



West Dundee Village Newsletter

*SPRING
2011*

VILLAGE BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

West Dundee had a good 2010 and we look forward to an even better 2011!

— LOOKING BACK —

The holiday season is over, but it's not too far past to remember how beautiful Main Street was: lighted luminaries with snow flakes, the new downtown walkways and planter boxes that look great and are built to last! The downtown streetscape was completed at a fraction of the original cost estimates using Federal and local grants.

Going back to fall, the Village carried 137 loads of leaves away to a recycling/compost area. During the past year over 198 residents brought 51 truckloads of electronic products to Public Works for recycling. The State has changed some laws governing how/when/what will be able to be recycled in the future and we look forward to continuing the program under the new guidelines, if possible.

— CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS —

The results of the 2010 Census are in and our population is 7,331. Since the previous Census a decade ago, we've added miles of streets, water and sewer lines and needed water treatment facility and wells, designed to accommodate not only the current population, but our estimated potential population of 12,000. The Village was able to restart the Streets & Infrastructure program and several streets were repaved to keep our community facilities in the best shape, and this will continue in 2011. These improvements have been completed using various cost-savings measures to maximize the investments made by and for the community.

— EMPLOYEES —

We have been doing more with less not only now, but for many years. West Dundee currently employs 10 fewer people than we did in the past decade, but not one was laid off. Many of our employees have endured the economic downturn without raises and with furlough days and a zero tolerance policy for "unnecessary" overtime, and yet the streets are cleaned and plowed, safe drinking water flows and Village services still go on.

— INTERGOVERNMENTAL INITIATIVES —

A new program was rolled out by the Fire Departments of West Dundee, Carpentersville, East Dundee-Countryside and Rutland-Dundee whereby the department who is best able to respond first to a call for emergency assistance is dispatched, regardless of which district the call comes from. This has resulted in an even more timely and efficient delivery of needed emergency services.

Continued on Page 3...

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
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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: 102 S. Second Street	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
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Public Safety Center #1: 555 S. Eighth Street (Rt. 31)	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
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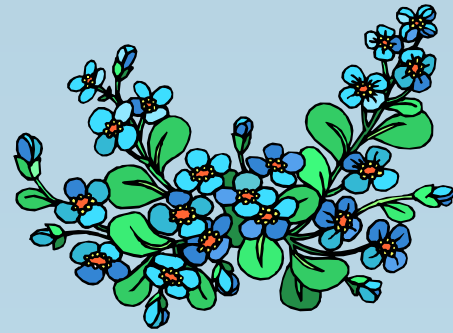
Public Safety Center #2: 100 Carrington Drive	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
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Public Works: 900 Angle Tarn	Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm
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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

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, Bldg Dept & Community Development (PSC 2)	847-551-3805



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

21	Regular Village Board Meeting	7:30 pm
28	Planning & Zoning Commission	7:30 pm

April

1	First Yard Waste Pick-up	
4	Regular Village Board Meeting	7:30 pm
5	Election Day - <i>Remember to Vote!</i>	
5	Appearance Review Commission	7:30 pm
11	Committee of the Whole Meeting	7:30 pm
18	Regular Village Board Meeting	7:30 pm
22	Good Friday - <i>Village Offices Closed</i>	
24	Happy Easter!	
25	Planning & Zoning Commission	7:30 pm

May

2	Regular Village Board Meeting	7:30 pm
3	Appearance Review Commission	7:30 pm
8	Happy Mother's Day!	
9	Committee of the Whole Meeting	7:30 pm
16	Regular Village Board Meeting	7:30 pm
23	Planning & Zoning Commission	7:30 pm
29	VFW Memorial Day Parade	2:00 pm
30	Memorial Day - <i>Village Offices Closed</i>	

**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.

VILLAGE BOARD ANNUAL REPORT - Continued from Page 1...

We have also grown the IT Department and now provide contractual services to the Village of East Dundee and Rutland-Dundee Fire District. Providing these services has been beneficial to both West Dundee and our neighboring communities, and enables all to receive better IT services at a less overall cost.

You may have read about a proposed Police Consolidation plan. The proposal provides that an expanded West Dundee Police Department would also provide protection for East Dundee and Sleepy Hollow. A study funded in part by each Village and a grant from the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus estimates that this could result in a total cost savings of \$750,000. There are many bridges yet to cross, as this is a complex issue involving numerous careers and union/pension issues.

