



Agenda
Village of Glen Ellyn
Environmental Commission Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2026
7:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 306

Members of the public are welcome to speak to any item not specifically listed on tonight's Agenda. For those items which are on tonight's Agenda, the public will have the opportunity to comment at the time the item is discussed. Individuals wishing to address the Commission shall exercise proper decorum and respect for the proceedings and the business of the Environmental Commission, and shall refrain from abusive demeanor and language. Commissioners are not obligated to respond to questions.

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Public Comment**
- C. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1) Approval of Environmental Commission June 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- D. Reports**
 - 1) Park District Liaison Report
 - 2) Trustee Liaison Report
 - 3) Staff Liaison Report
 - 4) Chair Report
- E. Old Business**
- F. New Business**
 - 1) Strategic Planning: 2027-2028 Priority Initiatives
- G. Adjourn**

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

June 16, 2026

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: June 16, 2026
Called to Order: 7:03 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:46 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairperson	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Absent
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
John Day	Commissioner	Present
Chris English	Commissioner	Present
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Absent
Barbara Kwiatkowsky	Commissioner	Present
Monica Miller	Commissioner	Present
Tara Sheeley	Commissioner	Present
Also Present:		
Rachel Notter	Management Analyst – Public Works	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
Public		
Jeff Gehris	Forest Reserve Park District of DuPage County	
Bill Frerichs	Glen Ellyn resident - 470 Raintree	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The June 16, 2026 meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson Truitt at 7:03 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a. Commissioner Jeff Gahrns, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County -
Commissioner Jeff Gahrns of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County provided an overview and update on the McKee House restoration project. He explained that the Soaring Foundation initially assumed responsibility for the property but lacked the financial resources necessary to undertake the full renovation. Early fundraising efforts and grant applications were pursued with assistance from the Village.

Gehris noted that the project is now being supported by multiple organizations, which are helping advance planning, fundraising, and restoration efforts. Given

the scope of the work and funding requirements, he estimated that completion of the project is likely several years away, with a projected timeline of approximately five years.

- b. Bill Frerichs, a Glen Ellyn resident of the Raintree Condominiums, requested assistance from the Environmental Commission in facilitating discussions with Village Links regarding the removal of buckthorn along the shared property boundary. He noted that resident volunteers have been actively working to remove invasive species; however, without coordinated support from Village Links, the efforts have limited long-term effectiveness.

Commissioner Casazza noted that a similar request has been raised by another residential area within Glen Ellyn addressing invasive species along adjacent properties. Chairperson Truitt added that the Commission has been working with the Village to identify invasive species areas for removal and replanting, including evaluating which locations may qualify for free tree plantings through CRTI and exploring potential support from the Conservation Foundation to assist with collaborative efforts.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski suggested that Trustee Donna Jean Simon, who also resides in Raintree, could serve as a helpful liaison in facilitating coordination. Chairperson Truitt thanked Mr. Frerichs for bringing the matter forward and stated that the Commission will assist in initiating discussions with Village Links

- c. Commissioner Casazza noted that she serves on the Civic Betterment Committee, which is a non-partisan organization that provides information on local elections and candidates. She reported that there are currently four trustee positions open on the Village Board and on the Library Board. She encouraged anyone interested in running for these positions to contact her or any member of the Civic Betterment Committee for additional information.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 19, 2026 Environmental Commission Meeting – Commissioner Day motioned to approve the minutes as amended and Commissioner English seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

APPROVAL OF APRIL CHAIR REPORT – Commissioner English motioned to approve the April Chair report and Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

III. PRESENTATION

1. Village Code Updates – Jennifer Henaghan, Community Development Director - Henaghan provided a presentation on the status of the Village's ongoing code update project (see attached presentation). She explained that the effort is rooted in the Village's Comprehensive Plan, which serves as a long-range vision guiding development and policy decisions over the next 10–20 years.

The objective of the project is to modernize the Village code to better align with the Comprehensive Plan and evolving community needs. Henaghan noted that the project began in February with the engagement of consultants and has included stakeholder meetings as well as a community survey that received approximately 400 responses. The consultant's preliminary report has been completed and is available on the Village website.

