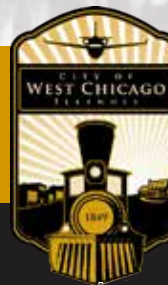


Visit Us Online
www.westchicago.org



WELCOME!

GUIDE FOR NEW RESIDENTS OF WEST CHICAGO

2022



Ruben Pineda

Mayor

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR RUBEN PINEDA

Welcome to West Chicago!

I'd like to invite you to discover why our diverse community with its attractive neighborhoods, parks and open spaces is as well suited for the next generation as it is for those who have lived here all of their lives like myself.

It offers a mix of housing stock, quality schools, excellent community facilities and a charming city center which is host to a number of signature special events throughout the year.

West Chicago has blended the appeal of a small town community centered in a green belt of high quality open space. Known to be a major bicycling and outdoor recreation hub of the western suburbs, it ranks high for those who enjoy an active lifestyle.

West Chicago is also rich in community spirit with a strong civic consciousness and pride.

I hope you'll enjoy exploring our city and our website and will visit both often.

Sincerely,

Ruben Pineda

VISIT OR CALL US

CITY HALL

475 Main Street
West Chicago, IL 60185

(630) 293-2200

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

200 Fremont Street
West Chicago, IL 60185

(630) 231-2123

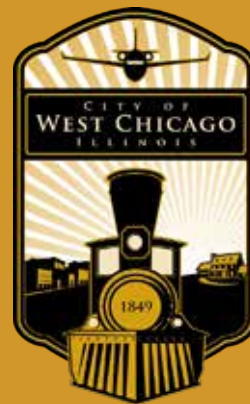
For Emergencies
Dial: 911

POLICE DEPARTMENT

325 Spencer Street
West Chicago, IL 60185

(630) 293-2222

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm



CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

475 Main Street,
West Chicago, IL 60185
Phone: (630) 293-2200
Fax: (630) 293-3028



West Chicago City
Museum
132 Main St
West Chicago, IL 60185

GOOD NEIGHBORS, GREAT CITY

City codes ensure the safety, prosperity, health and welfare of our residents, and promote more livable neighborhoods. Through public outreach and code enforcement, our neighborhood inspectors help keep our communities clean and vibrant.

Outdoor Storage: Everything in its Place and Out of Sight

Yards: Keep Your Lawn in Check and Under Control

Sidewalks: Clear Sidewalks = Safe Sidewalks

Vehicles: Only Park on Paved Surfaces and
No Overnight Parking

Signs: Political signs to be displayed on private
property only.

WEST CHICAGO CITY MUSEUM

The West Chicago City Museum is a department of the City of West Chicago. The Museum was established by City ordinance in 1975, in the building of the original West Chicago town hall. The collection is held in the public trust and exists for the public's informational and educational benefit.

Initially an agricultural region settled in the 1830s & 40s, the community holds the distinction of being the first Illinois town created as a result of the railroads. The community's original name, Junction, refers to the convergence of rail lines where this lively town of railroad workers and facilities sprang up. Seeking to reinvent itself as "Chicago's Coming Great Manufacturing Suburb" the town was renamed West Chicago in 1896.

Today West Chicago is a suburban community of over 25,000 with a diverse population. The Museum's collection reflects the community's rich history of nearly 175 years, helping to make meaningful connections between past and present.

Hours

Thursday, 10am-6pm
Friday, 10am-2pm
Saturday, 10am-2pm
(Only March - November)

Thursday, 10am-6pm
Friday, 10am-2:00pm
(December-February)

Contact Us

Please contact us during our
open hours at (630) 231-3376
or email us at
wegohistory@gmail.com

www.wegohistory.com

- License renewal application and fee are due prior to January 1. If submitted after January 1, a 20% penalty fee applies.

Landlord/tenant concerns or disputes are handled by the IL Circuit Courts

- The Eighteenth Judicial Circuit Court (Wheaton, IL) has information and resources on both landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities.
- See website at <https://www.dupageco.org/LawLibrary/3403/>

This resource does not contain all property standards requirements for the City of West Chicago. A link to City Code is available on the City's website.

Questions or concerns?

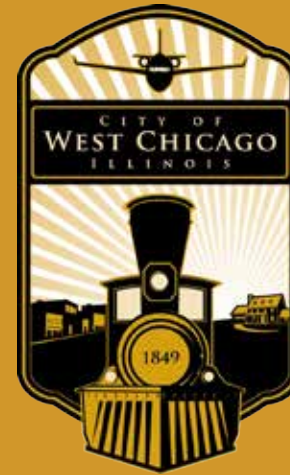
Visit <http://westchicago.org/departments/community-development>
or contact (630)293-2200 extension 131 or 141
or email CommunityDev@westchicago.org.



