

# ELMHURST

## *The Front Porch*

C i t y w i d e N e w s l e t t e r

### June 2009

## A New City Council for Elmhurst

A special City Council meeting was held on April 27th to swear in newly elected members of the Elmhurst City Council. Peter "Pete" DiCianni was chosen by Elmhurst voters to serve as Elmhurst's new mayor. Mayor DiCianni replaces Mayor Thomas Marcucci who retired after holding that office for 16 years. Incumbents re-elected are City Clerk Patty Spencer and Aldermen Norman Leader, 2nd Ward, and Michael Bram, 3rd Ward. Newly elected members of the City Council are City Treasurer David Dyer; Aldermen Paula Pezza, 1st Ward; Kevin York, 4th Ward; Chris Healy, 5th Ward; Jim Kennedy, 6th Ward; and Patrick Wagner, 7th Ward.



**Members of the 2009-2011 Elmhurst City Council** – *Front row, (l to r): Norman Leader, Clerk Patty Spencer, Mayor Pete DiCianni, Treasurer David Dyer, Paula Pezza, Susan Rose. Middle row: Chris Nybo, Pat Shea, Diane Gutenkauf, Steve Morley, Michael Bram, Chris Healy, Patrick Wagner. Back row: Mark Mulliner, Jim Kennedy, Kevin York, Stephen Hipskind.*

## City of Elmhurst Receives Superior Bond Rating

On March 2, City of Elmhurst officials were pleased to learn that the City of Elmhurst bond rating had been upgraded to an upper level bond (credit) rating of AA+ from ratings service Standard & Poor's (S&P). The AA+ standard long-term rating assigned to Elmhurst's series 2009 general obligation (GO) bonds reflects the City's: 1) participation in the diverse Chicago metropolitan area economy; 2) healthy income level; 3) strong financial operations and reserves; and 4) moderate overall debt burden.

Credit ratings by financial experts such as Standard & Poor's reflect their professional, independent assessment about credit risk. S&P's ratings express the agency's outlook about the ability and willingness of an issuer, such as a corporation, state or city government, to meet financial obligations in full and on time. Approximately one in seven rated local governments in Illinois have a rating equal to or higher than the AA+ level.

S&P Rating Services views the City's income level as very strong — at 148 percent of the national level. The city's tax base grew at an average annual rate of 10 percent between 2003 and 2007 — to an estimated market value of \$6.76 billion, which is an extremely strong \$156,200 per capita. The tax base is very diverse, with the 10 largest taxpayers accounting for only four percent of equalized assessed valuation.

*Approximately one in seven rated local governments in Illinois have a rating equal to or higher than the AA+ level.*

The AA+ bond rating has been used to support the issuance of \$10 million in GO bonds by the City of Elmhurst to finance planned parking deck construction in the downtown. The City's stable outlook reflects S&P's confidence that the City's management team will continue to provide balanced operations and maintain strong reserves, despite drops in economically sensitive tax revenues due to the current economic downturn.

According to City Manager Tom Borchert, "This is great news. The City's ability to pay, the Council's policy on finance and the quality of staff management have been affirmed by S&P."



## City Budget Approved

The City Council voted on April 6 to approve the 2009-10 City of Elmhurst Budget. In this time of deteriorating economic conditions and declining revenue, the goal of elected officials and staff was to identify and fund the most essential municipal services, including infrastructure, public safety and other necessary programs that affect the majority of residents. Many other beneficial but less essential programs and services were eliminated, reduced or deferred.

Among those programs eliminated were out-of-state conferences and travel, membership in the DuPage Convention and Visitors Bureau, and City contributions to sidewalk repair, the Dutch Elm Disease injection program, rear yard drains and parkway tree planting. Reductions were made in the areas of overtime and seasonal labor, employee relations and training, police and fire public education, Historical Museum exhibits and educational programs, mosquito control, street sweeping, sidewalk slab-jacking and the Community Grant Program. Replacements of some vehicles, equipment and electronics were deferred. Rubbish collection fees were increased to help cover city expenses. These actions resulted in a total of over \$4 million in savings.

Using revenues responsibly and providing essential services efficiently and effectively will continue to be top priorities for elected officials and staff. To view the City Budget, visit [www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org) and click on "2009/10 Proposed Budget" under "Quick Links."

## Remembering Our Armed Forces

Elmhurst residents and visitors can honor the courageous men and women of the United States Armed Forces, past and present, by attending the 91st Elmhurst Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 25th. The parade will step off from the corner of York and Third at 9:30 a.m. and proceed south by way of York Street, Robert Palmer Drive and Church Street, to the Veterans Memorial in Wilder Park. The parade will be followed by a military ceremony with speakers, patriotic music and the laying of wreaths to honor fallen members of the armed forces.

The Grand Marshall of the 2009 Memorial Day Parade will be W. Glenn Cross, Jr., a Corporal during the Korean War and recipient of three Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars, and other medals and commendations. While serving in an area known as "Heart Break Hill," Cross single-handedly defended the area with a machine gun, grenades and an M2 automatic rifle from an overwhelming number of enemy troops, while the rest of his unit set up a new line of defense. In spite of shrapnel wounds, he wanted nothing more than to get back to his unit. He was often sent under cover of darkness to blow up the enemy's ammunition stores and bunkers.



## Living Green

### Conserving Water

The warm, sunny days of late spring and early summer will soon motivate people to get grass, flowers and vegetables growing again. This work inevitably includes watering, especially in an attempt to achieve the beautifully maintained lawns that make our neighborhoods so attractive. Excessive watering, however, creates a shallow root system and makes the grass more vulnerable during dry conditions. (Residents are reminded of sprinkling regulations — from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for even-numbered addresses, and Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for odd-numbered addresses.) Keep mower blades up high to produce a vigorous lawn that is more tolerant of dry conditions and better able to compete with weeds. Do your lawn and the environment a favor by conserving water.



Beginning in 2009 the DuPage Water Commission (DWC) and public water suppliers in DuPage County have committed to use less water and conserve our valuable Great Lakes water sources.