Henaghan reviewed key recommendations with the Environmental Commission in detail. She also outlined the next steps in the process, noting that the project is currently in the calibration phase, during which recommendations will be further refined through discussions with various boards and commissions. Draft code updates will then be developed and brought back for additional feedback before final consideration and adoption by the Village Board. She emphasized the intent is to ensure the updated code is well-aligned with community goals and best practices.

She also shared a schedule of upcoming commission meetings where further discussions will take place. Henaghan clarified that there is no action requested from the Environmental Commission at this time, as the presentation was for informational purposes only.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski expressed appreciation for the process and the opportunity for commission input.

IV. LIAISON REPORTS

A. *Trustee Liaison Report:* No report

B. *Staff Liaison Report* – Rachel Notter provided several updates, noting that J.D. Barrett has resigned from the Village and she will now serve as the Staff Liaison to the Environmental Commission.

Notter reported that the Environmental Commission's recommendations regarding the Dutch Bros project were forwarded by Daniel Harper to the developer. The developer has agreed to incorporate several design changes, including Dark Sky-compliant exterior lighting with shielding to direct illumination downward, as well as additional landscaping improvements intended to reduce ground temperature impacts. The revised plans also include an increased number of trees beyond the original proposal.

Notter stated that these revisions represent several positive outcomes for the Commission's input, and that any future updates related to the project will continue to be shared with the Environmental Commission.

C. *Park District Liaison Report* – Chairperson Truitt shared an update submitted by Chris Gutmann. He reported that algae removal efforts are ongoing and that seasonal planting throughout the Village continues as scheduled. At Manor Woods, hemlock treatment was recently completed at trailside. Gutmann also noted that

summer nature camps have begun and are underway.

D. Chair Report – Chairperson Truitt thanked Commissioner Miller for her advocacy efforts related to pollinator support at the food pantry, as well as her leadership in coordinating the Milkweed giveaway initiative. Truitt also noted that the monarch butterfly mural was installed, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony to be held on Friday.

She added that the Village continues to make progress toward meeting all requirements for Bird City designation, with the remaining criteria expected to be completed by the end of the year.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Strategic Planning Priorities

Recycling Extravaganza – Commissioner Sheeley provided an update on outreach materials developed for the Recycling Extravaganza. She noted that she and Commissioner Casazza created a newsletter featuring a map along Roosevelt Road identifying local establishments that accept specific recyclables such as paint, batteries, and textiles. In addition, they prepared a second summary highlighting recycling statistics from all Environmental Commission events held throughout the year.

Chairperson Truitt thanked both commissioners for their efforts and asked the Commission to consider whether yard signs should be used to promote the October recycling event. She noted that the signs would be reusable but would involve upfront production costs and require storage space. After discussion, the Commission agreed to pursue the production of approximately 50–100 signs to support event promotion.

Staff Liaison Notter will confirm with the Village whether yard signs are permitted in parkways. Commissioner Casazza then motioned to request funding from the Village Board for up to 100-yard signs, and Commissioner English seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tree Preservation Ordinance Update – Chairperson Truitt provided an update on the Commission’s tree preservation initiative. She noted that staff has met to begin outlining a tentative project timeline. The tree removal permit process is currently under review by staff, who are also examining how other communities manage similar programs and estimating associated Village costs.

Notter indicated that the research and benchmarking effort is expected to be completed by the end of July. Truitt added that Trustees have requested that staff evaluate multiple potential program options, including an incentive-based preservation program and a heritage tree designation program.

Water & Waste Initiatives – Truitt reported she and Rachel Notter reviewed the initiatives and highlighted the ones for budget approval.

VII New Business - None

VII Next Meeting & Adjournment

Commissioner Kwiatkowski motioned and Commissioner English seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

The next EC meeting – August 18, 2026

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Barrett



**Glen Ellyn Environmental
Commission**
535 Duane Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Meeting 8/18/2026 7:00 PM
Department: Public Works - Director
Department Head:
Category: Discussion Item
Prepared By:

**AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2026-
643)**

DOC ID: 2026-643

Strategic Planning: 2027-2028 Priority Initiatives

Statement of the Issue:

Analysis:

Budget Impact:

Contribution to Strategic Plan

Action Requested:

Attachments: