AGENDA

Environmental Committee
Thursday, October 2, 2025
1000 Woodfield Road

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG
PROGRESS THROUGH THOUGHTFUL PLANNING

A G E N D A

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 9-4-25 Minutes

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Recommendation to Select the 2025 Landscape Award Nominees

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. 2025 Environmental Fair – Final Report

V. CONTINUING ITEMS

VI. DEFERRALS

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

IX. NEXT MEETING

A. 11-6-25

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other applicable Federal and State laws, the meeting will be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Persons requiring auxiliary aids and/or services should contact the Village Manager's Office at 847.923.4705, preferably no later than five days before the meeting.

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

9-4-25 Minutes
10/02/25
Environmental Committee

Presenter:
Lead Department: Community Development

Executive Summary:

Recommended Action:

ATTACHMENTS:
- 9-4-25 EC Minutes.pdf

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Donna Johnson.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:	Donna Johnson, Pratik Patel, Robert Wachsmuth, Ritika Muthukumar, Ryszard Puskarz, Elizabeth Wimmer, Sandeep Alavandi, and Mahesh Prajapati
Member(s) Absent:	Chairperson Donna Panico-Atkins, Robert Mamrot

A quorum was present.

Staff Present:	Monica Richart – Sustainability Planner Taylor Storm – Recording Secretary Vicki Bloomer

A motion was made by Ms. Wimmer to allow Robert Wachsmuth to serve as acting chairperson.

All Ayes. Two members were absent.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 5, 2025
Ms. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Alavandi.

All Ayes. Two members were absent.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **2025 Environmental Fair – Event Success**
   Ms. Richart said the fair went very well; many people visited the table and the raffle was especially effective for drawing people to the table. Ms. Wimmer said that the games at the table were great, that many kids and families came over to interact with the items. She mentioned in the future, it would be helpful to have a second table to have more space for the games instead of having them on the floor. Mr. Wachsmuth said in the future, there should be a larger table so all the items can fit on one table. Ms. Johnson said that the committee should request two tables for the next fair. Ms. Richart said that there were more visitors than last year. Mr. Wachsmuth said that the map at the table was engaging, and Ms. Muthukumar said multiple people talked about the map when she was working with the garbage activity.

   Mr. Wachsmuth said the talk upstairs was good, but the location was different from last year and there weren't enough signs to draw people upstairs. Ms. Wimmer mentioned that the speakers are a struggle because the turnout is not very high. Ms. Richart said for the future, there needs to be a draw to get people to attend the lectures and presentations. Mr. Wachsmuth suggested that former winners of the Al Larson awards could give presentations to raise awareness for the awards. Ms. Muthukumar

mentioned that when she was interacting with parents at the table, she would suggest they visit the presentations upstairs. Many were hesitant and did not attend, as the presentations were a larger time commitment than visiting the table. Mr. Alavandi suggested hosting webinars for environmental issues to gain visibility, highlighting three or four topics of interest. Ms. Wimmer suggested shorter presentations that repeat multiple times, instead of hosting a presentation that lasts longer. Mr. Alavandi also mentioned having more activities catered toward children, due to the high number of children at the fair. He suggested having a presentation that is not a talk, a panel or activity that is purely interactive. Ms. Richart mentioned future talks could be recorded and uploaded online. Ms. Wimmer suggested a poster session or gallery for groups like former Al Larson award winners. Mr. Alavandi suggested holding a play to engage children. Ms. Wimmer suggested partnering with the library for entertainment. Ms. Muthukumar suggested a DIY activity to "design your own green home" or "design your own native garden". She said this would be good for interaction between speakers and children that attend. She suggested children that attend could vote for their favorite design with stickers.

Ms. Richart said the raffle winner enjoyed her basket prize. Ms. Muthukumar suggested for next year, having multiple, smaller prizes for raffle winners, and add prizes for kids to keep them involved.

Mr. Wachsmuth said the fair was well attended. Ms. Richart said there were 600 people at the event, more than the 400 that attended last year. Ms. Wimmer said many people stopped at the environmental committee's table first after checking into the fair. Ms. Richart said about 75 people participated in the raffle. Mr. Alavandi asked how many people participated in the comment board. Ms. Richart said there were 45 comments.

Ms. Johnson mentioned people may find that going upstairs limits their ability to attend all parts of the fair. Mr. Wachsmuth said there was good coverage of the committee table by members.

