



Wauwatosa

It's A Way Of Life

Winter 2019 Newsletter

Property Taxes: How and Where to Pay Them

You may pay the full amount of your property taxes as soon as you receive your tax bill, or you may pay in three installments (January 31, March 31, and May 31).

You can see your balance on the Wauwatosa Property Tax Web Portal. The portal is searchable by property address. In addition to balances, payment history, receipts and copies of original tax bills are all available electronically.

You can pay your tax bill:

- by mail
- on the city's website
- 24-hour deposit (near the employee entrance at City Hall)
- in person at the Treasurer's counter in City Hall

If you pay via escrow through your lender or bank, and they pay more money than is due on your tax bill, we will issue you a refund check mailed to you.

How is Development Planned and Approved?

The City of Wauwatosa is home to several distinct business and neighborhood districts. Adopted by the Common Council, a number of city plans guide decisions on economic development, recreation, place making and other city strategic goals.

The planning process for each of these is unique, but it always involves multiple stakeholders and opportunities for public input. Go to wauwatosa.net and search "city plans" to find these detailed documents that guide Wauwatosa development:

- Active Tosa - Park and Recreation Plan
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Plan
- Burleigh Triangle and Mayfair Road North Redevelopment Plan
- Burleigh Street Triangle Redevelopment Plan
- City of Wauwatosa Comprehensive Plan 2008-2030
- East Tosa: North Avenue Plan
- MidTown North Avenue Plan
- Milwaukee County Grounds Master Plan and Design Guidelines
- Redevelopment District No. 1
- Village Area Plan
- Wauwatosa Life Sciences District

Following news on wauwatosa.net, agendas on the Meeting Portal, and the city's social media are all good ways to stay informed on how you can participate in the development of future plans.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

- 3** Holiday Tree and Wreath Collection
- 4** Financial Snapshot: Where do my taxes go?
- 5** 2019 Construction: Where to expect it

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www.wauwatosa.net

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Mayor's Corner

Message from Mayor Kathleen Ehley

As one year ends and a new one begins, I'm reflecting on what a special place Wauwatosa is - and it's because of you. I work with many municipal leaders across the state and nation, and what I see here is a unique love, pride and participation in our community.

We have strong neighborhood associations (over 30) that connect for events like Halloween or take care of neighbors by snow plowing. We have great community-wide events, like the Holiday Tree Lighting, CP Holiday Train, Farmer's Market, Tosa Tonight concerts, and the Fourth of July Parade. Many of our favorite events are done by volunteers. We have so many opportunities to meet, mingle, learn and volunteer on your block, at school, at events, or at City Hall.

You make Tosa special because you care about where you live and contribute to a strong quality of life. I am grateful for the privilege of serving as your Mayor, and I thank you for making Wauwatosa so extraordinary. My resolution for the new year? Continuing to help you find ways to connect with each other and our city.

Radon Test Kits Available to Wauwatosa Residents



January is National Radon Action Month, and we want to equip you with resources you need to test your home and learn about the risk of radon.

Radon test kits will be available to Wauwatosa residents beginning January 1, 2019. The test kits cost \$10 (cash or check) and are available at the Wauwatosa Health Department within City Hall.

Radon is a radioactive gas caused by the breakdown of uranium in soil, rock, and water. Radon gets into the air you breathe and can cause lung cancer. You can't see, smell, or taste radon, but it may be a problem in your home.

Radon can be found in every zip code in Wauwatosa. The only way to know if you and your family are at risk is to test your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy – it should only take a few minutes of your time. Protect your family and test your home for radon.

For additional information visit wauwatosa.net/health or call (414) 479-8936.



* **Holiday Tree and Wreath Collection**

Real trees and wreaths that are clear of wrappings, wire, metal, nails and tree stands can be placed at the curb on regular collection days and will be chipped into mulch. Do not put trees in alleys. This is available the entire month of January.

* **Snow Emergencies and Plowing**

We plow 184 miles of public roads and 10 city-owned parking lots, public property sidewalks, bridges, and bus stops.

The best place to place your garbage carts is in the apron of your driveway. If you have an alley, keep a clear path at least 3.5 feet wide to your garbage/recycling storage area, so our equipment can access them. Don't place your carts on the street or sidewalks.

Parking is not allowed on city streets during snow emergencies. Vehicles will be ticketed.

* **2019's Trash and Collection Schedule**

Go to wauwatosa.net and scroll down to the "My Wauwatosa" tool. Type in your address to see your garbage and recycling schedule. A pdf of the full calendar year is also available online.

