure (DS)
- Review and adopt codes to eliminate barriers to green infrastructure Best Management Processes, including cisterns, green roofs, bioswales, and permeable paving (PO, DS)

Legend

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

DS: Council directs Staff to undertake

EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

APPENDIX A i: CLIMATE

Prohibition of Open-Burning

The open-burning of waste prohibited under Village Code 8.16.090 which stipulates that open burning is prohibited anywhere in the Village unless burning is contained within outdoor grills, barbeques, small recreational fires or fireplaces.

- For more information on this ordinance, see Village Code 8.16.090

Gas-powered engine restrictions

The use of any gasoline-powered leaf blower is prohibited between the months of June through September. Outside of that timeframe, use is prohibited before 8:00am and after 7:00pm on Mondays through Fridays and before 9:00am and 6:00 pm on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

- For more information on this ordinance, see Village Code 9.16.020

Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan

- For more information on this plan, see
 - <https://www2.illinois.gov/iema/mitigation/pages/planning.aspx>

Coal-Tar Ban

- For more information on this ordinance, see Village Code 5.74.020

Stormwater Master Plan

- For more information on the Stormwater Master Plan, see
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/294/Stormwater-Management>

APPENDIX A ii: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Connected local businesses with education training and jobs related to sustainability

- For more information on the Go Green Winnetka, see
 - <https://gogreenwinnetkanorthfield.wordpress.com>
 - <http://www.igence.org>

Green Awards

The Village of Winnetka's Environmental and Forestry Commission recognizes residents and households that demonstrate commitment to sustainable and environmentally-friendly practices.

- For more information on the Green Awards or to nominate a household, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/244/Green-Awards>

Green Business Program

The Hoffman Estates Green Business Program is designed to assist local businesses achieve their energy and environmental goals, recognize businesses for their sustainability efforts, and educating the community about opportunities for improving economic sustainability.

- For more information on the Hoffman Estates Business Program, see
 - <https://www.hoffmanestates.org/business/green-strategies-for-business/green-business-program>

Green Business Program

The Hoffman Estates Green Business Program is designed to assist local businesses achieve their energy and environmental goals, recognize businesses for their sustainability efforts, and educating the community about opportunities for improving economic sustainability.

- For more information on the Hoffman Estates Business Program, see
 - <https://www.hoffmanestates.org/business/green-strategies-for-business/green-business-program>

APPENDIX A iii: ENERGY

IMEA Energy Efficiency Upgrade Rebate Program

To support energy audits and commissioning studies of residential, commercial, and institutional facilities, Winnetka participates in the IMEA Energy Efficiency Upgrade Rebate Program.

putts money towards efficiency upgrades

- For more information on the IMEA Energy Efficiency Upgrade Rebate Program, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/244/Green-Awards>

LED Light Upgrades

The Village has issued LED lighting upgrades to Village-Owned buildings to increase energy efficiency.

- For more information on the LED lighting upgrades, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/244/Green-Awards>
- For more information on the energy efficiency and sustainability of LED light bulbs, see:
 - <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/save-electricity-and-fuel/lighting-choices-save-you-money/led-lighting>

Services for Local Businesses

Winnetka offers various services to promote local, small businesses, such as Small Business Saturday events, joint-business advertising, social media promotion, e-development newsletters, and more.

- For more information on Winnetka's small business services, see
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/268/Existing-Business-Services>

APPENDIX A iv: LAND

Green Bay Trail

Winnetka has prioritized the acquisition, dedication, and management of lands to create connected greenways through the Green Bay Trail. The GBT is a 9.38 acre asphalt path that runs 2.24 miles through Winnetka from Kenilworth to Glencoe, paralleling the Metra commuter line.

- For more information on the Green Bay Trail, see:
 - <https://www.winpark.org/parks/map/green-bay-trail/>

Lakefront Master Plan

The Winnetka Park District partnered with her Lakota Group to produce the Lakefront Master Plan to help plan the communities parks and open spaces. The document contains plans for modest and ambitious projects that improve the quality of lakefront recreation and environmental amenities available to park and beach users as well as improve the overall quality of the Illinois Lake Michigan coastline for future generations.

- For more information on the Lakefront Master Plan, see
 - <https://www.winpark.org/wp-content/uploads/WLFMP-ExecSummary-DRAFT.pdf>

Bikeway Systems Master Plan

The Winnetka Park District Board of Commissioners has approved a bikeway master plan to optimize sustainable transportation and linkages between parks and open spaces for the community.

