



Village of Westchester

July 2026 Newsletter

THIS MONTH'S EDITION

- 3 2025 WATER QUALITY REPORT**
Annual drinking water quality update
- 5 FIRE DEPARTMENT**
Updates and highlights from our local Fire Department
- 6 POLICE DEPARTMENT**
Community updates from our local Police Department
- 7 LIBRARY**
This month's news and events from our local library
- 10 NEW WATER & SEWER RATES**
Learn about upcoming rate changes
- 14 BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**
This month's featured local business profile
- 21 SCHOOL DISTRICT**
News and happenings from our local school district
- 23 GROW COMMISSION**
Spotlight on initiatives from our local Grow Commission

Village of Westchester
'a good place to live'

10300 W Roosevelt Rd
Westchester, IL 60154
www.westchester-il.gov
708-345-0020

FROM THE DESK OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT GREG HRIBAL



President Hribal answered resident questions at the recent Town Hall meeting

Village Updates: Town Hall Recap, State Funding for Village Hall Improvements, and Summer Events

As we welcome the month of July, I want to begin by sincerely thanking everyone who attended our recent Village Town Hall meeting. It was encouraging to see so many residents come together to hear a variety of important topics affecting our community. The questions and ideas submitted help make Westchester a stronger and more engaged village.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to School District 92½ for graciously hosting the meeting at Westchester Intermediate School. We appreciate their partnership and willingness to provide a welcoming venue for this important community conversation.

The positive response to our Town Hall has reinforced the value of

these discussions. We plan to continue hosting Town Hall meetings throughout the year, and future dates and topics will be announced both in this newsletter and on the Village website and social media channels. I encourage all residents to attend and stay involved as we continue working together to shape Westchester's future.

I am also pleased to share exciting news regarding a significant investment in our community. The State of Illinois' Fiscal Year 2027 budget includes a \$15 million appropriation for the Village of Westchester through the Build Illinois Bond Fund. This funding was secured through the leadership and support of Speaker of the House and our 7th District State Representative,

Chris Welch.

For many years, Village leadership has carefully evaluated whether relocating Village Hall and other municipal facilities would be the best long-term solution. After extensive analysis, it became clear that renovating and modernizing our existing facilities is the most responsible and cost-effective approach for our taxpayers.

This investment will allow us to make substantial improvements to Village facilities, including long-overdue HVAC system replacements, roof repairs, critical infrastructure upgrades, and renovations that will modernize our workspaces. These improvements

(Continued on page 25)

Village of Westchester

10300 W Roosevelt Rd, Westchester, IL 60154
www.westchester-il.gov • (708) 345-0020



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dbabich@westchester-il.gov

Fire Department - (708) 345-0433

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dmanning@westchester-il.gov


General Questions/Information

info@westchester-il.gov

THE ONLINE VILLAGE CALENDAR IS CONTINUALLY UPDATED AND INCLUDES MANY MORE LIBRARY & PARK DISTRICT ACTIVITIES. VISIT WWW.WESTCHESTER-IL.GOV FOR ALL THE DETAILS!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED FOR IN-SERVICE DAY	2	3 VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED - HOLIDAY	4 4TH OF July
5	6 HINES VA OUTREACH 10AM-2PM VILLAGE HALL	7	8 AGING CARE SEMINAR 11AM-1PM WESTCHESTER COMM. CHURCH	9 GROW ECOLOGICAL COMMISSION - 6:30PM VILLAGE HALL	10	11
12	13	14 VILLAGE BOARD & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - 6PM VILLAGE HALL	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 SENIOR COMMISSION 6:30PM VILLAGE HALL	28 VILLAGE BOARD & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - 6PM VILLAGE HALL	29	30	31 PARTY IN THE PARK! JULY 31 - 5:30 - 10:30PM AUG 1 - 2-11PM COMMUNITY PARK	




2025 WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The Village of Westchester 2025 Consumer Confidence Report / Annual Drinking Water Quality Report is now available at <https://bit.ly/westchesterccr2025> or by scanning the QR code to the right.

System: Westchester IL0313150

Period: January 1 - December 31, 2025





This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide you safe drinking water.

For more information about this report or to request a printed copy of this report, contact John Fecarotta, Water Foreman, at 708-345-4281.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.



Hines Outreach Veteran Resource Event

-  Hines Outreach will help Veterans with new health care enrollments and share VA resources.
-  No appointment necessary. Walk-ins are welcome!



10:00am-2:00pm



Westchester Village Hall
10300 W. Roosevelt Rd.
Westchester IL, 60154



1st Monday each month
(excluding holidays)



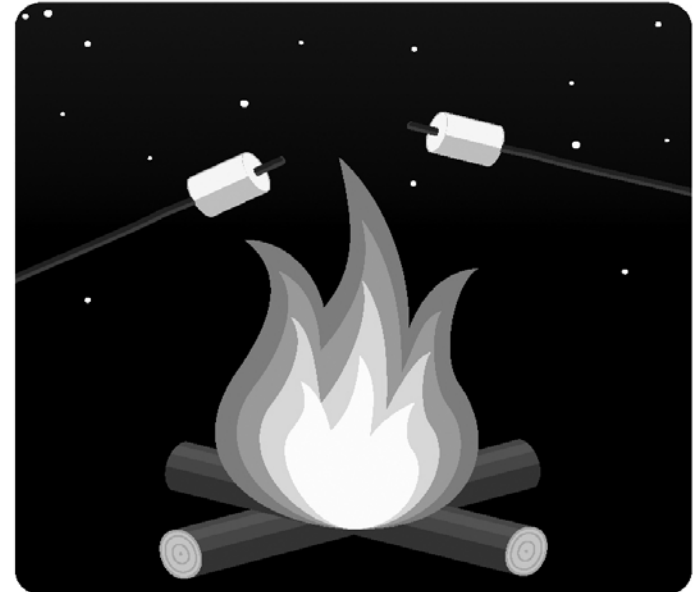
Please email
HinesOutreach@va.gov
with any questions.

Campfire Safety

Sitting under the stars by a crackling fire has its appeal. It's where stories are told, sing-a-longs happen, and meals are cooked over an open flame. Campfires bring family and friends together. But campfire mishaps can cause injuries. With a few safety tips, you can prevent these accidents.

SAFETY AROUND THE FIRE

- Before setting up a campfire, be sure it is permitted. Check with your local fire department.
- If campfires are permitted, they need to be at least 25 feet away from any structure and anything that can burn.
- Clear away dry leaves and sticks, overhanging low branches and shrubs.
- Avoid burning on windy, dry days. It is easier for open burning to spread out of control when it is windy and dry.
- Watch children while the fire is burning. Never let children or pets play or stand too close to the fire.
- Attend to the campfire at all times. A campfire left alone for only a few minutes can grow into a damaging fire.
- Keep a campfire small which is easier to control.
- Never use gasoline or other flammable or combustible liquids.
- Always have a hose, bucket of water, or shovel and dirt or sand nearby to put out the fire. Make sure to put it completely out before leaving the site.
- If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop, and roll. Stop, drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth until the fire is out.
- Treat a burn right away. Cool the burn with cool water for 3 to 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth. Get medical help if needed.



ROAST WITH CARE

If roasting marshmallows, help young children. Never shake a roasting marshmallow. It can turn into a flying, flaming ball. A heated metal skewer can cause burns.

FACT

Campfire accidents send thousands of people to emergency rooms with burn injuries every year.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Keeping Westchester Safe: Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Reminder

*From the desk of Police Chief
Daniel Babich*

While the Fourth of July has passed, fireworks activity often continues throughout the month of July. As families and friends continue celebrating summer and our nation's historic 250th anniversary, the Westchester Police Department would like to remind residents that fireworks remain illegal in Illinois and can pose significant safety risks to our community.

This year marks a special milestone as our country celebrates 250 years of independence. It is a time to reflect on our nation's history, spend time with loved ones, and enjoy all that makes our community strong. We encourage residents to celebrate responsibly and create lasting memories with family, friends, and neighbors in ways that are safe for everyone.

As Police Chief, this is my 40th Fourth of July season working alongside our officers. Every year, we respond to fireworks-related complaints, safety concerns, and incidents that place people and property at risk. The fine for discharging illegal fireworks in Westchester is \$750 and a mandatory court appearance. There will be zero tolerance for behavior that puts others in danger.

Why Police Warn Against Shooting Fireworks

1. Safety Hazards

Fireworks are explosive devices that can cause serious injuries and fires. Even items often perceived as harmless, such as sparklers, can cause severe burns. Children, pets, and bystanders are especially vulnerable to injury, while stray fireworks can ignite dry grass, landscaping, homes, garages, and other structures.

2. Property Damage

Every year, fireworks cause damage to



Westchester Police Department reminds residents that fireworks remain illegal in Illinois and can pose serious safety and quality-of-life risks as summer celebrations continue throughout July.

homes, vehicles, and personal property. What goes up must come down, and a single firework can quickly create a dangerous situation for an entire neighborhood.

3. Noise and Quality of Life Concerns

Fireworks can be stressful for veterans suffering from PTSD, young children, seniors, and pets. The loud and unexpected explosions often cause anxiety, disrupt sleep, and can result in frightened pets escaping from their homes. In densely populated neighborhoods, repeated fireworks late into the evening create significant disturbances for residents.

4. Legal and Enforcement Considerations

Illinois law prohibits most consumer fireworks. Communities invest in professionally operated displays conducted by trained and

licensed personnel to provide a safer alternative for public celebrations. Violations of local and state laws can result in citations, fines, court appearances, and other penalties.

5. Public Safety Priorities

Our officers will continue responding to fireworks complaints while balancing other emergency calls for service. Residents should understand that identifying violators can be challenging, particularly when fireworks are being discharged from multiple locations simultaneously or from areas that are difficult to access.

Westchester is home to approximately 17,000 residents and over 8,000 homes. When fireworks are occurring throughout the community at the same time, it can be

difficult for officers to pinpoint the exact location of the offenders. Nevertheless, we remain committed to protecting the safety and quality of life of all residents and will continue to enforce fireworks laws throughout the season.

I ask our residents for patience and cooperation as we work to address these complaints. Together, we can ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and enjoyable summer while respecting our neighbors and the dedicated first responders who serve our community every day.

Thank you for helping keep Westchester safe.

Chief Daniel Babich
Westchester Police Department

WESTCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Have a Tip?

Residents can share information with the Westchester Police Department by calling the tip line at (708) 345-0060.

