

WHEATON TOWN NEWS ~ SUMMER 2023

WELCOME and VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT – <https://townofwheaton.com>

Welcome to the Town of Wheaton newsletter for “SUMMER 2023”. There are lots of things happening in our township. Wheaton has some amazing residents and wonderful neighbors. It is a great place to live with easy access to several metropolitan areas. From agricultural activities, expansion of existing and new businesses, construction on new residential lots, road improvements, Wheaton Park enhancements, operation of a top-notch recycling facility, and to a world class trout stream with improvements, the Town of Wheaton is progressing forward!

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANGES

The spring election brought change to the Town of Wheaton local government after existing members chose not to seek reelection.

1. Steve Harmon is the new Town Chair
2. Bob Sworski returned as Town Supervisor
3. Mary Rudd is a new Town Supervisor appointed to fill out the remainder of Steve Harmon's town supervisor term.
4. Jan Dole is the new Town Treasurer

We want to thank Mark Blaskowski, Jason Benson, and Laura Hayden for their years of service to the Town of Wheaton and its residents/businesses. THANK YOU!!

TOWN GOVERNMENT

Our township maintains a website at <https://townofwheaton.com/>. We continue to add new information and features so please let us know what additional things you would like to see on the site. You can find the names and addresses of all the board and commission members there. Please visit our site and bookmark it for an easy return! **We need your input.**

The Plan Commission term for each member is 3 years, from May 1 to April 30. Appointment to the commission is by the Town Chair, with board approval. Terms are staggered. Two members one year, two members the second year, and three members changed the third year, maintaining a consistency in the commission. If you are interested in an appointment to the Plan Commission, please contact any Town Supervisor, Chair, or Clerk to add your name to the list. Meetings are normally once per month, on the first Tuesday, held at the Wheaton Town Hall at 7:00 pm.

The Parks Commission term for each member is 7 years, from July to June. Appointment to the commission is by the Town Chair, with board approval. The terms are staggered each year, with one member's term expiring each year. If you are interested in an appointment to the Parks Commission, please contact any Town Supervisor or Chair to add your name to the list. Seven years is a long commitment. Some members may not be able to stay that long, which means appointments may be more often than once per year. **We value your input.**

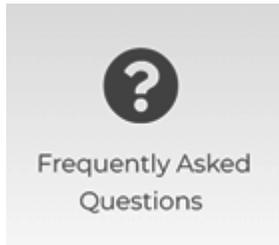
WEBSITE

We continue to add new information and features to our website every month so please let us know what additional items you would like to see on the website. Examples of available information: Town board and commission member contact information, town directory, frequently asked questions (FAQ's), ordinances and

bylaws, town budget, road updates, cemetery information, recycling center information, parks and recreation information, community information, County Highway T corridor project, Country Jam project, and much more.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

The Town of Wheaton website has a frequently asked questions page that allows citizens to use self-service and get their questions answered even quicker.



1. Simply click on from the homepage.

2. Search for your question then click on the  to show the answer.

WEBSITE SUBSCRIBE FEATURE

The website also has a “Subscribe” feature that allows residents and non-residents to stay better informed via email or text on meeting agendas and news & notices postings right when they are posted to the website!

How do you sign up for the “subscribe” feature?

1. Click on Subscribe in upper right corner of the website homepage



2. Fill in required fields (Noted with *)

3. Choose topics you want to stay informed on

4. Select your notification method

5. Click on Subscribe at bottom of the page to submit your information

6. A confirmation page will display upon completion

FACEBOOK FEATURE

The Town of Wheaton Government has launched a Facebook Government Organization page called Town of Wheaton – Chippewa County, Wisconsin for the purpose of “Government Communication” in order to keep citizens better informed. As part of our Facebook implementation, we have also linked the Town of Wheaton website to our Facebook page so website news & notices and meeting agendas will be available from our Facebook page. Since this is a “Government Communication” page all commenting will be turned off on government posts per Wheaton Town Board on October 11, 2022.

Feel free to ‘Like Town of Wheaton – Chippewa County, Wisconsin’ and Stay Connected!



