



NEWS YOU CAN USE

www.cwgdn.com • www.downtownwg.com | 407.656.4111

NOVEMBER 2025

Free Shredding Event for Winter Garden Residents - November 8

It's time to gather those unneeded, sensitive papers and documents for the annual FREE Shredding Event, hosted by the City of Winter Garden. This event is exclusively for Winter Garden residents (no businesses permitted).

There is a limit of five boxes or bags per residence. Bring proof of residency with you. Please, no Early Birds before start time.

Crown Information Management will provide safe and secure onsite document shredding. Participants are welcome to watch the shredding of their documents. The shredded paper will be recycled.

Saturday, November 8 | 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
848 E. Plant Street (across from the Winter Garden Library)
Free

YES, these items are allowed	NO, these items are NOT allowed
Paper Clips	No Binder Clips
Rubber Bands	No Batteries
Chart Fasteners	No 3-Ring Binders
Spiral Notebooks	No Medication
Staples	No Plastics
Credit Cards	No Sharps or Needles
Paper	No Biowaste
Envelopes with Fasteners	No Large Metal Objects

For more information, call 407.877.5193.

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY SIDEWALK SALE & LIVE MUSIC – November 29



The annual Small Business Saturday Sidewalk Sale in historic downtown is a great way to kick off holiday shopping while supporting the locally owned shops that make your community special.

The event's merry atmosphere features outdoor sale racks and seasonal merchandise, live outdoor music performances (11:00 am to 7:00

pm), festive decorations, and more!

Shopping local keeps the most money in your community with 68 cents of every dollar you spend strengthening the local economy. Thank you for supporting local.

Saturday, November 29 | All Day | Historic Downtown

Winter Garden Farmers Market Events

Downtown Pavilion, 104 S. Lakeview Avenue

Health & Harvest Festival at the Farmers Market - November 8

Enjoy free games, giveaways, fitness classes, cooking lessons, health screenings, and more at the annual Health & Harvest Festival, cohosted by Healthy West Orange and the City of Winter Garden.

Saturday, November 8 | 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Thanksgiving at the Farmers Market - November 22

Bring the kids to the Farmers Market to make a homemade Thanksgiving decoration for your celebration. While there, pick up all the essentials for your Thanksgiving dinner.

Saturday, November 22 | 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Free Kids' Crafts | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (Parking Garage Plaza)

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES AND SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving Day (November 27) and Friday after Thanksgiving (November 28):

- All City Government Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28.
- On Thursday, November 27, there will be NO Solid Waste Collection Services (trash, yard waste, bulk items). Services will resume on your next scheduled collection day.
- On Friday, November 28, there will be Regular Solid Waste Collection Services.

Holiday Gifts for Kids

PROGRAM

REGISTRATION

Presented by the Winter Garden Police Athletic League, Inc. (WGPAL), the annual Holiday Gifts for Kids program provides presents to Winter Garden youth in need, ages newborn – 12 years old.

Registration dates:
November 10 - December 5

To register, pick up and return an application at one of the following locations or hand it to a police officer on patrol.

Winter Garden Police Department –
251 W. Plant Street
City Hall – 300 W. Plant Street
Maxey Center – 830 Klondike Street
Mildred Dixon Activity Center –
303 S.W. Crown Pointe Road
Jessie Brock Community Center –
310 N. Dillard Street

When registering, ALL the following documents are required and must be verified:

- Birth certificate or court/custody paperwork (only parent or legal guardian can register a child)
- **Current** water or utility bill for the Winter Garden address they reside
- Proof of government assistance (WIC, food stamps, etc.)
- Some type of identification (driver's license, ID card, passport, etc.)
- Child must be **age 12 or younger**

Note: You are not registered for the program until you have been contacted by the Community Liaison Unit and given a HGFK ticket with a scheduled pickup date and time.

Questions, call 407.656.3636 ext. 5416.

HOW TO DONATE

WGPAL fundraisers partially fund this program, but donations from our generous community are needed to bring smiles to all the local kids in need.

Please donate new, unwrapped gifts. Donations are tax deductible.