Callers may choose to remain anonymous when providing information.





WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER

July 2026

Adult Book Discussion**Tue, Jul 21 | 6:30 PM**

Join us to discuss **Culpability** by Bruce Holsinger. A suspenseful family drama exploring moral responsibility in the age of AI after a family's autonomous minivan crashes. Copies are available now at the Circulation Desk

Come to our Sit & Stitch**Wednesday, August 12th | 6 PM**

Join fellow crafters for a relaxing craft session at the library. Bring your knitting, crocheting, embroidery, or any portable handwork project and enjoy time to create, chat, and share tips. No registration is required.

Late Opening August 7th**Library Opens at 12 PM**

The library will open at 12 PM on Friday, August 7th for a staff inservice training. Thank you for your understanding.

**Plant a Seed, Read!
Summer Reading 2026****Until August 1st****Youth & Teen Reading Clubs**

Join our Youth Summer Reading Clubs for all ages—from PreK to high school! Whether you're just starting with Read to Me, growing your skills in Beginning Reader or Reader, or diving into new worlds in our Teen club, there's something for everyone. Track your reading, earn rewards, and have fun all summer long with Beanstack!

Adult Summer Reading Club

This challenge is for all participants ages 18 and up. For each book you read and event you attend, you will receive a digital raffle ticket that you can allocate to one of our six grand prize gift baskets. Raffle winners will be pulled at the end of Summer Reading.

Log your reading through Beanstack, and/or fill out a paper form in the library to participate.

What's Beanstack?

Beanstack is a web and mobile app that enables you and your family to track reading progress through the Library's various reading challenges.

Prefer pen and paper? Pick up a reading log and start growing your garden! Color in one of the ten native plants for each book you finish. Complete the whole page and bring it to the Adult Department for a special prize.



Scan the QR code or go to westchesterpl.beanstack.org to register. Once you have registered you or your child, you can enroll in our reading challenges!

The Rule of Rum with Food Historian Cynthia Clampitt**Wednesday, July 8th | 6 PM | Community Room**

Food historian Cynthia Clampitt shares the reason rum arose where it did and when it did, as well as how pirates got involved and who really said "yo, ho, ho" (not the pirates), but also explains how rum was involved in uniting the 13 Colonies, why it was one of the issues that led to the American Revolution, how it also led to a revolt in its next home after the Caribbean: Australia, and how it affected culture and history around the world after that. **Registration is required.**

Sewing the Farmers Market**Monday, July 6th | 6 PM | Community Room**

Come hang out and make some fake fruits and veggies with us each month, inspired by what you'd find at the farmers market. This easygoing sewing program is open to all skill levels. You'll learn a few simple techniques and leave with something handmade. In June, we'll be stitching up some felt cucumbers.

Garden Sketching**Saturday, July 11th | 11 AM | Library Garden**

Come commune with nature and join us for a calm sketching session in the Westchester Public library gardens! We'll be using the library's art kits, so all materials (including easels and garden seats!) are provided. **Registration is required.**

Illinois Naturalist Mitchell Goodknecht**Monday, July 20th | 6 PM | Community Room**

Know a little about native plants? What about native animals? Naturalist Mitchell Goodknecht will introduce the audience to the vast array of Illinois wildlife, including animals that are rare, and those so common that you might see them in your own backyard. **Registration is required.**

Learn to Make a Coiled Basket**Tuesday, July 28th | 2 PM OR 6 PM | Community Room**

Join us for a hands-on coiled basket workshop where you'll learn the basics of shaping and stitching your own beautiful, functional basket. This relaxed, beginner-friendly program is perfect for anyone who loves working with their hands and trying something new. **Registration is required.**

**Fermenting the Harvest with Emily Paster****Thursday, August 6th | 6 PM | Community Room**

Emily Paster will demonstrate how to make classic fermented favorites, including sauerkraut and kosher dill pickles. Learn step-by-step techniques for safely fermenting vegetables at home, along with tips for flavor, storage, and success so you can start making your own tangy, homemade pickles with confidence. **Registration is required.**



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY • 10700 Canterbury Street • Westchester, IL 60154

708-562-3573 • askus@westchesterpl.org • www.westchesterpl.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-8:00 pm; Friday-Saturday 9:30 am-5:00 pm; Sunday: Closed.

Library Director Patrick Callaghan • Board of Trustees John Lamberti-president, Greg Christoff, Shannon Flint, Christine Kuffel, Darla Woods, Stephanie Pedersen, & Kristen Jacobson • Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month 7 PM.

ADA Requests: We welcome patrons of all abilities. To request an accommodation, including captioning or American Sign Language services please contact us at least 7 days before the event.

Storytime at the Library

Pajama Storytime

Tuesday, July 21st | 6 PM

Time to slow down for the evening! Wear your pj's and get cozy with this storytime meant to shake up bedtime! Best for all ages, families welcome!

Best for babies – PreK.

5 Senses Storytime

Saturday, July 25th | 11 AM

Join us while we offer exploration and discovery of different sensations and emotions! After featuring a story or two about one of the 5 senses, there will be a fun activity which parents and kids can explore together!

Best for PreK – 1st Grade.

Teen Programs

Teen Take & Make Craft

Monday, July 13th | Teen Room

Drop by the teen room for a shrinky sheet, where you can make your own colorful keychain or jewelry! **This craft is for grades 6-12 only, while supplies last**

Make Your Own Ice Cream

Tuesday, July 14th | 3 PM | Community Room

Come to the library to make ice cream and decorate with toppings of your choice. **For grades 6 - 12; registration required.**

Teen Open Gaming

Tuesday, July 16th | 5:30 PM | Community Room

Join us at the library for a chill night of gaming! We've got lots of games to choose from and multiple consoles to use. We'll even have board games out! Pizza and drinks will be provided. **This program is for grades 6 - 12 only; registration required.**

Eating Around the World!

Tuesday, July 20th | 4 PM
Community room

This summer, sign up to taste-test snacks from around the world with Universal YUMS! **For grades 6 - 12; registration required.**

Youth Programs

ZAP! Storytime at the Zoo

Tuesday, July 7th | 10:30 AM | Brookfield Zoo

Join your favorite librarians at Brookfield Zoo! Geared towards children up to age 7, this program gives zoo guests and families a fun way to connect with nature and wildlife through stories and play! Westchester residents can pick up free admission tickets in the Youth Services Department before the event. Please call Youth Services for more details at **708-562-3573 X3.**

Summer Crafts for Kids

Monday, July 6th & 20th

Take a break from summer fun to craft with us! Twice a month, drop into the Youth Services Department for a surprise craft! **Best for ages K - 5th, while supplies last.**

Palette Playtime

Thursday, July 9th & 23rd | 4 PM

Community Room

Sign up for this messy, paint-themed art program! Each session will feature a different project that you can paint and make your own! **For grades K - 5th, registration required.**

Lego Club

Friday, July 10th & 24th | 3:30 PM

Don't miss this fun club where you can show off your building skills and put your creations on display! **Best for grades K-5.**

Miss Jamie's Farm: Garden Friends

Saturday, August 1st | 11 AM

Join Miss Jamie's Farm for a musical storytime adventure, involving interactive singing and dancing songs, funny farm puppets, and imaginative play. Children and grownups alike will love singing and dancing with their friends down on Miss Jamie's farm. **Prek-2nd Grade..**



National Hotdog Day!

Wednesday, July 15th | 12 PM

It's National Hot Dog Day! We'll have freshly grilled hot dogs and snacks for the first 100 people who stop by! Get out of the heat and enjoy lunch on us! (Limit 1 dog per person!)





Westchester, IL Chamber of Commerce

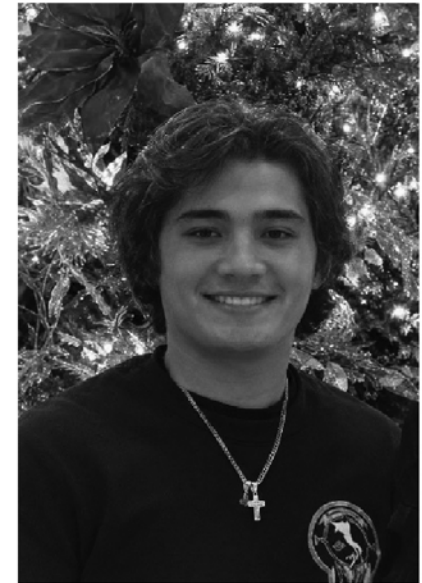
“We Mean Business”

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER!



Santino Bertucci
 2334 Mayfair Ave
 Westchester, IL 60154
 708-657-8852

Bertucci's Automotive Wash LLC is a professional mobile detailing company serving Westchester and the surrounding Chicago suburbs. We specialize in interior and exterior detailing, paint correction, clay bar treatments, ceramic coatings, fleet services, and maintenance washes. Our goal is to provide high-quality results and exceptional customer service while bringing professional detailing directly to your home or business.



Updated Membership Benefits



Membership Levels

- Premium Membership - \$250. ***
- Business Membership - \$150.**
- Non-Profit Membership - \$125.**
- Community Member - \$75. ****



Over 65 Years!

- New member recognition within the Chamber ad of the monthly Village of Westchester Newsletter mailed to over 7,000 homes and businesses in Westchester
- Advertisement opportunities in WCC's E-blast promotion – send us your flyers!
- Opportunities to present at local small-business workshops
- Opportunities to host a chamber event, such as Breakfast, Lunch or “After Hours”
- Business listed in the Chamber Member Directory and on the Chamber website
- Promote your business through photo opportunities on social media (over 5k followers)
- Ribbon cuttings for businesses
- Networking and special events - bring your business cards!
- Chamber decal to display at place of business to represent your chamber affiliation
- Governmental representation
- Business referrals

** Promote your business throughout the year with (live or recorded) video opportunities on social media with a Director or Past/Current President of the Westchester Chamber of Commerce – SEND US YOUR EVENT INFO!*

**** Employee of a Business with Membership (i.e. Real Estate/Insurance Office Membership, Agent Community Membership)**



Our Mission: The Westchester Chamber of Commerce (WCC) is dedicated to promoting the growth and development of the local business community in Westchester and the surrounding areas. Through relationships with local business, government, and civic groups, we support events and programs to create a thriving business environment. We are committed to developing a vibrant, flourishing community.

WESTCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | P.O. Box 7309, Westchester, IL 60154
www.WestchesterChamber.org Phone: 708-240-8400 Email: info@WestchesterChamber.org



INVESTING TODAY FOR A STRONGER SAFER WESTCHESTER






Our Village is committed to providing high-quality water and sewer services you can count on—today and for generations to come.

2026 UTILITY RATE UPDATE – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

NEW RATES

-  **WATER:**
\$21.13 per 1,000 gallons
-  **SEWER:**
\$4.43 per 1,000 gallons

-  No changes to water/sewer infrastructure fees
-  Changes will be reflected on September utility bills
-  Supports long-term capital improvements, including water main and lead service line replacements



These updates are part of our approved long-term funding plan based on a professional water and sewer rate study. They ensure we have the resources needed to replace aging infrastructure and lead lines in compliance with federal requirements and other regulations.

These funds are dedicated solely to water and sewer projects, improvements, maintenance, and related services.

QUICK FACTS



GRANTS & LOANS HELP BUT STILL NEED SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

The Village actively pursues grants and low- or no-interest loans. However, these programs require a sustainable local funding source—and often a match—to qualify. Our long-term funding plan and capital improvements plan demonstrate responsible planning and position Westchester as a strong candidate for outside funding.



PLANNING TODAY PREVENTS BIGGER INCREASES TOMORROW

A water rate study was previously completed in 2015 and again in 2017, but the recommended rates were not adopted at that time. Gradual adjustments then would have spread costs out over time. By planning ahead now, we're working to avoid larger increases in the future.



OUR INFRASTRUCTURE HAS SERVED US WELL—AND IT'S SHOWING ITS AGE

Westchester celebrated its 100th anniversary last year, and much of our water and sewer infrastructure is also 100+ years old or close to it. Replacing aging pipes and systems is essential to delivering safe, reliable service for our community.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Your investment helps us protect public health and ensure Westchester remains a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family. Working together today for a stronger, safer Westchester tomorrow.



RESOURCES FOR YOU



SIGN UP FOR WATER SMART PORTAL
Track your usage in real time, get leak alerts, and receive tips on how to reduce water use. It's good for your wallet—and good for the environment!
Visit www.westchester-il.gov and visit the Water Department page.



HARDSHIP ASSISTANCE
If you are experiencing difficulty paying your bill, please call to inquire about a payment plan.
708-345-0020

Village branch collection for July will be the week of the 6th – 10th

August's collection will be the week of August 3rd – 7th
September's collection will be the week of September 14th – 18th

The Public Works Department will collect branches the first full working week of every month (April-November)

- All brush must be put out on the front parkway by 7:00 a.m. on your designated collection day. Branches can be up to 7 feet in length and stacked with the butt ends facing the street in the same direction. If not stacked properly, the branches may not be collected.
- Again, please put ALL brush out on your designated collection day and Public Works crews will determine what constitutes an open load, which will be picked up later in the week (Friday).
- An open load would include any brush that will not fit through the chipper such as logs, stumps, and large limbs. These must be cut for one man to lift. Dirt must be removed from any root balls for pickup.

• Public Works Crews will only pass through a designated pickup area once due to time, scheduling, and other workload responsibilities. Crews will not come back around once finished, and PW does not take collection requests outside of the schedule below.

Landscapers & tree services are responsible for their own brush disposal.

Please note the following schedule for branch pickup:

MONDAY: From Mannheim west to Wolf and from Canterbury south to Windsor -including both sides of Windsor. Also: Waterford, Waverly, Camelot and Concord.

TUESDAY: Roosevelt south to Cermak from Gardner west to Mannheim.

WEDNESDAY: From Roosevelt north to the expressway and from Gardner west to Mannheim. Also: Roosevelt south to Canterbury and from Haase west to Heidorn.

THURSDAY: From Belleview Ave west to Wolf Rd, Martindale Dr south to 31st Street.

FRIDAY: Open loads observed during scheduled collections above.

Weekly yard waste collection by S.B.C. will occur through the end of December.



S.B.C. Waste Solutions, Inc. –
312-522-1115
sbcwastesolutions.com/westchester

• If your garbage, recycling, and/or yard waste was at the curb by 6am but was not collected by 6pm on your regular day, please call S.B.C. directly to report a missed collection.

• You may place two (2) large items that will not fit in your receptacle (couch, chair, table, etc.,) at the curb every week for collection. Please call S.B.C. directly to inform them of large items.

• S.B.C. will collect household hazardous waste and electronic waste (e-waste), at no additional charge, including household chemicals, automotive products, paint products, garden chemicals, universal materials, batteries, and swimming pool chemicals. This separate collection must be pre-scheduled by calling 312-522-1115.

2026 Labor Day Holiday Rubbish Schedule

• Pick up will be the day after your regularly scheduled collection day, September 7th – 11th

Village Watering Restrictions

There are water use restrictions in effect every year, May 15th to September 15th, from 12pm to 6pm. This includes:

- (1) Outdoor Watering
- (2) Cleaning Outdoor Surfaces

- (3) Cleaning Buildings
- (4) Pool Filling
- (5) Sprinkling/ sprinklers

Outdoor water use during unrestricted hours (before noon, after 6pm) is allowed on even numbered days for residents with even numbered addresses, and on odd numbered days for residents with odd numbered addresses. If we have a dry summer, further restrictions may be necessary.

Street Parking Restrictions

From April 1 through November 30, parking restrictions are in effect to support **street maintenance** activities.

Please check posted street signs carefully—it is unlawful to park or leave a vehicle parked during designated weekday hours on streets marked for maintenance. These restrictions help ensure our streets stay clean and well-maintained.

These restrictions are for one side of the street, once a week, 7am-3pm as designated by posted signage. Please check the signs at the ends of your block or check the Village website so you don't receive a ticket!

2025 Water Quality Data Report

The 2025 Water Quality Report is available in this newsletter, may also be found online at www.westchester-il.gov/info/water-quality-reports under 2025 Water Quality Reports (most recent), or

by scanning the QR code located on the back of your utility bill.

2026 Construction News

• Water Main Improvements and LSL Replacements – Tentative July 6 start date o Sunnyside from Windsor to Wakefield followed by street paving

o Portsmouth from Gladstone to Roosevelt followed by In-House Street paving in 2027

• Street Reconstruction will occur on Stratford from the Cul-de-sac to Wakefield, and on Wakefield from Stratford to Sunnyside. Tentative June 1 start date. - COMPLETED

• Alley & Green Alley Reconstruction is occurring just south of Roosevelt from Heidorn to Haase. WILL BE COMPLETED JULY 10th.

As always, residents are asked to call Public Works at 708-345-0041 if an unusual amount of water is visible in the street or parkway.

This could be a main break or water leak that requires our immediate attention.

If after 3:30pm M-F or on weekends and holidays, please call the non-emergency number at 708-593-3830.

SALE!



REUSE-A-PALOOZA

YARDSALE BONANZA & REUSE FEST

Community Yard Sale September 19-20, 2026

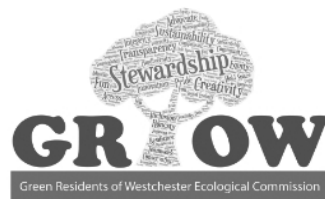
GROW Ecological Commission invites you to participate in our annual community yard sale! Shopping pre-loved items reduces the impacts of buying new - good for your wallet AND the environment!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN:
<https://bit.ly/Reuse-a-2026>



**Reduce
Reuse
Recycle**

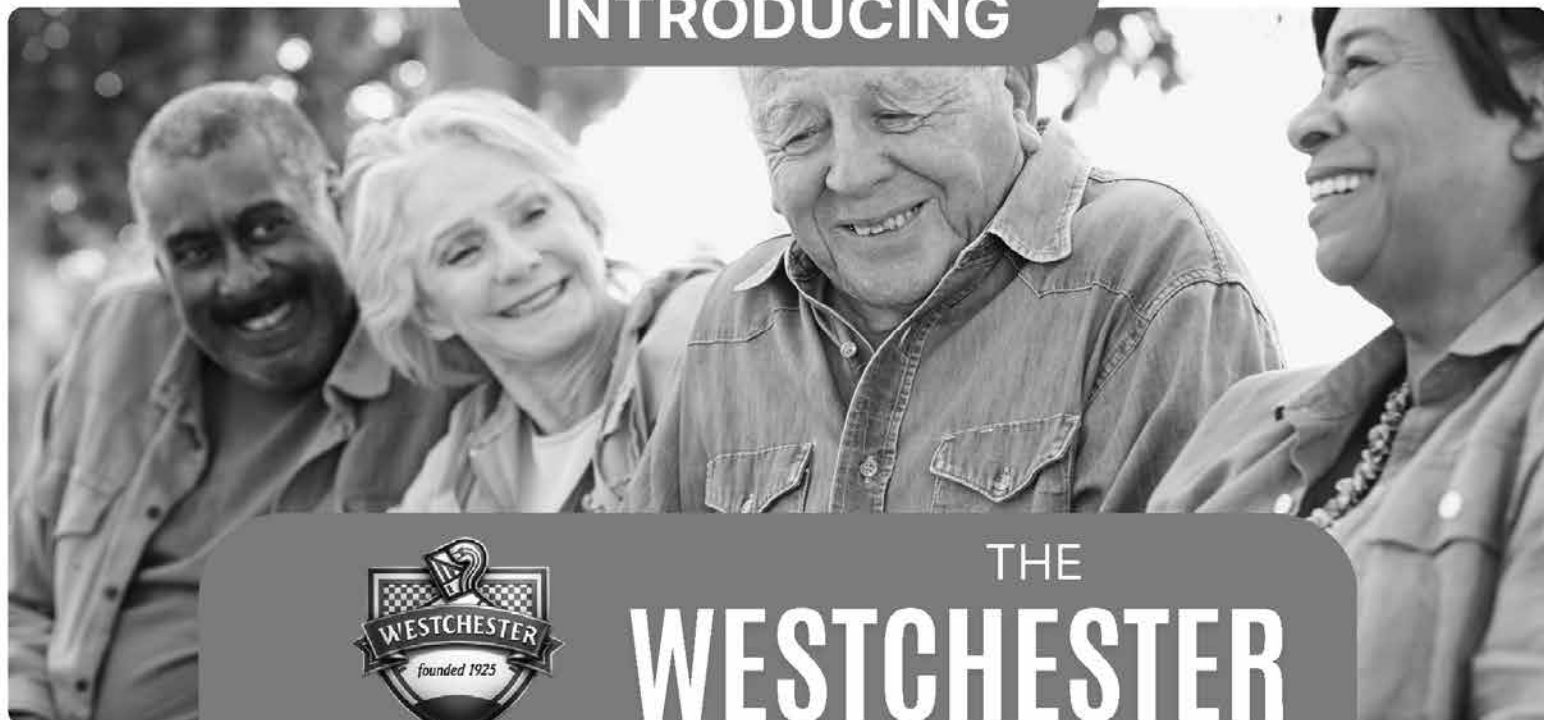
SCAN TO REGISTER



Questions?