WHAT PHONE NUMBER DO I CALL WHEN I NEED A POLICE OFFICER?

9-1-1 is a number to be used anytime for an emergency or non-emergency. 9-1-1 should be used for both service and emergency calls – it is a police response number.

Residents that need information or administrative services or the Records Unit may call (630) 293-2222 during regular business hours (Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.). If you dial (630) 293-2222 after business hours, please stay on the line and your call will be forwarded to the dispatch center.



West Chicago is a diverse, family oriented community with a rich cultural mix and a proud heritage. It is the first Illinois community established by the railroads and continues to be a convenient transportation hub served by three major rail lines, one of Illinois' busiest airports and three state highways.

1855 | Established

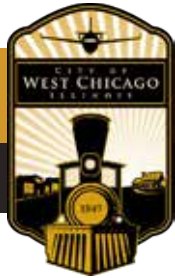
14.80 mi² | Area

27,447 | Estimated Population
(2015 Census)

35 Miles | Distance from Chicago
(approximate)

Find us...
stay connected!





WHO REPRESENTS ME?



Heather Brown

Ward 2

(630) 853-7131

hbrown@westchicago.org



Alton Hallett

Ward 3

(630) 254-7112

ahallett@westchicago.org



Christine Dettmann

(630) 300-4188

cdettmann@westchicago.org



Matthew E. Garling

Ward 5

(630) 791-0575

mgarling@westchicago.org



Jeanne Short

Ward 6

(630) 293-2200

jshort@westchicago.org



Rebecca Stout

Ward 6

(630) 293-7335

bstout@westchicago.org



Joseph Morano

Ward 7

(630) 673-9142

jmorano@westchicago.org



Ruben Pineda

Mayor

(630) 293-2200 x135

rpineda@westchicago.org

Basement Rooms

- Basement sleeping rooms must have drywall ceilings and walls, a door and an egress window with a minimum area of 9 square feet. Smoke and carbon-monoxide detectors must also be installed. If you are interested in making any part of the basement into a sleeping room please contact the Community Development Department for permit requirements.
- Rooms in the basement must be protected from moisture, seepage, and sewer back up.

Insects and Rodents

- All properties must be kept free of insects and rodents to prevent damage to the home and the transmission of disease through bites and feces.
- Kitchens and food storage areas should be kept tidy, and food should be stored off the floor to keep pests out. Even pet food left out in a feeding dish will attract unwanted pests.
- At the first sign of insects or rodents, take aggressive action or call an exterminator before the problem gets out of hand.

Fire Pits

- Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material.
- Permanent outdoor fireplaces shall not be operated within 25 feet of a structure of combustible material and require a permit from the City.
- Only burn clean, untreated wood (no garbage, painted materials, or construction waste).
- Fires must never be left unattended and must be extinguished with water before leaving the area.

Vehicles

- Vehicles that are not operational, rusted, wrecked or partly wrecked, dismantled or partly dismantled, are not registered and/or do not have a current valid license plate attached to it are not permitted to be stored on the property, except in a closed garage.
- Vehicles are not permitted to be parked on any portion of the yard, except on an area that is paved. A "paved surface" can be cement, brick, asphalt, paver, etc.
- A maximum of one non-commercial trailer vehicle is permitted on a residential property and must be parked on a paved surface.

Renting Your Property

- All rental properties in the City must be licensed, which requires annual registration and inspection.
- During each inspection, the landlord is required to provide proof of a valid lease for each respective rental unit. Each lease must contain wording indicating the tenants' written consent to allow inspection of the property by the City.
- The licensing term starts January 1 of any given year and ends December 31 of the same year.

STANDARDS FOR MAINTENANCE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

A GUIDE FOR PROPERTY OWNERS, LANDLORDS, & TENANTS

Yards

- Yards must be maintained free of garbage and debris.
- Grass must be cut as often as needed to control weeds and to ensure it is not longer than eight (8) inches.
- It is required that garbage and recycling carts be stored in a secure location, not visible from the street, and placed at the curbside the morning of collection. Carts should be removed from the curbside promptly after pick-up.
- Dead, diseased and dying trees must be removed from the property.
- Sidewalks, stoops and driveways must be maintained free from crumbling, potholes or cracks. A permit is required to replace or repair.

