

Continued from front page...

through an Intergovernmental Agreement. Roadways require signs, drainage, tree maintenance and removal, snow plowing, ice, garbage, mowing, repair or replacement of signs, at any time of the day or night. We all need to ask ourselves and those proposing to do away with Townships:

“Who will take over the care and maintenance of 53% of Illinois roadways and how will those services be paid for if Townships are dissolved?”

resources without duplicating services. Twice a year this newsletter highlights many of the services provided by and available to residents.

The Assessor's Office is responsible for assessing all property within the Township, over 11,000 parcels. The assessor is required to take and pass specific educational courses before they can be elected to office. The assessor and those working in the office continually take educational courses to ensure they're doing their best job for us.

All of us living within Wauconda Township, approx. 21,730 residents are fortunate and I'm proud to have an active, engaged, nimble, responsive team working for us, the residents. The small amount of money we each pay yearly for the vast array of services provided by the Township is one of the best values for our tax dollars. "The further government gets away from the people, the less responsive it becomes." Townships are different, it says it right on our flag: **"We Serve the People First"**



Call any time, we want to hear from you.

Glenn Swanson,
Wauconda Township Supervisor

Did you know?

Residents of Antioch, Avon, Fremont, Grant, Lake Villa and Wauconda Township are eligible for low cost rides. Service is open to seniors, age 60+, individuals with disabilities and the general public, Monday - Friday, 5:30 a.m. - 6:45 p.m., excluding holidays.

Call PACE at: 1-800-201-6446 at least 24 hours in advance to register and schedule your ride today.

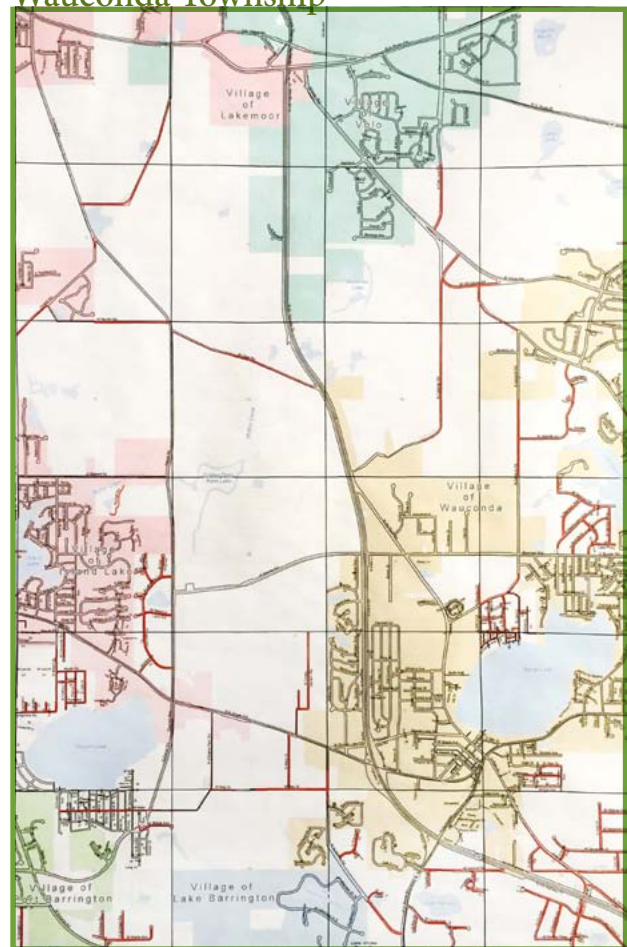
This service is sponsored by the six townships, with assistance from the Lake County Coordinated Transportation Service, Lake County and PACE Suburban Bus.

RideLakeCounty | West



your Dial a Ride guide

Wauconda Township



Roads highlighted in red are the roads maintained by the Wauconda Township Highway Department.

Townships are responsible for handling general assistance, food, shelter and emergency relief to those in need. Elder residents can call for a free or low cost ride to Doctor's appointment, grocery shopping or get help renewing their driver's license. Wauconda Township owns, cares for and maintains several historic cemeteries. Our Township does not own or maintain any parks. The Wauconda Township instead partners on many programs with the Wauconda Park District which allows both organizations to maximize



The Wauconda Township Assessor's Office is Here to Help

My staff and I are committed to serving the people of Wauconda Township fairly and equitably. We want you to know that customer service is our top priority. Property Tax Bills will be mailed out in May. Please make sure to take time and see if you are receiving the exemptions you may be entitled to. The exemptions are listed on the right side of your tax bill.

