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(608) 838-1081

Views from the Chair

By Ed Minihan, Town Chair

The sandhills are grouping up for the southern migration. Families gather together for the journey. The parents have to fly a bit slower so the new kid(s) can keep up. Throughout the cranes' 10-million-year history as a species, they have decided that mating for life is their approach to continuing the cycle. So, their life revolves around the family for at least two difficult migrations. The cranes have learned to persevere through adversity, as has our species.

Things might appear to be in turmoil, but local government is up and running. We are doing things differently, in many ways more efficiently. Permits will be issued, potholes will be filled, and the roads will be plowed. Local government is the most important level of government for the safety and the well-being of your family. The cranes return to the same nesting area every year, in the same way we return home from work or from school. And your Town that has ensured that your home will not be assaulted with rapid development nearby or inundated with huge population increases and the increase in taxes that development demands. *Continued on page 2.*



Photo taken facing north on Rutland Dunn Townline Road.

Two New PDR Purchases Expected

On September 14th, 2020, Town electors voted to spend money from the Rural Preservation Fund to purchase two conservation easements, totaling around 184 acres. Four development rights, or home sites, in total will be extinguished when these easements close. Additionally, one of the properties will take around 14 acres of farmland out of production in order to establish a natural area along the shores of Hook Lake. Once these conservation easements close, the Town will have permanently protected 40 properties (and around 4,000 acres total) from additional residential and commercial development. Although grant opportunities are becoming rarer, we have still managed to offset the costs of conservation easements by obtaining grants that have paid for 51% of these acquisition costs.

Since 1997, (when the Town purchased the first conservation easement in the state), Town residents have prided themselves on spending money to protect important natural and agricultural resources in our Town. Over the last 23 years, residents have continued to limit development through the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program. This has not only led to a pristine landscape, but has also helped keep the Town's tax rate low compared to neighboring municipalities. Our tax rate is especially low when you look at cities and villages that have continued to expand their communities outward with ever-increasing development. More development means more tax money spent on infrastructure like roads and sewer. The Town's dedication to rural and environmental preservation has created an amazing community in which to live and we hope to continue to protect our wonderful natural resources.

Early Voting and Registration Hours

Early voting by absentee ballot will be held from 12 PM to 4 PM beginning on Tuesday, October 20th and will follow the schedule below. No appointment needed! Just stop by the Town Hall parking lot for curbside service or service at one of our picnic tables. Voters may remain in their vehicle while they mark their ballot. Severe rainstorms could cause damage to the ballots, so we may experience delays in the event of severe weather.

Days	Dates	Times
Tuesday - Saturday	October 20th - 24th	12PM - 4PM
Monday - Friday	October 26th - 30th	12PM - 4PM

If the early voting hours above do not work for you, please call the Town at (608) 838-1081 to schedule an appointment. Appointments are available on October 29th and 30th from 4 PM to 6 PM, and October 31st from 9 AM to 12 PM (early voting only - no voter registration). Early voting is prohibited on Monday, November 2nd. Registration is available at the polls on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd. See page 4 for more voting information.

Visit the MyVote.wi.gov website for helpful information about voting, to view what is on the ballot, to find where to vote, to track your absentee ballot's status, and to find information about voter registration and voter participation.



Special Town Meeting, November 17th, 2020, 7 PM

Notice is hereby given of a Special Town Meeting called pursuant to Wis. Stats. 60.12(1)(c), by the Town Board of the Town of Dunn, on November 17th, 2020 at 7:00 PM, following the budget hearing. To view meeting details and the agenda, please visit dunn.civicweb.net.

Views from the Chair (*Continued*)

We have permanently protected over 4,000 acres of farmland and natural areas. The benefits of farmland preservation are far reaching and include lower property tax rates than towns without farmland preservation efforts. Food resources are now readily available through the crop of young farmers who operate CSAs in the Town. Even some older, dedicated farmers have started CSAs. That was the idea. Create a stable government that provides a foundation for its citizens. What happened here was not easy to accomplish. Having a land use plan was considered radical-communistic, anti-American, and on-and-on. This is a brief recounting of that period early on, over 40 years ago, when things began to happen. Margaret Mead said it best:

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

What happened here was accomplished by hardworking families, working together – even including the kids. It was considered radical to plan for the future of your community (even in this so-called liberal county). Developers had free rein to create subdivisions in flood-prone areas and then flee after having cashed in on the profits, leaving families to deal with the flooding. And of course, there was invective and various threats from those with monetary interests in not preserving the land and the environment. Families, couples, spouses, significant others, worked hard giving money for the political campaign to change the landscape. Yes, this was and is political. Land use decisions in terms of policy is indeed political. But those thoughtful committed citizens won and that is why there are open vistas remaining in this town. It was done through sacrifice and hard work by people who were all dedicated to their family’s lifestyle. That is how a nationally significant town came to represent what could be accomplished by thoughtful committed citizens with a desire to create a stable sustainable community.

For those who suffer through my ramblings, I have a personal note:

We were one of those dedicated couples. The Town of Dunn thriving through land conservation, was the legacy both Sue and I wanted. The endeavor was guided by our commitment to both the Town and each other. It was the same for all the other couples involved. A sea change like this is not accomplished easily. It takes full support of couples working together, supporting each other, and making things happen. I have lost my chief counsel; my go-to for what to do next. She was every point of my compass. Of our 55 years of marriage, 45 involved caring for our Town. Sue lives on in what has happened here, and in what remains to be accomplished. Her legacy will persevere. Sue loved this Town. We both loved the Town. And I still love her and she continues to be my compass.



Photo taken facing north on Rutland Dunn Townline Road.

Public Lakefront Greenspaces Throughout the Town of Dunn

In these days where getting outdoors is especially important, the Town wanted to make sure that Town residents knew about their opportunities to access both Lake Waubesa and Lake Kegonsa. Dane County owns both Babcock Park and Goodland Park, which are two larger parks on Lake Waubesa that have boat launches, parking, and shelters. Both Goodland and Babcock Park have restroom facilities. We recommend that anyone in the community take advantage of these great water frontage spaces. In addition, the County also owns a park along Stace Road, called the Waubesa Wetlands Wildlife Area, which has parking and allows for hiking near Lake Waubesa. Please keep in mind that this park also allows for hunting and is left in a natural state, so access to the lake might be a little more difficult. Along, and near Lake Kegonsa, the County owns Fish Camp County Park and Orvold Park. Fish Camp allows for boat access and has parking, while Orvold Park is left in a natural state, but does have a walking trail. There is no parking lot at Orvold Park, so it is recommended that you walk to this park. There are also a few additional natural area/wetland parcels owned by the County

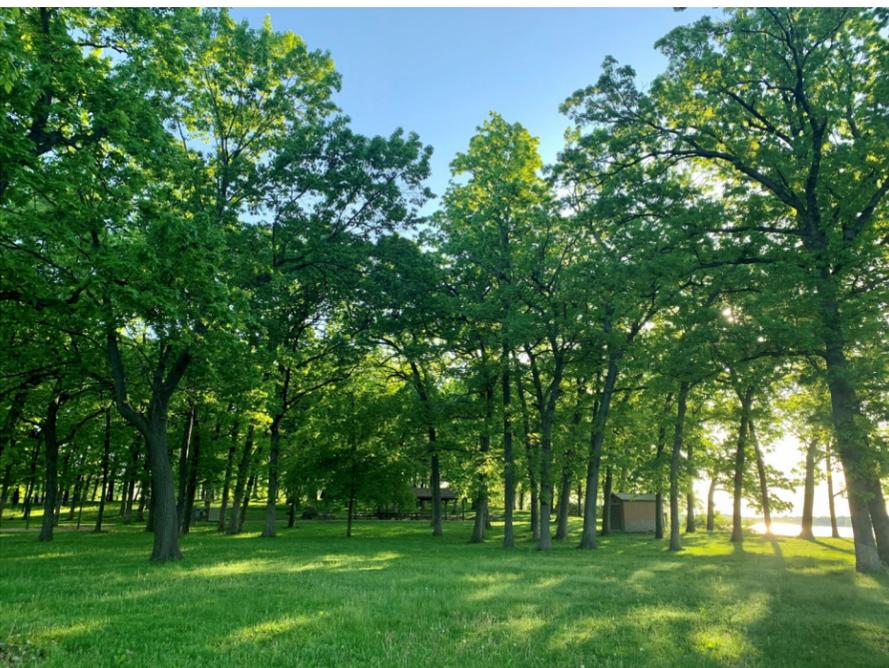


Photo taken at Goodland Park.

near Lake Kegonsa. For a full map of County Parks, visit www.danecountyparks.com/ and search “Park System Brochure.”

In addition to County parks on the water, the DNR also owns many acres of lakefront property with public access. This includes habitat areas along Lake Kegonsa and the Waubesa Wetlands State Natural Area along Lake Waubesa. These areas are preserved for ecological reasons, so access to the lakes is not necessarily feasible. Likewise, the DNR owns land around Grass Lake and Hook Lake to better protect these waterways from runoff and development. These locations are also kept in their natural state, although the Hook Lake Wildlife Area does have a lightly-maintained path that leads to Hook Lake. Additionally, the DNR owns the Amundson Boat Landing, which allows for boat access on Lake Kegonsa. This site does not have a pier at this time, but the Town is working with the DNR to replace some missing pier parts and hopes to have a pier installed next year. For a full map of public access DNR sites in the Town of Dunn and Dane County, visit dnr.wisconsin.gov/ and search “PDF Maps By County,” select Dane County, and then view page 3 of the document.

Finally, the Town also owns 20 lakefront greenspaces, although, like Dane County and DNR properties, many of these are unmanaged and left in their natural state to help manage runoff. Thus, these sites may be difficult to traverse. They are oftentimes unbuilt road right of ways or public platted lots and may not have adequate parking spaces, so we recommend that you walk to these locations if you would like to visit these green spaces. For Town-maintained lake access with parking spaces, we recommend visiting the McConnell Street Boat Launch, which allows for motorized boats, or Dunn Heritage Park, which offers hiking and a canoe/kayak launch. For a map of these Town lake access points, please visit the Town’s website “Parks” page to view a map of these parks.

Please always remember to be courteous of the neighbors of all access points and be sure to clean up after yourself. We hope you get a chance to enjoy the Town’s lakes!

Lake Waubesa Benefits from Strong LWCA Partnerships

By Tamara Knickmeier, Lake Waubesa Conservation Association



Lake Waubesa Conservation Association (LWCA) is building strong partnerships with the Town of Dunn, Dane County, and Yahara Lakes Association. Strong partnerships lead to great results for improving and enhancing Lake Waubesa and all who enjoy its recreational aspects and natural beauty.

LWCA is building its membership and working to keep their members and the community informed of current issues and activities affecting Lake Waubesa and its surrounding watershed.

Last fall, LWCA partnered with the Town of Dunn to set up a leaf collection site for the northwest side of Lake Waubesa. Even with the early snow and cold, the town picked up 780 cubic yards of leaves. The removal of leaves protects the lake from a phosphorus-loaded tea leaching into the lake. It also removes the need to burn leaves which



Photo of Lake Waubesa.

adds to air pollution and phosphorus ash that runs to the lake. This summer, LWCA partnered with Dane County and the Town of Dunn, along with member donations, to kick off a barge pickup of weeds and debris from piers on Lake Waubesa. This is something that has been done on other lakes for several years but needed an organization to take the lead to get it started on Lake Waubesa. LWCA plans to continue the program in 2021.

LWCA is also partnering with other lake organizations, like Yahara Lakes Association, who focuses on the rights of lakeshore property owners, and Clean Lakes Alliance, with a focus on improving water quality through phosphorus reduction. LWCA's newest partnership is with Friends of the Waubesa Wetlands. The two organizations are working together in an effort to install a water quality monitoring system in Swan Creek to measure runoff from new developments being built in the City of Fitchburg and other areas within the watershed.

LWCA's goal is to promote the preservation, protection, and enhancement of the Lake Waubesa ecosystem for all to enjoy. LWCA's hopes to continue to build their membership of lakeshore property owners and those who use the lake. The stronger their membership, the more they can do to enhance the quality of this beautiful resource. To stay up to date, "like" our Facebook page @ www.facebook.com/Waubesa/. For more information about the benefits of LWCA membership and to become a member, visit www.waubesa.org.

Drive-Thru Oak Tree Pickup

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town is hosting the Fall Event and Arbor day in a new way! In lieu of these community get-togethers, and in order to promote environmental stewardship and the planting of trees, the Town will be hosting a free tree pickup at the Town Hall Parking Lot on Saturday, October 17th from 4 PM to 5 PM. There is no need to leave your car! Volunteers will hand out small, bare-root oak trees to people as they drive thru. We hope you are able to attend this event! The Town Park Commission looks forward to when we can host the traditional Arbor Day and the Fall Event again!

Help Conserve a Wetland: An Invitation from the Friends of Waubesa Wetlands

The Joy Zedler, Friends of Lake Waubesa



Waubesa Wetlands, at the toe of Lake Waubesa, are special - as a State Natural Area, a Wetland Gem, a Wetland of Distinction, and priceless habitats for rare and wonderful species (pictured in a free eBook, *Waubesa Wetlands: A New Look at an Old Gem*. For an electronic copy of the eBook, email KShepperd@town.dunn.wi.us).

Although our Waubesa Wetlands have conservation status, they are vulnerable to urbanization upstream in Fitchburg. Rain events wash excess nutrients and sediments down Swan Creek and into the wetlands and lake, causing aggressive weeds to displace native plants. While we can't prevent water from flowing downhill, we can document the pollutants in the water that flows toward Waubesa Wetlands. In 2018, UW Water Resources students found that both phosphorus and sediment concentrations exceeded Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) limits for Swan Creek. But the students' project has ended, so we are urging Fitchburg, US Geological Service (USGS), DNR, and Town of Dunn to partner in monitoring water quality continuously.

We're asking Friends for advocacy. USGS will co-fund the operating cost, and Fitchburg's draft budget includes substantial support for water quality monitoring. Toward achieving long-term monitoring, Fitchburg needs to hear our voices at their budget hearings (October 13th and November 10th). Please let Friends of Waubesa Wetlands know if you can attend via Zoom and advocate for the USGS monitoring station. We will send details and the Zoom address.

Thanks in advance from the Friends of Waubesa Wetlands (Board: Alex Wenthe, chair; Steven Schooler, Joan Behr, Glen Schubert, Carolyn Clow, and Joy Zedler).

Help conserve our wetland gem: Join the Friends of Waubesa Wetlands by emailing friendsofwaubesawetlands@gmail.com. We don't require dues, but volunteers can join work parties to control invasive shrubs and other weeds - watch the Friends' web page for times and places. Others work on public education or review proposals for actions that pose threats by writing comments, attending hearings, and advocating wetland-friendly alternatives. FWW is a 501(c)(3) non-profit org.



The Natural Heritage Inventory listed 11 rare communities at Waubesa Wetlands. Photo by C. DeWitt and N. Olker .

November 3rd, 2020, General Election Voting Information

Reduce the Spread of COVID-19 In Our Community With These Voting Options

1. Vote Early at the Town Hall: by absentee ballot from your vehicle (curbside early voting), or at the picnic table at the Town Hall. Hours for early voting are:

Oct. 20th through Oct. 24th from 12 PM to 4 PM

Oct. 26th to Oct. 30th from 12 PM to 4 PM

If choosing this option, bring a photo ID, wear a mask if possible, and avoid visiting during rainy weather to protect your ballot. Expect a short wait while poll workers enter your photo ID info into the state database and print your certificate label. This option reduces exposure for voters, poll workers, and staff, and ensures that poll workers have the opportunity to verify your certificate is complete while you are present.

2. Request an Absentee Ballot to be Mailed to You: by visiting the MyVote.wi.gov website. Return your ballot by mail or use our drop boxes located at the Town Hall.

If choosing this option, please make your request as soon as possible and provide the required photo ID. Photo ID requirements must be met before the ballot can be mailed. Ballots must be returned and in our hands by 8 PM on November 3rd to be counted. A court order could allow ballots received after the close of the polls to be counted, but at the time of this publication an extended deadline is not guaranteed.

If it is convenient, return your ballot early. This option reduces exposure for voters, poll workers, and staff and ensures poll workers have an opportunity to check certificates for errors and make an effort to correct any discrepancies.

3. Vote Curbside on Election Day: by following our directional signs to one of the five designated parking stalls for voting from your vehicle. Poll workers will bring the ballot into the polling place and put it in the voting machine on your behalf. Spaces for curbside voting are limited and there may be wait times during busy periods. Bring a photo ID and wear a mask if possible. This option reduces exposure for voters and poll workers on Election Day.

4. Vote In-Person on Election Day Following Guidelines: We are working hard to have safety measures in place for an efficient voting experience on Election Day. If you are voting in-person, you will enter the Highway Garage building and follow directional signs. The first station will have hand sanitizer and sanitizer spray for you to use on your photo ID card. Next, you will visit the poll list station, maintaining at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and others not in your own household. After receiving your ballot, advance to a voting booth and mark your ballot. Then, insert it into the voting machine before exiting.

Voters will be asked to keep talking to a minimum and to move through the polling place efficiently. Face masks, hand sanitizer, and keeping your visit brief are all helpful measures to reduce exposure.

If you are experiencing any symptoms, need a mask, or need to vote without wearing a mask, give us a call at (608) 838-1081 ext. 201, or let us know at the entryway and we will provide options to improve safety such as curbside voting.

Whether you choose to vote early by absentee ballot, request a ballot to be mailed to you, vote curbside, or visit the polling place in-person, we are happy to help! Our goal is for each voter to choose the voting option that works best for them.

Absentee Ballot Drop Boxes Are Available At The Town Hall Anytime!

If you have requested an absentee ballot by mail you may choose to mail it back to us or hand deliver it to the Town Hall drop box. We have one large blue metal drop-box by our front door and another smaller drop-box mounted on a post next to our mailbox. These drop boxes are for Town of Dunn voters only. Please return your ballot as soon as possible.



Tips for Making Sure Your Absentee Ballot Vote Counts

- 1. Return absentee ballots early:** This ensures that we have time to correct any errors that would cause a ballot to be rejected, (see #3 below for a description of common errors). When absentee ballot envelopes are returned, our staff will enter the certificate information into the WisVote database and will work to contact voters to correct any obvious deficiencies on the certificate that could result in a rejected ballot. If your ballot has been damaged or you have marked it in error, please call us at (608) 838-1081, ext 201 as soon as possible. We may be able to issue a new ballot to correct an error up to a maximum of two times, prior to 5 PM on Thursday, Oct. 29th.
- 2. Track your absentee ballot:** Visit MyVote.wi.gov and click on "Track My Ballot." Enter your name and date of birth. Next, select "View My Request." If the status is "Completed Absentee Ballot Received!" the Town has received your ballot and nothing further is required. If the status is "Please contact your clerk to resolve an issue with your ballot" contact the Town Hall promptly. If you do not have an electronic device to track your ballot, you may call the Town during early voting hours or on Election Day to verify your ballot has been received. The status of ballots received up to that moment can be verified. If your ballot has not been received, you have the option to come to the polls and vote curbside or in-person on Election Day.
- 3. Correct any errors promptly:** Absentee ballot certificate envelopes must include a voter signature, a witness signature, and a complete witness address. A common error is a missing signature or witness address. If the certificate is missing any of these requirements, it will cause an absentee ballot to be rejected. If you are contacted by the Town about an error, please provide the missing information or correct the error promptly!
- 4.** If you have received an absentee ballot by mail, but have decided to vote during early voting hours, please bring the voting materials that were mailed to you and your photo ID when you come to the Town Hall to vote.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020!

2021 Draft Budget Highlights

By Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer/Business Manager

Our budget is in the preliminary stages at the time of this publication and will be updated as more information becomes available. The public may attend the budget hearing and Special Town Meeting virtually this year on Tuesday, November 17th at 7:00 PM from a computer, device, or phone. The hearing is an opportunity to ask questions, make comments and learn more about how town funds are budgeted. More details about road work, proposed equipment upgrades, purchases and expenses will be published on the agenda for the budget hearing and Special Town Meeting. If you log-in or phone-in to participate in the budget hearing, there will be a period of discussion, and then town residents who are eligible and virtually attending the meeting will vote to set the tax levy. It is possible that the town residents will set a levy amount that is different from the amount proposed in this newsletter. The final budget is considered for adoption at the December Town Board meeting.

Decrease in the Mil-Rates Proposed for 2020 Tax Bills:

The local assessed value mil-rate is proposed to be \$2.89 per thousand, which is down from 2.91 last year. This will put some pressure on the budget since costs are increasing faster than the tax levy, but the town is working hard to trim costs, increase efficiency and avoid an increase during this challenging time for homeowners. The proposed equalized value mil-rate is \$2.25 which is a decrease of 2.72% as compared to last year. This equates to \$225.00 local tax for a property value of \$100,000.

2021 General Fund Revenue Highlights:

The town anticipates a decrease in Intergovernmental Revenue of \$19,154 partly due to grants received last year for the 2018 flooding that will not be continuing in 2021. The Town was not awarded a phosphorus reduction grant for leaf pick up for 2020 or in 2021 and will discontinue the pilot for curbside pick-up in the limited areas that are affected by the grant. The town will expand leaf drop off sites instead. Grants are an important revenue source for capital improvements to parks and special projects like the water softener optimization project.

2021 General Fund Expenditure Highlights:

General Government is proposed to decrease by \$10,108. This category covers Town Assessor, Administration, elections, insurances, legal fees, publishing, and Town Board. Public Safety is expected to increase by \$13,095 for Fire and EMS services and law enforcement. This amount may increase as the town receives information from providers. Public Works is expected to increase by \$16,938. The increase for 2021 reflects increasing costs for road maintenance. The budget maintains a target General Fund balance of \$595,101.

2021 Capital Projects and Debt Service:

The 2020 budget provides \$404,838 for road reconstruction. Equipment upgrades will be evaluated and presented at the budget hearing. New debt will cover the cost of these long-term asset investments. The 2021 budget proposes new borrowing of \$523,582. This amount could be reduced by any budget surplus amounts for 2020. The town's overall indebtedness is proposed to be 1.76 million at the end of the 2020 budget year.

