



It's Right Here.

# THE WIRE

5500 Schofield Avenue • P.O BOX 446 • Weston, WI 54476 • (715) 359-6114 • [www.westonwi.gov](http://www.westonwi.gov)

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4 • September / October 2015

## September 23<sup>rd</sup> First Day of Autumn

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## Administrator's Update



Dear Weston Residents and Taxpayers,

The summer season always seems to go by so fast. For most of us, it involves seeking a complicated balance between finding enough time in the workplace to move projects forward and enough time outside the office for family, friends, and relaxation. As I strove to achieve my own balance between work and family this summer, I found myself frequently reflecting back on the many changes, challenges, and successes

that have occurred during last three years since I was offered the opportunity to become your Village Administrator.

When I first arrived at the Village, we were anticipating a \$1 million deficit in the general fund for fiscal year 2013. This was on top of unprecedented reductions in state aids and shared revenues, which, historically, had been a big part of our operating budget. It was truly a challenging time for the Village – one that I am pleased to say we have risen to meet very well.

A few weeks ago, the Village received its completed annual audit report from Clifton Larson Allen, the Village's CPA. Their extensive report is available for viewing by the public on the Village's website at [www.westonwi.gov/AnnualReportCAFR](http://www.westonwi.gov/AnnualReportCAFR). (NOTE - Aside from our audit reports, we have lots of great information on our website, which was an important upgrade we invested in during 2013. See page 4 for information on a state-wide award that Weston won for website transparency and openness, which is something we should all be very proud of).

I would like to take a moment to highlight some important figures found within the annual audit report that showcase some very positive aspects related to the current fiscal health of our Village.

1. During the 2011 fiscal year, the Village spent \$41 million. This year we are budgeted to spend only \$33.5 million, which is a spending reduction of 18%.
2. \$23 million of new construction was added to the tax role this year, which was a valuation increase of 2.2% from 2014 to 2015.
3. We have a healthy fund balance, which could cover 34% of annual operations. The recommended amount is typically 25%.
4. We are aggressively paying down debts and have avoided new general obligation expenditures and borrowing for the past three years. The Village's total general obligation debt will be 19.9% of our legally allowable limit at the end of this fiscal year, which is the lowest percentage that the Village has had since its incorporation in 1996.
5. Our partnership with the Town of Rib Mountain to create the South Area Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) district, which replaced the former Weston Fire Department, has saved the Village of Weston \$1,077,898 during its two years of operation when compared to the projections for anticipated expenses and costs under the prior system.

These are wonderful achievements that the Village should be very proud of. However, Weston does still have some financial challenges that we are actively working to overcome. We have lost a total of \$6,069,280 in funding from the State of Wisconsin since its reductions to local gov-

ernments began a few years ago. Changing how we do business to accommodate for these, as well as future anticipated losses, doesn't happen overnight. But we are making some great progress by making calculated adjustments to our service portfolio that are intentionally designed to have the least impact possible throughout the Village.

Despite these challenges, the Village continues to work on a number of important projects. I am particularly excited about starting construction on our Eau Claire River Access project, which will enable canoes and kayaks to be safely launched next to the Ross Avenue Bridge and Babl Lane. This project came together as a financial partnership between the Village of Weston, Marathon County, the B.A. and Esther Greenheck Foundation, and through the Marvin & Ruth (Rudie) Schuette Fund of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin. Details about this project are discussed later in this newsletter and, like the audit report, are also available online.

None of these great achievements would be possible without great people to make them happen. The Village is extremely fortunate to have such an amazing team of elected officials, committee members, and staff working hard to give all of you, our citizens, the best possible value with the lowest municipal tax rate (for an incorporate, full-service municipality) in this metro area.

And speaking of our great team, later in this newsletter you will find news about some important changes to it, including retirements, job changes, and new opportunities for members of our Village "family," such as:

- The retirement of Fire Chief Steve Meilahn.
- Deputy Finance Director Jessica Trautman's new position as the Finance Director in Rib Mountain.
- Deb and Chad Ferge's final year running the Aquatic Center's Concession Stand.

I have personally done my best to express my appreciation and gratitude for their service to the Village and I hope that you will join me in thanking these individuals for their hard work and countless contributions to the community when you see them out and about in our local area. The Village is forever changed due to the impact that each of them had on it in their own way.

As the summer "balancing act" draws to a close, my reflections on the time I have spent here continue to reveal that this is an amazing place, with amazing people. I look forward to the years ahead and to serving all of you the best that I can. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the operations, services, or effectiveness of our local government operation. I can be reached here at the Municipal Center at 715-359-6114 or by email at [dguild@westonwi.gov](mailto:dguild@westonwi.gov).

