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**FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN**

*September 22*
In 2015, Marathon County announced its intention to reorganize the County’s entire addressing grid. This will necessitate renaming streets and giving every address a new street or fire number. As the County has shared details with us, Weston staff have worked to proactively give you, our citizens, all the information that we have received. The County has not yet released all the implementation plans and details for this initiative.

We have received feedback that some would like Weston to reject the County’s Uniform Addressing proposal outright, like some of our neighbors have done. I’m not using this space to advocate for or against this proposal. I do, however, believe that when our Marathon County government leaders tell us this is a vital public policy local cities and villages should enact, the Village should listen and give the County’s proposal fair consideration. They are important partners who help make Weston a successful community.

As for the specifics of Uniform Addressing, nothing has been finalized yet. Uniform Addressing is not being implemented now, as we still need more information about the rollout from Marathon County.

I would encourage all Weston residents to read the article below by Marathon County Sheriff Scott Parks. Please inform yourself as to why the Village is taking time to hear why the County believes this issue is important. Weston staff will continue to educate and inform residents about any potential changes to the Uniform Addressing proposal, and your elected Board of Trustees will ultimately decide what to do once we have all the information in hand.

By Daniel Guild, Administrator

UNIFORM ADDRESSING -- THE RIGHT CALL?

FOREWORD TO ARTICLE BY SHERIFF PARKS

In 2015, Marathon County announced its intention to reorganize the County’s entire addressing grid. This will necessitate renaming streets and giving every address a new street or fire number. As the County has shared details with us, Weston staff have worked to proactively give you, our citizens, all the information that we have received. The County has not yet released all the implementation plans and details for this initiative.

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By Marathon County Sheriff Scott Parks

As your Sheriff here in Marathon County, I’m responsible for ensuring that people who call 9-1-1 in an emergency get the right service dispatched to them as quickly as possible. Our department is extremely fortunate to have a highly skilled and dedicated team of Public Safety Telecommunicators (PSTs) in our Communications Division doing their part to serve citizens and visitors in Marathon County.

Fielding over 150,000 9-1-1 calls per year — and serving as the primary Dispatch Center for 12 Law Enforcement agencies and 33 Fire / Emergency Medical Services operations — is no easy task.

Still, you might be surprised to learn:

The biggest challenge our dispatchers have is trying to determine the location of the emergency — where to send help.

One main reason for that difficulty is that Marathon County still relies on an antiquated, complex, rural addressing system, comprised of 10 independent address grids for our numerous towns.

The result?

A patchwork system with incongruent numbering, countless duplicate road names and addresses, and several segmented roadways that start and stop with no apparent rhyme or reason. But the problems don’t end with our rural addressing system…

Most cities and villages in the county have their own, independent addressing systems — many of which have their own duplicate names and address numbers!

Our addressing system was built in a time of landline phones, which automatically verified a caller’s location.

But today, we live in a cell phone era. Over 70% of emergency
calls are now placed from cell phones. Contrary to what we all see on TV, cell phones do not always provide Emergency Dispatch with location information.

In fact, for more than 65% of emergency calls from cell phones, the Sheriff's Office is fully dependent on the caller to provide accurate information as to where he or she is and where help is needed!

As you might imagine, callers who are injured (or who are witnessing an emergency) are often excited, agitated, disoriented, or confused — making it very difficult to gather information. Moreover, many emergency callers are unfamiliar with the area. In addition, more and more 9-1-1 calls are coming from young children.

Even if a caller on a cell phone is near a street sign or knows that she is on Pine Road, she may be unable to tell the dispatcher which municipality that particular Pine Road is in. That gives us reason to be concerned… Why?

There are 27 Pine Roads listed in Marathon County!

Unable to use our automated, landline-based Emergency Response System to instantly confirm which Pine Road to dispatch assistance to, our PSTs must spend precious time — when seconds matter — simply determining where to send help.

The reality is that without accurate and timely location information, our Communications team might inadvertently dispatch services to the wrong location.

Despite our best efforts, this does happen.

In fact… very recently — because of our lack of a Uniform Addressing System — an ambulance was dispatched to an address on Weston Avenue in the City of Wausau when the emergency was actually taking place at a residence with the same address number on Weston Avenue in the Village of Weston.

Thankfully, these situations are relatively infrequent. But even one time is too often — especially if it happens to YOUR family. All citizens of Marathon County should be able to count on emergency services when placing a 9-1-1 call for themselves or a loved one.

