



The City Newsletter

Elmhurst

*June
2008*



Sus • tain • a • bil • i • ty

Sustainability is defined as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

For some, this translates to: “Just do it the way Grandma used to do it.”

A Message from the Mayor:

Elmhurst's Commitment to Sustainability

As a municipality, the City of Elmhurst is charged with meeting many of the needs of its populace through city services, such as water treatment and delivery, refuse and recycling, roadway maintenance, police and fire department, to name a few.

But these needs must be met without compromising the city's ability to supply these services to future populations and global warming is only one by-product. Limited resources resulting from overuse could cause future shortages.

To address this critical issue, the City of Elmhurst has taken a leadership position in providing not only services that improve the quality of life, but those that are sustainable. Last fall, Elmhurst was among the first DuPage communities to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, a pledge by mayors nationwide to reduce global warming pollution in their cities to 1990 levels by 2012. (More details about this important initiative are provided on pg. 2.)

Several of Elmhurst's public bodies and community organizations have shown their support by joining with the City in the newly formed Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition, with the goal of improving sustainability efforts and instituting environmental initiatives in all areas of the city. Participating organizations include the Elmhurst Public Library, the Elmhurst Park District, School District #205, the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce, the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, the Elmhurst Garden Club, the local chapter of the Sierra Club, Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare and Elmhurst College.

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Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition **GreenFest**



August 9, 2008

All Elmhurst residents and business owners are invited to the city's first-ever Green Fest on August 9 at Wilder Park. Designed to showcase steps that individuals and groups can take to promote sustainability, Green Fest is coordinated by the Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition, which is made up of the City of Elmhurst, the Elmhurst Public Library, the Elmhurst Park District, School District #205, the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce, the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, the Elmhurst Garden Club, the local chapter of the Sierra Club, Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare and Elmhurst College. Watch for more information about Green Fest and other community activities promoting sustainability in future issues of the city's regular newsletter or go to www.elmhurst.org.



Sign the Pledge

Show your support for the future sustainability of our community and sign the Cool Cities Pledge on page 9 of this newsletter.



A Message from the Mayor continued

The economics of sustainability

It is sometimes believed that steps to reduce global warming and sustainability can be detrimental to the economy of a community. In reality, however, these kinds of programs can actually improve the economy of a municipality.

A healthy environment is vital to the city's long-term economic and societal interests. While business activity contributes to our high quality of life in Elmhurst, and through sales tax dollars, helps to fund city services, this economic engine is also dependent on a steady supply of city services, now and in the future — the core concept of sustainability. Thus, the two are mutually supportive and vital to a vibrant community.

Reducing energy usage at your home or place of business not only helps the planet, but saves you money, as well. Reducing our dependence on foreign oil through efficiencies and alternative sources of energy returns dollars to our economy that can be used for needed services.

Cities, by their nature, not only concentrate populations, but services as well. By concentrating services, cities can generally operate more efficiently and with less energy requirements per capita than rural or low density suburban areas. These efficiencies are enhanced when a municipality capitalizes on the opportunity to work with all units of local government within the community, as well as the private sector, to create even greater cost and energy savings through cooperation — something which Elmhurst continues to do.

How you can help

City residents and business owners can also take a lead role in supporting this city initiative. The City of Elmhurst is asking every member of our community — residents, community groups, businesses, schools and other institutions — to reduce, reuse and recycle — and thus, take responsibility for limiting negative impacts on both our environment, our economy and our future sustainability.

Throughout this newsletter, you'll find information about what Elmhurst is doing to improve sustainability for all of its citizens, together with tips for reducing your impact on the environment — steps which when multiplied by our entire community — can have a significant effect for the better. In addition, as part of the Cool Cities initiative, residents and business owners are asked to sign the pledge form on pg. 9 of this newsletter and to commit to taking three or more actions throughout the year, outlined on the pledge form. Remember, just one individual can contribute to a more economically sound and sustainable future.

Mayor Thomas D. Marcucci

*What
the city
is doing*



The City of Elmhurst has taken a leadership position for numerous environmental initiatives and continues to address sustainability issues throughout its operations. The city also partners with area community organizations and other units of local government to create efficiencies through cooperation. The City of Elmhurst invites all groups and individuals concerned about climate change to join us as we look to future solutions for energy-efficiency and renewable energy.

