

# WHEATON TOWN NEWS ~ WINTER 2022

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

Welcome to the Town of Wheaton newsletter for “Winter 2022”. 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.

## 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

## PLAN COMMISSION

The Wheaton Planning Commission has completed the COMPREHENSIVE PLAN for the Town of Wheaton. You may find this by going to TOWN OF WHEATON website, click on GOVERNMENT, click on CURRENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR 2021-2041 - ADOPTED MAY 11, 2021.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The newly established **Wheaton Fire and Rescue** began service to the township on 1/1/21 at 12:00am. Go to the Facebook page of the same name. There you will find a monthly report on Service Calls that were completed, along with other timely information about emergency calls, activities, events, and educational topics. **Like the page to stay connected!** As of December 1, 2021, the department has responded to 138 calls for service. That is approximately 3 calls per week being handled by volunteers!

We presently have 25 volunteers on the roster. We would like to have 40 volunteers actively participating in this rewarding activity. 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 is the largest part of the fire department responses, 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!

The department is a paid-per-call, all-volunteer department. The fire station is at 3900 38<sup>th</sup> St, Elk Mound and is within the Wheaton Park. It is not a manned station. If you have an emergency, **dial 911 to contact the County Dispatch center**. They page out the firefighters as needed. For non-emergency calls, only, you can dial 715-874-6597 and leave a message. A return call or actions will be made as soon as possible.

## **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 number 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 contaminates. The Comprehensive Plan addresses clean water issues.

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.

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 <https://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 Town Hall 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 5, 2022 from 7:00am to 8:00pm, the following officers are to be elected:

A TOWN SUPERVISOR, for a term of two years to succeed the term of Alice Droske, which will expire on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.

A TOWN SUPERVISOR, for a term of two years to succeed the term of Bob Sworski, which will expire on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2021, and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. 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 15, 2022.

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.

### **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](mailto: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 2021-2022**

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, 2022. A January 31, 2022 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, 2022. 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 20<sup>TH</sup> STREET

ELK MOUND, WI 54739

<https://townofwheaton.com/recycling-center/>

## 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. Also note that Wheaton Fire and Rescue has replaced the Park and fire department sign along Highway 29. It now includes the WDNR outdoor burning risk assessment. It is checked and maintained daily.

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 HALL RENTAL**

Town hall rental rates are listed on the town hall reservation application. Rates vary depending on the applicant's residency status.

Go to <https://townofwheaton.com/rentals/>

- ✓ Check Town Hall Amenities and Available Tables/Chairs
- ✓ Check Town Hall Availability
- ✓ Download Reservation Application/Check Rental Rates
- ✓ Rentals Responsible for Cleanup & Garbage Removal

