

City of Wauwatosa

Newsletter

Volume 28, Issue 4

<http://www.wauwatosa.net>

Winter 2007

Primary Election

The Presidential Preference Primary and Spring Primary is Tuesday, February 19, 2008. Polls are open from 7 AM—8 PM. Depending on pre-election activity, the city clerk's office may be open Saturday, February 16 from 9 AM—11 AM for voter registration and for absentee voting. Call the clerk's office at 414-479-8921 the week before the election to verify the Saturday schedule.

You must be at least 18 years old and a Wauwatosa resident for at least 10 days to vote. Register to vote at the city clerk's office, by mail up to 20 days before an election, or at the polls on Election Day. Voter registration forms are available via a link to the Wisconsin Elections Board by visiting the city clerk portion at www.wauwatosa.net. Voter registration and absentee voting information is available on the city clerk's page as well.

Bring proof of residence when registering to vote within 20 days of the election. Acceptable proof of residence includes current and valid Wisconsin driver's license or Wisconsin DOT identification card; any other official identification card or license issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit; real estate tax bill or receipt for the current year or the year preceding the date of the election; utility bill for the period not earlier than 90 days prior to the date of registration; bank statement; paycheck; a check or document issued by a unit of government. You do not need to register to vote every time you vote, but only if your name and/or address changed since the last time you voted.

Snow Emergency Parking

During a snow emergency there is no parking on any street in Wauwatosa, except for the loading and unloading of passengers (3 minute maximum) or loading or unloading of property (30 minute maximum), provided parking restrictions are not already in place at the location.

Goodbye Blue Bags!

You will soon receive a new recycling cart along with instructions for its use. The cart is Wauwatosa's part of the national *America Recycles* effort whose slogan is "It All Comes Back To You." Curbside recycling with a cart is easy, economical, environmentally-friendly and will replace blue bag recycling.

The recycling cart has a 100% recycled black body with a 25% recycled yellow lid. Recyclables will be collected every other week in accordance with the schedule that will accompany your new cart. The new recycling cart is an addition to your regular garbage cart, not a replacement for it.

The single stream recycling program is:

- Easy—put all recyclable paper, metal cans, plastic bottles, and glass jars in cart; do not bag items
- Efficient—the cart is collected every other week
- Economical—no need to purchase blue bags and the program is less costly for the city and saves tax dollars
- Environmentally friendly—more recyclables will be captured, thereby protecting resources, saving energy, and enhancing our quality of life.

Visit www.wauwatosa.net to find more information on the new single stream recycling program and *America Recycles* or call the TIPS Hotline at 471-8477 .

Holiday Tree Collection

Real Christmas trees that are clear of wrappings, wire, metal, nails, or tree stands and placed at the curb are picked up between Jan. 7—11 on regular pickup day and will be chipped into mulch. Do not put a tree in the alley. Artificial trees or wreaths must be put in the regular garbage.

Buried Fire Hydrants

Water hydrants need to be visible and accessible during winter. Please remove snow from around a hydrant in case of a fire emergency.

Mayor Theresa M. Estness Phone: 479-8915
 Richard Baker, Municipal Judge Phone: 471-8488

First District George P. Becker 771-2606 Peter Donegan 259-8973	Second District James J. Krol 453-2904 Eric B. Meaux 258-1407	Third District Tim Hanson 303-3521 R. Jeffrey Krill 771-0907	Fourth District Jill Didier 259-1484 Bernard J. Grimm 774-1299
Fifth District Jerome Stepaniak 258-0709 Paul Minear 731-5153	Sixth District Brian Ewerdt 475-9658 Thomas Herzog 257-9132	Seventh District Donald F. Birschel 476-5971 Atis Purins 476-2468	Eighth District Craig S. Maher 462-3738 Tom H. Treis 462-3737

Library Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9 AM-9 PM
 Friday, 9 AM-5 PM
 Saturday, 9 AM-5 PM
 Sunday, 1 PM-4 PM
 Closed December 24-25 and December 31-January 1
 Overdue fines, renewals 414-471-8484
 Reference and adult services 414-471-8485
 Children's services 414-471-8486
 Administration, Room Reservations 414-471-8487
 Email: tosa.mail@mcfls.org
 Website: <http://tpublib.fp.execpc.com>
 Library Blog: www.wauwatosanow.com "Check It Out" column

Children's Library Events

Holiday Magic Show featuring **A Touch of Magic** with **Walt Smith**, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 7:00—7:45 PM. Register in person or by phone.