Elmhurst Becomes a “Cool City”



On October 1, Elmhurst Mayor Thomas Marcucci signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which is part of the Sierra Club's Cool Cities Initiative (CCI). A pledge by mayors nationwide to reduce global warming pollution in their cities to 1990 levels by 2012, the Climate Protection Agreement was first launched in the U.S. by Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels and advances the goals of the Kyoto Protocol, the international agreement to address climate disruption.

Under the Climate Protection Agreement, participating cities commit to take the following actions:

- Strive to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets in their own communities through actions ranging from anti-sprawl land use policies to urban forest restoration projects and public information campaigns.
- Urge their state governments, as well as the federal government, to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol — a reduction to 1990 levels by the year 2012.
- Urge the U.S. Congress to pass the bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation, which would establish a national emission trading system.

Several of Elmhurst's public bodies and community organizations have shown their support by joining with the City in the Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition, including the Elmhurst Public Library, the Elmhurst Park District, School District #205, the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce, the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, the Elmhurst Garden Club, the local chapter of the Sierra Club, Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare and Elmhurst College.

Sustainability

Elmhurst's Sustainability Committee

Last fall, the City of Elmhurst established a Sustainability Committee. Made up of city staff members, the committee is charged with developing and implementing reductions in energy consumption and addressing environmental concerns throughout



city operations. The committee meets periodically throughout the year to identify key areas to be reviewed, such as city staff practices, resident practices and general policies, and then develops a plan of action and timeframe for implementing changes.



Water: A Precious Resource

The City of Elmhurst is committed to both conserving water and preventing pollution of our streams and lakes. When we turn on a faucet or flush a toilet, do we think of water as a precious natural resource? We depend on water for our survival, yet 99 percent of the world's water is either frozen or undrinkable, leaving only one percent to meet humanity's needs. It is imperative that we conserve and protect this vital resource.

Water conservation not only saves money and energy, but also helps protect the earth's water supply for future generations. When it comes to protecting the water supply from pollution, remember that everything that goes into storm drains ends up in our streams and rivers, and eventually in our oceans, without treatment. This includes toxic pesticides, fertilizers, motor oil, paint, grass clippings, and pet waste. Sewage (or wastewater) is treated to remove contaminants and produce a waste stream and sludge suitable for discharge or reuse. Wastewater from Elmhurst homes and businesses is collected and treated at the city's wastewater treatment plant, which treats eight million gallons of wastewater per day. Elmhurst's wastewater treatment plant has been recognized nationally for its effective treatment of wastewater and has received several awards for the purity of its discharged water.

Supplying sufficient quantities of clean water is one of the most important functions of the city. Elmhurst's potable water comes solely from

Lake Michigan and conservation of this precious commodity is critical. In addition to an ordinance restricting outdoor water use during summer based on even/odd addresses, the city has instituted building codes that require water-saving devices to be installed in all new and rebuilt construction. Annual water audits help to ensure that there is limited water waste. Water is regularly tested, and water quality reports are regularly provided to the community.

The city participates in the DuPage River/Salt Creek Workgroup in order to help preserve and enhance water quality in the East and West Branch DuPage River, the Salt Creek and their tributaries. The Workgroup is made up of municipalities, sanitary districts and representatives of county government and is dedicated to helping communities evaluate and improve water quality in our local waterways.

ICLEI: A Worldwide Movement of Local Governments

Elmhurst has made a pledge to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions as part of a worldwide effort led by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), an association of governmental bodies that have made a commitment to sustainable development. The pledge has set a goal of reducing the city-wide carbon dioxide emissions to that of 1990 levels by the year 2012.

ICLEI works with local governments to:

- Generate political awareness of key issues
- Establish plans of action toward defined, concrete, measurable targets
- Work toward meeting these targets through implementation
- Evaluate local and cumulative progress toward sustainable development

Established in 1990, ICLEI develops and runs a broad range of campaigns and programs designed to address local sustainability issues while protecting global common goods, such as air quality, climate and water.



What the city is doing

Green Building Program

Conventional building practices consume large quantities of wood, plastic, metal, cardboard, paper, water and other natural resources that lead, unnecessarily, to their depletion. The City of Elmhurst encourages the use of building design and construction that results in the conservation of resources and the reduction of toxic pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions.



