

## HOMETOWN HAPPENINGS

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**For Police, Fire, and after hours Water & Sewer Emergency Dial .....911**  
**City Hall Hours**  
**8:00 a.m. to**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Monday - Friday**

### FEEDBACK:

*Please send your feedback to:*  
 Ana Vainisi, Editor  
 City Clerk's Office  
 28 W 701 Stafford Place  
 Warrenville, IL 60555 or  
[avainisi@warrenville.il.us](mailto:avainisi@warrenville.il.us)

## MAYOR'S COLUMN

GUEST WRITER: JENNIFER MCMAHON  
 ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR

A summer without train horns would be nice and I'm optimistic that this dream will finally become reality this year! For those of you who live near the Canadian National (formerly EJ&E) railroad tracks, the constant, loud horns throughout the day and night have been more than disruptive to your quality of life. Since 2005, we've been working on silencing those horns. In Mayor Brummel's previous columns, he provided history and status of this issue and I'm hoping this is the last time such an article will have to be written.

In July 2005, the City took the lead with Aurora, Naperville, and West Chicago to establish a Quiet Zone. Among the things required for a Quiet Zone is an assessment of the 19 crossings in the Zone.

This evaluation requires the coordination of many local, state and federal agencies. Those evaluations were done in October 2006, and two of the crossings did not to meet the minimum safety requirements. Both of those crossings were in Aurora and were upgraded in October 2008.

On October 31, 2008, notification to establish a Quiet Zone was sent to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). But, the EJ&E objected on a number of points. First, that Batavia Road was a private crossing, secondly that it was at the endpoint of the Quiet Zone and finally, that it is over a mile away from the next at-grade public crossing. Because of this, the FRA rejected Batavia Road being in the Quiet Zone.

In early 2009, the City began negotiations with Canadian National (CN) railroad who took ownership of the EJ&E railroad. On June 15, 2009, City Council approved an agreement with CN that committed them "to support an application to convert Batavia Road from a private crossing to a public crossing and to support an application for a quiet zone at Batavia Road." We pursued the conversion to a public crossing which included entering into an easement agreement with CN. However, CN said that the City would have to list them as additionally insured in if they were to sign the easement agreement. After a year of the City attempting to get insurance, CN finally dropped the requirement.

In March 2011, CN and the City completed the conversion of Batavia Road from a private crossing to a public crossing and the City began the Quiet Zone process again by coordinating a second crossing evaluation. That was completed on January 19, 2012. However, the FRA will not approve a Quiet Zone until pedestrian gates are installed at the Prairie Path crossings north and south of I-88. Those are scheduled to be installed this spring. Therefore, once the gates are installed, the City can send out its Notification of Establishment of a Quiet Zone. All affected parties have 30 days to comment. Once that comment period is complete, the Quiet Zone will finally be in place.

Establishing a Quiet Zone is a long and arduous process because silencing horns pose a safety and liability risk to the railroad. The City has been working on this project for almost seven years and continues to do so. For a much more detailed account of this process, visit the City's website under News. Anyone with questions about this issue can contact me at (630) 393-9427 or [jmcmahon@warrenville.il.us](mailto:jmcmahon@warrenville.il.us).



**THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO in WARRENVILLE:**

Check out these local organization websites or give them a call:  
City of Warrenville: [www.warrenville.il.us](http://www.warrenville.il.us) (630) 393-9427  
Warrenville Public Library District: [www.warrenville.com](http://www.warrenville.com) (630) 393-1171  
School District #200: [www.CUSD200.org](http://www.CUSD200.org) (630) 682-2000  
Warrenville Fire District: [www.warrenvillefire.com](http://www.warrenvillefire.com) (630) 393-1381  
Warrenville Park District: [www.warrenvilleparks.org](http://www.warrenvilleparks.org) (630) 393-7279  
Warrenville Historical Society: [www.warrenvillehistorical.org](http://www.warrenvillehistorical.org) (630) 393-4215  
DuPage Forest Preserve District: [www.dupageforest.org](http://www.dupageforest.org) (630) 933-7200

**For more current events, also check out the Channel 10 message board**

## Arbor Day 2012

Join the Warrenville Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) for the City's 27th Arbor Day celebration on Saturday, April 28, from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Park District Recreation Center and rear parking lot, 3S260 Warren Avenue (at Curtis Avenue). A tree dedication ceremony, musical performances by Warrenville grade school children, exhibits, door prizes, and refreshments will be part of the Arbor Day celebration.

While supplies last, visitors will also receive a native tree seedling to take home and plant in their yard to enjoy for years and years to come. This year's selection of free trees includes:

- Redosier Dogwood**
- American Plum**
- American Hazelnut**
- Black Cherry**
- Swamp White Oak**

Arbor Day began in 1872 when state legislator J. Sterling Morton addressed the horticultural society in Brownville, Nebraska, and said "If I had the power, I would compel every person who had a home in this state to plant and cultivate trees."



The Warrenville EAC is the successor of the Natural Areas Commission, which was established in 1986 to oversee the cultivation of trees and other natural resources within the City of Warrenville. For more information about the Arbor Day celebration or the EAC, call (630) 393-9427 or visit [www.warrenville.il.us](http://www.warrenville.il.us).

**Come Enjoy Arbor Day in Warrenville!!**

## New Electronics Recycling Regulations

Electronic equipment can no longer be accepted at curbside.

Electronics are banned from landfills in Illinois as of January 1. They must now be recycled by a registered collector, recycler, and/or manufacturer. For a listing of places that accept electronics, visit DuPage County's website at [www.dupageco.org/recycling](http://www.dupageco.org/recycling).

### EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARY:

Congratulations to the City employee celebrating an anniversary in April:  
Barbara Dembinski, Crossing Guard  
5 Years

*Hometown Happenings* recognizes employees celebrating milestone 5, 10, 15, 20 or 25 years of employment.

## 2012 Road Program

Streets slated for resurfacing during the 2012 construction season include complete grinding and resurfacing of Curtis Avenue from Warren Avenue to Warrenville Road, and Manning Avenue from Ray Street to Warrenville Road, including curb, gutter, and sidewalk on one side of the roadway.

Additionally, all roads north of Batavia Road located in the Summerlakes Subdivision, Waverly Avenue from Riverside Avenue to Route 59, and all streets on the east side of town north of Galusha Avenue will be resurfaced.

Please remember to slow down when you are in construction zones, to ensure the safety of construction workers and equipment.



Watch for signs of road construction

## ComEd Tree Trimming Announcement

ComEd conducts a vegetation management plan every four years, in addition to trimming after storms and certain power outages. State statute 220 ILCS 5/8-505.1 gives ComEd authority to trim trees in "such a manner that there shall be a proper clearance between the nearest wires or equipment and any portion of the trees or vegetation." ComEd utilizes the International Society of Arboriculture's standards for avoiding tree and utility conflicts. Information on those standards can be found at [www.treesaregood.com/treecare/avoiding\\_conflicts.aspx](http://www.treesaregood.com/treecare/avoiding_conflicts.aspx).

ComEd will notify customers of upcoming trimming work via a post card in the mail and an ad in the local paper, as well as on the City website and on Channel 10. Residents concerned about potential trimming on or adjacent to their property can contact ComEd at 1-800-Edison-1 and ask for a vegetation management representative before work is performed. Information about ComEd's vegetation management and/or how to resolve disputes can be found at [www.comed.com/customer-service/service-request/trees-powerlines/pages/dispute-resolution.aspx](http://www.comed.com/customer-service/service-request/trees-powerlines/pages/dispute-resolution.aspx).

ComEd is a utility and is regulated by the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). The ICC is designed to address consumer complaints with utilities, including tree trimming. Information can be found at their Consumer Services Division at this link: [www.icc.illinois.gov/consumer/complaint](http://www.icc.illinois.gov/consumer/complaint).