The Water Conservation and Protection Program pledges to reduce water demand by 10 percent over the next ten years by educating consumers about water conservation techniques, eliminating leaks and other water loss, using native plants that demand less water and practicing other conservation measures.

In keeping with the City's green initiative and focus on water conservation, the main attraction of Cool Kiddie Art in downtown Elmhurst this summer will be 55-gallon rain barrels made of recycled plastic and hand-painted by local artists. Cool Kiddie Art is a joint venture between the City, the Elmhurst City Centre and the Elmhurst Children's Assistance Foundation (ECAAF). Along with the Cool Kiddie Cars, the barrels will be auctioned off with proceeds used to assist families of children with serious medical problems or disabling conditions. For more information, go to [www.ecaf4kids.org](http://www.ecaf4kids.org). If your bid doesn't win you a rain barrel, you will be able to buy a 55-gallon barrel for \$80 from the City in cooperation with the Conservation Foundation.

*continued* ➡

## Living Green continued

### Gardening with Native Plants



Residents interested in landscaping in an ecological, cost-effective and attractive manner are urged to consider incorporating native plants into their outdoor design. Because they are naturally suited to the area, native plants are hardy, drought-resistant and low maintenance. Most native species are perennial or self-seeding biennial plants that attract songbirds and insects that prey on pests, thus decreasing the need for pesticide use.

To help you select the most appropriate species for your site, consider the environmental conditions of the area, including soil type, moisture and sunlight. Become familiar with the scientific names of various plant varieties native to the midwestern region. When ordering seeds or plants from a nursery, keep in mind that they may carry several varieties of a particular plant, some of which are not native to this area. Digging plants from natural areas is ecologically disruptive and possibly illegal.

Improve fertility and water retention by incorporating compost or other organic matter into the soil. Mulching will help eliminate competition from weeds. Patience is required as your native plants become established and the process may take three to five years of weeding, mulching and watering comparable to traditional landscaping. Keep in mind that you are helping to create a stable ecosystem that can flourish for many years with little maintenance.

### Cool Cities Pledge

In October 2007, former Elmhurst Mayor Thomas Marcucci signed the "Cool Cities Pledge" to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Elmhurst to seven percent below the amount discharged in 1990 and to achieve that goal by 2012. City staff recently completed the municipal greenhouse gas inventory to measure the amount of greenhouse gas emitted in 1990 and in 2007. When the numbers were crunched, it was found that Elmhurst's municipal GHG emissions in 2007 had fallen to 40 percent below its 1990 levels – from 11,000 metric tons to 6,900 metric tons.



The main reason for the emissions decrease was the elimination of deep-well water pumps when Elmhurst switched to Lake Michigan water. The water pumps alone emitted about 4,900 metric tons of GHG a year, an excellent reminder that saving water saves energy. While overall GHG emissions fell, the inventory identified growing energy consumption for street lighting, a major source of energy usage. Elmhurst is looking into bids for a complete energy audit of all municipal operations, and examining equipment, structures and procedures for increased efficiencies.

### How to Recycle "Non-Recyclables"

In a recent water bill, residents received a list of recyclable items accepted in the City's curbside recycling program. Many other items can be recycled or reused in other ways, however.

■ Electronics, including TVs, computers, cameras, radios, video and DVD players, telephones and CD players, should not be disposed of in a landfill, since many contain harmful metals that can cause serious health problems. There are companies that pick up old computers and electronics. Ink and laser cartridges can be taken to local retailers. Old cell phones can be donated and reused.



■ Donate books, usable bikes, cars, housewares, furniture, toys and clothing to a local charity or advertise them on [www.craigslist.com](http://www.craigslist.com) or [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org). You may also donate unbroken window glass and mirrors through [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org).

■ Donate your old but usable appliances to a charity or a local family that can use it or at the web addresses above, offering them to someone who will pick them up. The delivery service that brings your new appliances may be willing to take the old ones, as well, but make sure they will be recycled and not sent to a landfill.

■ Many materials that remain after a construction project can be reused or recycled, including carpeting, lumber, roofing, siding, concrete and drywall. For any remodeling project, consider removing cabinetry, fixtures, doors, windows and flooring in such a way that these valuable materials can be reused or recycled.

■ Sell metal buckets, pipes, auto parts and many other items made of stainless steel, brass, bronze, copper, aluminum, etc., to a metal salvaging company.

■ Rechargeable batteries may contain toxic materials but many can be recycled. Call 1-800-BATTERY for drop-off locations in Elmhurst. There are also businesses in town that will take other types of batteries, as well.

■ Take used motor oil to a quick-lube shop or auto store. Never dump motor oil into a storm drain.

■ Even such efforts as reusing grocery bags, taking packing peanuts to a shipping store and returning clothes hangers to the dry cleaners, can make a huge difference when made by many people.

■ As much as the environmentally conscious would like to recycle or reuse everything, there are some items that simply must go into the trash, including diapers, tissue paper, rubber and vinyl hoses, and paper or cardboard that is food-contaminated.

■ Older compact fluorescent light bulbs contain small amounts of mercury and should not be thrown away with your regular trash or recycling. Go to the Elmhurst web site, [www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org), for information on where you can recycle these bulbs.



■ Take other items (and their containers), such as pesticides, herbicides, antifreeze, pool chemicals and old gasoline, to the county household hazardous waste facility (HHW) at Naperville Fire Station #4, 1971 Brookdale Rd., Naperville. HHW items are accepted Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., except holidays. For information, call 630-420-4190.

With a little effort, you will be disposing of a very small amount of trash and contributing to a greener environment.



## Summertime Family Fun



Don't miss the free family concerts this summer – on Friday, June 12; Saturday, June 13; Saturday, July 11; Saturday, August 8; and Saturday, September 12. This new cultural event will replace Elmfest and the Fourth of July parade, including the ice cream social. City officials and staff have decided to invest in and build on Elmhurst's two award-winning parades – Memorial Day and St. Patrick's Day. Visit [www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org) and click on the calendar of events for more information on upcoming events and activities.

### 4th of July Events

The Fourth of July Parade has been cancelled, but there are still things to do that day. Come run in the fifth annual Community Bank of Elmhurst — 4 on the 4th Run in Elmhurst. Runners from throughout Illinois have voted that this four-mile race be included in the new Chicago Area Runners Association's (CARA) "Runner's Choice Series" of competitive races. It was also named as a 2008 Best Race of the Year. Last year, nearly 1,000 people participated.



Race time is 7:15 a.m. on Saturday, July 4th, with start and finish along Prospect Avenue at Elmhurst College. There will also be a 1K kid's race at 8:30 a.m. More information is available at [www.4on4th.com](http://www.4on4th.com).

The race benefits the Elmhurst Children's Assistance Foundation (ECAAF), which helps children in our community. For more information, go to [www.ecaf4kids.org](http://www.ecaf4kids.org) or call 630-269-4872. This is a certified competitive run, so no walkers or strollers are allowed in the race to meet requirements stipulated by CARA.

## Bicycle Safety Tips



Earlier this year, former Mayor Thomas Marcucci appointed a Bicycle Task Force to encourage the use of bikes and make Elmhurst a more bicycle-friendly community. The Task Force offered the following guidelines to enable bicyclists and motorists to safely share the streets. Bicyclists are reminded that the law requires them to have a front headlight when biking at night, observe all traffic control signs, ride in the direction of traffic, observe all motor vehicle laws and signal when turning or stopping. Helmets, bright and/or reflective clothing and defensive riding are strongly encouraged. Motorists must maintain three feet between their vehicle and a cyclist, treat cyclists as another vehicle on the road, observe all traffic control signs, signal their intentions and wear seat belts. The Task Force recommends that motorists pull to the side of the road to talk on a cell phone or send text messages and to be courteous to others on the road. For more information, please visit [www.elmhurst.org/index.asp?nid=782](http://www.elmhurst.org/index.asp?nid=782).

## Mayor's Message



**T**hank you to all of the citizens who participated in our recent election. I am truly humbled and honored to be your mayor and I pledge that I will provide positive

leadership and work to keep our quality of life high, while keeping our taxes low. As your public servant, I will have an open door policy and listen to your concerns as we guide Elmhurst to be the best it can be.

As I make my transition to Mayor, I'd like to encourage everyone to participate in one of the upcoming community meetings that will be held throughout the year in various areas of the City. These meetings will enable you to meet with me, as well as your aldermen, and give you the opportunity to share your concerns and ideas and discuss our plans for moving Elmhurst forward.

I also encourage you to get involved and participate in City Commissions and Task Forces, so that you can be a part of helping us shape the future of Elmhurst. I am presently seeking applications for the Citizens Finance Task Force, a special group that will meet over the next four months to review our fiscal situation.

It is important that we engage the community in these endeavors in order to get direct input from our citizenry concerning their wishes and desires for Elmhurst. If you would like to apply for a Task Force or Commission, please call the Mayor's office at 630-530-3013 or e-mail me at [pete.dicianni@elmhurst.org](mailto:pete.dicianni@elmhurst.org). Please furnish a description of yourself and your professional background, together with your contact information.

The recent election showed how passionate the community of Elmhurst is about its town. The election was about you, your concerns and the quality of life in Elmhurst. With all of us working together, being proactive and listening to each other's concerns, we will be successful in making Elmhurst the best it can be. I promise to provide, to the best of my ability, positive leadership, unity and sound solutions. I look forward to working with the City Council, staff and the community.

Thank you and God bless,

*Pete DiCianni, Mayor*

ELMHURST

# Community Calendar

## June — August 2009



*Enjoy the bounty of summer at Elmhurst's Farmer's Market, Wednesdays, 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.*

## Ongoing

### Wednesdays, May 27 through September 2

#### Cool Cars Under the Stars

Rev up your engines and cruise into the Elmhurst City Centre for this family-friendly weekly classic car show featuring some of the hottest wheels in the area.

Elmhurst City Centre  
7-9 p.m. Free

### Late May through September

#### Summer Public Art Display

Stroll the sidewalks of City Centre and enjoy one-of-a-kind works of art that have gone "green" and feature artfully painted eco-friendly Rain Barrels, in addition to some special Kiddie Art sculptures.

Elmhurst City Centre  
Free

### Wednesdays, June 3 through October 28

#### Elmhurst Farmer's Market

Local farmers, bakers and other vendors will be on hand to sell fresh fruit, vegetables, bread, pastries, cheese, flowers, honey and more. Sponsored by the York & Vallette Business Association, the Elmhurst farmer's market takes place at the intersection of York & Vallette. The Citizens Utility Board will be at the market on June 24. For best parking, come before 10 a.m. or after noon.

East of York on Vallette Street  
in the municipal parking lot  
7 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Info: (630) 279-5530  
[www.yorkandvallette.com](http://www.yorkandvallette.com)

### June 9 through September 6

#### Special Exhibit: Worldwide Agates

View the fascinating diversity of agates found around the world. One of the most common gemstones, agates are used in jewelry and treasured by collectors. A geography activity for children accompanies this exhibit.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

### Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, June 10 through July 25

#### Paper Mobiles:

#### Drop-In Activities for Kids

Be inspired by Chicago artist Stacza Lipinski's painted paper installation on view in the Museum's Hostetler Gallery. Create your own unique paper sculpture mobile to take home with you.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 1-4 p.m.  
Free with museum admission

### June 12 through 13, July 11, August 8, September 12

#### Downtown Elmhurst Concert Series

Head to Elmhurst City Centre for some grown-up summer fun featuring live musical entertainment and spirits. Sponsored by Elmhurst City Centre, the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the City of Elmhurst.

Elmhurst City Centre  
6-11 p.m. Free

### June 16 through September 6

#### The Drawn-Out History of Comic Books

Turn the pages on the art and innovation of creating comic books with this family-friendly exhibit for comic book fans of all ages. Find out how comic books evolved from low-brow, humble beginnings to more sophisticated story lines with memorable characters that spawned a multi-million dollar, multi-media industry.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Tues.-Sun. 1-5 p.m. Free

### Thursdays, June 18, July 16 and August 20

#### Music at the Gazebo

Bring your lawn chair or blanket, pack a snack and enjoy live music at sunset. Sponsored by Spring Road Business Association.

Spring Road at Prairie Path  
7-9 p.m. Free, handicapped accessible  
Info: (630) 833-1602 Mr. Jack Island

### Mondays, July 6 through July 20

#### Young Adult Puppetry

Puppetry troupe director Brian Andrusyk will teach you how to make and manipulate puppets. Students who complete all three sessions are eligible to join the library's puppetry troupe, "Puppets on the Wilder Side." Register by phone or at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Saturday, June 27. For students entering Grades 6-12.

Elmhurst Public Library  
Meeting Room 2  
2-3:30 p.m. Free

### July 11 through July 12

#### EAM Offers Free Kids Activities at Oakbrook Center

Elmhurst Art Museum will feature free children's activities at Oakbrook Center's 46th annual *Invitational Fine Craft Exhibition*.

Oakbrook Center, across from Sears near Pottery Barn Kids  
12-4 p.m.

## MAY

### Monday - 25

#### Elmhurst Memorial Day Parade

Family fun, patriotism, and civic pride. One-mile parade from York & Third (via Robert Palmer Drive) to Wilder Park. Optional ceremony at Veterans' Memorial follows. Presented by City of Elmhurst, American Legion Post 187, Veterans of Foreign Wars (Walter Glos Post 2048), and Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Step off from corner of York and Third  
9:30 a.m.

Free, handicapped accessible

### Sunday - 31

#### Elmhurst College Commencement

Graduation ceremonies will honor bachelor's and master's degree recipients, as well as the first-ever graduates of the Elmhurst Life Skills Academy. Commencement address by Dr. Eboo Patel, Founder and Executive Director, Interfaith Youth Core.

Elmhurst College Mall (rain site: R.A. Faganel Hall)  
2 p.m. Free, handicapped accessible  
Info: (630) 617-3033

# JUNE

## Wednesday - 3

### Be the Artist: Marc Sijan

Get up-close and personal at Marc Sijan's *Ultra-Realistic Sculpture* exhibition of human figures. Using the sculptures and each other as models, students will learn how to draw the human body using correct proportion and perspective. This program is designed for students in grades 5-8.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Members \$8; Non-Members \$10

Call to register: (630) 993-8901

## Saturday - 6

### Stone Hunt

This hands-on activity enables children and adults to search for gemstones and mineral specimens among more common rocks and minerals. Each rock or mineral found is identified and can be taken home.

Ages 5 yrs. to adult.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

2 p.m. (45 minutes)

\$4 per person

Reservations recommended

## Sunday - 7

### The Art of the Human Body

Learn how to draw the human body in this fun and informative day-long workshop with artist and instructor, John Nester. The basics of figure drawing will be covered, including proportion, form and perspective. Participants will attend exhibiting artist Marc Sijan's artist talk featuring his *Ultra Realistic Sculpture* exhibition. A presentation will also be given on the use of the human figure in art during a catered lunch.

Elmhurst Art Museum

10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Members \$60; Non-Members \$75

Register by Friday, May 29:

(630) 834-0202 x116

## Wednesday - 10

### Curator Tour

With Elmhurst Art Museum Executive Director D. Neil Bremer, tour current exhibitions — *Ultra-Realistic Sculpture* by Marc Sijan, and *Broadcast*, an installation by Stacza Lipinski.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 6:30 p.m.

## Sunday - 14

### A Banner Year

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra free annual Family Outdoor Concert. Bring your lawn chairs for an evening of music featuring patriotic numbers and the *1812 Overture* with live cannons.

Elmhurst College Mall

6:30 p.m. Free

## Tuesday - 16

### Bluejay Backer Golf Outing

Annual golf outing in support of Elmhurst College's NCAA sports program. An 18-hole scramble, followed by cocktails and dinner, plus raffle and silent and live auctions. Price includes cart, lunch on the course.

Bloomington Golf Club

181 Glen Ellyn Rd, Bloomington

Registration 10 a.m.; Start 11 a.m.

Reception 5 p.m.; Dinner 5:30 p.m.

Golfer \$175 (includes lunch and dinner)

\$50 (hors d'oeuvres and dinner only)

Info: (630) 617-3140



Don't miss Elmhurst College's free outdoor concerts on the lawn.

## Saturday - 20

### Elmhurst College Summer Extravaganza

Free outdoor concert on the lawn. A tribute to legendary trumpeter Maynard Ferguson by three of his band members, Denis DiBlasio, Wayne Bergeron and Steve Wiest, who will perform accompanied by the Elmhurst College Jazz Band. Families welcome. Food available for purchase.

Elmhurst College Mall, 6:30 p.m.

Free, handicapped accessible

Info: (630) 617-3033

## Saturday - 20

### Geode-Collecting Field Trip

Collect geodes near the Mississippi River in Illinois. The hilltop quarry yields abundant and fascinating geodes and a geode cracker will be on hand to open geodes in the quarry. Other minerals and fossils are available to collect, as well. Trip fees include tour guides, collecting fee and motor coach. Ages 8 yrs. to adult.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

7 a.m.-9 p.m.; \$105.00 per person

Reservations required

### Environmental Extravaganza

Grab your bike, run or walk on over to Eldridge Park and come party at *Destination: Elmhurst Park District*. Explore the wonders of nature with nature-related activities, games, interactive events and entertainment.

Eldridge Park, 363 Commonwealth

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

## Tuesday - 23

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Super Hero Masks

*Wham. Pow.* Kids can start making a cool super hero costume with a mysterious mask. By the end of summer, they'll have a complete super hero outfit ready to avenge villains. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

Education Center

1-3 p.m. \$2 per project

## Friday - 26

### Artventure: Murals with Jeff Zimmerman

Upcoming exhibiting artist Jeff Zimmerman, well-known in the Chicagoland area for his murals, will guide this tour of the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago, which features some of Zimmerman's own mural work. Afterwards, enjoy an authentic Mexican lunch and a visit to the National Museum of Mexican Art for a guided tour which showcases the collection, as well as artwork by contemporary Mexican artists on loan from the Bank of America collection.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 8:45 a.m.-3 p.m.

