



# Naperville Connected

## Spotlight on Fall

### Curbside Leaf Collection Starts Oct. 16

Leaf collection season is almost upon us, bringing residents three opportunities to dispose of fallen leaves – right at the curb. This year's bulk curbside leaf collection program begins on Oct. 16, with the start of the first collection cycle. The second cycle begins on Oct. 30, and the third and final cycle begins on Nov. 13. The program concludes Nov. 22, pending unforeseen circumstances or early winter weather.

Crews will collect leaves from each property once during each collection cycle. All residents should rake leaves into the street by 6 a.m. on the first day of each collection cycle; however, crews may only reach some neighborhoods near the end of the cycle. Leaf volumes and weather uncertainties make it impossible for the City to guarantee leaf collection on a specific day.

Please rake leaves away from storm drains to prevent flooding, and do not place anything other than leaves in the piles. Items other than leaves can cause equipment to break down and delay the collection process.

In addition to the curbside leaf collection program, **the City will collect bagged leaves and yard waste for free from Nov. 6 through Dec. 15** – no yard waste stickers required.

However, branches and other yard waste that are tied in bundles, always require a yard waste sticker.

For details on leaf collection opportunities and ideas to reuse fallen leaves in your yard, see the article below and visit [naperville.il.us/leafcollection](http://naperville.il.us/leafcollection).

### 3 Top Ways to Repurpose Your Yard Waste

Instead of placing all of your yard waste into bags for collection, try some of these suggestions for repurposing yard waste from The Conservation Foundation:

- 1. Let fallen leaves (and twigs) remain.** Collect and shred fallen leaves at home to speed decomposition and help keep leaves from blowing away. Mix shredded leaves into the soil in the fall and allow them to break down naturally during the winter for improved soil quality. Leaves provide food, nesting material and cover for several types of wildlife, including birds and butterflies.
- 2. Compost your leaves.** Leaf mold (composted leaves) makes wonderful mulch or covering for vegetable gardens and has several uses in organic lawn care. Chop up fallen leaves before composting them to assist with decomposition.
- 3. When mowing your lawn, use the mulching feature** rather than bagging the clippings. Returning grass clippings to the yard keeps your lawn healthy and saves space in the landfill.

### Best Practices for Draining Outdoor Swimming Pools

Most pool owners drain at least a portion of their pool water annually. Did you ever think about where that water goes after you pump it out of your pool and onto your yard?

It goes into someone else's yard, and then someone else's, and eventually into a creek or pond before ending up in the river. Chlorinated pool water can do a lot of damage on its way to the river.

To be better neighbors and stewards of the environment, the City allows – and encourages – homeowners with swimming pools to drain their pool water into the City's sanitary sewer system.

For information on how to do this properly, contact the Water Utility at 630-420-6137. Water Utility staff members will advise the best connection point to the system so you can drain your pool without damaging any downstream plants or wildlife. For details, visit [naperville.il.us/yarddrainage](http://naperville.il.us/yarddrainage).

### Eco-Friendly Yard Care Event is Oct. 19

With cooler weather on the way, join the City and The Conservation Foundation to learn how to take an eco-friendly approach to preparing your yard for fall and winter. Hear about the benefits of leaving leaves where they fall and salting smart during winter storms, learn how to handle water in your yard, and gain new strategies to prepare for the changing seasons – all while protecting watersheds and wildlife. Learn about The Conservation Foundation's Conservation@Home program and how this "everyone-can-do-something" program provides free resources for those making earth-conscious choices in home landscape design.

This free public event runs from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19 in Council Chambers at the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St.

For details, visit [naperville.il.us/napersustainability](http://naperville.il.us/napersustainability).

### Energy Efficiency Day is Oct. 4

It's hard to imagine our lives without energy. Energy powers our days, whether we're cooling or heating our homes to stay comfortable, preparing a meal for our family or charging our phones to stay connected.

**Wednesday, Oct. 4 is Energy Efficiency Day.** By using energy efficiently – on Oct. 4 and throughout the year – you can save on your utility bills, while reducing carbon pollution and decreasing your household's effect on the environment.

