



Town of Middleton

Winter Newsletter

Volume 19 Issue 1
January 2008

Spring Election:

The Spring Primary / Presidential Preference Election will be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 and the Spring Election will be held on April 1, 2008. The positions to be decided by the Spring Election are Town Board Supervisor Seats #3 & #4. Frank Acker, incumbent Seat #3, is not seeking re-election. Howard Licht is running for that position. Bill Kolar, Plan Commission Chair, is running against Richard Oberle, incumbent, for Seat #4.

Annual Meeting:

The annual meeting for the Town of Middleton will be held on April 8, 2008 at 7 p.m. Any elector may introduce a topic for discussion. All residents are encouraged to attend.

Open Book / Board of Review:

After the assessor completes the assessment roll, the tax roll is available for examination. This is know as "Open Book" and is an opportunity for you, the taxpayers, to review your assessment and compare it to others. If you have questions about your assessment, you may schedule an appointment and discuss it with the assessor in an informal setting.

If you are not satisfied with outcome of these discussions, you may appeal to the Board of Review which is comprised of the Town Board. The Board of Review is scheduled for May 15th but may be postponed. You will need to tell the Clerk if you intend to appear.

If you subscribe to the Town emails, you will receive notices for both the Open Book and Board of Review. You may also watch for notices in the *Middleton Times-Tribune* and the Town's website.

Tax Payments:

Many of you have already paid your taxes by December 31st in order for your tax payment to be deductible for your 2007 federal and state income taxes. The early payment of your tax bills are appreciated by the Town.

The actual deadline for your first installment of your property taxes due to the Town of Middleton is January 31, 2008.

For those of you that have not yet paid please remember that you may mail your payments in the envelope provided with your Tax Bill. The payment will be considered timely as long as it is **postmarked** by January 31, 2008.

Second installment tax payments are due July 31, 2008 and are payable to the County Treasurer. Please contact the Town Hall if you have any questions at 833-5887.

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Holiday Tree, Trash and Recycle Pickup

If your **Holiday Tree** has not been picked up, please put it out on January 22 or 23. This is the second and last pick up this year. Remove all decorations and any wire along with the stand and place the tree at the edge of the road with the trunk end facing the road.

The **2008 calendar** for trash and recycle pick-up is enclosed. Please keep this handy for reference.

Starting on February 5, there will be a third route for the **southern part of the Town** where trash and recycle materials will be picked up on Thursdays. This route is for residents south of Valley View Road. If you are affected, Green Valley will be mailing you a notice. If you have problems or questions with the trash and recycle service, call Green Valley Customer Service at 251-7878.



Garbage and Recycling Reminders

Please remember to keep your garbage and recycle carts off of the road. If they are in the road, the plow truck drivers will have difficulties plowing the roads thoroughly and may hit your cart. Keeping the carts off the road can be difficult with the large amount of snow we have had. If possible, place them on either side of your driveway. Please allow room around each cart to permit the truck-mounted arm to clasp your cart(s).

Cardboard

If your cardboard will not fit in your recycle cart, you may take it to the dumpster behind the Town Office off of Pioneer Road. Please **flatten** your cardboard before you place it in the dumpster. A huge amount of cardboard can be put in

the dumpster when flattened. If it is not flattened, others will not be able to use the dumpster when it is full. Do not place trash in the Town Dumpsters.

Appliances and other items that are too large to fit into the trash carts can be picked up by Green Valley Disposal for a small fee. Please contact Green Valley directly at 251-7878 to make arrangements for pick up. Gary's Appliance, 221-1150, also will pick up appliances for a fee. The Dane County landfill, located across from the Yahara Golf Course accepts many kinds of waste, with a fee based on weight. The Dane County Landfill information line is 838-9555.



Snowplows and Mailboxes

We at the Town Hall receive complaints during winter regarding damage to mailboxes. Unfortunately, some mailboxes get knocked over while snowplowing. Most of these are not hit by the plow; they are pushed over by the force of the snow coming off of the plow. The drivers try to be careful and not drive so fast as to avoid this but sometimes it still

happens. 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.

Branch Pickup for 2008

We will start picking up branches from residents on April 7 and continue through November 7. We begin the pickup on the first and third Mondays of each month; it often takes three or four days to complete.