After School Adventure Party Fridays, Dec. 7; Jan. 4, and Feb. 1; 3:45—4:30 PM for 1st through 6th graders. Held in the Children's Story Room. Register in person or by phone.

Baby Days This 3-week series begins Wed./Thurs., Jan. 16/17 for newborns through 4 year-olds with adults and siblings. Register in person or by phone beginning Sat., Dec. 15 with a valid library card.

Cuentacuentos! Story Time in Spanish for 3 year-olds and older. Monday, Dec. 17, 6:30—7:00 PM. Register in person or by phone.

Library Story Time a 5-week series, 30 minute sessions for 3, 4, and 5 year-olds who are able to attend story time independently. Begins Thurs./Fri. Feb. 14/15. Register in person or by phone beginning Jan. 12, 2008.

Stamp Collectors Workshop for 2nd through 8th graders. Tues., Feb. 26, 7:00—8:00 PM. Register in person or by phone beginning Sat., Feb. 2.

Little Red's Most Unusual Day presented by the Florentine Opera Sat., March 1, 1:30—2:15 PM. Register in person or by phone beginning Sat., Feb. 2.

For Adults

Florentine Opera Insights Sat., January 19 at 12:30 PM in the Firefly Room. Join us for a program on Richard Strauss' *Salome*, including live musical excerpts.



AARP Tax Help

Free tax preparation help is available on Tuesdays from Feb. 5 through April 15 from 10 AM to 4 PM for qualifying senior citizens. Appointments are required. Call 471-8486 to make a reservation.

A Plow Hit Your Mailbox?

If your mailbox is damaged during a plowing operation, report it immediately to the public works department at 414-471-8422. If the incident is reported by our plow operator, we may assist with a temporary mailbox upon request. We will need the following information to process a claim: address where incident occurred; date of incident; amount of damage claimed; any information such as truck number, witness names, etc. You will be notified after the city determines the claim's validity.

Holiday Fire Safety

These tips will keep you safe this holiday season.

- Use a tree that is not shedding needles
- Use flame-retardant artificial trees and decorations
- Use lights labeled from an independent testing lab
- Inspect lights every year; throw away lights with frayed or cracked cords or loose sockets
- Do not run cords under carpets, across doorways, or near heaters
- Do not overload electrical outlets
- Unplug lights before leaving or going to bed
- Place your tree away from a fireplace or space heater
- Maintain a constant water supply — check it daily
- Remove dried out trees away from the home
- Dispose of a discarded tree promptly



Health Department News

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



Your Year to Quit Smoking

The Wauwatosa Health Department's next Freedom From Smoking® program begins Jan. 8. The 8-session program meets weekly from 6:00—7:30 PM, Tuesday, Jan. 8 through Tuesday, Feb. 19. The cost is \$35.00 for Wauwatosa residents and employees and \$100 for non-Wauwatosa residents/employees. For more information or to register, call the health department at 479-8939.

Flu Vaccine



If you want to reduce your chance of getting the flu this season, it is not too late. The health department is still offering flu vaccine at its immunization clinics. Call the Information and Referral Nurse line at 479-8939 for clinic information.

Improve Employee Health and Your Business



The 2006 Wauwatosa Worksite Wellness Program Assessment revealed that while many employers understand the connection between employee health and fiscal success, a lack of information, limited resources, and cost concerns prohibit the initiation of wellness programs at many worksites. The Wauwatosa Physical Activity and Nutrition (PAN) Committee developed a Worksite Wellness Toolkit in response to the findings. It offers simple and cost effective information, ideas, and local resources for initiating effective health and wellness programs at your place of business. If you are interested in receiving a copy of this free resource, contact Sarah Belstock at sbelstock@wauwatosa.net or 479-8949.