2. <u>Comprehensive Green Action Plan Update – Planning</u>

Ms. Richart said that participation for the survey surpassed the goal of 100 participants, with a total of 154 responses. She said half of respondents answered the survey from social media, and the other half came from posters and online searches. She said that outreach at the fair helped with engagement. She said there was a spike in engagement after the fair and after the social media push. Mr. Alavandi said people mentioned bike paths and connectivity as a point of interest. Ms. Richart said that from the survey results, the top environmental priorities were wildlife, greenspace, and ecology with 21% of all responses, and a walkable community with 15%. Mr. Wachsmuth mentioned that community walkability is now a common factor when buying a house.

Ms. Richart said that there were 50 write-in comments with suggestions not listed in the survey. She said the three categories with the most widespread support were restoring natural features, demonstrating environmental responsibility in municipal operations, and supporting local farms, grocery stores and composting efforts. Ms. Muthukumar said several people mentioned to her that they want an official composting program with the Village. Ms. Wimmer said that individuals can compost fruit and vegetable scraps in yard waste if they live in a single-family home with LRS as their waste collector. This is only applicable during yard waste collection season.

Ms. Richart said the open-house event went well. Mr. Wachsmuth said many people participated in the buzzer-board activity, including kids. Ms. Muthukumar said she saw both games with lots of

engagement. Mr. Alavandi said that there should be mini presentations on the topics with the highest interest from the survey. Ms. Richart said that the engagement efforts overall went well. Mr. Wachsmuth said that this was the most successful engagement at the fair he has seen. Mr. Alavandi said that the table layout was better this year than years before.

Mr. Alavandi suggested the committee reviews the website to ensure links and information are updated. Mr. Prajapati asked about the committee having its own social media pages. Mr. Alavandi asked if a webinar for environmental updates would be possible. Ms. Richart suggested hosting an informative environmental webinar as part of the annual work plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

DEFERRALS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Alavandi made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wimmer to adjourn the meeting.

All Ayes. Two members were absent.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Monica Richart, Sustainability Planner

I have reviewed the minutes, and they accurately represent the actions taken by the Environmental Committee.

Taylor Storm

Taylor Storm, Recording Secretary

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Recommendation to Select the 2025 Landscape Award Nominees

10/02/25
Environmental Committee

Presenter: Monica Richart
Lead Department: Community Development

Executive Summary:

In 2005 the Environmental Committee began the Annual Landscape Award Program to recognize commercial, retail, and residential developments that exhibit excellence in their landscape improvements and maintenance. The 2025 awards mark the eighteenth (18th) active year of the program.

Staff recommends the Environmental Committee select those nominees they feel should be recommended to receive the award. The award certificates will be presented at a future Village Board meeting.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends that the Environmental Committee recommend the Health and Human Services Committee approve the 2025 Landscape Award Nominees and refer them to the Village Board for presentation.

ATTACHMENTS:
- 2025 Staff Memo.docx

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / 101 SCHAUMBURG CT. / SCHAUMBURG, IL 60193
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MEMORANDUM

Date: September 18, 2025

To: Donna Panico-Atkins, Environmental Committee Chairperson
Environmental Committee Members

From: Monica Richart, Sustainability Planner

Subject: Recommendation to Approve the 2025 Landscape Award Nominees

For: Environmental Committee

Introduction

In 2005 the Environmental Committee began the Annual Landscape Award Program to recognize commercial, retail, and residential developments that exhibit excellence in their landscape improvements and maintenance. In 2007 and 2008, the Landscape Award Program was suspended while property owners dealt with the devastation caused by the Emerald Ash Borer and the program was suspended again in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The 2025 awards mark the eighteenth active year of the program.

Discussion

The village's Landscape Inspector provided a list of nominees for the seven (7) categories.

Staff provided photographs of the sites for reference. Members of the Environmental Committee should visit each site to experience firsthand, the landscape maintenance and improvements.

Members will select **one** nominee in each category at the October Environmental Committee meeting. After the nominees are selected by the committee, they will be referred to the Health and Human Services Committee for approval for presentation by the Village Board at a future meeting. The nominees are listed below:

Most Improved:

Commercial (Office/Hotel/Restaurant)

Northwest Community Healthcare - 519 S Roselle Rd

Complete demolition of two buildings and consolidation into one new building with new extensive landscaping for the entire site



McAlister's Deli - 436 E Golf Rd
The redevelopment of the property included new foundation and site landscaping.



Starbucks - 801 E Algonquin Rd
The redevelopment of the old Escape Lounge property included demolition of the entire site and all new site amenities, landscaping and permeable paving.



Woodfield Restaurant Court - 1140-1180 Plaza Drive
Demolition and extensive redevelopment of two of the three outlots (Outback Steak House and Charles Schwab), including new landscaping and permeable paving.



Retail (Shopping Centers/Car Dealers)

Casey's Gas Station - 1530 W Schaumburg Rd
The new owner upgraded site landscaping in 2024 to bring it into compliance with their landscape plan and provided added shrub screening at the north end.