Exteriors and Fences

- Houses and existing accessory structures (such as sheds, garages, and fences) must have a protective coating that is in good condition (paint, siding, stucco) to prevent deterioration of the structure. New accessory structures require a building permit.
- Windows or window screens that are broken must be repaired, and doors must be tight-fitting to prevent insects and rodents from entering the building.
- Gutters and downspouts must be kept in good repair, and directed away from any building foundation or public sidewalk or public street. This can help to prevent flooding of basements and neighboring properties and excessive moisture, which can lead to significant and costly damage and mold problems.

Interior Conditions

- Smoke detectors must be installed on each floor and each sleeping room.
- A carbon monoxide detector must be installed within 15 feet of sleeping rooms.
- Floors, walls, and ceilings must be in good repair and free of holes and cracks.
- Paint as needed to keep surfaces washable and to protect against damage and deterioration.
- Stairs must be in good repair and equipped with handrails to prevent falls.
- GFCIs must be installed on all counter top outlets in the kitchen and at least one outlet adjacent to the sink in the bathroom.
- All circuits in the electrical panel must be properly identified.

Heating and Water

- Rental properties must maintain a temperature of not less than 68°F (20°C) during the period from October 1 to May 1 in all habitable rooms and bathrooms.
- Plumbing systems must be in good repair and provide hot water that is at least 110°F (43°C). It is also recommended, that the hot water temperature should not exceed 135°F (57°C), as it can cause severe burns, especially to small children.



James Beifuss

Ward 1

(630) 231-0584

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Lori Chassee

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Jayme Sheahan

Ward 2

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jsheahan@westchicago.org



Melissa Birch-Ferguson

Ward 4

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mbirch@westchicago.org



Sandy Dimas

Ward 4

(630) 293-5170

sdimas@westchicago.org

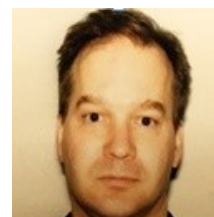


Christopher Swiatek

Ward 5

(630) 217-5885

cswiatek@westchicago.org



John Jakabcsin

Ward 7

(630) 386-7267

jjakabcsin@westchicago.org



City Council

The City of West Chicago is governed by the City Council which includes 14 members, plus the mayor and the clerk. The 14 members are elected by wards (2 per ward). Every member of the Council serves a four-year term. The departments that provide services to the City are:

- 1) Public Works
- 2) Police
- 3) Community Development
- 4) Finance
- 5) Administration

In compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, listed below are the regularly scheduled meetings of all legislative, executive, administrative, or advisory bodies of the City of West Chicago. Agendas and minutes are published on the City's website, www.westchicago.org.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CITY COUNCIL AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES				
City Council	Development Committee	Finance Committee	Public Affairs Committee	Infrastructure Committee
1st & 3rd Monday 7:00PM	2nd Monday 7:00PM	4th Thursday 6:00PM	4th Monday 7:00PM	1st Thursday 7:00PM

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS			
Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals	Civil Service Commission	Environmental Commission	Cultural Arts Commission
1st & 3rd Tuesday 7:00PM	2nd Tuesday 5:00PM	3rd Wednesday 7:00PM	1st Thursday 7:00PM
Historical Preservation Commission	Liquor Control / Tobacco Commission	Police Pension Fund **	Additional Meetings Requiring Public Notice
4th Tuesday 6:00PM	Called as Needed	3rd Thursday 9:00AM	Called as Needed

If you are interested in serving on a Board or Commission, please review the application form. The application form, Boards and Commissions Application, can now be submitted online or mailed/faxed to the Office of the Mayor.

More Info: westchicago.org/boards-commissions

** Quarterly Meetings (January, April, July, October)

I want to rent my property. Do I need a license? Yes. The City's rental licensing program ensures that all who live in West Chicago—whether they are renters or owners—reside in safe and sanitary conditions as required by the City's Code. If you are an owner, please contact us as soon as possible to be in compliance with local ordinances.

How will I recognize a City inspector? Any employee of the City will identify themselves and carry identification issued by the West Chicago Police Department. If you are not sure, ask to see the identification. If someone does not want to present their identification immediately, call the police by dialing 911.

Can I run a business from my home? A business can only be operated if the operations are limited to the interior of the house, that is, no machinery or vehicles that identify a business are allowed on the property. For more info regarding Home Occupations please call (630) 293-2200 x131.