- For more information on the Bikeway System Master Plan, see:
 - <https://www.winpark.org/about-us/projects/bikeway/>

Green Bay Trail

The Winnetka Park District Board of Commissioners has approved a bikeway master plan to optimize sustainable transportation and linkages between parks and open spaces for the community.

- For more information on the Bikeway System Master Plan, see:
 - <https://www.winpark.org/about-us/projects/bikeway/>

Village Forester

The Village Forester is responsible for overseeing reforestations, tree preservation, and tree maintenance. They maintain the health of trees on public right of ways through regular trimming activities, inspection of trees, and removal of dead, diseased, or hazardous parkway trees. as well as other maintenance tasks.

- For more information on the Village Forester, see:
 - <https://www.winpark.org/about-us/projects/bikeway/>

Tree City USA

The Tree City USA program was founded in 1976 and is a nationwide movement that provides the necessary framework for communities to manage and expand their trees in public spaces. In this program, Winnetka residents are able to apply for various tree species to be planted in a designated space.

- For more information on the Tree City USA program, see
 - <https://www.arborday.org/programs/treecityusa/bulletins/documents/000-full.pdf>
- For the Parkway Tree Planting Request Form, see
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/DocumentCenter/View/523/Parkway-Tree-Request-Form-PDF>

Arbor Day Tree Giveaway

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- For more information on the Arbor Day Tree Giveaway
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/263?html=true>

APPENDIX A v: LEADERSHIP

APPENDIX A vi: MOBILITY

Bikeway System Master Plan

The Winnetka Park District Board of Commissioners has approved a bikeway master plan to optimize sustainable transportation and linkages between parks and open spaces for the community.

- For more information on the Bikeway System Master Plan, see:
 - <https://www.winpark.org/about-us/projects/bikeway/>

Green Bay & Elm Traffic Signal Synchronization

-]
- For more information on the Bi
 - <https://www.winpark.org/about-us/projects/bikeway/>

APPENDIX A vii: MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

Environmental and Forestry Commission

The EFC's mission is to facilitate environmental and forestry stewardship, resource conservation and sustainability on a personal, local and regional level, to raise public awareness of environmental issues and best practices, and to bring about changes in public policy, where appropriate, through a collaborative, measurable, science-based process.

- For more information on the Environmental and Forestry Commission, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/243/Environmental-Forestry-Commission>

Greenest Region 2 Compact

The Greenest Region Compact (GRC) promotes sustainability in communities around the Chicago region with an emphasis on building strong and vibrant communities. The Compact addresses ten areas: climate, economic development, energy, land, leadership, mobility, municipal operations, sustainable communities, water, and waste and recycling. The GRC guides the more than 70 participating municipalities towards sustainable goals and actions and encourages communities to work together to create a sustainable region.

- For more information on the Greenest Region 2 Compact, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/262/Sustainability-Through-the-Greenest-Regi>

In-House Fleet Services

- For more information on the In-House Fleet Services, see:
 -

IEPA Illinois Green Fleet

Winnetka holds a certified IEPA Illinois Green Fleet. The program gives businesses, government units, and other organizations recognition for their efforts to reduce polluting emissions from motor vehicles through the use of environmentally-friendly alternative fuels. The program assigns points to a fleet based on the percentage of the fleet using alternative fuels, refueling arrangements, actual fuel usage, the future commitment to clean, alternative fuels and the presence of any incentives for employees

- For more information on the IEPA Green Fleet, see:
 - <http://www.smt.org/greenfleet>

APPENDIX A viii: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Design Review Board

The Design Review Board (DRB) consists of seven Winnetka residents appointed by the Village President with the advice and consent of the Village Trustees, with one member designated to serve as chairperson. Members of the DRB serve for terms of five years, which are staggered to assure the Board's continuity. The DRB also serves as the Sign Board of Appeals. Although residency is the only defined qualification for serving on the DRB, members of the DRB are generally appointed on the basis of expertise and/or involvement in the fields of architecture, landscape design, real estate and commerce.

- For more information on the Design Review Board, see
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/242/Design-Review-Board>

Landmark Preservation Commission

The LPC consists of seven Winnetka residents appointed by the Village President with the advice and consent of the Village Trustees. The Village President also designates one member of the Committee to serve as chairperson. Members of the Landmark Preservation Commission serve for terms of three years, which are staggered to assure the Board's continuity..