West Dundee will not compromise the level of service for the benefit of cost cutting. We still demand and expect both an increased level of service and cost reduction for our residents and businesses under any joint effort.

— COMMUNITY —

A new volunteerism program was initiated on Earth Day last year when over 50 volunteers came out to work on the riverfront landscaping. This successful program continues, and the Village is asking for volunteers to jump start Earth Day again this year. Read more about this program and how you can join in on page 5 of this newsletter.

Summer gave us time for music and movies, which were enjoyed by hundreds of people on three Friday evenings in July at Grafelman Park. These events will be continued again this summer at no cost to attendees.

This summer had an exciting start when a portion of South Second Street received recognition from Good Morning America as the "Best Block in America" based on essays submitted by the residents. While the recognition was limited to one block by GMA, it was an honor for all of West Dundee, reflective of what a wonderful community we live in.

Heritage Fest in September was once again a great weekend for family fun. There was good music, food, fireworks, and many activities that rekindled friendships and brought all of us together.

— LOOKING AHEAD —

Our financial health is good. Our bills are paid in full, on time. Our employees are keeping costs at or below their budgets. Our sales tax and state income tax revenues are positive and showing increases for the first time in two years.

Our goal in 2011 is to be good and able stewards of the Village's finances while continuing to provide a high level of service with minimal budget dollars.

As always, Village Board meetings are open to all and we welcome comments and questions. Board meetings are held at Village Hall at 7:30 pm the first three Mondays of every month. We can also be reached via e-mail or phone. Please visit our website, wdundee.org for contact information.

Village President Keller and the Board of Trustees

CURBSIDE YARD WASTE COLLECTION BEGINS APRIL 1

Residential properties having 3 units or less may begin placing properly prepared yard waste alongside trash and recycling for curbside pickup as of April 1.

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.

Dirt, sod, large branches, tree stumps, rocks, garden vegetables, fruit and non-organic materials are not considered yard waste and should not be included.

Final yard waste collection for the season will be November 26th.



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 the work performed is in conformance with fire and building codes. It protects you and your property by making sure that work, whether done yourself or by a contractor, has been done correctly. The building permit fee is 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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: COMMUNITY GARDENING INITIATIVE

Saturday, April 30, 2011 9 am - 12 pm (Registration begins at 8:30am)

Celebrate Earth Day by joining in a community spring clean-up in West Dundee!

We'll meet at Village Hall, 102 South Second Street. Items you may want to bring with you include: work gloves, rakes, spades, pruning shears, and trowels.

We'll be cleaning up the winter's debris, reshaping and prepping plant beds, trimming established plants and replacing plants that have been washed away by the river.

In the event of substantial rainfall on April 30, this event will be rescheduled for the following Saturday, May 7, from 9 am - 12 pm. Additional community gardening days are scheduled for June 25th and August 27th.

We are also seeking plant donations for these beds. If you can divide your over-grown perennials, or donate plants that have been purchased, please contact Village Hall for a list of desired species.

Last year's "adopt-a-planter" program is being continued as well. The old planters from Main Street have been relocated and are ready for you to donate and plant annuals before May 15th. The Village will make sure that your planter creation is watered throughout the summer for all to enjoy.

To sign up or donate plants, please contact Village Hall:
Phone: 847-551-3800
E-mail: villagehall@wdundee.org

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



120 YEARS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORY

In 2011, the West Dundee Fire Department is celebrating it's 120th year!

The Fire Department is asking for your help to compile a historic look at the past 120 years. They are seeking any old photos, memorabilia, newspaper articles, stories or any other information that you can share regarding the department.

Please contact Firefighter David Strossner, 847-551-3805 or dstrossner@wdundee.org.

FINANCIAL REPORTING AWARD

Kudos to the Finance Department for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officer's Association for the 18th year.

The award recognizes governmental bodies whose comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) goes beyond the requirements of generally accepted accounting principles and are prepared in the spirit of full disclosure.

The CAFR is available at wdundee.org, under Budget & Reports.

TORNADO AWARENESS

Tornado season is approaching quickly. Please review the following safety tips to prepare for a tornado before it strikes:

- ◆ Know the terms used to describe severe weather threats:

Severe Thunderstorm Watch / Tornado Watch:

Conditions are favorable for a severe thunderstorm / tornado. Stay tuned to radio and television for news about the Kane County area.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning / Tornado Warning:

Severe thunderstorms are currently active in the area / a tornado has been sighted. Take cover immediately.