Town of Wheaton - Chippewa County, Wisconsin

25 likes • 42 followers



Send Email

Liked

Message

FIRE DEPARTMENT

We presently have 28-29 volunteers on the roster. We would like to have 40 volunteers actively participating in this rewarding activity. Come join the group. Most calls are for things other than structure fires. Off road rescues, car crashes, snowmobile incidents, downed power lines, searches, water incidents, and brush fires are just a few of the things dealt with. Medical first responding is the largest part of the fire department responses, with transport ambulances and paramedics coming from Eau Claire or Chippewa Falls. Call any Town Board member for more information and sign up soon. Training is provided!

The department is a paid-per-call, all-volunteer department. The fire station is at 3900 38th St, Elk Mound and is within the Wheaton Park. It is not a manned station. If you have an emergency, **dial 911 to contact the County Dispatch center.** They page out the firefighters as needed. For non-emergency calls, only, you can dial 715-874-6597 and leave a message. A return call or actions will be made as soon as possible. You may also send a message to the department through Facebook.

BURNING PERMITS

Burning permits are not required in Wheaton, but you can only burn what is allowed by state law. Visit the Wisconsin DNR website at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/openburning/> for burning regulations and several fine articles about the alternatives to burning.

Fire danger information can be found at the following:

1. Go to Wisconsin DNR Interactive Fire Danger Map at <https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/wisburn/> and click on Chippewa County.
2. Drive past Wheaton Park / Wheaton Fire & Rescue frontage road sign along Wisconsin 29 South Frontage Road. This is checked and maintained daily.
3. Follow Wheaton Fire & Rescue on Facebook.

If you must burn, please be careful. You are responsible for all costs of extinguishing a fire that you started if it has gotten out of control. Burn only when sufficient moisture exists (rain and/or snow cover) in the area, winds are light (under about 7 mph maximum gusts), and temperatures are cool.

ROADS

The township, with 83 plus miles of road, has more roads to maintain than most rural townships in the state, and they are 100% paved. With the tight budgets prevalent for so many years, we are diligently pursuing means and methods of pavement and ditch maintenance to maximize the number of improvements to the roadways for the available funds. 2023 road work is already underway. Check out the website for listing of roads having work done.

COUNTRY JAM TRAFFIC INFORMATION

The inaugural event for the Eau Claire Event District, County Jam, being held July 20 – 22, 2023. The local law enforcement, city, county, and township representatives, along with the Country Jam teamed, have been working diligently to create a plan that will keep everyone safe on the roadways during this period of increased traffic and have the least impact on local residents. Leading up to and during the event, there will be numerous signs, road barriers, and police officers directing traffic along the appropriate routes to ensure a smooth and safe entry and exit. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available.

<https://townofwheaton.com/country-jam-project/>

CLEAN GROUNDWATER

Clean Water = Healthy people, Healthy animals

The Town of Wheaton continues to work in support of clean drinking water for all residents. In November of 2022, the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution to support townships in developing

and implementing a community well program. The money comes from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds from the Federal Government. Chippewa County Land Conservation and Forest Management formed an AD HOC Well Program Committee which is led by Lynda Schweikert, Dept. Chair of LCFM.

The Town of Wheaton is a high nitrate area. Supervisor Alice Droske was appointed to represent Wheaton. Other members include representatives from the U.W. Stevens Point (Groundwater Education Specialist), environmental engineers, DNR, Geologists, Chippewa County Public Health and open to township representatives.

Committee meetings are held at the County courthouse and open to the public. At the time of this writing, the Town of Wheaton has received maps in regards to water flow, areas of the township where wells have been tested and levels of nitrates in varying areas. There are numerous causes of why your nitrate level may be high. The key point is, we want everyone to be healthy.

Be watchful for visuals as maps will be posted, watch the Town of Wheaton website, come to a town board meeting with questions, get your water tested, and/or attend an AD HOC Committee meeting at the Chippewa County Courthouse.

There are a couple local companies that will do nitrate testing for free, and there may be others. Gibson Water Care and Culligan's also have technicians that can guide you in options available, if you choose.

Please see the TOWN OF WHEATON website. Click on GOVERNMENT. Click GROUNDWATER INFORMATION. Listed there are links to "Groundwater Testing", "Town of Wheaton Nitrate Levels Map", and other "Resource Links" with regards to clean groundwater.