Sincerely,

Daniel Guild  
Weston Village Administrator

~ Keeping it ~

# Here

AT RIVER VALLEY BANK, we're proud of our communities. We've been in Weston since 1975 and we plan to stay for many more years.

Also located in: Rothschild and Wausau



IN WESTON:  
4107 Barbican Ave.  
715.355.0035



**River Valley**  
BANK

Member  
FDIC

Place your ad here!  
1/8 page Ad: \$250

Place your ad here!  
1/8 page Ad: \$250

Place your ad here!  
1/2 page Ad: \$650

Newsletter Advertising Options: Full page ad: \$850, 1/2 page ad: \$650, 1/4 page ad: \$450, 1/8 page ad: \$250.  
Full Color Insert in the Weston Direct Pak: One Sided: \$500, Two Sided: \$575

## The Bulletin Board

### Village earns Website Award

The Village of Weston is proud to announce it has been named among the inaugural group of ConnectWI awardees to receive the "Gold Award" thanks to its efforts in online transparency. This means the public has easy access to information including agendas, minutes, calendars and contact information for public officials. To view the official Press Release please go to the following link: [www.westonwi.gov/GoldAwardWeston](http://www.westonwi.gov/GoldAwardWeston).



### Parking of Vehicles

As a reminder, all motor vehicles that are parked outside need to be parked on an all-weather surface such as blacktop, concrete, or paving blocks (a gravel surface is acceptable if it was permitted before January 1, 2014). This would include vehicles that are for sale. Inoperable or unlicensed vehicles need to be parked in a garage. Campers, boats, and trailers may be parked on the lawn next to your garage or driveway as long as the lawn is maintained free of tall grass and weeds. Also, no more than TWO recreational vehicles (including trailers) are allowed to be parked on a property that is zoned residential. Failure to comply may result in the issuance of a citation from the Everest Metro Police.

### Ice Rinks

The Village of Weston Park Department is now accepting applications for ice rink attendants for the 2015-2016 ice skating season. These positions run from the middle of December through February. Applications are available at [www.westonwi.gov](http://www.westonwi.gov) in the Village E-Services section.

The Village will be operating one open rink and one hockey rink again this season. Both rinks are located at Kennedy Park. Rinks will be open from 1:00pm to 5:00pm and 6:00pm to 9:00pm on Saturdays, Sundays and School Holidays and from 6:00pm to 9:00pm Monday through Friday. Call the Weston Park Department at (715) 359-9988 with questions regarding the rinks or the available positions.

## Irishfest Central Wisconsin

September  
12<sup>th</sup>

2106 Schofield Ave.  
Weston

Food and  
Drinks available  
for purchase

Irishfest - Central Wisconsin celebrates the music, dance and food of Ireland while spotlighting Central Wisconsin as a vibrant, entertaining and welcoming place for residents, tourists and visitors!

#### Schedule of Events

**9:00 am**

Bike Ride Check In Registration

**10:00am**

Bike Ride - 3 Start Times/ 3 Routes

**11:00am - 1:00pm**

Lunch for Bike Riders

**11:00am - 7:00pm**

Silent Auction Opens

**1:00pm - 4:00pm**

Kids Activities

**2:00pm - 4:30pm**

Open Musical Workshops & Dancing

**4:30pm - 6:00pm**

Two Tap Trio with Randy Gosa, Rince na Chroi  
& Brian Cunningham

**6:45pm**

Reilly

**8:30pm - 10:30pm**

The Kissers

Irishfest is a FREE event. We ask you to please bring a box of oatmeal to help support Peyton's Promise. Peyton's Promise helps collect food for hungry children and all food stays within Marathon County.



For more information about the event, please visit [www.irishfestcentralwisconsin.com](http://www.irishfestcentralwisconsin.com) or call (715) 298-0688.

## Weston Farmers Market open thru October

The Village of Weston Farmer's Market kicked off its 10<sup>th</sup> season on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and is in full swing at its new location at the "Weston Market Place" on the corner of Camp Phillips Rd. and Schofield Ave. (next to Dunkin' Donuts). The Market offers fresh fruits and vegetables, beautiful flower bouquets and a variety of hand-made crafts and if you're hungry there is Danny's Gyros, Egg Rolls, Kettle Corn, Roasted Almonds, homemade Bakery, Empanada's and MORE.



**Trick-or-Treating**  
**Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**4:00pm - 7:00pm**  
*(Village & Town of Weston)*

## Yellowbanks Park Update

The Village of Weston recently completed a project at Yellowbanks Park that will improve accessibility for canoes, kayaks and other users of the Eau Claire River. Utilizing Village Staff we were able to cut down the bank along the river and grade a gradual slope so it will be easier for users to access the river. Improvements at this site are a small part of the parks master plan that will include an improved boat landing and parking area. Once the grass starts to grow in the area that was disturbed, the site will be ready for use.

