



WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2023



WILL COUNTY
EXECUTIVE
JENNIFER BERTINO-TARRANT

This month I had the pleasure to speak to several local chambers of commerce for conversations with their members about the state of our local economy and the role of county government in empowering continued growth. I'm proud to say that our local economy is on a steady path for continued success.

Our partners at the Will County Center for Economic Development (CED) recently published their 2022 Annual Report, which provides an overview of our economic growth. I'm proud to say that Will County remains a national and statewide leader in economic development. We are first in Illinois for job creation, housing development, and industrial development. According to the CED, 2022 brought 11,000 new jobs to Will County and \$1.2 billion dollars in new wages - money that is being reinvested right back into our communities.

Will County remains strong in job growth, manufacturing, energy production, and single-family home construction. As a county, we are also working hard to diversify our economy. This includes increasing our focus on green energy jobs to ensure that we are well-positioned to attract this growing industry. Earlier this month, Will County also joined the first-ever Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership to work with other counties to attract nationwide and international businesses.

Throughout 2023, I'm committed to working closely with our partners and continuing these efforts to keep our economy strong.

Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant
Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant | Will County Executive

WILL COUNTY EXECUTIVE JENNIFER BERTINO-TARRANT'S

KIDS' FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY
FEB. 20
9A.M. - NOON

JOIN US AT

Troy Middle School
5800 W. Theodore St.,
Plainfield, IL

FREE ADMISSION

Will County Executive Bertino-Tarrant invites residents from throughout the county to attend a Kid's Fair on President's Day (Feb. 20th).

The event will spotlight services within the community and offer both fun and educational activities for families, along with local entertainment. We hope to see you there!

RECOGNIZING OUR EMA VOLUNTEERS

5,548 VOLUNTEER HOURS

The Will County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) had a productive 2022, and it's in great part due to the amazing network of volunteers. Overall, there were 5,548 hours of service provided by volunteers, who supported 28 community events and public programs reaching over 6,000 residents to help educate residents in emergency preparedness. This is in addition to assisting with emergency response duties over the course of the year.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who donated their time and skills in 2022 to aid in the services EMA provides to Will County residents! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please send an email to Erin Ward at eward@willcountyillinois.com.

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

Elizabeth Andrew

LEARN MORE





WINTER WEATHER & SNOWPLOW DRIVING TIPS

With winter weather returning to Northern Illinois this week, the Will County Division of Transportation (WCDOT) is urging drivers to be prepared for snowfall or icy conditions in the coming months.

Preparations should include monitoring weather conditions before driving and ensuring your vehicle is properly stocked with emergency supplies.

During winter weather conditions, WCDOT begins snowplow operations throughout the county to keep our roadways safe. Please keep these five tips in mind when driving with snowplows:

- 1. Slow Down** - Our snowplows travel around 20 mph or less. Reduce your own vehicle's speed when around snowplows for the safety of you, your passengers, and our snowplow operators.
- 2. Be Alert** - Snowplows make frequent stops to remove snow and ice buildup. Increase your distance behind snowplows to ensure enough time to avoid a collision should an abrupt stop happen.
- 3. Lights On** - If snow is falling, your lights might be the only thing helping others see your vehicle.
- 4. Do Not Pass** - Most times you're behind a snowplow it means the road in front of you hasn't been plowed yet. Passing any vehicle during severe weather conditions isn't recommended, especially snowplows.
- 5. Stay Put** - Traveling during any type of severe weather is not recommended. Try and make every effort to get to a safe place before the storm hits.

2023

PATHWAYS TO PROFESSIONS CAREER EXPO

MARCH 14 & 15

Village of Romeoville Athletic & Events Center,
55 Phelps Avenue, Romeoville, IL 60446

Will County Executive Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant and the Workforce Services Division is excited to present the first Pathways to Professions Expo, which will allow local businesses, colleges, and training providers to connect with Will County high school students and residents.

The expo will be open to Will County high school students from 9AM - 1PM on both days of the event and will open to the general public from 2:30PM - 5PM on March 15. The Expo will be a hands-on experience geared towards high school junior and seniors, as well as community members, who are interested in pursuing short-term training programs in high-growth occupations or exploring entry into apprenticeships, internships, or employment opportunities.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Businesses and industry professionals interested in spotlighting training programs and employment opportunities can register as a vendor through the link below

Vendor registration ends February 10, 2023, and vendors are encouraged to describe an interactive experience they can provide attendees of the Expo in their registration form.

Questions about Vendor opportunities can be directed to Scott Kettman at the Workforce Services Division at skettman@willcountyllinois.com.

[REGISTER AS A VENDOR](#)

DALE D. BUTALLA, CIAO-M | SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS

The Supervisor of Assessments (SOA) is the starting place for the Will County tax cycle. The SOA office governs every aspect of the property assessment process, serving as the central resource for county residents. They ensure that taxpayers receive fair and equitable assessments by creating accurate maps, maintaining assessment data, and administering property exemptions.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Appeals are processed through the Board of Review, with several key dates approaching for the 2023 tax cycle:

JAN 25, 2023 | Board of Review final decisions mailed out. Residents who filed a complaint will receive a final decision notice.

FEB 24, 2023 | Deadline to file a complaint to the Illinois Property Tax Board (www.ptab.illinois.gov).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Turning 65 this year? Do you own and occupy your home as your primary residence? You may be eligible for the Senior Citizen's Homestead Exemption. Please visit the SOA's website (www.willcountysoa.com) to download an application or call the SOA office (815-740-4648) for more information.

Exemption Application Renewals: Renewals will be mailed at the end of April. Residents who applied for exemptions previously are already on the mailing list to receive a renewal application. Residents interested in eligibility for a property tax exemption can visit the SOA's website for more information.



GUEST SPOTLIGHT