By 2016, nearly every county in Wisconsin had moved away from these patchwork addressing systems. Faced with the reality of having to significantly upgrade its technology infrastructure, the Marathon County Board made the decision to move to a Uniform Addressing System. While this transition will certainly represent a short period of inconvenience — and we will undoubtedly have to work through issues as we press forward with implementation of the new system — make no mistake, the Marathon County Board made the RIGHT decision.

I am extremely proud of our County Board for the courage and leadership that it demonstrated during this decision-making process. It would have been easy to take a short-sighted view of this issue — knowing that some within the community would be extremely vocal about the temporary inconvenience and the short-term costs of the transition — and do nothing.

Instead, our County Board Supervisors took the time to educate themselves on the issues and — in recognition of their responsibility to the long-term safety and prosperity of the people of Marathon County — demonstrated the courage to do what is right by moving forward with a Uniform Addressing System.

Similarly, I commend each of the elected officials in the Villages of Elderon, Stratford, and Weston, who showed great leadership within their communities by committing to the Uniform Addressing Program.

Far too often in government, we see leaders who fall short of following through on their commitments to the people they are elected to serve. Marathon County’s commitment to Uniform Addressing is government at its best — an example of courageous leadership that will serve to benefit everyone who lives in, works in, and visits Marathon County for decades to come.

As your Sheriff, and as a resident of Marathon County, I want to say THANK YOU to the Marathon County Board, other local elected officials, and all the dedicated staff who are working to make Uniform Addressing a reality in Marathon County.

If you have questions on whether your street will be renamed, cost-sharing plans for participating towns/villages/cities, and timelines for implementation, I invite you to visit MyMarathonCountyAddress.org for further details, maps, and updates.

Scott Parks, Sheriff

Marathon County Sheriff's Office

Scott Parks started his career with the Marathon County Sheriff's Office in 1979. Scott currently serves as the Marathon County Sheriff. Throughout Scott’s career, he has worked in each division of the Sheriff’s Office except one. Scott served as a Deputy Sheriff (Corrections, Patrol Field Training Officer), a Narcotics Investigator, a Detective, and a Lieutenant (Patrol, Special Investigations Unit, Detective). Scott was a member of the Special Response Team (SWAT) on the entry team, advancing to Assault Team Leader and later the Team Commander. Scott was the Chief Deputy until being appointed by the Governor to Sheriff in May 2013. Scott was elected to remain the Sheriff in the November 2014 election. Scott has been an Adjunct Instructor for Northcentral Technical College, teaching subjects related to criminal investigations, crime scene processing, and report writing.
POLICE

MARCH 22, 2017, SHOOTING INCIDENT

By Chief Wally Sparks

The shooting deaths of three innocent civilians and Detective Jason Weiland this spring had a profound impact on our community and our department. All our officers know the dangers they face when they put on their uniform and report for work each day, but they do so willingly and with a positive attitude. During our time of grief as we attempted to heal and recover from this loss, the outpouring of support from our community was overwhelming. Words cannot fully express the gratitude that all of us at EMPD have for your support. That community support serves to reinforce why we choose a life of public service.

I believe that being a police officer is not just a job, but a true calling that those outside of law enforcement will never fully understand or appreciate. It is a life of service and I have been blessed to lead an outstanding group of dedicated men and women here at EMPD. Even during this horrific event, I witnessed heroic actions that limited further loss of life.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

This shooting incident has also brought the issue of domestic violence to the forefront. We are working with other law enforcement leaders, The Women’s Community, the District Attorney’s Office, and Victim Witness personnel to address some of the underlying issues relating to domestic violence. The March 22 shooting rampage was followed by the arrests of two other local residents who threatened to also go on shooting rampages related to domestic issues with their wives.

We need to address this as a community and call out those who commit domestic violence. REAL MEN RESPECT WOMEN, and the actions of those who commit these heinous acts of violence should be condemned. There are also some local cultural issues that contribute to these domestic violence issues, and that is one of the areas of concern we are attempting to address.

STAFF / RECRUITMENT

With the resignation of an officer in late 2016, coupled with the loss of Detective Weiland and the retirement of Capt. Mark Hull, we hired three new officers this spring and are currently conducting a recruitment process to hire two additional officers and one clerical assistant. On April 3, we hired Officer Cory Dums and Officer Matthew Nelson. On May 1, we hired Officer Lexi Meier. All three are currently in field training, which lasts approximately 14 weeks.

