



# Village of Westchester

OCTOBER, 2024

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### From the desk of Village President Greg Hribal

As we have done for 22 years, Westchester honored the lives lost on September 11th. A flag lowering and solemn bell ringing ceremony at our village hall was attended by the Westchester Police, Fire Department, village staff and residents reflected on those who lost their lives on that very tragic day. A special thank you to Pastor Mills and our Cook County Commissioner Tara Stamps for their reflections on the events that occurred in 2001.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has started work on Cermak Road which is expected to take approximately one year. From I-294 in Westchester to Harlem Avenue in North Riverside they will be replacing approximately 6 miles of roadway and performing other sidewalk and crosswalk improvements. Please drive safely and consider alternative routes during this project if at all possible.

I know that the skunks have been a nuisance in our community this year, and it is not just those living by the forest preserves. Various factors caused the abundance of skunks in town, as have been reported in all of our neighboring communities as well. The village has updated our website to include information to assist residents in dealing with them. Additionally, the village recently approved a partnership with ABC Humane Wildlife to provide discounted pricing for Westchester residents who may need trapping services.

Please be aware that the Village Hall summer office hours have ended. Offices are open between 8:00am and 4:30pm Monday through Friday. The senior Secretary of State has increased their hours of operation, opening at 7:30am weekdays. For those unaware, the facility entrance is located at the Village Hall on Municipal Drive right next

to the post office parking lot. Seniors 65 and older can come in anytime, without an appointment, to renew their drivers license, purchase vehicle stickers or obtain a REAL ID for travel purposes. There are no wait times and most visitors are able to complete needs in under 10 minutes.

The Westchester Fire Department is hosting their open house on Monday October 7th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the fire station located at 10240 Roosevelt Road. Come out with the family and enjoy the evening with free food, entertainment and live demonstrations.

The semi-annual shred and recycle event will be taking place this on October 19th from 10am to noon at 2305 Enterprise Drive. The shredding of sensitive documents, such as bank or tax statements will be performed on-site along with the recycling of your old household electronics. Additionally, the Westchester Food Pantry will be collecting non-perishable food and monetary donations.

Join the Westchester Park District for the Veterans 5K Run & Walk along with the veteran's brunch will be on November 10. This special event honors and celebrates our Military Veterans, Active Duty, Reserves, and their families. The 5K run and 1-mile walk will start at 9:00 AM at Mayfair Park with the brunch beginning at 11am. Visit the Westchester Park District website for more information and to register for the run, brunch or both.

Among the village, park district, schools and library there are always various events taking place in town. Be sure to visit our website to check our calendar and sign up for our weekly emailed newsletter that provides information on all events going on in the village as well as important Westchester information so you can be more informed on what is going on in our community.



# Village of Westchester

10300 W Roosevelt Rd, Westchester, IL 60154  
www.westchester-il.org • (708) 345-0020



## Village Officials

**President**

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## Staff

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**General Questions/Information**

info@westchester-il.gov





# Snow Removal Rebate Program for Low-Income Seniors & Low-Income Disabled Residents

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1. INCOME REQUIREMENTS:**
  - ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE ENROLLED IN A QUALIFYING STATE LOW-INCOME PROGRAM, SUCH AS SNAP, MEDICAID, OR LIHEAP.
- 2. AGE OR DISABILITY REQUIREMENTS:**
  - PARTICIPANTS MUST BE 65 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, OR
  - HAVE A QUALIFYING DISABILITY AND AN ILLINOIS PERSON WITH A DISABILITY IDENTIFICATION CARD
- 3. NO PERSONS CAPABLE OF REMOVING SNOW CAN RESIDE IN THE HOUSEHOLD**

VISIT [WWW.WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG/SNOW](http://WWW.WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG/SNOW) PROGRAM FOR ALL DETAILS AND PRINTABLE APPLICATION



THE ONLINE VILLAGE CALENDAR IS CONTINUALLY UPDATED AND INCLUDES MANY MORE LIBRARY & PARK DISTRICT ACTIVITIES. PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE FOR ALL THE DETAILS!



# October



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>06</div> <div></div>	<div>07</div> <div>FIRE DEPT. OPEN HOUSE 6-8:30PM 10240 ROOSEVELT RD</div> <div></div>	<div>01</div> <div></div> <div>08</div> <div>VILLAGE BOARD &amp; COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING - 6PM VILLAGE HALL</div>	<div>02</div> <div>FIRE &amp; POLICE COMMISSION MEETING - 6PM VILLAGE HALL</div> <div>09</div> <div>VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED FOR IN-SERVICE DAY</div> <div>SENIOR BINGO 11:15AM MAYFAIR REC CENTER</div>	<div>03</div> <div>WILDFLOWER WALK 9AM 11225 CONSTITUTION DR</div> <div>GROW ECOLOGICAL COMMISSION MEETING 6:30PM VILLAGE HALL</div> <div>10</div> <div>OLDER ADULT FREE FOOD MARKET 12:30-2PM PAV YMCA - BERWYN</div> <div></div>	<div>04</div> <div></div> <div>11</div> <div></div>	<div>05</div> <div>TOUR DE PROVISIO VILLAGE OF BELLWOOD</div> <div>VILLAGE TREE WALK - 1PM DIVINE INFANT 1601 NEWCASTLE</div> <div>12</div> <div></div>
<div>13</div> <div></div>	<div>14</div> <div>ADULT TAKE &amp; MAKE CRAFT: BOOK PUMPKINS WESTCHESTER LIBRARY</div> <div></div>	<div>15</div> <div></div>	<div>16</div> <div>DIY PUMPKINS - 6PM WESTCHESTER LIBRARY</div> <div></div>	<div>17</div> <div></div>	<div>18</div> <div></div>	<div>19</div> <div>SHRED &amp; RECYCLE EVENT 10AM-12PM 2305 ENTERPRISE DR</div> <div>FREE KAYAK TRIP WITH THE LIBRARY</div> <div></div>
<div>20</div> <div>CASUAL WALK THROUGH BEMIS WOODS - 11AM</div> <div></div>	<div>21</div> <div></div>	<div>22</div> <div>AMP UP YOUR BUSINESS LUNCH &amp; PRESENTATION 11:30AM WESTCHESTER LIBRARY</div> <div>VILLAGE BOARD &amp; COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING - 6PM VILLAGE HALL</div>	<div>23</div> <div></div>	<div>24</div> <div>BWJWA MEETING 10AM - BROADVIEW VILLAGE HALL</div> <div>CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STATE OF THE VILLAGE</div> <div>OLDER ADULT FREE FOOD MARKET 12:30-2PM PAV YMCA - BERWYN</div>	<div>25</div> <div></div>	<div>26</div> <div>HALLOWEEN FUN 10AM-12PM &amp; HOWL-O-WEEKEN CANINE COSTUME CONTEST 12PM-1PM COMMUNITY PARK</div> <div></div> <div></div>
<div>27</div> <div>FREE KAYAK TRIP WITH THE LIBRARY</div> <div></div>	<div>28</div> <div></div>	<div>29</div> <div></div>	<div>30</div> <div>MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL BAND CONCERT 6:30PM</div> <div></div>	<div>31</div> <div>HAPPY HALLOWEEN</div> <div>TRICK-OR-TREATING HOURS 3-7PM</div>	<div></div>	



# National Fire Prevention Week

## Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You

The Westchester Fire Department is proud to support the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You," which runs from October 6-12, 2024. The NFPA has announced that this year's campaign focuses on the importance of smoke alarms and how to ensure they are working properly to protect your home and family.

### Full NFPA Press Release:

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) – the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week™ for more than 100 years – has announced "Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You" as the theme for Fire Prevention Week 2024, October 6-12.

This year's campaign works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe. Smoke alarms save lives, but they need to be installed, maintained, and tested regularly to ensure they're working. The NFPA provides these key messages to ensure smoke alarms are effective:

- Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pressing the test button to ensure the alarm is working.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or if they don't respond properly when tested.
- Make sure everyone in the home understands the sound of the smoke alarm and knows how to respond.

"In a fire, mere seconds can mean the difference between a safe escape and a tragedy. Smoke alarms provide that critical early warning that can give you and your family enough time to get out safely," said Lorraine Carli, Vice President of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA. "But they must be installed in the right places and tested regularly to make sure they are working properly."

NFPA has been the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week™ since 1922. The campaign works to educate the public on important fire safety messages, helping to decrease the risk of fire and loss. Visit [nfpa.org/fpw](https://www.nfpa.org/fpw) for more information and resources.

Westchester Fire Department Open House – October 7th

In conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week, the Westchester Fire Department is excited to host its annual Open House on Monday, October 7, from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM at Fire Station #25, located at 10240 Roosevelt Rd, Westchester, IL. This free, family-friendly event will be full of food, fun, excitement, and fire prevention education.



Attendees will have the opportunity to meet the new Fire Chief, Dan Manning, and interact with the dedicated crew of the Westchester Fire Department. The event will

also feature a variety of live demonstrations, a DJ, and a bounce house.

This Open House is a great chance to learn about fire safety, see the fire department's

equipment up close, and enjoy a night out with the community. Mark your calendars and don't miss this exciting event during National Fire Prevention Week!



# WESTCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT



## OPEN HOUSE

**FOOD, FUN & FIRE PREVENTION!**



**MONDAY, OCTOBER 7**



**6 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.**



**FIRE STATION #25**  
10240 ROOSEVELT RD  
WESTCHESTER, IL 60154

Come meet new Fire Chief Dan Manning and the rest of the crew! Enjoy an evening filled with excitement and education at the Westchester Fire Department—featuring a DJ, bounce house, free food, and live demonstrations!



**NATIONAL  
FIRE PREVENTION  
-WEEK-**





# Westchester Fire Department Accepting Applications for Firefighter!



Immediate Openings Available!

**Application Deadline:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. (CST)

Salary Range: \$72,823.35 - \$112,047.72

## **How to Apply:**

- Download and complete your application at <https://iosolutions.com/>
- Submit all supporting documentation to I/O Solutions by hand or mail by the application deadline 10/15/2024 at 4 p.m.

## **Firefighter Minimum Requirements:**

- U.S. Citizenship or Permanent Resident Status
- Valid driver's license (valid Illinois driver's license also due at time of hire)
- High school diploma or equivalent (GED)
- Must be at least 21 years of age and under 35 years of age at time of application deadline, unless exempt by applicable state law
- Must provide proof of successful completion of the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) with Ladder Climb Certification dated 11/09/2023 – 11/09/2024 **OR** must provide proof that you are signed up/scheduled to participate in the CPAT and Ladder Climb certification test conducted by a licensed agency before the interview process. If both certifications are not successfully completed at that time, you will be disqualified from the hiring process.
- Valid Illinois Department of Public Health Paramedic license **at time of hire.**
  - Applicants not currently in possession of an EMT-P license shall be allowed to complete the testing process by submitting proof of current enrollment in a State of Illinois IDPH approved paramedic program. Applicants must provide proof of enrollment in the program by submitting a letter of good standing from the organization sponsoring their enrollment or by the course administrator, on their letterhead.
- Complete and submit the Reimbursement Agreement for Training Costs and Expenses as well as the additional release forms/waivers and online application by 10/15/2024 at 4:00 p.m.

## **Westchester Firefighter Benefits:**

- Applicants with prior municipal experience and required certifications (a State of Illinois OFSM Basic Operations Firefighter certification, Fire Apparatus Engineer certification, and Class B-Non CDL Driver's License) are eligible to start at Pay Step 2 or Step 3, depending on experience.
- Top-out Firefighter/Paramedic salary after 5 years is \$119,449.18
- 13 days off in the first year.
- Adjusted pay for working on holidays.
- Reimbursement for paramedic school tuition within 3 years prior to probation completion.

## **Testing Information:**

Candidates must attend the mandatory orientation and written examination on **Saturday, November 9, 2024**. Testing will take place in the morning in or around Westchester, IL. Additional details will be provided to eligible candidates approximately one week before the scheduled exam.

Any questions about location or application process should be directed to IO Solutions directly at (800)-343-HIRE or [recruitment@iosolutions.com](mailto:recruitment@iosolutions.com).







WESTCHESTER PARK DISTRICT  
presents

2ND ANNUAL

Spooktacular

# HOWL-O-WEEEN CANINE Costume Contest

OCTOBER 26, 2024  
12-1PM . COMMUNITY PARK

DON'T MISS OUT - STAY CONNECTED



@WPDPARKS



@WPDPARKS



WWW.WPDPARKS.ORG



@WPDPARKS





WESTCHESTER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

# NEWSLETTER

October 2024

## SPOOKY Scavenger Hunt

**All Month | Youth Department**  
Complete the scavenger hunt in the Youth Services department. When you finish, come to the YS desk for a prize!

## October Book Discussion

**October 15th | 6:30 PM**  
This month we're reading *Hidden Pictures* by **Jason Rekulak**. Copies are available at the Circulation Desk

## Adult Crochet Group

Our Adult Crochet Group meets on the first Monday of every month! Our next meeting will be **November 4th at 6 PM** in the Conference Room. All materials provided, no experience necessary

## Adult Take and Make Craft

**October 14 | While Supplies Last**  
Come and grab a take and make kit just for adults! This month we're making decorative book pumpkins!

## Intro to 3D Printing

**October 10th, 17th, & 24th | 6 PM | Community Room**  
Learn to create your own 3D designs, then print them on the library's 3D printers. **Register for 2 sessions for the best experience.**

## Embroidery Basics

**October 21st | 2 PM & 6 PM | Community Room**  
Interested in learning how to embroider beautiful designs onto cloth? Register for our embroidery basics program!

## Lights Out, Everyone: Mystery and Horror During the Golden Age of Radio

**Tues. Oct. 22 | 6 PM | Community Room**

Steve Darnall illustrates how radio could truly be a "theater of the mind" and use music, voices and sounds to create indelible -- and often frightening -- "pictures." **Registration is required.**

## Kayak with the Library!



Did you know that the Library offers free Kayak trips? Join us to discover the beauty of the Des Plaines River like never before! We still have spots available for our scheduled trips on **October 19th, October 27th, and November 3rd! Registration is required**, and spots fill up fast! Call or stop by for more details.

## Qigong and Sound Meditation with Gail Morales

**November 9th | 11 AM | Community Room**  
Join us monthly from **11 AM - 12 PM** to practice mindful movement in the Westchester Public Library Community Room! **Registration is required, and opens one month before each event date.**



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY • 10700 Canterbury Street • Westchester, IL 60154

708-562-3573 • askus@westchesterpl.org • www.westchesterpl.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-8:00 pm; Friday-Saturday 9:30 am-5:00 pm; Sunday: Closed.

Library Director Fidencio Marbella • Board of Trustees John Lamberti-president, Elizabeth Hunter, Greg Christoff, Shannon Flint, Christine Kuffel, Darla Woods & Stephanie Pedersen • Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month 7 PM.

If special accommodations are required to attend a library program, please contact us at least seven days in advance.



## STORYTIMES

### Mother Goose on the Loose

Wednesdays | Until October 9th | 10:15 AM  
Get ready to sing, hear stories, and make a craft based on the theme of the day! **Best for babies – PreK.**

### Spooky Mother Goose on the Loose!

Wednesday, October 30th | 10:15 AM  
Welcome back to storytime with Ms. Mel! Wear your favorite costume and enjoy a treat in this spooky and special storytime! **Best for PreK.**

## Teen Programs

### Teen Crochet

Tuesdays | Until October 15th | 4 PM  
Teens, want to learn how to crochet? We'll teach you step by step! All skill levels welcome, materials will be provided.

### Teens Behind the Lens

Thursdays | Until October 10th | 4 PM  
Learn how to take stunning photos with the library's cameras! Each week you'll explore a new theme! Final pieces may be selected for artwork in our Teen Room. **Registration is required.**

### Monthly Teen Craft

Monday | October 7th | Teen Room  
Drop by for our monthly teen craft kit! **While supplies last.**

### Teen Treats: Salsa!

Tuesday | October 8th | Community Room  
Don't miss this delicious new program just for teens! This month we will be teaching you how to make different types of salsa! These recipes call for onions, tomatoes, and corn, so please be aware and cautious of any food-related allergies. **For grades 6 - 12. Registration required.**

## OCTOBER YOUTH PROGRAMS

### Kids Crochet Club

Wednesdays | Until October 9th | 4 PM  
Come learn basic crochet with Miss Julie. All skill levels are welcome! Materials will be supplied! **For grades 3 – 5.**

### Playdate! At the Library

Thursdays | Until October 10th | 10:15 AM  
Join other parents to chat and relax as the kids play in this low-key program! **Best for PreK.**

### Art Explorers with Miss Julie

Thursdays | Until October 10th | 4 PM  
Learn about different types of art and make a magnificent creation! **Best for grades 2 - 5.**

### Miss Julie's Super Awesome Craft Station!

Biweekly Mondays | October 7th & 21st  
Join Miss Julie to make cool crafts, check out themed books, and more! While supplies last. **Best for K-5.**

### Mario Kart Mondays

Mondays | Until October 7th | 4 PM  
Zoom through the colorful world of Mario Kart and show off your racing skills! This program is intended **for grades 2 and up.**

### Lego Club

Biweekly Fridays | Oct 11th & 25th | 3:30 PM  
Don't miss out on this fun club where you can show off your building skills and get to put your creations on display! **Best for K-5.**

## DIY Pumpkins!

Wednesday, October 16th | 6 - 7 PM | Community Room  
Come decorate a pumpkin! All materials will be supplied. Registration required, limit 25. **Children under the age of 8 need to be accompanied by an adult caregiver.**



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Happy Fall from the WPTC!! We hope the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year has been exciting for all Westchester Public School students so far!

We opened up the Spirit Wear Store in September and hope you were able to order some fun items for your Dolphin, Husky, or Warrior! Our fall Walk-a-thon was a hit, a BIG THANK YOU to all of our wonderful volunteers, we cannot do these things without you! We had our first restaurant fundraiser at Buona Beef, it was a success! We are looking forward to all of the events we will be hosting this upcoming school year.