PGA Superstore / Xsport - 1317-1321 E Golf Rd
Elimination of parking lot area and addition of two new outlots (Chipotle and Aspen Dental/Xfinity), including new landscaping.



PUD (Planned Unit Development):

The Quin Apartments - 2450 Plum Grove Rd

Complete demolition of old multi-building office complex and redevelopment into large apartment building complex. The development included extensive landscaping, a private park with walking paths and recreational amenities and a large, landscaped courtyard.



Wellington Court Townhomes - SE of Wise Road and Rodenburg Road

Extensive removal and restoration of site landscaping was performed, especially at the perimeters of the site, that included a mix of trees and shrubs.



Best Maintained:

All the sites nominated in this category have things in common: the landscaped beds are weed free and edged, the plant material is pruned, and the turf area is mowed and weed free. Many of the sites are landscaped using a broad palette of plant material making maintenance more challenging. Some sites include more structural plantings such as hedges that require trimming throughout the growing season, but all are well maintained and visually appealing. Committee members will choose one nominee in each of the categories below.

Commercial (Office/Hotel/Restaurants)



Barrington Orthopedic - 929 W Higgins Rd



Guzman y Gomez Restaurant - 795 E Golf Rd



Schaumburg Bank & Trust - 1180 E Higgins

Retail Sites (Shopping Centers/Car Dealers)



Diamonds Direct - 1701 E Golf Rd



Bob Rohrman Ford - 815 E Golf Rd



Schaumburg Plaza - 1393-1457 W Schaumburg Rd

Planned Unit Development (Residential)



North 680 PUD - 680 E. Algonquin Rd

Best Natural Landscaping:

Lurie Children's Hospital - 1895 Arbor Glen Rd

The property includes a large detention basin with native plantings on the east side of property along Roselle Road. Additionally, the development includes native plantings in the parking area along with permeable paving and landscaped seating areas in front of the building.



Northwest Community Healthcare - 519 S Roselle Rd

The property has two rain gardens within the west parking lot to manage site runoff. Native plants are used extensively throughout the site's landscaping.



A presentation will be given at the Environmental Committee meeting with additional photographs of each site. The awards will be presented at a future Village Board meeting.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Environmental Committee select the 2025 Landscape Award Nominees and recommend the Health and Human Services Committee approve the 2025 Landscape Award Recipients and refer them to the Village Board for presentation.

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

2025 Environmental Fair – Final Report
10/02/25
Environmental Committee

Presenter: Monica Richart, Sustainability Planner
Lead Department: Community Development

Executive Summary:

The Environmental Fair was held at the library in conjunction with their summer reading challenge kick off event in 2025.

The attached memo includes a final report of the event.

Recommended Action:

For discussion

ATTACHMENTS:

- Staff Report

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG
PROGRESS THROUGH THOUGHTFUL PLANNING

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 18, 2025

To: Donna Panico Atkins, Chairperson
Environmental Committee Members

From: Monica Richart, Sustainability Planner

Subject: 2025 Environmental Fair – Final Report

Introduction
In 2025, the event took place at Schaumburg Township District Library. Educational sessions were located inside the library adult classroom on the second floor and exhibitors set up in the main lobby area. Overall attendance was estimated by the library at around 600 people.

A final report of the event with recommendations for the 2026 event are below. Updates from the Environmental Committee are shown in *italics*.

Discussion
The Committee collaborated with the library to host the Environmental Fair alongside the library's summer reading challenge kick-off event. The theme of this year's Environmental Fair was "Plastics & Recycling" and the Committee coordinating activities to connect with the library's game-based theme of "Level Up". Committee members coordinated speakers for the education sessions and an exhibition table, created questions for the buzzer board, designed an educational poster, staffed additional games and activities and brought supplies for games and a raffle. Village staff assisted with outreach, coordination with the library, coordinating exhibitors, developing visual materials for a second exhibitor table, presenting as a speaker, material procurement and delivery of booth materials to the event. Staff at the library hosted and coordinated the event set up. The library coordinated additional exhibitors. *The committee agreed that the location in front of the door was beneficial for attendance and that attendance and interaction were both high compared to previous years.*

Event Information
Theme: Plastics & Recycling
Date: Sunday, June 1st
Time: Event Time: 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Session Times: 1:30-2:00 Recycling Right in Schaumburg
2:00-2:30 Comprehensive Green Action Plan Update
2:30 Raffle announcement
Session Location: Adult Classroom, Second Floor
Place: Schaumburg Township District Library
130 S. Roselle Road

Committee members arrived by 12:30 p.m. and staffed the Committee's exhibit table, CGAP Outreach table, and game activities.