Members \$80; Non-members \$90

Reservations and payment required by

June 12: (630) 834-0202 x116

## Saturday - 27

### 2009 Summer Reading Artist/Illustrator David Catrow

Meet artist/illustrator David Catrow as he shares interesting tidbits about his life and draws as he talks to the audience. You may bring your own copy of one of his books or purchase a book at the program for autographing. Pick up tickets at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Saturday, June 20.

Elmhurst Public Library

Meeting Room 2. Free

*"Studio Talk" by David Catrow*

For Middle Schoolers to Adults

10:30-11:30 a.m.

*A Visit with David Catrow*

For kids entering Kindergarten

through Grade 2

2-3 p.m.

*Catrow, Kids and Creativity*

For kids entering Grades 3-5

3-4 p.m.



Vintage cars like this one will be on display Wednesday evenings, 7-9 p.m., at Cool Cars Under the Stars in Elmhurst City Centre, running from May 27 through September 2.



## Sunday - 28

### Super Hero Meet & Greet

Marvel Comics' Spider-Man swings his way to Elmhurst Historical Museum to greet visitors. Explore the exhibit, *The Drawn-Out History of Comic Books*, with curator Lance Tawzer. Wear your favorite super hero costume and get a free sticker or tattoo. Bring a camera to have your picture taken. Light refreshments served.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

1-5 p.m. Free

## Tuesday - 30

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Fearsome Frisbee Shields

Follow in the footsteps of Captain America or Miss America by crafting a flying Frisbee-shield to take down villains. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

Education Center

1-3 p.m. \$2 per project



*There's something to amaze everyone at the Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art*

### Fossil Discovery

This interactive presentation teaches children and adults about how fossils are formed, as well as where to look for and study fossils. Activities include a fossil quiz game with prizes, polishing amber, searching for shark teeth and breaking casts for dinosaur bones. Children can keep all the fossils they find and win. Interactive lecture/activity—ages 7 yrs. to adult.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

2 p.m. (75 minutes), \$15 per person

Reservations required

## Sunday - 12

### Vintage Base Ball Game

Watch America's pastime played by 1850s rules as the Chicago Salmon vintage team takes on Elmhurst's own boys (and girls) of summer. Great raffle prizes and between-inning activities. Old-fashioned fun for the whole family, co-sponsored by Elmhurst Historical Museum, Elmhurst Heritage Foundation and Elmhurst Park District. Bring your own chair or blanket.

Berens Park, 493 Oak Lawn Ave.

1 p.m. Free

### Elmhurst Garden Club Garden Walk and Faire

The Elmhurst Garden Club's 14th annual Garden Walk and Faire, "An Afternoon in the Garden." Tour seven private gardens — together with tea under the tent and a garden boutique.

Wilder Park, 175 Prospect

10 am to 3 pm. \$10. Day of Walk \$15

For tickets: (630) 530-0776

[www.gardencentral.org/illinois/elmhurstgardenclub/](http://www.gardencentral.org/illinois/elmhurstgardenclub/)

## Tuesday - 14

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Super Hero Capes

It's a bird...it's a plane...it's "super kid". Decorate an awesome cape — a must-have for any genuine super hero. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 with an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

Education Center

1-3 p.m. \$2 per project

## Fri.-Sun. - 17 through 19

### City Centre Sidewalk Sale

Visit Elmhurst City Centre all weekend long for the hottest deals and coolest finds of the summer. Enjoy unique shopping, delicious dining and fabulous services.

Elmhurst City Centre

Free

## Saturday - 18

### Impressionist Flower Gardens

Marie Strauch will teach you to create like the masters of 100 years ago — Van Gogh, Monet and Renoir — in the Impressionist style using canvas and acrylic paints. Imagine that you're painting outdoors among the flowers and producing your own beautiful artwork. Register by phone or at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Saturday, July 11. For ages 4-8.

Elmhurst Public Library, Storytime Room

11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. or 2-2:45 p.m.

Free

## Tuesday - 21

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Radioactive Spiders

Make a glow-in-the-dark spider just like the radioactive creepy crawler that bit Spider-Man. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

Education Center

1-3 p.m. \$2 per project

## Saturday - 25

### Sports Spectacular

Grab your bike, run, or walk on over to Butterfield Park and come party at *Destination: Elmhurst Park District*. A fun day of sports and games is planned.

Butterfield Park, 345 E. Van Buren

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

### Fossil Collecting Field Trip

Travel by motorcoach to a quarry near Rockford, Illinois. Collect Ordovician Period (450 million years old) marine fossils in limestone, including brachiopods, gastropods, corals, crinoids, trilobites and cephalopods. Field trip—ages 8 yrs. to adult.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$40.00 per person

Reservations required

# JULY

## Tuesday - 7

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Grow-Your-Own Kryptonite

Even Superman needed a little kryptonite to perform heroic feats. Kids will make "kryptonite" crystals to take home and watch as they grow. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

Education Center

1-3 p.m. \$2 per project

## Saturday - 11

### ParX GamZ

Grab your bike, run, or walk on over to Crestview Park and come party at *Destination: Elmhurst Park District*. With games, races, and activities that take the fun to a whole new level, you won't want to miss this party.

Crestview Park, 245 E. Crestview

10 a.m.-2 p.m.



### Summer Concerts

While ElmFest will not take place this year, enjoy some great live music on the lawn in the Elmhurst College Mall on:

Sunday, June 14

Saturday, June 20

Friday, August 14

And in Elmhurst City Centre on:

Friday, June 12

Saturday, June 13

Saturday, July 11

Saturday, August 8

Saturday, September 12

See calendar listings for details.

For more information about the Elmhurst Community Calendar, please call (630) 833-1457.