## Greenheck Field House Fall Events

**Family Fun Day:** Family Fun Day will be held on **Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>** from **3:00-5:00pm** at the Greenheck Fields House. Free ice skating, swimming, face painting, rock climbing and bouncy houses. Peyton's Promise will be there so bring a package of breakfast cereal to donate.

**Community Halloween Party:** Come join in the fun for the Annual Community Halloween Party on **Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>** from **1:00-3:00pm** at the Greenheck Field House. **FREE ADMISSION** with a donation of a non-perishable food item to benefit Peyton's Promise. There will be fun, games, prizes and a puppet show. Be sure to wear your Halloween Costume. This event is sponsored by the Everest Metro Police Department.

**Hmong New Year Celebration:** Wausau area's Hmong community invites you to their cultural and talent shows, singing and dancing competitions, traditional performance and dance, foods, and much more. This event will be held **Saturday, October 31 - Sunday, November 1, 2015** and is open to the whole community. Day admission for Saturday and Sunday from 8:00am to 4:00pm is \$3 per person, free for those younger than 10 and older than 65. Saturday also features a night party from 6:30pm to midnight, with a live band performance. Admission for the night party is \$10 per person in advance and \$12 at the door.

## Village News

### Searching for New Concession Stand Operation at the Weston Aquatic Center

The Village of Weston is looking for interested persons or business to become the new concession stand operators at the Weston Aquatic Center; the Village's premier outdoor aquatic facility.

"The concession stand provides a valuable service to our patrons, and the historic relationship that the Village has established with third party vendors has been effective and profitable for both parties," said Brad Mroczenski, Weston Aquatic Center Manager. The Concession Stand was opened in 1999 as part of the Weston Aquatic Center. The Aquatic Center Concession Stand is owned by the Village of Weston and operated under a lease arrangement. After 12 successful years of operation, the current concession stand owner-operators, Chad and Deb Ferge, have decided to move onto other hobbies and pursuits.

"We had so much fun operating the Weston Aquatic Center Concession Stand. It's a great place to spend your summer" said Deb Ferge, current concession stand owner-operator. "We will miss this a lot."

The Weston Aquatic Center is located on the grounds of Kennedy Park, which is a 39 acre park that serves thousands of individuals each year with a variety of activities. Kennedy Park is home to three baseball diamonds, two soccer fields, a skate park, picnic shelter, restroom facilities, play equipment and seasonal ice skating.

"The concession stand has been operated using lease agreements with two different operators over the past 16 years," said Weston Parks and Recreation Director Shawn Osterbrink. "We are looking for the next relationship to help us continue to provide this benefit to the Center's patrons and to our community."

The Village has developed an RFP with information about the Aquatic Center's operating financials, and what a prospective operator would need to know to present the Village with a proposal. This RFP is the means for prospective vendors to submit their qualifications to the Village of Weston and request our consideration to be the Concession Stand's next owner/operator. The RFP is available on the Village of Weston website at [www.westonwi.gov/ConcessionStandRFP2015](http://www.westonwi.gov/ConcessionStandRFP2015). For additional questions, please contact Daniel Guild, Village Administrator at (715) 359-6114 or [dguild@westonwi.gov](mailto:dguild@westonwi.gov), or Shawn Osterbrink, Parks and Recreation Director, at (715) 359-9988 or [sosterbrink@westonwi.gov](mailto:sosterbrink@westonwi.gov).

### Ross Avenue Canoe/Kayak Launch

The Village of Weston will be constructing a new canoe/kayak access location along the Eau Claire River, immediately adjacent to the Ross Avenue Bridge, on the corner of Ross Avenue and Babl Lane.

"I am really excited about this project. This idea was developed collaboratively with my team of Department Directors shortly after I came to the Village," said Weston Administrator Daniel Guild. "This project is a true community partnership and I am very gratified and humbled by the community funding and support that we have received for this project."

Four different agencies came together to fund this project, including the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, the Greenheck Foundation, Marathon County, and the Village of Weston.

The Marathon County Environmental Impact Fund provides funding assistance for non-reoccurring projects in Marathon County for the purpose of environmental remediation and/or natural resources protection. The source of Environmental Impact Funds is the 2006 agreement between Marathon County and American Transmission Company concerning construction of the Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line in Marathon County.

The B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation was established in 1998 by Bernie and Esther Greenheck. Their purpose is to provide financial support for meaningful projects in Central Wisconsin that enhance the area's arts, education, health, economic and social development resources.

