

City of Wauwatosa

Newsletter

Volume 30, Issue 1

<http://www.wauwatosa.net>

Spring 2009

Spring Election

The Spring Election is on Tuesday, April 7, 2009. Polls are open from 7 AM—8 PM. Voting locations can be determined by looking up your address on the city's website at www.wauwatosa.net or by calling the city clerk's office at 479-8921. If you voted on November 4, 2008, your voting location did not change provided you are still at the same address in Wauwatosa. You do not need to re-register to vote unless your name and/or address changed since the last time you voted in Wauwatosa.

The Spring Election has one local race in the 4th Aldermanic District, as well as races for several Circuit Court judges, Court of Appeals judge for District 1, Justice of the State Supreme Court, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Voters wishing to vote by absentee ballot may do so at the city clerk's office from 8 AM—5 PM after March 18th. Registered voters may also request that an absentee ballot be mailed to them by submitting a written request signed by each voter requesting a ballot. Indicate your Wauwatosa address and the address to which the ballot should be mailed, if different.

Attention Pet Owners

Pet owners are required by ordinance to periodically clean up animal excrement on their property. A pet walker is responsible for the animal's acts on public and private property. It is unlawful for a pet to run at large and a pet must be on a leash that does not exceed 10 feet while being walked. A feces scoop must be carried and used. It is illegal to discard feces in the street, sewer, or on property other than your own. Wrap the waste well and place it in with your garbage. Please be a responsible pet owner.

5,637 Tons Recycled!

Congratulations to citizens for their great recycling efforts. A total of 5,637 tons of recyclables was collected during the last year since the city moved to single stream recycling and began using recycling carts. The highest amount recycled using blue bags was 4,663 tons in 2003. It is unfortunate but the current economic conditions have resulted in no recycling revenues. It is important to continue to recycle however, because every item recycled is kept out of a landfill and the city saves by not paying to have materials sent to a landfill. In 2008, 11,386 tons of residential waste stream was land filled, down from 14,960 tons in 2007. Thank you and keep up the great work.

Holiday Collections

Trash and recyclables will not be picked up on Good Friday, April 10. That Friday's collections will be made on Thursday, April 9. There are no collections on Memorial Day, May 25. That Monday's collections will be made on Tuesday, May 26.

Yard Material Pickup Begins

Yard material collection at the curb and alley begins Monday, April 20 for those on the A Schedule and on Monday, April 27 for those on the B Schedule. Yard material is brush, branches, and leaves, which is recycled. More information is available at www.wauwatosa.net.

Rain Gardens for Wauwatosa

A Rain Gardens for Wauwatosa program will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2009, 7:30 PM—9:00 PM in the Riverview Room located on the second floor of the Mueller Building in Hart Park. Educational materials and technical advice on how to properly install a rain garden will be available. Wauwatosa property owners who install a functional rain garden meeting minimal requirements will be reimbursed up to \$800 of the cost. More information is available under *Hot Topics* at www.wauwatosa.net, or by visiting or calling the engineering department at city hall 414-479-8991.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DIRECTORY

FAX: 471-8989

TTY: 471-8484

Mayor Jill Didier Phone: 479-8915
Richard Baker, Municipal Judge Phone: 471-8488

First District Peter Donegan 259-8973 Linda Nikceovich 453-7873	Second District James J. Krol 453-2904 Eric B. Meaux 258-1407	Third District Tim Hanson 303-3521 Jacqueline S. Jay 774-6860	Fourth District Dennis McBride 258-4574 Jill Organ 302-9098
Fifth District Jerome Stepaniak 258-0709 Michael Walsh 479-9910	Sixth District Brian Ewerdt 915-7379 Thomas Herzog 257-9132	Seventh District Donald F. Birschel 476-5971 Atis Purins 476-2468	Eighth District Craig S. Maher 462-3738 Vacant

Library Hours



Monday through Thursday, 9 AM-9 PM
Friday and Saturday, 9 AM-5 PM
Sunday, 1 PM-4 PM through April 26

Closed on Friday, April 10 and Sunday, April 12 and May 23—25. The library will be closed on Sundays from May 3 throughout the summer.

Telephone reference 414-471-8485
Children's services 414-471-8486
Over dues, etc. 414-471-8484
Administration 414-471-8487

Email: tosa.mail@mcfls.org

Website: <http://tpublib.fp.execpc.com>

For Children

Please register for programs in person or by phone at 414-471-8486.

Special After School Program Fridays, March 6, April 3, and May 1; 3:45—4:30 PM. Held in the Children's Story Room. For students in grades 1 through 6.

Parochial Elementary School Art Show on display from Tuesday, March 10—Thursday, March 26.

Annual Review of New Children's Books Adults only, Saturday, March 21, 10:00—11:30 AM.

Pinocchio presented by the Florentine Opera Company for students in kindergarten through 8th grade; Saturday, March 28, 2:30—3:15 PM. Held in the Civic Center Auditorium.

Public Elementary School Art Show on display from Wednesday, April 8—Thursday, April 30.

Spring Family Story Night for families with children 3 years old and older. This 30-minute program begins at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, April 22 or Thursday, April 23.

Rhyme Time a 3-week series for newborns through 2 year-olds with adults and siblings. The 20-minute sessions begin Wednesday, April 29 or Thursday, April 30.

Mad Hot Ballroom and Tap Dancing presented by Roosevelt Elementary School in the Civic Center Auditorium on Thursday, May 7 from 3:30—4:15 PM.

For Adults

Florentine Opera Insights Join us for a discussion and live musical excerpts of Mozart's *Magic Flute* on March 28 at 12:30 PM in the library's Firefly Room.

Tax Forms, Publications and Preparation Help

State and federal tax forms and publications are available in the library and AARP will provide free tax assistance for senior citizens on Tuesdays and Wednesdays through April 15. Appointments are required. Call 414-471-8485 to make a reservation.

Community Conversation

You are invited to an evening of conversation about how our community can increase employment and other opportunities for our citizens with disabilities. Businesses need good employees, persons with disabilities are looking for meaningful work experiences and our community is stronger when everyone has a chance to participate and contribute.

Join the Committee for Citizens with Disabilities on Wednesday, April 1, 6:30—8:30 PM in the lower auditorium at city hall, 7725 W. North Ave. to explore ways to create new opportunities for citizens with disabilities.

Everyone is welcome...employers, community leaders, school staff, agencies, students, parents—anyone interested in the Wauwatosa area. RSVP to Julie at 414-226-8378

Spring Book Sale

Saturday, April 25 9 AM—5 PM

Sunday, April 26 1 PM—4 PM

Library Firefly Room



Health Department News

For Further Information or an Appointment Call 414-479-8939



Remodeling

It is important to check for lead before beginning remodeling projects. Lead poisoning can cause reduced intelligence, hearing, kidney function and motor control. Children under age six are especially susceptible to poisoning by small amounts of lead paint dust or debris. It is vital to practice safe methods to contain lead paint dust and debris when disturbing old paint. A Wauwatosa survey found that the majority of area contractors surveyed were not lead certified. Upon the creation of a lead hazard most contractors would only notify the homeowners, leaving the homeowner responsible for the clean-up. It is up to homeowners to be aware of who is remodeling your home and their knowledge of lead paint hazards. Call the health department at 414-479-8939 for more information and a free copy of the Environmental Protection Agency's *Lead in Your Home: A Parent's Reference Guide*.

Quit Smoking in 2009!

The next Freedom From Smoking® program starts March 3. The 8-session program meets weekly from Tuesday March 3 to Tuesday, April 14, 6:30—8:30 PM. The cost is \$35 for Wauwatosa residents and employees and \$100 for non-Wauwatosa residents/employees. For more information or to register, call the health department at 414-479-8939.

Staying Healthy

Do you want to improve your health and nutrition? Would you like to have your blood pressure checked? Come to an Adult Health Clinic to receive free nursing consultation. Call the Information and Referral Nurse Line at 414-479-8939 for schedules.

Parenting Classes Offered

The Wauwatosa Health Department, in partnership with The Parenting Network, offers a 6-week training for parents. *Love and Logic*® is a nationally regarded parenting program and is effective for parents of toddlers to teens. The series starts April 6, 2009 (no class on April 13) and concludes on May 18, 2009. The classes are held at The Lutheran Home, 7500 W. North Avenue from 6:30—8:15 PM. The cost is \$55.00 per person; \$70.00 per couple. Childcare is provided for children birth to age 12 for a fee. Registration is required by March 25, 2009. Contact Tom Weber at the Parenting Network at 414-671-5575, Ext. 14.

Immunization Requirements

Students entering grades 6, 7, 9, 10, and 12 will need a Tetanus booster (Tdap) for the 2009-2010 school year if it has been 5 years or more since their last dose. Also, students entering grades K5, 1, 6, 7, and 12 who did not have chicken pox disease will need 2 doses of Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine. Students who do not meet this requirement could be excluded from school or fined by the district attorney. Please review your child's immunization status and ensure your child meets these requirements. For more information call the Wauwatosa Health Department's Information and Referral Line at 414-479-8939.

Does Your Home Have FOG?

Fats, oil, and grease (FOG) can be a main cause of sanitary sewer backups. FOG comes from meat scraps, cooking oil, lard, butter, margarine, gravy, mayonnaise, salad dressings, sour cream and other fatty items. They accumulate in sewer pipes and may lead to basement backups.

Do not pour FOG down the drain. You can prevent FOG from causing a sewer backup by following these simple disposal methods.

Wipe grease from pots and pans before washing them or put the grease in a tightly sealed container and dispose of it with the garbage. Large amounts of oil can be mixed with cat litter, sealed in a plastic bag, and put in the garbage cart.

Running hot water after pouring FOG down the drain will only work for a short time. FOG cools rapidly and hardens either in your sanitary lateral or the city's main line where it could cause a sewer backup for you or your neighbors.

Gardening Angels

The Wauwatosa Beautification Committee (www.WBC-Wi.org) is committed to preserving and improving Wauwatosa's beauty by planting and maintaining shrub, perennial, and annual beds in Wauwatosa. Volunteers are a vital part of the committee's Gardening Angels program. With the gardening season just around the corner now is the perfect time to become a Gardening Angel.

If you would like to work with a great group of people who impact the community by creating a beautiful environment call Susan Chessire at 414-453-0555 or email wauwatosa.beautification@yahoo.com

Remodeling Plans?

The Wauwatosa Building and Safety Division has guidelines available that outline what building or remodeling projects require building permits, the information required, and the Design Review Board approval process.

Generally, non-structural repairs or alterations that do not create new rooms or modify existing do not require a building permit. An example is replacing kitchen cabinets without altering the room or repairs to a porch or trim that is not structural. The permit process is simple and a permit usually is obtained for interior projects within a couple days. Projects that require Design Review Board review usually take 2 weeks for approval. If a contractor performs the work, they typically obtain the necessary permits.

It is recommended that at least two, preferably three, bids be solicited. All contracts, including change orders, should be in writing and the contractor should verify possession of Wisconsin Department of Commerce Dwelling Contractor Certification. The certification is required to perform work on one or two-family dwellings. Checking a contractor's references is the best indicator of their qualifications.

Please call the building and safety division at 414-479-8907 Monday—Friday from 8:00 AM to 5 PM if you have questions. Building inspectors are available for technical code questions from 8:00—9:00 AM and 1:00—1:30 PM. You will find additional information at www.wauwatosa.net.

Overnight Parking

There is no parking on any city street between 3 AM and 6 AM including holidays and weekends. Special permission for each night of overnight parking can be obtained by calling 1-900-388-2800. The 900 number is \$1.50 per call. For more information call the police non-emergency number 414-471-8430.

Signs in City Right-of-Way

As warmer weather arrives, signs advertising rummage, garage and estate sales, and houses for sale begin appearing throughout Wauwatosa. Signs placed in the city right-of-way distract motorists. The right-of-way is the area between the street curb and lot lines and also includes boulevards. Signs placed in this area or attached to light, traffic or telephone poles will be removed and discarded. Please help maintain a safe and uncluttered Wauwatosa.

North Avenue Flags

Over the past 6 years very successful fundraising efforts have supported the purchase of United States Flags that are flown on street light poles from N. 124th Street to Wauwatosa Avenue on North Avenue. Fundraising is currently underway to acquire flag banners for the light poles between Wauwatosa Avenue and N. 60th Street on North Avenue. If you would like to contribute toward the purchase of the banners, please send your donation to the City of Wauwatosa, 7725 West North Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53213 and mark the envelope *Flag Donation*. All donations are directed to this project. If you have questions about the fundraising effort, call Richard Bachman at 414-774-5343.

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