Sessions
The Committee coordinated a session on plastic recycling with the municipal team at Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) to arrange a speaker on recycling in Schaumburg. Staff presented a second session on the Comprehensive Green Action

Plan (CGAP) update. The Committee felt 30 minutes would be sufficient for these sessions with 20 minutes devoted to the presentation and an additional 10 minutes for questions and discussion.

For the 2025 event, the session descriptions are below:

Recycling Right in Schaumburg: A Discussion with LRS
Have you ever wondered why we recycle? Why some items are recyclable while others aren't? Or where recycling goes after we place items in the recycling bin? Join the Schaumburg Environmental Committee and Schaumburg's waste hauler LRS to get your recycling questions answered! LRS will highlight why recycling matters, recycling dos and don'ts, and more. Attendees will walk away with tips and tricks to recycle right in Schaumburg.

Schaumburg's Comprehensive Green Action Plan Update
Schaumburg is updating our Comprehensive Green Action Plan and we want to hear from you! The Comprehensive Green Action Plan (CGAP) was created in 2009 to establish goals for environmental stewardship and resilience in Schaumburg. Sustainability Planner, Monica Richart, will present on the Village's successes in achieving previous goals and current efforts to update the plan to reflect the needs of today's residents.

Attendance: There were 13 total community members in attendance in addition to staff and committee members.

The committee felt the presenters were knowledgeable and personable, although attendance was hindered by the location, time commitment and number of families at the event. The committee discussed having a more interactive presentation next year such as mini presentations by former winners of the Al Larson awards, shorter presentations that repeat multiple times, a poster session or gallery for groups like former Al Larson award winners or an activity catered to children such as a play or DIY design activity.

Exhibitors
The Environmental Committee had two exhibitor booths. One booth displayed recycling information while the other booth provided information on the CGAP update and interactive feedback boards. The exhibitors set up at tables in the lobby area. The library coordinated the exhibitors for the fair. Village staff coordinated a table for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to host their Recycling Education Specialist and Energy Efficiency Specialist.

A list of exhibitors is below:

2025 Environmental Fair Exhibitors	
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus	Schaumburg Community Garden Club
Spring Valley Nature Center	The Northwest Mosquito Abatement District
Village of Schaumburg Environmental Committee	Village of Schaumburg CGAP Outreach

Environmental Committee Exhibitor Table: The Committee created questions for the buzzer board which was at the exhibitor table, displayed books on recycling and displayed reusable items from the raffle basket. The Committee also staffed a timed recyclable sorting game which consisted of laminated signs with recycling categories and a variety of items for participants to sort.

Environmental Committee CGAP Outreach Table: Staff provided a table sized printed map of Schaumburg with sticky notes for residents to place comments related to sustainability recommendations. Staff also provided a large comment board and an information board with a QR code link to the online survey. Environmental Committee members assisted with engagement and information.

The Committee coordinated a raffle drawing with raffle entry as a prize for participants visiting every exhibitor table and collecting a stamp from each on an index card. The raffle prize consisted of a selection of zero waste household items and supplies. Staff purchased reusable items to display and include in the raffle and Committee members supplied a basket and additional prize items. Local business, Head To Toe Blessings, donated body care products for the raffle prize.

The raffle was very successful to engage interest in the exhibitor tables, and participants lined up to visit each table. The raffle also generated interest in the reusable items available for display. The winner was selected at the end of the fair and staff provided the basket for pickup by the winner at Village Hall.

The committee agreed that the raffle was especially effective for drawing people to the exhibitor tables. Many kids and families came over to interact with the items on display. The committee felt in the future it would be helpful to have a second table to have more space for activities. Several members commented that engagement levels were the highest they'd seen during their tenure on the committee. The committee suggested having multiple, smaller prizes for raffle winners.

Registration
Formal registration was not required.

Outreach and Event Promotion
Village of Schaumburg:
The Environmental Fair was promoted on social media (Facebook, Nextdoor and X), the Progress Report e-newsletter, and the summer Cracker Barrel issue. For social media and the e-newsletter, the event was promoted 2-3 times on each platform leading up to the event.

Flyers were posted by committee members at various locations around Schaumburg.

The event ran on the village's marquee sign at Summit/Schaumburg and as a website spotlight album for approximately 3 weeks before the event.

Library:
The library promoted the Environmental Fair in their Summer Challenge Guide and on social media.

Parking
Parking was available at the library lot.

Recommendation
For discussion.

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

11-6-25
10/02/25
Environmental Committee

Presenter:
Lead Department: Community Development

Executive Summary:

Recommended Action: