



# Village of Westchester

10300 ROOSEVELT ROAD, WESTCHESTER, IL 60154

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**Village President**  
GREG HRIBAL

**Village Clerk**  
SOPHIA COLLINS

**Trustees**  
GIA MARIE BENLINE  
PETER MARZANO  
ROBERT MORALES  
EVELYN SLAVIC  
NICK STEKER  
VICTORIA VANN

**Village Manager**  
BARRY KRUMSTOK  
**Asst Village Manager**  
JOHN SCHWARZ  
**Administrative Services Coordinator**  
ANNIE CANAVAN  
**Village Attorney**  
MATTHEW WELCH

**Commissioners**  
DEMITRUS EVANS  
MARIANA NICOLAE  
KARI ROBERG  
ALEX SILVA  
NIKKI WAY  
ELIZABETH WISEMAN-CHASE  
WALTER WOJCIK

## **GROW Ecological Commission Regular Meeting**

**May 1, 2025 @ 6:30pm**

**Village Hall Board Room**

1. **6:30 - Call to Order**
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Inspiration – Demitrus Evans**
  - a. Next Month 6/5/25:
5. **Review of Minutes – Nikki Way (5 min)**
  - a. Approval of 4/3/25 regular meeting minutes
6. **Quarterly Reports – Liz W-Chase (5 min)**
  - a. Q1 - 2025: Kari
  - b. Q2 - 2025: Walt
7. **Updates from Village Staff and Board Representatives – (10 min) Annie Canavan, Evie Slavic**
  - a. Buckthorn Grant
  - b. Energy Efficient Lighting
  - c. Community Solar Energy Sovereignty and Equitable Energy Future Grants
  - c. Other
8. **New Business**
  - a. Salt Creek Watershed Network - Nikki
8. **Old Business (70 min)**
  - a. **Greenest Region Compact (GRC) and Subcommittee Updates – Liz (20 min)**
    - a. Subcommittee reports:
      - i. Water – Mariana Nicolae/Walt

- ii. Municipal Operations – Kari/(open)
- iii. Climate – Kari/(open)
- iv. Energy – Liz/Walt

**b. SBC Stipends Fiscal Years Ending (FYE) 4/25 and 4/26– Nikki (10 minutes)**

- a. Overview & review of FYE 4/25 approved projects
- b. Review of remaining FYE 4/25 projects for FYE 4/26 consideration
- c. Discuss timeline for submission and finalizing by end of FY April 2026

**c. Upcoming Event Support Needs - Liz (5 min)**

**d. Newsletter Article Ideas/Support - Liz (5 min)**

**9. Comments (5 min)**

**10. Public Participation** - *In order to give as many visitors as possible an opportunity to speak and in the interest of adjourning the meeting by 8:00 p.m., please limit your comments to 3 minutes in length, unless further time is granted by the Commission.*

**11. Adjournment**

The Village of Westchester will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the Village of Westchester, should contact the office of the Fire Chief, 10300 W. Roosevelt Road, Westchester, IL, (708) 345-0441, as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.



2025 Planning Calendar				
Event	Organizer	Date		
April Movie Night - Common Ground	Walt	April 24, 2025	Completed	
International Composting Awareness Week Tabling	Liz	May 4 - 10	Confirmed	Materials and locations need confirmation.
Guided Tour of Metropolitan Water Reclamation District	Mariana	May 15	Confirmed	
Energy Event: Introduction to the Community Solar Clearinghouse Solution (CS2) & Energy Efficiency	Liz	June 17	Confirmed	Need 2 Commissioners to run energy efficiency games while energy efficiency speaker signs residents up for free energy efficiency assessments/kits.
Solar Event with CUB	Liz	June 26	Confirmed	
July 4 <sup>th</sup> Parade - EV Car / E-Bike Show	Walt	July 4th	Confirmed	Promotion started
Town Hall Meeting over morning coffee	Walt		Proposed	
Summer Movie Night	Walt		Proposed	Annie needs to reach out to Phil @ intermediate school.
Home Electrification	Liz	Summer/Fall 2025	Proposed	Defer for time being.
Climate Action Event	Walt	September	Proposed	
Reuse-a-palooza	Nikki	September 21 + 22	Proposed	Confirmed date?

Waste Collection with SCARCE	Kari	Fall 2025 – after Reusapalooza?	Proposed	Parking lot at Church by community center. Will possibly need Public Works to help move traffic and set up tents. Evie suggests getting volunteers – put a call out and ask what they will be doing. Would reach out to other places (pet supply – blankets). Evie asked for a proposal with space needs.
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Newsletter Calendar		
Month	Article Topic	Author
Monthly	Plant Based Recipes	Kari
Monthly	Monthly Green Fact	Walt
May 2025	Say Goodbye to Plastic	Walt
June 2025	Slow Mow Summer – be clear so it doesn't violate the ordinance. (Nicole Molinaro has graphic)	Nikki
July 2025	Solar	Liz
August 2025		

2025 GROW Commission Priorities: Education/Engagement, Advisement, Climate Action Plan