

WHEATON TOWN NEWS ~ WINTER 2021

WELCOME and VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT – <https://www.townofwheaton.com>

Welcome to the Town of Wheaton newsletter for “Winter 2021”. There are lots of things happening in our township. “Tornado 2019” is our history. It showed that Wheaton has some amazing residents and wonderful neighbors from all around the area. It is a great place to live with easy access to several metropolitan areas. From agricultural activities, expansion of existing and new businesses, construction on new residential lots, road improvements, Wheaton Park enhancements, operation of a top-notch recycling facility, and to a world class trout stream with improvements, the Town of Wheaton is progressing forward! 2020 has been a challenging year. Pandemic complications have affected everyone’s life and livelihood. Wheaton is weathering this storm in the same “can do it” fashion that it did the tornado.

PLAN COMMISSION

A revised Comprehensive Plan is in the works, though it has been slightly delayed by the issues related to the pandemic and public meetings. This will be the preliminary road map for the growth of our township into the future. Like all road maps, they are updated as needed, but give a general guidance to the direction the town residents want to go. Pressures for development along the County T corridor have continued. The plan will address this and many other concerns. As each Chapter becomes updated, they will be posted to the web site. (These will be DRAFTS.) You may find those by going to TOWNSHIP OF WHEATON, click on GOVERNMENT, click on COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, click on PROPOSED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2020-2040. If you want to add feedback, click on DO YOU HAVE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FEEDBACK? Send an email to the Wheaton Planning Commission Chair. All feedback will be reviewed by the Wheaton Planning Commission members at their next meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The newly established **Wheaton Fire and Rescue** will begin service to the township on 1/1/21 at 12:00am. Equipment is purchased and, for the most part, in the station. Licenses, certifications, agreements, and other technical requirements are nearly completed and will be finished prior to beginning operations. EMS services will be provided by either the City of Eau Claire or the City of Chippewa Falls depending on which one is closer to the call.

Wheaton started the original Chippewa Fire Protection District in 1978. We are now starting our new direction. The Wheaton Volunteers have had several people join the department. We presently have 25 volunteers on the roster. We would like to have 30 volunteers actively participating in this rewarding activity on the first day. Come join the group. Most calls are for things other than structure fires. Off road rescues, car crashes, snowmobile incidents, downed powerlines, searches, water incidents, and brush fires are just a few of the things dealt with. Medical first responding will be part of the new fire department, with transport ambulances and paramedics coming from Eau Claire or Chippewa Falls. Call any Town Board member for more information and sign up soon. Training is provided!

ROADS

The township, with 83 plus miles of road, has more roads to maintain than most rural townships in the state, and we are 100% paved. With the tight budgets prevalent for so many years, we are diligently pursuing means and methods of pavement and ditch maintenance to maximize the amount of improvements to the roadways for the available funds.

Here is the annual reminder to everyone that **Wisconsin Statute 346.94(5)** prohibits anyone from placing or causing to be placed upon a highway any foreign substance which is or may be injurious to any vehicle. Section 86.022 makes it a misdemeanor punishable by fine to place any obstruction in a road ditch which will impede drainage. All this to say, do not plow snow across the road. Ridges, ice, and other materials left by this action can cause accidents and is illegal. Piling snow in the right-of-way can damage snowplow wings and cause other damage. You are responsible for damages caused by these actions.

CLEAN GROUND WATER

We all want and need clean water. The township continues with fact finding measures to determine what steps can and should be taken to assure that our groundwater resource is safe and will remain safe in the future for use by the people. If the groundwater is contaminated, what, if anything, can we do to reverse that situation and how can we minimize the chances of future contaminants entering the water source? UW-Stevens Point has studied the groundwater conditions in Chippewa County for decades. Some areas have been found to have high nitrates or other contaminants. The Comprehensive Plan will address clean water issues. Attend the meetings!

You can contact Chippewa County Department of Land Conservation and Forest Management at the Court House in Chippewa Falls, WI. Go to Room 11 and ask for a Water Test Kit, fill out the form enclosed, and drop the box in the mail. Chippewa County will pay the \$19.00 for the Nitrate-Nitrogen test. It would be advisable to pay the additional \$19.00 for the Coliform Bacteria test.

There are several other private water testing companies. They will test only nitrates for free. All other testing will have to be paid for unless you buy their equipment.