Email
info@westchester-il.gov

INTRODUCING



THE WESTCHESTER SENIOR COMMISSION



WHO?

If you are a senior resident in Westchester, this commission is focused on **servicing you.** It's that simple!



WHAT?

The Senior Commission works to identify needs, share resources, and organize programs and initiatives that enhance quality of life for Westchester seniors.



WHEN?

We generally meet the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at Village Hall. We want to meet you! Bring your ideas, thoughts, concerns, and support.



WHERE?

Look for us this summer at the 4th of July parade (July 4), Party in the Park (Aug 1, Community Park), and National Night Out (Aug 4, West. Intermediate School)



WHY?

Nearly 30% of Westchester residents are age 65 or older — representing approximately 4,500 residents in our community.

About Us

We are a group of resident volunteers excited to help support, engage, and advocate for older adults in our community.

- Ilene Schauer, *Co-Chair*
- Marian Slahor, *Co-Chair*
- Lorena Alvarez
- Linda Jones-Woodley
- Richard Juarez Sr.

We want to hear from you! Email: seniorcommission@westchester-il.gov

More Than a Pet Store: Kriser's Natural Pet Builds Health, Happiness, and Community

From holistic pet wellness and professional grooming to local events and community partnerships, Kriser's Natural Pet is helping Westchester's pets — and their people — thrive.

“Helping Pets Live Happier, Healthy Lives-Naturally” – That is the premise behind Kriser's Natural Pet. Kriser's is unlike any pet experience in the world. We're a community of experts from nutritionists to groomers to behaviorists dedicated to holistic pet wellness. Here, you'll find everything you need for your pet under one virtual and physical roof: natural food, healthy treats, supplies, grooming, vet services, and helpful advice. Kriser's even offers a comprehensive loyalty program like no other that rewards you for every way you take care of your pet.

Michelle Gwinn, Store Manager, is a long-term employee of Kriser's. Her journey began 8 years ago with the company. She started at the Park Ridge location but also managed other locations such as Bucktown, River North, Clybourn, and Streeterville. She loves how the corporation supports their local stores. “When the company began expanding our Park Ridge location, I remember the entire team coming out to support the move and worked together on the expansion of more services.” But Michelle kept coming back to one important concept: It's about building relationships. “We treat you like family”. She wants to get to know the people who come in to the store and live in the community. She wants to find ways to keep your pet healthy and happy.

Kriser's offers professional grooming services, which include a bath, brush out, blow dry, haircut, nail trim, and ear cleaning. They also offer walk-in services, such as nail trim, nail grind, tooth brushing, and paw pad shave. Want to give your pet a bath yourself? No problem, check out Kriser's self-wash station where everything is provided to successfully get the job done, and best of all, Kriser's take care of the mess! Need food or treats? Kriser's has a large supply of food products which Mi-

chelle describes as “Whole Foods for Pets”. And yes, you can find collars, bedding materials, toys, grooming supplies and supplements! The one major standout with Kriser's Natural Pet is that you discover their genuine commitment to being part of the community. Almost immediately, Kriser's began ingraining themselves in the community by welcoming everyone to their open house style in-store adoption events, participating in the Westchester Little League opening day parade, LaGrange parade, Boy Scouts BBQ cook out, and joining the Westchester Chamber of Commerce.

They have sponsored the local Westchester Little League team and North Riverside Baseball, supported our local Boy Scouts troop, and support of both the Westchester and the Brookfield Food Pantries. Kriser's is excited about the 4th of July Parade and the Party in the Park and always looking for new ways to give support to our community.

Michelle is truly grateful for the support she has received from Village Hall and staff, Chamber of Commerce, and Local Fire/Police Department. She has built relationships with some of the Trustees and their pets, has got to know members of the Economic Development Committee, and celebrates that some of the surrounding businesses have given them strong support. Kriser's Westchester has a strong team of four passionate pet lovers ready to offer all advice to pet parents. Their hope is to always provide help for pets and their owners, and for everyone in town to get to know them. Stop in and experience it for yourself!

Kriser's Natural Pet
3042 Wolf Road, Westchester, IL
Phone: (224) 351-3763
Email: Store416@krisers.com
Facebook: [Kriser's Natural Pet](https://www.facebook.com/Kriser's%20Natural%20Pet)
Instagram: [Kriserspets](https://www.instagram.com/Kriserspets)



Kriser's Natural Pet, located at 3042 Wolf Road in Westchester, offers natural pet food, professional grooming, self-wash stations, wellness products, and personalized guidance for pet owners throughout the community.



The team at Kriser's Natural Pet is dedicated to helping pets live healthier, happier lives through expert care, natural products, and a strong commitment to the Westchester community.



Kriser's Natural Pet features a wide selection of natural treats, nutritious foods, and healthy snacks to help pets enjoy happier, healthier lives.



Real Estate Questions?
Let's Talk.



**COLDWELL
BANKER
REALTY**

Jen & Jim Cavanaugh
Making Real Estate Easy!
CavanaughTeam.com
708-408-9910



Jen & Jim Cavanaugh
CavanaughTeam.com
Cell: 708-408-9910



www.CavanaughTeam.com



Proviso Handyman Department

July 2026

Are you watering your garden and lawn? Do you notice your outdoor spigot drips after you turn it off? Keep your water bills from skyrocketing by having your spigot checked.

Call 708-547-4001

The Proviso Township Handyman Program serves homeowners over the age of 60 and disabled homeowners who are residents of Proviso Township



Bellwood · Berkeley · Broadview · Brookfield · Forest Park · Hillside ·
LaGrange Park · Maywood · Melrose Park · North Riverside ·
Northlake · Stone Park · Westchester · Western Springs

+ Only Homeowners within the boundaries of the Proviso Township+

Michael A. Corrigan
Supervisor

Anthony "Tony" Williams
Clerk

Steven J. Zawaski
Assessor

Gay F. Chase · Evelyn Chavez · Joseph Christopher · Tommy Olson
Trustees



Local Trusted Westchester Business for 15 Years
Roofing - Siding - Gutters - Windows - Doors & More
Free Inspections & Free Estimates (A+ BBB Rating)
Licensed - Bonded - Insured - Recommended



SCOTT T. HOPMAN
773-655-8529

GIORDANO MANFREDINI
708-363-6789

WESTCHESTER GARDEN WALK

Grassroots Garden Group, a community-oriented collection of green thumbs in Westchester, presents its 8th Annual "Westchester Garden Walk" on Saturday, July 18, from 9am-1pm. The garden walk follows a record-setting 8th annual plant sale that took place in May.

Grassroots Garden Group would like to thank the community for continuing to support our events, including the plant sale and garden walk, which have raised more than \$50,000 in donations for our strategic partner, the Westchester Food Pantry.

This year's garden walk will feature seven beautiful gardens located in three neighborhoods in town. Driv-

ing or bicycling is encouraged to get from one neighborhood to the next, but then you are able to walk from one garden to the next, if desired. It is a "garden walk," after all!

The garden walk will begin with attendee check-in at the Westchester fountain gardens located at the northeast corner of Mannheim Road and Cermak Road. Parking is available on Crestwood Lane. Before venturing out on the walk, be sure to visit the fountain gardens Grassroots Garden Group members have revitalized and continue to maintain. For your shopping pleasure, don't forget to check out the GGG Market, featuring fun, whimsical garden-related merchandise. Lastly, be sure to

purchase your raffle tickets and see the prizes in person!"The Westchester Garden Walk has become a beloved signature summer event in our community, drawing residents from across Proviso Township to celebrate the beauty of our neighborhoods and the hard work of residents. It's truly a not-to-be-missed showcase of local gardens that brings us all together," said Westchester Village President Greg Hribal. Featuring a variety of garden styles, this year's garden walk has something for everyone. From creative ways to add native plants, enhancing border gardens, or creating an amazing vegetable garden, experienced gardeners as well as novice gardeners seeking inspiration will find it.

"Year after year, we continue to be amazed at the bountiful stock of outstanding gardens that help beautify our community," said Bethanny Alexander, president of Grassroots Garden Group. "The generosity of garden owners, who are willing to share their gardens for a day, provides inspiration for all of us."

Tickets for the garden walk cost \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the garden walk. Garden walk tickets and raffle prize tickets can be purchased online. The highlight of raffle prizes is a \$250 gift card generously donated by Hinsdale Nurseries. Tickets, and all garden walk details, can be found at www.grassrootsgardengroup.org. Founded in 2015, Grassroots Garden



Group is a volunteer organization whose mission is to help make Westchester a more beautiful community. To learn more about the 2026 Westchester Garden Walk and Grassroots Garden Group, visit www.grassrootsgardengroup.org; email grassrootsgroup2015@gmail.com; or follow on [Facebook.com/grassrootsgardengroup](https://www.facebook.com/grassrootsgardengroup) and Instagram [@grassroots_garden_group](https://www.instagram.com/grassroots_garden_group).

THE RULE OF RUM

FROM PIRATES TO REVOLUTIONS

Food historian Cynthia Clampitt shares the reason rum arose where it did and when it did, as well as how pirates got involved and who really said "yo, ho, ho" (not the pirates), but also explains how rum was involved in uniting the 13 Colonies, why it was one of the issues that led to the American Revolution, how it also led to a revolt in its next home after the Caribbean: Australia, and how it affected culture and history around the world after that.



Cynthia Clampitt
Food Historian & Travel Writer



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER**



WED, JULY 8, 6 PM
COMMUNITY ROOM

ENRICHMENT - AGING WELL NEIGHBORHOOD



aging care connections
Because Aging Well Matters






2026 Westchester Aging Well Neighborhood Events

<p>February 11 - BINGO!</p> <p>March 11 - Wellness Topic</p> <p>April 8 - BINGO!</p> <p>May 13 - Wellness Topic</p> <p>June 10 - BINGO!</p>	<p>July 8 - Wellness Topic</p> <p>August 12 - BINGO!</p> <p>September 9 - Wellness Topic</p> <p>October 14 - BINGO!</p> <p>November 11 - Wellness Topic</p> <p>December 9 - Holiday Party</p>
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*RSVP for events by emailing awn@agingcareconnections.org

Events held at:
Westchester Community Church, 1840 Westchester Blvd., Westchester, IL 60154

All event times are 11:00am - 1:00pm

The Westchester Aging Well Team is a group of volunteers working to make Westchester a great place to age well. Through a series of free informational programs, we help to promote lifelong wellness, support aging at home, raise awareness of available resources, provide a sense of community, and support healthy, informed, and safe aging.