Now more than ever, numerous incentives at the federal, state and local level support homeowners and renters who implement energy projects. Explore these resources to help determine where to start and which incentive(s) may be right for you.

- **Naperville Sustainability Incentives:** Naperville's Electric Utility offers rebates for home energy efficiency projects such as attic insulation, replacement windows and smart thermostats. For details, visit [naperville.il.us/sustainabilityincentives](http://naperville.il.us/sustainabilityincentives).
- **Naperville Renewable Energy Program:** Residents who participate by contributing through their monthly utility bills can apply for incentives to install renewable energy projects and electrify their homes. For details or to join, visit [naperville.il.us/renewable](http://naperville.il.us/renewable).
- **Nicor Ways to Save:** Nicor Gas offers energy efficiency rebates, free services and free kits for weatherization and water conservation to help you save energy and money. For details and offers from our community's natural gas provider, visit [nicorgas.com/residential/ways-to-save](http://nicorgas.com/residential/ways-to-save).
- **U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Savings Hub:** This one-stop shop for federal incentives allows you to select a pathway – homeowner, renter or driver – to see options. To access the hub, visit [energy.gov/save](http://energy.gov/save).

**GOVERNMENT MEETINGS:** Meeting locations and how to listen and participate are noted on each upcoming meeting's agenda. Please refer to the Government Meetings calendar at [naperville.il.us](http://naperville.il.us) or scan the QR code below to access the calendar directly. Watch City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission and Transportation Advisory Board meetings on WCNC (Astound – Ch. 6, AT&T U-verse – Ch. 99, or Comcast – Ch. 10) or stream at [naperville.legistar.com/Calendar](http://naperville.legistar.com/Calendar).

**City Council: 7 p.m. | Sept. 5 & 19, Oct. 3 & 17, Nov. 7 & 21**  
**City Council Budget Workshops: 6 p.m. | Sept. 26, Oct. 24**  
**City Council Community Survey Results & Ethics Workshop: 6 p.m. | Oct. 9**  
**Planning & Zoning Commission: 7 p.m. | Sept. 6 & 20, Oct. 4 & 18, Nov. 1 & 15**  
**Transportation Advisory Board: 7 p.m. | Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2**

**Government Meetings  
At-a-Glance:**  
Point your phone's camera at this QR code to go straight to our board and commissions meeting calendar!



## A Safer Naper: Senior Safety and Resources

This September, the Naperville Police Department is focusing its Safer Naper campaign on senior safety. Information presented throughout the month will cover scams targeting Naperville's older population, mental health resources for seniors and caregivers and NPD programs available to seniors.

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), people between the ages of 60 and 69 lost more money to fraud in 2022 (a total of \$836 million) than any other age group. Locally, NPD has received increased reports of scams involving cryptocurrency, and national trends have picked up artificial intelligence (AI) voice-cloning scams.

With all the complicated and evolving scams, older adults must stay diligent in understanding what scams are out there, how to recognize them, and most importantly, how to avoid falling for them.

This month, an NPD social worker will also provide resources concerning seniors' mental health, which includes emotional, psychological and social well-being. Numerous life changes can affect our mental health as we age and shape how we think, feel and act. Recognizing the signs of mental health concerns is one of the first steps to receiving treatment and improving quality of life.

Delve deeper into mental health, find examples of scams and learn about local programs available for seniors at [naperville.il.us/ASaferNaper](http://naperville.il.us/ASaferNaper).

## Disaster Safety Preparations for Pets

September is National Preparedness Month, and Naperville Animal Control reminds residents to make disaster preparations for pets, too. Pets are important members of the family, so they need to be included in your family's emergency plan. To prepare for the unexpected before it happens, follow these steps with your pets in mind:

1. Make a plan.
2. Build an emergency kit.
3. Stay informed.

Use the checklist at [ready.gov/pets](http://ready.gov/pets) for plan details and items needed for an emergency kit.

**Roll-Off Dumpster Rental.** Groot Industries offers roll-off dumpster rentals for individuals and businesses in Naperville. For more information about container sizes and pricing, visit [naperville.groot.com/residential-dumpster-rental](http://naperville.groot.com/residential-dumpster-rental) or call Groot at (630) 892-9294.

## Public Safety Open House is Sept. 23 - Join Us!

Join the Naperville Police and Fire Departments for their annual Public Safety Open House from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, at Naperville's Public Safety Campus, 1380 Aurora Ave. Residents of all ages will enjoy demonstrations displaying the skills of our public safety departments.

Watch Fire Department personnel conduct water rescue demonstrations, battle a flashover fire and extricate a victim from a crashed vehicle. Witness Police Department personnel make a mock traffic stop and DUI arrest, showcase the talents of our K-9 Unit and demonstrate how the department utilizes drones and tasers to help keep our community safe.

The free event also includes activities and giveaways, crime and fire prevention information, interaction with police officers and firefighters, photo opportunities and food for purchase from food trucks.

For details, visit [naperville.il.us/PSOH](http://naperville.il.us/PSOH).

## 2023 Mid-Year Crime Statistics

Awareness is a key factor in the overall safety of a community. Residents who are aware of the types of crimes happening in their city are more likely to practice situational awareness, report suspicious activity to police and take proactive steps to avoid victimization.

For this reason, the Naperville Police Department has increased its emphasis on transparency in recent years. While Naperville is a safe city, it is not a crime-free city.

Learn more about the types of crimes happening in Naperville in the mid-year 2023 Crime and Incident Data overview at <https://bit.ly/NPD2023MidYear>.

## Smart Driver Program for Seniors is Nov. 8 and 9

The Naperville Police Department is partnering with AARP to offer a Smart Driver program.

With an updated curriculum, this classroom driver refresher course – designed for drivers ages 50 and older – has assisted millions of mature drivers to stay safe.

Topics include understanding the effects of aging on driving and how to compensate, strategies for the mature driver, identifying the most common crash situations, and updates on the Illinois Rules of the Road, vehicle accessories and local traffic hazards.

Classes will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8 and Thursday, Nov. 9 at the Naperville Police Department, 1350 Aurora Ave. Participants must attend both days. The class costs \$25 (\$20 for AARP members) payable by check to AARP on the first day. Space is limited. Please register by Monday, Oct. 30.

To register, visit [naperville.il.us/aarpSMARTdriver](http://naperville.il.us/aarpSMARTdriver) or call 630-420-8479.

**Official City Website:** [naperville.il.us](http://naperville.il.us)

**Naper Notify:** [napernotify.com](http://napernotify.com)

**Meetings:** [naperville.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx](http://naperville.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/NapervilleIL](https://facebook.com/NapervilleIL)

**X, formerly known as Twitter:** [twitter.com/NapervilleIL](https://twitter.com/NapervilleIL)

**YouTube:** [youtube.com/OfficialNapervilleIL](https://youtube.com/OfficialNapervilleIL)

**eNews:** [naperville.il.us/enews](http://naperville.il.us/enews)

**Naperville Connected Editor:** 630-420-6093

**General City Phone Number:** 630-420-6111

**Office of the Mayor:** 630-420-6018

**Office of the City Council:** 630-548-2983

**City Manager's Office:** 630-420-6031

**Emergency Ambulance, Fire and Police:** 9-1-1

**Non-Emergency Police:** 630-420-6666

**Non-Emergency Fire:** 630-305-5900

**Electric, Street Light, Water & Sewer**

**Problems:** 630-420-6187

**WCNC Government Access TV:**

Astound – Ch. 6, Comcast – Ch. 10, AT&T U-verse – Ch. 99

**Mayor:** Scott A. Wehrli

**City Council:** Jennifer Bruzan Taylor, Ian Holzhauser, Patrick Kelly, Paul Leong, Allison Longenbaugh, Josh McBroom, Dr. Benjamin M. White and Nate Wilson

**City Manager:** Doug Krieger