	2019 Year End	Year to Date 8/31/2020	Estimated 2020 Yr End	2020 Adopted Budget	2021 Proposed Budget	2020-2021 Variance
GENERAL FUND						
REVENUES						
Total Taxes	1,301,125	1,293,323	1,298,418	1,267,159	1,256,881	-10,279
Total Intergov. Rev	426,552	256,173	442,930	453,812	434,658	-19,154
Total Lic./Permits	149,352	70,357	97,499	111,464	111,449	-15
Total Fines/Penalties	45,035	23,855	33,065	36,700	38,220	1,520
Total Publ Charges	318,770	323,623	323,783	326,996	326,348	-648
Total Misc. Revenues	124,094	44,658	50,748	54,625	50,942	-3,683
<i>Total Gen Fund Revenues</i>	<i>2,364,928</i>	<i>2,011,989</i>	<i>2,246,444</i>	<i>2,250,756</i>	<i>2,218,498</i>	<i>-32,258</i>
EXPENDITURES						
Total General Gov.	359,831	271,923	403,707	438,213	428,105	-10,108
Total Public Safety	580,744	549,607	588,064	630,578	617,483	-13,095
Total Public Works	885,149	622,926	948,752	968,544	985,481	16,938
Total Health & Human Svc	55,200	32,950	55,200	65,200	62,700	-2,500
Total Culture Recreation	21,972	14,667	58,333	58,333	57,991	-342
Total Conservation & Dev.	70,370	44,889	65,589	70,196	66,737	-3,459
Total Transfers	391,662	0	126,798	19,300	0	-19,300
Total Expenditure/Transfer	2,364,928	1,536,962	2,246,443	2,250,364	2,218,498	-31,867
Beginning General Fund	595,101	595,101	595,101	595,117	595,101	-16
Gen Fund Revenues	2,364,928	2,011,989	2,246,444	2,250,756	2,218,498	-32,258
Gen Fund Expenditures	1,973,266	1,536,962	2,119,645	2,231,064	2,218,498	-12,567
Gen Fund Transfers	391,662	0	126,798	19,300	0	-19,300
Ending General Fund	595,101	1,070,127	595,101	595,509	595,101	-408
RURAL PRESERVATION FUND (PDR)						
Beginning PDR Fund	196,089	213,254	213,254	140,313	198,065	57,752
PDR Fund Revenues	309,659	356,842	698,909	992,112	1,029,787	37,675
PDR Expenditures	292,494	52,393	714,097	949,442	970,573	21,132
Ending Bal. PDR Fund	213,254	517,703	198,065	182,984	257,279	74,295
BURYING GROUND (BG)						
Beginning BG Fund	75,227	83,291	83,291	82,828	90,892	8,064
BG Fund Revenues	14,122	7,693	14,163	8,235	8,235	0
BG Fund Expenditures	6,058	2,982	6,563	6,680	6,749	68
Ending Bal. BG Fund	83,291	88,002	90,892	84,382	92,378	7,996
DEBT SERVICE FUND						
Beginning Debt Service	26	26	26	26	0	-26
Debt Revenues	313,879	321,477	321,477	321,477	322,045	568
Debt Expenditures	313,879	321,477	321,503	321,503	322,045	542
Ending Debt Service	26	26	0	0	0	0
SANITARY DISTRICT 4 FUND (SD #4)						
Beginning Balance SD #4	361,865	350,298	350,298	238,075	338,409	100,334
SD #4 Revenues	25,026	21,412	21,248	22,252	22,252	0
SD #4 Expenditures	36,593	8,310	33,137	50,000	50,000	0
Ending Balance SD #4	350,298	363,400	338,409	310,661	310,661	100,334
CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS						
CAPITAL REVENUE						
Grant Income State	0	0	18,000	18,000	0	-18,000
Loan Proceeds Roads	327,028	0	100,000	200,000	600,380	400,380
Grant Proceeds Equipment	0	76,353	76,353	10,750	0	-10,750
Equipment Trade-in	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers in from Gen Fund	391,662	50,000	126,798	19,300	0	-19,300
<i>Total Capital Revenue</i>	<i>33,000</i>	<i>90,603</i>	<i>108,603</i>	<i>80,750</i>	<i>600,380</i>	<i>519,630</i>
CAPITAL EXPEND.						
Road Construction	339,966	166,507	269,000	269,000	404,838	135,838
Drainage and Bridges	0	0	16,380	25,008	0	-25,008
Hwy Related Equipment	33,000	204,271	204,271	271,500	182,000	-89,500
Land Purchase Town Hall	0	0	0	0	13,542	13,542
<i>Total Capital Expenditures</i>	<i>534,289</i>	<i>370,778</i>	<i>489,651</i>	<i>565,508</i>	<i>600,380</i>	<i>34,872</i>
Beginning Capital Fund	13,647	231,048	231,048	402,012	76,798	-325,214
Capital Revenues	33,000	90,603	108,603	80,750	600,380	519,630
Capital Expenditures	534,289	370,778	489,651	565,508	600,380	34,872
Ending Capital Fund	231,048	873	76,798	136,554	76,798	-59,756
VALUATION						
Assessed Valuation	658,038,200		663,343,100		Not available	
Equalized Valuation	834,455,200		857,854,200		Not available	
Tax Levy and Mil-Rate						
General Fund Tax Levy	1,233,462		1,239,629		1,229,351	-0.83%
Debt Service Tax Levy	206,837		321,477		322,045	0.18%
PDR Tax Levy	345,763		356,792		366,605	2.75%
Total Levy	1,786,062		1,917,898		1,918,000	0.01%
Assessed Value Mil-Rate	2.77		2.91		2.89	-0.79%
Equalized Value Mil-Rate	2.58		2.30		2.24	-2.72%
Undesignated Gen Fund Bal	232,100		220,364		303,898	
General Fund Balance	595,100		595,100		595,100	
Prior Year Assessment Ratio	85.76%		78.93%		77.33%	

On the Road Again...