# JULY

## Tuesday - 28

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Super Hero Soap Bars

Trap a super hero or comic book character in handmade soap and learn how to create soap at home. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 with an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Education Center  
1-3 p.m. \$2 per project

# August

## Saturday - 1

### Soapstone Carving

Lapidary Lorel Abrell teaches participants how to successfully carve soapstone using simple tools and techniques. Learn the basics, from blocking out a design to final polish. Take home a carving of your own creation. All materials are included. Ages 9 yrs. to adult

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art  
10 a.m. to 12 p.m. \$15.00 per person  
Reservations required

## Tuesday - 4

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Create a Comic Book Character

Aspiring comic book illustrators can bring characters to life using methods like the experts at Marvel and DC Comics. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Education Center  
1-3 p.m. \$2 per project

## Saturday - 8

### Old-Fashioned Fun in the Park

Grab your bike, run, or walk on over to Wilder Park and come party at *Destination: Elmhurst Park District*. Take a step back in time in Wilder Park with authentic old-fashioned games, activities and time for socializing.

Wilder Park, 175 Prospect  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.



## Tuesday - 11

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Super Hero Accessories

Put the finishing touches on the perfect super hero costume by making a utility belt for Batman/Batgirl, or a tiara for Wonder Woman. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Education Center  
1-3 p.m. \$2 per project

## Friday - 14

### United States Air Force Band of Mid-America

Join the Elmhurst Park District and Elmhurst College in welcoming the stirring sounds of the U.S. Air Force Band of Mid-America. Catch the patriotic spirit as the band's 45 talented musicians tell the inspiring Air Force story through music.

Elmhurst College Mall, 190 Prospect  
6:30 p.m.

### Stroll(er) through the Galleries

Imagine taking a leisurely stroll through the Elmhurst Art Museum galleries in the company of other parents, learning about current exhibitions, while your little one peacefully dozes in the stroller. For the safety of the art, all children must remain in their stroller for the duration of the tour.

Elmhurst Art Museum  
1-1:45 p.m.  
Adult \$7.00; Children under 12 are free  
To register: (630) 993-8901

## Tuesday - 18

### Summer Fun & Games:

#### Comical Silly Putty Stretchers

Learn how to make silly putty and try it out on comic strips to make funny, stretchable characters. Drop-in craft program for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Education Center  
1-3 p.m. \$2 per project

## Saturday - 22

### Pack the Park

Grab your bike, run, or walk on over to your neighborhood park and come party at *Destination: Elmhurst Park District*. Spend the evening at Berens Park where they will pump up the fun with inflatables, games and activities. Then pull up your lawn chair and grab your blanket for a family movie in the park.

Berens Park, 493 Oaklawn Ave.,  
6-10:30 p.m.

### Location and contact information for organizations regularly featured in the Elmhurst Community Calendar

#### Elmhurst Art Museum

150 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 834-0202  
[www.elmhurstartmuseum.org](http://www.elmhurstartmuseum.org)

#### Elmhurst City Centre

2 City Centre, Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 993-1600  
[www.elmhurstcitycentre.com](http://www.elmhurstcitycentre.com)

#### Elmhurst College

190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 617-3033  
[www.elmhurst.edu](http://www.elmhurst.edu)

#### Elmhurst Historical Museum

120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 833-1457  
[www.elmhursthhistory.org](http://www.elmhursthhistory.org)

#### Elmhurst Park District

225 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 993-8923  
[www.epd.org](http://www.epd.org)

#### Elmhurst Public Library

125 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 279-8696  
[www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org](http://www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org)

#### Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel  
190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 345, Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 941-0202  
[www.elmhurstsymphony.org](http://www.elmhurstsymphony.org)

#### Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

2200 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 833-1616  
[www.lizzadromuseum.org](http://www.lizzadromuseum.org)

### The Elmhurst Community Calendar is Sponsored by:

City of Elmhurst  
[www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org)  
Elmhurst Art Museum  
[www.elmhurstartmuseum.org](http://www.elmhurstartmuseum.org)  
Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
[www.elmhurstchamber.org](http://www.elmhurstchamber.org)  
Elmhurst Choral Union  
[www.elmhurstchoral.org](http://www.elmhurstchoral.org)  
Elmhurst City Centre  
[www.elmhurstcitycentre.com](http://www.elmhurstcitycentre.com)  
Elmhurst College  
[www.elmhurst.edu](http://www.elmhurst.edu)  
Elmhurst Historical Museum  
[www.elmhursthhistory.org](http://www.elmhursthhistory.org)  
Elmhurst Park District  
[www.epd.org](http://www.epd.org)  
Elmhurst Public Library  
[www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org](http://www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org)  
Elmhurst St. Patrick's Day Parade  
[www.elmhurststpatparade.com](http://www.elmhurststpatparade.com)  
Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra  
[www.elmhurstsymphony.org](http://www.elmhurstsymphony.org)  
Lizzadro Museum Lapidary Art  
[www.lizzadromuseum.org](http://www.lizzadromuseum.org)  
Spring Road Business Association  
[www.springroad.com](http://www.springroad.com)  
York & Vallette Business Assoc.  
[www.yorkandvallette.com](http://www.yorkandvallette.com)

*Participants of all ages enjoyed the Knot-A-Quilt program at the Elmhurst Historical Museum.*



## Inoperable Vehicles

Elmhurst Municipal Code 12.02 (l) prohibits storing or parking junk cars or inoperable vehicles in public view in residential districts. This regulation applies to unlicensed vehicles or those with flat tires, broken windshields or other conditions that make them inoperable.

## Finance Department Receives Award

The Elmhurst Finance Department has been honored for the 19th consecutive year by the Government Finance Officers Association with its Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting. This prestigious award was given in recognition of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report's clarity, readability and adherence to all standard accounting guidelines.

## Curfew Reminder



Teens and parents are reminded that it is unlawful for any person under 18 to be in any public area in the City after curfew, unless the minor is accompanied and supervised by a parent, legal guardian or other responsible companion at least 21 years of age, approved by a parent or legal guardian, or unless the teen is engaged in a business or occupation authorized by the state for a person under the age of 18 to perform. The curfew in Elmhurst is from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and from midnight on Friday and Saturday until 6 a.m. the following morning.