Time for a New Dog License

Dog License Applications may also be downloaded from the Town website under “Forms”. Send payment along with the completed form to: **Town of Middleton, 7555 W. Old Sauk Road, Verona, WI 53593**. Please include a self-addressed return envelope so that we can mail the license back to you. A late fee of \$5.00 per license is charged for applications received after April 1st.

TOWN OF MIDDLETON DOG LICENSE APPLICATION

Date: ___/___/___ Owner’s Name: _____
 Phone: _____ Address: _____

Dog Breed	Color	Rabies Expiration Date	Sex/Type <i>(see below)</i>	Fee	License # Issued
1) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____	_____	_____
2) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____	_____	_____
3) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____	_____	_____

NM (Neutered Male)	SF (Spayed Female)	M (Male)	F (Female)	Late Fee
\$10.00	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$5.00

Reminders: Dogs must be on a leash whenever they are off of the owner’s property in the Town of Middleton (\$200 Forfeiture for Violation). Ownership of more than 3 dogs requires a Kennel License.

Building Permits

Building Permits are required for projects valued at over \$1,000 (materials and labor) or involve installing or relocating plumbing, electrical, heating (furnace replacement), venting or air conditioning equipment. Additions, alterations or structural repairs to buildings also require a permit. All driveway installation or reconstruction now needs a permit.

If you are simply installing new shingles or replacing windows or doors that are the same size as the existing, you do not need a permit.

You can find applications and other information under the “Forms” section of the town website.

The Town Inspector, Fred Hankel, is available to answer your questions; (office: 833-4346, cell: 843-8996) and is in the office from 8:00–9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday.

Tax Forms & Auto Registration

The Town receives State aid based on estimates of our population calculated from tax forms and car registrations. Town residents should list **TOWN of MIDDLETON**; not the City and not your post office i.e. Verona, Cross Plains or Madison, as your residence on all forms.

Be Nice to your Mail Carrier

Residents must remove the snow in front of and 15 feet on either side of the mailbox within 24 hours after a snowfall.

Fireplace Safety Tip

Be careful when cleaning your fireplace. Ashes put in flammable containers can ignite hours or even a day after the fire is out. Always put ashes in an air-tight metal container.

Sheriff's Reminders (from West Precinct Deputy Coy Bethel)

The Dane County Sheriff's Office would like to remind people of a few basic winter safety tips.

At Home:

1. Have an emergency supply of water and non-perishable food on hand for yourself and pets. Include a manual can-opener.
2. Put together an emergency kit containing a flashlight, battery-powered radio, spare batteries and a first-aid kit.
3. Make sure your house is prepared for winter. Insulate, caulk and weather-strip. Have your furnace checked annually.

In the Car:

1. Keep your gas tank full of gas and keep an auto disaster kit in your car. Include extra mittens, hats, water-proof boots, extra blankets, sand or kitty-litter for traction, a flashlight and non-perishable snacks. Remember basic items such as a window scraper, tow chains, battery cables, a road map and a first-aid kit. Remember to bring your cell phone and charger.
2. Take winter driving seriously. If storms are forecasted stay home unless absolutely necessary.
3. If you are stranded in your car run the engine for short periods (10 minutes per hour). Keep a window cracked to avoid carbon monoxide build up.
4. Let someone know your destination, route and when you are leaving so that if you don't arrive on time officials will know where to find you.

Outdoors:

1. Layers of protective clothing are warmer than a single heavy layer. Wear a hat since most body heat is lost through the head.
 2. Keep steps and sidewalks cleared of ice and snow to prevent falls.
 3. Understand the hazards of extreme cold on exposed skin.
- Be careful to not over-exert when shoveling snow. Lifting heavy snow puts extra strain on the heart.

During a Power Outage:

1. Never use charcoal, gas or propane heaters indoors. Doing so can increase the risk of fire and lead to carbon monoxide poisoning.
2. Unplug sensitive electrical equipment to eliminate the impact of any damage from a power surge.
3. If electrical power may be out for several days, consider relocating to a shelter or home where heat and power are available.
4. Alert someone if your health depends on electrical equipment.

TO REPORT AN INCIDENT OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY CALL:

9-1-1 FOR EMERGENCIES

255-2345 FOR NON-EMERGENCIES

FOR QUESTIONS OR GENERAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Deputy Coy Bethel at (608)833-9560 or e-mail at bethel@co.dane.wi.us

Deputy Dave Cattanach at (608)267-4936 or e-mail at cattanach@co.dane.wi.us

Spring Primary and Presidential Preference Election

The Spring Primary and Presidential Preference Election will be held at the Town Hall on **Tuesday, February 19, 2008**. Don't miss the opportunity to vote!

Voting Requirements. Everyone wishing to vote in Wisconsin must be registered to vote. To be eligible to register here, you must be a citizen of the U.S., be eighteen years old on or before election day and have been a resident of the Town for a minimum of ten days prior to election day.

How to Register. If you wish to register, you must complete a voter registration form. These forms, known as EB-131, can be downloaded from: <http://elections.state.wi.us> and mailed to the Town Hall, or you may stop by the Town Hall. New applicants must also supply their Wisconsin Department of Transportation-issued driver's license or identification card number. If you not been issued a Wisconsin driver's license or I.D., you must provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number; along with proof of residence in the Town.

When to Register. You may register as late as election day, but certain restrictions apply depending on the method used for registration.

If registering in person, you should register at the Town Hall by 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election. Please help us and avoid long lines; come into the Town Hall in advance to register.

If registering by mail, the application must be postmarked no later than thirteen days before the election. PLEASE NOTE: Any person registering to vote by mail is required to provide a copy of acceptable identification. Forms of acceptable identification are a current and valid photo identification (preferred), a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, pay check, or government document that shows the name and address of the voter. The copy of the form of identification must be included when submitting the registration application. If a copy of identification is not included, the elector will be required to supply it before being issued a ballot at the polling place or before being issued an absentee ballot.

If registering at the polling place on election, you must bring proof that you have lived at your present location for at least ten days preceding the election.

Comprehensive Planning Continues

You can participate in Town of Middleton 2030 Comprehensive Planning by participating in the discussion at the monthly meetings. The Comprehensive Planning Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month and invites you to share your views regarding Housing, Transportation, Natural Resources and Economic Development.

Need to contact the Town Hall?

The easiest way is to send us an email at our email address: info@town.middleton.wi.us, call at 833-5887, or fax us at 833-8996. You may also send us a letter at: 7555 W. Old Sauk Rd., Verona, WI 53593. If you would like your correspondence routed to individuals, Commission, Committee, or Board members, please note it in your correspondence.



With a Presidential election in 2008, early registration will help avoid long lines at the polls.

If registering by mail, the application must be post-marked no later than the 13th day before the election.

PLEASE NOTE: Any person registering to vote by mail is required to provide a copy of acceptable identification.

Winter Newsletter, 2008

Town of Middleton
7555 W. Old Sauk Road
Verona, WI 53593

Phone: 608-833-5887

Fax: 608-833-8996

E-mail: info@town.middleton.wi.us

Web: www.town.middleton.wi.us

Election Dates

February 19

April 1

September 9

November 4

Town Chair	Supervisor 1	Supervisor 2	Supervisor 3	Supervisor 4
Milo Breunig	Gary Whitney	Bob Irvine	Frank Acker	Richard Oberle

Roads, Snow, Ice, Salt & Sand

Due to the heavy snowfalls and ice we have received this year, our Town Crew, along with other municipalities in the area, have used a large amount of salt this season. Consequently, salt is in short supply. We will begin mixing sand and chips with our salt.

Roads and Snow

Parking on the road pavement during or after a snowfall is not allowed. If you must park your car on the street, all four tires must be on the shoulder. Parking on the street makes it difficult for the Town Crew to plow the roads.

The Town Crew appreciates it when you stay back from their Trucks while they are plowing. They may need to stop or veer around obstacles without a chance to see who is around. If you maintain 300 feet clearance from the back of their truck, it gives them one less thing to worry about. You may see them but they may not see you.

Town Ordinances prohibit obstructions (stones, posts, boulders) in the road right-of-way (ROW). Road right-of-way includes the ditches and are a minimum of 66 feet wide (22 feet of road and 22 feet of right-of-way on either side). Obstacles along the road, such as basketball posts, slow down the plowing of Town roads and may prevent the Town Crew from doing their job properly. Residents are liable for damage to private or public vehicles due to ROW obstructions.

Do You Plow Your Driveway?

Or have it plowed? If you do, the snow that is plowed out should not be put into the street. Please make sure that any snow plowed out of your drive goes on your lot or across the road and not in the street.

Please!

Subscribe to the Town email list.

Many of your questions will be answered by reading the information we send out to the list. You will also get information about upcoming meetings at the Town Hall.