



West Dundee Village Newsletter

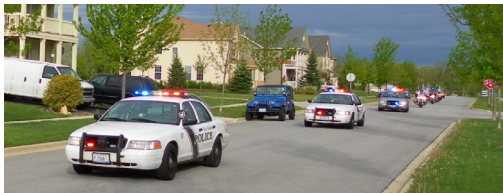
*SPRING
2012*

2011 YEAR END REPORT

One of the main responsibilities of the Village Board and Village Manager is to make sure that we employ and oversee the best people to serve the residents and businesses. This assures that the Village of West Dundee remains one of best places to live and work in the Fox Valley.

We have had two seasoned Department managers retire from their professions in the last two years. The Fire and Police Departments are now headed by experienced “hometown” professionals who have longstanding service commitments to the Village of West Dundee.

Our new Fire Chief, Randy Freise, took over at the start of 2012 and has already formulated some innovative plans for the future. Last year the **Fire Department** made over 1,300 service calls for emergency medical assistance and fire emergencies. The average response time continues to be below 4 minutes from the time a 911 call is made to the arrival of first responders. This response time continues to be below the national average and should provide comfort to all who live and work in the Village.



Under our new Police Chief, Andrew Wieteska, the **Police Department** has undergone a major reorganization and change in officer shifts from 10 hour to 12 hour shifts. These improvements will provide additional police and supervisory coverage at no additional cost, with additional officers on the street for the community.

The **Community Development Department** has two main areas of responsibility: the Building Department and Economic Development. Due to the fact that new business development has been more or less on hold, the Village has been placing more effort on building maintenance code enforcement to ensure that property values and neighborhood appearances remain strong within the West Dundee community. Over 600 building inspections were completed to ensure improvements are completed to code, and approximately 400 building permits were issued, primarily for commercial/residential improvements.

In addition to the 20” snowfall of last February, the **Public Works Department** cleared snow and salted streets 43 other times during the last calendar year, in addition to their numerous other responsibilities. The **Water Division** operates and maintains our entire water distribution system including two treatment plants and



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The **West Dundee Village Newsletter** is published quarterly as a public information service for Village residents and businesses.

VILLAGE BOARD

West Dundee is governed by a Village President & Board of Trustees, elected at-large.

The Village Manager is responsible for the administration of Village activities and services.

Village President Larry Keller

Village Board of Trustees Rebecca Gillam
 Patrick Hanley
 Norm Osth
 Thomas Price
 Julie Voss
 Andy Yuscka

Village Manager Joseph Cavallaro

The **Village Board meets** on the **1st, 2nd** and **3rd Mondays** of each month at **7:30 pm** at **Village Hall** unless noted. The public is invited to attend and citizen participation is encouraged.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Village Hall: Monday - Friday
 102 S. Second Street 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Public Safety Center #1: Monday - Friday
 555 S. Eighth Street (Rt. 31) 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Public Safety Center #2: Monday - Friday
 100 Carrington Drive 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Public Works: Monday - Friday
 900 Angle Tarn 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police/Fire Emergency **911**
Non-Emergency Dispatch **847-428-8784**

Village Hall 847-551-3800
 Police Administration (PSC 1) 847-551-3810
 Public Works 847-551-3815
 Fire Administration, Community
 Development & Building (PSC 2) 847-551-3805



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 27 - March 15: **Early Voting at Village Hall**
 Mondays - Fridays from 9 am - 4 pm

March

5 Regular Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 6 Appearance Review Commission 7:30 pm
 12 Committee of the Whole Meeting 7:30 pm
 17 **Happy St. Patrick's Day!**
 19 Regular Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 20 **Election Day** (General Primary) 6am - 7pm
 26 Planning & Zoning Commission 7:30 pm

April

2 Regular Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 3 Appearance Review Commission 7:30 pm
 6 **First Yard Waste Pick-up**
 6 **Good Friday** - Village Offices Closed
 8 **Happy Easter!**
 9 Committee of the Whole Meeting 7:30 pm
 16 Regular Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 21 Earth Day, Every Day 9am - Noon
 23 Planning & Zoning Commission 7:30 pm