Additional support for this project was provided through the Marvin & Ruth (Rudie) Schuette Fund of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin. The Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin is one of 700 nonprofit community foundations nationwide. Created in 1987 by and for the people of north central Wisconsin, the Foundation is a nonprofit community corporation created to provide for the long-term needs of our local communities.

The grants totaled approximately 123,000 of the 175,000 project.

The launch was designed by Central Wisconsin Engineers. The construction contract was awarded to Janke General Contractors, Inc. The launch, which is envisioned to be the first in a series of improved accesses along the Eau Claire River will be constructed yet this year, with the exception of some minor landscaping work, which will be completed next spring.

"We have long-believed that the Eau Claire River is an under-appreciated asset here in the metro area," said Weston Parks and Recreation Director Shawn Osterbrink. "We hope that this is the start of a concerted effort by our local communities, not just Weston, to make the Eau Claire River more accessible and enjoyable for families throughout Marathon County and its many guests."

The Village of Weston hosted a Groundbreaking Ceremony at the construction site on August, 24<sup>th</sup>. Information about the project can be found online at [www.westonwi.gov/CanoeKayakLaunch](http://www.westonwi.gov/CanoeKayakLaunch)



## Village News cont.

### Village partners with local company to provide Wi-Fi

If you have been to the Weston Aquatic Center you may have noticed that the Village of Weston has a wireless connection available to park users. What you don't realize however, is that the Village has partnered with a local internet service provider to give users internet access at no cost to the Village. AirNet ISP, also known as Network Professionals Inc, out of Wausau, provides the service to municipal sites as part of a lease agreement. AirNet provides internet service wirelessly across the central Wisconsin region, and in order to provide that service, they look for higher altitude locations to place their radios. AirNet currently has a radio on top of the Everest water tower in Weston, just east of Camp Phillips Rd. That relationship has led to opportunities like the one at the Weston Aquatic Center.

Not only does the agreement bring wi-fi to the pool, but an access point was recently installed at the new Weston Farmers Market location to provide vendors the ability to take electronic payments as well as serve the EBT station. Nate Crowe, the Technology Services Director for Weston added "We continue to work together with NetPros to find solutions for the Village, in fact, we are hoping to work with them to test some new radios in the next couple months that could provide wireless internet speeds that were unthinkable just five years ago." AirNet has been taking advantage of some real strides in radio development to provide very competitive speeds. Partnerships like this provide the Village the ability to deliver services to taxpayers at the reasonable rate they have come to expect.



### Deputy Finance Director leaves Village of Weston



After eight years of service to the Village of Weston, Deputy Finance Director Jessica Trautman left the Village to become the Finance Director for the Town of Rib Mountain.

"Jessica has been an invaluable member of the Village's management team, and has made significant contributions towards helping me address some of the Village's recent financial challenges, which have resulted from a loss in state-shared revenue," said Weston Village Administrator Daniel Guild.

Jessica worked as a Senior Accountant at Schenck Business Solution for 5 years, prior to being hired as the Village's deputy finance director. She also previously worked for the Greenheck Fan Corporation as a Credit Analyst. She is a local graduate of DC Everest High School and University of Wisconsin - Marathon County. She completed her Bachelors of Business and Administration in accounting degree at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.

"I will miss seeing Jessica around the Weston Municipal Center on a daily basis, but I look forward to continuing to work with her through the partnerships and cooperative efforts that we have built in recent years with the Town of Rib Mountain," said Weston Village Administrator Daniel Guild.

Jessica's last day with the Village was Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. She started in her new position in Rib Mountain on Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. The Village opened a search for her replacement on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Information about the position can be found on the Village's website at [www.westonwi.gov/Employment](http://www.westonwi.gov/Employment).

## SAFER News

### SAFER District Fire Chief announces retirement



Just days shy of the 30th anniversary of his career in public service, the South Area Fire and Emergency Response (S.A.F.E.R.) District's Fire Chief Steve Meilahn retired from the District in July.

"Chief Meilahn is a dedicated public servant, a strong leader, and a visionary about the delivery of fire services to communities here in the metro area," said Weston Village Administrator

Daniel Guild. "I will miss working with Steve a great deal."

Chief Meilahn has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in public service. It started on July 1, 1985, when he was hired to the Town of Weston Police Department. He worked in law enforcement for 23 years, with the Town of Weston, and then later with the consolidated Everest Metro Police Department. Working his way up as a Detective Sergeant, he resigned from the Everest Metro Police Department in October of 2008, replacing current Weston Village Trustee and former Fire Chief Loren White, to become the full-time Fire Chief of the Weston Fire Department. (cont. on pg. 8)

## SAFER News cont.

(cont. from pg. 7) “I have seen a lot of changes in the way that local governments provide services to citizens and communities,” said Chief Meilahn. “My career in law enforcement and in the fire service both concluded working with consolidated, multi-jurisdictional agencies. I have seen first-hand how these partnerships have worked well to serve their communities and benefit taxpayers.”