## Fifth Graders Graduate from D.A.R.E.

Congratulations to Elmhurst fifth graders who completed the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program this year! The program's goal is to help youngsters recognize and resist the subtle pressures to experiment with drugs and alcohol. We commend these young people for their commitment to live free of the negative influences of drugs and alcohol.

## Responsible Pet Ownership

Pet owners are reminded that dogs must be on a leash or chain at all times when off the owner's property. Pet owners are required to clean up after their pets and prevent them from trespassing on private property. Violations can result in a ticket and up to \$1,000 in fines.



## Summer Reminders

City Hall will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, and on Friday, July 3. City Council standing committee meetings scheduled for May 25 will be held the following evening. Refuse collection will be postponed by one day for residents with scheduled pick-up on Friday, July 3.

## Call J.U.L.I.E. Before You Dig



At least 48 hours before beginning any project that involves digging, call J.U.L.I.E. (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators) at 1-800-892-0123 for the location of underground utility or cable television lines.

## Block Parties

The summer months are the perfect time for friends and neighbors to enjoy each other's company at a neighborhood block party. Call the Public Works Department at 530-3020 to schedule a block party and the Fire Department at 530-3090 if you would like to have fire apparatus at your party.

## Vehicle Sticker Reminder

Please be aware that a vehicle sticker must be purchased and displayed by May 1 on any vehicle registered or principally garaged in Elmhurst. Failure to comply with this city regulation can result in a \$25 fine during May and a \$50 fine thereafter.



## Garage Sales

A garage sale is a great way to make a little extra money by selling items you no longer need. No permit is required and you may hold up to two garage sales a year. Signs may be posted on the private property where the garage sale is taking place, but never on parkway grass (the area between the street and the sidewalk), parkway trees or light poles. Please remove the signs as soon as your sale is over.

## Fines Increased for Drug Paraphernalia

The City Council recently approved an increase in fines associated with cannabis and drug paraphernalia violations. Under local Elmhurst ordinances (Municipal Code 51.53), it is illegal for any person to grow, possess, or in any way sell, trade or distribute cannabis (marijuana). A violation of this ordinance can now result in a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$1,000. Additionally, anyone who produces, sells or possesses drug paraphernalia is in violation of Municipal Code Section 51.55 and may incur a fine between \$750 and \$1,000.

## Fireworks: What's Legal and What's Not

Residents are reminded that any fireworks that cannot be legally purchased in Illinois are also illegal in Elmhurst. Devices such as sparklers, snakes, glow worm pellets, smoke devices and trick noisemakers are allowed at any time. Be aware, however, that seemingly harmless devices such as sparklers burn in excess of 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit and can cause serious burns. Children should never be allowed to use them without adult supervision.



## Lock It or Lose It

Every summer, the police see more thefts and burglaries to vehicles and homes. Although there is no way to control a criminal's desire to commit crimes, we can take steps to remove the opportunity by locking the doors and windows of our homes and vehicles. Many thefts to vehicles involve valuables — such as laptop computers, GPS units, purses, portable media players, tools, cell phones and packages — left in plain view in locked or unlocked vehicles. Lock car doors at home, or at a gas station, grocery store, mall or restaurant. An open door and valuables in plain sight are an open invitation for a thief to help himself.



## Controlling Unwelcome Wildlife

The arrival of warm weather often brings an increase in wildlife problems. Following are suggestions to help make your property less appealing to unwanted animals.

- Eliminate food sources, including garbage, bird seed, pet food and grease, from grills.
- Fence in gardens and flower boxes and never feed deer or other wildlife.
- Limit access to your attic, chimney and yard by trimming bushes and tree limbs back and blocking off gaps under fences.
- Treat lawns for grubs yearly, during the last week in June or the first week in July.
- If an animal burrows under your foundation or in your yard, make their home less attractive by playing a radio tuned to a rock station near the animal's hole night and day. If this doesn't work, put a strand of blinking Christmas lights as far as possible into the hole and leave it on 24 hours a day. Depending on the size of the hole, you can also place a roll of paper towels or toilet paper soaked in ammonia in the hole and resoak it every few days.

For more information about nuisance wildlife, please visit the Police Department section of the City website [www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org) and click on "Operations" and "Animal Control."

### City of Elmhurst

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

Website homepage: [www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org)  
email: [webmaster@elmhurst.org](mailto:webmaster@elmhurst.org)

#### City Hall Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

—  
Peter P. DiCianni, III, Mayor  
Patty Spencer, City Clerk  
David Dyer, City Treasurer

#### Aldermen

1st Ward - Diane C. Gutenkauf, Paula Pezza  
2nd Ward - Patricia Shea, Norman Leader  
3rd Ward - Susan J. Rose, Michael Bram  
4th Ward - Stephen W. Hipkind, Kevin York  
5th Ward - Chris Nybo, Chris Healy  
6th Ward - Steven M. Morley, Jim Kennedy  
7th Ward - Mark A. Mulliner, Patrick Wagner

## Mosquito Spraying

The city contracts with Clarke Mosquito Control Company to reduce the mosquito population in an effort to decrease the risk of West Nile Virus within the community. Clarke uses only the most environmentally sensitive agents. Spraying operations will take place less often this summer – only as needed to combat this potentially serious illness.

Residents can do their part by eliminating standing water where mosquitoes breed and protecting themselves by using insect-repellant containing DEET outdoors during dawn, dusk and early evening. Please refer questions about Clarke's operations or products to the company at 1-800-942-2555.

## Police Online Auction

The Police Department recently subscribed to an online auction service to replace the annual police auction. With distribution and service centers nationwide, the online auction service at [www.PropertyRoom.com](http://www.PropertyRoom.com), specializes in auctioning recovered, seized and surplus goods and vehicles. The company serves over 1,100 law enforcement agencies across the country and offers a fraud-free marketplace with superior customer support. This change will allow the Police Department to list items more frequently and will free up space in the property room. Go to [www.PropertyRoom.com](http://www.PropertyRoom.com) for listings and auction times.