Please see the TOWN OF WHEATON web site. Click on GOVERNMENT. Click GROUNDWATER INFORMATION. Listed there are links to "Groundwater Testing", "Town of Wheaton Nitrate Levels Map", and other "Resource Links" with regards to clean ground water.

TOWN GOVERNMENT

Our township maintains a website at www.townofwheaton.com. We continue to add new information and features so please let us know what additional things you would like to see on the site. You can find the names and addresses of all the board and commission members there. Please visit our site and bookmark it for easy return! **We need your input.**

The Plan Commission term for each member is 3 years, from May 1 to April 30. Appointment to the commission is by the Town Chair, with board approval. Terms are staggered. Two members one year,

two members the second year, and three members changed the third year, maintaining a consistency in the commission. If you are interested in an appointment to the Plan Commission, please contact any Town Supervisor, Chair, or Clerk to add your name to the list. Meetings are normally once per month, on the first Tuesday, held at the Wheaton Fire Station meeting room, at 7:00 pm.

The Parks Commission term for each member is 7 years, from July to June. Appointment to the commission is by the Town Chair, with board approval. The terms are staggered each year, with one member's term expiring each year. If you are interested in an appointment to the Parks Commission, please contact any Town Supervisor or Chair to add your name to the list. Seven years is a long commitment. Some members may not be able to stay that long, which means appointments may be more often than once per year. **We value your input.**

ELECTIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Spring Election for the Town of Wheaton will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 starting at 7:00am, the following officers are to be elected:

A TOWN CHAIR, for a term of two years to succeed the term of Mark Blaskowski, which will expire on the 20th day of April, 2021.

A TOWN CLERK, for a term of two years to succeed the term of Scott Deutscher, which will expire on the 20th day of April, 2021.

A TOWN TREASURER, for a term of two years to succeed the term of Laura Hayden, which will expire on the 20th day of April, 2021.

A TOWN SUPERVISOR, for a term of two years to succeed the term of Ken Books, which will expire on the 20th day of April, 2021.

A TOWN SUPERVISOR, for a term of two years to succeed the term of Wayne Miller, which will expire on the 20th day of April, 2021.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2020, and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2021. Contact the Town Clerk for nomination papers, or obtain them from the following website:

<https://elections.wi.gov/forms/candidates>. You will need EL-169, Nomination Papers, EL-162 Declaration of Candidacy (properly notarized), filled out and returned. Check state statutes for requirements if there is financing of your campaign. A minimum of 20 and maximum of 100 qualified electors must sign the nomination papers with legible writing. Please read the instructions with that form.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

HALL RENTAL

The hall rental rate is \$100 per day, plus a refundable \$100 deposit. You are responsible for the cleanup and removal of garbage after your event. To schedule the rental of the Town Hall, please call Mary Eckwright at 715-874-5397. All cleanup must be complete by 8:00am the following day!

DOG LICENSE INFORMATION: (See Real Estate Tax info below for further info)

SPAYED OR NEUTERED DOGS - **\$8.00**

UNSPAYED OR UNNEUTERED DOGS - **\$13.00**

MULTIPLE DOGS - FOR UP TO 12 TAGS - **\$60.00**

FOR EACH ADDITIONAL TAGS FOR MULTIPLE DOGS AFTER 12 TAGS -**\$7.00** EACH

PROOF OF CURRENT RABIES VACCINATION IS REQUIRED. WITHOUT PROOF OF RABIES VACCINATION, LICENSE WILL NOT BE ISSUED. Proof will be returned

PENALTIES

A minimum late fee of \$25.00 shall be assessed the owner of each dog 5 months of age or over who fails to obtain a dog license by April 1st of each year, or within 30 days of acquiring ownership on or before the dog reached licensable age. The minimum late fee has been raised by municipal action and includes payment of costs assessed by the Township for checking on the license. Any owner, who fails to have a dog vaccinated against rabies as required by statute, may be required to forfeit not less than \$50.00 or more than \$100.00.

