ELGIN
THE CITY IN THE SUBURBS

July-August 2022
City of Elgin
Newsletter

Boletín en Español: *Cada edición del boletín está disponible en español en línea en* ***cityofelgin.org/boletin***.



Adventure around Elgin this summer

Column written by Explore Elgin Area.
When it comes to the summer adventure, Elgin has it all! Explore lush parks, diverse hiking and biking options, walking art and architecture tours, museum exhibits and more.

Outdoor adventures and wellness
Play like a pro at one of the many public golf courses in the area. For the seasoned golfer, Bowes Creek Country Club offers a "member for a day" experience or enjoy the rolling hills at the Highlands of Elgin or play the course that generations have played on the oldest 9 hole municipal golf course in Illinois, Wing Park Golf Course. If traditional golf isn't your thing, try the Disc Golf course at Rolling Knolls Disc Golf.

You can bank on some excellent fishing opportunities in the Elgin area, from the Fox River to crystal clear lakes and ponds in local forest preserves and parks.

The Fox River bike and water trail offers more than 40 miles of lush scenery and greenery set upon rolling waters. The bike trail runs adjacent to the scenic Fox River in Northern Illinois, alongside historic railroad lines, crossing six bridges and passing through nature preserves and charming towns. A great spot to access the trails is in downtown Elgin. Park in one of the free parking garages, and then head north to visit East Dundee and Carpentersville, or head south and explore South Elgin. Families can take a leisurely ride from the Centre of Elgin to Trout Park and then back again. Make sure to watch the woods for wildlife like deer, opossums and maybe a turtle or two. We recommend ending all trips at the zero-depth fountain at Festival Park to cool off.

The Edward Shock Centre of Elgin is a great family destination with swimming pools, a rock climbing wall and all kinds of programming throughout the summer. The facility is celebrating the 20th anniversary this year, so make sure to check out the special events they are hosting.

Entertainment
Looking for a wild adventure? Visit the historic Lords Park Zoo in Elgin where you can see buffalo, elk and white-tailed deer all year long. During the summer, Tefft's Farm at Lords Park Zoo opens to provide visitors the opportunity to interact with animals from local farms.

You can soak up the Elgin area's rich history and heritage with interactive exhibits at any of the charming museums and historic sites like, Elgin History Museum, Elgin Public Museum or Elgin Fire Barn No. 5 Museum. Immerse yourself in hundreds of events, classes and exhibits at the award-winning Gail Borden Public Library. This summer's Wizard of Oz exhibit will take families and children somewhere over the rainbow.

Catch a show at the Marcus Elgin Cinema or any one of the summertime "Movies in the Park" series held in Festival Park, or try your luck at the Grand Victoria Casino in downtown Elgin. If you like games then you will want to check out the Escapade 360–Elgin's very own escape room.

Shopping
Discover distinct, one-of-a-kind finds, indulgent antiques and gifts sure to be cherished in a wide array of unique galleries, gift shops and boutiques throughout the Elgin area. The State Street Market is the Fox Valley's largest and most charming shopping venue with over 30 unique shops. Spend Friday afternoons shopping at the Elgin Farmers Market along Spring Street in downtown Elgin. You can extend your shopping experience and explore additional shops open right alongside the market. Rediscover Records, Funky Rooster Art Gallery, Able Shoppe, Elgin Antiques & Uniques, Whatnots & Whimsies, Elgin Knit Works and Meraki Market are all locally owned shops worth stopping in to explore.

Whatever kind of adventure you are looking for this summer, you can find inspiration at **www.ExploreElginArea.com**.







YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM



Elgin's Youth Empowerment Program was officially launched in late 2021, to provide a more robust response to juvenile outreach and prevention and intervention, with the goal of building on the Elgin Police Department's efforts to positively impact the youth of Elgin. This program focuses on an interdisciplinary partnership between the City, the police department, school district, community organizations and religious agencies working together to reduce juvenile violence, arrests, gang involvement (activity and membership) and high school dropout rates and to increase high school graduation rates. Already, the program has helped empowered several area youth and their families.

If you or someone you know could benefit from this program, are looking for more information, or you represent an organization that would like to become a community partner, please call Elgin 311 (847-931-6001) or email elginyep@cityofelgin.org to be connected to the program leadership team. Individual contact information, as well as full program details can be found at **cityofelgin.org/yep**.

simplerecycling

NEW SERVICE MODEL

Simple Recycling is a FREE service that collects many categories of items that aren't recyclable through your regular curbside recycling program; things like clothing, shoes and other textiles.

