

City of Wauwatosa

Newsletter

Volume 33, Issue 1

<http://www.wauwatosa.net>

Spring 2012

Upcoming Elections

The Spring Election and Presidential Preference will be held on April 3, 2012. Several circuit court seats are up for election, as is the county executive, the county board of supervisors (Districts 6 and 15 in Wauwatosa), and the newly created county comptroller position. Wauwatosa voters will also elect a mayor and eight alderpersons. There will be an advisory referendum on the ballot concerning the size of the common council which will ask, "Should the Wauwatosa Common Council reduce the number of representatives on the Common Council?"

The Partisan Primary will be held on August 14, 2012. This election had previously been held in September of even-numbered years. Primary races may include the 4th and 5th Congressional Districts, US Senator, the 4th State Senate District, State Assembly Districts 12, 13, and 14, and county races for district attorney, county clerk, treasurer, and register of deeds.

Please visit the city's website at www.wauwatosa.net for additional election-related information, or call the City Clerk's office at 479-8921 or 479-8917.

Voting Reminders

Voters are now required to present a valid photo ID at the polls and sign the poll list before receiving their ballots. For more information, see the city's website, www.wauwatosa.net, and click on the *Elections/Voting* button.

Voter registration and in-person absentee voting at the Clerk's office is no longer permitted the day before an election. Registration and in-person absentee voting ends at 5 p.m. the Friday prior. Please call the City Clerk's office at 479-8921 with questions.

Poll Workers Needed

Wauwatosa residents interested in working at the polls on Election Day are asked to call the City Clerk's office at 479-8919. The day-long shifts begin as early as 6:15 a.m. and may last until 9:00 p.m. Pay is \$100 for working at the polls on Election Day and \$10 for attending mandatory training prior to an election.

You must be a US citizen and able to work with a variety of people in a team atmosphere. Good handwriting, vision, hearing, and attention to detail are a plus. This is an important civic activity – poll workers are an important part of the conduct of open, accurate, and fair elections. When calling, please be prepared to leave your name, address, phone number, and political affiliation, if any.

Changes in Voting Locations

Beginning with the April 3rd Spring Election, electors in Ward 1 will be voting at Fire Station #1, 1601 Underwood Avenue, on a permanent basis. (The previous location was Wauwatosa East High School).

Electors in Ward 20 are also at a permanent new voting location, having moved from the Fisher Building to the Public Works Building, 11100 W. Walnut Road, beginning with the February 21st Primary.

Holiday Collections

Garbage will not be picked up on Good Friday, April 6, 2012. That Friday's garbage collection will be made on Thursday, April 5. Recycling collection will be made on Good Friday, April 6. There will be no garbage or recycling collection on Memorial Day, May 28. That Monday's collection will be done on Tuesday, May 29.

CITY OF WAUWATOSA NEWSLETTER

FAX: 471-8989

ELECTED OFFICIALS DIRECTORY

TTY: 471-8484

Mayor Eric Meaux Phone: 479-8915
Richard Baker, Municipal Judge Phone: 471-8488

First District

Peter Donegan 259-8973
Linda Nikceovich 326-6436

Second District

Eric B. Meaux 258-1407
Kathleen Causier 771-0123

Third District

Tim Hanson 617-2950
Jacqueline S. Jay 403-0838

Fourth District

Dennis McBride 258-4574
Jill Organ 302-9098

Fifth District

Michael Walsh 477-2830
Bobby Pantuso 736-5700

Sixth District

Brian Ewerdt 915-7379
Jeffrey Roznowski 258-0633

Seventh District

Cheryl Berdan 550-0184
Donald F. Birschel 476-5971

Eighth District

Jason G. Wilke 527-1146
Craig Wilson 745-5188

Library Hours



Monday through Thursday, 9 AM-9 PM
Friday and Saturday, 9 AM-5 PM
Sunday, 1 PM—4 PM through May 1
except as noted below.

Closed on April 6 and 8, May 26—28.

Overdue fines, renewals (414) 471-8484
Reference and adult services (414) 471-8485
Children's services (414) 471-8486
Administration (414) 471-8487

Email: library@wauwatosalibrary.org

Website: wauwatosalibrary.org

For Children

STAMP COLLECTORS WORKSHOP presented by the Wauwatosa Philatelic Society for students in K5 through 8th grades; Friday, March 2 from 3:45 – 4:30pm; held in the Firefly Room. *Register in person or by phone with a valid library card: 414-471-8486.*

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART SHOW on display in the Children's Library from Tuesday, April 3 – Wednesday, April 25.