TRENDS

In addition to domestic violence, we are also seeing increases in subjects with mental health issues and an increase in drug activities, particularly involving heroin and methamphetamine. We are getting a significant number of complaints on drug houses and drug use in the Village of Weston. Through the first six months of 2017, EMPD made 89 drug arrests, 79 of which were in the Village of Weston.

The Detectives have also been executing an increasing number of search warrants at residences in the Village of Weston as the number of complaints of drug houses and drug dealing continues to escalate. With the loss of Det. Weiland, we removed our detective from the Marathon County Special Investigations Unit (SIU Drug Unit) and placed him back at EMPD. We will not be able to fill that vacancy until early 2018 after our new officers are hired and trained. In the interim, our patrol officers have been working closely with our detective bureau to address problem drug locations in our jurisdiction. Because SIU is swamped with larger, multi-jurisdictional cases, they do not have time to address the significant number of local drug trafficking complaints that occur on an almost daily basis. These cases are time consuming and require significant staff hours to properly investigate, but we are doing our best with the resources we have.
Mental Health Crisis Intervention

By Jessica Meadows, Marketing & Communications Coordinator at North Central Health Care

Crisis Intervention Partners is a working partnership formed between the Marathon County Sheriff’s Office, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Northwoods, and North Central Health Care. Combining their efforts, energy, and resources helps those with mental illness and their loved ones connect with the available mental health resources in our community. Every second counts when you or a loved one has a mental health concern. Linking our community members with the resources and information that may help them or someone they care about is critical.

What Is Mental Illness?

Mental illness is a condition that impacts a person’s thinking, feeling, or mood and may affect his or her ability to relate to others and function on a daily basis. In addition to the person directly experiencing a mental illness, family, friends, and communities are also affected. Mental illness affects people of any age or race, in all walks of life. Every year, 1 in 5 adults experiences a mental health condition and 1 in 20 lives with a serious mental illness such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder.

Some forms of mental illness include major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and obsessive-compulsive disorder. People with mental illness can experience many symptoms. Each person will have different experiences, even people with the same diagnosis. Those experiencing symptoms of schizophrenia can experience delusions and hallucinations, confused speech and behavior, and emotional flatness, such as lack of expression, brief speech, and a seeming lack of pleasure or interest in life. Persons diagnosed with major depression or bipolar disorder can experience disturbances in mood, concentration, sleep, activity, appetite, and social/personal relationships. It is often misdiagnosed or not diagnosed at all. Obsessive-compulsive disorder is characterized by recurrent, involuntary thoughts, ideas, impulses, or worries that run through one’s mind ( obsessions) and repetitive behaviors (compulsions).

The best treatments for serious mental illnesses are highly effective. Between 70 and 90 percent of individuals treated with a combination of medication, psychosocial treatments, and personal support experience reduced symptoms and improved quality of life.

What Is It That Concerns You about Your Mental Health or Someone You Care About?

Everyone experiences “blue days” and times of forgetfulness, but if you are experiencing something more persistent and troubling, there is help available in our community. Understand that mental illness is exactly that, an illness that just happens to be located in the brain. One hundred and eighty-eight thousand people in Wisconsin and 5 million people in the United States live with a serious mental illness. As many as 1 in 4 families is affected. Mental health problems affect not only the individual, but also those closest to him or her. You are not alone.

So, What Can You Do to Help Yourself or Someone You Care About?

Educate Yourself about Mental Illness: Dealing with the unknown can be as difficult as dealing with an illness.

Seek Professional Help: Find someone who listens and communicates well and is available in times of crisis.

Get Involved: Work with NAMI Northwoods to improve the quality of life for people with mental illnesses.

Talk about the Illness: Communicate with friends, family, and NAMI members. Silence adds to the stigma that some people associate with mental illness.

Find Support: Seek out support groups. Check out the programs offered locally by talking with NAMI, North Central Health Care, or the Marathon County Sheriff’s Office.

What Services Are Available through the Crisis Intervention Partnership?

1. NAMI Northwoods is a non-profit organization that provides support groups and education programs for families and friends of those who have experienced the challenges of living with mental illness. Family support groups meet monthly and are places of acceptance and reassurance. Education programs such as “Family-to-Family” teach family and loved ones about the biological basis of brain disorders, treatments, and what types of supportive services may be helpful. Varying programs are in continual development. All of the services of NAMI Northwoods are free of charge to the participants. Speakers are available to meet with community service organizations, court personnel, law enforcement, educators, and others with an interest in learning more about mental illness. Visit www.namiwisconsin.org for more educational and supportive resources pertaining to mental illness.