We have some fun events coming up!

Be on the lookout for these events and volunteer opportunities:

- \*October 8th-10th- WPS Fall Book Fair
- \*October 10th- WPS Parents and Pastries 8:00-8:30 am
- \*October 10th- WIS and WPS Math and Reading Night @WIS 6:00-7:30 pm
- \*October 17th-18th- WIS Fall Book Fair
- \*October 18th - WPS/WIS Family Fall Dance at WIS
- \*October 24th- WMS School Store
- \*October 25th- WMS Fall Dance
- \*October 30th - Fall Room Parties at WPS for EC/PK
- \*October 31st - Fall Room Parties at WPS/WIS for K-5th

Please continue to check our Facebook page and website for any updates! [www.wptc.membershiptoolkit.com](http://www.wptc.membershiptoolkit.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/WPTC92.5>

You can also reach the WPTC via email at [wptc925@gmail.com](mailto:wptc925@gmail.com).





**BEST**

# HAPPY HOUR

**IN TOWN**

**WESTCHESTER**  
10261 W. ROOSEVELT RD  
708-397-5100

**WESTMONT**  
15 W. OGDEN AVE  
331-903-5342

[AnnasPlaceCafe.com](http://AnnasPlaceCafe.com)



## FOOD SPECIALS • DINE-IN ONLY



## WEEKEND SPECIALS!

**FRIDAY • 4PM - 7PM**  
DRINKS & APPETIZERS 1/2 PRICE  
All Well Drinks | All Beer | All Wines

**\$1.90 DOMESTIC BEERS**

**SATURDAY • 4PM - 7PM**  
DRINKS & APPETIZERS 1/2 PRICE  
All Well Drinks | All Beer | All Wines

TITO'S: \$5 | KETEL ONE: \$5 | GREY GOOSE: \$5.75

**\$1.90 DOMESTIC BEERS**



**PLAY SLOTS HERE!**  
**WIN BIG!**  
**WIN CASH!**



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UNIVERSAL GAMING GROUP

We're a proud  
My Player Perks  
location!



Scan with your phone's  
camera to join for free



Check in at the kiosk  
or on the mobile app



Earn reward points  
every hour



Redeem points for  
valuable prizes

**FAMILY-OWNED  
AND  
OPERATED**





# Never Forgotten: Reflecting on 9/11 and Our Community’s Tribute

Last month, the Westchester community came together to honor the memory of those we lost 23 years ago on September 11, 2001. On that tragic day, terrorists attacked our nation, resulting in the loss of 2,996 lives—children, adults, firefighters, police officers, and everyday people, just like you and me, who were simply going about their daily lives.

The devastating images of the Twin Towers falling and the heart-wrenching decisions made by those trapped inside

remain etched in our memories. Even after all these years, it feels like just yesterday that we witnessed those events unfold. I still remember exactly where I was when I heard the news that a plane had struck one of the Twin Towers. At first, it was hard to believe it was a terrorist attack, but as a former Marine, once the second tower was hit, I knew we were under attack. Despite being 40 years old at the time, I would have re-enlisted in a heartbeat to defend our country—because that’s what veterans do.

During this past month, we held our annual 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony at Westchester Village Hall, where we reflected on that day and paid tribute to the bravery of those who served. We gathered as a community to remember and honor those who lost their lives, as well as those who stepped up to bring justice in the aftermath. The unity and strength that emerged during that time is a testament to the resilience of our nation.

As we move forward, I encourage

everyone to take a moment of silence to remember those who were lost, those who sacrificed, and those who continue to protect our freedoms. Alan Jackson’s song, “Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning,” serves as a poignant reminder of a time when our country stood united, filled with patriotic pride from coast to coast—something we could all use a bit more of today.

Sincerely,  
Chief Daniel Babich

## WESTCHESTER POLICE BLOTTER

**All defendants are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.**

**24-03914**  
**09/09/2024 1:14AM DOMESTIC BATTERY**  
**WESTCHESTER, IL**

42-year-old man from Westchester finds himself charged in Cook County Circuit Court with one count of Domestic Battery following an incident. The 42 year old was taken into custody, processed and then transported to the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood for a bond hearing.

**24-03976**  
**09/13/2024 1:44AM RETAIL THEFT**  
**825 MANNHEIM RD**

WPD Officers were dispatched to the BP Gas Station reference a call for a retail theft. Officers arrived and spoke to an employee who stated a subject came into the store caused a disturbance and stole an item. A subject matching the description was located near the I-290 expressway ramp and was detained. The 41-year-old from Chicago was cited for Retail Theft and Resisting Arrest. The subject was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03828**  
**09/03/2024 4:35PM TRAFFIC STOP**  
**MANNHEIM RD & PELHAM ST**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 34 year old male from Cicero, was cited for Speeding, 26 mph to less than 35 mph over posted Limit. The 34 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03645**  
**08/23/2024 11:20PM TRAFFIC STOP**  
**ROOSEVELT RD & 25TH AVE**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 46 year old male from Westchester, was cited for Improper

use of Registration, No Valid Insurance, and Driving while License Revoked. The 46 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03661**  
**08/25/2024**  
**3:22AM MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT**  
**10300 BLK CANTERBURY ST**

WPD Officers were dispatched to the area for a motor vehicle accident. A 25 year old female from Chicago, was cited for Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid an Accident, Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, and Operating a Vehicle while Registration is Suspended. The 25 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03747**  
**08/30/2024 2:10AM TRAFFIC STOP**  
**1100 BLK MANNHEIM RD**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 47 year old male from Westchester, was cited for Disregarding Red Traffic Control Device, No Valid Insurance, Driving while License Suspended and Open Alcohol. The 47 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03517**  
**08/16/2024 6:37PM TRAFFIC STOP**  
**ROOSEVELT RD & OAK RIDGE AVE**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 22 year old male from Chicago, was cited for Driving with an Expired License. The 22 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03560**  
**08/19/2024 7:06AM TRAFFIC STOP**  
**CAMBRIDGE ST & MANNHEIM RD**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 19 year old male from Corryton, TN was cited for Speeding 80mph in a 30mph zone. The 19 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03586**  
**08/20/2024 4:03PM RETAIL THEFT**  
**2128 MANNHEIM RD**

A WPD Officer was patrolling the parking lot of the Jewel and was flagged down by the store manager who advised the officer of a retail theft of liquor that just occurred. The Officer observed the vehicle traveling southbound across the parking lot, at which time the vehicle was stopped and subjects were detained. A 46 year old male from Newport Richey, FL and a 41 year old female from Cortland, IL were cited with a Local Ordinance Citations for Retail Theft. Both subjects were released with a Local Ordinance Citation and given a court date at the Westchester Municipal Courtroom.

**24-03448**  
**08/12/2024 11:26PM**  
**AGGRAVATED ASSAULT**  
**11201 CERMAK RD**

WPD responded to 11201 Cermak (BP Gas Station) for a call of a man with a gun. Proviso Central Communications advised responding officers that the subject was described wearing a multi color shirt and white bucket hat. Officers arrived and observed the subject matching the description walking southbound on Wolf away from the gas station. The subject was detained by police, searched and located a BB gun in a drawstring bag. A 29 year old from Westchester was cited for Aggravated Assault, released with a Citation and Noice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03464**  
**TRAFFIC STOP**

**MANNHEIM RD & CERMAK RD**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 33 year old male from Chicago, was cited for No Valid Drivers License, and Unsafe Equipment. The 33 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL. All defendants are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

**24-03417**  
**CRIMINAL TRESPASS TO VEHICLE**  
**11201 CERMAK RD**

WPD responded to the area of Cermak and Wolf to speak with Store manger reporting a subject wearing a red shirt, gray shorts going inside vehicles at the BP. Officers spoke to the victim reported approximately 340.00 dollars US Currency inside, when she came back out it was missing. R/O and employee went back to look at video when R/O spotted the M/B with red shirt and gray pants enter white vehicle for a few seconds then leave. Responding Officers located a subject matching the description near the McDonald's on 31st Street. A 25 year old male from Chicago, was cited for Resisting a Peace Officer and Criminal Trespass to Vehicle. The 25 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and was given with a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-03382**  
**08/08/2024 8:45PM TRAFFIC STOP**  
**11000 BLK 31ST ST**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 28 year old male from Chicago, was cited for Driving with one Headlamp and Driving while License is Suspended. A Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

This is not a comprehensive list. Please visit [www.westchester-il.org/blotter](http://www.westchester-il.org/blotter) for complete Police Blotter.





# The Village of Westchester Police Department Now Accepting Police Officer Applications!

## Application Deadline:

**Monday, October 14, 2024, at 4:00 PM**

**Salary Range: \$68,724 - \$100,202**

## How to Apply:

- Download and complete your application at [www.iosolutions.com](http://www.iosolutions.com)
- Submit all required supporting documentation as part of your application by **Monday, October 14, 2024, at 4:00 PM (CST)**.