## 2009 Roadway Paving

### Full Curb and Gutter



Street	From	To
Oak St	North Ave	Third St
Spring Rd	CN Railroad	Vallette St
Stratford Ave	Oriole Ave	South St
Ridge Ave	Stratford Ave	Hampshire Ave
Vallette St	Kenilworth Ave	Poplar Ave
Niagara St	Cambridge Ave	Chatham Ave
Chatham Ave	Niagara Ave	Crescent Ave
Commonwealth Ln	Sunset Ave	Dorchester Ave
Beverly Ave	Dead End	Commonwealth Ln

### Grind and Pave

Street	From	To
York St	North of Hahn St	Second St
Alexander Blvd	West Ave	Grace Ave
Hagans St	St. Charles Rd	Elm Park Ave
Bryan St	Vallette St	McKinley Ave
Washington St	Meister St	Madison St
Cayuga Ave	York St	Chatham Ave
VanBuren St	Mitchell Ave	York St
Swain Ave	Harrison St	Butterfield Rd



## Elmhurst Historical Museum

120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst

Phone: 630-833-1457 [www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org)

Issue 2

Museum Hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m.



### Comic Books Exhibit Opens at the Museum

The Elmhurst Historical Museum kicks off summer with a BANG, WHAM, and POW! A new family-friendly exhibit for comic book fans of all ages, *The Drawn-Out History of Comic Books*, will be on display from June 16 through September 6. This fun, colorful exhibit explores the art and innovation of creating comic books and the people who develop them. Find out how comic books evolved from low-brow, humble beginnings to more sophisticated story lines and memorable characters that spawned a multi-million dollar, multi-media industry. Check the museum's web site at [www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org) for a complete calendar of events and programs related to the exhibit.

### Don't Miss the Chance to Meet Spider-Man

On Sunday, June 28, Marvel Comics' official Spider-Man will be creeping his way to Elmhurst Historical Museum for a Super Hero Meet & Greet from 1 to 5 p.m. Bring a camera to have your picture taken with the webbed wonder, and be among the first to see the new comic books exhibit. Wear your favorite super hero costume and get a free Spider-Man sticker or tattoo. See the Community Calendar section of this newsletter or visit [www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org) for more details.



### Vintage Base Ball Game

Elmhurst residents are invited to Berens Park on Sunday, July 12 at 1:00 p.m. for an afternoon of good, old-fashioned fun! Bring your family, friends and neighbors for a Vintage Base Ball Game played by 1850s rules. This version of the game is quite different from modern baseball, and no sliding, swearing, stealing or spitting is allowed. Once again, the Chicago Salmon vintage team will take on Elmhurst's own boys and girls of summer. This free event has been a popular attraction for sports and history fans of all ages over the past two years, and is co-sponsored by Elmhurst Historical Museum, Elmhurst Heritage Foundation and Elmhurst Park District. Please bring your own chair or blanket.



*There's lots to do at the Elmhurst Historical Museum this summer. Don't miss out on the fun!*

### Summer Fun & Games Program

Kids can channel their inner super heroes all summer long with the Elmhurst Historical Museum's reasonably-priced family craft program, Summer Fun & Games. Drop in each Tuesday from June 23 to August 18 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for a different comic book-themed craft in the Museum's Education Center. The cost is \$2 per project. By the end of the summer, kids will have created a complete super hero costume ready to avenge villains. The schedule for the 2009 Summer Fun & Games program is as follows:

June 23: Super Hero Masks  
June 30: Fearsome Frisbee Shields  
July 7: Grow Your Own Kryptonite  
July 14 and 21: Radioactive Spiders  
July 28: Super Soap Bars

August 4: Create a Comic Book Character  
August 11: Super Hero Accessories  
August 18: Comical Silly Putty Stretchers

See the Community Calendar in this newsletter for more details about these programs.



## Facts about Flooding

Certain areas within the community experienced flooding following storms last fall and winter. Although a small number of residents were impacted, the experience can be upsetting and costly. It is important to understand how different areas are impacted by different types of flooding, and what can be done in each case.

Overbank flowing occurs when stream capacity is exceeded and water flows into the surrounding area, known as the floodplain. Properties in the floodplain are susceptible to this type of flooding, as many homeowners experienced during the flood of 1987. Since that time, the city and the county have invested in extensive flood protection projects that have largely controlled overbank flooding.

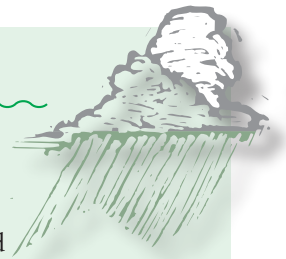
Street flooding occurs when a severe storm exceeds the ability of the storm sewer system to take in and convey water. Storm water is then held "in storage" in streets and drainage-ways until the storm sewers can drain out.

When water is held in the streets, homes with downward-sloped driveways are most vulnerable to flooding. Street flooding is often aggravated by clogged inlets where water will not drain quickly. While the City has an aggressive street sweeping program, the amount of leaves in the street each fall can be extremely heavy. With enough advance warning, city crews proactively sweep problem areas prior to a storm's arrival. In some cases, wind and rain are severe enough to

knock leaves off the trees and largely negate these efforts. In addition, there are some 5,000 inlets throughout the community — making it impossible for City crews to attend to each one. For this reason, residents are urged to keep storm inlets clear of debris and leaves.

Overland flooding occurs on property at the bottom of a hill, even a hill with a very slight incline. Sometimes the incline is so gradual that the only way to see it is on a contour map. Although nothing can be done to change the topography of the area, the City works with property owners to protect the home even though the land will flood.

Sanitary sewer back-ups occur when the system is surcharged from clean water entering the system due to sump pumps that are illegally hooked up to it (inflow) or through small cracks and open joints in the pipe (infiltration). The City invests nearly \$1 million annually on sanitary sewer lining to prevent inflow and infiltration, but any home that is directly connected to the sanitary sewer without some mechanism to prevent backflow will be at risk. In this case, the only way to prevent sewer back-up is to install an overhead sewer that prevents sanitary sewer water from backing up into the house. The City offers a 50/50 overhead sewer cost sharing program with homeowners, up to a maximum of \$5,000. For more information about this program, please call 630-530-3779.



### City of Elmhurst

209 N. York St.

Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 530-3000



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