## Yard Waste Collection Begins April 1 Along with Enforcement of Trash Can Size and Weight Limit

Landscape/yard waste collection is available each year from April 1 through November 30. Leaves and grass cuttings must be contained in either a 30 gallon biodegradable paper bag, or a standard 35-gallon garbage container, which must clearly display a YARD WASTE ONLY decal. Decals can be obtained free of charge at City Hall. However, all containers/bundles/bags still require the use of refuse/yard waste stickers. The cost of Waste Management yard waste stickers is \$2.86 each (\$2.97 as of May 1). Yard waste is picked up on the same day as trash and recycling pickup.

Please note: Waste Management strictly enforces the rules for size of the cans and weight of the garbage bags for single family residences. Waste Management will tag oversized cans. In order to avoid disruption of waste collection services, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Use 35-gallon plastic or galvanized metal can not to exceed 50 pounds when filled.
- Use a plastic bag with the same capacity as metal or plastic can, each bag or can must have a refuse sticker.
- Recycling: Use 18 or 20 gallon-recycling bin. Recycling is unlimited and on a voluntary basis. Waste Management does not accept #6 plastics.

Any questions should be directed to Waste Management at (800) 796-9696 or Assistant City Administrator Jennifer McMahon at (630) 393-9427 or [jmcmahon@warrenville.il.us](mailto:jmcmahon@warrenville.il.us).

"Every private citizen has a public responsibility"  
 Myra Janco Daniels

## Spring Weather Warnings

Spring is the season most likely to see severe weather in Illinois, and now is the time to look into preparing the home, work, or school for inclement weather. Tornadoes have occurred in Illinois during all months, but are most likely from April 1 to June 30, and may occur at all hours of the day. Visit <http://ready.illinois.gov/default.htm>, for more information Warrenville ESDA can also provide helpful publications and other information by contacting [esda@warrenville.il.us](mailto:esda@warrenville.il.us) or by phone at (630) 918-5119.

## Earth Day 2012

Local communities can do much to reverse environmental degradation and contribute to building a healthy society by addressing issues such as energy use, transportation, waste prevention, and sprawl. There are sound economic, environmental, and social reasons for local governments to initiate energy efficiency and renewable energy practices.

The City of Warrenville, through its Environmental Advisory Commission, is committed to undertaking projects that enhance our community's natural environment and supporting programs that further the efficient use of clean, renewable energy within its borders. All residents are invited to join in the annual Earth Day Trail Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 28, 2012, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Gazebo in front of City Hall.



## Parkway/Right-of-Way Plantings

Planting on the parkway (generally the area between the street and sidewalk) is permitted without a Landscape License and Covenant Agreement if it encompasses less than 100 square feet total area, and all plantings are low-profile, annual, and perennial flowers, and plants that do not exceed 24 inches in height.

Anyone interested in planting a larger area with landscape features, is required to complete a Landscape License and Covenant Agreement that requires a \$35 permit processing fee and a \$40-45 recording fee with the DuPage County Recorder of Deeds. All agreements will be reviewed by the Community Development Department and the property owner will be required to maintain the landscaping at all times or will be required to return it to its original condition (grass).



Questions should be referred to the Community Development Department at (630) 393-9050. The Landscape License and Covenant Agreement application may be found on the City's website, [www.warrenville.il.us](http://www.warrenville.il.us).

## Volunteer Opportunity

Mayor Brummel has announced an opening in the Board of Fire and Police Commission. The Board is responsible for the hiring, promotion, discipline, and termination of sworn personnel in the Warrenville Police Department, excluding the rank of Chief, including all aspects of testing and promotional exams as well as conducting disciplinary hearings. The Board meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Police Department for regular meetings, and as needed during testing or for special meetings and hearings. Interested applicants may contact Mayor Brummel at [davidbrummel@warrenville.il.us](mailto:davidbrummel@warrenville.il.us) with a letter of interest and resume.

