



# CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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## WPD JUNE TRAFFIC INITIATIVE

The **Woodstock Police Department** has announced that June's Traffic Enforcement Initiative will target Distracted Driving Violations.

Woodstock Police Officers will be conducting highly visible and increased enforcement regarding



distracted drivers who are talking on handheld cell phones or otherwise using a handheld electronic communication device. As always, the primary goal is to reduce the

incidence of motor vehicle crashes and the possible resulting injuries and fatalities that result from these violations.

Remember – *one text or call could wreck it all!*

For further information or questions regarding this special traffic enforcement initiative, please contact **Sergeant Rob Pritchard** at 815-338-2131 or at [rpritchard@woodstockil.gov](mailto:rpritchard@woodstockil.gov).

- 2 **LEGO Class**
- 3 **Library News**
- 4 **Job Shadowing at WWTP**
- 5 **Downtown Planters**
- 6 **Tween Night**

## JEFF VAN LANDUYT PROMOTED TO POSITION OF PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

**City Manager Roscoe Stelford** announced this week that the impending vacancy as head of the City's **Public Works Department** will be filled by **Jeff Van Landuyt**, currently that Department's **Assistant Director**.

**Jeff's** dedicated service in municipal government spans 34 years, beginning in Woodstock's Waste Water Treatment division in 1981. Over the next few years, he was offered career opportunities with Lake Zurich and Barrington, before returning to Woodstock as **Waste Water Treatment Superintendent** in 1998. In 2005, Jeff was promoted to the position of **Assistant Public Works Director**, and subsequently served as **Interim Public Works Director** following the retirement of **Director John Isbell** in 2012. **Jeff's** extensive professional experience, along with his demonstrated commitment to providing the best possible service for the residents of Woodstock, will ensure a smooth and effective transition as current **Director Paul Ruscko** prepares for his departure to another organization.

As **Director, Jeff** will oversee operations of six **Public Works** divisions, including Administration, Streets & Fleet, Parks & Facilities, Water Treatment, Waste Water Treatment and Water & Sewer Maintenance, with 55 total employees and a budget of \$5.3 million.

Please join us in wishing **Jeff** every success with his well-deserved promotion!

[www.myheartdreams.blogspot.com](http://www.myheartdreams.blogspot.com)



### **YARD MAINTENANCE AND WEED CONTROL**

The **Department of Public Works** requests your assistance with controlling weeds that may be growing in front of your property and along the curb line adjoining the asphalt surface.

Your assistance with weed control would help maintain property values in neighborhoods throughout the City of Woodstock, allow storm water to move more easily towards the drain inlets, and aid in the longevity of the asphalt.

Also, as a reminder, when mowing your lawn please do not blow the grass clippings into the roadways as this can clog drain inlets and cause flooding issues during rain events.

We appreciate your assistance. If you have any questions about these practices, please contact the Department of Public Works at 815-338-6118.



### **MEDRETURN BOX REACHES MILESTONE**



The MedReturn Box in the lobby of the **Woodstock Police Department** recently reached an important milestone – since the inception of this program in May 2013, the box has collected *1,068 pounds* of unwanted or expired prescription and non-prescription medications. Around a *half a ton* of drugs have been taken out of circulation, eliminating the chance they will be misused.

The MedReturn Box is available to residents 24/7/365. Any and all medications in solid pill form are acceptable (even pet medications.) No liquids, syringes or sharps will be accepted.

For further information contact Police Administration at 815-338-6787.

### **BRAND NEW CLASS FILLS THE FIRST TIME OFFERED**

The Recreation Department's *Lego Robotics Engineering Summer Camp* ran this past week. It was a week-long class that provided activities for new and experienced children using a creative, educational approach that supports Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.



The class was full with sixteen participants. An additional class is being planned to accommodate the nine kids that were on the waitlist. Classes will be offered in the fall as well.

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

- The library is collaborating with the McHenry County Civil War Roundtable and the Oakland Cemetery Board this Saturday, June 13 at 10AM for a Civil War Cemetery Walk/Tour through Oakland Cemetery. This is the first time for this event, but it should be a fun way to spend Saturday morning.
- Tuesday, June 16 at noon, **Mary Ryan** will be holding her second Storytime at the Farmers Market. These storytimes are very popular, with families arriving well in advance of the storytime to get good seats. The Farmers Market organizers have been very helpful.
- On Wednesday, June 17, from 7-8:30PM, Laura Ingalls Wilder (as portrayed by Laura F. Keyes in full costume) will visit the library. She will share songs and stories from the frontier. Registration is filling up quick, but there are a few openings left.
- Our Summer Reading Program is off to a terrific start, with over 600 reading logs distributed in the first two weeks, and over 2,000 hours of reading already recorded. There is still plenty of time to register and begin winning fun prizes for reading