Aside from his service as a police officer, Chief Meilahn was a charter member in the Town of Weston Fire Department, which was created in 1986 and started taking calls on January 1, 1987. Working his way through the ranks, Chief Meilahn was awarded the “Young Firefighter of the Year” from the Marathon County Fire Safety Council, until he was hired in 2008 to become the Village of Weston Fire Chief. Meilahn worked for 6 years as the Village of Weston’s Fire Chief where he was a principal architect in the creation and development of the South Area Fire and Emergency Response (S.A.F.E.R.) District, which became operational on January 1, 2014.

The South Area Fire and Emergency Response District is a consolidated Fire and EMS department which was created and is owned by the Village of Weston and the Town of Rib Mountain. It is operated by an independent Board of Directors and Fire Commission. The District services the Village and the Town as well as the Towns of Easton, Guenther, Marathon, Ringle, Stettin, Weston, and the Village of Kronenwetter under contractual agreement. Working

together, the SAFER District is an accredited critical-care paramedic ambulance service, responding to territory, which includes approximately 35,000 souls in the metro area.

“I am exceptionally proud of what we have started building here in the metro area with S.A.F.E.R.,” says Chief Meilahn. “I am leaving the District in the hands of a team that is highly committed to safety, the protection of people and property, and community service.”

Steve’s plans for retirement include spending more time with his grandkids Owen and Eva, and being able to pursue his hobbies of hunting and fishing. When asked to reflect on his career, he said the following.

“What stands out for me is the fantastic teams of dedicated men and women that I have worked with at the Town of Weston Police Department, the Everest Metro Police Department, the Village of Weston Fire Department and the SAFER District. Being able to work alongside these people, learn from them, and serve our communities together has been the best part of my career and an extreme honor,” said Chief Meilahn. “I have been very fortunate, and consider myself truly blessed to have had the career I have had.”

Chief Meilahn’s last day with the District was Friday, July 16, 2015. If you see Steve around the community, please make sure that you thank him for his many selfless years of service to our community.

### SAFER District promotes Deputy Chief to new District Chief



At a regular meeting of the South Area Fire and Emergency Response (S.A.F.E.R.) District’s Fire Commission, the Commissioners appointed current Deputy Chief Matthew Savage to follow retiring Fire Chief, Steve Meilahn, as the new Fire Chief of the District.

“This was an easy selection for the Commissioners,” said SAFER Fire Commission President Don Kimlicka. “I have known and worked with Matt for years in the EMS profession. He is a qualified and dedicated emergency response professional. I have confidence that he will be able to continue the work of building this District.”

Chief Steve Meilahn retired from the District in July. Chief Meilahn recommended that the Commission have Deputy Chief Savage replace him without delay.

“I am exceptionally proud of what we have started building here in the metro area with S.A.F.E.R.,” says Chief Meilahn. “With Matt’s hire, I know that I am leaving the District in the hands of a team that is highly committed to safety, the protection of people and property, and community service.”

Savage has over a decade of working in emergency response services. Following his completion of Fire Protection Technician and Paramedic training at Fox Valley Technical College, Savage has worked as a paramedic at Aspirus with Medivac. He was hired at the Rib Mountain Fire Department in 1997 where he ascended through the ranks to Deputy Chief, until the creation of the South Area Fire and Emergency Response (S.A.F.E.R.) District, which became operational on January 1, 2014. Savage has been working as the SAFER Deputy Chief for the past year.

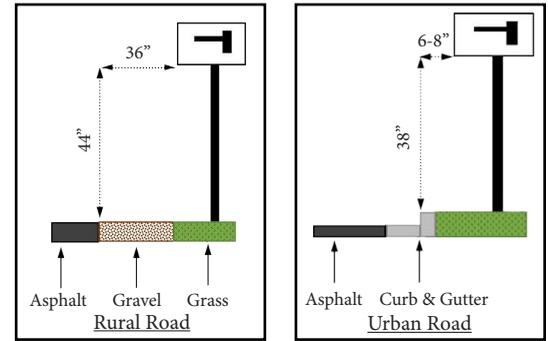
“I have learned a lot from former Chief Wirth and Chief Meilahn,” said Matt Savage following his promotion. “I appreciate the opportunities that these men have provided me and my family, and I also appreciate the trust and confidence that has been given to me by the SAFER Board of Directors and Fire Commissioners. I look forward to working with them, as well as the staff in Rib Mountain and Weston in this new role.”