DOG LICENSE INFORMATION: (See Real Estate Tax info below for further info)

Per Wisconsin Statute, all of your dogs over five months of age must be licensed. The annual fee for licensing is as follows:

- Spayed or neutered dogs - **\$8.00**
- Unspayed or unneutered dogs - **\$13.00**
- Multiple dogs for up to 12 tags - **\$60.00**
- Each additional tag for multiple dogs in excess of 12 - **\$7.00**

PROOF OF CURRENT RABIES VACCINATION IS REQUIRED. WITHOUT PROOF OF RABIES VACCINATION, A LICENSE WILL NOT BE ISSUED. (Proof will be returned to you)

PENALTIES

You will be charged a minimum late fee of \$25.00 for each dog five months of age or over who is unlicensed by April 1st of each year, or within 30 days of acquiring ownership on or before the dog reaches licensable age. If you fail to have your dog vaccinated against rabies as required by statute, you may be required to forfeit not less than \$50.00 or more than \$100.00.

THE WISCONSIN STATE STATUTES REGARDING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DOG OWNERSHIP IS AS FOLLOWS:

- (1.) Dogs more than 5 months of age shall be licensed by April 1 of each year or within 30 days of ownership of a dog 5 months of age or older, or a late fee of \$25.00 shall be imposed.
- (2.) Proof of rabies vaccination is required before a license will be issued.
- (3.) Dogs are not allowed to run at large. All dogs must be kept on the owner's premises and under control of the owner or some other person.
- (4.) Dogs running at large are subject to impoundment.
- (5.) If the owner permits a dog to run at large, the owner shall forfeit not less than \$25.00 or more than \$100.00 for the first offense and not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$200.00 for subsequent offenses.
- (6.) The dog owner can be held liable for a dog causing injury to a person, domestic animal, or property. The penalties imposed can be from \$50.00 to \$500.00, depending on the circumstances. The penalties are in addition to any other liability imposed on the owner of the dog.

If you are a landowner and have tenants who are dog owners, please forward this information to them. Thank you.

Please send check, proof of vaccination (when required), the name of the dog or dogs being licensed, your phone number, plus a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

Jan Dole, Town of Wheaton Treasurer
4975 County Highway T
Chippewa Falls WI 54729
715-874-5501

Make check payable to: **TOWN OF WHEATON TREASURER**

The Dog Catcher for the Township is **Roger Fagerland**. Contact him at **715-497-0804** or you can email him at Wheaton.DogCatcher@gmail.com. **He deals with dogs only**. If you have issues with other animals, please contact the Town Chair, any Town Supervisor, or the Town Clerk for help. You can find everyone's name, phone, and email on the Town Website.

REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION FOR 2023

As a friendly reminder, if you did not pay your real estate taxes in full prior to January 31, 2023, a second payment will be due to Chippewa County. The County Treasurer will mail you a tax statement regarding the remaining amount owed, which will be due by July 31, 2023. Please make the second payment check payable to:

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY TREASURER
711 N. BRIDGE STREET
CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI 54729.**

WHEATON RECYCLING CENTER

2429 20TH STREET

ELK MOUND, WI 54739

<https://townofwheaton.com/recycling-center/>

Attendants:

Patrick Rudd

Larry Tanner

Facility: 715-874-6271

DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION

- Wednesdays: 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Saturdays: 8:00am – 3:00pm

ITEMS MUST BE STORED AND PLACED IN PROPER DUMPSTERS

- Recyclable glass and plastics go together as does paper and cardboard go together
- Household trash goes into the compactor. Trash bags for the compactor can be purchased from the attendant.
- Large items & materials go into the large construction dumpsters.
- Metal items go into metal dumpsters.
- Aluminum cans go into small wire cage
- Any items that go into the Construction Dumpsters MUST be approved by the attendant before dumping.
- Styrofoam is not accepted.

PRICE LIST: We have also included this information on the website under Recycling Center information.

DEMOLITION MATERIALS

Full size pickup (Level full) minimum	\$50.00	Dehumidifiers	\$20.00
Small pickup (level full) minimum	\$28.00	Refrigerators	\$20.00
8 foot trailer with 3 foot sides (min)	\$50.00	Freezers	\$20.00
Larger trailers or overflowing pickup	(Ask!)	Dishwashers	\$15.00
Sofa couch	\$20.00	Microwaves (metal dumpster)	Free
Large chairs	\$15.00		
Small chairs	\$12.00	10 Blue Wheaton Bags	\$40.00
Mattress or box springs (small)	\$12.00	White Kitchen Bags (13 gal)	\$ 1.00
Mattress or box springs (large)	\$20.00	Black or Brown Large Bags	\$ 5.00
Burn barrels	\$10.00	Hide a bed couch	\$25.00
Air conditioners	\$20.00		

TIRES

Small trailer, car & small pickup	\$ 3.00	Larger than 22.5"	\$20.00
16" to 17"	\$ 6.00	Tractor under 28"	\$25.00
18" to 19"	\$ 13.00	Tractor 28" or larger	\$40.00
20" to 22.5"	\$ 15.00	End Loader type	\$60.00
Tires with rims	add \$ 5.00		

RECYCLABLES

Batteries Free - Put on pallet

#1 thru #7 Plastics – CLEAN

Glass Jars and Bottles – Lids to be removed

Metal of All Kinds – Sort brass and copper; All others go in metal roll-off

Paper and Cardboard

Stoves, Washers, Dryers, Water Heaters, Motors, Bikes, Lawn Mowers, Tillers, etc. – NO CHARGE – They go into the metal roll off dumpster.

There are a few businesses in the area that accept appliances for free. Ask the attendants. When in doubt, ask the ATTENDANT! It is either Larry or Patrick.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Hazardous Materials (includes Paint, Light Bulbs, and Chemicals of all kinds) or Electronics (includes TVs, Computers, VCRs, Printers, and Monitors) are NOT accepted. Residents must save and take to Chippewa County Clean Sweep held in the Spring and Fall or take them to an area business that will recycle them properly. Please NOTE: Area businesses may charge a fee.

Yard Waste and Brush are NOT ACCEPTED!

TOWN PARK

What is the Wheaton Parks Commission?

The Parks Commission aids in development and maintenance of Wheaton Park (63 acres) and boat landing in the township. The Parks Commission term for each member is 7 years, from July to June. Appointment to the commission is by the Town Chair, with board approval. The terms are staggered each year, with one member's term expiring each year. If you are interested in an appointment to the Parks Commission, please contact any Town Supervisor or Chair to add your name to the list. Seven years is a long commitment. Some members may not be able to stay that long, which means appointments may be more often than once per year. We value your input.

The Wheaton Town Park is located at 3900 38th Street, Elk Mound. A second park entrance is located right across the street from 3601 40th Street, Elk Mound. Improvements continue to be made as volunteers and funding becomes available.

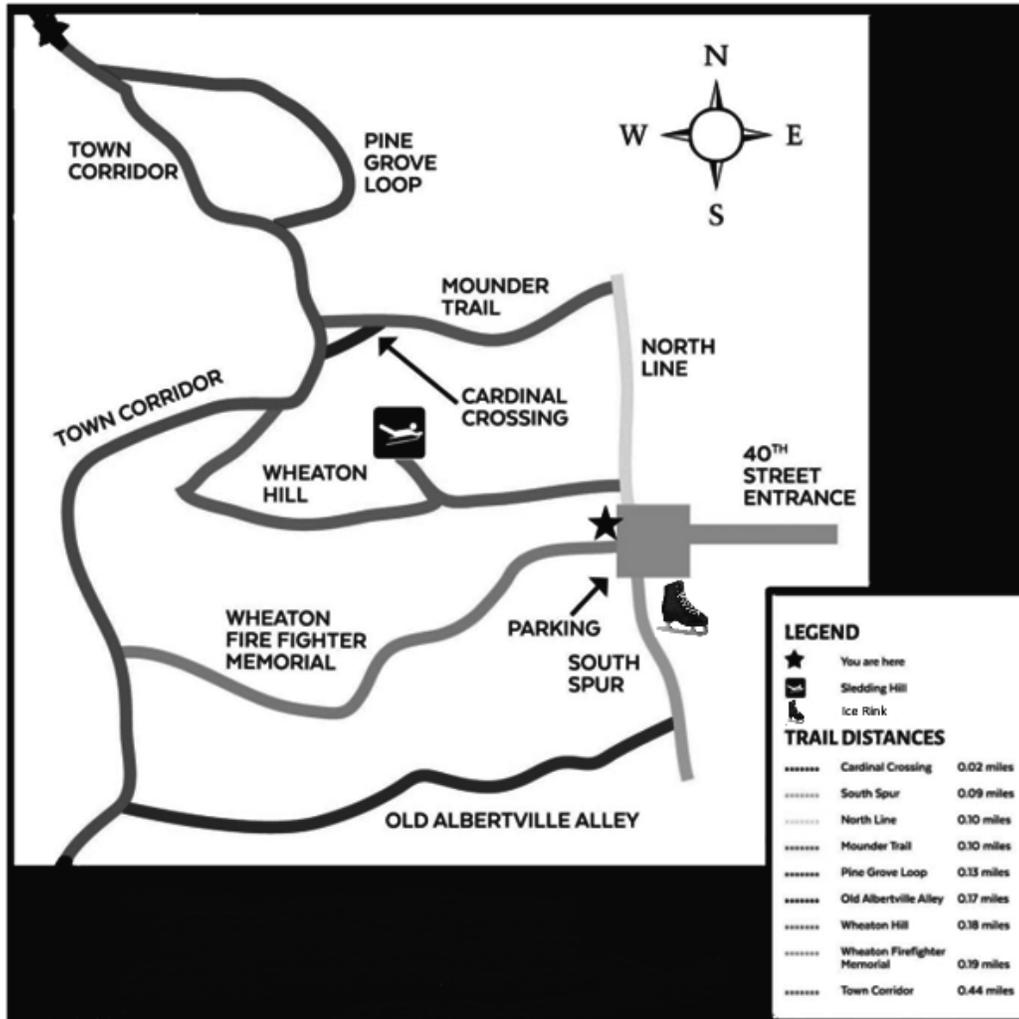
Wheaton Park was very fortunate again for Earth and Arbor Day this year to have a collaborative project between Elk Mound School District 4th Grade classes, Parks Commission, Plan Commission, and Department of Natural Resources that brought 100 new white spruce trees to the 40th Street field. Students were able to learn about trees, planting techniques, mulching, and caring for trees after being planted. Thank you to everyone involved with this project and it is great to see trees being planted after the Wheaton Tornado in 2019 took so many from our community.