* **School Facilities Improvement: Participate in the Design**

The Wauwatosa School District has hosted two design meetings at which the architect of the project led community planning for Lincoln and Underwood Elementary Schools. These are the first two schools scheduled for reconstruction. At the final meetings on January 16 and 17, respectively for the two schools, the architect will present a design to the neighborhood. Neighbors will break into groups to provide feedback.

* **Wauwatosa Resident Guide Available Online**

In early 2019 you can find a digital version of a "Resident Guide" at wauwatosa.net. It features an A-Z listing of city services, directory listing of department contacts, and information about our businesses and neighborhoods.



Health Equity for All

We strive to offer a variety of health services to all those that encounter Wauwatosa on a daily basis to make the community a healthier and safer place for all. To meet this goal we offer:

- Growth & development screenings, home safety visits, and newborn weight checks to all families of newborns in Wauwatosa
- Adult health clinics 4 times a month in 3 locations for all adults over 18 years of age
- Public health nurse follow-up for all reported cases of elevated blood lead levels greater than 5 mcg/dl of Wauwatosa children
- Free water testing for all Wauwatosa families with children under the age of 5, or families with a pregnant mother, one time every 5 years
- Free medical sharps collection for individuals that work or live in Wauwatosa
- Fire and fall prevention program offering free home visits to all residents, regardless of income (joint program with our Fire Department)
- Free communication card program to assist interactions between police officers, emergency personnel and those who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (joint program with our Police Department)
- Project Lifesaver program to protect and quickly locate individuals with cognitive conditions (joint program with our Police Department)



New Medical Sharps Collection Program

In our ongoing efforts to prevent injury and illness in the community, the Health Department will begin a free medical sharps collection program on January 2, 2019.

Individuals that live or work in Wauwatosa may bring approved red, hard plastic, sharps containers to the Health Department from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Mondays through Fridays for proper disposal. The Health Department also has new sharps containers for \$7.

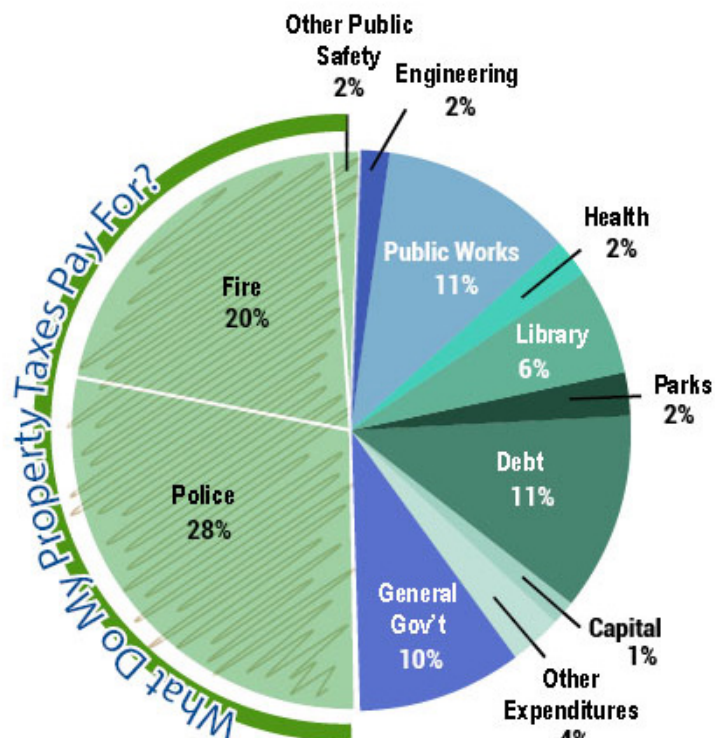
Financial Snapshot of Wauwatosa

A city's budget is a comprehensive document. The full document is online as well as links to our discussions about the budget that occur over several months.