## Police Officer Minimum Requirements:

- U.S. Citizenship or Permanent Resident Status
- High School Diploma or GED
- **One** of the following:
  - Successful completion of at least 30 semester hours (or their equivalent in quarter or trimester hours) of credit from an accredited college or university (copy of official transcripts due at deadline)
  - OR**
  - At least 12 months of active service in any branch of the United States military (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard) with an honorable discharge or medical discharge
- Valid Driver's License
- 21 to under 35 years of age as of test date (11/09/2024) unless otherwise exempt by Statute

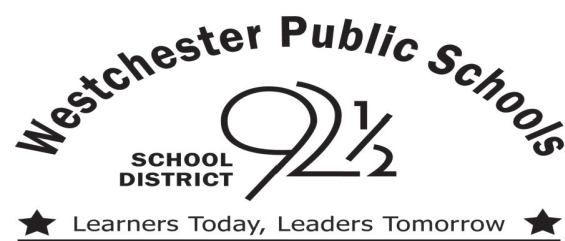
## Orientation and Testing Information:

Candidates must attend the mandatory orientation and written examination on **Saturday, November 9, 2024**. Exact details will be provided to those eligible to test. All portions of the testing process are mandatory. Failure to attend and successfully complete any portion of the process will result in elimination from employment consideration.

Please contact IOS Recruitment at (800)-343-HIRE or [recruitment@iosolutions.com](mailto:recruitment@iosolutions.com) with questions regarding the application, required documents or testing BEFORE the application deadline date.







A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we transition into September, I want to thank all staff, students, and families for a fantastic start to the school year. The energy and enthusiasm in our classrooms have been inspiring. We are building a positive environment where every student feels valued and supported, and I’m confident that this momentum will continue throughout the year.

This month, we will further strengthen our Social-Emotional Learning and establish clear expectations, consistent consequences, and a supportive, nurturing environment for all students. Students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally when they understand what is expected of them. An example of this work in action is when our students were involved in the Significant 72 activities during the first three days of school. The central beliefs of Significant 72 are:

- Administration and staff set time aside throughout the school year to intentionally develop relationships between the teacher and the students and between students.
- Teachers begin learning about each child.
- Students begin learning about their teacher.
- Students start to get to know each other personally to develop psychological safety.

In addition to focusing on SEL, we are working diligently to improve our attendance rates. As Ms. DelFiacco’s letter in August discussed, consistent attendance is vital for student success, and we are exploring new ways to engage with families and address any barriers to regular attendance. Our partnership with parents and guardians is critical, and I encourage open communication and collaboration to ensure every student is present and ready to learn. Together, we can create an environment where students are excited to attend school daily.

Throughout the first month of school, students will take beginning-of-the-year assessments depending which grade level they are in. These assessments are crucial for understanding each student's current skill level and identifying areas that may need additional support. They help teachers tailor instruction to meet the diverse needs of their students and set a strong foundation for learning throughout the year.

Let’s keep the momentum going in October! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me (psalemi@sd925.org or 708-670-1927).

Sincerely,  
Philip Salemi, Ed.D

- Specialists with insurance claims
- Free storm damage inspections
- Licensed, Bonded, & Insured
- Roofing, Siding, & Gutters
- Westchester resident
- Divine Providence Parishioner

Scott Hopman  
773-655-8529

Giordano Manfredini  
708-363-6789

Westchester Primary School

Westchester Primary School has been engaged and growing since the first day of the school year. Our WPS students celebrated National Art Week the week of September 9th. National Art Week was passed by Congress in 2010 and joins together in communities across the country. Also, WPS has been celebrating Hispanic Heritage month, September 15th - October 15th, by learning a Spanish word or phrase daily.

WPS students continue to learn and demonstrate their academic and social growth as communicated in their mid-trimester progress reports on October 1st, and first-trimester comes to a close on November 20th. At the beginning of the year, students participated in assessments including Fastbridge curriculum based measures, as well as the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress for first and second graders only) assessments. The beginning of the year assessment data, along with teacher input and grade level assessment data, provides the information to target students’ needs across the learning continuum. Therefore, our staff continues to adjust and focus lessons to target the areas of growth, while extending learning opportunities for all. Lessons are planned to ensure that each student is successful, and that our students are working to their full potential.

Furthermore, the highest level of student growth cannot be completely accomplished only through learning at school. It also takes a strong home-school commitment, and WPS continues to value our partnership with our families and community. Staff and students at Westchester Primary School welcomed grandparents the morning of Friday, September 6th in order to celebrate the importance of relationships across generations. A crowd of grandparents and WPS grandchildren packed the WPS gym to take part in various activities. Our Curriculum Night, held on September 5th, was a great success. Parents participated sessions to learn strategies to help their children find success academically and socially. Also, our WPS/WIS Family Reading and Math Night, held on October 10th was very well attended. Our families learned more ways to foster the love of reading and math at home. Also, during that morning, families shopped at the WPS Fall Scholastic Book Fair and enjoyed pastries thanks to our WPTC!

It is through targeting instruction, continuing our partnerships with our families and providing opportunities including the upcoming parent teacher conferences, on November 25th and 26th, that we work together to ensure our Mission Statement: “Westchester Public Schools, District 92 ½, Will Prepare and Empower Students to be Successful in Life.”

12

1

5

Westchester Aging Well Team Presents

WESTCHESTER SENIOR

BINGO

COME AND ENJOY FREE BINGO, LIGHT SNACKS, & GREAT COMPANY!

GAME! PRIZES! FUN!

14

2

3

6

7

9

WEDNESDAY

OCT.9

11:15-1:00PM

MAYFAIR RECREATION CENTER

10835 WAKEFIELD

WESTCHESTER, IL 60154

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gia Marie Benline

312-646-8887



## Westchester Intermediate School

The first month of our school year has been exciting. Our 4th and some new 5th Graders were able to try out instruments for our Band Program which is always amazing thanks to Mr. Collins and Mr. Kluge who create an atmosphere for students to thrive in. Our Curriculum Night was successful again this year. We appreciate seeing so many of our families here that evening. It has been a fun addition to have our parents leave a message for their children on our Wall of Hopes and Dreams!

We have completed our first round of assessments which is one part of shaping our curricular plans for the next few months. Our students are moving right along into their reading and math workshops so they continue to build those skills and challenge each other every day. We look forward to seeing what they are able to do in the coming months.

We are thankful to the WPTC for continuing to support our students' learning needs in any way they can. We had the Walk-a-Thon which is always enjoyable to see the WPS students and staff as we pass each other on Cermak. The Westchester Police Department has been great in supporting us with this as well. The WPTC also provided treats and prizes for our Math and Reading Night with WPS. We are looking forward to our Hispanic Heritage Celebration and our Fall Family Dance later this month as well. We also have our Fall Classroom Parties on October 31st. .

Don't forget to check out your child's grades in PowerSchool. That is the best way to keep up with their work completion in school. Some activities upcoming in November include our Veteran's Day assembly. We also have the end of our first trimester coming up followed by Parent Teacher Conferences on November 25th and 26th. Please make sure to join us so you can see how your child is growing.

Go Huskies!



### JEN & JIM CAVANAUGH

REALTORS®/Brokers

Jen: 708.408.9910

Jim: 630.215.8202

jen.cavanaugh@cbexchange.com

jim.cavanaugh@cbexchange.com

CavanaughTeam.com

One Parkview Plaza, Suite 100  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181



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## Westchester Middle School

WMS is moving along in their second full month of school. We will complete the first quarter at the end of this month.

Our clubs and activities are underway. Our Boys Softball and Girls Basketball teams are competing in their seasons. Band and Chorus are also taking place and have their concerts scheduled for the year. Please check the websites of the directors for the practice schedules and events. Finally, we plan to have the following clubs take place at WMS this year: Art Club, Destination Imagination, Family and Consumer Sciences Club (new), Intramurals, Math Team, Student Council, and Yearbook Club. Please see our weekly message or our website for the club sponsor with questions and information on upcoming events and activities.

Tryouts for 7th and 8th Grade Boys Basketball (Week of October 14) and 7th and 8th Grade Cheer and Dance (Week of October 21) will take place. Students must have a current physical on file to try out. Students are not eligible to try out if they do not have this paperwork completed.

As a school we will continue to reinforce our Warrior Expectations for everyone at WMS. Students and Staff should:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe
- Be There and Be Ready

WMS will host their first band concert of the year on Wednesday, October 30 at 6:30 PM in the WMS Gymnasium. Please note the earlier start time and join us for a wonderful evening of music. Our Choir will also perform their first concert on Wednesday, November 13 at 6:30 PM.

It is important for students to check their grades and give you an update on their progress. They should be able to login to PowerSchool and show you their current grades. We encourage our students to reach out to their teachers if they need help with anything in the classroom. If there is anything we can do to support your child, please do not hesitate to reach out.

We will continue to send weekly updates on Friday afternoon around 4:00 PM. These messages include important information about WMS. Be on the lookout for our first Warriors of the Month in the next newspaper.

# DeVega

Concrete LLC

SERVING  
THE AREA  
SINCE 2005

DEVEGACONCRETE.COM 708-945-9001

DRIVEWAYS • PATIOS • WALKWAYS • STAIRS  
GARAGE FLOORS • DECORATIVE EPOXY FLOORS  
CONCRETE OVERLAYS

FREE ESTIMATES | VETERAN OWNED



# Trick or Treat



hours on October 31:

3 p.m. to 7 p.m.