Interested in helping with park projects? Contact any Parks Commission member.

Feel free to 'Like Wheaton Parks & Recreation' on Facebook and Stay Connected!

PARK INTERESTING FACTOIDS

New to Wheaton Park this summer is Geocaching! Geocaching is the recreational activity of hunting for and finding a hidden object by means of GPS coordinates posted on a geocaching website. This provides a way for groups and citizens to learn about the environment and help clean it up. Cache in and trash out is a common slogan of geocachers. Thank you to the groups and citizen volunteers for bringing this new adventure to Wheaton Park!



PARK RENTALS

Park rental rates are listed on the park reservation application. Rates vary depending on the applicant's residency status and the type of event being held.

Go to <https://townofwheaton.com/parks-recreation>

✓ Check Pavilion Sizes, Capacity, Number of Picnic Tables

✓ Check Pavilion Availability

✓ Download Reservation Application/Check Rental Rates

✓ Download Park Renter Procedures

To schedule park rentals, you can also email wheatonpark@gmail.com or call Ken Books at 715-874-6414.

WHEATON PARK ORNAMENTATION PROJECT CAMPAIGN

The Parks Commission has been adding amenities to the park over the last couple years and has also created an ornamentation project campaign for residents/non-residents. This fundraising campaign offers the community an opportunity to make a donation, memorial gift, or in honor gift with long lasting benefits to our area. By allowing for resident/non-resident and community donations this further creates a sense of community ownership to this project and unifies our commitment to the park.

Our project will have 2 phases and to help keep Wheaton Park aesthetically pleasing we have selected the donation level options. We have started with Phase 1 which focuses on areas around the lower pavilion and lower ball fields. Once Phase 1 is fully completed we will begin Phase 2 which will focus on areas around the upper pavilion and upper ball field.

A big thank you to everyone that has donated with your help we have raised \$8,899 (67%) of our \$13,250 Phase 1 & 2 goal since the ornamentation project started!

Interested in DONATING? See the attached Wheaton Park Ornamentation Donation Form. Additional information is located at <https://townofwheaton.com/wheaton-park-ornamentation-project-campaign/>

TOWN BOAT LANDING

The Wheaton Town Boat Landing is located at 3001 106th Street, Chippewa Falls.

COMING IN 2023 - Major boat landing renovations to include boat launch replacement, new public dock, better handicap parking/accessibility, and security lighting. Town of Wheaton was awarded by the Wisconsin Waterways Commission in August 2022 a Department of Natural Resources Recreational Boating Facilities (RBF) Grant for the maximum amount of 50% of the estimated project costs!

Project bids were received in February 2023 and approved by the Town Board in March 2023. Project kickoff meeting with contractors and township was held in May 2023.