2. North Central Health Care has 24-hour support and crisis intervention services available by phone (24-Hour Hotline at 715-845-4326 or 1-800-799-0122) and through a 24-hour Crisis Center located at 1100 Lake View Drive. They can help direct you to the services that are available in the community. They can also help with evaluation and short-term follow-up treatment. North Central Health Care also offers several outpatient care programs for individuals and families in need. Treatment options include psychological evaluations and testing, medication management, psychiatry, psychotherapy, and counseling. A variety of treatment options are available for individuals, couples, families, and groups. Visit www.norcen.org for more program information, frequently asked questions, and resources.

3. The Marathon County Sheriff’s Office has put officers through Crisis Intervention Training, which teaches them to recognize when a situation may involve mental health concerns and to effectively manage those crisis interactions. Information on resources are available in officers’ vehicles and can be shared with people in the community at their time of need. Often times, law enforcement can be the first point of contact for those who may be struggling with mental health concerns. Providing accurate and useful information for individuals and families about the resources available can mean the difference between a person receiving timely care or support for their situation.
If you ask someone to describe domestic violence, most often you hear descriptions of battered and bruised women running for their lives from brutal husbands or boyfriends everyone knew was “just no good.” The reality, however, is quite complex and often contributes to victims of abuse being misunderstood. Since it’s not always “violence,” as in a physical act that injures, we use the term domestic abuse instead of domestic violence.

It’s important to understand that anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse—both men and women—and that people may be victims of same-gender partners. It’s statistically significant, however, that women are in more danger from male partners than men are from female partners. In fact, each day, three or more women are murdered by their boyfriends or husbands on average, according to the American Psychological Association (2017). In 2008, females age 12 or older experienced about 552,000 nonfatal violent victimizations by an intimate partner. In the same year, men experienced 101,000 nonfatal violent victimizations by an intimate partner (Catalano, Smith, Snyder, & Rand, 2009).

Domestic abuse is a pattern of coercive behaviors continued over a period of time that keeps one person under the control of or in fear of being hurt by another. Part of this coercion or manipulation includes an abusive person changing his or her behavior in front of others (so no one but the victim sees the control) and often changing one’s behavior toward the victim, offering apologies for bad behavior and promises to never do it again or to change. This is partly what keeps victims in relationships or returning to relationships that are unhealthy and dangerous. Victims want the abuse to stop; they don’t necessarily want the relationship to end. When they believe there is hope for change, they cling to that hope; the only motivating factor greater than fear is hope.

Domestic abuse is a complex problem that affects every person in our community. From the verbal assaults to the horrific violence that we experienced in March of 2017, we are all affected by domestic abuse. It’s important that we learn how to recognize abuse and that we provide support to those we know are surviving in abusive households. We want victims to know they are not alone and it is not their fault. There are services in the community to support victims, and also services to help those who use power and control to abuse their partners learn how to behave otherwise. To end domestic violence, we must all work together to support victims, to hold perpetrators accountable, and to ensure everyone has access to available resources.

Victims and anyone else interested in learning how to recognize abuse or how to help can access services at The Women’s Community 24 hours a day: 715-842-7323. All services are free and provided to anyone who is or has been a victim—women, children, and men—and to anyone looking for greater understanding. For those who want help learning new skills and changing their abusive behavior, Peaceful Solutions Counseling (715-675-3458) provides counseling and support groups.

We can all do something to help respond to domestic abuse: get educated, call for help for a friend in need, call out poor behavior when someone is hurting or cutting a partner down. We can all do our part; together we are stronger.

References


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. However, the Village also recognizes the need to provide better information to customers and better access to that information. Some of the benefits of an AMR system include the ability to read meters without dispatching personnel to a site, allowing customers access to their information including potential leak detection, and re-directing labor to other utility operation and maintenance activities.

The Village has determined that the time has arrived to implement AMR on a system-wide basis. The implementation
of meters and related equipment to begin this process over time has been underway since 2011 and there are already 2,205 meters in the system which are compatible with the AMR technology. Beginning in October 2017, the Village plans to replace the remaining 3,355 meters with the necessary radio transmitters. The actual start date will depend on obtaining approval from the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. The project is expected to be completed by the summer of 2018.

The residential meters being used in replacement are non-metallic, magnetic meters with no moving parts. These meters have higher accuracy than the old brass, displacement meters. The replacement of the leaded brass meters also removes a material which the USEPA has determined should no longer be used in contact with potable water. The new meters and the AMR system will store flow data that can be accessed by the Village and individual customers.