Anti-Discrimination Statement
 Aging Care Connections does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in compliance with appropriate state and federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call 708-354-1323.

Aging Care Connections
 111 W. Harris Ave., La Grange, Illinois 60525 | Tel.: 708-354-1323 W:
AgingCareConnections.org | E: info@agingcareconnections.org



WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY

Client service crew, Wednesdays 4-7:30pm and Saturdays 8:30am-12pm: This crew helps clients choose food items and get the groceries into their vehicles. Kids age 12 can volunteer with a parent; ages 13 and older can volunteer with a parent's permission. Spanish speakers needed.

GCFD receiving crew, 8am-10:30am, first and third Fridays of the month: This crew receives our orders from the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Volunteers must have the ability to lift and move heavy boxes. Sign up online: WestchesterFoodPantry.org/Volunteer

Food reclamation, one Friday each month, 10-11:30am: We need volunteers to transport rescued food from grocery stores to the Pantry. Volunteers must be able to lift 30 pounds, have a larger vehicle and pick up and deliver to the Pantry between 10-11:30am on select Fridays. This commitment is just once each month. Email for details!

New volunteers are always welcome!
 Sign up online at WestchesterFoodPantry.org/volunteer
 or send an email to Info@WestchesterFoodPantry.org.



WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY
1938 S. MANNHEIM ROAD,
WESTCHESTER IL 60154
WESTCHESTERFOODPANTRY.ORG
708-927-4826



LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

Interfaith Career Network offers **FREE** assistance; **OPEN TO ALL!**

"Behavioral Interviewing: What They Are Really Asking"
by Kathryn Kurinsky

Thursday, July 16th at 7pm

St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 Wolf Road, Western Springs

For job seekers, cracking the behavioral interview means learning to tell your professional story in a clear, structured, and compelling way—using real examples that demonstrate your skills, character, and resilience. This session is about understanding the strategy behind one of today's most common hiring tools and learning how to use that knowledge to your advantage.

Participants will learn:

- The STAR method for structuring any behavioral answer.
- How to build a personal "story bank" before the interview.
- What interviewers are really listening for beneath the surface of each question.
- The most common mistakes that cost candidates the job and how to avoid them.

Kathryn Kurinsky brings more than 25 years of Human Resources experience across a variety of industries. She currently serves as Human Resources Director for a furniture manufacturer in West Chicago, where she oversees all areas of HR, including recruitment and retention, employee relations, and training and development. We look forward to seeing you!



Visit www.interfaithcareernetwork.com for additional resources!



James Rowan Presents

Westward Expansion

Sunday – June 28, 2026
1 to 3 pm

Wolf Road Prairie House
11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester



1976 - 2026

POOL PASS

celebrating 50 years!

MEMBERSHIP TYPES	APRIL 7TH - SEPTEMBER 7TH REGULAR RATES
Must reside in same household	RESIDENT / NON-RESIDENT
INDIVIDUAL	\$156 / \$293
FAMILY OF 2	\$244 / \$461
FAMILY OF 3	\$288 / \$563
FAMILY OF 4	\$332 / \$665
FAMILY OF 5	\$377 / \$767
FAMILY OF 6	\$421 / \$869
FAMILY OF 7	\$466 / \$971
FAMILY OF 8	\$510 / \$1073
FAMILY OF 9	\$554 / \$1175
FAMILY OF 10	\$599 / \$1277
SENIOR INDIVIDUAL	\$144 / \$271
SENIOR COUPLE	\$223 / \$415

AGE 2yr & Up - membership required

HOURS OF OPERATION

SUNDAY
8:45am-10:45am
11:00am-11:30am
11:30am-6:00pm
6:15pm-8:15pm

MONDAY-THURSDAY
7:50am-8:50am
8:00am-11:15am
12:30pm-1:00pm
1:00pm-7:30pm

FRIDAY
7:50am-8:50am
8:00am-11:15am
12:30pm-1:00pm
1:00pm-6:00pm
6:15pm-8:15pm

SATURDAY
7:50am-8:50am
8:00am-11:00am
11:00am-11:30am
11:30am-6:00pm
6:15pm-8:15pm

*Westchester Park District reserves the right to cancel, modify or restrict its schedule, or certain areas of the pool/facility due to mechanical complications, low attendance, staffing, undesirable weather, etc.

RENTAL MEMBERS ONLY
OPEN SWIM
RENTAL

LAP SWIM 6/8-8/8
LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY
OPEN SWIM

LAP SWIM 6/8-8/8
LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY
OPEN SWIM
RENTAL

LAP SWIM 6/6-8/8
LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY
OPEN SWIM
RENTAL

SPECIAL EVENTS

- RAFT NIGHTS - TUESDAYS**
6/9-8/4 @ 5:00 - 7:30PM
8/8-8/29 @ 4:00-7:30PM
included in membership
daily admission rates apply
 - CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA**
7/31 @ 6:00PM-7:00PM
\$10/\$20 per boat to participate
Free to all spectators
 - DROOL IN THE POOL**
9/21 @ 6:00-7:30PM
\$5 donation suggested
participants must provide proof of current vaccinations
- *additional rules and restrictions to the above events apply

DAILY ADMISSION RATES

AGE	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
2yr & Up	\$9.00	\$12.00

JUNE 6TH - SEPTEMBER 7TH

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.WPDPARKS.ORG

DON'T MISS OUT - STAY CONNECTED



2026 SUMMER CONCERT Series

WEDNESDAYS IN AUGUST

at Mayfair Park

Food and refreshments sold onsite



6:00 PM
DJ
ENTERTAINMENT



7:00-9:00 PM
LIVE
CONCERT

AUGUST
5

FUNK
BROTHERZ

POP DANCE FUNK
70s 80s 90s AND TODAY

AUGUST
12

WOODY'S
REVENGE

GOOD OLD-FASHIONED
AMERICAN ROCK 'N' ROLL

AUGUST
19

PROUDEST
MONKEY

CHICAGO LANDS PREMIERE,
DAVE MATTHEWS AND
TIM REYNOLDS TRIBUTE

AUGUST
26

THE
STUDENT BODY

CHICAGO'S HOTTEST
HIGH ENERGY PARTY
HITS COVER BAND



BRING YOUR
LAWN CHAIRS!



FUN FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY!



ENJOY A SUMMER EVENING
OF LIVE MUSIC IN THE PARK!

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

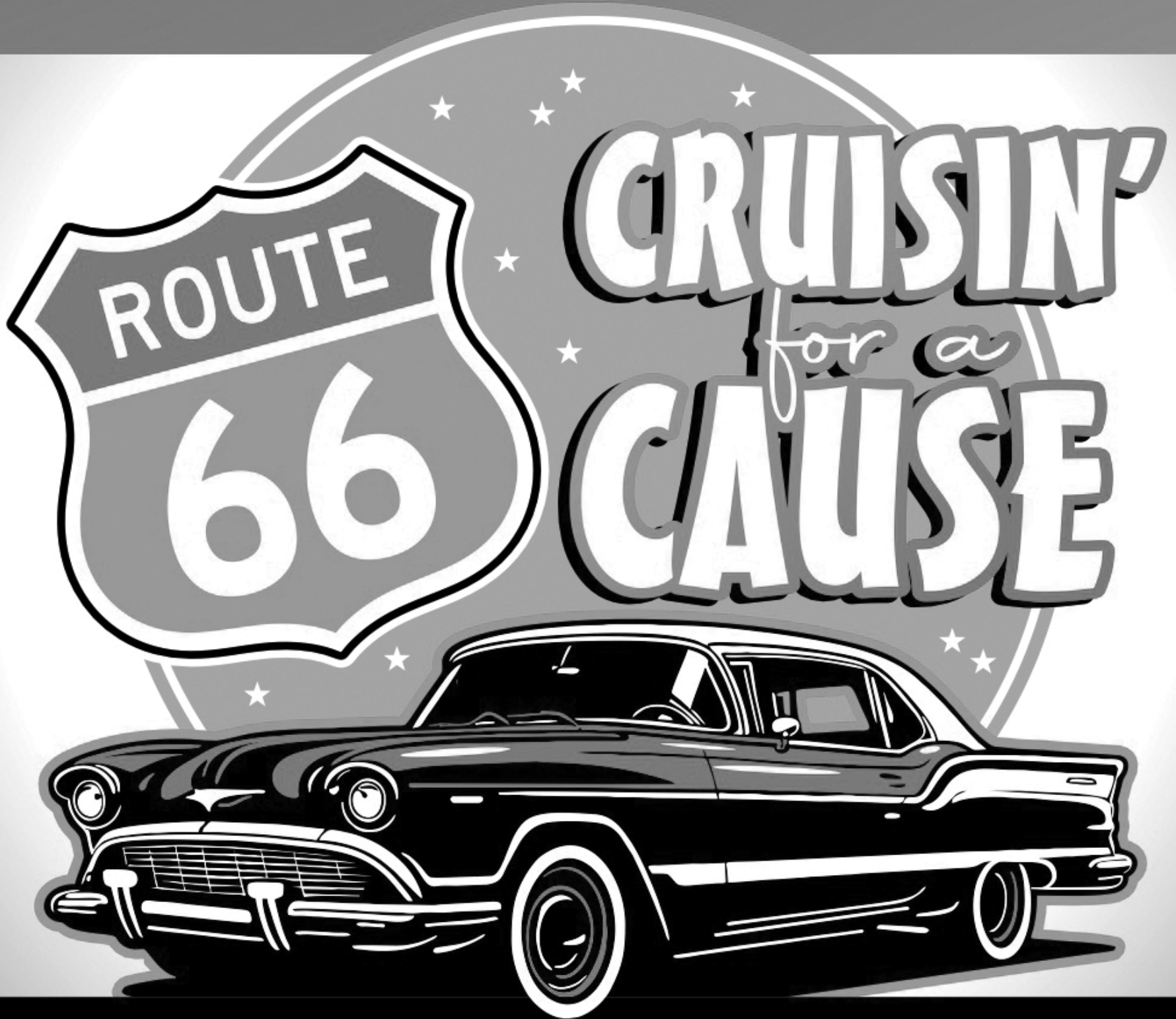
Bring your lawn chairs, gather your friends and family,
and enjoy four unforgettable evenings of live music in the park.