Holiday Refuse Pickup

Mon. Dec. 17	Regular Monday pickup
Tues. Dec. 18	Regular Tuesday pickup
Wed. Dec. 19	Regular Wednesday pickup
Thurs. Dec. 20	Regular Thursday pickup
Fri. Dec. 21	Regular Friday pickup
Mon. Dec. 24	City holiday—no pickup
Tues. Dec. 25	City holiday—no pickup
Wed. Dec. 26	Pick up Monday 12/24 routes
Thurs. Dec. 27	Pick up Tuesday 12/25 routes
Fri. Dec. 28	Pick up Wednesday 12/26 routes
Mon. Dec. 31	City holiday—No pickup
Tues. Jan. 1	City holiday—No pickup
Wed. Jan. 2	Pick up Thurs. 12/27 routes
Thurs. Jan. 3	Pick up Fri. 12/28 routes
Fri. Jan. 4	No scheduled collection
Mon. Jan. 7	Regular schedules resume

Public Works Drop Off Center: From Dec. 18—Jan. 12 the public works drop-off center at 11100 W. Walnut may be used by residents without the \$10 permit. Hours are 7:30 AM—4:30 PM Tuesday—Saturday. The center is closed Sundays, Mondays, and on Dec. 24, 25, 31, 2007 and Jan. 1, 2008. A \$10 annual permit is required at times other than Dec. 18—Jan. 12. Permits are available at the public works office, the treasurer's office at city hall, or by mail from the Wauwatosa Engineering Department, 7725 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213.

Ice Skating

There is public skating in the Muellner Building at Hart Park on the days listed below. Skates are not available for rent.

Fri., Nov. 23	1-3 PM
Sat., Nov. 24	1-4 PM
Sun., Nov. 25	1-4 PM
Sat., Dec. 22	1-4 PM
Sun., Dec. 23	1-4 PM
Mon., Dec. 24	1-3 PM
Wed., Dec. 26	1-3 PM and 6-9 PM
Thurs., Dec. 27	1-3 PM and 6-9 PM
Fri., Dec. 28	1-3 PM and 6-9 PM
Sat., Dec. 29	1-4 PM
Sun., Dec. 30	1-4 PM
Mon., Dec. 31	1-4 PM
Sun., Jan. 6, 2008	1-4 PM
Sun., Jan. 13	1-4 PM



Fees:

Child city resident:	Free
Adult city resident (18 and over):	\$2
Child nonresident:	\$2
Adult nonresident:	\$4

All Wauwatosa residents will be admitted FREE on December 22—31.

Property Tax Statements

The 2007 property tax statements are expected to be mailed December 10. The preferred method of payment is to use the enclosed green envelope included with your tax bill. Mail your check payable to the City of Wauwatosa along with the tax bill. Don't forget to endorse the escrow check. The tax bill will be receipted and promptly mailed to you.

For those who pay their property taxes using the three installment plan, the first installment must be paid in full no later than January 31, 2008. The second installment is due March 31 and the third, May 31. Failure to pay by the due dates will result in interest and penalty charges.

The treasurer's office is open Monday—Friday 8 AM—5 PM. The office is closed on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 but is open Monday, December 31 from 9 AM—Noon.

To find your property tax bill on line visit www.wauwatosa.net. Click the search box near the center of the page. You will be taken to the assessor's page where you can access property information by address. Tax information is near the bottom of the page where you can reprint the tax bill. When making a payment, the reprinted tax bill is acceptable.

Snow and Ice Removal

The full width of public sidewalks, crosswalks, and curb ramps must be cleared of snow and ice by 12:00 noon of the day following a snow or ice accumulation. Sprinkle irremovable ice with a de-icing agent or sand to prevent slippery conditions. Sidewalks and ramps are to be cleared again after each plowing operation. Sidewalks on major streets are inspected for compliance and the residential areas are inspected on a complaint basis.



Notice of noncompliance is sent to a property owner if snow and ice is not removed as required. If the work is not completed within the allotted time, city crews will perform the work and charge the property owner. For example, a 60 foot wide lot would be charged \$140 each time it is cleared by city crews. Call the Parks and Forestry Department at 471-8420 if you have questions or to report a violation.

Tax Forms

Federal and state tax forms and publications are available as of January 15 at the library.

Winter Reminders

Please keep the following in mind this winter:

- Clear a curb or driveway area for your refuse and recycling carts. Do not place the carts on the sidewalk or on top of a snow drift.
- Backyard refuse pickup residents need to clear a path that is at least 3 ½ feet wide from the storage area to the street.
- Keep carts accessible but clear from roadways or alleys so plows do not hit or bury them during heavy snowfalls.
- Recycle in the new recycling cart; not in blue bags.

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Legislation, Licensing, and Communication Committee: Alderman James Krol, Chairperson; Alderman George Becker, Vice-Chair; Alderman Donald Birschel; Alderwoman Jill Didier; Alderman Brian Ewerdt; Alderman Tim Hanson Editor: L. Kavelaris, Administration Dept., Telephone: 479-8915, Fax: 479-8985.

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