RHYME TIME for newborns through 3 year-olds with adults and siblings begins on Wed/Thurs, April 11/12 through April 25/26....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. *No registration required.*

MAD HOT BALLROOM & TAP DANCING will be presented by Roosevelt Elementary School in the Civic Center Auditorium on Thursday, May 3 from 4:00 – 4:30pm. For all ages -- everyone welcome.

PAROCHIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART SHOW on display in the Children's Library from Tuesday, May 8 – Thursday, March 24.

For Adults

WAUWATOSA PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

April 19th 11:30 am to 1:15 pm. Keynote speaker is James Bradley, bestselling author of *Flags of Our Fathers*, *Flyboys* and *The Imperial Cruise*.

For more information go to wauwatosalibrary.org or call the Library at 471-8487.

FLORENTINE OPERA INSIGHTS

Join us for excerpts from Mozart's Idomeneo and information about the opera, with performances by members of the Florentine Opera on Saturday, April 21st at noon.

SPRING BOOK SALE

Thousands of books, CDs, DVDs, etc. at remarkably low prices!

Saturday, April 28th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday April 29th, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Disposal of Electronics – “E-Waste”

Computers, televisions, and all peripheral devices must be recycled. By State Law they cannot be put in the garbage and taken to a landfill. In Wauwatosa you can take these items to Goodwill, 12121 W. Feerick St. Some retailers also take electronics for recycling – check with your favorite retailer.

For more information go to: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/ecycle/Documents/collectionsitesbycounty.pdf>

Memorial Day

Sixth through Eight grade students may submit an essay titled “What Memorial Day Means to Me” that will be judged by the Memorial Day Program. Essays have to be submitted by Saturday, May 5th. For more information, please see the Civic Celebration Commission page on the City website.



Health Department News

Remodeling? Beware of Lead!

Since most Wauwatosa homes contain lead-based paint, it is important to check for the presence of lead in paint before starting. Lead poisoning can cause reduced intelligence, hearing, kidney function and motor control. Children under age six are especially susceptible to being lead poisoned by small amounts of lead paint dust or debris. Annually, approximately 30 lead-poisoned Wauwatosa children are followed by the health department. It is important to practice safe methods to contain lead paint dust and debris when disturbing old paint and remodeling. A Wauwatosa survey found that the majority of area contractors surveyed were NOT lead certified; upon creation of a lead hazard, most contractors would only notify the homeowners, leaving you responsible for the clean-up. It is up to you as a homeowner to be aware of who is remodeling your home and what their knowledge is about lead hazards.

Call the Health Department at 479-8939 for more information and a free copy of the Environmental Protection Agency's *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*.

Critter Control

With warmer weather on its way we will soon see the return of our furry little friends. And like most friends, if they overstay their welcome they can become downright annoying. Wildlife need food, water and shelter in close proximity to consider a place a good home.

To prevent wildlife from taking over your backyard, you'll need to eliminate one of these three items:

Remove food sources: Make sure that garbage cans are in good condition and properly secured, pet food is stored in rodent proof containers and that birdfeeders are at least 2 feet off the ground.

Remove water sources: Make sure there are no standing puddles, upturned cans, or other water sources in your yard.

Remove shelter sources: Keep landscaping well maintained and away from building foundations to that unruly shrubs do not become perfect hiding places.

Your Thoughts on the Community's Health and Future Activities

The Wauwatosa Health Department is interested in hearing your thoughts on the health of our city and residents. The health department has completed a community-wide health assessment and would like to obtain feedback on priority health needs and future programming for our community. Refreshments will be provided.

Monday, May 14

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Wauwatosa Library Firefly Room
7635 W. North Avenue

Please call the Public Health Nurse line at 414-479-8939 to register.

Be a Responsible Pet Owner

City ordinance requires pet owners to periodically clean up animal excrement on their property. A pet walker is responsible for the animal's acts on public and private property. Pets must be on a leash that does not exceed 10 feet while being walked. A feces scoop or dog waste bags must be carried and used. It is illegal to discard feces in the street, sewer, or on property other than your own. Wrap the animal waste and place it in with your garbage.

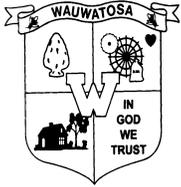
Yard Material Pick-up Begins

Yard Material collection at the curb and alley begins Monday, April 16 for the "D" week – which is opposite the "A" week of recycling pick-up. The "C" week of Yard Material collection begins Monday, April 23, opposite the "B" week of recycling pick-up.

The *January – June 2012 Guide for Recycling, Yard Materials, and Garbage* is available on line at www.wauwatosa.net. If you are not connected to the internet please call 471-8422 and ask for a paper copy to be sent out. Limited copies are available at the Library and City Clerk's Office.

Wauwatosa Distinguished Citizen

2012 Wauwatosa Distinguished Citizen is Denise Lindberg. The banquet will be held at the Blue Mound Golf and Country Club on Wednesday, April 25th. Reservations can be made at the Clerk's office in City Hall.



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



New Alarm Registration

The City has recently made changes to the alarm fee schedule that now requires residents and businesses to register their alarm system with the police department. Effective immediately, all homes and businesses with alarms will need to obtain an annual alarm registration. Registration is required for alarms connected to a service and non-serviced audible alarms. The registration fee is \$20.00 and requires the alarm owner to provide certain information with the police department. The information, such as the alarm company, authorized key holders and phone numbers, will be used by officers when they respond to an alarm. This information will allow officers to more easily contact the property owner in the event of an emergency. Another added benefit of the annual permit is that the key holder information will be updated on a yearly basis.

If you need to register your alarm, please contact the police department to obtain the registration form. You can also download the form from the city website, www.wauwatosa.net. Navigate to the police department's page and click on "Alarm Registration" under the quick links section.

Late registrations are subject to a \$50.00 late fee. Failure to register your alarm system with the City is a violation of 7.08.005, and you may be cited and fined. If you have any questions, please contact Sgt. Salvatore Alioto at (414) 471-8430, or via email at salioto@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.

Wisconsin *Move Over* Law

Any time people are working in a street or highway near traffic, drivers and workers are at risk. Being able to identify the emergency or work zones can save lives. Signs are flashing lights, utility or emergency vehicles, orange signs, flags, barrels and cones. And, of course, people.

To protect themselves and others, drivers need to slow down whenever they see flashing lights, or move over, if possible. In some construction areas lowered speed limits are posted and must be obeyed. To help safeguard law enforcement officers, emergency responders, road maintenance workers and others who work on the side of highways, Wisconsin has a *Move Over* law.

The *Move Over* law requires drivers to shift lanes or slow down in order to provide a safety zone for a squad car, ambulance, fire truck, tow truck or highway maintenance vehicle that is stopped on the side of the road with its warning lights flashing. Drivers have two options for creating a safety zone. If the road has more than one directional lane, like the Interstate, and you can switch lanes safely, you must move over to vacate the lane closest to the law enforcement or other vehicle with its lights flashing. If the road has a single directional lane or you can't safely move over, you must reduce your speed.

Your cooperation is needed to keep the roads safe.

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Legislation, Licensing, and Communication Committee: Alderman Don Birschel, Chairperson; Alderman Tim Hanson; Alderwoman Kathy Causier; Alderman Jeffrey Roznowski; Alderwoman Linda Nikceovich; Alderman Craig Wilson; Editor: A. Brown, Administration Dept., Telephone: (414) 479-8915



WAUWATOSA TO TRANSITION COLLECTION SERVICES JULY 2012



After careful consideration of many factors, economic and otherwise, garbage collection in the City of Wauwatosa will be transitioning to fully automated collection beginning in July 2012. Our City crews will continue to provide this service. This means that a garbage truck will pull up in front of your residence and by use of a mechanical arm system, pick up, dump and return your cart(s) to the same location. In order to facilitate this change, a 96-gallon wheeled cart will be delivered to your residence sometime in June.

What's driving the discussion?

The City's white garbage trucks, referred to as "garbage packers", have long passed their projected life of 7 to 12 years.

Additional factors that bring this issue to the forefront in 2012 include the availability, maintenance and costs to collect the garbage with 2 man crews; employee health and safety concerns; environmental impacts and landfill tipping fees; insurance and worker compensation expenses; and economic considerations and limitations.

Cost containment, service delivery and efficiency

Through a full financial analysis of the garbage collection services, the City determined it could save a substantial amount of money over the next 10 years by transitioning to automated collection. The analysis examined options including outsourcing the service, providing the same service as is conducted today, as well as a fully automated option. The conclusion was to transition to automated collection.

The City will be providing the carts, transitioning the service, and purchasing automated equipment. At the same time the 2012 budget calls for no increase in the property tax levy. This is the first of many steps which this transition in service will help to contain costs that were previously rising much faster than inflation. This transition is projected to save and contain costs by nearly \$2 million over ten years.

The transition continues to provide a quality service provided by our City crews. Special pick-ups for large, bulky items will still be available.

Automated collection system benefits

- Provide cost containment of City services for years to come;
- Reduce the fleet of collection equipment;
- Continue to provide high quality service by City crews;
- Create greater efficiency in the collection process;
- Enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the Village workforce.