WESTCHESTER
— PARK DISTRICT —

MUSIC.
COMMUNITY.
SUMMER NIGHTS.

CARS 24th Annual Fall Benefit



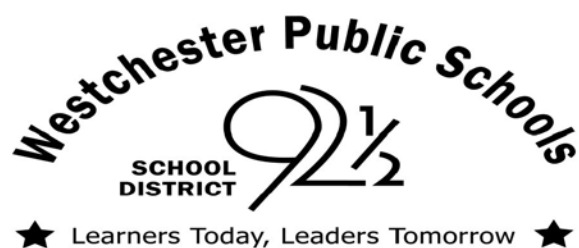
SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, September 24, 2026 • 6pm • Drury Lane

**Tickets on Sale
August 6th**



**COMMUNITY
ASSISTED RIDES**



Westchester Primary School

At WPS, we finished our year with reflections and celebrations of learning. Our second graders enjoyed their Second Grade Celebration organized by the WPTC, all students participated in Field Day and Victory Day, and our preschoolers enjoyed their end of the year celebrations. These end-of-the-year activities allowed our students to celebrate their growth, and we are so proud of all of them.



Our celebrations have led us right into summer, and we encourage all families to take advantage of SUMMER LEARNING because it is very important to learn all year long! During the summer, students' skills and knowledge can SLIDE back 2-3 months. Illinois State Learning standards are very rigorous, and students jump right into learning the first day of school. Moreover, as we look ahead to the first two weeks of school for 2026-2027 children will be assessed in reading and math. They will take the standardized NWEA MAP test, as well as other assessments. Based on those assessments, academic decisions will be made to place the children in reading and math differentiated groups within their classroom. Students who need more support may be meeting with our support staff for additional learning time. Home partnership and support will help children make a SPLASH next year! Please help your child be prepared for the first day of school by spending some academic time during the summer. Please see our school website <https://primary.sd925.org/> and click on the Parents Tab on the right side for guidance. There is a link for Home Summer Enrichment.

Additionally, as we plan over the summer for our upcoming school year, we have a message for parents of eligible kindergarten children: All students will be placed in full-day kindergarten unless a half-day registration is requested, as we are planning for full day for the 2026-2027 school year. If a family submits a request to the office for a half-day option, their student will be placed in the morning session. Half-day students will have instruction with the exact same core academic curriculum as the full-day students. Full-day students will participate in Specials Classes (i.e., physical education, music, art, STEAM and media) in the afternoon and reinforcement of what was learned in the morning session. Our kindergarten screenings, parent meeting, and bus orientation meeting date and time will be in August and bus routes will be communicated with our families through the Powerschool App. Families must create a Powerschool and ParentSquare account.

As part of planning for the next school year, all parents of school-aged students are urged to register their children online. If you have any questions please contact wpsreg@sd925.org or at 708-562-1509. Our 2026-2027 School Calendar is located on our sd925.org website under the "I Want To" tab on the right. We can't wait to begin school on August 19th!

A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Now that another school year has come to a close, I want to thank our families for their continued support of our District. The success of our schools is built on strong partnerships between home and school, and I appreciate the trust you place in us each day.

I hope our students, families, and staff enjoy a well-deserved summer break. Whether you are traveling, spending time with family, or simply enjoying a slower pace, I encourage everyone to take advantage of the summer months to recharge and prepare for the year ahead.

As we look ahead to the 2026 through 2027 school year, I want to remind all families to complete **student registration** as soon as possible. Early registration helps the district plan staffing, class placements, and student support services more effectively.

Families who completed registration by June 5 qualified for the **discounted early bird registration rate**. Families who have not yet registered should do so as soon as possible. To complete registration, families must submit an approved registration form and pay all required fees, including any outstanding balances from previous years. Families who qualify for a fee waiver should still complete the registration process now and then reapply for the waiver after July 1. If you need assistance with registration, please contact your school's administrative assistant.

This summer also marks the retirement of four valued members of the District 92.5 family. On behalf of the Board of Education and the entire District 92.5 community, I thank them for their years of service and wish them health, happiness, and fulfillment in retirement.

- **Ethel Brown, Paraprofessional, Westchester Intermediate School**
- **Karen Kvasnicka, Bus Driver**
- **Nancy May, Third Grade Teacher, Westchester Intermediate School**
- **Lisa Santoro Gordon, Lead Cafeteria Supervisor, Westchester Middle School**

On June 19, our families and community members joined the Village of Westchester's Juneteenth celebration as District 92.5 participates in the Freedom Walk. This event provides an opportunity to come together as a community while honoring an important part of our nation's history.

Thank you again for your continued support of our schools. We look forward to seeing our students return in August, ready for another successful school year.

Warm regards,
Philip Salemi, Ed.D
Superintendent

LEGAL NOTICE WESTCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS, DISTRICT 92 ½ PUBLIC HEARING

The Westchester Public Schools, District 92 ½, will hold a public hearing on the renewal of an E-Learning program recommended for implementation districtwide.

The public hearing will take place at the beginning of the regularly scheduled Board meeting ta 6:00 p.m. on July 23, 2026 and will be held at the Westchester Middle School multi-purpose room, 1620 Norfolk Ave., Westchester, IL, 60154

Westchester Intermediate School

I hope that all of our families are having a relaxing summer. Summer work is underway in the Intermediate building. Our custodial staff is cleaning, repainting, and making repairs to the school in order to make it ready for the new school year. We are very thankful to our amazing custodial crew who are able to get right to work after students leave for the summer.

We have our Jump Start summer school upcoming and it will be wonderful to see both students and staff working together to increase skills in both reading and math. We encourage all of our students to do a little bit of reading and math each day just to keep those skills up and the brain working.

We have said goodbye to Mrs. Harmount, who is moving on to a new school district. We appreciate all the time and energy she gave to our students. We are sad to see her leave but wish her the best in her new endeavors. We are in the process of seeking a new art teacher for the upcoming school year.

Registration for new students will be ongoing throughout the month of July. Please keep an eye out for information from the district regarding that process so you can be sure your students are able to register and begin school on time in August. Until then please enjoy the rest of your summer.

Go Huskies!

Westchester Middle School

Congratulations to our April Warriors of the Month! 6th Grade: Eliana Martinez and Evelyn Mukha, 7th Grade: Dylan Creamer and Gustavo Pelayo, 8th Grade: Sarah Navarrete and Taylor Saviola Scherer. Warriors of the Month are selected by their teachers for setting a strong example and exceeding the expectations of the 4 Bs: Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be There/Be Ready.



At the end of this school year, we said goodbye to two of our staff members who retired. We wish the best to Mr. Dave Geisinger, WMS Night Lead Custodian and Mrs. Lisa Santoro Gordon, Lead Cafeteria Supervisor. Thank you for your years of service and dedication to Westchester Middle School.

Please make sure that you have completed your registration and will be on the lookout for dates in August for our students to come into our school and set up their lockers.



FREE LUNCH
Available to children 18 and under

Locations

- WMS** 1620 Norfolk Ave., Westchester Illinois
- WIS** 10900 Canterbury St., Westchester Illinois
- WPS** 2400 Downing Ave., Westchester Illinois

JULY 13 – 30, 2026
Mondays – Thursdays
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Meals must be eaten on site
Meal menu available at www.sd925.org



Water Quality and Sustainability in Our Community

By Mariana Nicolae
Commissioner
GROW Ecological Commission

Water sustainability in residential areas means using our resources efficiently while protecting the quality of the water we drink.

By adopting a few simple habits, we can conserve water, lower utility bills, and protect our local environment.

Here are the best practices for promoting water sustainability and safety at home:

Part 1: Smart Water Conservation

1. Upgrade to Water-Efficient Fixtures

- Look for WaterSense certified fixtures to significantly reduce waste.

Ideal standards include toilets (max 1.28 gallons per flush), bathroom faucets (1.5 gallons per minute), and showerheads (2.0 gallons per minute).

- **Choose high-efficiency appliances,** such as modern dishwashers, which use just 2.4–3 gallons per cycle and washing machines.

2. Capture and Reuse Water

- **Rainwater Harvesting:** Collect and store rainwater from your rooftop using barrels or tanks for outdoor use.
- **Greywater Recycling:** Where permitted, reuse water from sinks, showers, and washing machines to irrigate your garden.

3. Sustainable Landscaping

- Plant native or drought-tolerant species that require minimal watering.
- Use drip irrigation systems with automatic timers to avoid overwatering.
- Water your garden early in the morning or late in the evening to minimize evaporation.

4. Catch Leaks Early

- Monitor your water meters and consider smart leak detectors.
- Regularly check and repair leaky pipes, faucets, and toilets. Even a tiny, silent leak can waste hundreds of gallons of water over time.

5. Simple Daily Habits

- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth or scrubbing dishes.
- Aim for shorter showers (3–5 minutes).
- Only run your dishwasher and washing machine with full loads.

Part 2: Protecting Your Water Quality

In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes strict safety standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). However, once water enters your home, there are several crucial steps you should take to ensure its integrity:

- **Use Certified Filtration:**

For standard drinking water, use a refrigerator filter or a pitcher (like a Brita) certified for NSF-40 and NSF-53 standards. These are specifically rated to filter out chlorine, lead, chromium, and other potentially harmful contaminants.

- **Cook with Cold Water Only:**

Never use hot water straight from the kitchen faucet for cooking or drinking. Hot water tanks can dissolve and trap contaminants more easily; always draw cold water and heat it on the stove or in a kettle.

- **Avoid Bathroom Taps for Drinking:** Do not drink from the bathroom

faucet. Fixtures installed before 2010 were permitted to contain up to 8% lead. Kitchen faucets are held to much stricter standards to prevent chemicals from leaching into your water.

- **Skip the Garden Hose:**

Never drink from an outdoor garden hose. Outdoor spigots often contain lead, and the hose itself can leach chemicals into the water—especially when heated by the summer sun.

- **Flush the Lines After Vacation:**

When returning home from a trip, run your faucets for 3–4 minutes before using the water. This clears out any stagnant water that has been sitting in your pipes and fixtures.

- **Clear the Lines After Repairs:**

If water service is temporarily interrupted for local emergency repairs, run all of your faucets until the water flows completely clear and free of debris before using it.