Along with the meter changes, the Village will also be accomplishing inspections at all residential properties for the presence of cross connections (possible connections between potable water lines and non-potable sources) and looking for the presence of clear water discharges into the sanitary sewer. The Village will be partnering with Hydro-Corp, an outside contractor, to allow this work to be completed in the estimated 9-month time period. Hydro-Corp will be contacting customers to make appointments for installations and inspections.

Another change which the Village hopes to implement in the future is increasing the billing cycle to once per month. With quarterly water and sewer bills for typical residential customers approaching $200, the conversion to a monthly billing cycle will become 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 long as 90 days. Monthly automatic reading should provide a higher level of service, even though there will also be additional costs.

FALL CURBSIDE YARD MATERIAL COLLECTION
SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16

By Michael Wodalski, Deputy Director of Public Works

Please see the map on the next page and the schedule below identifying when pickup will occur in your neighborhood. In addition, the Village will update progress of the pickup process on the Village’s website: westonwi.gov and social media sites: Facebook and NextDoor. To help identify which area you live in, you can check the Village’s online mapping tool at www.westonwi.gov/mapping. If you click on your property and then click on District Information, you will learn not only what your pickup day is, but also various other pieces of information, such as where you vote, what day garbage collection is, etc.

A few reminders regarding the pickup process are:

• Yard Materials (grass, leaves, pine needles, etc.) shall be kept separate from brush as two different pieces of equipment are used for these processes.

• Material shall be kept at least 5 feet away from power poles, mailboxes, fire hydrants, etc., in order for staff to be able to reach it.

• There will be two trips through the Village and material must be out to the roadside by 7 a.m. on the scheduled day of pickup.

• Any material that is placed out after the scheduled pickup day will not be picked up.

• Residents can always take material to the Village’s recycling site located at 8200 Ryan St.

For more information on the yard material and brush pickup process, please visit the website at: www.westonwi.gov/YardWasteMaterialsInfo.

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<tr>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>H</td>
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<tr>
<td>I</td>
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<td>J</td>
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<tr>
<td>K</td>
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<td>10/30, 11/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Between Eau Claire River, Ross Ave and Town of Weston Boundary</td>
<td>10/31, 11/16</td>
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When purchasing a tree from a nursery, it’s important to pick a tree that will not only suit your desires but (more importantly) be the “right tree for the right place.” In this article, I’m going to touch on the basic checklist for picking the correct tree and how to properly plant and maintain it.

Tree’s Purpose

The first thing you need to consider is the function or purpose of the tree you want to purchase. Are you planting this tree as a screen from the neighbors, as an accent by your house, for shade, or for greening your surroundings? Are you interested in showy spring flowers and bright fall colors? Are you trying to provide food and shelter for birds and wildlife? Do you mind leaf and debris cleanup, or do you want little maintenance? These are just a few questions to ask yourself.

Planting Site

The next thing you want to consider is the planting site. Is the site suitable for the tree once it reaches maturity? Are there any structures or obstacles that will cause problems in the future to sidewalks, foundations, or roofs? Will the tree crowd out surrounding trees, grass, or plants? Are there overhead wires?

*** BEFORE PLANTING, ALWAYS CONTACT DIGGER’S HOTLINE! ***

(Dial 811 or file online at DiggersHotline.com.)

Tree Selection at Nursery

Once you’ve decided what type of tree you want and that it’s the right tree for the location, you’ll have to decide if you want to purchase a bare root, containerized, or balled and burlaped (B&B) tree.

Bare Root

Bare root trees are usually less expensive than containerized or B&B trees and are only available at nurseries in early spring for a short time period before they leaf out. Bare root trees are smaller in size, making them the easiest to handle.

Roots of bare root trees should be kept moist and protected prior to planting. Soaking the roots in a root stimulator prior to planting is also suggested. Most bare root trees require staking once planted.

Containerized

Containerized trees are usually the most common way a tree is sold from a nursery. Containerized trees are still easy enough to handle by the purchaser without needing special equipment and are available throughout the growing season.

If the roots have become rootbound and have circled the container, score the roots in 3 to 4 places with a knife, pruning shears, or spade shovel (as shown above).

Balled & Burlaped (B&B)

B&B trees are more expensive than bare root or containerized trees. They are usually larger trees and require special equipment to move them and professionals from landscaping companies to install them.

Once you’ve found a tree you like—whether bare root, containerized, or B&B—go through the checklist below to ensure you’re purchasing a healthy tree:

- The trunk is straight with no discolored or sunken bark.
- The tree has a ‘single’ leader whenever possible.
- The tree has few wounds. (Check under tree guards for wounds, and be sure callus growth is encircling any wounds to indicate they’re healing.)
- The soil in the root ball is moist.
- Branches are evenly spaced throughout the upper two thirds of the tree (not growing on just one plane).
- Its twigs are pliable, and buds or leaves are plentiful.

If tree is in leaf, when transporting it home, make sure the tree is fully covered in the back of a truck with a tarp or a large garbage bag so its leaves don’t dry out.

Proper Planting

Once your tree is home, use the following steps to correctly plant it:

1. Find the root collar on the tree so you can determine the depth of the hole you need to dig. The root collar of the tree should be at ground level or slightly higher when planted.
2. Dig the hole, making sure it’s at least twice the width of the root ball or container (to allow roots to easily expand).
3. Place the tree in the middle of the hole, and verify that you have the correct depth. If not, adjust by adding or removing soil.
ICE-RINK ATTENDANT POSITIONS

The Village of Weston Parks Department is now accepting applications for ice-rink attendants for the 2017–2018 ice-skating season. These positions run from approximately the middle of December through February. Applications are available at www.westonwi.gov/Employment.

The Village will be operating one open rink and one hockey rink at Kennedy Park this season. Rinks will be open:

- Monday–Friday from 6:00–9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Sunday, & school holidays from 1:00–5:00 p.m. & 6:00–9:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please call 715-359-9988.

Maintenance

Maintenance of a tree is as important as correctly planting it. Below I’ll touch on a few key tasks: mulching, watering, and pruning.

Mulching

The first thing to do is to mulch around the base of the tree. Mulching helps retain water, keeping the roots moist. Mulching must be done correctly or you can kill the tree. Only put down 2 to 4 inches of mulch, and make sure to keep the mulch away from the base of the trunk.

Watering

Watering is the next and most critical step. A newly planted tree should be watered a couple times per week, until the tree goes dormant, averaging a minimum of 15 gallons (depending on weather conditions and soil type). It’s important to water the tree for the first 2 years to promote leaf and root growth, which helps establish the tree.

The following is an example of a tree-watering bag that our Village staff uses to water newly planted trees. These bags hold 20 gallons of water and have two small holes at the bottom to release the water slowly over a 2- to 4-hour period. This lets the water soak in, allowing for deep watering to promote root establishment.

Pruning

Pruning is part of maintenance that many people either neglect to do or do improperly. Pruning at the time of planting is not recommended (unless removing broken or dead limbs). Proper pruning helps with the form and structure of the tree to keep it strong and healthy. Proper techniques, tools, and timing are important when pruning. I’ll discuss them in my November/December newsletter article, so stay tuned!

If you have questions, please contact the Village of Weston Parks Department:

Shawn Osterbrink | Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry
Phone: 715-359-9988 | Email: sosterbrink@westonwi.gov

Jessica Falkowski | Urban Arborist / Park Maintainer
Phone: 715-359-9988 | Email:jfalkowski@westonwi.gov

This article was funded in part by an urban forestry grant from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Forestry Program as authorized under Wis. Stat. § 23.097.

SUMMER 2018 EMPLOYMENT

Interested in working for the Village next summer? In January, the Weston Aquatic Center will begin accepting applications for Lifeguards, Head Lifeguards, and Front Desk / Slide Attendants. All positions require a minimum age of 16, with Lifeguards and Head Lifeguards also requiring Lifeguard Certification through the Red Cross. We recommend beginning to plan now for the certification class. If you need help finding a class or have questions, please contact Bradley Mroczenski at 715-359-9988.
APARTMENT DUMPSTERS TO SWITCH TO REFUSE & RECYCLING CARTS

By Valerie Parker, Planning Technician

On March 20, 2017, the Village Board approved and adopted Resolution No. 2017-014 (www.westonwi.gov/Res2017-014), reaffirming their stance that all properties covered under the Village’s contract with Advanced Disposal Services utilize the residential curbside collection services provided, which consists of the utilization of rolling refuse and recycling carts. All properties covered under the Village’s contract already pay for this residential curbside collection service through their property tax bill at a rate of $165.00 per residential unit. Properties covered under our contract consist of single-family up to four-unit residences on one tax parcel.

Village staff will be sending out letters to three- and four-unit apartment property owners who are currently utilizing dumpsters for all their tenants to share to make them aware of this Village-wide rolling cart requirement.

One of the key reasons for doing this is that we have seen many cases where the dumpsters provided for tenants to share are not large enough to handle the amount of refuse being placed within them. In some of these cases, also, there are insufficient recycling containers available for tenants to utilize, resulting in tenants disposing of their recycling within their trash.

Apartment property owners will see a cost savings by switching to the required residential curbside collection service. Currently these property owners are paying the annual refuse and recycling fee on their tax bill for the rolling carts for each unit. We have learned that these three- and four-unit apartment property owners are paying additional fees to our hauler for the additional time and effort needed to empty the dumpsters/containers.

Through the utilization of individual curbside carts, tenants will be responsible for what they are placing within their own refuse and recycling carts. Through random Waste Audits, if it is found that proper recycling is not being done, we can work directly with a particular tenant on further education. Currently, if a Waste Audit is performed on a shared dumpster, it is very difficult to pinpoint the individuals needing the education, and the burden is then placed on the property owner to try to resolve the issue.

We anticipate there will be a few hurdles to get over in this transition, and I am planning to do all that I can to work with property owners and tenants to make this a successful transition.

RECYCLING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Electronics Recycling Event – September 13: Look for the flyer within this newsletter for information on the electronics recycling event that will take place at the Weston Municipal Center on September 13, 2017, from 3:30–6:00 p.m. Please realize that though there are many electronic items that will be accepted free of charge, there are certain electronics that will require a disposal fee (such as TVs, monitors, microwaves, etc.).

America Recycles Day – November 15: The Village will again be teaming up with Marathon County Solid Waste and Advanced Disposal Services to celebrate America Recycles Day through a recycling contest during the week of November 6–10. Prize winners will be announced on or before the November 15 official holiday. More details of this contest will be made available to the public in the coming weeks!

Recycling Reminders – If you bring your foam products to Styrene Products for proper recycling disposal, this needs to be done during their open hours: Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. This allows their staff to monitor the drop-off container to prevent any overflowing of foam products. The Village appreciates Styrene Products offering this public drop-off location and would like to see this continue.

As evidenced by our summer Waste Audit (see article on page 12), there are still many people placing plastic bags within their single-stream recycling cart. Recyclables should be loose within the recycling cart (unless you have shredded paper, which should be within a paper bag with the top of the paper bag stapled or taped shut). If you prefer that your recyclables be contained within your recycling cart, paper (NOT PLASTIC) bags should be used. Several local retailers in Weston (e.g., Weston Pick ’n Save, Target, Trig’s) offer a container near the front of their stores where plastic bags can be properly disposed of.
Here are some comparisons with last year’s solid waste management practices. Weston in real-world experiences involving Waste Department and the Village of to include interns working with the Solid efforts in the Village of Weston, as well as the recycling program and educational provide us with insight on how to improve This Waste Audit is intended to continue to practices, along with helpful reminders.

Although it may seem like recycling rules are always changing, please educate yourself and share what you learn with others. I invite you to check out the Village of Weston’s comprehensive Refuse & Recycling Guide and other helpful information at www.westonwi.gov/Refuse-Recycling.

Additional recycling opportunities continue to become available for your convenience. There are now many local drop-off stations that accept plastic bags / film packaging (e.g., Weston Pick ‘n Save, Target, Trig’s) and other drop-off locations for select recyclables not able to go in your cart. Details can be found at http://westonwi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3313.

It is important to properly recycle... If the wrong material gets past a conveyor line worker in a material recovery facility, the material can jam up or damage the highly specialized equipment, which is used to sort and process recyclable materials. This can create a hazardous working environment. It is also important to recycle clean content, as contaminated material can damage equipment, be deemed unsuitable for certain types of reprocessing, or cause contamination to the recyclables being sorted. That is why it is stressed to rinse out all bottles, food, and various product containers before placing them in your recycling cart. Recycling paper and cardboard contribute to protecting the environment and natural resources, as well as contributing to energy savings.

Overall, the more your community recycles, the more funding your community can get from the state to improve and administer its recycling program, making it even more beneficial for your community and the environment. It is also equally as important to keep unwanted items out of the landfill. David Hagenbucher, the operations manager at the Marathon County Solid Waste Department (a.k.a. Ringle landfill), explained now that the landfill services a multi-county area, increased recycling efforts will help prolong the life of the landfill. Incineration and landfilling should be the last resort! As taxpayers and community members, we all have an obligation to uphold sustainable practices.

It can be argued that some recycling practices may not be worth one’s time or may not be financially beneficial. Of course, common sense should apply. However, recycling is State law—Every citizen has a residential and environmental responsibility to embrace it and participate.