You can cut out and display one of the signs on the next page on your door to let trick-or-treaters know if you're participating.

For printable versions, visit [www.westchester-il.org/halloween](http://www.westchester-il.org/halloween)





# Trick-or-Treaters WELCOME!



**HAVE A SAFE  
AND HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN!**



*please* **NO**

# Trick-or-Treaters

**HAVE A SAFE  
AND HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN!**





# EDC Exists to help local businesses

The Westchester Economic Development Committee exists to support existing Village businesses, help the Village find ways to attract new businesses, and help businesses and our community beautify the various business areas in town.

The EDC was created years ago with the support of then Village President Sam Pulia and the Westchester Chamber of Commerce. Business leaders like Mike Gobber, Bill Ernst, and Bruce Horek helped get the EDC started. The EDC Committee is appointed by the Village Board, and members participate in Westchester Chamber of Commerce meetings and events.

When I first came to Westchester, there was a sad and running joke: Nothing happens here. No growth. Its “Deadchester”, but that wasn’t true then and it certainly is not now.

Our community has seen much growth over my time here in town, and especially in the last ten years. It is wonderful to hear how often new businesses begin, and how many businesses find ways to stay in our community even when their growth or change causes them to move physical operations out of town.

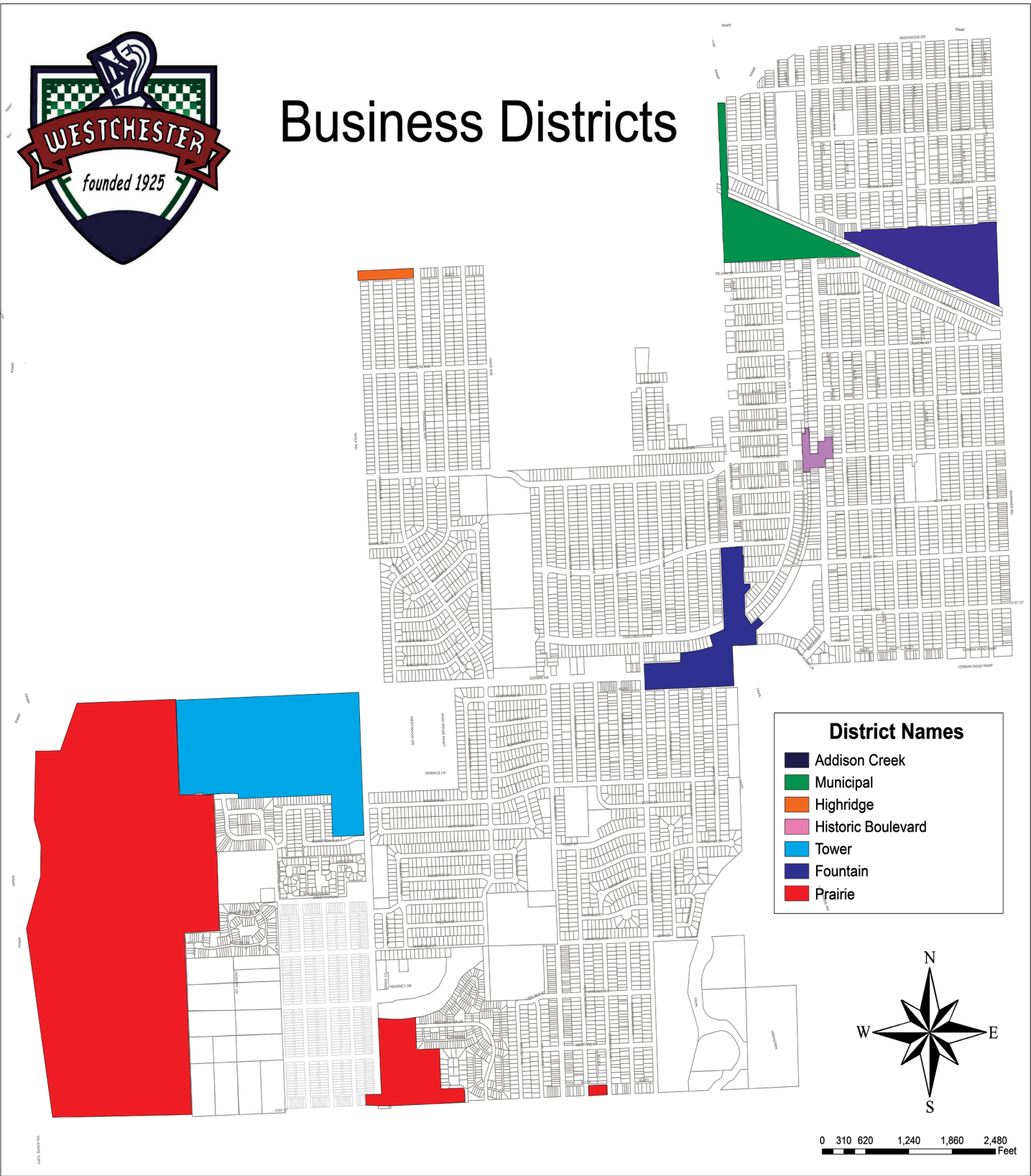
I have a personal mission: For every resident of Westchester to buy locally, support local businesses, and volunteer to make our non-profit missions healthy. My spouse and I make a concerted effort every week to go to a different place in town to eat, purchase things, and get to know the business owners. Our EDC encourages you to do the dame and shop locally!

The main reason for this article is because you may may not know this: The Village has Seven distinct shopping districts in the Village! While Westchester is landlocked, and we have some interesting borders with many of our shopping areas sharing streets with businesses in Hillside, we want to continue to do our best to highlight Village of Westchester businesses. We want you to know where our Westchester businesses operate, and for this article to highlight some of the newer businesses in roughly the last 5 years throughout the business districts.

**From North to South:**

**Addison Creek District** – Roosevelt Road from Westchester Boulevard east to the bridge. Newer businesses include: Angel’s Destiny Monuments, Chai Yo Thai Restaurant, Heartz and Minds Learning Center, Jungle Plate Restaurant, Krazy Grapes, Spice n Wings Restaurant, Styles Elev8’d Salon

**Municipal District** – Roosevelt from the Boulevard to Mannheim, and



Mannheim north on the East side of the road up to I-290.

Newer businesses include: CAG Wholesale Craft Supplies, Dollar General, Form Physical Therapy, Maribis, Smoke Dr., and Stellas

**Highridge District** – Roosevelt on the south side from Evers to Wolf.

Newer businesses include: Thithi’s Fine Dining and Martini Bar

**Historic District** – Westchester Boulevard from Canterbury south to Cermak.

Newer business include: Element Nails

**Fountain District** – From the corner of Mannheim and Cermak north to Canterbury, and west to Sunnyside.

Newer businesses include: Aviator Coffee, Everlasting Monuments, La Palateria, Nutoys, Sherwin Williams, and Wild Wings and Slots

**Tower District** – from the corner of Cermak and Wolf west to Enterprise Drive and south on Enterprise.

Newer businesses include: Four Points by Sheraton Hotel and Hanger Clinic (prosthetics and orthotics)

**Prairie District** – from Wolf Road and Cermak south to 31st, and 31st east to

Sunnyside.

Newer businesses include: Alpine Food Shop, Betty’s, Goodwill, Great Clips, and Impulse Rehab

We have MANY new businesses in town, and our town is ALIVE! Support all of our local businesses, and we especially thank all the long-time businesses that have helped make Westchester a wonderful place to live!

Pastor Joe Mills, Chair of the EDC



# PUBLIC WORKS

Village branch collection for October will be the week of October 7th – 11th  
November’s collection will be the week of November 4th – 8th (last collection of the year)

The Public Works Department collects branches the first full working week of each month (April-November) Please see the colored section map for your collection day.

- All brush must be placed on the front parkway by 7am on your designated collection day.
- Branches must be stacked with the butt ends facing the street in the same direction.
- Dirt must be removed from any root balls.
- Public Works Crews will only pass through a designated collection area once due to time, scheduling, and other workload responsibilities. We do not collect branches on demand.

Landscapers & tree services are responsible for their own brush disposal.

Please note the following schedule for branch pickup:

**COLUMBUS/ INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY HOLIDAY GARBAGE SCHEDULE**

There will be no service delays for garbage collection the week of October 13th

S.B.C. Waste Solutions, Inc. – 312-522-1115

- If your garbage, recycling, and/or yard waste was at the curb by 6am but was not collected by 6pm on your regular day, please call S.B.C. directly to report a missed collection.
- You may place two (2) large items that will not fit in your receptacle (couch, chair, table, etc..) at the curb every week for collection. Please call S.B.C. directly to inform them of large items.
- S.B.C. will collect household hazardous waste and electronic waste (e-waste), at no additional charge, including household chemicals, automotive products, paint products, garden chemicals, universal materials, batteries, long fluorescent lightbulbs, and swimming pool chemicals. This special collection must be pre-scheduled by calling 312-522-1115.