Green Fact of the Month

Did you know?

- Only about 3% of the total water supply on Earth is fresh or drinkable water (30% of this fresh water is found in lakes, rivers, and underground aquapor, while 70% is locked in ice found in Greenland, north pole and Antarctica). The remaining 97% of total water is salty water that fills our oceans and seas.

- Causes of fresh water scarcity is due to pollution and climate change. With warming temperatures there is drought, runoff due to deforestation, and evaporation.

- From Wikipedia

Recipe of the Month

Light and great for summer, this chickpea mash comes together quickly, no oven required.

Toast your favorite bread to make a sandwich, wrap in lettuce or tortilla, or use as a dip. Enjoy!

Mashed Chickpea Sandwich with Cranberries

Ingredients

- 540 ml canned chickpeas, drained and rinsed

- 3 tbsp vegan mayo, or regular
- 1/3 cup chopped walnuts
- 3 ribs of celery, diced
- 1/4 red onion, diced
- 1/3 cup unsweetened dried cranberries, sweetened also works
- 1/4 cup chopped parsley
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 lemon, juiced
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper

Instructions

- Add the drained and rinsed chickpeas to a large bowl and mash with

a potato masher or fork until mostly mashed, leaving a few chickpeas intact for texture.

- Add the remaining ingredients to the bowl and mix together until well combined.

Source: www.allrecipes.com

Have a plant-based recipe you'd like to share with the community?

Send it to: GROW@westchester-il.gov for consideration for future newsletters.

GROW WITH US

JOIN THE GREEN RESIDENTS OF WESTCHESTER!

Are you passionate about the environment and eager to make a difference in our community? GROW is seeking a dedicated Commissioner to help guide Westchester toward a greener, more sustainable future. This is a volunteer position.

OUR MISSION:

As a Commission of the Village of Westchester, we advise the Village and educate the community on environmental programs and practices aimed at improving the quality of our air, water, and land while reducing greenhouse gases, waste, and energy consumption. We strive to be critical partners in ecological and beautification decisions for the Village.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

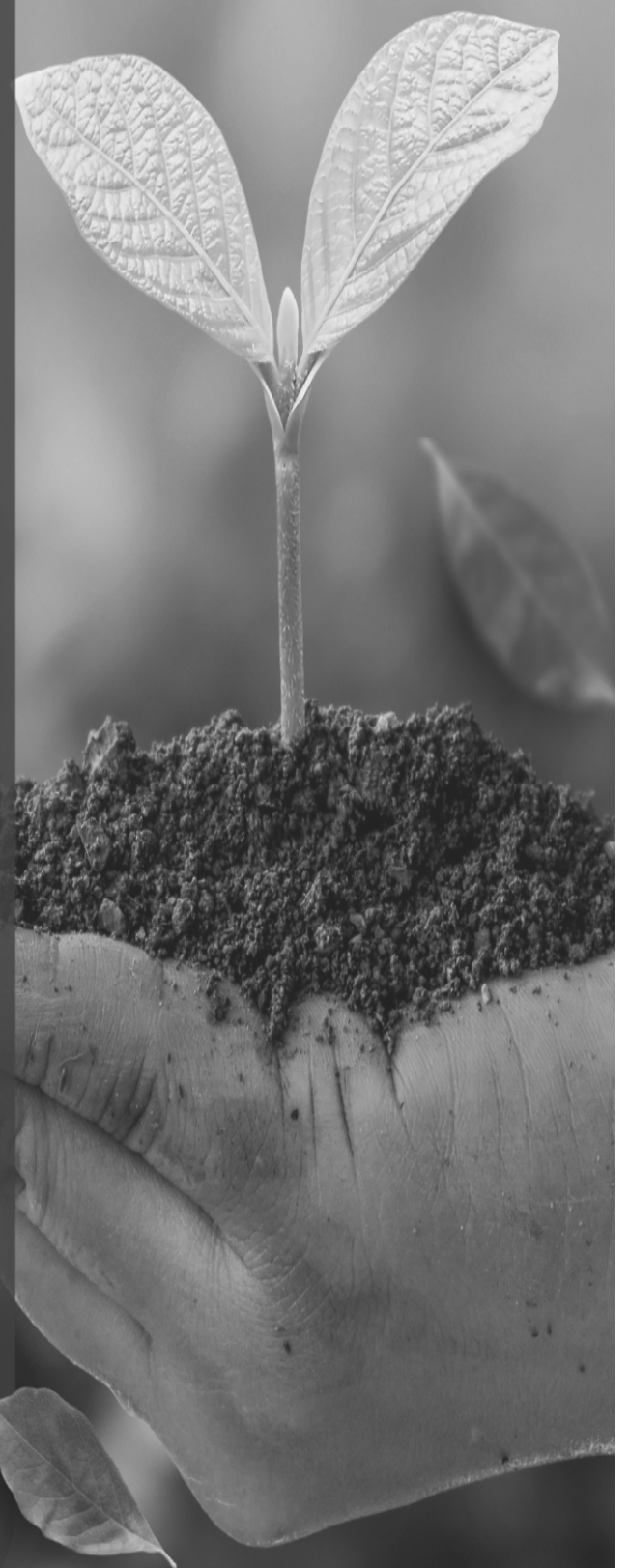
Ideal candidates are motivated, passionate about environmental education, and engaged in community outreach. Responsibilities include attending monthly Commission meetings, organizing events, and contributing articles to the Village newsletter. While relevant knowledge, education, or experience is helpful, it is not required. Active participation in GROW meetings and events before applying is highly encouraged.

ELIGIBILITY:

Westchester residents, 21 years of age and older, are welcome to apply.

HOW TO APPLY:

Submit a letter of interest and a resume to Village Trustee Evie Slavic at eslavic@westchester-il.gov.



From the desk of Village President Greg Hribal

Continued from the front page

will not only preserve our public buildings for decades to come but will also improve operational efficiency, enhance customer service, and create a more functional environment for both residents and Village staff.

This appropriation represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to invest in Westchester's future without placing the financial burden on our local taxpayers. I want to personally thank Speaker Chris Welch for his continued partnership and commitment to supporting our community. More information on the process and timeline for the renovations will be openly discussed as we begin the project.

Thank you to all who came out and supported our Juneteenth event this year. The two-day event, which included a Freedom Walk and a Community Block Party was extremely well attended this year.

Please come out and join us for our other events this summer, such as Party in the Park which will be held at the Westchester Community Center park on Friday July 31st and Saturday



President Hribal was happy to welcome Illinois House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch to the Village's Juneteenth event

August 1st. And finally, this year's National Night Out will once again be held at the Westchester Intermediate School on Tuesday August 4th. We hope to see you there.

The Westchester Lions Club
is sponsoring a family outing to see



the Chicago White Sox
versus
the New York Yankees



at Guaranteed Rate Field

Wednesday, July 29, 2026 • 6:40 pm

\$60 per person

The outing includes:

- Game ticket
(located in section 159, rows 17 - 19, seats 1 - 24)
- Transportation
- Parking
- Refreshments on the bus
- Bus driver gratuity

The bus will depart from the Divine Infant Church parking lot at 5:00 pm :

1640 Newcastle Avenue
Westchester

Reserve your ticket(s) by calling:

Matt Duff at 708 / 870 - 5593 or
George Fejt at 708 / 681 - 3960

Please make your check payable to the: Westchester Lions Club



Join the GROW Ecological Commission for a tour of

Sustain DuPage

on Saturday, July 18 from 1:00-2:00 p.m.

We'll tour their garden and restoration site while learning about Sustain DuPage's sustainability philosophy, community of volunteers, and initiatives like seed sharing, food security, and habitat restoration.

Location: Theosophical Society, 1926 N Main St, Wheaton

Limited to 20 participants. To reserve your spot or learn more, email: kroberg@westchester-il.gov



Join the Westchester Police Department for a night of family fun and community connection!

Enjoy **FREE** food & ice cream while supplies last, plus bounce houses, music, touch-a-truck, face painting, FOAM PARTY and more!



AUGUST 4, 2026



4:00 - 7:00 PM

WESTCHESTER INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

FOR MORE INFO OR TO SPONSOR:

www.westchester-il.gov/events

Insect Safari

With Insect Experts as Naturalist Guides

Saturday – July 11, 2026

10 am-12 noon

Wolf Road Prairie House

11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester



Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)

Photo: Jim Rowan



Car Care for Cleaner Water

A SERIES OF WATER QUALITY FACT SHEETS ABOUT STORMWATER RUNOFF

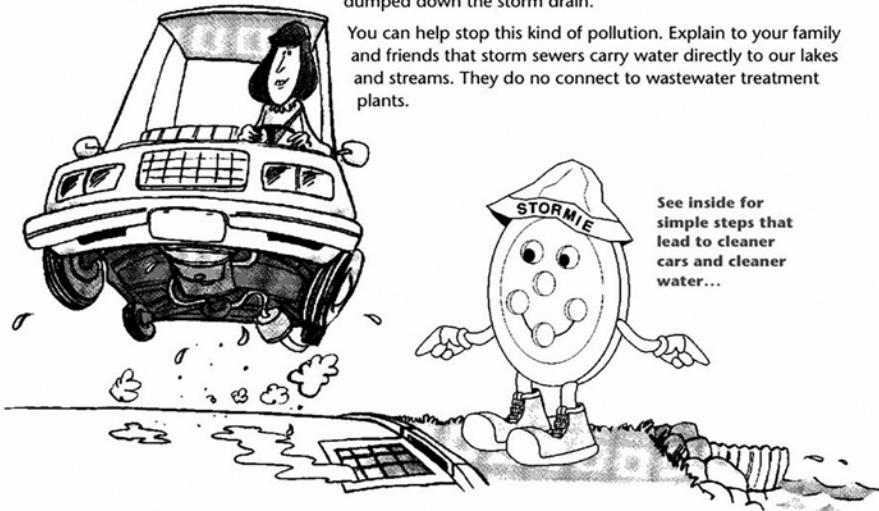
We all know that cars cause air pollution. But did you know that cars also cause water pollution? As we drive, our cars and trucks leave bits of tires, brakes and rusty metal on the street. When we park, our cars and trucks leave stains of oil, grease, and transmission fluid on driveways and parking lots. Less visible are the tiny exhaust particles that gradually settle out of the air or come down with the rain or snow.

What happens to all this "car dirt" when it rains? Rain and melting snow wash auto pollutants off the pavement, down the gutter, and into storm drains. Under these drains are storm sewers – pipes that carry the dirty water to lakes, streams or wetlands.