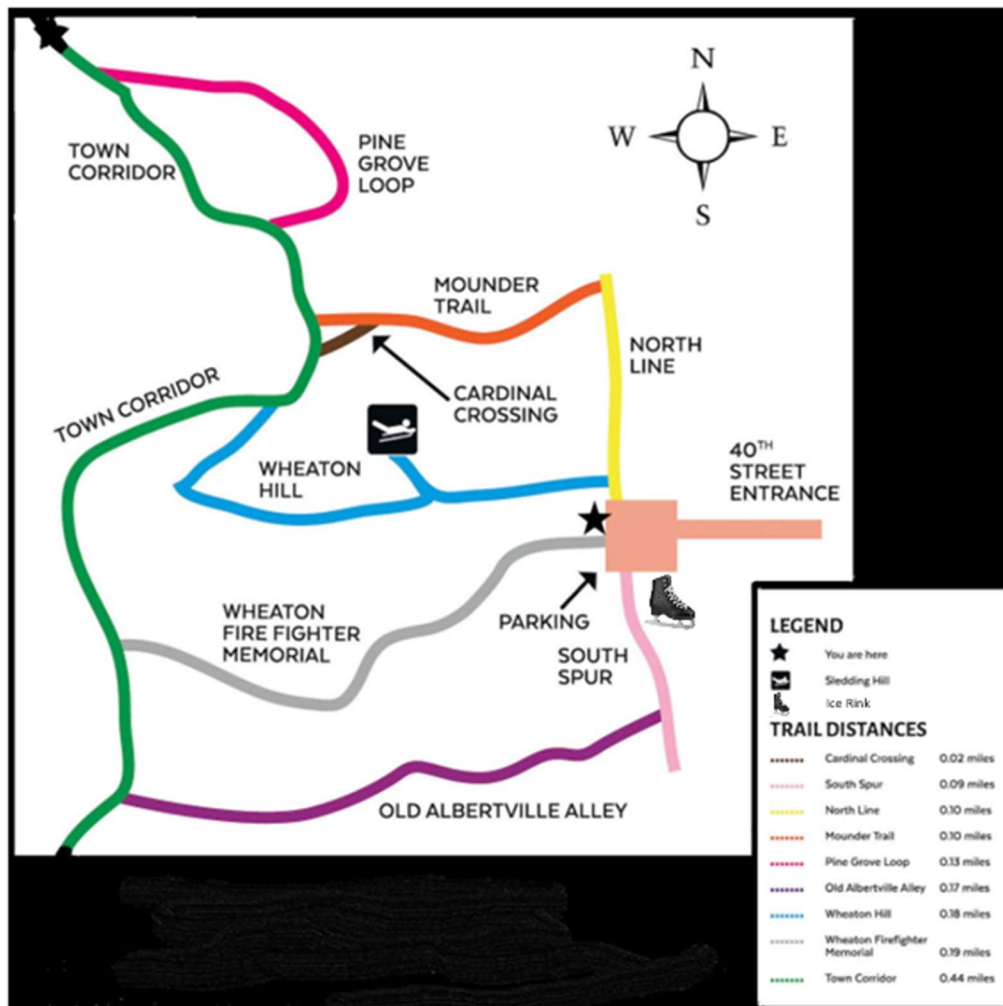
To schedule town hall rentals, you can also email [wheatonpark@gmail.com](mailto:wheatonpark@gmail.com) or call Ken Books at 715-874-6414.

## 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, a picnic table was refurbished and painted then placed at the sledding hill, and 40th Street parking lot was expanded. 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!!

**NEW FOR UPCOMING WINTER SEASON** – The ice rink is being relocated to Wheaton Park 40th Street Entrance so park users can enjoy all the park winter activities (sledding, snowboarding, snowshoeing, and ice skating) at one location. We also have a porta potty that will be in service. The new ice rink dirt berm has been constructed and seeded. Now we just need cold weather 😊 Thank you to Wheaton Fire & Rescue volunteers for pumping and delivering the ice rink water this winter!!

**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 <https://townofwheaton.com/parks-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](mailto: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 44<sup>th</sup> season in 2022 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. Regular season runs from mid-April – June.

T-Ball Registration closes April 1, 2022. All Other Program Levels Registration closes mid-March 2022.

For program information go to <https://townofwheaton.com/wheaton-ball-league/>.

Feel free to 'Like' Wheaton Ball League on Facebook. For any questions email [Wheaton.Ball@hotmail.com](mailto:Wheaton.Ball@hotmail.com) or call 715-874-6414.

## TOWN BOAT LANDING

The Wheaton Town Boat Landing is located at 3001 106<sup>th</sup> Street, Chippewa Falls. The Parks Commission is working on another grant application for adding boat dock and lighting with plans to submit application in 2022 due to grant time periods.

**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 \$5,649 (72%) 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 <https://townofwheaton.com/wheaton-park-ornamentation-project-campaign/>



# Wheaton Fired-Up Day

*We'd like to say*

# THANK YOU!

*to everyone who attended Wheaton Fired-Up Day 2021. Because of you, we were able to raise funds to purchase equipment and supplies to keep our members and the greater Wheaton community safe.*



**Mark your calendars!**  
**Wheaton Fired-Up Day 2022**  
**Saturday, September 24th!**

# 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 40<sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Bushes (Weigala, Spirea, Hydrangea)</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Shrubs (Dogwood, Lilac)</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Trees (Maple, Elm, Fruitless Flowering Crab)</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Picnic Table (Wood)</b>	<b>\$350</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Bench (8' Metal in Ground)</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>

Please Note: Due to continued market fluctuations in material costs your donation may not cover the entire cost; however, donations received as "use where needed" will be allocated to offset the cost difference.