



Blackhawk Road Project

The Town of Middleton has completed its portion of the Blackhawk Road reconstruction. The City of Madison is slated to begin its portion in June of 2010. Below are pictures of the completed project:



Blackhawk Road



Blackhawk Road

Mid Town Road Update

The Town of Middleton is working with the Town of Verona and the City of Madison to reconstruct Mid Town Road between Shady Oak Lane to the West and within the City of Madison limits to the East. The construction is being planned as a two phase project in coordination with the City of Madison and Madison Gas and Electric (MG&E) and their utility projects planned within the corridor. Construction began the week of July 13th and work is expected to be completed by September 1st.

Construction will take place within the existing road right-of-way. The roadway will be constructed with two 11-foot wide lanes and 2-foot gravel shoulders along each side. Drainage improvements along the corridor are included in this project. Ditches near Meadow Road will be graded to promote drainage within the project corridor. Where needed, culverts at driveways and road crossings will be replaced/installed as part of this project.

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Yard Waste Disposal

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 Office) 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 until approximately December 1st.

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 & non-woody material.

Got Junk?

It's time to clean out the basement and put your unused items out for bulk pickup, the week of September 14th (on your regular trash day). Green Valley Disposal will once again be collecting extra items. We are often asked if they will collect TV's and yes they will collect old television sets during bulk pickup. Also, if you have old lawn mowers and snow

blowers you wish to dispose of, they will take these items as long as gasoline and oil is removed. Basketball hoops can be put out for bulk pickup, however, you will need to cut down poles to 4-foot lengths and the item must weigh less than 50 pounds. Appliances that contain refrigerant can be picked up for an extra charge, please call Green Valley for the cost on these items. If you have questions about specific items that are eligible for bulk pickup, please contact Green Valley directly at 251-7878.

A reminder for regular trash pickup; please bag any and all items that go into your trash and recycle cart. This will eliminate trash from flying out of your bin and littering your neighborhood.

If you have unwanted items that are in good condition, please consider donating to Middleton Outreach Ministry. Please go to Moms website at www.mompop.org for a complete list of items that are needed. Another option to consider is to list your items on freecycle.org. By considering these options you will be reducing the amount of waste in the landfill and helping others in need.

Gypsy Moth Hatch

The week of July 27th the Gypsy Moths hatched in the Town. Town Park Rangers will start looking for the egg masses in the next few weeks. They will be concentrating in Cherrywood, especially in the Cherrywood Lane, Swoboda Road, Sabaka Trail and Ox Trail areas. If you have had the caterpillars on your oaks, you will probably have the moths and now egg masses. If you haven't already reported it, please contact the Town Office to schedule a time for the Rangers to come out

and look at your property. They are in the process of establishing an area that can be presented to the DNR for a possible aerial spray next May. Please call Park Ranger, Burr Fraser, with any information that you feel would be helpful, at 833-5887.



Adult Male
Gypsy Moth

Burning Leaves

The Town and Fire District no longer require you to obtain a permit before performing a burn. There are, however, 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 the Town Hall if you have questions.



Items That Green Valley Disposal Does Not Accept For Bulk Pickup

- Trees (The Town Crew will pick these up through November)
- Grass Clippings, leaves (Compost them or take them to the dumpster behind the town hall)
- Oil
- Gas/Kerosene
- Propane Tanks
- Computers
- Paint
- Batteries
- Hot Ashes
- Hazardous Chemicals
- Asbestos
- Fluorescent Light Bulb
- Pesticides
- Poisons
- Ammunition
- Explosives/Fireworks
- Mercury from thermometers
- Acid
- Fire Extinguishers
- Auto Parts
- Antifreeze
- Needles
- Appliances containing Freon

Enchanted Valley Park goes chemical free!

In the Town of Middleton, a group of concerned young mothers have taken over Enchanted Valley Park and transformed it into a chemical-free playground area for their small children. Armed with shovels, trowels, rakes and flowered-gloves, this group of highly dedicated volunteers, led by Weeding-Coordinator Heather Foxman, used prearranged play dates to do battle with species botanical that many of us can't even name, and certainly most of us don't like. The transformation was truly awesome, and their efforts inspiring.

Accolades must certainly be extended to Ms. Foxman who convinced the Town of Middleton's Parks Commission members to just "give her a chance". Although there was some initial skepticism that she and her volunteers could meet the high expectations set for the current Town park beautification program, that many of us take for granted, Commission members were encouraging. With that supporting goal in mind, the Town of Middleton Weed-Management policy was amended to allow for an Herbicide Exemption Request and the naming of a local "manual" Weeding Coordinator, enabling Ms. Foxman and "clan" to claim their prize. And, so it seems, they did! At a recent Parks Commission meeting, Foxman et al proudly displayed their photo-documentary, and committee members were genuinely impressed. She admitted, however, that the first year was tough and at times very trying. As for strategy she may also admit some trial and error, as in – hmmm – now which weed will seed first? Play date in the

rain anyone? And hearing the dreaded words "Sorry, but we'll be out of town that day.

Take a stroll out to Enchanted Valley Park and breathe in their success. Approach a volunteer Weed-mom and thank her, then go home and call your neighbor. It takes a community!

Fall is a great time to. . .

1. Repair and replace door seals and weather stripping. Large amounts of air that you paid to be cool in the summer or warm in the winter can escape through doors and windows. Fall is the perfect time to install or replace the weather stripping and seals. Rule of thumb: if a dollar bill can easily pass through, so can air. Many door thresholds are overlooked and can easily be adjusted.
 2. Clean and repair your gutters. Be careful or hire a professional if you feel that you cannot do the work on your own. Cleaning the gutters in the early fall will make them more efficient when the winter comes. It will help to prevent ice damming that could cause an expensive repair. Gutters that leak can be caulked with silicone rubber. After you have cleaned them, it is good idea to ensure that they drain properly. If a gutter has sagged, water will collect and lead to more problems.
 3. Check the grade around your house. Make sure that your yard slopes away from your house and its foundation. Especially when new, the disturbed soil around your home settles and can tend to direct water to your foundation. This can lead to frost heave and possible cracking of your basement walls, If you have a patio, pavers or deck that comes
- directly off the home you may need a professional landscaper or contractor to inspect your grade.
4. Trim bushes and trees near your house. Your house needs some breathing room to ensure that it dries out after rains and that branches don't rub up, doing damage. Trees that are too close or overhang the roof can lead to excessive leaves in the gutter. If you have any doubts as to your ability to trim trees safely, hire a professional!
 5. Change your furnace filter. Clogged filters make for inefficient furnaces. Standard filters should be changed or at least checked monthly. For the newer filters, follow the manufactures recommendation. Fall is also a great time to hire a professional to inspect your furnace to make sure it is in good working order.
 6. Inspect your chimney flue(s). If you have a wood burning fireplace, check the flue for creosote buildup. If there is any doubt, have a professional inspect it. Also check the damper and firebox.
 7. While you are out there, check your vents from the bathrooms and clothes dryer. Critters like to nest in these vents which can make a real mess. Dryer vents can get clogged with lint and it is a lot easier to do something now than when it's below zero outside with snow on the ground!
 8. Check your smoke detectors to make sure they are working properly, also replace batteries. If your smoke detector is more than 10 years old, it is a good idea to replace it with a newer model.

News from the Sheriff

Deputy Mike Mohr, the contract Deputy for the Town of Middleton, wants to remind residents to please lock garage doors, homes and vehicles when unattended. In years past, as the summer winds down we experience an increase in unlawful entry into these areas and theft of unsecured items.

A quick check as you leave your house or car will decrease the likelihood you will become a victim of one of these thefts. Of particular interest, please check the pedestrian doors in your garages as they are often times overlooked. Thank you and have a safe remainder of the summer

Kudos to Cattnach

The Town of Middleton would like to express its sincere appreciation for Deputy Cattnach's 15 years of service to the Town, as its contract Deputy. Deputy Cattnach retired in July, after 25 years of service with the Dane County Sherriff's Department.

The Town of Middleton is currently working with Dane County to find a replacement.



Stonebrook Trail Improved

The trail was improved and moved to the exact location of the Town's easement. The trail is now a 12 feet wide gravel path, to be used by pedestrians and bicyclists. Signage is expected to be installed within the next two weeks.

Well Water Testing

Did you know that well water should be tested annually, especially in households that include pregnant women, infants and young children? For information on making arrangements for testing, send an email to health@cityofmadison.com or call the PHMDC Laboratory at 608-243-0357. Tests can also be ordered by mail by calling the same number or kits can be picked up, during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at the PHMDC Laboratory, City-County Building, 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 507, Madison, WI. The Basic Household Package Bacteria Panel + Nitrate is \$38.00.

Town Notes

- Town Road Crew will be chipping brush through the week of November 2nd.
- Bulk Pickup will be the week of September 14th, on your regular trash day.
- Monday, September 7th the Town office will be closed, in observance of labor day.

PRSTD STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
MADISON WI
PERMIT #1949

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