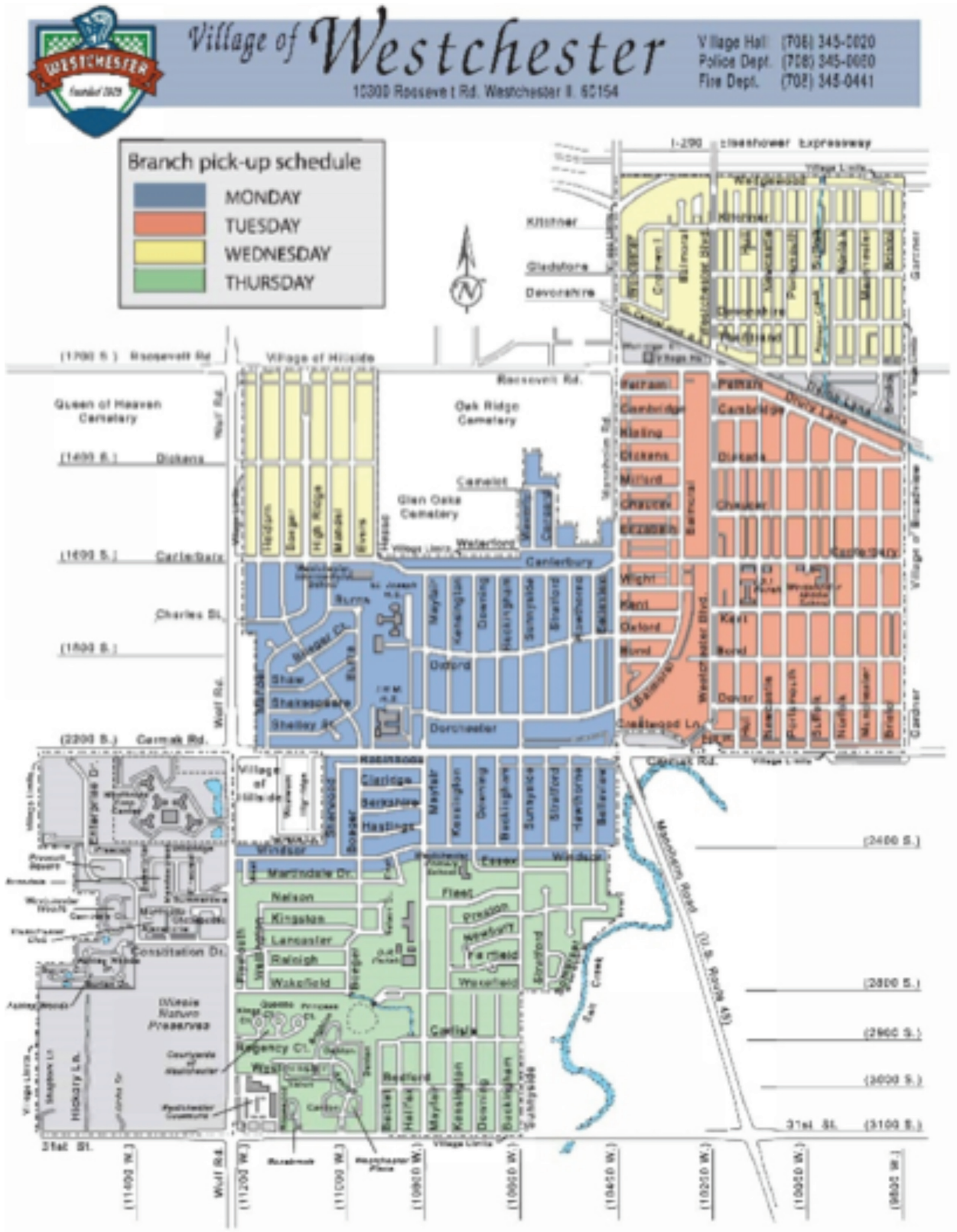
**Street Parking Restrictions**

Street maintenance parking restrictions are still in effect. Please check the street signs at the ends of your block or check the Village website so you don't receive a ticket!

**Westchester Tree Replacement Program**

1. The Village has been planting trees on eligible parkways at no cost to the resident. This replacement program does not allow for residents to choose the species of tree planted, the location, the number of trees planted, nor are residents able to opt-out of having a tree planted in the Village parkway in front and/or side of their residence. Please call Public Works if you would like to request a tree be planted sooner rather than later in a parkway.
2. If you would prefer to choose the species of the tree to be planted, this can be achieved through the 50/50 program. The resident can choose the tree(s) from a list provided by the Village, and shares half of the cost of the tree(s) and planting with the Village. To request the list of 50/50 trees, please call the Public Works Department at 708-345-0041.

## Branch Pick Up Schedule



Remember...  
S.B.C. will also collect your branches if they are tied in bundles of no more than 50 pounds & no more than 4 feet in length. They may also be cut up into “Yard Waste Only” containers or lawn bags. These will be collected on your regular garbage day every week April – December.

**As always,** residents are asked to call Public Works at 708-345-0041 if an unusual amount of water is visible in the street or parkway. This could be a main break or water leak that requires our immediate attention. If after 3:30pm M-F & on weekends and holidays, please call police non-emergency at 708-345-0060.



# PUBLIC WORKS - CONSTRUCTION NEWS

Construction News  
Construction notices & signs are all around the Village. Please read & keep notices when you receive them, and remember to obey all signs, permanent & temporary. UPDATES are posted daily to the Village of Westchester website.

- 2024 Fall Concrete will begin in mid-October and be completed by November.
- 2024 Micro-Surfacing: Mid-October  
Portsmouth Ave. (Dickens St – Drury Ln)  
Portsmouth Ave (Kent St. – Canterbury St)  
Norfolk Ave (Canterbury St – Dicken St)  
Crestwood Ln (Mannheim Rd – Westchester Blvd)  
Gladstone St (Worcester Ave – Dead End)  
Devonshire Ln (Mannheim Rd – Cromwell Ave)  
Devonshire St (Norfolk Ave – Gardner Rd)  
Bristol Ave (Wedgwood Dr – Devonshire St)
- Phase I Fire Hydrant Painting will be completed end of October. Phase II will occur in 2025.
- Wedgwood Dr. Bridge is closed between Suffolk Ave. and Norfolk Ave. for complete replacement and installation of concrete approach slabs and sidewalks. The anticipated completion date is October 16th 2024.







# Proviso Handyman department

## October 2024

Time to close your windows and keep the cooler air out! We can help take your screen windows off, put them away and install your storm windows. Do your rain barrels and hoses need to be put away? We can do that for you! Weatherproof your windows and doors for preparation for the winter months ahead.

**Call 708-547-4001**

The Proviso Township Handyman Program serves homeowners over the age of 60 and disabled homeowners who are residents of Proviso Township



**Bellwood · Berkeley · Broadview · Brookfield · Forest Park · Hillside ·  
LaGrange Park · Maywood · Melrose Park · North Riverside ·  
Northlake · Stone Park · Westchester · Western Springs**

**+ Only Homeowners within the boundaries of the Proviso Township+**

**Michael A. Corrigan**  
Supervisor

**Anthony “Tony” Williams**

Clerk

**Steven J. Zawaski**

Assessor

**Evelyn Chavez · Joseph Christopher · Gay F. Chase · Clarence E Thomas**

Trustees





# GRASSROOTS GARDEN GROUP *Wants Your Garden!*

**TO HELP CELEBRATE WESTCHESTER'S CENTENNIAL,  
GRASSROOTS GARDEN GROUP'S  
2025 WESTCHESTER GARDEN WALK  
IS OPEN TO THE ENTIRE VILLAGE!  
IF YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL YARD AND GARDENS,  
WE WOULD LOVE TO CONSIDER YOU FOR NEXT YEAR'S EVENT!**



WE ARE SCOUTING FOR GARDENS FOR OUR 7TH ANNUAL WESTCHESTER GARDEN WALK WHICH BENEFITS THE WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY. THIS ANNUAL EVENT, ALONG WITH OUR ANNUAL PLANT SALES, HAVE RAISED \$38,000 FOR THE PANTRY SINCE 2018!

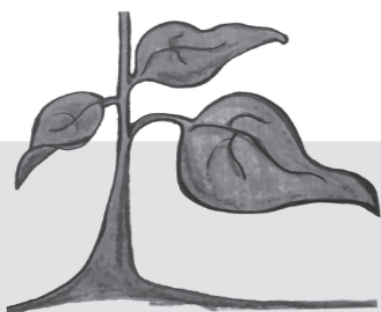
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR GARDEN FOR A GOOD CAUSE AND INSPIRING PEOPLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY, PLEASE CONTACT US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. A GRASSROOTS MEMBER WILL FOLLOW UP WITH YOU TO SCHEDULE A TOUR OF YOUR GARDEN FOR CONSIDERATION FOR OUR WALK.

**LET'S BLOOM TOGETHER AND MAKE  
THE 2025 WESTCHESTER GARDEN WALK  
THE BIGGEST AND BEST GARDEN WALK YET!!!**



Scan the QR code to complete your  
2025 Garden Walk application,  
or visit our website. Thank You!