The South Area Fire and Emergency Response District is a consolidated Fire and EMS department which was created and is owned by the Village of Weston and the Town of Rib Mountain. It is operated by an independent Board of Directors and Fire Commission. The District services the Village and the Town, as well as the Towns of Easton, Guenther, Marathon, Ringle, Stettin, Weston, and the Village of Kronenwetter under contractual agreement. Working together, the SAFER District is an accredited critical-care paramedic ambulance service, responding to territory, which includes approximately 35,000 souls in the metro area.

# Your Property

## Mailbox & Garbage Placement

It's that time again, when mailboxes need to be checked for structural strength and correct placement. Required placement of mailboxes within road and street right of way dimensions can be obtained at the Village of Weston Municipal Center. In accordance to the ordinance adopted in 2000, Section 70.114 (a) & (b), the Village of Weston and the Town of Weston will not replace or repair mailbox covers that are damaged due to the door being left open or actual mailboxes being damaged, from snow being discharged from the plow wing in the process of snow removal.



Also on garbage pickup day, please place your trash container in your driveway and/or off the street and as far away from your mailbox as possible. This will allow the plow operators to clear the snow without hitting it, as plow operators are mandated to not cross the centerline of the street. The garbage truck will not have a problem reaching your container from this location.



Most Preferred Placement  
- Either Side of Driveway



Wrong Placement  
- Too Close to Mailbox



Too Close Together



Good Placement  
-on One Side of Driveway

## Automated Meter Reading

As technology has advanced in the world of electronics, those advances have extended to the water utility business. The Village has been slow to embrace the use of automated meter reading (AMR) due to the relative cost of implementing the technology for its quarterly billing cycles. This has primarily been a reluctance on the part of the Village to incur the cost of implementing AMR on a system wide basis. The cost has been estimated in the range of \$500,000 to \$750,000 and this has been relatively unchanged for the past 10 years. This focus on installation and implementation cost is changing, though, due to a number of reasons.

With quarterly water and sewer bills for typical residential customers approaching \$200, the conversion to a monthly billing cycle becomes more practical. A lower more frequent bill should be easier for customers to budget and manage than a larger quarterly bill. With meters manually read only 4 times per year high consumption due to a leak on a customer's premises can go undetected for as much as 90 days. Monthly automatic reading should provide a higher level of service, even though there will also be additional costs. Rather than add manpower to read manually, current electronic reading technology will allow the existing manpower to be re-directed to other utility operation and maintenance activities.

The residential meters currently being used in replacement are nonmetallic, magnetic, meters with no moving parts. These meters have higher accuracy than the old brass, displacement meters.



Touch read pad  
approx. 2" x 4"

As the Village plans for the implementation of AMR, and incrementally converts its system, transmitters are being installed along with the new meters. This is being done in the interest of eliminating another trip to those locations where meters have already been replaced, assuming the same supplier will be used. In the majority of cases these transmitters are being installed over existing touch-read pads on the exterior wall.

(cont. on page 10)

The new meters are also capable of storing flow data for a finite period of time. This data logging capability can be paired with electronic meter reading equipment in an automated meter reading (AMR) system. The AMR system relies upon a transmitter to send a signal to meter reading equipment. The Village has the capability of reading these meters with a handheld device during its routine meter reading process.



Radio Transmitter  
approx. 5 1/2" wide x 5 1/2" high x 3" deep

## Your Property cont.

(cont. from pg. 9)

This eliminates the need to run a new wire from the meter to an alternate location as compared to the existing touch-read pad. The transmitters are somewhat larger than the touch-read pads (see photos with approximate dimensions), but can also be painted to mask their presence. The transmitters are designed to be installed over the touch read pad. The transmitter is best installed on the exterior wall to minimize interference with the radio signal.

If you have a question or issue with the appearance of the installation the utility suggests the following in order of preference:

1. Paint the transmitter to match your siding color
2. Install a siding mounting block for a more professional looking appearance.
3. Locate the transmitter on the interior wall of the home on the opposite side of the exterior location (This will leave holes in the siding and may require interior wall finishing in a garage).
4. Contact the utility to investigate/coordinate an alternate location (This will involve re-routing the wire between the meter and the transmitter).

The utility will not re-route wires due to the variety of interior finishing encountered and potential complexity of wire re-routing. If you have questions about the remote transmitter installation, please contact the utility at (715) 359-2876.



### Weston Water Utility Fall 2015 Water Main Flushing

Weston Water Utility water mains will be flushed in the following general areas:

- **Monday, Sept. 21 and Tuesday, Sept. 22** – All areas south of STH 29 and north of Military Rd. (extended) from Alderson St., west.
- **Wednesday, Sept. 23** – All remaining areas in the Village of Rothschild.
- **Thursday, Sept. 24 and Monday, Sept. 28** – All remaining areas south of STH 29 in the Village of Weston. This includes the subdivisions of Standing Oaks, Crane Meadows, Sandhill Meadows, Windsor, Windemere Oaks and Cross Pointe.
- **Tuesday, Sept. 29 and Wednesday, Sept. 30** – Areas south of the Eau Claire River and east of Mesker St. including Kellyland and Hidden River subdivisions. Also to include Janice Ave. west of Mesker St.
- **Thursday, Oct. 1 and Monday, Oct. 5** – Areas north of the Eau Claire River (Rock Rapids, Louart Riverside, Sandy Meadows, River Pines, and Edgewood Estates subdivisions).
- **Tuesday, Oct. 6 and Wednesday, Oct. 7** – The area between Mesker St. and Birch St. north of Schofield Ave.
- **Thursday, Oct. 8, Monday, Oct. 12 and Tuesday, Oct. 13** – The area between Municipal St. and County Hwy J south of Schofield Ave.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 14 and Thursday, Oct. 15** – The area between Municipal St. and Birch St. south of Schofield Ave.
- **Monday, Oct. 19** – Birch St. to Pine St., north of Schofield Ave.
- **Tuesday, Oct. 20** – Birch St. to Alderson St., south of Schofield Ave.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 21 and Thursday, Oct. 22** – The area between Schofield Ave. and Jelinek Ave. from Alderson St. west to Business 51.
- **Monday, Oct. 26 and Tuesday, Oct. 27** – The area west of Alderson St. and east of Business 51 between Jelinek Ave. and STH 29. The areas west of Business 51.

Water mains will be flushed between 8:00am and 3:00am on these dates. You may notice that your water has a reddish color or tint during or following the flushing. This discoloration should be eliminated shortly after you have run water through your own service line. If the discoloration persists, please contact our office.

Those with sensitive water needs should draw water before the hours of flushing to reduce the chance of discolored water. White laundry should not be washed while the mains are being flushed in your area. Hydrants may be flushed on Fridays to keep up with the schedule. You may notice a change in water pressure while hydrants are flushed in your area.

*Please call our office at (715) 359-2876 to check for any changes in the flushing schedule or if you have specific concerns.*

## Fall Yard Waste Collection

The fall yard waste collection season is approaching fast!

The Village of Weston Public Works Department tries to plan the timing of this collection when a majority of the leaves have fallen from trees during the month of October (typically between the second and third week of the month). However, the effort to give residents an exact date in advance is difficult as it is tough to predict when all the leaves will fall from the trees, and the collection program cannot operate once the snow starts falling.

For this reason, we strongly encourage residents to instead consider bringing their yard waste directly to the Village of Weston's Yard Waste Site, located at 8200 Ryan Street. This site is open 24-hours per day, 7-days per week. Once October arrives, please check our website as the Village will be updating the status of the fall brush and leaf collection. There you will be able to get more exact information regarding when the service will be coming through your neighborhood.

If you are unable to haul your own yard waste to our yard waste site, and do not want to wait for the fall yard waste collection service to begin, please consider alternative resources, such as contacting Advanced Disposal Services (at 715-359-6637) and sign up for their yard waste subscription service. Advanced Disposal will deliver a 95-gallon cart to your residence specifically for yard waste.



## Who is eligible for spring/fall yard waste collection?

Please be aware that only properties consisting of a single-family home up to a 4-unit apartment, and all on one tax parcel, are eligible to receive the spring and fall yard waste collection service. If you reside within a private development where there are 5 or more residential units (houses/apartments/mobile homes) on one single tax parcel, the spring/fall yard waste will not be collected by the Village of Weston Public Works Department. Instead those properties will have to contract on their own to have their yard materials removed.

The funds for the yard waste collection comes directly from the refuse/recycling special assessment charge that is paid on a property owner's tax bill. If you do not pay this charge on your tax bill, it means that you are within a private development and are ineligible to receive the yard waste collection service.

To learn more about the pickup process please check out the

Village's You Tube page: [www.youtube.com/WestonWI](http://www.youtube.com/WestonWI).

For questions on whether yard waste service applies to your property, please contact the Village of Weston office at 715-359-6114.

## Understanding the Right of Way of Your Home

Each year the Village of Weston receives calls from residents regarding the condition of the 8-16 feet of turf that exists between the road and the property line in front of their home. This strip of land is part of the road right-of-way and is deeded to the Village for some important public uses such as snow storage, water conveyance and utility placement. In cases without curb and gutter, the right of way is normally used as a ditch to convey storm water. It is extremely important to not fill this area in with any dirt or stone. Filling the ditch will restrict water flow and result in poor drainage and may lead to localized flooding and/or property damage.

