



# Wauwatosa

## It's A Way Of Life

Fall 2020 Newsletter



### Fall Leaf Collection

We pick up leaves and soft plant material (including pumpkins) at the curb for all residential properties in Wauwatosa.

You may begin raking leaves out to the street as early as Monday, October 12, 2020. You may continue to rake leaves out to the street until Sunday, November 22, 2020.

Sometimes we extend the final rake out date if weather permits. We would share this on our website and on social media.

During leaf collection we make three passes through the City with one final collection occurring after the final rake out deadline.

You can see your scheduled leaf collection by searching for "fall leaf collection" on [wauwatosa.net](http://wauwatosa.net).

### A Focus on Equity: Making Wauwatosa More Inclusive

City staff gave a presentation about the ways in which all city departments are building an equity focus into city operations.

Highlights include:

- Purchasing - how the city will track and evaluate its spending with women-owned businesses, minority-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses, businesses owned by members of the LGBTQ community
- A study of equity and policing including an analysis of recruitment strategy related to the police department, a review of police department policies for equity with a focus on use of force procedures, and an assessment of training practices
- Revise the city's economic development policy with an equity lens and propose creating an affordable housing fund



The Zeidler Group leads a facilitated group discussion about making Wauwatosa a more inclusive place.

View the video and pdf presentation on the Meeting Portal: [wauwatosa.net/MeetingPortal](http://wauwatosa.net/MeetingPortal)

Some of the topics discussed were developed in partnership with committees or community groups, such as the Equity and Inclusion Commission and the Ad Hoc Committee.

Looking to follow or contribute to these topics? View the "Making Wauwatosa a More Inclusive Place" webpage with progress of our initiatives, dates of when city meetings discuss various equity topics.

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[www.wauwatosa.net](http://www.wauwatosa.net)

# City of Wauwatosa Elected Officials

## MAYOR

Dennis McBride  
mayor@wauwatosa.net  
(414) 479-8915

## DISTRICT 1

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Matt Stippich  
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## DISTRICT 2

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(414) 771-0123  
John Dubinski  
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(414) 708-9978

## DISTRICT 3

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## DISTRICT 4

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## DISTRICT 5

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(414) 255-4565  
Joel Tilleson  
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## DISTRICT 6

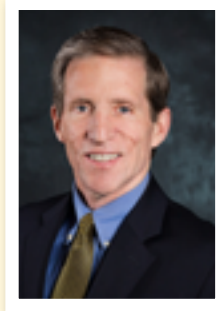
Allison L. Byrne  
abyrne@wauwatosa.net  
(414) 531-2862  
Meagan O'Reilly  
moreilly@wauwatosa.net  
(414) 465-8330

## DISTRICT 7

Mike Morgan  
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Jason Kofroth  
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## DISTRICT 8

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Craig Wilson  
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## Mayor's Corner

### Message from Mayor Dennis McBride

Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisholm will soon announce whether he will charge Wauwatosa Police Officer Joseph Mensah with a crime for shooting Alvin Cole while on duty on February 2, 2020. For months, the Wauwatosa Police Department has been preparing for that announcement. It will protect the lives and property of all residents and businesses while continuing to protect the constitutional rights of people to engage in peaceful protests.

Whatever decision the District Attorney makes, we all must keep our community peaceful. Recent events in Kenosha and elsewhere have made it clear that violence only brings more pain and despair.

Some will agree with the District Attorney and others will not. But it is important to remember that the wheels of government and law will continue to turn. In a democracy, any change must come through representatives elected by the people to serve the people. We all must respect democracy and keep each other safe.

## What is Early Voting?

Early voting is also known as in-person absentee voting.

Any qualified elector (U.S. citizen, 18 years of age, who has resided in the district in which he or she intends to vote for at least 28 days) who registers to vote is eligible to request an absentee ballot. Under Wisconsin law, voters do not need a reason or excuse, such as being out of town on Election Day, to vote absentee. Any voter who prefers to vote by absentee ballot may request one.

We will have in-person absentee voting at City Hall between October 20 - October 30, 2020.

- Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
- Tuesdays, Thursdays, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Friday, October 30, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

You will need to show your acceptable photo ID for voting when voting by in-person absentee ballot. More information about acceptable photo IDs can be found at [www.bringit.wi.gov](http://www.bringit.wi.gov).





# CITY OF WAUWATOSA News in Brief

## \* Upcoming Housing Proposals Including Senior Housing

At time of publication of this article, there are six housing projects in development or under construction in Wauwatosa – two of which include family affordable housing and senior affordable housing. Search [wauwatosa.net](http://wauwatosa.net) for information about River Parkway Apartments, 2515 Wauwatosa Avenue, St. Camillus Expansion, Crescent Apartments, Walnut Glen, and Blue Mound & Mayfair.

## \* COVID-19 Dashboard with Wauwatosa Data

The Wauwatosa Health Department developed an online dashboard that we update three times a week with data related to COVID-19 in Wauwatosa. The dashboard includes case numbers and then further breaks them down by age, race, ethnicity, and gender. Go to [wauwatosa.net/health](http://wauwatosa.net/health) to see the dashboard.

## \* Mask Up, Tosa

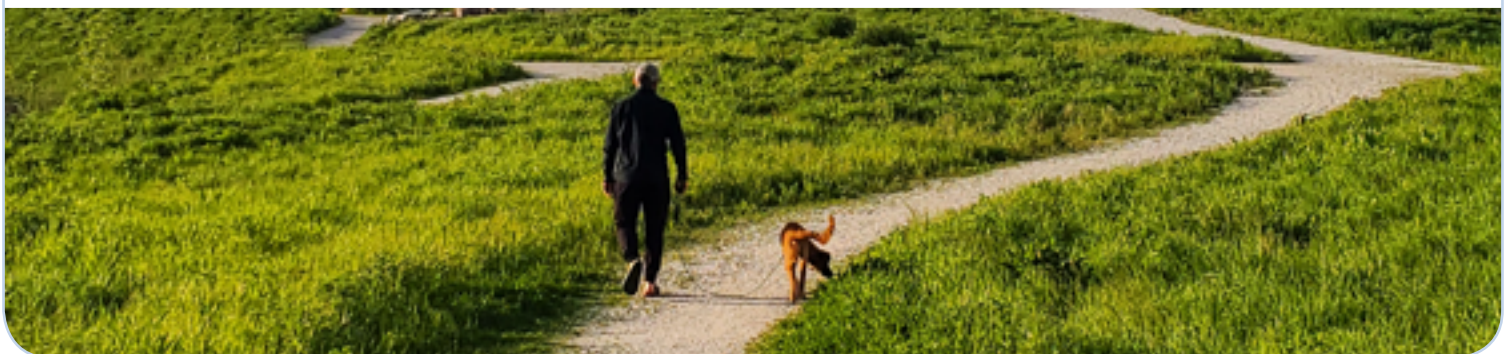
Governor Evers issued a statewide mask requirement which currently goes through November 21, 2020. Wauwatosa has a local ordinance related to wearing masks that goes through January 31, 2021. We appreciate everyone's efforts in wearing a mask to stop the spread of COVID-19.

## \* New Online Water Bill Payment System Launching Soon

In an effort to enhance customer service, we are excited to share that our Citizen Self Service Portal for tasks related to water utility bills is launching soon. You will be able to sign up for automatic payments, make payments without a convenience fee online, sign up to have your water bill emailed to you, and watch your water usage. Go to [wauwatosa.net/waterbill](http://wauwatosa.net/waterbill) to create your account.

## \* Halloween Advice from the Health Department

Our Wauwatosa Health Department is advising against any parties or gatherings, However, trick-or-treating can be done in a safer way, such as encouraging distancing to the extent possible. Consider holding a virtual costume party. Increase what you do at home to celebrate, such as baking treats or watching scary movies with your family. If your neighborhood hosts trick-or-treating, do it more safely by leaving individual grab bags or paper cups outside your door.



# Fall Prevention: Keep Your Home Safe

Falls are a major cause of injury in all ages of the U.S. population, but a particular burden in older persons. One-third of people over the age of 65 years will fall every year.

A percentage of these falls are serious enough to require hospitalization. However, falls aren't something that just happens when you age, there are proven ways to reduce falls.

- Talk to your doctor and have them evaluate your risk for falling and specific things you can do to prevent falls.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist to review your medicines to see if any might make you dizzy or sleepy.
- Make your home safer by getting rid of things you could trip over. This could be low coffee tables, area rugs, or items on the floor.

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## Voting Information

### Requesting an absentee ballot

There are a few ways to request an absentee ballot, and the easiest way is online at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov). You'll need a valid ID (not a selfie), as well as your name, birthdate, home address, and contact information. The last day we can mail an absentee ballot to a registered voter is the Thursday before an election.

### Return an absentee ballot

You can mail your absentee ballot to us. You can also drop off your ballot at our "Ballot Drop Off" boxes located at City Hall (7725 W North Avenue) and Hart Park's Muellner Building (7300 W Chestnut Ave). The drop boxes will be emptied out routinely. All you need to do is drive up and drop your signed and witnessed ballot off, similar to how you may drive up and drop off mail at a post box.

### Early voting

We will have early voting at City Hall between October 20 - October 30, 2020. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm and Tuesdays, Thursdays, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm.

### Checking your voter history

All ballots, both at the polls and absentee ballots are put into tabulators on Election Day. After that, Wauwatosa provides totals to Milwaukee County. Our clerks enter Election Day voter registrations and scan the poll books for each person that voted - a reconciliation process that takes place for 30 days following an election. Once this is closed, then voter participation records are current and complete. This means that it will take at least 30 days after an election for your voter record on [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov) to be updated. You can view your past participation in elections at that time.

### Verify your polling location

Due to COVID-19, we've consolidated a few locations into larger spaces, so that our poll workers and voters can appropriately practice physical distancing. Check your polling location at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov).



## Customer Service

Do you want to report an issue to us - like a pothole, a property maintenance problem, or a streetlight that isn't working?

Go to [wauwatosa.net/service](http://wauwatosa.net/service) to tell us about a city issue.

Do you prefer to talk to someone? You can do that too. Call us at (414) 479-8900 and we will get you connected with the right staff member to help you.



# CITY OF WAUWATOSA

## Construction & Development News



### Zoo Interchange - North Avenue and Burleigh

The North Leg is the final segment to complete the Zoo Interchange. This 1.7-mile reconstruction project will expand I-41 to eight lanes from Swan Boulevard to Burleigh Street in the City of Wauwatosa. It includes some of the busiest freeway sections in the state. The project includes new bridges at Mayfair Road, North Avenue, Meinecke Street and a new bridge for the Union Pacific Railroad. The design also calls for several retaining walls and noise walls along the interstate corridor.



The North leg will be under construction for about three years, with the more significant work starting early 2021. This fall 2020 there will be some utility work (with Mayfair Rd area impacts) and a stormwater pond in the ramp in the northeast quadrant of the North Avenue Interchange.

### Ludington Avenue (between North and Milwaukee Avenues)

Our contractors will be spot repairing various utilities under the street and replacing curb and sidewalk at intersections on Ludington Avenue. The contractor started this work in Fall 2020 after Wauwatosa Avenue reopens. The street will be reopened prior to winter, but there may be additional work in 2021 that will need to be completed.



### Swan Blvd. Closure

Swan Blvd. (between Stickney and Menomonee River Parkway) will be closed through mid-October, weather-dependent. Our contractor will mill and pave and replace curb on Swan Blvd.

You can preview the next five years of planned construction in your area: [wauwatosa.net/maps](http://wauwatosa.net/maps)



### 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](http://wauwatosa.net/construction) for more information.



## Hart Park Senior Center Receives Green Bay Packers Foundation Grant

The Hart Park Senior Center operated by the Wauwatosa Recreation Department, has received a grant from the Green Bay Packers Foundation. The grant is designated for our program, "Kicking-Off Technology With Wauwatosa's Seniors."

The grant will enable us to purchase laptops and provide instruction free of charge to our senior members as well as access to the internet. During the pandemic we witnessed seniors who suddenly became even more isolated from our technology-driven society. Seniors who had previously functioned without technology suddenly found themselves being referred to the internet to fulfill their basic life needs such as grocery shop, request an absentee ballot, fill out the Census 2020, pay bills and even attend doctor's appointments in addition to the often catastrophic loneliness of being separated from friends and family.

The disconnectedness our seniors faced has been both dehumanizing and devastating in consequence. The senior center will now play an integral role in filling that gap for the seniors in our community. We are very grateful to the Green Bay Packers Foundation Trustees and their recognition that serving the elderly needs to be a priority in 2020.

Note: the photo was taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The senior center is taking public health precautions in all programming or appointments.

## Waste Wizard: How to Recycle Properly

Not sure how to properly dispose of something? You can use our new Waste Wizard web tool to find out if a material can be reused, recycled, composted or disposed.

Simply type the name of a waste material to get started. You can learn how to recycle or dispose of materials ranging from aluminum foil, plastic materials, hazardous waste, styrofoam and more.

You can even submit suggestions for objects you did not find.

Go to [wauwatosa.net/wizard](http://wauwatosa.net/wizard)



## ➔ Ways to Engage

ONLINE: Visit us at [www.wauwatosa.net](http://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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