Why do I need a building permit to improve my property? A building permit is the typical method used to determine if the improvement complies with zoning laws and building codes. The process is intended to provide safe and accessible buildings for both private and public use.

What are the rules for garage sales? Households are limited to three per year. No permit is needed. Signs may be posted only on the property of the sale, not in the parkway (the area between the sidewalk and street). The signs may not exceed four square feet.

Am I allowed to keep live chickens? The City does not allow for any chickens or similar fowl or farm or exotic animals to be kept by homeowners. Additionally, the maximum number of pets allowed per household is three.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
ANY QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CALL US AT (630) 293-2200 EXT 141



Special Events

Whatever the season, there's a reason to celebrate in West Chicago. Family-friendly events, coordinated by community volunteers and organizations in cooperation with the City of West Chicago bring people together to share an experience that's distinctly West Chicago!

These special events not only bring our residents and guests together to celebrate the City and the seasons, but they represent the very fabric of our community, uniting the civic, educational, business, social and volunteer organizations that make these festivals possible.

For a list of the City's rich offering a yearly events, check them out on westchicago.org/specialevents.



GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SERVING CITY RESIDENTS

Elem. School District #33
312 E Forest Avenue
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 293-6000
www.wego33.org

High School District #94
326 Joliet Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 876-6200
www.d94.org

Benjamin School District #25
28W250 St. Charles Road
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 876-7800
www.bendist25.org

St. Charles School District #303
201 S 7th Street
St. Charles, IL 60174
(630) 513-3030
www.district.d303.org

College of DuPage
425 Fawell Boulevard
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 942-2800
www.cod.edu

DuPage County
421 N County Farm Road
Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 407-6500
www.dupageco.org

West Chicago Park District
201 W National Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 231-9474
www.we-goparks.org

Public Library District
118 W Washington Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 231-1552
www.westchicago.lib.il.us

DuPage Forest Preserve
3S580 Naperville Road
Wheaton, IL 60189
(630) 933-7200
www.dupageforest.org

Mosquito Abatement
District
675 Sidwell Court
St. Charles, IL 60174
(630) 671-3162

DuPage Airport
Authority
2700 International Drive
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 584-2211

Fire Protection District
200 Fremont Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 231-2123
<http://www.wegofpd.org>

Winfield Township
130 Arbor Avenue
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 231-3591
www.winfieldtownship.com

Wayne Township
27W031 North Avenue
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 231-7140
www.waynetwp-il.org



INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Community Development Department provides guidance to the public on future development, current construction, property maintenance and revitalization initiatives. The department guides the progress and growth of the City of West Chicago by providing service in the following areas:

Economic Development
Historical Preservation
Museum Services
Planning and Zoning
Residential Rental Licensing
Selling and Buying a Home

WHAT INFORMATION SHOULD I KNOW

Where do I call if I need to schedule an inspection or I have questions about the inspection? To schedule all types of inspections (except Fire Department inspections) and receive information about the requirements please call (630) 293-2200 x131.

I am selling my house. What do I need to do? To process the closing of a real estate transaction, you need a Deed Certification Stamp. It is required that all debts to the City be paid, including water and garbage services, and also to schedule an inspection. The City provides the Stamp after all requirements have been taken care of.

Why did I receive a Notice of Ordinance Violation for tall grass? Keeping your lawn cut not only makes your neighborhood more attractive, it inhibits pests

such as mosquitos, insects and other small animals. City ordinance requires you to keep your grass length maintained at 8 inches or below. If you receive a Notice, please be sure to cut the grass within the 7-day time period given so that no further enforcement action will result.

Vehicles on my property. Note that cars with type C and D or larger license plates are not allowed to park in residential areas. It is also prohibited to store inoperable cars or cars without valid plates.

Why am I required to remove a dead tree? Dead trees can result in very serious consequences for homeowners, passersby and property if branches or limbs or even trunks were to fall. It is important to have the tree removed by a qualified individual as soon as possible.

GENERAL INFORMATION TRANSPORTATION



METRA

West Chicago Train Station
508 Main St., West Chicago, IL 60185
Parking available for \$1.75 daily
(credit cards and cash accepted)
If you would like a parking permit,
please call (630) 293-2200

Bicycle Lockers

\$10 annually
plus
a refundable key deposit of \$10
For more information, please call (630)
293-2200

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



American Legion Post #300
123 Main St
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 231-2112



VFW Post #6791
453 N Neltnor Blvd
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 231-9823



Western DuPage Chamber
of Commerce
306 Main St
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 231-3003

Food Pantries

****Please call before you visit,
sometimes there are special hours and
the offices could be closed for holidays
or other events.