Tree Preservation

The beauty of our community is due in no small part to the wide variety of trees that grace our streets and neighborhoods — and has earned Elmhurst the designation of Tree City USA annually for 28 years. Elmhurst is committed to protecting the community forest and does so through city ordinances which specify practices for protecting trees during construction. In addition, the city has made the replacement of and additions to its urban forest an annual budget priority.

The Elmhurst Public Works Forestry Division maintains an extensive inventory of street trees on parkways. The city also encourages property owners to plant trees in their front yards to beautify the community.

Refuse and Recycling Program

Elmhurst is a leader in waste reduction efforts. To cut down on waste sent to landfills, the city provides residents with the option to recycle certain types of refuse. Recycling containers were provided to all Elmhurst addresses and there is no limit on the amount of recyclables that can be disposed of for each pickup. The city is also investigating new recycling strategies for the disposal of batteries, paints, fluorescent light fixtures and the like.



Energy Conservation and Alternative Energy

Elmhurst has made a major commitment to supporting sustainable energy sources and reducing dependence on carbon dioxide fossil fuels.

- Working with its local electrical energy provider, Elmhurst is investigating how a percentage of its electrical sources can come from sustainable generators, such as wind power.
- The Public Works Department is transitioning to the use of bio-diesel and E-85 for its fleet of vehicles, in addition to using hybrid vehicles where possible.
- The City is in the process of conducting an audit of major energy uses, such as pumps, vehicles, buildings and equipment, in order to identify new, more efficient equipment and reduce energy needs. This audit encompasses a review of the Public Works Department and Police Department fleet of vehicles, as well as an assessment of heating and air-conditioning systems at the public library, City Hall and Police Department.
- Elmhurst is considering a draft resolution creating an administrative policy that requires city departments to evaluate energy usage in their respective buildings and to identify opportunities to reduce consumption. The policy also outlines ongoing energy-saving measures for heating and cooling, lighting and equipment upgrades.

What you can do

One action multiplied by many people can have a significant impact on the environment. For this reason, the city encourages residents to make sound environmental practices a part of their daily routine. There are a variety of ways in which to make a difference and contribute to a more sustainable community, as evidenced in the following articles. A recommended approach might be to choose one or two actions and once they are a part of your daily routine, add another.

The “Carbon Footprint”

Would you like additional information about how you can be more environmentally friendly? By analyzing what you do each day, you can calculate your “carbon footprint” or the impact that you personally are having on our planet.

One of the best places to start is with a web-based carbon footprint calculator. One of the most user-friendly websites for this can be found at www.zerofootprint.net, which allows you to easily calculate your carbon footprint and then follow the tips they suggest for reducing it.



You can set goals to minimize your impact on the planet and also see how you're doing in specific areas. You can compare your rating with different countries around the globe and see how the rest of the world is doing. This is an easy, comprehensive and effective way to see how to make improvements and how one person really can make a difference.

Ways to be Green at Home and Work

Homeowners and businesspeople can help protect and conserve our natural resources by making a few simple lifestyle changes.

1 *Conserve energy in your home — reduce power plant emissions that contribute to pollution:*

- Replace ordinary light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs that produce significantly less greenhouse gas.
- Adjust your thermostat a few degrees up during warm weather and down during cold months. Recommended temperatures are 78 degrees in summer, and for winter: 68 degrees during the day and 60 degrees at night. Programmable thermostats will do this automatically.
- When appliances need to be replaced, install energy-efficient appliances and look for the Energy Star logo.
- Close blinds or curtains on hot summer days to reduce the heat entering the house by about 80 percent.
- Unplug small appliances when not in use to minimize electrical leaking. Power strips provide a convenient way to disconnect several appliances at once.
- Add more insulation, if necessary, to keep your home warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer. More information about insulation can be found online or at your local hardware store.



▶ **Disposing of Energy-Saving Bulbs (CFLs)**

Because they contain mercury (a small amount which poses no harm to people or pets even if they break), energy-saving bulbs (CFLs) should not be thrown in traditional trash or recycling bins. All Ace Hardware and IKEA stores in Illinois recycle the bulbs. Nearby Ace Hardware stores are located in Elmhurst, Villa Park and Lombard. To find other nearby recycling locations, visit www.Earth911.org.

2 *Conserve water in your home and protect our precious water supply:*

- Run only full dishwasher or washing machine loads and air-dry dishes by leaving the dishwasher door ajar.
- Eliminate costly and dangerous chemical fertilizers and pesticides by choosing appropriate plantings and by selecting environmentally friendly pesticides and fertilizers.
- To conserve water, use professional car washes instead of washing your car in the driveway.

3 *Recycle and precycle — reduce waste and reduce your environmental footprint:*

- Recycle cans, bottles and paper in the city's recycling program.
- Precycle by choosing products that create less packaging waste.
- Reuse your own grocery bags when you shop.
- Replace household paper napkins and paper towels with cloth.
- Reduce the number of disposable items you purchase, such as razors and plastic utensils.

4 *Support the local economy — reduce pollution and cost:*

- Reduce transportation-related pollution and costs by buying locally grown produce.
- Buy organically grown produce that doesn't rely on dangerous chemicals.





What
you
can do



Landscaping for a Healthier Elmhurst

Natural landscaping is characterized by native plants that are aesthetically pleasing, easy to maintain and resistant to stress. Unlike traditional landscaping, which often involves the removal of native plants and extensive planting of lawns, natural landscaping requires less active maintenance,

such as mowing, fertilizing and pesticide treatment. It also promotes cleaner air, since one hour of mowing creates the same amount of air pollution as driving a car for more than 300 miles.

A well-designed landscape includes native plantings and low-maintenance areas wherever possible, minimizing the need for supplemental water and chemicals with the potential to pollute surface and ground water supplies. It also provides cover and food for wildlife and contributes to the health of local waterways.

Additional ways you can benefit the environment with your landscape plan are to:

- Add mulch and compost to soils at least once a year to continuously add nutrients to the soil. Mulching reduces water use by reducing evaporation and runoff by 75 to 90 percent over unmulched planting areas.
- Avoid fertilizing and pruning during dry periods, since these activities stimulate vegetative growth and increase water needs.
- Utilize permeable paving and slope walkways toward landscaped areas wherever possible to encourage water infiltration and air exchange and reduce the need for irrigation. New products on the market, such as interlocking, porous pavers, provide a hard walking surface, but allow water to be absorbed into the soil.
- Use rain barrels to catch and reuse rainwater for watering the garden.
- Avoid using high-phosphorous fertilizers.
- Limit the use of herbicides and pesticides. If you do use these products, please post a note for neighbors to make them aware of these chemicals.



Remodeling? Think Green

When it comes to remodeling, green is the color of choice among the environmentally sensitive and the economically sensible. Green remodeling means using technology, design, and materials to reduce energy and maintenance costs, improve indoor air quality and minimize environmental impacts.

Every step in this direction moves our community, our nation, our world, toward sustainability – the ability to provide for our own needs without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to do the same. Here are a few tips to help you make better decisions as you plan your remodeling project.



- Reduce energy costs and production of carbon dioxide and other pollutants by using an efficient, airtight design with high-performance windows, high levels of insulation and energy-efficient lighting, appliances and mechanical equipment.
- Create a healthier indoor environment by using wood and man-made materials that are free of toxins and formaldehyde. Prevent allergens, mold, mildew and other indoor air quality problems with proper ventilation, efficient air cleaners and sealed combustion equipment. Use environmentally friendly adhesives and paints.
- Save water indoors by installing low-flow faucets, showerheads, and toilets, along with a high-efficiency clothes washer and dishwasher. Save water outdoors by planting native varieties that are better adapted to the local climate, require less water and less maintenance once established, and have built-in resistance to local pests.
- Consider using building materials that are recycled or salvaged, locally produced, and/or made from renewable resources, such as bamboo flooring. Whenever possible, recycle building materials from your project that would otherwise be sent to landfills.

By building better homes today, we can build a more sustainable future.

Sustainability

Green Organizations: *Get Involved!*

Improving the sustainability of our community can be more fun when you're involved with others who have the same goals. The following organizations offer opportunities for volunteers and have a wealth of information to offer as well.