If you're looking for an overview, read the Financial Snapshot. In this brief document, you can get a general sense of the city's financial past and future. In this year's financial snapshot, you'll learn about:

- Budget highlights for 2019
- Where your property tax dollars are spent and how we compare to similar municipalities
- Energy efficiency in city buildings
- Balancing infrastructure maintenance and city debt levels

View the Financial Snapshot online: wauwatosa.net



CITY OF WAUWATOSA

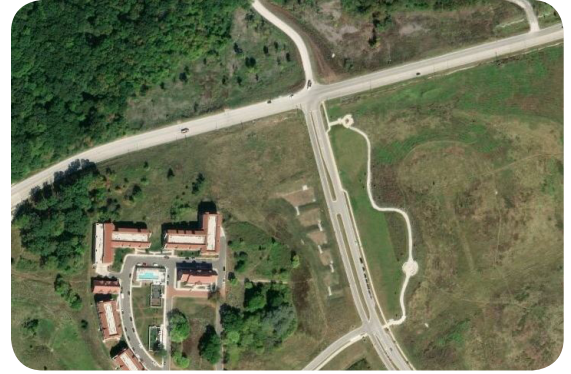
Construction & Development News



Repave Swan Blvd and Roundabout Construction

This is a joint project with the Department of Transportation to reconstruct Swan Blvd from I-41 to the bridge over the basins.

Part of this project includes the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Swan Blvd and Discovery Parkway. Sidewalks or multiuse trails will be added on either side of Swan Blvd, contributing to our goal of making Wauwatosa streets friendly to all modes of transportation.



1.9 Miles of Paving Streets

Every year our engineers drive every street in Wauwatosa and assign it a grade. Based on their assessments, we plan to repave or reconstruct our streets. We are repaving and/or reconstructing 1.91 miles in 2019, including part of Swan Park neighborhood and Green Alley construction.



Street Light Conversion

We are replacing existing street light fixtures and deteriorated poles with LED fixtures and new poles. The energy savings will more than offset the cost of the program. In 2019, we are replacing over 500 light fixtures (not poles), beginning in areas with lights that offer a high return on investment. This project could take a handful of years to get through the entire city.



Sign up for Construction News

Do you want to stay connected with what is going on in Wauwatosa? We offer several options for email lists. Log on to wauwatosa.net/construction for more information.



Ambulance Equipment Upgrade

In an ambulance, patient care is top priority. The Wauwatosa Fire Department consistently asks how else we can optimize this care. Recently, they received grant funding to purchase an automated chest compression system.

This new technology delivers high quality and consistent chest compressions. There is no longer a need for switching CPR providers every few minutes, and it buys time for responders to make decisions.

There are times that emergency responders have had to manually administer CPR for over an hour. This machine decreases manual fatigue and mental stress of the provider and improves the efficiency of the chest compressions. Research about this device has shown an increase in blood flow to the brain and heart compared to manual CPR.

We've also invested in related technology that protects our responders as they treat patients:

- One new ambulance is equipped with an automatic loading cot. Prior to this equipment, responders would team up to lift a cot with a patient on it. The new cot protects responders from that physical strain.
- A simple but useful technology, harnesses inside the ambulance (see photo above) keep responders secure as they deliver medical care.

"We're on the cutting edge of therapies available. We want to provide the highest level of care by training on this new technology."

Chris Sandoval
Division Chief – EMS
TEMS Team Leader

Save the Date!

January 15 * 6 pm
Design Presentation at Lincoln Elementary

January 16 * 6 pm
Design Presentation at Underwood Elementary

January 16 * 6:30 pm
Neighborhood Association Council Meeting at the Library

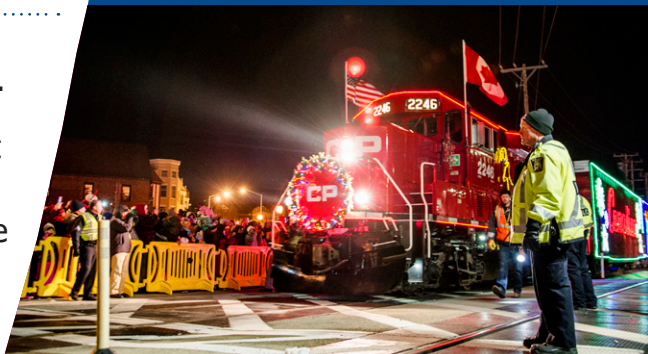
January 17 * 4:30 - 7 pm
Chamber of Commerce Community Showcase and Social

January 23 * 9:30 - 10:00 am
Story Time - Year of the Pig at the Library

February 2 *
Tosa Education Foundation Black & White Dinner and Auction

February 8 * 2:30 - 4 pm
Homeschool Book Club at the Library

March 19 * 10 am
Lucky Leprechaun 7K



Ways to Engage

ONLINE: Visit us at www.wauwatosa.net

IN PERSON: Visit us Monday-Friday, from 8 am - 4:30 pm at City Hall
7725 W. North Avenue | Wauwatosa, WI 53213

BY PHONE: Call us at (414) 479-8900

BY SOCIAL MEDIA:

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