May

1 Appearance Review Commission 7:30 pm
 7 Regular Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 13 **Happy Mother's Day!**
 14 Committee of the Whole Meeting 7:30 pm
 21 Regular Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 26 Planning & Zoning Commission 7:30 pm
 27 VFW Memorial Day Parade 2:00 pm
 28 **Memorial Day** - Village Offices Closed

**REFUSE COLLECTION WILL BE
 MOVED TO SATURDAY FOLLOWING
 THESE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS:**

*Memorial Day
 Independence Day
 Labor Day*

Please visit our website at wdundee.org
 for meeting agendas, news and information.

2011 YEAR END REPORT - Continued from Page 1...

three water towers. We pumped almost 220 million gallons of water last year and a similar amount of sanitary sewer flow. The **Streets Division** swept and cared for over 54 lane miles of Village streets, utilizing and maintaining 41 vehicles. Based on our curbside leaf collection program, 185 truck loads of leaves were collected and disposed of this fall. In addition, our 5 public buildings and 33 acres of public property, open space and landscape buffers are also cared for by this Department.



Among the most visible functions of the **Administration Department** are the coordination of community events and communications such as this Newsletter. The 2011 Heritage Fest was one of the most successful to date. With the elimination of the paper newsletter, subscriptions to the Village's e-mail Newslist has grown to over 800 addresses, allowing for more timely and cost-effective delivery of news and information to our residents.

All of the above, plus the countless "routine" tasks that are completed every day are accomplished by a dedicated force of 55 full-time and a similar number of part-time and paid on-call employees. We employ fewer full-time workers than the Village did 10 years ago, but at the same time our Village has grown in population and area over 33% to 7,333 residents.

All of us who live or work in the Village of West Dundee owe the Village employees a deep debt of gratitude. West Dundee continues to do more with less, thanks to the strong work ethic of our existing employees. The Village has prided itself on the fact that during these difficult economic times, no employees have been laid off, although sacrifices have been made by our employees through compensation and benefits in order to maintain the costs of personnel.

West Dundee's financial foundation is stable. As of this calendar year end, the **Finance Department** has reported that our revenues exceeded our expenses and we are hopeful that our budget will end the fiscal year in the black.

The **Board of Trustees** did not increase the property tax dollars levied over the last two years, nor did we impose any new taxes, nor did we reduce the high standards of community service provided to both our residents and business community. We will continue that effort going into the upcoming budget season, which begins in March.



We will continue to do our very best to hold the line and provide quality services, to ensure that West Dundee remains one of best communities in the Fox River Valley and a wonderful place to call home.

Respectfully submitted,
Village President Keller and the Board of Trustees

Henry Keller

Becky Gullam

Bob Hauke

Norman

Tom

John Voss

Andy Gushka

WELCOME CHIEF FREISE

The Village of West Dundee is proud to welcome our new Fire Chief, Randy Freise. Chief Freise came on board in January after an extensive executive recruitment process.

Chief Freise was a member of the West Dundee Fire Department for 29 years, before accepting the position of Deputy Chief for the Palatine Fire Department in 2009.

Randy is a long-time resident of Dundee Township. We are pleased to have him back in West Dundee serving his own community as Fire Chief.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: COMMUNITY GARDENING PROJECT

Saturday, April 21, 2012 9 am - 12 pm
(Registration begins at 8:30 am)

Join the Village of West Dundee for “Earth Day, Every Day” community gardening project on **April 21, 2012**. 9am – Noon. Please meet at Village Hall. We will be planting the annuals in the downtown planter boxes and working to maintain the downtown and Riverwalk landscaping. Please bring work gloves, shovels, pruners and trowels.

The theme of the global Earth Day movement is “A Billion Acts of Green” – mobilizing the power of people to create change by taking small steps that add up to an enormous collective action.

This is a great opportunity to work together as we continue to make West Dundee a wonderful place to live! Additional gardening dates are scheduled for **June 23 and August 25**.