SCARCE

(School and Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education)

A county-funded organization dedicated to inspiring people through education to preserve and care for the earth's natural resources while working to build sustainable communities, SCARCE provides the following services:

- Workshops and presentations for businesses, community groups and schools
- Assistance in organizing special collections of electronics
- Information about recycling, reuse, household hazardous waste collection and green construction

Go to the SCARCE website to sign up for their free environmental newsletter or to participate in ongoing reuse and recycling projects.

www.bookrescue.org (630) 545-9710

The Conservation Foundation

A not-for-profit land and watershed protection organization established in 1972 and headquartered in Naperville, IL, The Conservation Foundation has as its mission to preserve open space and natural lands, protect rivers and watersheds and promote stewardship of the environment.

www.theconservationfoundation.org (630) 428-4500

Clean Air Counts

A not-for-profit campaign that is working to improve air quality in the Chicago area by targeting the problem of urban smog.

www.cleanaircounts.org (630) 407-6730

Green Earth Institute

Located in south Naperville, the Green Earth Institute was established in 2002 to promote nutritional health and environmental sustainability. Over 40 organic crops are grown here in an earth-friendly manner. The Institute also provides education to children and adults about nature, nutrition and caring for the earth.

www.greenearthinstitute.org (630) 664-5681

The Sierra Club

With 1.3 million members, the Sierra Club is America's oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization. The mission of the Sierra Club is to:

- Explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth
- Practice and promote responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources
- Educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment

www.sierraclub.org Headquarters: (415) 977-5500
Local Chapter: (312) 251-1680

Participate in Earth-Friendly Events

Join with the members of your community in local environmental initiatives — and make some new friends in the process!

- Illinois Prairie Path Cleanup, annually in April (www.ipp.org)
- Cool Cities Coalition Green Fest (Wilder Park, Elmhurst), August 9, 2008
- Bike to Work Week, annually in June. (For tips on commuting by bike, go to: www.biketraffic.org/commute.)

Sign the Pledge Form

Sign the Elmhurst Cool Cities Initiative Pledge Form at right and start contributing to a more sustainable Elmhurst today.



Elmhurst Cool Cities Pledge

You can be part of the solution! Join with members of your community and sign the Cool Cities Pledge. Commit to doing your part for a more sustainable Elmhurst. Just enter your contact information below and return your form to the address at the bottom.

I (We) believe in the goals of the Cool Cities Coalition to reduce Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions to protect our environment. I (We) support the City of Elmhurst taking the lead by implementing action plans for Green Vehicle Fleets, Energy Efficiency, and Renewable Energy.

I (We) believe that it is also the responsibility of every citizen to protect the environment. I (We), therefore, pledge to further our commitment to the environment by adding three or more of the following actions each year.

* Use Less Gasoline

- Carpool whenever possible
- Ride bike or walk short distances
- Check tire pressure monthly and keep at optimal pressure for better gas mileage
- Turn off car ignition when stopped or parked for more than 30 seconds
- If you have more than one car, always drive the most fuel-efficient car
- When buying a new car, only consider the most fuel-efficient cars and especially hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs)

* Energy Efficiency

- Buy energy-efficient appliances and unplug appliances when not in use
- Replace at least three incandescent bulbs with compact florescent light bulbs (CFLs)
- Wash laundry in cold or warm water
- Install a low-flow showerhead and turn off water when brushing teeth
- Turn off all lights when not in use
- Dial the heater/AC down 2 degrees in winter and up 2 degrees in summer
- Turn off oven 10 to 15 minutes before cooking time runs out; food will continue to cook without using the extra electricity

Tip: Select one activity and make it part of your daily routine before moving onto another.

* Renewable Energy

- Use human-powered lawn mowers whenever possible
- Use solar-powered outdoor lights
- Learn how to support renewable energy through renewable energy brokers or Tradeable Renewable Energy Certificates (www.green-e.org)
- Plant a tree or a shrub

I (We) pledge that I (We) will find more ways to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle at home and at work.

Name _____ Date _____

Address: _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Mail to: Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition, c/o LWV, P.O. Box 12, Elmhurst, IL 60126. For more information, go to <http://coolcities.us/>

I give permission to print my name in any publicity, such as an ad in the newspaper: Signature _____

Keep Fats, Oils and Greases Out of our Sewers

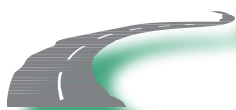
Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, harm the environment and damage your home. Grease has been found to be one of the main culprits in blocking sewer pipes and causing backups. The following items should never be poured down the sink or into the toilet:

- Vegetable oil
- Lard
- Meat fats
- Gravy
- Mayonnaise
- Some dairy products
- Food scraps
- Sauces
- Salad dressings
- Butter and margarine
- Shortening



When grease is washed down the sink, it clings to the inside of sewer pipes, and over time, will build up and block the sewer pipe. In addition, garbage disposals do not prevent grease from building up in your pipes.