Even on sunny days, polluted water often flows out of storm sewers. To understand why, take a walk to a small stream in your town. Do you see mounds of foam? Streaks of blue? An oily sheen?

The foam may come from soapy water that runs down the street when we wash cars in our driveways. The bright blue streaks are probably antifreeze drained from radiators. The oily sheen may come from used motor oil dumped down the storm drain.

You can help stop this kind of pollution. Explain to your family and friends that storm sewers carry water directly to our lakes and streams. They do no connect to wastewater treatment plants.



See inside for simple steps that lead to cleaner cars and cleaner water...

SIMPLE STEPS TO CLEANER WATER

1. Recycle Oil

Old motor oil can be reprocessed and used again and again. Just put it in a container with a tight lid such as a plastic jug or metal can, and take it to a community oil recycling center. Don't pour anything else in with the oil because contaminated oil cannot be recycled.

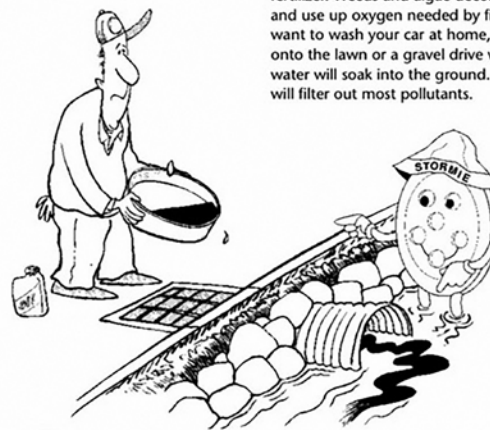
Recycling is the only safe way to get rid of used motor oil. Never use old oil to kill weeds or to oil roads. Oil poured down the storm drain ends up in our lakes and streams. The five quarts from your car could create an oil slick the size of two football fields or pollute a million gallons of drinking water.

2. Use Commercial Car Washes

Taking your car to a commercial car wash or spray booth is a good way to protect our lakes and streams. The dirty water from the car wash goes to a wastewater treatment plant where pollutants are removed.

If you wash cars on a paved driveway or parking lot, the dirty water ends up in our lakes and streams. In addition, phosphates in the soap you use act like fertilizer. Weeds and algae decompose and use up oxygen needed by fish. If you want to wash your car at home, drive it onto the lawn or a gravel drive where the water will soak into the ground. The soil will filter out most pollutants.

Anything dumped into a storm drain flows directly to a nearby stream or lake.



2

Thinking of having a car wash to raise money for charity? Team up with a commercial car wash and sell car wash tickets for an environmentally-friendly fund raiser.

3. Keep Your Car Tuned Up

Cars that run smoothly burn less fuel and causes less pollution. A tuned-up car saves you money by using up to 20% less gasoline. Regular tune-ups also reduce the amount of hydrocarbons, nitrous oxides and other pollutants that come out of your car's exhaust pipe. These chemicals pollute our water as well as our air. Hydrocarbons can cause cancer and nitrous oxide is one of the ingredients in acid rain. Acid rain increases the toxicity of other pollutants in street runoff, which adds to the risk of sickness or death for fish and other aquatic life.

4. Repair Leaks

Spots on your driveway or garage floor mean the engine, transmission or radiator in your car is leaking. Have the leak repaired right away. Then clean up the spot by using cat litter or another absorbent material to soak up the spill. Sweep up the cat litter and put it in a sealed bag in the trash for disposal. Do not scrub the spot with detergent and wash the dirty water into the street. Remember, all that dirty water ends up in lakes and streams.

5. Recycle Antifreeze

Recycling antifreeze can be a challenge. A few recycling sites now have separate tanks for antifreeze collection. Check with your local gas station or auto repair shop – they may accept used antifreeze.

Used antifreeze should not be flushed down the drain because it has pollutants that may cause problems for sewage treatment plants or septic tanks.

Antifreeze is very poisonous to people and animals. Because of its sweet taste and smell, antifreeze may attract children or pets and other animals. Drinking only three ounces may kill an adult and even less will kill children or pets.

IT ALL ADDS UP

By following the simple steps listed inside, we can all help reduce the pollution that comes from our cars, streets, driveways and parking lots. Together, our actions will add up to cleaner water for us and our children.



Printed on recycled paper

For local information, contact:

Village of Westchester
Public Works Department
708-345-0041

6. Return Used Batteries

Return your used car or truck battery to the place where you bought it. Other retailers may charge you for disposal. Be careful – old batteries may leak acid. Wear gloves and goggles and put the old battery in a leak-proof container. If you drop it, neutralize any spilled acid with baking soda or lime.

Do not throw old batteries in the trash or bury them – you'll be breaking the law. Old batteries contain hazardous chemicals that can leach through the soil and pollute our groundwater.

7. Check Tire Pressure

One of the simplest and cheapest ways to prevent pollution is to keep your tires inflated. For every pound that your tires are under-inflated, your car loses 1% in gas mileage. Under-inflated tires also wear out sooner. The solution is simple – check your tire pressure frequently, especially as temperature changes in the fall and spring. Tires lose a pound of pressure for every 10-degree drop in temperature. By reducing the amount of gasoline your car burns, properly inflated tires reduce the amount of polluted exhaust that your car makes.

8. Use Up Paints, Polishes and Cleaners

Paints, polishes and special cleaners for cars are usually flammable and toxic. Try to buy only what you need. If large amounts are left over, donate them to a friend or a school auto-repair class.

To dispose of small amounts, leave the container open in a safe place away from children, pets, wildlife and flames. When the liquid is gone and the substance is hard, cap the container and put it in the trash. The potentially toxic ingredients are locked into the hardened material and are less likely to cause pollution. However, burning will release the toxic chemicals. If your community burns trash, ask the public works department how to properly dispose of these materials.

9. Substitute Shoveling for Salt

Salt may be an easy way to get rid of snow and ice, but it pollutes lakes, streams and groundwater. It also kills trees and grass as well as corroding auto bodies, metal bridges and underground cables. Shovel your driveway and sidewalk before the snow gets packed down and icy. If the pavement is still slick, use sand or sand mixed with salt to provide some traction and melt the snow. After the snow melts, sweep up the sand to keep it out of storm sewers and waterways.

10. Drive Less

Driving less is the best way to prevent pollution. Water quality tests show that the most polluted runoff comes from heavily traveled streets and highways. This runoff often contains enough zinc, lead or copper to kill fish and other aquatic life.

Is there a way you could help reduce water pollution by driving less? Could you walk, ride a bike, car pool or take the bus to work? If not every day, could you do this once or twice a week? Could you do several errands on your next shopping trip? Could you work at home one day a week?

Driving seems cheap and convenient, but many costs, such as road construction, are hidden in our tax bills. If we paid the full price of auto transportation at the gas pump, a gallon would cost \$4.50 or more.



3

WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY



WET NOSE PANTRY



Food Rescue Volunteers Needed!

WEEK	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
First week of the month	Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 10am-12pm		Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 7-8am
Second week of the month	Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 8-9am			Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 7-8am
Third week of the month	Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 8-9am			Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 7-8am
Fourth week of the month	Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 8-9am			Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 7-8am
Fifth week of the month	Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 8-9am			Volunteer needed 8-9am	Volunteer needed 7-8am

Can you help? Please email
Info@WestchesterFoodPantry.org



MONICA GORDON
COOK COUNTY CLERK

THE COOK COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Serving Our Communities ~ One Milestone at a Time



www.cookcountyclerk.com

Free

WHITE SOX TICKET FOR COOK COUNTY VETERANS

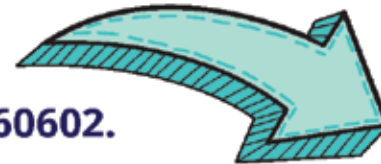
The Cook County Clerk's Office is again Teaming Up with the Chicago White Sox to offer a Game Ticket to Veterans, Active-Duty Military, National Guard & Reserves **THREE STEPS AND YOU'RE OUT TO THE BALLGAME!**

STEP 1: You Must Sign-up for the free Military and Veterans Discount Card with the Cook County Clerk's Office.

STEP 2: Present your new or existing Military and Veterans Discount Card at the Rate Field Box Office, Gate 4 (windows 1-9), within two hours of game time.

STEP 3: Claim your complimentary ticket (outsidethe bases) and cheer on your Chicago White Sox this 2026 season!

Sign-up at cookcountyclerk.com/veterans
or by visiting 118 N. Clark, Room 120, Chicago, IL, 60602.



SCAN HERE



For more information, call the Cook County Clerk's Veterans Services Office at **(312) 603-5788**.

The complimentary ticket offer is valid for the following 2026 home game dates:

April: 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, 27, 28, 29	July: 7, 8, 9, 30
May: 12, 13, 14, 25, 26, 27, 28	August: 11, 12, 13, 24, 25, 26
June: 9, 10, 11, 22, 23, 24	September: 8, 9, 10, 17

(312) 603-5656

118 N. CLARK STREET CHICAGO, IL 60602

GRASSROOTS GARDEN GROUP PRESENTS
8TH ANNUAL
Westchester
GARDEN WALK



SATURDAY, JULY 18TH
9AM - 1PM

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS | RAFFLE PRIZES | GGG MARKET

Tour beautiful Westchester gardens and raise money for the Westchester Food Pantry! This beloved annual community event has generated over \$30,000 to feed our neighbors in need.



TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

WWW.GRASSROOTSGARDENGROUP.ORG

The Village of Westchester Presents

Party IN THE Park 2026

TWO
DAYS
OF

**LIVE MUSIC * TASTY FOOD
BEER TENT * FAMILY FUN**

Friday, July 31 & Saturday, August 1

WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY PARK, 10201 BOND ST

Friday

5:30 PM · EVENT OPENS

6:00 – 8:00 PM · BILLY ELTON (Billy Joel & Elton John Tribute)

8:30 – 10:30 PM · HELLO WEEKEND (High-Energy Dance Hits)

Saturday

2:00 – 4:00 PM · GAMES & ACTIVITIES

4:00 – 6:00 PM · BLOOZE BROTHERS (Blues Brothers Tribute)

6:30 – 8:30 PM · HOW RUDE (90s Tribute)

9:00 – 11:00 PM · HI INFIDELITY (Classic Rock Tribute)



In partnership with Westchester Park District, Westchester Chamber of Commerce & Westchester Food Pantry

More info & sponsorship opportunities: www.westchester-il.gov/events