According to several industry entities, recycling is and will be a work in progress. As mentioned by recyclemaniacs.org, what it boils down to is the behavior embedded in each individual—a construct of habits, knowledge, awareness, and concern. The behavior change necessary to make a practice or program efficient and beneficial will occur as barriers are removed and understood and as motivators are stimulated and accepted.

We greatly appreciate the cooperation from Advanced Disposal, Marathon County Solid Waste Department, and Weston residents and look forward to conducting future Waste Audits. To those who were selected for inspection, we hope we provided a better understanding—or, perhaps, a newfound motivation—to learn more and contribute to the ever-evolving practice of recycling.
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

South Area Fire & Emergency Response District Open House
Sunday, September 10
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Station 1 - Rib Mountain
(5901 Hummingbird Road, Wausau)
Fire truck tours, kids activities, blood drive, & much more!

Farmer’s Market
May 6 – October 28
8:00 a.m. – sold out
(Tuesdays & Saturdays)
Weston Market Place is on the corner of Camp Phillips Road and Schofield Avenue next to Dunkin’ Donuts

Community Halloween Party
Sunday, October 29
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
(Greenheck Fieldhouse)

Recycling Contest
November 6 – 10
The Village will again be teaming up with Marathon County Solid Waste and Advanced Disposal Services to celebrate the annual November 15th America Recycles Day, through a recycling contest of randomly selected properties. Winners of prizes will be announced on or before the November 15th holiday. More details of this contest will be made available to the public in the coming weeks - please watch our social media sites!

Trick-or-Treating
Monday, October 31
4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
(Town & Village of Weston)

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 13TH, 2017  3:30PM-6:00PM
WESTON VILLAGE HALL - ENTER FROM MESKER ST. / STERNBERG AVE.

- FREE ELECTRONICS -
CPU Towers
Vacuums
Tape Players
Phones
Desktop Printers
Speakers
Coffee Machines
CD Players
DVD Players
Power Supplies
Laptops
Scanners
I-pods
Drills
Shredders
Fax Machines
Record Players
Game Systems
Electrical Saws
And More

- CHARGEABLE ELECTRONICS -
Flat and CRT Computer Monitors $20 each
Flat and CRT TVs (29” and under) $20 each
Flat and CRT TVs (30” - 49”) $40 each
Flat and CRT TVs (50” and over) $60 each
Wood Console or Projection TVs $60 each
Microwaves
Dehumidifiers
Mini Refrigerators*
Small A/C Units
Large Copy Machines
$15 each
$20 each
$20 each
$20 each
$20 each
$15 each
*Sorry, we do not accept full size refrigerators or freezers

PLEASE ENTER THE EVENT FROM STERNBERG AVE. VIA MESKER ST. THERE WILL BE NO DIRECT ENTRY FROM SCHOFIELD AVE.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 13TH
3:30PM - 6:00PM
WESTON VILLAGE HALL
5500 SCHOFIELD AVE.
WESTON, WI 54476

WESTON RECYCLE
THATSTUFF.COM

QUESTIONS 920.955.3760
VILLAGE OF WESTON MUNICIPAL CENTER

Address: 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

Mark Porlier, Trustee
715-218-6380
mporlier@westonwi.gov

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

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

Hooshang Zeyghami, Trustee
715-359-5145
hzeyghami@westonwi.gov

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

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

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Administrator .................. 715-359-6114
Advanced Disposal ............ 715-359-6637
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, Recreation & Forestry ........ 715-359-9988
Police (Non-emergency) ..... 715-359-4202
Public Works ................. 715-359-6114
Water & Sewer ............... 715-359-2876

VILLAGE OF WESTON MEETING SCHEDULE

Village Board of Trustees ........ 6:00 p.m. .......3rd Monday of the month
Community Development Authority .. 6:00 p.m. .......3rd Tuesday of the month
Community Life & Public Safety .... 6:00 p.m. .......4th Monday of the month
Finance ......................... 6:00 p.m. .......1st Monday of the month
Parks & Recreation ............. 4:30 p.m. .......4th Monday of the month
Personnel ...................... 4:30 p.m. .......1st Monday of the month
Plan Commission ............. 6:00 p.m. .......2nd Monday of the month
Property & Infrastructure ....... 4:30 p.m. .......2nd Monday of the month

Meeting dates are subject to change; call the Village of Weston offices to confirm dates and times.

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Village of Weston

THE VILLAGE OF Weston
It’s Right Here.