

WHEATON TOWN NEWS ~ SUMMER 2021

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

Welcome to the Town of Wheaton newsletter for “Summer 2021”. There are lots of things happening in our township. The Town Board voted to get out of the Chippewa Fire District and provide our own Volunteer Fire Department. As of January 1, 2021, the new volunteer fire department is in full operation. From agricultural activities, expansion of existing and new businesses, construction on new residential lots, road improvements, Wheaton Park expansion, operation of a top notch recycling facility, and to a world class trout stream with improvements, the Town of Wheaton is progressing forward! The revised Comprehensive Plan has been completed, with public input and meetings. The Plan was approved by the Town Board. This “road map of Town growth” is 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 will continue and is being addressed by the board. A new “Corridor T” plan will be put forth shortly, with public hearings and comments accepted. Several decisions will need to be made by the board as this corridor is finalized. Several government entities are involved in this process. ■

WEBSITE SUBSCRIBE FEATURE

The Town of Wheaton website has a ton of information like town contacts, town meeting calendar, meeting agendas/minutes, government plans, additional resources, and services such as Parks & Recreation, Cemetery, and Recycling Center. The website also has a “Subscribe” feature that allows residents and non-residents to stay better informed via email or text on meeting agendas and news & notices postings right when they are posted to the website!

How do you sign up for the “subscribe” feature?

1. Click on Subscribe in upper right corner of the website homepage



2. Fill in required fields (Noted with *)
3. Choose topics you want to stay informed on
4. Select your notification method
5. Click on Subscribe at bottom of the page to submit your information
6. A confirmation page will display upon completion

FIRE DEPARTMENT

On January 1, 2021, the Town of Wheaton started Wheaton Fire and Rescue. This is an all-volunteer program supplying fire and EMS services as first responders. The ALS medical services are being provided

by the City of Eau Claire or the City of Chippewa Falls depending on which one is closer to the call. Wheaton Fire and Rescue now has 30 volunteers signed up to help in the time of need. There are 10 more positions open to reach the cap of 40 members. Recruitment is on-going continuously. The group is anxious to fill all positions, so anyone who wants to volunteer some time to help your neighbors, contact the fire station at 715-874-6597 or visit www.wheatonfirerescue.org for more information.

A 3-member Fire Commission has been seated by the Town Board to manage the personnel and basic fire department operations per the Constitution and the By-Laws. The three Commissioners are Dale Hayden, Steve Dybvik, and Mark Brunner. Each one brings a long history of public and private operations and dealing with Human Relations in this type organization. The Town of Wheaton is stronger because these people have stepped forward with their time and talents to make sure the new **Wheaton Fire & Rescue** is a success.

Most calls for Wheaton Fire and Rescue 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 is 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! Only 10 positions remain. We need more medical first responders!!

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.

CLEAN GROUND WATER

We all want and need clean water. The township has begun discussion and 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! Again, the Covid 19 Pandemic has put a delay on the State organizations that have been spearheading the effort to get a comprehensive groundwater management solution. We are keeping up with their progress and will move as quickly forward as we can.

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.**

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. We have automated the rental procedures of the Town Hall. Go to <https://townofwheaton.com/rentals/>. There you will find an application and the calendar indicating availability. Instructions for town hall use and requirements are included on the application.

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 RESPONSIBILITIES 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 2020 - 2021

As a friendly reminder, if you did not pay your real estate taxes in full prior to January 31, 2021, a 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.**

**WHEATON RECYCLING CENTER
2429 20TH STREET
ELK MOUND, WI 54739**

Contacts:

Roger Fagerland: 715-861-3933
Facility: 715-874-6271

DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION

- 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

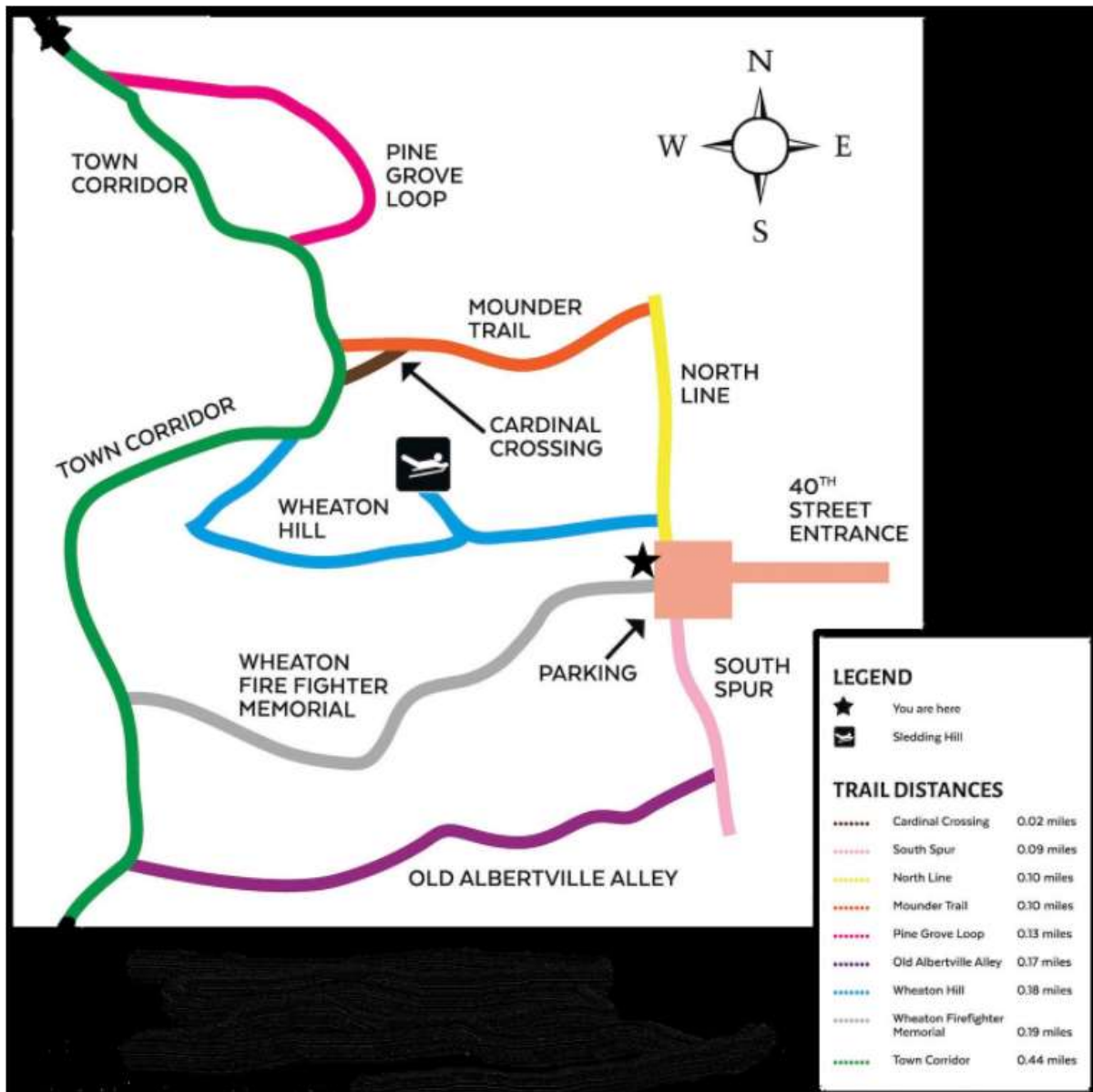
Burning permits are not required in Wheaton, but you can only burn what is allowed by state law. Visit the Wisconsin DNR website at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/openburning/> for burning regulations and several fine articles about the alternatives to burning.

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. There is a fire danger sign now installed and maintained at the entrance to the Wheaton Park and Fire Station.

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 2021 the following improvement projects were completed at the park: Dog waste bag stations were added to park trail map signs, a set of trash and recycling bins were added to upper pavilion area and picnic area at park trail system north entrance, and a picnic table was refurbished and painted then placed at the sledding hill. Lastly, a butterfly garden conservation project which received grant funding and donations was added along 38th Street. Included is a wood chipped walking path for accessing the garden along with educational markers showing the types of plants and flowers used. A big thank you to all the volunteers and community groups that help with Wheaton Park!!

Feel free to 'Like Wheaton Parks & Recreation' on Facebook and Stay Connected!



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.

TOWN BOAT LANDING

The Wheaton Town Boat Landing is located at 3001 106th Street, Chippewa Falls. The Parks Commission is 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 \$4,574 (58%) 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	9
Trees (Maple, Elm, Fruitless Flowering Crab)	\$200	12	3
Picnic Table (Wood)	\$350	2	1
Bench (8' Metal in Ground)	\$500	4	8



Wheaton Park Upper Pavilion Replacement Survey

The Wheaton Parks Commission is evaluating options for pavilion space at Wheaton Park. This questionnaire is aimed at gathering the opinions and preferences of the residents of the community to help guide the decision for the future of the park. The form can be filled out online at:

<https://forms.gle/1vq9y5AyHVg1d2DP8>

Please submit only one survey per person 18 years of age or older.



1. What type of amenities are most important to you? (Pick your top 3 choices):

- Affordability
- Convenient Parking
- Covered Eating Area
- Enclosed Eating Area
- Space for cooking/preparing food
- Modern restrooms
- Heated/Insulated Space

2. What location would you like to see a pavilion?

- Existing upper pavilion area within the ballpark
- Off 40th Street, near sledding hill
- Other Location: _____

3. What size space would you like to see?

- Space for 1-20 people
- Space for 21-50 people (Upper Pavilion size)
- Space for 51-100 people (Lower Pavilion size)
- Space for 100+ people

4. How much would you be willing to rent this space for?

- Free for Wheaton Residents
- Less than \$25
- \$25-50
- \$51-100
- \$100+

5. If a new pavilion space is created, how likely are you to utilize this space?

- Very Likely
- Somewhat Likely
- Likely
- Unlikely
- Never

6. Do you currently utilize Wheaton Park?

- No
- Yes, if so, what amenities do you use? _____

7. What amenities are not currently available in Wheaton Park that you would like to see?

8. Any other comments or suggestions?

Wheaton Township Resident Yes No

Name: _____

Address: _____

****Please return the survey by August 31, 2021****

Please mail survey back to: Jenny Schutte, Wheaton Park Commission, 9073 County Highway N, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 or return survey to the mailbox located at the Wheaton Fire Station, 3900 38th Street, Elk Mound, WI 54739