The **General Homestead Exemption** is a \$6,000 exemption which is deducted from the total assessed value. To receive this exemption, the property must be the owner's primary residence. The **Senior Homestead Exemption** is a \$5,000 exemption which is deducted from the total assessed value. To receive this exemption, the property must be 65 years or older and must be the owner's primary residence. The third exemption a property owner is entitled to is the **Senior Assessment Freeze Exemption**. The amount of this exemption varies depending on the subject's assessed value. The property owner must be age 65 or older and have a household income of \$65,000 or less. This income amount has increased from the past \$55,000. Seniors receiving the Senior Homestead Exemption will receive the Senior Assessment Freeze Exemption Form from Lake County Chief of Assessment office. The form for 2018 has been mailed out. If you believe you qualify and have not received the form, please contact my office.

In addition to the exemptions mentioned above, there are also the **Home Improvement Exemption, the Homestead Exemption for Persons with Disabilities (HEPD), the Veteran/Disabled Exemption and Returning Veteran Exemption**. For more information about these exemptions please visit: waucondatownship.com/assessors-office/, the Lake County website or give us a call.

Property owners may receive their blue assessment notices for Wauconda Township in late summer to early fall.

- Review all the information on the assessment notice.
- Visit assessor.lakecountyl.gov to review assessment information including property characteristics and comparable property information.
- Call or stop in the Wauconda Township Assessor's office well before the dead line if you found any errors.
- If you feel your property is over assessed, you can

complete an assessment appear form (by paper, or electronically using the e-filing system) and submit with supporting evidence to the Boards of Review before the deadline.

If you receive any information or mailings from the Lake County Supervisor of Assessment Office and/or Lake County Treasurer's Office and are not quite sure what these mailings are, don't throw them out. Contact our office 847-526-2881 and we will do what we can to help you understand the notice and/or obtain further information.

Need Help?

LIHEAP - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. If available, this program helps Lake County residents pay their gas and electric bills, providing federal guidelines are met. This program is designed for seniors, disabled and low income families. Applications are available at Township Office BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Please contact Melissa Garcia or Lupe Magallanes at 847-526-2631 to schedule an appointment.

Salvation Army - Assistance is available for emergency situations only. Some restrictions apply. Please call 847-336-1880 to schedule an appointment.



Food Stamp (LINK) - Medical & Housing applications are available at the Township Supervisor's Office.

Backpack Drive 2018-19 - Once again we'll be offering our Back-to School Backpack Program. All donations are gladly appreciated. Please contact Melissa Garcia for additional information.

Emergency/General Assistance - We can assist with rental or mortgage payment(s) if qualifications are met. Some restrictions apply. We have a new GA program to assist in better handling, organizing & providing assistance to our eligible residents. Applications available at the Township Supervisor's Office.

Township Contact Information:	
Township Supervisor:	Glenn Swanson
Township Assessor:	Pat Oaks
Highway Commissioner:	Scott Weisbruch
Township Clerk:	Christine Rowe
Township Trustees:	Robin Lindberg Kevin McKernan Sheryl Ringel Steve Stiller
Township Administrator:	Stephanie Maioriello
Township Case Worker:	Melissa Garcia
Senior Advocate:	Lisa Knight
Transportation Director:	Lisa Iverson
Receptionist:	Lupe Magallanes
Phone Numbers	
Supervisor's Office:	847-526-2631
Assessor's Office:	847-526-2881
Highway Department:	847-526-8085
Case Worker:	847-526-2653
Senior Advocate:	847-526-1800
Senior Transportation:	847-526-8688

ACCEPTING:
Electronics
Cell Phones
Bicycles
Batteries, Car
Alkaline Rechargeable
Sealed lead acid
Wet cell style
Propane Tanks / 20-40 lbs.
Prescription Drugs
Light Bulbs, fluorescent only
Eye Glasses
Hearing Aids
Used American Flags
Sharps (medical needles)
Air Conditioners
Microwaves
Shoes (no ice skates or roller blades)

NOT ACCEPTING: Furniture Paint Gas Large Appliances

Free Green Event
Brought to you by Wauconda Township
Document shredding sponsored by Wauconda Community Bank

Happy Spring!
Please take the time to read this informative newsletter prepared by your Elected Officials and Staff at the Township offices.