Uncertain economic times

All of this occurs at a time of great economic uncertainty, declining municipal revenues, property tax limitations, and most importantly, uncertainty in the economic climate for each of you, your family, neighbors, and our community. The challenge we face as a community that we seek to address on a

daily basis is how to continue to provide the high-quality services at the lowest cost and with less resources. The automated collection program will continue to provide quality service by our City crews, be more environmentally conscious, and provide cost containment and service efficiency into the future.

Questions and contacts

We understand the transition and change will bring questions. We are here to help you with any concerns you may have or that may arise. Additional details and answers to some frequently asked questions are available on the City web site at www.wauwatosa.net and at City Hall. If these answers do not address your concern(s), please contact Elizabeth Hilt at the Department of Public Works at (414) 471-8423. We know this is a big change for our residents. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we go through this change in our collection process and contain the costs associated with providing service in our community.

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

Hart Park...

the heart and soul of Wauwatosa activities



Please join the Friends of Hart Park Foundation and the
Milwaukee Riverkeepers
for their
Spring Menomonee River Clean Up and Revitalization

Saturday, April 21st, 2012
9 a.m. – noon

Volunteers are needed to help plant native species and
clean along the Menomonee River at Hart Park.

Meet inside in the Muellner Building at Hart Park at 9 a.m.

We will supply bags.

Please bring gloves, shears, and any supplies that you think
will be beneficial for the clean up.

The Friends of Hart Park is a non-profit organization whose goal is to
promote the preservation of Hart Park. Please visit our web site at
www.ihartpark.com for further information about the Friends of Hart Park.

Please visit the Milwaukee Riverkeepers at
www.milwaukeekeeper.org to register.

Hart Park...

the heart and soul of Wauwatosa activities



Please join the Friends of Hart Park Foundation and the Milwaukee Riverkeepers for their Spring 2012 Menomonee River Clean-Up and Restoration.

The Friends of Hart Park is a non-profit organization whose goal is to promote the preservation of Hart Park. Please visit our web site at www.ihartpark.com for further information about The Friends of Hart Park.

The event will take place Saturday, April 21st, 2012 from 9am- noon. We are looking for volunteers to help with planting native plants and cleaning up along the Menomonee River at Hart Park.

We will be meeting inside the Muellner building at Hart Park at 9am.

We will be supplying bags. Please bring gloves, sheers and any supplies that you think will be beneficial for the clean-up.

Please visit the Milwaukee Riverkeepers at www.milwaukeekeeper.org to register.

Thanks for your consideration,

Patrick McNally
9646 West Palmetto Ave
Wauwatosa, WI 53222
patrick.mcnally82@gmail.com
773-315-6558 (cell)

Local power line proposal now under state regulatory review

Proposed routes include overhead, underground options for consideration by PSC

The proposal to improve electricity system reliability to support the growth in Western Milwaukee County now is under state regulatory review. The proposed Western Milwaukee County Electric Reliability project requires the review of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, which consists of a three-member board, appointed by the Governor, and a staff of experts.

American Transmission Co. submitted its application to the PSC in February requesting authorization to build two 2-mile transmission lines to serve a proposed We Energies substation. ATC's application includes both overhead and underground route options. We Energies also submitted an application to the PSC for permission to build a new substation in Wauwatosa near the Milwaukee County Power Plant at 93rd Street and Watertown Plank Road.

Under the PSC requirements, ATC must present at least two route alternatives for each transmission line it plans to construct. With the variations to the four general routes, there are several combinations for building two lines that also would meet the needs of the project.

ATC application is public information

The application is available on the PSC website: www.psc.wi.gov (Docket No. 5-CE-139). The PSC also provides copies of the application to the cities of Wauwatosa and Milwaukee, and to local public libraries. Additional project information is available at: www.atc-projects.com

"We looked at dozens of possible routes over the course of 15 months," said Pete Holtz, ATC routing and siting manager. "Our application includes both overhead and underground route options, and detailed information about 20 other route segments." In its application, ATC also included documentation supporting its decisions for eliminating certain corridors from consideration.

We Energies application outlines the need for the new substation to strengthen its distribution system serving the western Milwaukee County area. "Unless we reinforce the electric system, electric load growth will outpace the capabilities of our system by 2015," said Andrew Gumm, We Energies manager of project siting & approval.

Both utility applications will undergo a comprehensive review by the PSC this year that will include an evaluation of the need for the projects and an exhaustive analysis of the route alternatives presented by ATC.

The PSC will host technical hearings in Madison where engineers, economists, environmental specialists and others can testify about the technical aspects of the project. In addition, the PSC will hold public hearings in the project area, possibly Wauwatosa, to allow the public to voice their support or opposition to the project or routes.

The PSC makes the final decision to approve, modify or deny the project. If approved, PSC will select the routes and outline any conditions required during the implementation of the project. The PSC will decide if it is appropriate to place transmission lines underground.