Neighborhood Food Pantries
123 Fremont Street - (630) 665-5188

New Life Bilingual Church
468 Ann St - (630) 231-3315

1st Assembly of God
450 E Roosevelt Rd - (630) 668-9221

Church of Christ Food Pantry
350 E James Ave - (630) 231-2062

Only For Families with Students
Attending School

Neighborhood Food Pantries
and WeGo Together
238 E Hazel St - (630) 293-6060

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

May I park on the street overnight?

You are not allowed to park on
streets from 2:00 A.M. to 5:00 A.M.
and after two inches of snowfall. Call
police if emergency situations arise.
No parking on parkways or grass.

May I park on the grass or block the sidewalk?

The City does not allow anyone
to park on the grass or impede
pedestrian traffic by blocking the
sidewalk.

Can I have an open fire?

It is unlawful for any person to cause
or allow any open or uncontrolled
burning in the City without obtaining
a permit.

Are there restrictions for water use?

Water restrictions apply during the
period beginning May 15 and ending
September 15. Even numbered
addresses may only water on even
numbered calendar days; odd
numbered addresses may only water
on odd numbered calendar days.
Exception: if you have newly laid
sod, you may water 10 consecutive
days with prior notification to the
Public Works Department – Utility
Division.

Are you permitted to solicit?

Solicitors must have a permit issued
by the Police Department and
present it upon request.

Are signs permitted?

Posting of signs for garage sales,
political, real estate purposes are
not allowed on parkways or City
property.

Do I need a license for my dog or cat?

A maximum of three domestic
animals are allowed per household.
The municipal code prohibits dogs
from running at large within the City
of West Chicago. Dogs must have
a rabies tag from a veterinarian and
be registered in accordance with
DuPage County Regulations. No
local license is required.

What are the rules for garage sales?

Households are limited to three per
year. No permit is needed. Signs
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four square feet.

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at westchicago.org/specialevents.



FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES

Social Security Administration

1660 N Farnsworth Ave
Aurora, Illinois 60505
(800) 772-1213 0 (630)
375-0506
www.ssa.gov

Post Office West Chicago

1130 W Washington St
West Chicago, IL 60185
(630) 230-2020

Illinois Secretary of State

128 W Liberty Dr,
Wheaton, IL 60187

339 E Indian Trail,
Aurora, IL 60505

595 S State St,
Elgin, IL 60123

1280 Powis Rd,
West Chicago, IL 60185
(only commercial)

(312) 793-1010
www.cyberdriveillinois.com



GENERAL INFORMATION

Utilities and Services – Private and Public

Electricity
ComEd
(800) 334-7661

**Television/Internet/
Phone**
Comcast
(866) 594-1234

**Television/Internet/
Phone**
AT&T / DIRECT TV
(800) 244-4444

Natural Gas
Nicor
(888) 642-6748

Water & Sewer Service

City of West Chicago
(630) 293-2200

\$30.00 bi-monthly billing charge (for first 2,491 gallons used), plus:

\$7.00 for all sewer usage

\$4.00 billing charge

\$5.00 for usage over 2,491 gallons per 1,000 gallons

Garbage & Service

Groot (www.groot.com)
(847) 429-7370

35-Gallon Cart (Senior) - \$9.84

35-Gallon Cart - \$14.56

95-Gallon Cart - \$20.71

Universal Sticker - \$2.51

COMMUNITY SERVICES

DuPage County Health Department

1111 N. County Farm Rd
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
(630) 682-7400
www.dupagehealth.org

Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

(800) 232-3798
www.illinois.gov/dcfs

University of Illinois - Extension

Extension staff provide educational programs and research-based information to help our residents improve quality of life, develop skills and solve problems.
(630) 955-1123

DuPage County Senior Services

421 N County Farm Rd
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
(800) 942-9412

Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging

245 W Roosevelt Rd - Building 6 Ste 41
West Chicago, Illinois 60185
(630) 293-5990

Register to Vote

DuPage County
421 N County Farm Rd
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
(630) 407-5600

West Chicago City Hall
475 Main St
West Chicago, Illinois 60185
(630) 293-2200

West Chicago Public Library
118 W Washington St
West Chicago, Illinois 60185
(630) 231-1552