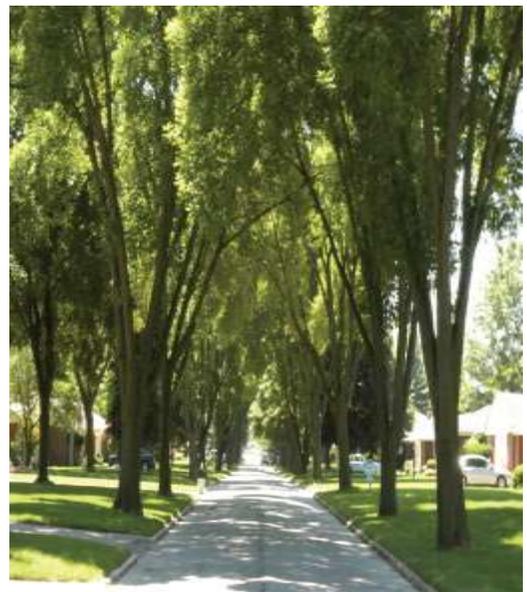
## **EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB)**

Many of the Ash trees in Woodstock have become infested with Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and are in a stage of decline or are already dead. If you have an Ash tree near your home, look for symptoms of EAB:

- The tree canopy thins or dies back as nutrients and water are unable to reach the top.
- Suckers or new young branches sprout from the tree's trunk, lower branches, or base.
- Woodpeckers make holes in the bark or branches as they look for an EAB lunch.

If you believe you have an Ash tree that could be infested with EAB, don't hesitate to call the City's **Department of Public Works** at, 815-338-6118, to request an inspection from the City's Arborist. The City will continue to respond to calls for inspection and maintenance of Ash trees, as well as all trees that need attention.

You can find additional information regarding firewood regulations and EAB treatment on the Illinois Department of Agriculture's EAB website: <http://www.agr.state.il.us/eab/>



## ***JOB SHADOWING AT THE WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS***

During the past two weeks, Illinois Institute of Technology student, Svetlana Taylor, spent time job-shadowing employees of the **City of Woodstock's Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment Plants**. Svetlana's major field of study is Chemical Engineering; she's currently working on her master's degree in Environmental Engineering.

Svetlana spent most of her two weeks working with the Wastewater Division. **Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent, Anne George**, gave her a tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant facilities and explained EPA requirements and NPDES permits. Sue Hansell, Laboratory Manager, explained the laboratory portion and instructed her on how to perform various tests and what the results mean in the treatment process. Wayne Baker, Operator II, explained the treatment process in more detail and how to perform plant operations.

Svetlana spent several days shadowing the **Water Treatment Plant with Will Smith**, Superintendent. Will explained the water treatment plant's processes, such as the different types of treatment technologies, the variety of wells used, and comparisons to surface water. She learned about the array of tests that are completed and why they are necessary. Svetlana also was able to learn about the disinfection process at the City's aquatic center, Woodstock Water Works.

Svetlana interviewed **Al Wilson, City Engineer**, regarding storm water permits and the engineering aspects of storm water issues.

Svetlana will be able to use the knowledge that she has acquired to continue her quest to earn her degrees in Chemical and Environmental Engineering. She thought both the water and wastewater treatment processes were educationally beneficial and said this information will help her immensely with her studies at Illinois Institute of Technology.

Best of luck, Svetlana!



## ***DOWNTOWN PLANTERS***

Beautification of the Downtown has always been a priority to the City of Woodstock. Two of the areas are the Park in the Square and Sesquicentennial Park. Each year many events are held in and around the Square and are attended by thousands. It is important that these areas be maintained daily, which has a positive reflection of the city and businesses within the downtown.

Over the years, the Kishwaukee Valley Garden Club has planted and maintained 11 planters around the square and 4 planters at Sesquicentennial Park. The Club had to step away from these tasks due to a drop in membership. The City is very grateful to the Kishwaukee Valley Garden Club for donating their time and efforts in helping to keep the downtown beautiful. Over the years the City received many compliments from visitors and residents about the beautiful planters.

This year the Woodstock Jaycees will be taking over maintenance of the planters in the Downtown. The Woodstock Jaycees Vice President, Adam Garrison, and Project Manager, Crystal Squires, have volunteered the Jaycees to perform planting, weeding, maintaining and watering of the planters around the Square and at Sesquicentennial Park. The Woodstock Jaycees will be planting flowers the afternoon of Friday, June 12, 2015.

The City of Woodstock extends their thanks and appreciation to the members of the Kishwaukee Valley Garden Club for their many years of service. The City is also grateful for organizations like the Woodstock Jaycees for stepping in to take over these projects.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact the **Department of Public Works** at 815-338-6118.



### **FIRST SUMMER TWEEN NIGHT**



Close to 300 tweens attended *Woodstock Water Work's* first **Tween Night** of the summer this past Wednesday. Always a popular night, tweens grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> can come to a private pool party just for themselves – no parents or younger siblings allowed.

This week, DJ Tim Hicks from Music in Motion provided music for the evening as the tweens answered summer trivia throughout the night for prizes!



### **MEETINGS NEXT WEEK...**

Tuesday, June 16 – City Council, 7PM, Council Chambers

Wednesday, June 17 – Transportation Commission, 7PM, Council Chambers

## Quotation

Patience is the companion of wisdom.

[Saint Augustine](#)