- ◆ Purchase an early warning radio with a battery backup and tone alert feature which automatically alerts you when a tornado warning is issued. Have a battery powered commercial radio and extra batteries on hand as well.
- ◆ Know ahead of time where to find shelter. If an underground shelter such as a basement is not available, identify an interior room or hallway. If you are in a public building or a shopping center, remember that interior hallways on the lowest floor are usually the safest.
- ◆ Avoid auditoriums, gyms or buildings supported solely by outside walls. If you are in a vehicle, get out and lie flat in the nearest ditch or culvert with your arms over your head. If you are indoors, *do not* go outside to see what's happening.
- ◆ Have emergency plans and supplies on hand.
- ◆ Insure your property and photograph or videotape your belongings if possible. Store these records in a location away from the premises, such as a bank safe deposit box.

PROTECT YOURSELF IN A POWER OUTAGE

High winds, thunderstorms, fallen trees and power outages are just a few of the effects that come with spring. If you experience a power outage or observe a downed power line, call 911.

Below are some helpful tips to protect you and your property in a power outage:



- ◆ Turn off all appliances including your furnace / air conditioner, water heater and water pump.
- ◆ Avoid a circuit overload when power is restored by leaving at least one lamp turned on.
- ◆ Keep the freezer and refrigerator doors closed. Food will stay frozen for 36 to 48 hours in a fully loaded freezer, if you keep the door closed.
- ◆ Never approach a downed power line. Always presume the line is live and extremely dangerous.

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

With the weather turning warmer, please keep in mind the following Village ordinances to help keep our neighborhoods safe, clean and enjoyable.

- ◆ Dogs and cats must be leashed and cleaned up after when not on the owner’s property. Please do not allow your dog to become a barking nuisance or leave your dog outside unattended for an extended period of time.
- ◆ Signs may be posted for garage sales occurring in West Dundee, but only on the days when the sale is taking place and for no more than 4 days. A maximum of 5 signs are allowed. They may be placed on the property holding the sale and/or near major intersections on public property, but not on poles. Any signs found in violation will be removed and the resident may be cited.
- ◆ To promote a safe environment for pedestrians, please keep sidewalks clear of vehicles, bicycles and other items, and trim back any bushes or shrubs that encroach into the public sidewalk.

NEW SIGN ORDINANCE

In response to feedback from the business community, the Village Board has adopted new sign regulations that are less restrictive and will help businesses improve their competitive edge while preserving the visual appeal of West Dundee.

The ordinance provides businesses with additional sign opportunities by increasing the number of signs that can be displayed and introducing new types of signs that were previously prohibited. The review process for sign permits has also been streamlined to help owners display new signs sooner.

To provide for a smooth transition, the Community Development Department is creating a Visual Guide to Signs for area businesses to use as a reference. This spring, village staff will begin to work with owners to review signs displayed at their business. Business owners will be asked to remove illegal signs and will be advised of any additional sign opportunities for the property.

The new regulations can be found at wdundee.org, within Ordinance 10-29. Questions can be directed to the Community Development Department by phone, 847-551-3805, or email, comdev@wdundee.org, or by visiting Public Safety Center #2, 100 Carrington Drive.



SPEAK OUT ...provides another way for you to communicate with Village Officials. Comments can be mailed or placed in the drop box outside Village Hall. If you need more space, please attach an additional sheet of paper.

Name _____ Address _____ E-Mail _____

THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER!

The Village is discontinuing the production of mass-mailed Newsletters. This is the last one!

To continue to receive news, announcements and quality newsletters from the Village of West Dundee, please sign up for the Village Newslist by entering your e-mail address at wdundee.org.

If you do not have e-mail and wish to continue receiving these communications, provide your name and address to Village Hall to receive printed copies by mail:

Phone: 847-551-3800

Mail: 102 S. Second Street
West Dundee, IL 60118
ATTN:Newsletter

UPDATED WEBSITE

If you have not recently visited our website, wdundee.org, you are in for a treat. The entire site received a facelift in 2010 with added features and easier navigation.

Coming soon is another new feature, a local business portal through which West Dundee businesses can provide deals and information directly to their customers.

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Submit your e-mail address at our website, wdundee.org.

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West Dundee
Village of
102 South Second Street
West Dundee, IL 60118