Can't make it on April 21, but want to participate in our Earth Day effort? If you can divide your overgrown perennials, or **donate plants** that have been purchased, please contact Village Hall for a list of desired species. We also will be continuing our “**adopt-a-planter**” program this year. Planters located off of First and Second Streets are ready for residents to donate a flat of annuals to plant at your convenience before May 13th. The Village will make sure that your planter creation is watered throughout the summer for all to enjoy! A perfect family, scouting, memorial or Mother's Day project!

To sign up or donate plants, please contact Village Hall:

Phone: 847-551-3800

E-mail: villagehall@wdundee.org

For direct notifications and reminders about our community gardening initiatives, please join the Village Newslist by entering your email address at wdundee.org and selecting Volunteer Corps.



GENERAL PRIMARY EARLY VOTING

Early voting for the General Primary begins February 27 and ends on March 15, 2012. Election day is March 20.



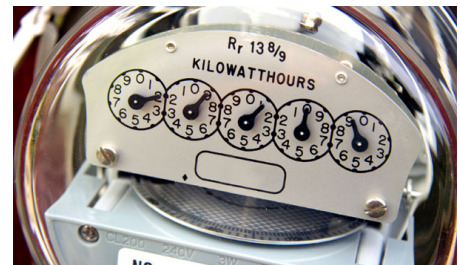
Early voting is available at Village Hall Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm between these dates. To vote, you must present an Illinois driver's license or other government-issued photo ID.

For further information and to learn where you can vote, please visit the Kane County Elections website at www.kanecountyelections.org.

ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION REFERENDUM

Recent legislation by the State of Illinois has enabled municipalities to act as a purchasing agent for the supply of electricity for its residents and small businesses.

In order to do this, a referendum is required to be approved by the voters, which would allow the Village to bundle (or aggregate) residential and small commercial electric accounts and seek bids for the lowest cost source of electricity.



West Dundee residents will be voting on the issue of municipal electrical aggregation during the General Primary election (see above article for voter information).

Should the referendum be approved, the Village of West Dundee would then solicit bids, and the winning electricity supplier would contact each of the residents and small businesses accounts within West Dundee's corporate limits to inform them of the new aggregation price per kilowatt hour (kWh).

Residents and business owners would then have the individual decision to either be included in the aggregation price program or to opt out of the program and remain with their current electricity supplier, as they deem appropriate for their household or businesses.

Regardless of which option residents and businesses choose, ComEd remains the utility provider. Your electricity bill will continue to come from ComEd and you will still call ComEd for service needs.

The Village of West Dundee has been a member of the Northern Illinois Municipal Electrical Collaborative (NIMEC) for the past several years for the purchase of electricity for water and sewer pumping, in addition to our streetlight accounts.

To date, 15 communities that are NIMEC members have undertaken the municipal electrical aggregation process. Through the municipal aggregation program, some examples of the rates acquired by these communities are as follows:

Grayslake	5.52 cents per kWh	Harvard	5.99 cents per kWh
Oak Brook	5.52 cents per kWh	Wood Dale	5.92 cents per kWh

The current residential rate being charged by ComEd is 7.766 cents per kWh.

For more information on this important referendum please visit our website, wdundee.org.

CURBSIDE YARD WASTE COLLECTION BEGINS IN APRIL

Free yard waste collection begins Friday, April 6 and continues until November 24, 2012.

Organic yard waste materials should be placed at the curb in a Kraft type paper bag or in an open plastic or metal trash container, and must be kept separate from refuse.

Cans containing yard waste should be clearly identifiable and set out with the lid off. Yard waste in plastic bags will not be collected.

Brush and tree trimmings must be less than 2" in diameter and should be cut to lengths of 4' or less, tied with biodegradable twine into bundles no more than 2' in diameter not to exceed 50 pounds.

Grass clippings may be included as yard waste. Please do not discharge grass clippings into the street when mowing your lawn.

Please do not include dirt, sod, large branches, tree stumps, rocks, garden vegetables, fruit and non-organic materials, as these are not considered yard waste.

