



Village of Winnetka

Environmental and Forestry Commission Meeting

August 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Winnetka Village Hall Council Chambers - 510
Green Bay Road

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction & Chair's Remarks**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approval of the June, 12 2023 Meeting Minutes
- 4. Old Business Updates**
 - a. Revised Sustainability and Climate Action Plan and Timeline
- 5. New Business**
 - a. EFC x Zoning Conversation Update
 - b. Power Plant Study Session Readout and Discussion
- 6. Communications**
 - a. Approval of the August Communication Items
 - b. Approval of the September Communication Items
 - c. Discussion of the October Communication Items
- 7. Committee/Staff Reports**
- 8. Open Forum**
- 9. Adjournment**

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
June 14, 2023

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held in the Council Chambers at Village Hall, 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois, Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Hanley called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.; Voting Members present: Commissioners Patrick Hanley, David Varca, Liz Kunkle, Peter Eck, Greg Frezados, and Brendan Andrew. Voting Members absent: none. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative present: Robert Dearborn. Student Representative Present: Scarlett Harper. Staff Liaison present: Diana Puga, Public Works Analyst. Public present: three members.

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chairperson Hanley called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members. Staff Representative Puga took roll call for attendance. Chairperson Hanley welcomed the newly appointed EFC Commissioner Brendan Andrew.

2) Public Comment:

Member of the Public made a comment regarding a certification opportunity provided through Open Lands to become a Treekeeper. The treekeeper program is an educational and volunteer program that helps manage urban canopies and provides education for homeowners on tree care.

A separate member of the public provided brief comment to express interest in becoming a student representative for the EFC.

3) Review and Approval of Minutes:

a) Approval of the June Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Kunkle made a motion to approve the June 14, 2023, minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Frezados.

AYES:	VARCA, KUNKLE, ECK, FREZADOS, ANDREW
ABSENT:	NONE
NAYS:	NONE

4) Old Business Updates:

a) Materials Management

The Commissioners discussed deconstruction of homes, in which homeowners recycle the materials used during construction for another construction project. This provides

homeowners a sustainable way to use materials. The Commissioners discussed adding this as a criterion for consideration in the Green Awards.

5) New Business:

a) Visit and Presentation by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD)

Dr. Catherine O'Connor, Director of Engineering for MWRD, gave a presentation to the EFC on Urban Water Management and Climate Resiliency in the Megacity of Chicago. Dr. O'Connor provided an overview of MWRD as an organization, the Water Reclamation Plants, Tunnel and Reservoir Plans, Pollution and Flood Control, Stormwater Management Programs and Green Infrastructure, and Stormwater Management Programs and Capital Projects.

b) Winnetka Power Plant

Chairperson Hanley shared there will be a Village Council study session being held on July 11th to discuss the power plant. There are three major topics of consideration for the power plant: the contract renewal with IMEA, immediate investments for equipment, and alternative generation systems.

6) Communications:

a) Approval of the July Communication Items

The Commissioners discussed the July Communication Items which include the Paper Shredding Event, Hosting a Zero-Waste Event, Recycling Tip for Styrofoam, and Stormwater-Friendly Landscaping. Commissioner Varca made the motion to approve the July Communication Items, Commissioner Frezados seconded.

AYES:	VARCA, PARK-JONES, KUNKLE, FREZADOS
ABSENT:	ECK
NAYS:	NONE

b) Discussion of the July Communication Items

The Commissioners reviewed the July Communication Items which include Recycling Tips for Paper Napkins, Towels, and Tissues, the Pumpkin Composting Event, and Curbside Leaf Collection.

7) Commission/Staff Reports:

Student Representative Harper asked for clarification on how the tree deposit/replacement process works.

8) **Open Forum:**

No reports.

9) **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Chairperson Hanley asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Frezados. The motion passed; the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

DRAFT

August 2023 EFC Communications Content

1. Recycling Tip – Paper Napkins, Towels, and Tissue Recycling

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Used paper-based goods such as paper napkins, towels and tissues should not be placed into your recycling bin. These types of items have potentially already been recycled numerous times and are at the end of their life cycle. Also, these types of paper are normally contaminated with food waste and are not recyclable. Items containing food waste can contaminate other recyclable items and should be composted or landfilled instead.

2. Pumpkin Composting Event

Winnetka Report

In a continuing effort to expand environmental initiatives, the Village of Winnetka is hosting a one-day pumpkin collection. Residents are encouraged to bring in pumpkins for the Village to properly dispose of, limiting the amount brought to landfills. The Public Work Department will provide a designated drop off location at the Municipal Yards Facility at 1390 Willow Road from ***DATE/TIME TBD***. Please remove any solid waste (candles, bags, etc.). Collection of garbage, food scraps or other landscape waste will not be accepted. Please contact the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568 with any questions.

3. Curbside Leaf Collection

Winnetka Report

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

September 2023 EFC Communications Content

1. Environmental and Forestry Commission Recycling Tip During COVID-19

E-Winnetka Newsletter

Recycled materials serve as feedstocks necessary to produce essential supplies including those especially needed during this time such as paper towels, sanitizing wipes, toilet paper, and packaging for a wide range of products including boxes for shipping. Many businesses that would normally generate large amounts of recyclables have limited operations now. Therefore, household recycling is vital to the continued supply of raw materials for U.S. manufacturing sectors.

Now is a great time to focus on waste prevention where possible, and when recycling, keep the materials as clean and dry as possible. Follow the guidelines of your local recycling hauler and only put items in your recycling bin that they accept. If your community is not processing recycling due to the materials recovery facility being closed or another reason, consider dropping materials off at a recycling center, while following Center for Disease Control, state and local public health guidelines. Thank your recycling collectors, haulers, and sorters—they are providing a vital service during this time!

Reducing food waste has been ranked as the #3 solution (on a list of the Top 100) to reduce greenhouse emissions and actually reverse climate change. Composting food waste is #60 on that list. So, working to reduce food waste to begin with, divert all food waste from landfill, and composting what is left, collectively has a significant impact on one's personal carbon footprint.

To avoid wasting food at home, follow these tips:

- Take what you will eat and eat what you take at meal and snack times.
- Plan a menu and make a list so you buy what you need and do not purchase more food than you can eat before it spoils.
- Check what food you already have before you go grocery shopping.
- Get creative and make meals with what you already have.
- Label leftovers with the date when you store them in the fridge so you can keep track of how old they are.

2. Environmental and Forestry Commission Recycling Tip: Tips and Reminders During and After COVID-19

E-Winnetka Newsletter

- Keep plastic bags, masks, wipes, and latex gloves out of the recycling bin.
- If someone in your home has COVID-19, treat your recyclables as trash.
- Do not put your recyclables in plastic bags.
- Clean and shake dry recyclables to ensure products get recycled.
- Break down cardboard boxes and put them in the recycling bin whenever possible.
- Put recycling and trash in the appropriate bins, not next to them. Leaving materials next to bins increases risks to sanitation workers and can attract pests.
- If you are fall cleaning, consider setting aside things (batteries, paints, weed killer, plastic bags, clothing, other donations, etc.) to donate, recycle, or dispose of later when it's safe to bring them to a drop off location or collection event. Follow local guidelines.
- Return grass clippings back onto your lawn instead of bagging them.

October 2023 EFC Communications Content

1. 2023 Pumpkin “Smash” Composting Event

E-Winnetka Newsletter

The Village of Winnetka is hosting its annual one-day pumpkin collection event on Wednesday, November 1, 2023. Residents are encouraged to bring pumpkins for the Village to properly dispose of, limiting the amount brought to landfills. The Public Works Department will provide a designated drop off location at the Municipal Yards Facility at 1390 Willow Road from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on November 1st. Please remove any solid waste (candles, bags, etc.). Collection of garbage, food scraps or other landscape waste will not be accepted.

Please contact the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568 with any questions.

Please note: Residents will NOT actually smash their own pumpkins. This event is part of a regional smash event, for more information, please refer to the following link: [SCARCE PUMPKIN COMPOSTING](#)

2. Environmental and Forestry Commission Recycling Tip: Leaf Collection

E-Winnetka Newsletter

The Village’s annual curbside leaf collection will begin October 16th and will run through November 24th. The last day to place leaves on your parkway for collection is by 7:00 a.m. on Monday, November 27th. Any resident who places leaves on the parkway after 7:00 am risks being uncollected. Under this program, residents may rake their leaves to the parkway just inside the edge of the curb for collection by the Village. Please do not park in front of leaf piles or place pumpkins and debris other than leaves for collection as it will damage the leaf collecting equipment.

Leaves collected are then hauled to Antioch, IL for composting which the Village then receives back in early spring for residents to use as compost material. For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at 847-716-3568.