City of Warrenville

28 W 701 Stafford Place  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Phone: 630-393-9427  
Fax: 630-393-6948  
www.warrenville.il.us

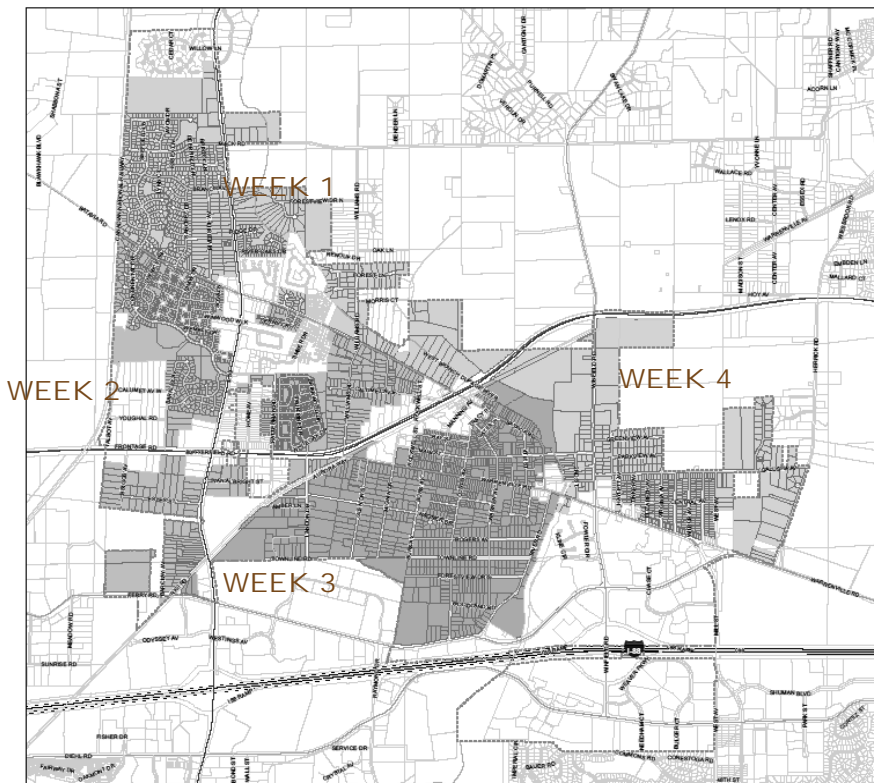
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April showers=May flowers

## Brush Pickup Resumes April 1



The 2012 brush pick-up service will begin April 1 and continue through June 25. There will be no brush pickup in July and August, but will resume September 1, and continue through October 22. When placing brush out for pick-up, please follow these guidelines:

- Brush piles cannot be more than 3' in height,
- Branches cannot be longer than 8' in length,
- Branches cannot be larger than 8" in diameter, and
- Brush pickup is limited to trimmings from bushes or shrubs or trees located on the property.

Other items such as logs, root balls, stumps, grass clippings, flowers, weeds, plants, leaves, or lumber will NOT be picked up. All brush must be placed on the parkway with the larger cut end toward the street by 7:00 a.m. on the morning of scheduled pick-up. Brush may also be placed as early as 8:00 a.m. on the Friday prior to your pick-up date.

Questions may be addressed to the Public Works Department at (630) 393-9050.

## Hometown Happenings Online -Don't Miss Out-

The editor of *Hometown Happenings* is taking requests from residents who would like to receive notice via email with a link to connect to the bi-monthly online only edition of the newsletter. The June issue will be the next online publication, with the May 2012 issue being published in hard-copy and mailed. Please contact Ana Vainisi at (630) 393-9427 or [avainisi@warrenville.il.us](mailto:avainisi@warrenville.il.us), and request to be added to the e-mail list or stop by City Hall and fill out a request form.

**HISTORICAL COPIES:** Residents may also view current and past issues of *Hometown Happenings* on the City's Laserfiche system. Simply go to [www.warrenville.il.us](http://www.warrenville.il.us) under Living or Business, then General Information and choose the Newsletter page. There is a link on the bottom of that page to the Laserfiche database called *View past issues of the Hometown Happenings*, then choose the folder titled City Newsletter. Issues date back to 1997.

**GET YOUR OLD PAPERS READY: SHREDDING DAY IS COMING SATURDAY, MAY 19, at Public Works Garage**

[www.warrenville.il.us](http://www.warrenville.il.us)