

# City of Wauwatosa

## Newsletter

Volume 32, Issue 4

<http://www.wauwatosa.net>

Winter 2011

### *Happy Holidays*

#### **2012 Election Information**

Spring Primary (if needed), February 21, 2012

Spring Election, April 3, 2012

Partisan Primary, August 14, 2012

General Election, November 6, 2012

Please note the Partisan Primary election has been permanently moved to the 2nd Tuesday in August of even-numbered years.

Voters at the spring election will elect the mayor, 8 alderpersons, court of appeals judge, 10 circuit court judges, county executive, county comptroller, and county board supervisors, and the April election is the presidential preference election.

- Polls are open from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Election Day.
- Call the City Clerk's office at 479-8921 if you are not sure of your voting location, or check the voter public access site at <https://vpa.wi.gov/>.
- If you are not registered to vote in Wauwatosa, you may register at the polls on Election Day. Bring along proof of residence showing your name and current Wauwatosa address.
- Prior to an election, you may register to vote at the city clerk's office through the Friday before each election. Bring along one proof of residence if registering 20 days prior to an election.
- You may also register to vote by mail until 20 days before an election; voter registration forms may be downloaded from the Government Accountability Board website at <http://gab.wi.gov/node/1921>. Submit them to the City Clerk's office.
- When registering to vote, you must be a US citizen, at least 18 years of age on Election Day, and have resided in the city for at least 28 consecutive days.
- Be prepared to present a photo ID before voting at the

polls on Election Day.

- Be prepared to sign one copy of the poll list at the polls on Election Day.
- The City Clerk portion of the city website ([www.wauwatosa.net](http://www.wauwatosa.net)) contains complete information.

#### **Voting by Absentee Ballot**

Recent changes in state law have created many questions for absentee ballot voters.

In a nutshell:

If you are already on the permanent absentee ballot list and automatically receive absentee ballots for every election, you don't need to provide any additional ID. You do need to make sure you and a witness sign your absentee ballot return envelope, however.

If you are requesting an absentee ballot for only one election, include a copy of your photo ID with your absentee ballot request.

If you are in a nursing home, the special voting deputies will bring your ballot to you for voting. You do not need to provide any additional ID.

Absentee voting in the Clerk Clerk's office ends at 5 p.m. on the Friday before each election.

#### **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.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DIRECTORY

FAX: 471-8989

TTY: 471-8484

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

<b>First District</b> Peter Donegan 259-8973 Linda Nikceovich 326-6436	<b>Second District</b> Kathy Causier 771-0123 Eric B. Meaux 258-1407	<b>Third District</b> Tim Hanson 617-2950 Jacqueline S. Jay 403-0838	<b>Fourth District</b> Dennis McBride 258-4574 Jill Organ 302-9098
<b>Fifth District</b> Bobby Pantuso 736-5700 Michael Walsh 477-2830	<b>Sixth District</b> Brian Ewerdt 915-7379 Jeff Roznowski 258-0633	<b>Seventh District</b> Cheryl Berdan 550-0184 Donald F. Birschel 476-5971	<b>Eighth District</b> Craig Wilson 745-5188 Jason G. Wilke 527-1146

## Library Hours



Monday through Thursday, 9 AM-9 PM  
 Friday and Saturday, 9 AM-5 PM  
 Sunday, 1 PM-4 PM  
 Closed Jan. 1, 2, 8.

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: [library@wauwatosalibrary.org](mailto:library@wauwatosalibrary.org)  
 Website: [www.wauwatosalibrary.org](http://www.wauwatosalibrary.org)

## For Children and Families

**MILWAUKEE BUCKS READING CHALLENGE**  
 for students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grades begins Tuesday, Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**LIBRARY STORY TIME** for 3-6 year olds who are able to attend story time independently continues Wed/Thurs, January 4/5<sup>th</sup> through January 18/19<sup>th</sup>. This 5-week-series of 30 minute sessions is held at 9:30, 11:00 or 6:30 pm on Wednesdays and at 9:30 and 1:30 pm on Thursdays. Programs include stories, songs, crafts, dramatic movement, and fun with literacy.

**RHYME TIME** for newborns through 3 year-olds with adults and siblings begins on Wed/Thurs, February 1/2<sup>nd</sup> through February 15/16<sup>th</sup>; 3 week-series, 20 minute sessions. This early literacy program for babies and pre-kindergarten children features rhymes, stories, songs, finger plays and dramatic movement.

**THE THREE LITTLE PIGS** presented by the Florentine Opera Company for students in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grades, Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 – 3:15 pm; held in the Civic Center Auditorium. *Register in person or by phone beginning Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> with a valid library card.*

**LIBRARY STORY TIME** for 3-6 year olds who are able to attend story time independently begins Wed/Thurs, February 29/March 1<sup>st</sup> through March 28/29<sup>th</sup>. This 5-week-series of 30 minute sessions will be held at 9:30, 11:00 or 6:30 pm on Wednesdays and at 9:30 and 1:30 pm on Thursdays.

**No Registration Unless Indicated in Description.**

**STAMP COLLECTORS WORKSHOP** presented by the Wauwatosa Philatelic Society for students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades; Friday, March 2 from 3:45 – 4:30pm; held in the Firefly Room. *Register in person or by phone beginning Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> with a valid library card.*

## For Adults

Join us for a glimpse into the **Florentine Opera's** upcoming production of Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah* featuring interesting tidbits, a look at the synopsis and the composer, and live performances by Florentine Artists. Saturday, February 25, noon to 1:30 pm.

**Tax Forms and Publications** will be available at the Library beginning in mid- January.

## Prevent Frozen Water Pipes

Prepare your home's plumbing system for the winter season by doing the following:

- Turn off your outside hose bib from inside.
- Locate the water meter and make sure the area is heated.
- Make sure water meter shutoff valves operate properly so you can turn off your water in an emergency.
- Fit exposed water pipes with insulation sleeves or wrapping.
- Open the cabinet doors under sinks to allow warm air to circulate around the water pipes.
- Leave a small stream of cold water flowing through a faucet during extremely cold weather.

## Fire Hydrant Access

The Wauwatosa Water Utility and the Fire Department routinely check City fire hydrants during winter preparation. Fire hydrant visibility and accessibility are crucial during the winter. You can help by shoveling snow away from fire hydrants to make them accessible in case of fire emergency.



## Health Department News



### Free Children's Flu Vaccine

If you want to reduce your chance of getting the flu this season, it's not too late. The health department is still offering flu vaccine at its immunization and flu clinics. Flu vaccines (shot or nasal spray) are **FREE** for children age 6 months through age 18. Adult shots are \$25 and are covered by standard Medicare Part B/Medicaid. Adults may receive \$5 off the flu shot price with a donation of 4 non-perishable goods for the Tosa Food Pantry. For clinic information, call the Information and Referral Nurse Line at 479-8939.

### What to do with Hazardous Waste

Household hazardous waste can be disposed of at three different locations:

- W124 N9451 Boundary Road, Menomonee Falls, Monday & Wednesday 11:00Am- 6:00PM & Saturday 8:00AM- 2:00PM
  - 10518 South 124th Street, Franklin, Tuesday & Thursday 11:00AM- 6:00PM & Saturday 8:00AM - 2:00PM
  - 3879 West Lincoln Avenue, Milwaukee, Friday & Saturday 7:00AM- 3:00PM (by the City of Milwaukee in conjunction with MMSD)
  - For other sites call 414-255-2066.
- If you do not know what constitutes household hazardous waste go to [www.mmsd.com](http://www.mmsd.com).
- For medical waste (syringes, sharps, & other items), use a pharmacy or hospital disposal program, see [www.dnr.state.wi.us](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us).

### Snow and Ice Removal

The full width of public sidewalks, crosswalks, and curb ramps must be cleared of snow and ice to the plowed portion of the street 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 \$165.00 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.

### Does Your Home Have Radon?

Radon is a cancer-causing, radioactive gas. You can't see, smell or taste radon, but it may be a problem in your home. The EPA estimates about 21,000 lung cancer deaths are caused by radon annually.

**Radon has been found in all Wauwatosa zip codes.** Radon comes from the natural (radioactive) breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water and gets into the air you breathe.

**You can fix a radon problem.**

There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. Even very high levels can be reduced to acceptable levels.

**You should test for radon.**

Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk from radon. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Surgeon General recommend testing all homes below the third floor for radon.

Testing is inexpensive and easy.

Radon test kits are available at the Wauwatosa Health Department for a \$5.00 fee. For more information, please contact the Wauwatosa Health Department at (414) 479-8939.

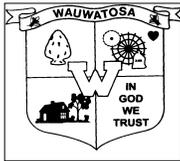
*The Wauwatosa Health Department obtained funding for the program from the Radon Prevention Grant through the State of Wisconsin*

Common Council meetings are monthly on the first and third Tuesday and Council Committees meet monthly on the second and last Tuesday. All meetings are open to the public.

Call 414-479-8917 or visit [www.wauwatosa.net](http://www.wauwatosa.net) for meeting times.

### 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.



# City of Wauwatosa Newsletter

City Hall, 7725 W. North Avenue, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53213-0068



## Wauwatosa Distinguished Citizen 2011 - Do You Know Someone To Nominate?

Since 1964, the Wauwatosa Distinguished Citizen Award Council has annually recognized qualified individuals who have made significant voluntary contributions to the community life of Wauwatosa.

Nominations are currently being accepted for the WAUWATOSA 2011 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR. Nominations may be made by any person, group of persons, or organization, but self-nomination will not be accepted. It is not necessary for a Nominee to be a resident of Wauwatosa, but volunteer service in and to Wauwatosa and its residents is mandatory.

The nomination packet is available at the City Clerk's office in City Hall OR download a printable Nomination Packet:

<http://www.wauwatosa.net/DocumentView.aspx?DID=878>

The deadline for nominations to be received by the Wauwatosa City Clerk is January 11, 2012. The 2011 Citizen of the Year recognition is planned for April 25, 2012.

### FOR PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

&

### HOLIDAY GARBAGE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION

SEE INSERTS

## 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.

## Wauwatosa Recycles Plastics 1 through 7

The City of Wauwatosa contracts curbside recycling services with Waste Management. Waste Management accepts plastic types 1 through 7. In order to determine the number on your plastic container, turn the product over and look for the recycling symbol, a triangle with a number from 1 to 7 inside. That number is the Resin Identification Code, or RIC. Each number represents a different type of plastic.



As a reminder, don't recycle it until it's clean!

### City of Wauwatosa Newsletter Winter 2011 Volume 32-4

The City of Wauwatosa Newsletter is published four times a year.

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**Legislation, Licensing, and Communication Committee:** Alderman Don Birschel, Chairperson; Ald. Tim Hanson, Vice Chairman; Ald. Kathy Causier; Ald. Linda Nikceovich; Ald. Craig Wilson; Ald. Jeff Roznowski; Editor: A.W. Brown, Administration Dept., Telephone: 414-479-8915

# CITY OF WAUWATOSA

## Property Tax Statements

**Due dates:** Property tax payments are due January 31, 2012. For those who pay their real estate property taxes using the three-installment plan, the first installment must be paid in full no later than January 31, 2012. The second installment is due March 31, 2012 and the third, May 31, 2012. The amount of each installment is displayed on the tax bill. Failure to make the full installment payment by each due date will result in the remaining balance being subject to interest and penalty charges. All personal property tax (business non-real estate) will be due by January 31, 2012.

The 2011 property tax statements were mailed on the second full week of December. The bills are mailed to the owner of record per the Milwaukee County Register of Deeds, unless an official mailing address change has been made at the City Assessor's Office prior to November 1, 2011. If you do not receive a tax bill by December 20, the tax bill can be obtained using the City website (see below for further detail). Otherwise, for those taxpayers who do not have access to the internet, please contact the Treasurer's Office at 414-479-8960.

**Tax Information via the City Website:** Taxpayers can access their tax bill AND, with a new website feature added this year, obtain their property tax payment receipt by visiting [www.wauwatosa.net](http://www.wauwatosa.net). Select 'Quick Links' on the main page and then click on 'Tax Bill Search and Print' in the Quick Picks section. Adobe Reader 8.0 or higher and Internet Explorer 7.0 or higher are required to access the information. Once at the search screen, enter the parcel number **OR** house number / street name combination to access the property information, click 'Taxes', and scroll to the bottom of the page. The user will have the option of printing a tax bill or receipt (tax detail).