**[www.GrassrootsGardenGroup.org/Volunteer](http://www.GrassrootsGardenGroup.org/Volunteer)**



Grassroots Garden Group | A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization



Facebook.com/GrassrootsGardenGroup  
Instagram.com/Grassroots\_Garden\_Group



[www.GrassrootsGardenGroup.org](http://www.GrassrootsGardenGroup.org)  
GrassrootsGroup2015@gmail.com



# AMP UP YOUR BUSINESS!

***Presented by the Westchester Economic Development Committee***

The Westchester Economic Development Committee (EDC) announces a new program for our local businesses - **AMP Up Your Business!** Every business, regardless of size, has three main functional areas - Accounting, Marketing, and Production - “AMP”. This program consists of resources and presentations to help strengthen these areas of your business.

Join us for the first presentation, ***Breaking Bad: Accounting Habits That Can Sink Your Business - Identifying Habits to Avoid (or Stop) and What You Can Do To Ensure Accurate Financial Reporting.***



**OCTOBER 22, 2024**



**11:30 A.M. TO 1 P.M.  
LUNCH FOLLOWED BY  
PRESENTATION**



**WESTCHESTER PUBLIC  
LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM**



**Allison Muzal &  
Elena Khio**  
*Speakers*

**Attendees must RSVP to Jim Novosel at  
[jnovosel@westchester-il.gov](mailto:jnovosel@westchester-il.gov) or (708) 345-0199**



Join Us For Our Annual  
Spooktacular Event



# Halloween Fun

AT THE WESTCHESTER PARK DISTRICT  
COMMUNITY CENTER

10:00 a.m. -  
12:00 p.m.

| 26 OCT  
2024 |

10201  
Bond Street



## LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

Interfaith Career Network offers **FREE** assistance - Open to all!

**Thursday, October 17th, 2024, 7-9 pm**

**"Skills, Abilities, Competencies, Upskilling, Reskilling - What Exactly is Skills-Based Hiring and Are Degrees Even Needed?"**

**Jane Murtaugh, Presenter**

You're probably hearing more and more about *skills-based hiring* and have heard the statistics on the growing number of employers using this approach.

Join us to become better acquainted with the skills-based approach to hiring focused on candidate abilities and competencies rather than education and direct experience. We'll talk about the differences between *upskilling and reskilling*. We will also take a look at the power of *transitional skills* when we may be a candidate that does not fit perfectly into the traditional template job hiring role.

Jane Murtaugh, Professor of HR & Chair of the HRM Certificate Program, at College of DuPage will talk about this recent change more employers use when making hiring decisions.

**We look forward to seeing you at St. John of the Cross-, 5005 Wolf Road in Western Springs. Everyone is welcome!**

*Visit [www.interfaithcareernetwork.com](http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.com) for additional resources*



PHONE 708-927-4826  
1938 S. MANNHEIM ROAD  
WESTCHESTER IL 60154

## WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY



WET NOSE PANTRY

CONTACT US:  
WESTCHESTERFOODPANTRY.ORG  
WESTCHESTERFOODPANTRY  
@GMAIL.COM

## ITEMS TO DONATE TO THE WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY



### NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS ACCEPTED: YEAR ROUND

The Pantry is always in need of cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, jelly, condiments, meals in a can (beef stew, chili, ravioli, etc.), soup, rice, coffee and tea. We also accept dish soap, toiletries and laundry detergent. Drop off at any local donation site or directly to the Pantry during open hours.



### WINTER WEAR AND BLANKETS ACCEPTED: OCTOBER-JANUARY

We accept coats, hats, scarves, boots, gloves and mittens for adults and children, as well as blankets (all sizes). Items must be clean and in good condition. Drop off directly to the Pantry during open hours.



### PAPER BAGS ACCEPTED: YEAR ROUND

The Pantry goes through 500 paper bags every week! Donate your paper bags year round. Paper bags with handles are preferred (example: Mariano's and Trader Joe's). Drop off at any donation site or directly at the Pantry during open hours.



### DOG AND CAT FOOD ACCEPTED: YEAR ROUND

At the Westchester Food Pantry, we look out for furry family members as well. Donations of wet and dry dog and cat food are accepted year-round. Unfortunately, we cannot accept prescription pet food or medicines. Drop off pet food at any local donation site.



### HALLOWEEN CANDY ACCEPTED: OCTOBER-DECEMBER

Too much candy? Give it to the Pantry! Sweet treats are used for outreach events. Potential clients might be timid about asking for information, but everyone will take a flyer that is paired with treats! Drop off at any local donation site.



### CHILDREN'S BOOKS (NEW AND USED) ACCEPTED: YEAR ROUND

All children need books to call their own. We accept new and gently-used children's books, from baby books up to teen reads, throughout the year. Please drop off books directly to the Pantry during open hours.

## WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY DONATION DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

**Westchester Food Pantry**  
1938 S. Mannheim Road  
Westchester IL 60154  
Come to the alley entrance.  
11am-7:00pm Wed;  
11am-2:30pm Fri;  
8:30-11:30am Sat

**Westchester Park District,  
Community Center**  
10201 Bond Street  
Westchester IL 60154  
Place in bin located in the lobby.  
9am-4:30pm Mon - Fri;  
Closed Sat and Sun

**Westchester Park District,  
Mayfair Fitness Center**  
10835 Wakefield Street  
Westchester IL 60154  
Place in bin located in the lobby.  
5:30am-8:30pm Mon-Fri;  
7am-3pm Sat; 7am-12pm Sun

**Westchester Village Hall - Lobby**  
10300 Roosevelt Road  
Westchester IL 60154  
Place in the bins between  
7:30am - 4pm Mon - Fri

**Westchester Public Library**  
10700 Canterbury Street  
Westchester, IL 60154  
10am-8pm Mon-Thu;  
10am-5pm Fri-Sat; Closed Sun

**Historic Prairie House  
at Wolf Road Prairie**  
11225 Constitution Drive  
Westchester, IL 60154  
Drop off in the blue bin  
on the porch anytime



The Westchester Food Pantry proudly serves the residents of Berkeley, Bellwood, Broadview, Hillside, Hines, La Grange Park, Westchester and Western Springs. The Pantry is run entirely by volunteers and relies entirely on donations to operate. The Pantry is a registered 501c3 organization; donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. EIN # 47-5376704





## Westchester Chamber of Commerce

*"We Mean Business"*

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHAMBER? SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR EMAIL [INFO@WESTCHESTER.ORG](mailto:INFO@WESTCHESTER.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION.



### CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Business Referrals
- Advertisement opportunities in WCC's E-blast promotion
- Promote your business through video or photo opportunities on social media with a Director or Past/Current President of the Westchester Chamber of Commerce
- Ribbon Cuttings
- Networking Events

THANK YOU TO ONE OF OUR NEWEST 2024 CHAMBER MEMBERS!

AVIATOR COFFEE!





# Westchester 2024 Pumpkin Smash



As Halloween approaches, so too does Westchester's 6th annual Pumpkin Smash brought to you by the Green Residents of Westchester (GROW). The Pumpkin Smash is an annual effort by communities to divert pumpkins from landfills by providing locations for residents to drop off jack-o-lanterns (minus candles) and other gourds to be composted.

It is held each year after Halloween and this year that will be on Saturday, November 2nd, and Sunday, November 3rd in Westchester. Items accepted include pumpkins, gourds, cornstalks, and hay bales.

Be sure to remove candles, stickers, pipe cleaners, and any non-compostable decorations before placing your pumpkins in dumpsters.

Many people are surprised to find out that Illinois produces three and a half times the amount of pumpkins as the second most productive states, Indiana and California (Source: USDA). So why bother to compost them instead of just throwing them in the trash?

Pumpkins are nutritionally valuable since they contain significant amounts of fiber, potassium, and protein. Pumpkins are also 90% water and thus when disposed of in a landfill these nutrients and water are lost from the environment rather than being recycled or reinvested back into the environment.

The decomposition of organic matter, such as pumpkins, produces greenhouse gasses. Landfills are the 3rd largest producers of greenhouse gasses so by composting them we can significantly reduce those emissions.

Composting any organic matter is also just plain beneficial. Compost reduces, and in some cases, eliminates the need for chemical fertilizers. It is a nutrient-dense soil amendment that can provide cost savings over conventional soil remediation. Lastly, compost enhances water retention in soils helping to reduce flooding in our yards and streets.

In 2023, Westchester joined with 95 other communities to divert pumpkins from making it into landfills. The event resulted in the composting of 482,000 pounds of pumpkins. This equates to a reduction of 173 tons of CO2 from entering the atmosphere and the diverting of nearly 52,000 gallons from entering landfills.

## This year we will have two locations!

1. Behind the Westchester Community Church: 1840 Westchester Boulevard

2. In the back of the Mayfair Recreation Center parking lot: 10835 Wakefield Street

If you have any questions, please email Commissioner Kari Roberg at [kroberg@westchester-il.gov](mailto:kroberg@westchester-il.gov). The GROW commission generally meets on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. Join us in striving for a green Village!