ALL DOG OWNERS SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE WISCONSIN STATE STATUTES REGARDING THE RESPPONSIBILITIES OF DOG OWNERSHIP

- (1.) Dogs more than 5 months of age shall be licensed by April 1 of each year or within 30 days of ownership of a dog 5 months of age, else a late fee of \$25.00 shall be imposed.
- (2.) Proof of rabies vaccination is required before a license will be issued.
- (3.) Dogs are not allowed to run at large. The dog must be kept on the owner's premises and under control of the owner or some other person.
- (4.) Dogs running at large are subject to impoundment.
- (5.) If the owner permits a dog to run at large, the owner shall forfeit not less than \$25.00 or more than \$100.00 for the first offense and not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$200.00 for subsequent offenses.
- (6.) The dog owner can be held liable for a dog causing injury to a person, domestic animal, or property. The penalties imposed can be from \$50.00 to \$500.00, depending on the circumstances. The penalties are in addition to any other liability imposed on the owner of the dog.

If you are a landowner and have tenants who are dog owners, please forward this information to them. Thank you.

Please send check, proof of vaccination, plus a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Laura Hayden, Town of Wheaton Treasurer
4975 County Highway T
Chippewa Falls WI 54729
715.874.5982

Make check payable to: **TOWN OF WHEATON TREASURER**

The Dog Catcher for the Township is **Roger Fagerland**. Contact him at **715-497-0804** or you can email him at Wheaton.DogCatcher@gmail.com. **He deals with dogs**. If you have issues with other animals, please contact the Town Chair, any Town Supervisor, or the Town Clerk for help. You can find everyone's name, phone, and email on the Town Website.

REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION FOR 2019-2020

As a friendly reminder, when you receive the Real Estate Tax statement, the check for the first half or full payment of your Real Estate Taxes must be made payable to: **TOWN OF WHEATON TREASURER**, on or before January 31, 2021. A January 31, 2021 postmark will be accepted. Include your phone number on the check/checks. This is important so that we can contact you if there are any questions about your payment. Without your phone number, the tax payment may be delayed.

Payments are to be mailed to:

**Laura Hayden, Town of Wheaton Treasurer,
4975 County Highway T
Chippewa Falls WI 54729**

Please do NOT mail the first half or full payment property tax payment to the Chippewa County Treasurer *BEFORE* the January 31, 2021 date. Should this happen, the Chippewa County Treasurer's office then has to mail your payment back to the Town of Wheaton Treasurer for processing.

The second payment, if there is a second payment; the County Treasurer will mail you a tax statement regarding the remaining amount owed, which needs to be paid on or before July 31, 2021. Please make the second payment check payable to:

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY TREASURER,
711 N. BRIDGE STREET,
CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI 54729.**

As it was last year, in order to save on postage, the tax payment receipts will be mailed if you enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

Your returned check from the bank will serve as your receipt.

Dog Owners: Please remember to send a separate check for your pet and tax payment, as well as a self-addressed stamped envelope.

WHEATON RECYCLING CENTER

2429 20TH STREET

ELK MOUND, WI 54739

www.townofwheaton.com/recycling-center/

Contacts:

Roger Fagerland: 715-861-3933

Facility: 715-874-6271

DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION

Summer Months: April thru September

- Wednesdays: 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Saturdays: 8:00am – 3:00pm

Winter Months: October – March

- Wednesdays: 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Saturdays: 8:00am – 3:00pm

ITEMS MUST BE STORED AND PLACED IN PROPER DUMPSTERS

- Recyclable glass and plastics go together as does paper and cardboard go together
- Household trash goes into compactor. Trash bags for compactor can be purchased from attendant.
- Large items & materials go into the large construction dumpsters.
- Metal items go into metal dumpsters.
- Aluminum cans go into small wire cage
- Any items that go into the Construction Dumpsters MUST be approved by attendant before dumping.
- Styrofoam is considered trash.

PRICE LIST: We have also included this information on the website under Recycling Center information.