To keep pipes clear, always collect grease in a container and dispose of it in the trash. Scrape grease and food scraps from plates, utensils, grills and other cooking surfaces into the trash before washing. These steps will help to keep your drains clear and running properly.



Driving Green

It may seem odd to think of the global warming pollution our vehicles create in terms of pounds, but the simple fact is that exhaust from automobiles has actual weight. Each gallon of gasoline weighs over six pounds and combines with oxygen when burned to create close to 20 pounds of carbon dioxide. When multiplied by the millions of vehicles on our streets and highways each day, the figure is staggering. The problem is compounded by the fact that the heat-trapping pollution created by cars and trucks can remain in the atmosphere for at least 50 years, increasing greenhouse gases and exacerbating the global warming crisis for this and future generations. Here are some simple changes motorists can make that will help alleviate this increasingly dangerous situation.

- Drive less by combining trips, carpooling or using public transportation and telecommuting whenever possible.
- Drive efficiently by keeping your engine properly tuned, and your tires aligned and properly inflated; staying within the speed limit; cracking windows instead of using the air-conditioning when possible; driving less aggressively by avoiding rapid acceleration and braking; turning off your engine if stopped for more than ten seconds (except in traffic); and traveling light to increase fuel economy.
- When shopping for a new car, determine the right-sized car to meet your needs; eliminate unnecessary options that add cost and decrease fuel economy; shop for the greenest model that meets your size and price requirements; and consider the purchase of a vehicle that can run on biofuel, such as ethanol.

Remember – driving “green” is driving smart.



Outdoor Water Conservation

The following water conservation steps are easy to implement and will have a positive effect on our community's water supply.

Planting

- Use native plants in your landscape — they require less care and water than ornamental varieties.

Maintaining

- Use mulch around shrubs and garden plants to reduce evaporation from the soil surface and to cut down on weed growth.
- Remove thatch and aerate turf to encourage movement of water to the root zone.
- Raise your lawn mower cutting height — longer grass blades help to shade each other — cutting down on evaporation and inhibiting weed growth.

Watering

- Detect and repair all leaks in the irrigation system.
- Water the lawn or garden during the coolest part of the day; do not water on windy days.
- Water trees and shrubs, which have deep root systems, longer and less frequently than shallow-rooted plants that require smaller amounts of water more often.
- Set sprinklers to water the lawn and garden only — not the street or sidewalk.
- Use soaker hoses and trickle irrigation systems.

June 2008

City of Elmhurst

209 N. York St., Elmhurst, IL 60126
(630) 530-3000

Website homepage: <http://www.elmhurst.org>
email: webmaster@elmhurst.org

City Hall Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(Finance Department counter open
1st & 3rd Mondays until 7:00 p.m.)

Thomas D. Marcucci, Mayor

Patty Spencer, City Clerk

Charity S. Pigoni, City Treasurer

Aldermen

1st Ward - Michael J. Regan, Diane C. Gutenkauf

2nd Ward - Norman Leader, Patricia Shea

3rd Ward - Michael Bram, Susan J. Rose

4th Ward - John E. Gow, Stephen W. Hipkind

5th Ward - Moira Moriarty, Christopher L. Nybo

6th Ward - George Szczepaniak, Steven M. Morley

7th Ward - Donna Lomnicki, Mark A. Mulliner



Benefits of Trees

One mature tree can add as much as \$50,000 to the value of a property, depending on the species. But more than this, trees contribute to the health of the people fortunate to live in their shade, and play a critical role in absorbing and using carbon dioxide — one of the key culprits in global warming. Some other benefits of trees:

- A mature, leafy tree can produce enough oxygen in one growing season to equal what 10 people inhale in one year.
- Trees minimize urban noise, block unsightly views and provide food for humans and wildlife.
- In warm weather, tree shade can reduce temperatures by as much as 20 degrees.
- Trees fight soil erosion, conserve rainwater and reduce water runoff and sediment deposit after storms.



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