**Preparing the Payment:** Checks should be made payable to "Treasurer – City of Wauwatosa". Submit your tax bill with the payment. For those that receive an escrow check from their mortgage company to be used towards payment of property taxes, please make sure to endorse the check. Checks not properly endorsed will be returned to the taxpayer, as the check cannot be deposited.

### **Where to Pay:**

*By Mail:* The preferred method of payment is to mail your tax payment in the green envelope provided with your tax bill.

Mail the entire tax bill and your check made payable to "Treasurer-City of Wauwatosa". Don't forget to endorse the escrow check, if applicable. Payments are receipted using the U.S. Postal Service postmark as the receipt date.

*24-Hour Night Depository:* Payments can also be placed in the 24-hour depository located on the southwest end of City Hall near the employee entrance. A deposit made prior to midnight will be receipted using that day's date.

*In Person:* Payments can be made in person by cash or check during posted business hours. Please bring your tax bill so that receipt information can be validated directly onto the bill. As a courtesy to your fellow taxpayers, please have checks prepared prior to appearing at the collection window.

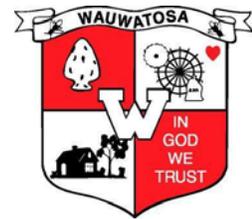
**2011-2012 Hours:** The Treasurer's Office is open Monday – Friday 8AM – 4:30PM. The office is closed on Friday, December 23, Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2. There will be special holiday hours for the Treasurer's Office on Friday, December 30 and Saturday, December 31 from 9AM – Noon.

**(NEW) Tax Receipts Available on City Website:** As a cost savings measure, the City will no longer be mailing receipts to those taxpayers who pay via mail or using the night depository. Using the above directions in the "Tax Information via the City Website" section, please visit [www.wauwatosa.net](http://www.wauwatosa.net) to obtain your receipt. Please allow several days each of mailing time and processing time before checking the website for receipt information. For those taxpayers who do not have access to the internet, a receipt can be obtained in person at the Treasurer's Office, or a self-addressed stamped envelope can be included with the payment and mailed directly to the Treasurer's Office.

## Revised 2011-2012 Holiday Garbage Collection Schedule

Date	Refuse Collection Schedule	Recycling
Monday – Thursday, Dec. 19 – 22, 2011	Regular Collection	B week
Friday, Dec. 23, 2011 (City Holiday)	Regular Friday collection	B week
Monday, Dec. 26, 2011 (City Holiday)	Regular Monday collection	A week
Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2011	Regular Tuesday Collection	A week
Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2011	Regular Wednesday Collection	A week
Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011	Regular Thursday Collection	A week
Friday, Dec. 30, 2011 (City Holiday)	Regular Friday collection	A week
Monday, Jan. 2, 2012 (City Holiday)	Regular Monday collection	B week
Tuesday, Jan 3, 2012	Regular Tuesday collection	B week
Wednesday, Jan. 4 – Friday, Jan. 6, 2012	Regular collection	B week

In order to improve services over the Holiday season, we have revised our Holiday garbage collection schedule. There will be no interruption in service as previously scheduled during the weeks of December 19, 2011 through January 6, 2012. Our collectors will continue to collect garbage five days a week over the Holidays. Please place your carts out on your regularly scheduled days. THE DROP-OFF CENTER WILL BE CLOSED ON DEC. 23-26 and DEC. 30 – JAN 2.



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Monday – Thursday, Dec. 19 – 22, 2011	Regular Collection	B week
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Monday, Jan. 2, 2012 (City Holiday)	Regular Monday collection	B week
Tuesday, Jan 3, 2012	Regular Tuesday collection	B week
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# Weatherization Grants



Apply Today!

## Window/Door Weatherization Mini-Grants

for Home Day Care Provider or Single  
Family, Owner-Occupied Home  
to prevent lead poisoning in children

1st five qualified applicants will  
receive funding

### Criteria

Wauwatosa Home day care provider or single  
family owner occupied home  
Pre-1978 housing only  
Children less than 6 y/o must reside or attend  
day care at the property  
Must meet HUD low-mod income guidelines  
verified through recent tax returns and pay  
stubs of all working household adults  
Assessed home value must be  $\leq$  \$300,000  
One-time household limit up to \$4500

*\*\*\*Other criteria apply\*\*\**

### To Apply:

Call the  
Wauwatosa  
Health  
Department at  
479-8939