Simple Recycling determined that its curbside collection service model was no longer sustainable and is now operating under a new model where residents schedule a pickup at their front door. Residents no longer need to place items in Simple Recycling's orange bags. Instead, they can use any container like a plastic or paper bag or box. Containers should be clearly marked for Simple Recycling. Home pickups can be scheduled online at **simplerecycling.com** or by phone at 866-835-5068. Items can then be placed by the front door of the home by 7:30 a.m. on the scheduled pickup date.

Schedule collection.

Place items in any container marked for Simple Recycling.

Place outside front door by 7:30 a.m. on scheduled collection day.

Accepted items include:

- Men's clothing
- Women's clothing
- Children's clothing
- Coats and jackets
- Drapes/curtains
- Small appliances
- Small furniture
- Coffee makers
- Hairdryers
- Glasses
- Jewelry
- Toys
- Shoes
- Pictures
- Pillows
- Irons
- Tools
- Silverware
- Backpacks
- Purses
- Mirrors
- Sleeping bags
- Radios
- Toasters
- Dishes
- Hats
- Blankets
- Lamps
- Microwaves
- Pots/pans

Unlike some donation centers or thrift stores, the clothing does not need to be in good or fair condition. Those who donate to charities are encouraged to continue doing so.

Since the program launched in Elgin, with over 700,000 pounds of textiles and other materials diverted from the landfill to date.

Trash Drop-Off Event

The 2022 Elgin trash drop-off event will be held on Saturday, July 23 from 8:00 a.m. to noon at Waste Management (now WM) Transfer Station located at 1245 Gifford Road in Elgin.

The event is for Elgin residents only; residents must show proof of residency. Residents may drop off bulk household items and documents for secure destruction. There is a fee of $20 per vehicle (cash only), and no commercial vehicles or trailers are permitted.

REMINDER: TVs and electronics are no longer accepted at this event. Residents can instead use WM's At Your Door Special Collection service for this material. More information on that service can be found at **cityofelgin.org/atyourdoor**.



COME & HAVE SOME FUN!

Find details of these and other events at **centreofelgin.org/20years**.

The Elgin Parks and Recreation Department has special events and programs planned this year, and you won't want to miss out!

FITNESS IN THE PARK

- **July 9** **Yoga** *Wing Park*
- **July 23** **Zumba** *Wing Park*
- **August 6** **Bootcamp** *Festival Park*
- **August 20** **Yoga** *Festival Park*

SUMMER FUN

July 16 **Lords Park Zoo Quest**
Lords Park Zoo | 12:30-3:00 p.m.

August 5 **Island Night**
Wing Park Family Aquatic Center | 6:00-9:00 p.m.

August 19 **Kick It with Parks & Rec**
Elgin Sports Complex | 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Tree Planting Program

Elgin's tree planting program was developed to sustain our neighborhood forests and provide value to properties.

This year, the City is doubling the number of free trees offered in the program!

Residents can request the City plant a tree in their parkway/tree bank (the area typically between the street curb and the sidewalk). Visit **cityofelgin.org/treeplanting** to view the list of recommended species and fill out the tree bank request and tree selection form.

City tree planting is generally performed twice per year, once in the spring and once in the fall.



Deadline to apply for fall planting: August 15

Golf Elgin

Get outside and enjoy the summer weather at one of Elgin's three public golf courses. Whether you're a beginner or seasoned pro, there's a course that's sure to challenge your skills. Bowes Creek Country Club and The Highlands of Elgin are 18-hole, award-winning courses, and both have clubhouse restaurants ready to serve you. The Wing Park Golf Course offers a classic 9-hole game–perfect for any level golfer who wants to get a quick round in.

Tee times are accepted up to one week in advance, and weekend permanent tee times are available too. Find season rates, more information and book a tee time today at **cityofelgin.org/golf**.



Free Lunch and Drop-In Playground Program

Join your neighbors in your neighborhood park for food and fun this summer! Children ages 6-12 years are encouraged to "drop-in" when they need something new and exciting to fill their time. Special event days will also be held throughout the summer so drop by early to get a schedule of the events.

All children need to have a completed emergency card on file with the program supervisor before attending. Children are not required to attend daily or for the entire program time but can come to the park for fun activities and games. The program will not be held on rainy or inclement weather days.

Northern Illinois Food Bank will provide free lunches for participants beginning at 11:30 a.m., rain or shine.



The Free Summer Lunch and Drop-In Playground Program runs Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. through August 5 at Cornerstone Park, College Green Park, Lords Park and St. Francis Park.

It's the peak of event season, and there's plenty of happenings in Elgin to keep you busy this July and August!

July Events

1	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
1	Paws on the Porch Storytime: What is a Frog?, Lords Park Zoo
2	Deb the Frog Lady - live animal presentation, Lords Park Zoo
4	Fourth of July Parade, Northeast Neighborhood and Downtown Elgin
4	Concert and Fireworks display, Festival Park
8	Paws on the Porch Storytime: What is a Marsupial?, Lords Park Zoo
8	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
8-10	Larkin High School and Schaumburg on Stage present Wolves, Elgin Art Showcase
9	Chi-Town Exotics: Sugar Gliders and Chinchillas - live animal presentation, Lords Park Zoo
10	Classic Car Show, Elgin History Museum
12	Free Concert in the Park - Peach's Beach Party, Wing Park Bandshell
12	Adventures in the Zoo - Footprints & Scat, Lords Park Zoo
15	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
15	Free Movie in the Park - Encanto, Festival Park
15-17	Schaumburg on Stage and Point 2 Productions present Company, Elgin Art Showcase
15-17	Up and Coming Theatre Company and Elgin Summer Theatre present 'In the Heights,' Hemmens Cultural Center
17	'Remembering Route 66' presented by Leslie Goddard, Elgin History Museum
19	Free Concert in the Park - Brass From the Past, Wing Park Bandshell
21	Brown Bag Lunch: A Life in Show Business presented by Richard Bennett, Elgin History Museum
22	Paws on the Porch Storytime: What is a Sloth?, Lords Park Zoo
22	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
22	Free Movie in the Park - The Wizard of Oz, Festival Park
22-24	Schaumburg on Stage and Point 2 Productions present Company, Elgin Art Showcase
22-24	Up and Coming Theatre Company and Elgin Summer Theatre present 'In the Heights,' Hemmens Cultural Center
23	Scales & Tales Traveling Zoo, Lords Park Zoo
23	Trash Drop Off Event, Waste Management Transfer Station
23	Celebrating 135 years with the Elgin Womens Club presented by Jerry Turnquist, Elgin History Museum
26	Adventures in the Zoo - Owl on the Prowl, Lords Park Zoo
26	Free Concert in the Park - Trabuco, Wing Park Bandshell
29	Paws on the Porch Storytime: What is an Owl?, Lords Park Zoo
29	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
29	Free Movie in the Park - Spider-man: No Way Home, Copper Springs Park
30	Wings & Talons Raptors - live animal presentation, Lords Park Zoo

Fourth of July

The annual parade through the Northeast Neighborhood and Downtown Elgin will begin at 9:00 a.m. and last approximately two hours. This year's theme is "There's no place like home."
Modern Day Romeos will play a free concert at Festival Park at 7:00 p.m. Bring your chairs, blankets, coolers and bug spray!
The fireworks display is scheduled to begin between 9:15-9:30 p.m. and will be lasting 20-30 minutes.





August Events

2	National Night Out, various locations, find more information at **facebook.com/elginpolice**
2	Free Movie in the Park - Up, Festival Park
5	Paws on the Porch Storytime: What is a Bison?, Lords Park Zoo
5	Free Movie in the Park - Home, Lords Park
5	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
6	Fox Valley Wildlife Center - live animal presentation, Lords Park Zoo
7	Pool closes for the season, Wing Park
7	Goodly Creatures presents Shakespeare in the Park - The Tempest, Festival Park
9	Adventures in the Zoo - The Amazing Bison, Lords Park Zoo
11	Tefft's Farm closes for the season, Lords Park Zoo
12	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
13	Goodly Creatures presents Shakespeare in the Park - The Tempest, Wing Park
14	'The Golden Age of Hollywood with Louella Parsons' presented by Martina Mathisen, Elgin History Museum
18	Brown Bag Lunch: Hats off to Elgin presented by Linda Rock, Elgin History Museum
19	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
19-21	Schaumburg on Stage and Point 2 Productions present Dog Fight, Elgin Art Showcase
26	Elgin Museum Crawl: Elgin History Museum, Elgin Public Museum, Fire Barn No. 5 Museum and U-46 Planetarium
26	Downtown Elgin Farmers Market, Spring Street
26-28	Schaumburg on Stage and Point 2 Productions present Dog Fight, Elgin Art Showcase

Find more information on all City events at **cityofelgin.org/events**.
For more community events and things to do, visit **ExploreElginArea.com**.