Fall Maintenance Mowing: Maintenance mowing has begun. Mowing is done further back in the road right-of-way to prepare for winter plowing and to reduce potential drifting of snow onto roads. To assist with this process, remove debris, signs, trailers, equipment, and etc, from the road right-of-way (33 feet from the center of the town road). **We will not be able to mow around items in the right-of-way.**

Winter Snowplowing: With snow coming soon, please **DO NOT** park trailers, place burn barrels or any other private property in the road right-of-way. To allow for efficient snow removal by our highway department, please do not park on the roads or shoulders. In addition, WI law states that vehicles must remain 300 feet behind a snowplow for safety. Failure to comply, may result in a citation.

2021 Proposed Road Work: Overlay blacktop on Hawkinson Road, White Oak Trail, and

Willow Pass, and seal coating on Halverson Road, Lake Kegonsa Road, Lake View Road, Sand Hill Road, Liatris Lane, and Stenjem Drive. There will also be seal coating done at the Transfer Site and the Cemetery.

The cost of reconstruction for one mile of new blacktop has increased within the last ten years from \$80,000-\$90,000.00 to \$170,000-\$180,000. The average life span of new blacktop if no maintenance is done is 15 years. When maintaining the road by treating it with oil and pea gravel every five to seven years, the potential life span of the road can extend up to 30 years. The cost to treat the road with oil and pea gravel is \$18,000.00 per mile versus the above listed costs. While the treatment of oil and pea gravel can create a bit of a temporary mess, this preventative maintenance is needed to reduce hefty road improvement costs and save on the budget. As always, we appreciate your patience!



Proper Placement of Yard Signs

Walking through neighborhoods in the town you will see a few small yard signs. Some are announcing items for-sale, advertising contractors who have done work on a property, celebrating holidays, welcoming visitors, supporting causes, making political endorsements, encouraging support for police or schools, or asking drivers to use caution in the area.

Please note that all yard signs, no matter what the message, should be placed on private property and not in the town owned road right-of-way area. A good rule of thumb for placing a yard sign is to measure 33 feet from the center of the pavement of the road. Place your sign at least 33 feet from the center of the pavement. This will ensure that yard signs are not conflicting with the intended uses of the road right-of-way area.

Parks Commission Seeks Volunteers

The Town's Park's Commission is seeking volunteers to help with controlled burning and invasive willow growth removal in Dunn Heritage Park (located between Jordan Drive and Mahoney Road) this fall. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ben Kollenbroich at BKollenbroich@town.dunn.wi.us or (608) 838-1081, ext 205.



Sign by Don Schmidt and photo by Mark Jung

Plan Commission Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy on the Town of Dunn Plan Commission for an alternate position. The Plan Commission usually meets on the second Monday of each month at 7 PM. During the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings are being held virtually via Zoom. If you are interested in applying to be appointed, please contact Ben Kollenbroich at (608) 838-1081, ext 205, or BKollenbroich@town.dunn.wi.us.

Town Safety

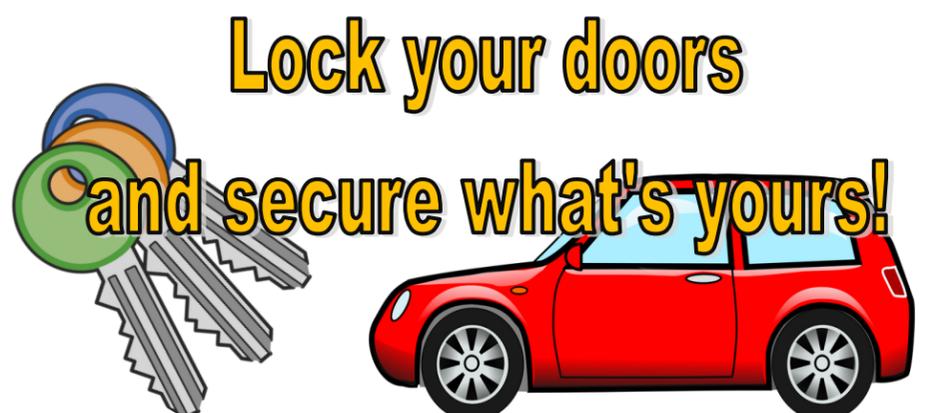
By Leslie Fox, Dane County Sherriff's Department

The Dane County area is still experiencing an increase in motor vehicle theft, theft from auto, and burglaries. Homeowners need to be extremely diligent about securing their homes and vehicles. This is a large and organized group of criminals that are becoming increasingly brazen. They are searching entire neighborhoods in search of easy targets. No area or neighborhood is considered off limits. Many suspects involved in these car thefts and break-ins should be considered armed and dangerous. Your best defense is to make sure your property is secured - at all times. Many of these crimes are committed because the opportunity is there due to unsecured vehicles and homes. I encourage everyone to be mindful of maintaining a "hard target" by securing their property. Here are some tips:

- Keep your residence well-lit with adequate exterior motion detection lighting to illuminate all areas surrounding your residence.
- When parking outside, do not leave your keys, garage door opener, or any valuables in your vehicle. If you must, do not leave valuables where they are easily accessible or in plain sight. If valuable items are in plain sight, expect the thieves will force entry to your vehicle. Many thieves use garage door openers to gain access inside homes.
- Lock the doors of your residence, especially at night or when you are away. Pay extra attention to lock the interior door from your garage to your house.
- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Never leave your vehicle unattended while it's running.

Law enforcement is also asking for the public's help in catching the perpetrators. If you see or hear suspicious activity in your neighborhood, call 911 immediately. For those with home video systems, such as a Ring doorbell or other home security system, save and share anything suspicious or concerning with your local authorities.

If you would like more information, please contact Deputy Leslie Fox at the Dane County Sheriff's Office at (608) 283-3964 or fox.leslie@danesherriff.com.



Winter Salting Goes Beyond the Pavement

Information and picture from WiSaltWise.com

Wisconsin is known for its brutal winters, so it's common practice to take steps to make sure you're safe throughout winter storms. Common practices often include using salt to deice surfaces. You may not know that salt is harmful to our environment and our waters. As snow and ice melts, the salt travels into soils and our lakes and streams, endangering our freshwater resources. Salt also pollutes our water, damages buildings and roads, and corrodes vehicles. Salt also alters the composition of soil, slows plant growth, and weakens concrete, brick, and stone. Once salt is in the environment, it will permanently remain. By using even 10 pounds less salt this season, over 3,000 gallons of water will be protected from being permanently polluted.

Correct Salt Application



Incorrect Salt Application



Fortunately, there are ways to improve salt usage:

- Clear areas before snow turns to ice. The more snow removed manually, the less salt needed and the more effective it will be.
- Only use deicers in critical areas and apply the least amount necessary. A coffee cup full is sufficient to salt 70 feet of pavement.
- Sweep up excess salt after salting. Reuse and use less next time.
- Use the right product. At temperatures below 15°F salt becomes less effective. Look at product labels for specific ingredients:
 - Sodium chloride: Commonly known as rock salt, is the least expensive deicer product. It's also hard on the environment and not very effective at temperatures less than 15°F.
 - Calcium chloride: This compound is effective at temperatures down to -20°F and is less harmful to vegetation.
 - Calcium magnesium acetate: This salt-free product works down to 20°F and is safer for vegetation and concrete surfaces.
 - Sand: Sand provides traction at any temperature, but it should not be mixed with deicers.

Projects at Hook Lake Bog - Grass Lake Wildlife and Natural Area

by Zach Hylinski, DNR Forester

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources today announced that new, significant habitat management projects will take place at Hook Lake Bog — Grass Lake Wildlife and Natural Area this fall and winter. The DNR has a timber sale and other restoration activities planned in order to restore oak savannah, oak woodlands and prairie to this DNR-owned property.

Visitors and residents should be aware that timber harvesting will occur north of McManus Road. The DNR requests that visitors enjoying the property be mindful of this management action and the long-term vision for the property, which are meant to benefit both wildlife and future generations.

The DNR is committed to this lengthy process involving years of repeated treatment, ranging from prescribed burning to removing invasive species," said Zach Hylinski, DNR Forester. "Please be respectful of the logging contractors doing the harvesting and realize that all the trees harvested were purchased by the logging company. Please do not cut any of the trees at this location until you have spoken to the DNR."

Those with questions about the timber sale or those who wish to purchase a firewood permit or learn more about the long-term plans for the property are asked to contact Zach Hylinski, DNR Forester, at (608) 225-4076 or by email at Zachary.Hylinski@wisconsin.gov or visit dnr.wisconsin.gov and search "Hook Lake Wildlife Area". Permits are sold by the cord and permit revenue will aid additional habitat work.

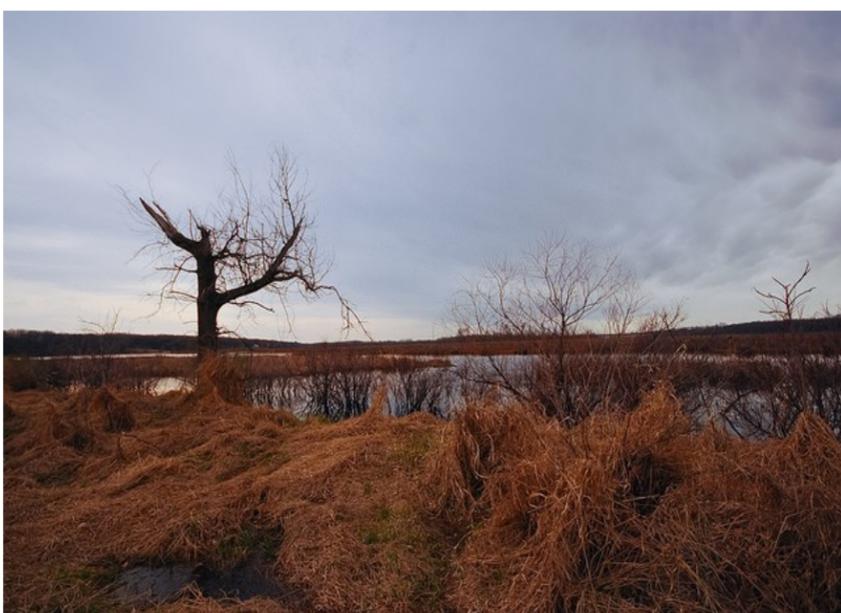


Photo of Hook Lake Bog from wisconsinstatenaturalareas.com

Contacting the Town During COVID

Town business and services are happening in new ways. Whenever possible, we will assist by email, phone, conference call, or online video meetings. The Town has a drop off/pick-up window for exchange of documents and signatures that is available by appointment.

For Assistance or Questions Regarding:	Contact the Following:
General information, court, citations, dog licenses, cemetery, and road permits.	Andrea Zacharias Office: (608) 838-1081, ext. 201 Cell: (608) 473-5779 AZacharias@town.dunn.wi.us
Accounts receivable, special assessments, accounts payable, tax questions, and voting	Mary Liebig Office: (608) 838-1081, ext. 204 MLiebig@town.dunn.wi.us
Building, wrecking, and driveway permits, building inspections, salt saver program, and leaf pick up.	Kelsey Shepperd Office: (608) 838-1081, ext. 206 Cell: (608) 481-6234 KShepperd@town.dunn.wi.us
Public works, town road maintenance, and transfer site.	Hardy Krueger Office: (608) 838-1081, ext. 207 HKrueger@town.dunn.wi.us
Purchase of Development Rights, rezones, land divisions, planning and conservation, and parks.	Ben Kollenbroich Office: (608) 838-1081, ext. 205 BKollenbroich@town.dunn.wi.us
Town Board business, elections, contracts, and emergency response.	Cathy Hasslinger Office: (608)838-1081, ext. 208 CHasslinger@town.dunn.wi.us
Open Book and property assessments.	Associated Appraisal Consultants Office: 1-800-721-4157 info.apraz@gmail.com
Curbside trash and recycling.	Pellitteri Waste Systems: (608) 257-4285 info@pellitteri.com
Zoning.	Dane County Planning Office: (608) 266-4266 plandev@countyofdane.com
Land and water resources.	Dane County Land & Water Resources Office: (608) 224-3730 lwr@countyofdane.com

RECYCLING GUIDE

PELLITTERI WASTE SYSTEMS

PAPER PRODUCTS

Empty cardboard, catalogs, magazines, phone books, empty food, milk and juice cartons, paper, Envelopes, junk mail, gift wrapping paper (no foils), pizza boxes (no food or grease), newspapers, egg cartons, paper grocery bags, and shredded paper (placed in a transparent plastic bag and tied shut; bag should be no larger than the size of a basketball).

PLASTIC PRODUCTS

All plastic bottles besides motor oil or gasoline bottles, #1-7 plastic items (including #1 clamshell), all plastic bags besides black or brown bags (placed in a transparent plastic bag and tied shut; bag should be no larger than the size of a basketball).

METAL AND GLASS PRODUCTS

Empty aerosol cans, aluminum cans or plates, metal pots and pans, small metal appliances (nothing larger than a basketball or heavier than 10 lbs), small metal plumbing fixtures, faucets, valves, tin and steel cans, and clear, blue, brown, or green translucent glass bottles and jars.

NON ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Brake rotors or drums, construction waste, deli containers except #1 plastic, electronics, frozen food or microwave dinner plates, glassware and ceramics, metal items larger than a basketball or heavier than 10 lbs, mirrors, windows, motor oil and gasoline bottles, plastic film or wrap, styrofoam, recyclable containers containing liquids or food, carpet, clothing, diapers, fishing line, food, hoses, ropes, and shoes.

RECYCLING TIPS

- If you bag recyclables, place in a transparent bag and do not tie or seal.
- Do not flatten or crush plastic or metal items. Only flatten cardboard boxes.
- Place extra recycling in clear, plastic bags (up to 32 gallon and no more than 50 pounds) and place the bags next to your recycling cart. Improperly prepared additional recyclables will not be picked up.
- Do not place smaller items inside larger containers. Items should be loose and empty.
- Remove all food waste, plastic, styrofoam, and packing peanuts.
- Your recycling cart will not be picked up if it contains trash, yard waste, or prohibited items.
- In a week containing a Holiday, garbage and recycling pick up is delayed by one day.
- For additional pick-up volume, contact Pellitteri. For a fee, they will provide a 65-gallon or a 95-gallon cart for trash. For free, you may also receive a 35-gallon or a 95-gallon cart for recyclables.

Direct additional questions to info@pellitteri.com or call (608) 257-4285.

MEDICATION DROP OFF

Protect our water! Do not flush medications down the drain. Drop off unwanted or expired medication at police departments. Contact the following for more information:

McFarland Police Department at (608) 838-3151

Oregon Police Department at (608) 835-3111

Stoughton Police Department at (608) 873-3374

TOWN TRANSFER SITE

LOCATION AND HOURS

Open to Town residents only
4030 County Road B, McFarland, WI 53558
1/4 mile east of the Dunn Town Hall
Open monthly on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays
8 AM to 3:45 PM
Also open Wednesdays, April through the end of November, 2 PM to 4:45 PM

ACCEPTED ITEMS

Brush and wood free of soil, leaves and grass clippings, any compostable material, holiday trees without tinsel, decorations, or stands, antifreeze that is free of oil, motor oil that is free of other liquids, automotive type and rechargeable batteries, all appliances except water softeners and dishwashers, scrap metal, and motors free of gas and oil.

Tires are also accepted for a fee. We charge a fee based on our costs for disposal. At the time of this publication, auto tires without rims are \$5 and \$10 for tires with rims. Semi-truck tires cost \$10 for disposal and tractor tires cost \$25.

NON ACCEPTED ITEMS

Construction materials, dishwashers, electronics, furniture, household batteries, lumber, shingles, stumps, TVs, water softeners.

Direct additional questions to (608) 838-1081.

DANE COUNTY CLEAN SWEEP

LOCATION

7102 US Hwy 12, Madison, WI 53718
Please contact Clean Sweep for current hours.

Dane County Clean Sweep offers a place to bring hazardous household materials and electronics. Visit danecountycleansweep.com for a list of acceptable items. Fees may apply. Please contact Clean Sweep Wisconsin prior to delivery of items or to receive more information.

Direct additional questions to (608) 838-3212.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Electronics are one of the fastest growing parts of the waste stream. TVs, laptops, cellphones and other electronics contain valuable materials that can be recovered through recycling. Electronics also contain hazardous materials, such as lead and mercury, which can harm human health and pollute the environment if not properly managed. Wisconsin has a electronics recycling law which prohibits the following electronics from being put in the trash or sent to Wisconsin landfills and incinerators:

TVs, computers, printers, scanners, fax machines, monitors, computer accessories such as keyboards, mice, speakers, external hard drives, flash drives, e-readers, VCRs/DVD players, and cellphones.

These electronics can be recycled at various locations across the state. For a full list of collection sites, visit: dnr.wi.gov, search "ecycle". Some collectors may charge fees and may not accept all devices. Contact collectors beforehand to learn about their policies

Direct additional questions to Wisconsin DNR ECycle at (608) 264-6001.

REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.