- For more information on the LPC, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/270/Landmark-Preservation-Commission>

Go Green Winnetka

Go Green Winnetka's mission is to raise environmental awareness, inspire people to take individual and collective action, and create more sustainable, just, and climate resilient communities.

- For more information on the Go Green Winnetka, see:
 - <https://gogreenwinnetkanorthfield.wordpress.com>

APPENDIX A ix: WASTE

Recycling Service

Winnetka provides curbside residential and commercial recycling programs.

- For more information on Winnetka's recycling program, see
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/206/Recycling-Collection>

WCC Annual Rummage Sale

- For more information on Winnetka's recycling program, see
 - <https://www.winnetkacongregationalchurch.org/why-we-care/wcc-rummage/>

Spring Clean-Up Week

The annual Spring Cleanup Program is a free service to residents provided by the Public Works Department. The program provides residents an excellent opportunity to clean out attics, basements, garages, etc. of unwanted items and materials. Crews collect almost anything that two men can reasonably lift from the parkway into a truck.

- For more information on Spring Clean-Up Week, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/213/Spring-Clean-Up-Week>

Recycling Guide

Winnetka has a comprehensive Recycling Guide to educate residents on the recycling practices of the community.

- For more information on Recycling Guide, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/DocumentCenter/View/504/Village-of-Winnetka-Recycling-Guide-PDF>

Electronics Recycling Program

Through SWANCC, Winnetka residents are able to recycle electronic devices.

- For more information on Electronics Recycling Program, see:
 - <https://www.swancc.org/calendar?calid=9&id=394&view=event>

Holiday Tree Pickup

Christmas trees are picked up from the curbside for shredding, chipping, and composting during the first three weeks of January following the holiday season. After the third week, a \$2.25 pink refuse sticker will be required to ensure pickup. Please remove everything from trees, including plastic bags or wraps, ornaments, tinsel, wires, and the stand, as these will clog and damage the shredder.

- For more information on Holiday Tree Pickup, see:
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/215/Holiday-Tree-Pickup>

Electronics Recycling Program

Through SWANCC, Winnetka residents are able to recycle electronic devices.

- For more information on Electronics Recycling Program, see:
 - <https://www.swancc.org/calendar?calid=9&id=394&view=event>

APPENDIX A x: WATER

Coal Tar Ban

As of August, 2014, the use of coal tar-based sealing agents are prohibited on all public lands

- For more information regarding the application and reasoning behind the Winnetka Coal Tar Ban see
 - <https://villageofwinnetka.org/DocumentCenter/View/710/Coal-Tar-Ban-Information-Guide-PDF>
- For more information on Coal-Tar from the EPA, see
 - <https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/coaltar.pdf>

Salting Information

- For more information regarding environmentally safe salting practices and alternatives, including salt brining techniques, see
 - <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/2284/Winter-Maintenance-Best-Practices>

Flood Prevention

- For more information on flood information and recourses for residents, see
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/222/Flood-Plain-Information>

Recycling Service

Winnetka provides recycling services to community residents for electronics, styrafoam. batteries, paint, household chemical waste, cork, mattresses, and more.

- For more information on Winnetka's recycling program, see
 - <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/206/Recycling-Collection>

APPENDIX B: Paragraph Changes

CLIMATE

he overall Village climate objective is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in and near Winnetka. Given the increasing need for clean air, reducing greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere is vital. Winnetka is dedicated to reducing GHG emissions, and the Village holds an Illinois Green Fleets Community by supporting environmentally-friendly vehicles and fuels to improve air quality. The Village also enforces a gas-powered leaf blower ban during the summer to reduce community emissions.

original

The overall objective is to reduce air pollution in and near Winnetka. Given the increasing need for clean air, it is importance to reduce greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere. The Village enforces a no-idling policy for Village-owned trucks and equipment as well as employs strategic placement of no idling signage in commuter areas. The Village holds status as an Illinois Green Fleets Community through having and supporting environmentally friendly vehicles and fuels to improve air quality. The Village also enforces a gas-powered leaf blower ban during the summer. Details of goals and activities are found on the GRC2 Climate and Energy Goals pages.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Winnetka is divided into three main commercial districts: Central Business District, Hubbard Woods, and Indian Hill. The Village employs a full-time Economic Development Coordinator that serves as a facilitator between the Village and businesses. Our local businesses are the cornerstone of the community and central to limiting Winnetka’s environmental footprint. The Village promotes local goods and regularly supports and advertises Shop Local and Small Business Saturday initiatives. Additionally, the Green Awards program recognizes businesses that practice and promote sustainability while attracting and attaining similar organizations and individuals.

original

The Village is divided into three main commercial districts: Central Business District, Hubbard Woods and Indian Hill. The Village employs a full-time Economic Development Coordinator that serves as a facilitator between the Village and businesses. The Village promotes local goods and regularly supports and advertises Shop Local and Small Business Saturday initiatives. The Green Awards program recognizes businesses that practice and promote sustainability while working to attract and attain similar businesses.