It's Time to Discuss the Vital Role of our Township, Does Consolidation or Elimination equal cost savings and better or equal services?

When you call Wauconda Township, a real person answers the phone, there is no answering machine. Our phone calls are answered by a Township employee and are transferred directly to the Township employee best able to respond and act on your concern. Imagine making that same call to a State or Federal office. We all know an immediate human response would not be our experience.

There is talk about dissolving or combining Townships in Illinois. What's not part of that conversation is: where will services provided by dissolved Townships come from? How much will those services cost from other providers? How will those services be paid for? Let's be clear, there is a case to be made for specific or parts of Townships in Illinois to be dissolved as in other forms of government.

A little background is helpful to understand why there is a push to dissolve or combine Townships in Illinois. Taxes in Illinois rank 51st, the highest in the nation. Some Illinois politicians are attempting to respond to the tax burden of Illinois residents by trying to find some form of tax relief. There was a comprehensive look at property tax bills, specifically the tax revenues we pay to our libraries, school districts, park districts, sanitation and water districts, fire protection districts, and townships.

Politicians realized combining or dissolving local library districts, park districts, and fire protection districts would be hugely unpopular, as would cutting back on money sent to local school districts. Townships are the easiest targets.

Take a minute and get out your last property tax bill. Look at how much money you personally pay each year to the county, school, village, library, sanitary and water,

Taxing Body	Rate	Current Amount	Change From Prior Year
COUNTY OF LAKE	0.156424	\$199.33	13.47
COUNTY OF LAKE PENSION	0.115615	\$44.63	-1.14
ROAD AND SERVICE WAUCONDIA	0.038126	\$19.46	-0.28
WAUCONDIA FIRE PROT DIST	0.589124	\$215.69	9.33
WAUCONDIA FIRE PROT DIST PENSION	0.059217	\$25.95	2.11
WAUCONDIA AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT	0.408658	\$157.74	5.72
WAUCONDIA AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT PENSION	0.041576	\$16.95	0.21
WAUCONDIA COMM UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #118	0.777769	\$2,616.30	115.22
WAUCONDIA COMM UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #118 PENSION	0.298069	\$115.94	12.30
COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY #202	0.285385	\$110.16	5.54
SPECIAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT WAUCONDIA DRIVE	0.135688	\$51.46	1.87
FOREST PRESERVE	0.183488	\$70.79	2.06
SPECIAL PRESERVE PENSION	0.059497	\$23.46	-0.27
TOWNSHIP OF WAUCONDIA	0.161456	\$62.32	-0.43
TOWNSHIP OF WAUCONDIA PENSION	0.070643	\$27.86	-1.06
LAKE COUNTY SSA #13		\$1,815.19	-81.86
TOTALS	9.646246	\$5,538.74	\$86.26

This is a property tax bill from 2016 for a house valued around \$165,000 located in Wauconda Township.

fire protection, and township. The tax paid to Wauconda Township is one of the smallest amounts paid to any of the taxing bodies listed. The WT has had a balanced budget since 2005. In 2007, the WT reduced their tax levy by 27%. The Township is approximately 4% of your total tax bill.

All of us reading this newsletter are residents of the State of Illinois, Lake County AND Wauconda Township. Residents living within the village limits are also Wauconda Township residents. Wauconda Township is 16 square miles. The Village of Wauconda occupies about 5.78 square miles within the Township. Illinois has 71,000 miles of roadways. 53% of the roads in Illinois are owned and maintained by Townships. The Wauconda Township Highway Department is responsible for the maintenance of 35 miles of roadways or 70 miles of road lanes. Our Highway Department also cares for roads in the Village of Volo



Continued on next page:

The Wauconda Township

505 West Bonner Road
Wauconda, IL 60084
P: 847-526-2631
F: 847-526-0294



Prevent Unnecessary Tickets.

Check the date on your FREE Wauconda Township vehicle sticker, you may need to stop in and pick up a new one.

ECRWSS Residential Customer

Presorted Standard U.S. Postage PAID Wauconda, IL Permit No. 78