DEMOLITION MATERIALS

Full size pickup (Level full) minimum	\$45.00	Dehumidifiers	\$20.00
Small pickup (level full) minimum	\$23.00	Refrigerators	\$20.00
8 foot trailer with 3 foot sides (min)	\$45.00	Freezers	\$20.00
Larger trailers or overflowing pickup (Ask!)		Dishwashers	\$15.00
Sofa couch	\$15.00	Microwaves (metal dumpster)	Free
Large chairs	\$10.00	10 Blue Wheaton Bags	\$30.00
Small chairs	\$ 7.00	Blue Wheaton Bags (single)	\$3.00
Mattress or box springs (small)	\$ 7.00	White Kitchen Bags (13 gal)	\$1.00
Mattress or box springs (large)	\$15.00	Black or Brown Large Bags	\$4.00
Burn barrels	\$ 5.00	Hide a bed couch	\$20.00
Air conditioners	\$20.00		

TIRES

Small trailer, Car & small pickup	\$ 2.00	Larger than 22.5"	\$10.00
16" to 17"	\$ 3.00	Tractor under 28"	\$12.00
18" to 19"	\$ 5.00	28" or larger	\$20.00
20" to 22.5"	\$ 8.00	End Loader type	\$30.00
		Tires with rims	add \$2.00

RECYCLABLES

Batteries Free - Put on pallet

#1 thru #7 Plastics – CLEAN

Glass Jars and Bottles – Lids to be removed

Metal of All Kinds – Sort brass and copper; All others go in metal roll-off

Paper and Cardboard

Stoves, Washers, Dryers Water Heaters, Motors, Bikes, Lawn Mowers, Tillers, etc. – NO CHARGE – Go into metal roll off dumpster.

There are a few businesses in the area that accept appliances for free. Ask the attendants. When in doubt, ask the ATTENDANT! It is either Roger or Larry!

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

No Hazardous Materials (includes Paint, Light Bulbs, and Chemicals of all kinds) or Electronics (includes TVs, Computers, Printers, and Monitors) are accepted. Residents must save and take to Chippewa County Clean Sweep held in the Spring and Fall or take them to an area business that will recycle them properly. Please NOTE: Area businesses may charge a fee.

Yard Waste and Brush are NOT ACCEPTED!

BURNING PERMITS

Burning permits are not required in Wheaton, but you can only burn what is allowed by state law. Visit the Wisconsin DNR website at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/openburning/> for burning regulations and several fine articles about the alternatives to burning.

If you must burn, please be careful. You are responsible for all costs of extinguishing a fire that you started if it has gotten out of control. Burn only when sufficient moisture exists (rain and/or snow cover) in the area, winds are light (under about 7 mph maximum gusts), and temperatures are cool.