ENERGY

Winnetka's principal energy objective is to reduce energy consumption and advance the use of renewable energy sources. In Winnetka, village-owned buildings regularly undergo LED lighting upgrades and are equipped with motion sensors for lighting. The Village is also an active member of the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA) and utilizes available funding through IMEA's Energy Efficiency Upgrade rebate program. To promote community energy sustainability, Winnetka offers a rebate program to residents to install NEST thermostats.

Original

The overall objective is to reduce energy consumption and advance the use of renewable energy sources in Winnetka. Village-owned buildings are regularly undergo LED lighting upgrades and are equipped with motion sensors for lighting. The Village is an active member of the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA) and utilizes available funding through IMEA's Energy Efficiency Upgrade rebate program. The Village offers a rebate program to residents for the installation of NEST thermostats. The Village also recognizes residents and businesses in the community that show an exceptional commitment to sustainability practices through its annual Green Awards program. Details of goals and activities are found on the GRC2 Climate and Energy Goals pages

LAND

his 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 controlled by zoning. However, the natural environment has defined some form of ecologically balanced, publically accessible open space, green and blue, which will provide the foundation for sustainable activity. These built and natural considerations overlap with Economic Development, Sustainable Communities, and Water.

Original

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.

LEADERSHIP

This category pertains to the support of the GRC2 through regional, state, and national collaboration. The Village encourages and supports environmentally friendly practices when possible and partners with various groups to support the health and sustainability of the community. Winnetka is an active member of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, Northwest Municipal Conference, and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. The Village also works in partnership with the Winnetka Park District through various efforts.

Original

This category pertains to the support of the GRC2 through regional, state and national collaboration. The Village is an active member of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, Northwest Municipal Conference and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. The Village also works in partnership with the Winnetka Park District through various efforts. The Village encourages and supports environmentally friendly practices when possible.

MOBILITY

Winnetka 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 bike-friendly Green Bay Trail segment and supports bicycle use throughout the Village. The Village maintains its roadways and regularly collaborates with IDOT and Cook County to ensure reliable transportation for the community.

Original

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.

MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

Winnetka's 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 lifestyles 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.

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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 life-style 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.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The Village supports a sustainable food culture and local farmers through its farmers market. The Village is committed to preserving and maintaining its historic assets through its Landmark Preservation Commission while supporting culture and art through its annual Music Festival. The Winnetka Community House and the Winnetka Park District promote health and wellness through their various youth programs. The Village also promotes beauty and livability in community design through its Design Review Board and strict permitting process. Go Green Winnetka engages residents in sustainability initiatives through an environmentally-focused citizen advisory group.

Original

The Village supports a sustainable food culture through its local farmers market. The Village is committed to preserving and maintaining its historic assets through its Landmark Preservation Commission, while supporting culture and art through its annual Music Festival. The Winnetka Community House and the Winnetka Park District promote health and wellness through their various youth programs. The Village also promotes beauty and livability in community design through its Design Review Board and strict permitting process. Go Green Winnetka engages residents in sustainability initiatives through an environmentally-focused citizen advisory group.

WASTE

Community sustainability 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 partnership with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County. While recycling refers to all materials, it is helpful to differentiate recycling processes for solid waste and water. Reduction of solid waste within Winnetka is facilitated through a separate collection of recycled materials from solid waste, and 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.

Original

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, and CFL bulbs.

WATER - Natural water

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. 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.

original

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WATER - Stormwater

Effective, sustainable stormwater management is a major goal of Village leadership. Flooding is not a new problem in Winnetka, as is naturally a lowland marsh environment: various initiatives to hold or redirect stormwater when major storms occur have been implemented in the Village since the 1930s. Today, the Village is undertaking a large-scale initiative that will result in a major change in the way stormwater is handled.

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June 2021 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 2021 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](https://www.officemax.com) or [EcoProducts.com](https://www.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>