## Leave the Leaves for a Healthier Yard and Planet

Fallen leaves provide essential habitat for wildlife, add organic matter to soil, help to prevent weeds, and reduce carbon emissions from transportation. By leaving leaves on the ground, you create a healthier lawn while supporting biodiversity in your backyard.

### Tips for Managing Leaves

- Use a mulching mower to shred leaves directly on your lawn, leaving a thin layer of leaf debris.
- Rake excess leaves into garden beds or around trees and shrubs as a natural mulch.
- Add leaves to your compost pile to create a rich soil amendment for your garden.

### Preventing Itch Mite Bites

- While you're managing your leaves, it's important to take precautions against itch mites, tiny pests that have proliferated in the wake of periodical cicadas. Here are some tips to help you stay bite-free:
  - Wear long sleeves, pants, gloves, and a hat when working outside. Tucking pants into socks can prevent mites from getting to your skin.
  - When handling leaves, avoid shaking them, as this can release mites into the air and onto your skin.
  - After spending time outdoors, put your clothes in the laundry and take a soapy shower immediately to wash away any mites that may have landed on your skin or clothing.

## Recipe of the Month

It's pumpkin season! Whether making your own pumpkin puree or using canned, try these Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Bars for a dairy-free fall treat. Did you know dairy production contributes considerably to climate change, with carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide emissions ([worldwildlife.org](http://worldwildlife.org))? Your diet choices can make positive impacts to your health, and the environment! Have a plant-based recipe you'd like to share with the community? Send it to [GROW@westchester-il.gov](mailto:GROW@westchester-il.gov) for consideration for future newsletters.

### Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Bars

prep time: 10 mins. | cook time: 25 mins. | total time: 2 hours (includes cooling)

makes 16 bars

### Ingredients

- 3 cups (255g) old-fashioned whole rolled oats or quick oats (not instant)
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon store-bought or homemade pumpkin pie spice
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (225g) fresh or canned pumpkin puree
- 1/3 cup (56g) unsweetened applesauce
- 1/3 cup (70g) coconut oil, melted
- 1/3 cup (80ml) pure maple syrup
- 1/4 cup (45g) coconut sugar (or packed light or dark brown sugar)
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup (135g) semi-sweet chocolate chips, plus a few to press into the top (use dairy-free to make it vegan)

### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F (177°C). Line the bottom and sides of an 8-inch or 9-inch square baking pan with parchment paper, leaving an overhang on the sides to lift the bars out (makes cutting easier!). Set aside.
2. Pulse the oats in a food processor or blender until they're slightly broken up. (For whole oats, about 10 pulses. For quick oats, about 5-6 pulses.) Pour into a large bowl and add the remaining ingredients. With a rubber spatula or large spoon, stir together until combined. Mixture/dough will be very heavy and thick.
3. Spoon mixture into prepared pan. Using the back of a flat spatula or a spoon, spread and press it tightly down into the pan. Make sure it's flat and very compact, which helps guarantee the bars hold their shape. Dot a few chocolate chips into the top—this is optional and only for looks! I usually use about 1-2 Tablespoons on top.
4. Bake for 25-28 minutes or until the edges are very lightly browned and the center appears set. Avoid over-baking, which dries the bars out.
5. Remove from the oven and cool in the pan at room temperature for 30-60 minutes. After that, place the pan in the refrigerator for 1-2 hours until chilled.
6. Remove bars from the pan using the overhang on the sides then cut into squares.
7. Cover leftover bars tightly and store at room temperature for up to 3 days or in the refrigerator for up to 10 days.

Credit: [SallysBakingAddiction.com](http://SallysBakingAddiction.com)







**NOVEMBER 2ND & 3RD**



**SCARCE**



**COMPOST YOUR PUMPKINS, GOURDS, HAY BALES & CORN STALKS AT THESE LOCATIONS ON NOVEMBER 2 & 3:**

**BEHIND THE WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY CHURCH:  
1840 WESTCHESTER BOULEVARD**

**THE BACK OF THE MAYFAIR RECREATION CENTER PARKING LOT:  
10835 WAKEFIELD STREET**

***BE SURE TO REMOVE CANDLES, STICKERS, PIPE CLEANERS, AND ANY NON-COMPOSTABLE DECORATIONS - THANK YOU!***

**TELL YOUR NEIGHBORS!**

**VISIT [WWW.WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG/PUMPKINSMASH](http://WWW.WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG/PUMPKINSMASH)  
FOR PRINTABLE PUMPKIN SMASH CARDS TO HAND OUT TO  
TRICK-OR-TREATERS**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SBC WASTE SOLUTIONS**





# WESTCHESTER SHRED & RECYCLE EVENT

**OCTOBER 19 - 10 A.M. TO NOON**  
**2305 ENTERPRISE DR., WESTCHESTER**

## PAPER SHREDDING

All unwanted paperwork will be accepted. Remove paper clips, binder clips, and rubber bands.

## ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Most household electronics will be accepted. Limit one television per household. Visit [www.westchester-il.org](http://www.westchester-il.org) for full list of accepted items.

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKEBACK

Pills only - liquid meds and sharps will not be accepted. Collection is anonymous, bottles with identifying information will be destroyed.



**THIS COLLECTION EVENT IS FOR  
VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER RESIDENTS.**

**WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY WILL BE  
ON-SITE COLLECTING MONETARY &  
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS!**





REGISTRATION



5K RUN/WALK  
1MILE HEALTH WALK  
VOLUNTEER  
SPONSOR  
VETERANS BRUNCH

WESTCHESTER PARK DISTRICT

VETERANS 5K

RUN & WALK

MAYFAIR PARK ★ NOVEMBER 10TH, 2024 ★ 9:00AM

& SALUTE TO VETERANS - BRUNCH

11:00AM-1:00PM

**VETERANS 5K RUN / WALK**  
Westchester Park District community Veterans 5K is the perfect way to celebrate, remember and honor all our Military Veterans, Active Duty, Reserves, Spouses, and Friends of the Military. Advanced registration for this event will be \$35 5K and \$35 1 Mile Walk. Registration fees will increase after our event registration deadline of November 6th, 5pm. Same-day registration will begin at 7:30am Sunday morning and will include an option to purchase a t-shirt if available. Our run will begin and end at Mayfair Park. Shirts are guaranteed only if registered by 10/18/24. Online registration closes on Thursday, 11/6/24 at 5 pm. More information has been made available at [wpdparks.org](http://wpdparks.org).  
Run/Walk START: 9:00am

**SALUTE TO VETERANS - BRUNCH**  
The Westchester Park District salutes all military service members, active and retired! As a token of our appreciation, we would like to provide a free buffet style brunch to our Veterans and immediate family on November 10, 2024. Though this is a free event, we do require everyone attending to register by November 1, 2024 for capacity and meal ordering purposes. Registrations are accepted at the Community Center, Mayfair Center or through the QR code above. Location: Mayfair Banquet Center . Time: 11am-1pm

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

please email Lianne Robinette @ [lrobinette@wpdparks.org](mailto:lrobinette@wpdparks.org)

**PLATINUM SPONSOR \$2500**  
Sponsors at this level will receive their logo (prominent) on our official event t-shirts to be worn by all participants, a link with logo on our website, social media advertising with link to sponsor's website or social media, recognition at kick-off, event day table(s) an individual sponsor banner with official race day logo, 5 participant event registrations, and first right of refusal to sponsor again in 2025.

**GOLD SPONSOR \$1000**  
Sponsors at this level will receive their logo (large) on our official event t-shirts to be worn by all participants, a link with logo on our website, social media advertising with link to sponsor's website or social media, recognition at kick-off, event day table, and event day logo on official race day 5k banner.

**SILVER SPONSOR \$500**  
Sponsors at this level will receive their logo (medium) on our official event t-shirts to be worn by all participants, a link with logo on our website, social media advertising with link to sponsor's website or social media, recognition at kick-off, event day table, and event day logo on official race day 5k banner.

**BRONZE SPONSOR \$250**  
Sponsors at this level will receive their logo (small) on our official race t-shirt to be worn by all participants, a link with logo on our website, social media advertising with link to sponsor's website and/or social media.

**COMMUNITY SPONSOR \$100**  
Sponsors at this level will receive a listing displayed on our official race t-shirt to be worn by all participants and recognition on our website.

**VETERANS SIGN SPONSOR \$25**  
Signs are purchased and decorated to honor someone special or to support the event participants on race day. All signs will be posted throughout the course.

**VETERANS BRUNCH SPONSOR \$25**  
Sponsor a Veteran at our Salute to Veterans Brunch



# SIGN UP FOR WESTCHESTER WEEKLY E-NEWS



## OVER 3,000 SUBSCRIBERS!

JOIN US TO STAY INFORMED



Stay informed with our weekly Village e-newsletter, bringing you the latest updates on Village Board meetings, operations, and projects, as well as exciting community events, activities, and important local news and resources. Don't miss out—sign up today by visiting our website and scrolling to the bottom of the page:  
[www.westchester-il.org/community/village-newsletter](http://www.westchester-il.org/community/village-newsletter).  
Thank you for staying connected with us!