It is also inevitable that during snow plowing procedures part of this turf and/or gravel from the shoulder may end up being plowed and deposited into this part of the right-of-way. Damage to landscaping may also occur if plantings are located within the right-of-way. The Village crew will do their best to avoid these situations, however, as a reminder, please know that anything placed in the right-of-way is at the property owners risk (sprinkler heads, decorative driveway entrances, flower pots, etc.). The Village and other utility companies are not responsible for the possible damage that may occur due to these items being hit during snow plowing and other maintenance activities. If there is any question regarding what can be placed in the right-of-way please call the Village at (715) 359-6114.

## Village of Weston Housing Survey

The Village of Weston is currently in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan, which is a vision and guide for the future growth and development of the community. This Plan is required to be updated every 10 years by the State of Wisconsin to ensure that the community is headed in the right direction. The first Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2006 through a collaborative effort with the County and other Metro municipalities. There are 9 required elements for the Plan, which are: Issues and Opportunities, Housing, Transportation, Utilities and Community Facilities, Agriculture, Natural and Cultural Resources, Economic Development, Intergovernmental Cooperation, Land Use and Implementation. At this time, the Village is working on a draft of the Housing Element and is interested in seeking out residents' opinions and views regarding the quality of housing and neighborhoods throughout the Village. Please take a few minutes of your time to give us feedback regarding this topic. Your participation is greatly valued and much appreciated! Please use the following web link to complete the survey. [www.surveymonkey.com/r/VOWHOUSING](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VOWHOUSING)

If you are interested in finding out more about the Comprehensive Plan Update Process underway, please visit [www.westonwi.gov/CompPlanUpdate](http://www.westonwi.gov/CompPlanUpdate).



## Village of Weston Municipal Center

5500 Schofield Avenue  
P.O. Box 446  
Weston, WI 54476

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday)

General Information: (715) 359-6114  
Website: www.westonwi.gov

## Elected Officials

Barbara Ermeling, President ..... (715) 359-4365  
bermeling@westonwi.gov

Scott Berger, Trustee ..... (715) 573-5118  
sberger@westonwi.gov

Sharon Jaeger, Trustee ..... (715) 845-7408  
sjaeger@westonwi.gov

Kevin Ostrowski, Trustee ..... (715) 571-2676  
kostrowski@westonwi.gov

Fred Schuster, Trustee ..... (715) 359-7098  
fshuster@westonwi.gov

Loren White, Trustee ..... (715) 571-3904  
lwhite@westonwi.gov

Jon Ziegler, Trustee ..... (715) 241-9301  
jziegler@westonwi.gov

## Important Phone Numbers

Administrator ..... (715) 359-6114  
Aquatic Center (seasonal) ..... (715) 241-7946  
Assessor ..... (877) 687-3445  
Building Inspections ..... (715) 359-6114  
Fire EMS (Non-emergency) ..... (715) 355-6763  
Municipal Court ..... (715) 359-3333  
Parks, Forestry, Grounds ..... (715) 359-9988  
Police (Non-emergency) ..... (715) 359-4202  
Garbage & Recycling ..... (715) 359-6114  
Water & Sewer ..... (715) 359-2876

## Village of Weston Meeting Schedule

Village Board of Trustees ..... 6:00 p.m.  
1st and 3rd Monday of the month

Community Development Authority ..... 4:30 p.m.  
2nd Monday of the month

Community Life & Public Safety ..... 6:30 p.m.  
4th Monday of the month

Finance ..... 6:00 p.m.  
4th Wednesday of the month

Park & Recreation ..... 5:15 p.m.  
4th Monday of the month

Personnel ..... 4:30 p.m.  
3rd Monday of the month

Plan Commission ..... 6:00 p.m.  
2nd Monday of the month

Property & Infrastructure ..... 4:30 p.m.  
1st Monday of the month

S.A.F.E.R Board of Directors ..... 6:00 p.m.  
2nd Tuesday of the month

S.A.F.E.R Fire Commission ..... 7:00 p.m.  
2nd Tuesday of the month

All meetings, except S.A.F.E.R Board of Directors and S.A.F.E.R Fire Commission are held at the Weston Municipal Center. The S.A.F.E.R Board of Directors and S.A.F.E.R Fire Commission meetings are held at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center (3700 North Mountain Rd., Wausau). Meeting dates are subject to change; call the Village of Weston offices to confirm dates and times.

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 Village of Weston



**It's Right Here.**