Donation Drop Off:

November 1 - December 12
Winter Garden Police Department,
251 W. Plant Street

Donation Ideas:

- Toys • Board Games • Sport Balls • Puzzles
- Toy Cars & Trucks • Legos • Matchbox Cars
- Dolls • Bicycles for All Ages
- Arts & Crafts Sets • Jewelry Kits
- Infant Toys • Action Figures • Gift Cards

DONUT DASH 5K RUN/ WALK – November 8



Run or walk – and eat donuts – through the neighborhoods of historic Winter Garden for the annual Donut Dash 5K! Enjoy live music, vendor booths, and giveaways. Prizes awarded for top runners plus a prize for best donut costume.

Participants receive a t-shirt, race medal, and free Krispy Kreme donuts. Kids (5-10 years old) race free in a half-mile mini donut run with adult entry.

Proceeds support the Winter Garden Police Athletic League (WGPAL) Holiday Gifts for Kids program as well as other community programs for local underprivileged and at-risk kids.

Register for this fun event online at wgpal.org or runsignup.com, or in person at the race. Questions, call 407.656.3636 ext. 5416.

Saturday, November 8
8:00 (race start time) – 11:00 am
Newton Park, 1 Surprise Drive

Don't let FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease) Ruin Your Festivities

Free Pan/Plate Scraper

As you cook delicious meals and desserts for holiday gatherings, be on alert for FOG (fats, oils, and grease) as these uninvited guests can ruin the merry season if not disposed of properly.

Pouring FOG down the sink or toilet can lead to blockage and cause overflows and sewer backups, potentially causing damage, costly plumbing repairs, and health hazards. When FOG gets into the sewer from household drains, it can block the flow of wastewater from your home to the City's wastewater treatment plant. This wastewater can then overflow into your home, yard, street, neighborhood, and local waterways.

Combat FOG This Way: Not Just During the Holidays, but Every Day

1. Cook it.
2. Cool it. (Pour FOG into a can or jar and let it cool.)
3. Scrape it. Scrape or wipe FOG and scraps from plates, trays, pots, pans, utensils, grills and surfaces and place it in cans or jars.
4. Trash it. Place FOG-filled cans or jars and scraps into a plastic bag and toss directly into your trashcan.



FREE Pan/Plate Scraper to Prevent FOG

Pick up at City Hall Reception Desk while supplies last.
For more information, call 407.877.5193.

FALL INTO FUN with PARKS & RECREATION!

From fitness to fun, there's something for everyone this fall! Yoga, Tai Chi, Zumba, 50+ Activities & Day Trips, Amazing Athletes, Archery, Art Classes, Ballet, Kickball, Pickleball, Tennis, Softball, Super Soccer Stars, Preschool Programs, Cardio Drumming, Babysitting Certification, Video Game Club, and more! To view schedules, details, and fees, visit the "Parks & Recreation" page at cwgd.com or call 407.656.4155. **Register at <https://enroll.wgplay.com>.**

Unless noted otherwise, all programs listed are held at Jessie Brock Community Center, 310 N. Dillard Street.

AMAZING ATHLETES MULTI-SPORT PROGRAM

Amazing Athletes is a fun, active multi-sport class that empowers kids through the fundamentals of sports and physical fitness. Children will develop core skills in up to 10 different sports - including soccer, basketball, football, and volleyball—through age-appropriate lessons in a noncompetitive, educational environment. In addition to sports skills, our "Muscle Zoo" animal characters introduce kids to muscle groups and healthy foods, helping them understand how their bodies work and what fuels them to play their best. It's a great way for young athletes to explore new activities, build confidence, and discover what they love! This program is an indoor program but may move outdoors if weather permits.

Thursdays | November 6 – December 18

(no programming November 27)

Tots | 18 months – 2.5 years old | 5:30 – 6:00 pm

Athletes | 3 – 5 years old | 6:10 – 6:50 pm

\$96 City Resident / \$105 Nonresident,
per 6-week session

ADULT RUNNING, CONDITIONING, AND INJURY PREVENTION

Personalized training in a group environment to improve fitness, conditioning, and running. Learn how to run more effectively, how to prevent injuries, and help lose weight through running. The course builds skills each week to improve overall physical fitness.

Tuesdays | November 4 – 18 | 5:45 – 6:35 pm

Age | 19 years and older

\$75 Resident / \$90 Nonresident, per 3-week course

KICKBALL – ADULT LEAGUE

Gather your friends and come out to play the game we all remember from grade school which has evolved into today's hottest get-together sport for adults. Anyone can play from the less experienced to the diehard. This is a great way to stay in shape, meet new people, and have fun! Come out and KICK IT with our Thursday night co-ed league.

