



Town of Middleton

Fall 2008 Newsletter • Volume 10 • Issue 4

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE TOWN?

Sign up to receive news updates on meetings at the Town of Middleton website at www.town.middleton.wi.us.

All Town meetings are open to the public, except those specifically noted as closed sessions under State Statutes. Meeting notices are sent to the *Middleton Times-Tribune* and posted at the Town Hall, Voss Park, and Settlers Prairie Park.

Office hours are Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m.–4p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m.–noon.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov. 2 – 2:00 a.m. Fall Back One Hour for Daylight Savings

Nov. 3 – Last Week for Branch Pickup

Nov. 4 – ELECTION!

Nov. 12 – Public Hearing on Budget

Nov. 27, 28 – Town Office Closed

Dec. 24, 25 – Town Office Closed

TOWN OF MIDDLETON
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FIRE STATION OPEN

By Aaron Harris,
Chief, Middleton Fire District

Construction of Middleton Fire District's Station #2 along Pioneer Road, just south of the Town Hall, is completed. Over the next month and a half, Town residents will see the facility come to life as fire apparatus and firefighters assigned to the new firehouse move and settle into their new home. Station #2 will house Engine 2, Tanker 2, and Car 2, which is a rapid response command vehicle. The highly trained men and women who are firefighters, fireground rehab team members, and fire core personnel assigned to this station are looking forward to getting settled in. Station #2 equipment and personnel not only respond to emergency incidents in the Town of Middleton, they help support Station #1 in protecting the over 28,000 residents and structures located within the Middleton Fire District.

Both Station #1 and Station #2 continue to be professionally staffed by volunteers. The 70 plus volunteers of the MIFD would like to thank the residents of the Fire District for their continued support and assistance in bringing this project to fruition. They would also like to invite everyone to the Station #2 open house to be held on **Sunday, November 9**. Firehouse tours and fire truck rides are scheduled and more details will follow in weeks to come.

Stay United and Safe!

GYPSY MOTH EGG MASSES



As fall comes and the leaves fall, Gypsy Moth egg masses become visible. The Town is starting to see an increase in Gypsy Moths not only in the Pope Farm area but also on the edge of

Goth Park and the Evergreen Road area. We need everybody's help to slow this invasion. The moths are gone, but the egg masses will remain until they hatch in the spring. The egg masses are tear drop shaped, about 1.5" long, and golden in color. They are often found on the undersides of branches, rough surfaces and human-made objects. Their tree or food of choice is the oak so if you have oaks in your yard, check them carefully.

If you see anything that you think could be an egg mass, contact Burr Fraser, Town Park Ranger, who will come and investigate.

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

By Sara Ludtke,
Deputy Clerk



The General Election is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 4, 2008**. If you need to register to vote for the upcoming election, visit www.elections.state.wi.us.

The website will give you more information on registration requirements and also give you the ability to download mail-in voter registration forms. You may also pick up your mail-in voter registration forms at the Town Hall located at 7555 W. Old Sauk Road. Please note that mail-in voter registration must be postmarked at least 20 days prior to an election. After October 15, 2008, all new voter registrations must be made in person at the Town Hall. If you have any questions about voter registration, please contact Sara Ludtke, Deputy Clerk at 833-5887.

The Town will collect non-perishable food items for local food pantries. Collection barrels will be provided at the Town Hall on Election Day.

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MAINTENANCE/CLEAN-UP INFORMATION

YARD WASTE DISPOSAL AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN HALL

This year the Town continues its yard waste drop-off program. A 20-yard dumpster is located at the Pioneer Road entrance to the Town Garage (behind the Town Hall) for disposal of yard waste. No woody materials, containers or bags (except for those designed to be composted) should be placed in the dumpster. If you have stumps or landscape stones to dispose of, you may place them by the sign outside the dumpster. To keep taxes down, this dumpster is available for Town Residents only.

Alternatively, you may wish to compost yard waste on-site or take it to a compost site. Dane County maintains compost sites at the old Dane County-Verona Landfill adjacent to the Badger Prairie Center, and the Westport Site at 5254 State Highway 19. For more information regarding composting call 266-4139. If you have noxious weeds to dispose of, please put them in a bag labeled "Invasive Plants—Please Landfill;" then put the bag in your trash.

In the past, some users have abused the limits of what is to be placed in the dumpsters; please limit any materials dropped off at the Town Garage to grass clippings, leaves and non-woody material.

CHIP MULCH AVAILABLE FOR DELIVERY

If you would like a load of mulch from the Town's chipper, we will deliver them FREE to your residence. These chips are not the same quality material as the shredded bark you buy commercially but do make a good base. Please call the Town Hall at 833-5887 to make arrangements for delivery.

SNOWPLOWS AND MAILBOXES

We at the Town Hall receive complaints during winter regarding damage to mailboxes. Unfortunately, some mailboxes get knocked over while snow plowing. Most of these are not hit by the plow; they are pushed over by the force of the snow coming off of the plow. We make every effort to avoid this, but sometimes it is unavoidable. If your mailbox gets damaged and you think it was from the plow hitting it, call the Town Inspector, Fred Hankel (office: 833-4346, cell: 843-8996). Fred will determine the cause. If it is determined the plow hit it, we will try to make repairs, replace it or pay up to \$50.00 towards replacement costs.

PROPER DISPOSAL OF LATEX PAINT

Because latex paint is relatively non-toxic, it can be placed in the garbage if it is properly solidified as long as you do the following:

First check to make sure it is latex paint - look on the label for "latex," "rubber," or directions to clean up or thin with water. Oil-based or combustible paints and stains left over from home projects, whether liquid or solid, should be taken to the Dane County Clean Sweep Facility at 2302 Fish Hatchery Road for proper disposal.

Three methods to solidify latex paint are:

1. Remove the lid and let the paint dry out in the can; protect from freezing and rain as well as curious children and animals. This only works when an inch or less of paint is left in the can and is most effective in warmer months.

2. Mix latex paint with an equal amount of cat litter, stir in completely and allow to dry.

3. Mix latex paint with a latex paint hardener; stir and allow to harden. Paint hardener can be purchased at your local hardware store. Follow the directions on the package.

Once the latex paint has hardened or solidified, it can be trashed. However, make sure the lids are off when you place them in your trash cart.

For more information, or if you have any questions, please call the Dane County Clean Sweep Facility at 243-0368 or Green Valley Disposal at 251-7878.



BRANCH PICKUP CONTINUES THROUGH THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3

Residential Tree Branch Pickup—The Town picks up and chips branches generated by residents pruning their trees. The Town will not pick up branches from tree services, from the development of residential lots or from businesses, farms or forest management. Tree branches will continue to be picked up on the first and third Mondays of each month through the week of November 3rd.

Place armload-size bunches of branches (any length) at the edge of the road with the trunk ends facing the road in small spread-out piles. If you have very small branches and twigs, you can place them in a bucket at the edge of the road or a brown paper bag.

Please, woody branches only; no garden plants, weeds, cornstalks, etc. These items can continue to be dropped off at the Town Garage dumpster until December 1, 2008.

Not Acceptable:

- » Root balls and brush mixed with soil
- » Vines, leaf piles or weeds
- » Shrubs or rocks
- » Anything not listed as acceptable

BRUSH PICKUP CAN NOT BE SCHEDULED.

BURNING PERMITS—NO LONGER ISSUED

The Town and Fire District no longer require you to obtain a permit before performing a burn. There are, however, new regulations on burning. There are limitations on most burns as far as time of day and size. The biggest change is that leaves may not be burned on Saturdays,

Sundays and Federal Holidays: an exception is made for the first and third Saturdays in October, November and December. Leaves may only be burned after 8:00 a.m. and must be fully extinguished by 3:30 p.m. In addition, leaves may not be burned if the wind speed is greater than 15 MPH. There are other regulations which apply to other burning. Please check the website or call us if you have questions.

WEEDS

By Fred Hankel, Town Inspector

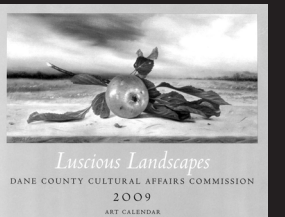
Don't feel like you are being picked on. The Town has issued more than 125 weed notices this summer in an effort to try and help control the noxious weeds.

We appreciate all the help you have given the Town after being notified by mowing, spraying and pulling the weeds on your lot. It is always better to eliminate the weeds before they go to seed to help slow down next year's crop. If you have any questions about which weeds are noxious, you can go to the Town's website where we have a list of the noxious weeds and grasses and links to help you identify them.

Thanks for your help.

CALENDARS

The Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission's 2009 Calendar "Luscious Landscapes" is now available at the Town Hall. The price is \$7.50 (includes tax). We take cash or check but not credit cards.



TOWN OFFICIALS

Milo Breunig – Chair
Gary Whitney – Supervisor #1
Bill Kolar – Supervisor #2
Howard Licht – Supervisor #3
Richard Oberle – Supervisor #4

The Town Board meets on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

PLAN COMMISSION

Seve Tumbush – Chair
Timothy Roehl
Cathy Garfoot
Denise Schmidt
Paul Bartleson

Mike Lawrence
Mike Stoetzel

The Plan Commission meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

PARKS COMMISSION

John Neumann – Chair
Stan Lebow
Mel Pope
Dan McLain
Kary Beck
Pete Macho
Chad Halverson

The Parks Commission meets on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

TOWN PERSONNEL 833-5887

David Shaw – Town Administrator
Sara Ludtke – Deputy Clerk
Patti Keichinger – Deputy Treasurer
Fred Hankel – Town Inspector
Wendy Strang – Receptionist
Jerry Wagner – Lead Town Crewman
Tim Reinmann – Town Crewman
Randy Starr – Town Crewman
Burr Fraser – Park Ranger
Rod Zubella – Town Engineer
Tom Voss – Town Attorney
Deputy Dave Cattanach
Deputy Mike Mohr