



Village of Winnetka

Environmental, Forestry, & Sustainability Commission Meeting

August 12, 2026 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. EFSC July 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- 4. Old Business Updates**
- 5. New Business**
 - a. Louisa Hernandez Presentation
 - b. Bike Bus and safe biking routes (guest John Lankford)
 - c. Solar power Hour (Tim Ring)
 - d. Buckthorn eradication (Liz Kunkle)
 - e. Leaf blower study update (King Poor)
 - f. Composting update (Liz Kunkle)
 - g. Tree Board meeting recap (King Poor)
- 6. Communications**
- 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 FORESTRY, AND SUSTAINABILITY
COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2026**

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, July 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chair Peter Eck called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Voting Members present: Commissioners Peter Eck, Tim Ring, Stacy Lucier Liz Kunkle. Members absent: Dave Varca, King Poor, Ben Dietz. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative absent: Kim Handler. Student Representative Present: None. Student Representative Absent: Scarlett Harper, Louisa Hernandez. Park District Liaison present: Christina Codo. Staff Liaison present: Elyse Steiner.

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chair Eck conducted a brief recap of the Jun meeting that he missed. He also asked about the current membership roster and term dates. Elyse will try to track it down. Commissioners also revisited the buckthorn conversation and the park district's tree plan for Centennial.

2) Public Comment:

None.

3) Review and Approval of Minutes

a) Approval of the April Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Ring, seconded by Commissioner Kunkle to approve the minutes as presented.

AYES: RING, ECK, KUNKLE, LUCIER.

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: DIETZ, VARCA, POOR.

4) New Business Updates:

a) Mid-Year Review

Green events guide completed. Leaf-blower study results coming soon. Native plant restoration following stormwater project.

Growing interest in “Bike Bus” for students. Coordinate with Oct 7 Walk and Roll to School Day. Connect with resident and biking-enthusiast John Lankford and invite to August meeting. Explore coordinating with school administrators.

Tree board meeting on July 28 organized by Morton Arboretum. Participate in person or virtually.

b) Climate Action Plan

The Climate Action Plan will be presented on July 21. It is expected that the Council will take a vote and (hopefully) adopt this Plan in its current state. Chair Eck remarked that there is no Executive Summary. There was some discussion of the term “Climate Action Plan” for this deliverable. Commissioner Kunkle objected to a photo in the waste section that will be swapped out.

c) Solar Power Hour

The event has been scheduled for Saturday September 19 from 1-3 PM at the Winnetka Library. We still need to secure speakers/ panelists and homeowners. Elyse will request Community Development to also be represented.

The event will be promoted in the next Winnetka Report, on social media, and in person at the Farmer’s Market in the weeks leading up to September 19.

5) Communications:

6) Commission/Staff Reports:

Green Bay Trail Day is July 25. Tim Ring and Peter Eck will help staff the Winnetka table. Promote buckthorn pickup service, solar power hour, rebates, energy audits. Public Works will assist with setup and take-down.

7) Open Forum:

8) Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chair Eck asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Lucier. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote; the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.