Registration may close early due to limited availability in each league. Number of league games varies each season.

POLAR BEAR LEAGUE

Registration | November 12 – December 3

League begins Thursday, January 8

Games | 6:45 pm, 7:45 pm, & 8:45 pm

\$325 per team for season

Braddock Park, 13460 Lake Butler Boulevard

TENNIS LESSONS - YOUTH & ADULT

Highly skilled instructor brings years of experience and knowledge to participants. Class space is limited, advance registration required.

November 3 – December 19 (no programming week of November 24) | Age | 5 years and older

Time and fees vary, please check www.cwgd.com for details.

Chapin Station Park, 501 Crown Point Cross Road

VIDEO GAME CLUB

Gamers will meet and practice each week to train for a team tournament that will be held on the last class of each session. Upon joining the club, children 6 - 14 years old will build friendships while also learning and developing leadership, sportsmanship, and teamwork when engaged in video game play.

Mondays | *Rocket League Team* | 5:30 – 6:30 pm

November 3 – December 15 (no programming week of November 24) | 6-week session

Wednesdays | *Fortnite Team* | 5:30 – 6:30 pm

November 5 – December 17 (no programming week of November 24) | 6-week session

\$132 City Resident / \$150 Nonresident, 6-week session
Optional Purchase | \$45 Esports Team Jersey

ACTIVE 50+

HOMOSASSA SPRINGS STATE PARK – HOMOSASSA, FL

When Homosassa Springs was a popular train stop in the early 1900s, passengers could picnic and take a dip in the spring while train cars were being loaded up with cedar, crabs, fish, and spring water. A unique underwater structure, the Underwater Observatory, allows visitors to "walk underwater" beneath the spring's surface to watch the various fish and manatees swim about. The park also features a variety of captive animals such as alligators, black bears, red wolf, Key deer, flamingos, and whooping cranes. You will take a boat ride along Pepper Creek, weather permitting, where the captain will identify native wildlife along the way. Cost includes transportation, admission, and boat ride. Dutch treat lunch.

Tuesday, November 18 | 7:30 am – 6:00 pm

\$29 City Resident / \$33 Nonresident

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP

Looking for fun during the school break? Join Winter Garden Parks & Recreation for a day filled with arts & crafts, games, sports, and more! Campers will enjoy a safe, active, and engaging environment with their friends and our experienced, caring staff. Campers must bring a packed lunch, snacks, and a water bottle. Space is limited – register early!

Thanksgiving Break Camp

November 24 - 26 | 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Age | Kindergarten - 8th grade

\$26 City Resident / \$34 Nonresident, per day

City Government Serving You

MAYOR

John Rees, District 5 – Citywide
407.656.7372 | jrees@cwgd.com

COMMISSIONERS

Lisa L. Bennett, District 1
Mayor Pro-Tem
407.877.5131 | lisa.bennett@cwgd.com

Iliana R. Jones, District 2
407.877.5132 | iliana.jones@cwgd.com

Chloe Johnson, District 3
407.877.5133 | chloe.johnson@cwgd.com

Colin Sharman, District 4
407.877.5134 | csharman@cwgd.com

CITY MANAGER

Jon C. Williams
407.656.4111 ext. 2267
jwilliams@cwgd.com

CITY OF WINTER GARDEN

300 W. Plant Street
Winter Garden, FL 34787
407-656-4111

www.cwgd.com

www.downtownwg.com

[f](#) [@](#) [OfficialDowntownWinterGarden](#)



CRAFT AFFAIR – November 8

Visit the annual Craft Affair to shop for unique items such as jewelry, holiday décor, crafts, artwork, and more. Hosted by the Parks & Recreation Department, all the items are handcrafted by your local age 50+ community.

Saturday, November 8

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Jessie Brock Community Center,

310 N. Dillard Street | Free Admission



NEWS YOU CAN USE

www.cwgdn.com • www.downtownwg.com | 407.656.4111

NOVEMBER 2025



Central Florida Railroad Museum

101 S. Boyd Street | cfrhs.org
407.656.0559

Tuesday – Friday | 11:00 am – 3:00 pm Saturday
10:00 am – 3:00 pm | Free Admission



Winter Garden Heritage Museum

1 N. Main Street | wghf.org | 407.656.3244
Tuesday – Saturday | 11:00 am – 3:00 pm | Free Admission

EXHIBITION

RAILROAD DEPOTS OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Railroads arrived in Orange County in 1880, and their steel rails quickly spread throughout the region. Goods and passengers arrived and departed at dozens of Central Florida depots, allowing for convenient connections to and from points north and south. This new photo exhibition features depots long departed and some that remain in use today.

Now – March 7 | Free Admission

EVENTS

cfrhs.org/events

55-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRAL FLORIDA RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Join us for refreshments following a brief meeting as we celebrate this milestone.

Monday, November 10 | 7:00 – 9:00 pm | Free Admission
Public & Members Invited

EXHIBITION

CHAMPIONS OF WEST ORANGE COUNTY: A LEGACY OF ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

Presented by AdventHealth

This dynamic showcase celebrates the remarkable athletes who have emerged from our community, highlighting their incredible achievements across various sports - from baseball and basketball to soccer and swimming. The exhibition invites sports enthusiasts of all ages to connect with the spirit of competition, resilience, and community pride.

Now – January 31 | Free Admission

EVENTS

ORANGES & ORNAMENTS: A FESTIVAL OF TREES

A two-day event, presented by AdventHealth, showcasing an array of beautifully adorned holiday trees, each uniquely themed. Guests will have the chance to purchase one of these unique, full-size trees with the opportunity to take home a masterpiece to enjoy with friends and family throughout the season.

Opening Reception | Friday, November 21 | 5:00 – 8:30 pm
Heller Hall, 21 E. Plant Street | Purchase tickets at Eventbrite.com

An elegant evening featuring the first look at the holiday trees and an unbelievable tasting experience crafted for food lovers and holiday enthusiasts alike.

Public Viewing | Saturday, November 22 | 11:00 am – 3:00 pm
Heller Hall, 21 E. Plant Street | Purchase Tickets at Eventbrite.com

Orlando Urban Sketchers Exhibit Premieres at City Hall

This unique exhibit showcases the work of the Orlando Urban Sketchers, a group of artists dedicated to capturing the world around them, one sketch at a time. Featuring scenes from everyday life in and around Central Florida, these works highlight the beauty of urban environments through ink, watercolor, and pencil. Curated by the Winter Garden Art Association, stop by City Hall to experience this beautiful visual journal of our community.

Exhibit Dates | November 3 – January 5
Art in Public Places Gallery at City Hall
300 W. Plant Street
Monday – Friday, 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM | Free



SOBO Art Gallery | 127 S. Boyd Street | wgart.org | 407.347.7996

Tuesday – Friday, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm | Free Admission

EXHIBITION (NEW)

Home for the Holidays

Embrace the joy and nostalgia of the holiday season through art that evokes the warmth of home and cherished traditions.

November 6 – January 3 | Free Admission

Opening Reception | Thursday, November 6, 5:30 – 8:00 pm
Public Invited

CALL TO ARTISTS

wgart.org/artists/call-to-artists

Visit the “Call to Artists” website page regularly for themes of upcoming exhibitions and submit online the FIRST through the EIGHTH of the month prior to an exhibition.

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

Details and registration: wgart.org/adults

Yin Yoga with Olga

Relax, restore, and unwind in a peaceful candlelight setting. Candlelight Yin Yoga combines the beauty of art with the healing power of yoga.

Mondays | 10:30 am | \$15 paid at class | Drop In

Technique Tuesday at Two

Schedule and details: wgart.org/Tuesdays

A different instructor and technique are featured every week. Pick up new tips and techniques while enjoying the artists' open studio time.

Tuesdays | 2:00 - 4:00 pm | Studio Room
Open to all | Free to members & first-time visitors

Artist Night Studio: Life Drawing

Model is available to draw every session.

Wednesdays | 6:30 – 9:00 pm | 18 years and older only
\$10 member / \$15 nonmember (collected at sign in)

ART FOR KIDS

Details and registration: wgart.org/kids

Wednesday Kids Art Club

Explore the world of arts and crafts with a certified art instructor.

Age | 2nd grade - Middle School | 4:00 - 5:00 pm
\$15 each session, includes all materials