



# The Algonquin Citizen

News from the Village of Algonquin

Winter 2024

## Planning the Future of Willoughby Farms Park

The Village of Algonquin is thrilled to announce the development of a comprehensive master plan for Willoughby Farms Park, located at 2001 Wynnfield Drive. This 12-acre community park, originally established in 1996, will undergo a carefully designed planning process to meet the community's evolving recreational needs while preserving its natural and cultural resources.

Community input is a cornerstone of this project, and the Village is committed to ensuring the park reflects residents' priorities. The planning process began in October, with opportunities for feedback provided through a community open house, online surveys, and stakeholder interviews. **Conceptual designs will be developed during December and January, and the final master plan is expected to be approved in February 2025.**



*Residents participate in the Willoughby Farms Park Master Plan Open House held in November*

The Village is excited to collaborate with residents to shape a vision that will transform Willoughby Farms Park into a vibrant and inclusive destination. For updates and additional information, visit the Village's website or follow us on social media.

## Village Wins Budget Award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has announced that the Village of Algonquin has earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget. This marks the 21st consecutive year the Village has received this esteemed recognition. Algonquin is among approximately 120 municipalities in Illinois to achieve this honor. **The Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget is a balanced \$101 million financial plan, featuring the lowest property tax rate since 2010 and \$48 million dedicated to capital infrastructure investment.** The budget document is available for review at [www.algonquin.org/transparency](http://www.algonquin.org/transparency).

## Officer Panozzo Receives Life Saving Award

At the November Village Board meeting, Algonquin Police Chief Dennis Walker presented Officer Zachary Panozzo with the Life-Saving Award for his heroic actions. Officer Panozzo responded to a critical emergency by administering CPR, sustaining the individual until fire department personnel arrived. His quick thinking and dedication were instrumental in ensuring the person's full recovery. The Village of Algonquin commends Officer Panozzo for his outstanding service and professionalism. Congratulations, Officer Panozzo, on this well-deserved recognition!



*Village President Debby Sosine and Police Chief Dennis Walker proudly honor Officer Zachary Panozzo with the Life-Saving Award for his heroic actions.*

## Sidewalk Snow Removal

With winter weather upon us, please remember the **Algonquin Municipal Code requires all property owners and occupants to clear snow and ice from adjoining sidewalks within 24 hours after snowfall ends.** If removal is not possible due to weather conditions, the sidewalk must be sanded or treated to reduce hazards for pedestrians until conditions allow for removal.

This requirement applies to all sidewalks adjoining your property, including front, back, and side areas. Additionally, snow should never be blown or shoveled into public streets, as this is prohibited by Village Code and can create dangerous driving conditions—especially after snowplows have cleared the area. For more details, visit the Municipal Code online at [www.algonquin.org](http://www.algonquin.org). Thank you for helping to keep our community safe this winter!

## Winter Parking Regulations

Winter parking regulations are now in effect in the Village of Algonquin. **Parking is prohibited on public streets between 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. through April 15.** Additionally, parking is not allowed on streets after any snowfall of 2 inches or more until the snow has been completely cleared.

These measures are in place to ensure public safety and efficient snow removal operations. Violators will be ticketed. Residents with special parking needs can contact the Algonquin Police Department at 847-658-4531 or submit an online request for overnight parking at [www.algonquin.org/police](http://www.algonquin.org/police).

## Holiday Lights Recycling

The Village of Algonquin, in partnership with Elgin Recyclers, is offering holiday lights recycling through January 15 at the Ganek Municipal Center, 2200 Harnish Drive. **A drop-off container will be available in the first-floor lobby during regular business hours.** Accepted items include mini-lights, C7 and C9 lights, rope lights, LED lights, and extension cords of any length. Please remove all tinsel, garland, and other decorations from the light sets before dropping them off. Elgin Recyclers will ensure the collected lights are responsibly recycled, helping to reduce landfill waste.

## 2025 Calendar & Annual Report

The Village of Algonquin's 2025 Calendar and Annual Report has been delivered to resident households and is also available online.

Village officials and staff hope this resource serves as a helpful tool for the year ahead, while also celebrating the achievements of 2024 and anticipating the opportunities and goals of 2025.

## Holiday Hours

Village offices will be closed on December 24, December 25, and January 1. **Groot waste collection will be delayed by one day during the weeks of December 22 and December 29.** For online services or additional information, please visit [www.algonquin.org](http://www.algonquin.org).

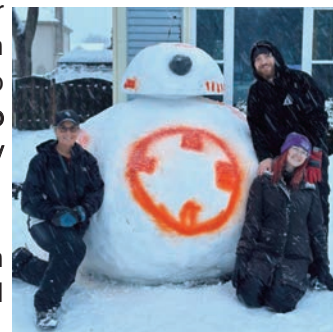


Miracle on Main Event in Old Town Algonquin

*Happy Holidays from the Village of Algonquin!*

## 2025 Snowman Photo Contest

Create the best snowman in town this winter! Gather your family, head outside during a snowfall, and build a snowman masterpiece. Once your snowman is complete, snap a photo with your family standing proudly beside it. **Send your photo to [recreation@algonquin.org](mailto:recreation@algonquin.org) (electronic submissions only) by March 9, 2025.**



2024 Snowman Photo Contest Winner

Winning entries will be featured in an upcoming recreation guide and on our website. For more details or to explore and register for recreation programs and events this winter, please visit [www.algonquin.org/recreation](http://www.algonquin.org/recreation).

## Christmas Tree Collection

Groot will collect Christmas trees at no charge on your regular collection day throughout January. **To ensure collection, place your tree at the curb or driveway end by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled day.** Remove all lights, decorations, and plastic bags. Trees taller than six (6) feet must be cut in half for easier handling.

Be sure to place trees on top of snow, as buried trees may not be collected. For any refuse or recycling questions, contact Groot Customer Service at 1-800-244-1977.

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