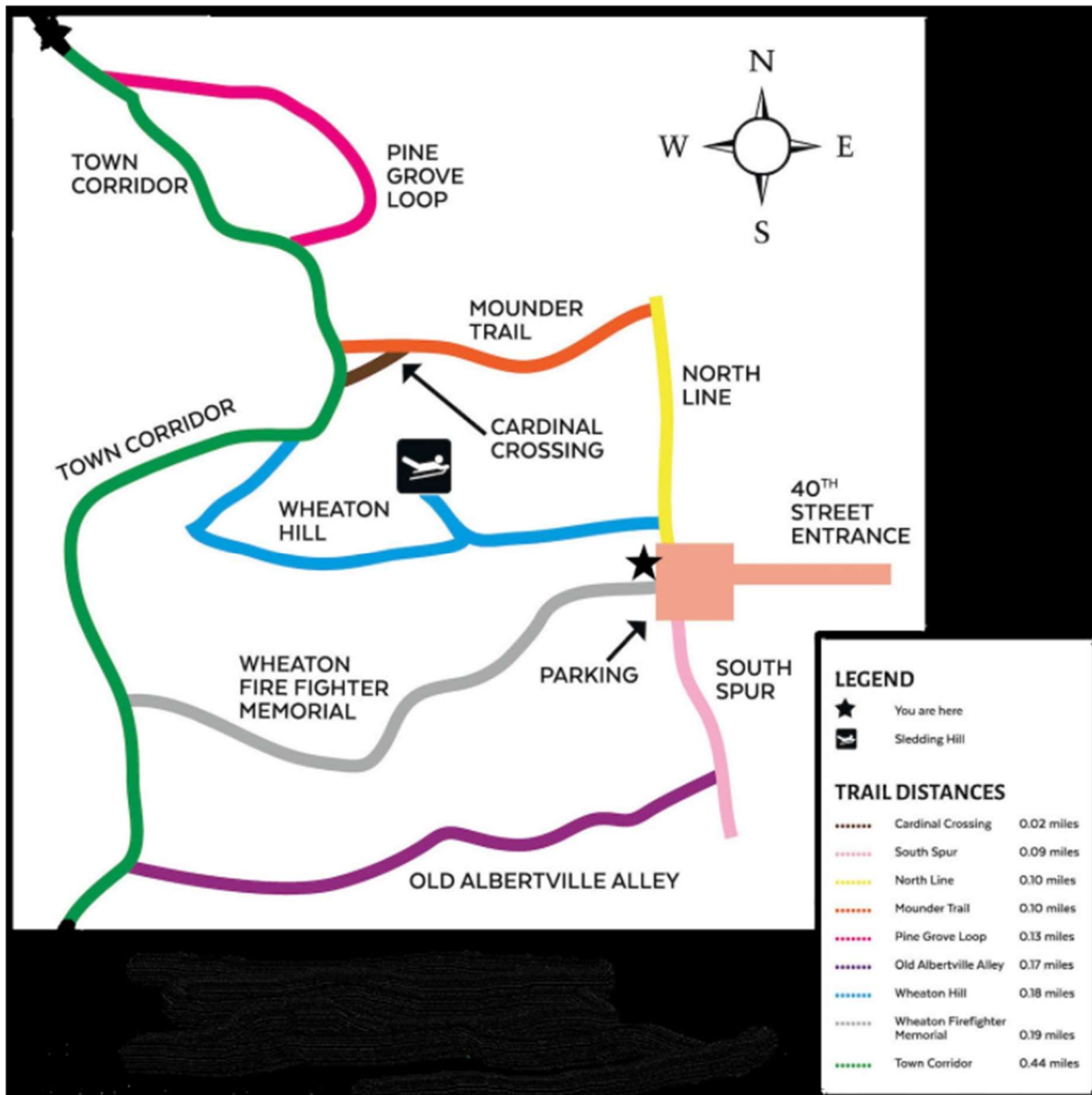
TOWN PARK

The Wheaton Town Park is located at 3900 38th Street, Elk Mound. A second park entrance is located right across the street from 3601 40th Street, Elk Mound. Improvements continue to be made as volunteers and funding becomes available. In 2020 the following improvement projects were completed at the park: Tennis court fence addition on southside, park trail map signage was added at 38th Street and 40th Street trail heads, a set of trash and recycling bins were added to 40th Street parking lot, and picnic tables with the roofs were repaired/painted and placed on new concrete pads creating areas away from the pavilions for park users to enjoy.

With winter here please check out winter recreational opportunities at the park!

1. Ice-skating rink will be located on the tennis court this year, which is south of the fire station.
2. Sledding hill will open for its third season! Please Note: Access is from 40th Street.
3. Snowmobilers may park their vehicle and trailer at the 40th Street parking lot and gain access to State Trail 33 and Wheaton Trail right from the parking lot using South Spur and Old Albertville Alley trails.

Feel free to 'Like Wheaton Parks & Recreation' on Facebook and Stay Connected! New for 2021 will be ice skating rink and sledding hill condition updates.



PARK RENTALS

Park rental rates are listed on the park reservation application. Rates vary depending on the applicant's residency status and the type of event being held.

Go to www.townofwheaton.com/parks-and-recreation

✓ Check Pavilion Sizes, Capacity, Number of Picnic Tables

✓ Check Pavilion Availability

✓ Download Reservation Application/Check Rental Rates

✓ Download Park Renter Procedures

To schedule park rentals, you can also email wheatonpark@gmail.com or call Ken Books at 715-874-6414.

WHEATON BALL LEAGUE

Hard to believe baseball season is less than 5 months away! Wheaton Ball League will begin its 43rd season in 2021 and start accepting registrations in January. The program is for boys and girls ages 4 – 14 and consists of the following program levels: T-Ball, Coach Pitch, Minors, Majors, and Ponys. 2021 season will bring the return of the Pony level to Wheaton after 6 years of not having enough kids for a team. This will surely be some exciting baseball! For program information go to www.townofwheaton.com/wheaton-ball-league/ Feel free to 'Like' Wheaton Ball League on Facebook. For any questions email Wheaton.Ball@hotmail.com or call 715-874-6414.

TOWN BOAT LANDING

The Wheaton Town Boat Landing is located at 3001 106th Street, Chippewa Falls. A trash and recycling bin set was added this year. Boat landing ramp replacement was approved and will be constructed in 2021 due to unforeseen circumstances in 2020. The Parks Commission is also working on another grant application for adding boat dock and lighting with plans to submit application in 2021.

Reminder: For the safety of all park/boat landing users – NO hunting is allowed on park and/or boat landing property.

WHEATON PARK ORNAMENTATION PROJECT CAMPAIGN

The Parks Commission has been adding amenities to the park over the last couple years and has also created an ornamentation project campaign for residents/non-residents. This fundraising campaign offers the community an opportunity to make a donation, memorial gift, or in honor gift with long lasting benefits to our area. By allowing for resident/non-resident and community donations this further creates a sense of community ownership to this project and unifies our commitment to the park.

Our project will have 2 phases and to help keep Wheaton Park aesthetically pleasing we have selected the donation level options. We have started with Phase 1 which focuses on areas around the lower pavilion and lower ball fields. Once Phase 1 is fully completed we will begin Phase 2 which will focus on areas around the upper pavilion and upper ball field.

A big thank you to everyone that has donated with your help we have raised \$3,724 (47%) of our \$7,850 Phase 1 goal since the ornamentation project started!

Interested in DONATING? See the attached Wheaton Park Ornamentation Donation Form. Additional information is located at www.townofwheaton.com/wheaton-park-ornamentation-project-campaign/



Wheaton Fire & Rescue

**Mark your calendars for
September 25th, 2021!**

Humbled (Adjective) ..."Grateful for the support of others; honored, flattered."

That word perfectly describes the way we feel tonight. While we were cleaning up this afternoon, we couldn't stop talking about the amazing crowd we had last night. We are extremely grateful to our community members for attending Fired-Up Day and supporting us. We sincerely hope you had a great time! THANK YOU!!!

Some extra special people and businesses we'd like to thank for their support: (in no particular order)

Badgerland Printing USA Inc

River Country Co-op / 29 Pines Restaurant and The Lodge

Wander Inn Bar and Grill

Kyle's Market

Union Trailer & Power Equipment

Bumblefist Band

Borderline Band

Aerial Adrenalin Fireworks

IFD Foodservice Distributor

The Gilbert Gun Exchange

Home Oasis Pools and Spas

Spring Brook Meats

Lebakkens Inc

JB Fabrication LLC

Myers Septic

Colfax Fire Department

Elk Mound Fire District

Loopy's Saloon, Grill & Event Dome

Eckwright Brothers

Town Supv Alice Droske & Wayne Miller

Chef Danny

Bobbi Scheel

....and of course the Town of Wheaton



We look forward to seeing you again next year. Mark your calendars for September 25th, 2021!

WHEATON PARK ORNAMENTATION PROJECT DONATION FORM

Wheaton Parks Commission has started an ornamentation project to help beautify Wheaton Park and provide additional amenities.

Interested in DONATING? It as simple as 1-2-3!

1. Fill out the following information.

Name of Donor: _____ Amount _____

Donor's Address: _____

Donor's Phone: _____

DONATION: _____ MEMORIAL: _____ HONOREE: _____

In Memory Of/In Honor Of: _____

Donation Given for: BUSH ___ SHRUB ___ TREE ___ PICNIC TABLE ___ BENCH ___

Check Box if you prefer your donation be used where needed.

2. Make Checks Payable to Town of Wheaton

Check Box if you want your donation to remain anonymous.

3. Mail Donation Form and Check To

Ken Books
 Town of Wheaton Parks Commission Chair
 1121 40th Street
 Eau Claire, WI 54703

Our project will have 2 phases and to help keep Wheaton Park aesthetically pleasing with ornamentation that goes together below are the different donation levels that have been setup along with example pictures. We will start with Phase 1 which will focus on areas around lower pavilion and lower ball fields. Once Phase 1 is fully completed we will begin Phase 2 which will focus on areas around upper pavilion and upper ball field.

Donation Level	Cost (Per Donation)	Phase 1 Needs	Phase 2 Needs
Bushes (Weigala, Spirea, Hydrangea)	\$50	10	3
Shrubs (Dogwood, Lilac)	\$100	1	0
Trees (Maple, Elm, Fruitless Flowering Crab)	\$200	13	3
Picnic Table (Wood)	\$350	1	3
Bench (8' Metal in Ground)	\$500	4	8