Please be reminded that Saturday refuse collection will occur in the Village of West Dundee after the following major holidays:

Memorial Day	4th of July	Labor Day
Thanksgiving	Christmas	New Years Day



More information regarding refuse collection can be found on the Village's website, wdundee.org.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

The Illinois Electronics Products Recycling and Reuse Act, which initially banned TVs and monitors from entering landfills beginning January 1, 2012, has been expanded to include the following electronics products:



- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| - TVs & Monitors | - Printers |
| - Computers (including Laptops & Tablets) | - Electronic Keyboards & Mice |
| - Fax Machines | - VCRs & DVD Players & Recorders |
| - Portable Digital Music Players | - Video Game Consoles |
| - Small Scale Servers | - Scanners |
| - Digital Converter Boxes | - Cable & Satellite Receivers |

These items must be returned for recycling or reuse. Manufacturers of these electronic devices in Illinois are required to accept them for recycling. This would include [our local Best Buy store](#), among others. A list of companies is available on the [IEPA's website](#).

Electronics may also be dropped off for recycling at the [Elgin ReStore](#) at 800 N State St in Elgin from 9am to 6pm Wednesdays through Fridays and 9am to 4pm Saturdays, or at the West Dundee [Public Works Facility](#) at 900 Angle Tarn Monday through Friday 8am to 3pm.

EMERALD ASH BORER

In 2009, the Village of West Dundee initiated a community-wide tree survey to be better prepared for the devastating pest known as the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Survey results show that approximately 15% of our public tree inventory are ash trees.

In 2011, the Public Works Department removed 153 trees, 144 of which were infested with EAB. Of the 167 parkway trees planted in 2011, 43 were replacements for EAB infested trees that had been removed going back to 2007.



The Emerald Ash Borer is a small, metallic green, non-native invasive pest whose larvae feast on the trunks of ash trees, thereby cutting off their ability to transport nutrients and ultimately causing the tree's decline.

Ash trees can be infested with EAB for a few years before the tree begins to demonstrate any signs of EAB infestation.

Symptoms of EAB infestation include canopy dieback (see photo to the right), D-shaped exit holes, shoots sprouting from tree trunks and S-shaped larval galleries underneath the bark (see photo to the left). Signs of infestation are most prevalent in mid-June and July.



Village staff will respond immediately to suspect sightings of EAB. It is very important that residents be aware and vigilant in inspecting their ash trees for this pest.

If you suspect you may have found adult or larvae form of this insect, contact the Village of West Dundee Public Works Department at 847-551-3815. Additional information is available at our website, wdundee.org.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Public Works Department will begin hydrant flushing during the month of May. Please refer to the Village website at wdundee.org for the specific dates and times in your residential area.

We strongly recommend residents **avoid doing laundry, using the dishwasher, showering** or engaging in activities requiring prolonged use of water between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:00 pm when hydrants are being flushed in your area. Before using water, please run your cold water for a few minutes to clear any mineral deposits. These mineral deposits may cause a slight discoloration of the water, which is normal - Please check before doing laundry.

We appreciate your patience during hydrant flushing activities. Should you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department by phone at 847-551-3815 between the hours of 7:30 am and 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday, or by email at publicworks@wdundee.org.



WE ARE THERE FOR OUR SCHOOLS!

Every morning, activity in West Dundee is bustling, as moms & dads wake up their sleepy girls & boys, feed them breakfast, get them cleaned up & dressed and send them off to school. That's when the West Dundee Police Department gets busy. You may or may not notice, but your Police Department is around and doing everything within their power to keep your children safe! They practice what many call the "3 D's"; Detecting, Deterring & Defeating.

As your police officers sit down the street while the kids are walking to school, they are watching for suspicious vehicles or persons that appear or behave in a manner that doesn't seem to be a part of the normal morning activity for the area. They are also watching for vehicles and persons reported to be involved in crimes against children, based on bulletins that are received and monitored on an ongoing basis.