Next steps for the project:

1. Construction – There will be periods of time in June – September when the boat landing is unavailable due to construction. We will do our best to provide updates via the website and Wheaton Parks & Recreation Facebook page.

2. Check out plans, bids received/awarded, tentative schedule, and if boat landing is open/closed at <https://townofwheaton.com/parks-recreation/> under Wheaton Boat Landing.

Reminder: For the safety of all park/boat landing users and pursuant to

Wis. Stat. §167.30 – NO hunting is allowed on park and/or boat landing property.

TOWN HALL RENTALS

Town hall rental rates are listed on the town hall reservation application. Rates vary depending on the applicant's residency status.

Go to <https://townofwheaton.com/rentals/>

- ✓ Check Town Hall Amenities and Available Tables/Chairs
- ✓ Check Town Hall Availability
- ✓ Download Reservation Application/Check Rental Rates
- ✓ Rentals Responsible for Cleanup & Garbage Removal

To schedule town hall rentals, you can also email wheatonpark@gmail.com or call Ken Books at 715-874-6414.



Wheaton Fired-Up Day

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Wheaton Town Park - 3900 38th Street - Elk Mound, WI

The Fun Starts at 3 PM

**Food & Beverages Available
Gun Raffles, Pull Tabs, 50/50, Bucket Raffle**

3:00 - 7:00 PM



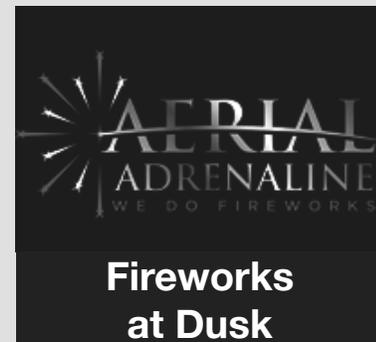
**Kids Activities
&
Safety
Demonstrations**



Free Admission



BORDERLINE
Band
5 PM - 10 PM



Posters Donated By:



www.facebook.com/WheatonFireandRescue
Questions: firedup@wheatonfirerescue.org

WHEATON PARK ORNAMENTATION PROJECT DONATION FORM

Wheaton Parks Commission has started an ornamentation project to help beautify Wheaton Park and provide additional amenities.

Interested in DONATING? It's as simple as 1-2-3!

1. Fill out the following information.

Name of Donor: _____ Amount _____

Donor's Address: _____

Donor's Phone: _____

DONATION: _____ MEMORIAL: _____ HONOREE: _____

In Memory Of/In Honor Of: _____

Donation Given for: BUSH ___ SHRUB ___ TREE ___ PICNIC TABLE ___ BENCH ___

*OTHER PARK IMPROVEMENT ___ EXPLAIN PARK IMPROVEMENT _____

Check Box if you prefer your donation be used where needed.

2. Make Checks Payable to Town of Wheaton

Check Box if you want your donation to remain anonymous.

3. Mail Donation Form and Check To

Ken Books
Town of Wheaton Parks Commission Chair
1121 40th Street
Eau Claire, WI 54703

4. All donations given are reviewed/accepted by Wheaton Parks Commission before donation work can start.

Wis. Stat. § 60.66

Our project has 2 phases and to help keep Wheaton Park aesthetically pleasing we have selected the donation level options. Phase 1 focuses on areas around the lower pavilion and lower ball fields while Phase 2 focuses on areas around the upper pavilion and upper ball field.

*Want to donate a different park improvement let's work together on the project to ensure park short- and long-term goals are met.

Donation Level	Cost (Per Donation)	Phase 1 Needs	Phase 2 Needs
Bushes (Weigala, Spirea, Hydrangea)	\$50	9	3
Shrubs (Dogwood, Lilac)	\$100	1	0
Trees (Maple, Elm, Fruitless Flowering Crab)	\$200	6	3
Picnic Table (Wood)	\$350	0	1
Bench (6' to 8' Metal in Ground)	\$500	0	7
Park Improvement			

Please Note: Due to continued market fluctuations in material costs your donation may not cover the entire cost; however, donations received as "use where needed" will be allocated to offset the cost difference.

Town of Wheaton
4975 Cty Hwy T
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EAU CLAIRE, WI
Permit # 1557



*Agriculture • Business
Industry • Recreation • Tourism*

<https://TownOfWheaton.com>