West Dundee Police Officers are also placed in the schools; For example, the School Resource Officer at Dundee Middle School, DARE Officer at all of the elementary schools, morning announcements at Dundee Highlands School and traffic control at Dundee Middle School.

When any would-be-criminals see us "detecting" they are more likely to be "deterred" away from any ill-thoughts against our children. If not, we stand ready to "defeat" their efforts. Rest assured, we are there for our schools!



As a reminder, if you observe anything suspicious at home or at school, please call the Police. We would ask those whose residences are near school bus stops to please be vigilant and observant during morning pick-ups and afternoon drop-offs. If you see something suspicious, we want to know about it, no matter how minor you think it may be... that tip may lead to something much bigger.

FUNDRAISING FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS

The West Dundee Police Department is very excited to kick off the 2012 Law Enforcement Torch Run fund raising campaign with a goal of raising \$15,000.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run raises money for Special Olympics Illinois whose mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.



The Police Department is currently raising money by selling Torch Run t-shirts for \$15 each. T-shirts can be purchased Monday-Friday from 8am-6pm at Public Safety Center #1, 555 S. Eighth Street.

NOTABLE NEW TRAFFIC LAWS

New Illinois Traffic Laws for 2012:

Seat Belts - Starting January 1, 2012 every passenger in a vehicle is required to wear a seat belt, including those riding in the back seat. Previously, state law required only those in the front seat and teens under 19 to buckle up.

Police will be able to stop vehicles if they notice a passenger is not wearing a safety belt. Fines start at \$25. Exemptions apply to those riding in taxis or emergency vehicles such as police cars and ambulances.

Motorcycles and Red Lights - Motorcyclists will now be able to proceed through traffic lights that appear stuck on red. This new law also applies to bicycles, but the law does not apply within the city limits of Chicago.

Motorcycles often aren't large enough to trigger the magnetic sensors in the pavement which indicate a vehicle is present at the intersection and as a result the motorcycle does not change the traffic light from red to green. This meant motorcyclists would either break the law and travel through the red light, or wait until a larger vehicle came along to trigger the light.

The law was passed with the vague requirement that the motorcyclist wait "a reasonable amount of time" before proceeding through the intersection, subject to the same rules applicable to a vehicle making a stop at a stop sign. A time requirement will most likely be added in the future, most likely 2 minutes, before proceeding through the red light.

The West Dundee Police Department is committed to addressing the traffic concerns of our residents. If you have a specific traffic concern which you feel needs to be addressed, please do not hesitate to report it by using the crime tip email link found on the village's website, wdundee.org, or call the traffic supervisor, Sgt. Antonacci, at (847) 551-3810.



POLICE CANINE "ROCCO" RETIREMENT



The West Dundee Police Department's service dog, "Rocco", recently retired after nearly 7 years on the job (that's 40 years of service in human years!).

A Belgian Malinois, Rocco began his service to the Village of West Dundee in 2005. Rocco was trained for explosives detection, gun searches, security sweeps and tracking, skills which he used on 134 calls throughout the Chicago suburbs during his tenure.

Rocco will be missed at the Police Station and throughout the community. In his retirement, he is enjoying life at home with Sergeant Antonacci and his family, with whom he has spent his off-duty hours throughout his career.

The Village of West Dundee hopes to reactivate the K-9 program with a new service dog in the future.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES: USE VILLAGE ONLINE BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Choosing local businesses can have a positive impact on the local economy, especially in these challenging economic times. By choosing a local business, a local franchise or a local branch of a national retailer or service, you are also supporting local employees, keeping your tax dollars in the community and promoting sustainability by reducing the amount of travel times for purchasing and distributing goods and services.

The Village of West Dundee sponsors a Shop and Dine Local campaign to support local business. West Dundee's Shop and Dine Local campaign began a few years ago when the Village worked with businesses willing to offer special promotions. The Village printed discount coupons and distributed them through the Village newsletter. Last year, the program was upgraded to an electronic web based program. This allowed the program to be expanded to include service businesses, to reach customers in neighboring communities and to provide businesses with more flexibility in controlling content, timing, offerings and branding.

To access the online directory, visit the Village website (www.wdundee.org) and click on [local businesses](#) and then Shop West Dundee to search by category or name of business. Depending upon the type of information provided by the business owner, visitors can learn more about individual businesses, print coupons, see menus, e-mail questions, determine store hours, join mailing lists, learn about job opportunities and map business location.



Please shop and dine local and chose local services to support your community. For more information about the online business directory contact Cathleen Tymoszenko, Community Development Director, at 847-551-3805 or ctymoszenko@wdundee.org.

DO I NEED A BUILDING PERMIT?

If you are planning a home improvement project, you may be required to obtain a building permit.

Building permits are issued to ensure that work is performed in conformance with fire and building codes, protecting you and your property. Building permit fees are used to offset the cost of the plan review and inspections.

Guidelines for many of the common types of projects that require a building permit are available at wdundee.org under [Forms & Applications](#). These include, but are not limited to the following:

Fences	Siding	Driveways	Room Additions
Sheds	Roof Replacement	Sidewalks	Central Air
Garages	Fireplaces	Pools/Hot Tubs	Water Heaters
Patios/Decks	Screened-in Porches	Lawn Sprinkling Systems	Sewer Repair

It is the responsibility of the property owner, not the contractor, to make sure that the proper building permit is secured prior to starting any work.

For specific building code requirements for any project you are considering, please contact the Community Development Department at 847-551-3805 or comdev@wdundee.org, or stop by Public Safety Center #2, 100 Carrington Drive.

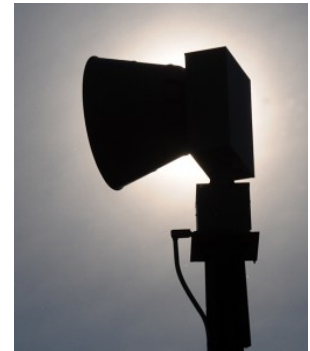
WHAT DOES THE EMERGENCY WARNING SIREN MEAN?

We are all accustomed to the sound of emergency sirens testing on the first Tuesday of each month at 10 am. Following the January test, a rare siren malfunction at Boncosky and Route 31 affected many residents at an early hour of the morning.

At the February 20 Village Board Meeting, the Board authorized the replacement of this 20 year old siren at a cost of just over \$18,000. In addition, the remaining 3 sirens will be upgraded to meet new federal mandates for narrow banding of the radio waves and will also have emergency cut-off switches installed to shut off power to the battery back-up, which is what caused the lengthy delay in silencing the siren on January 3.

Emergency warning sirens are set in strategic locations throughout the Village to alert residents in the event of a weather or man-made emergency. The siren system can be used for a number of warning needs including civil defense, hazardous material accidents and storm-related emergencies.

“Tornado season” begins in April and lasts through June, but a tornado can occur at almost time. It is important to know the difference between a watch and a warning: A **watch** means that conditions are present that could produce a severe storm or tornado. A **warning** means that a severe storm or a tornado has been spotted in the area and, in the case of a tornado warning, you should seek shelter immediately.



Outside of scheduled testing, the sirens will only be activated in the case of a tornado warning or if a trained spotter reports a tornado. There will not be an “all clear” siren. Any “all clear” information should be sought out from the local news media.

In the event of a tornado warning siren:

Take shelter. If you are in a building with a basement, go there. Stay away from windows and chimneys, and cover your head.

If you are in a building without a basement, go to the lowest level in the central portion of the building. Try to find an interior closet, bathroom or hallway away from windows. Cover your head.

If you are in a car, leave at once and find shelter inside a building. If there is no shelter nearby, lie flat in the nearest ditch, ravine or culvert with your hands over your head.

If possible, keep a flashlight and battery-operated radio with you, as well as your keys and cell phone.



SPEAK OUT ...provides another way for you to communicate with Village Officials.

Written comments can be mailed or placed in the drop box outside Village Hall, 102 S. Second Street, or emailed to villagehall@wdundee.org. Please be sure to include your name, address and e-mail address.