



# Town of Middleton

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# SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER

*Above: Enjoying a day at Pioneer Park during Freedom Fest 2010*

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## Annual Town of Middleton Meeting

On Tuesday, April 12th at 7 pm, the Town will have its Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for residents to express their views and ask questions about issues in the town. It is also a chance for the Town Board to share town activities during the preceding year and its plans for the future. All town residents are encouraged to attend this public meeting.

## Spring Election

The Spring Election is Tuesday, April 5th. Polls are open from 7 am to 8 pm. The local Town positions to be decided by the Spring Election are: Town Board Chair, Supervisor Seats #1 and #2. Milo Breunig, incumbent, is running unopposed for Chair. Tim Roehl and Bill Kolar, incumbents, are running unopposed for Seats #1 and #2 respectively. Other offices on the ballot are Justice of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals Judge (District 4), Circuit Court Judge (Branch 2), Circuit Court Judge (Branch 9), County Executive, Municipal Judge and School Board Candidates. On election day there will also be an opportunity to tour the new Town offices.

## Open Book/Board of Review

Open Book allows citizens to examine town assessments as determined by Paul Musser, the Town Assessor. If you have questions about your assessment, citizens can meet with the Assessor at the Town Hall on April 27th from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. You may also schedule an appointment outside that time with Paul to discuss any questions in an informal setting by calling him at 712-2847.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of these discussions, you may appeal to the Town Board at the Board of Review. The Board of Review will meet in May and normally requires more than one session if research is required. You must notify the Clerk, David Shaw at 833-5887, by noon on May 20th if you intend to make an appeal to the Board of Review. You will also need a Department of Revenue challenge form available at <http://www.revenue.wi.gov/pubs/slf/pb055.pdf>. To facilitate the process, be prepared to defend your appeal with comparables and appraisals.

## Old Sauk Road Project

The long awaited Old Sauk Road reconstruction project is slated to begin in mid-April. It begins at the intersection of Pioneer Road and continues west to Timber Lane.

The design of the project consists of expanding the road width to 28' from Pioneer Road to Swoboda Road. This allows for 4' bike lanes in each lane. West of Swoboda Road, the road will narrow to 24' wide, which still allows for 10' drive lanes, and 2' paved shoulders on either side. The current road width is approximately 21'.

On March 21st the Town Board will award the contract. Final plans for the project can be viewed at the Town Hall during regular business hours. The project is planned to be

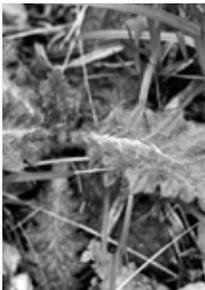
substantially complete by September 1st.

During construction, Old Sauk Road will be closed to through traffic; open only to those residents who live on Old Sauk, Keewatin, Sundown, Longview, Windsong, Goth and Schiller. All other traffic will be detoured onto Timber Lane, Mineral Point or Pioneer Roads. The Dane County Sheriff's Department will be issuing citations to those who drive or ride through the construction zone if they do not live on the roads listed above.

Please check the Town's website regularly for project updates. Questions regarding the project can be directed to Sara Ludtke, Public Works Coordinator at 833-5887.

## Invasive Weeds

Residents are to act responsibly and destroy noxious weeds on their property that compromise yards, green spaces and agricultural lands. State statute mandates destruction of Canadian Thistle, Leafy Spurge and Field Bindweed (Creeping Jenny). The Town of Middleton's Ordinance requires the control of additional noxious and invasive weeds. The best time to identify and control weeds is before they flower and seed. Contact Richard Oberle, Weed Commissioner (826-0559) or the Town Hall (833-5887) with any questions



Canadian Thistle



Leafy Spurge



Field Bindweed

## Spring Bulk Pick Up

Spring bulk pick up will coincide with your trash pick-up date during the week of May 2nd. The list of items that Veolia does not accept includes:

- **Anything compostable** – i.e. plant material of any kind.
- **Anything potentially explosive** – i.e. gas, tanks, ammo, fireworks, etc.
- **Anything electronic** – i.e. computers, monitors, TVs, appliances, etc.
- **Anything hazardous** – i.e. mercury, acid, antifreeze, fluorescent bulbs, pesticides, poisons, chemicals of any sort, asbestos, needles, batteries, etc.
- In addition to the above: paint, fire extinguishers, auto parts, and hot ashes.

Disposal of items not accepted by Veolia may be accepted at Dane County Clean Sweep – see their website at [www.danecountycleansweep.com](http://www.danecountycleansweep.com).

## Brush and Small Tree Limb Pick up

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The Town Crew will begin chipping the week of April 4th and continue on the first and third weeks during the months of April through August. From September through November, the chipping schedule will be only during the first week of the month. Have your brush and tree limbs out on Monday morning of each chipping week. It takes the crew approximately three to five days to chip the Town.

**Chip weeks: April 4 and 18, May 2 and 16, June 6 and 20, July 4 and 18, August 1 and 15, September 5, October 3, and November 7**

- **TIP #1** – Place the trunk ends of limbs and branches toward the road. Do not feel like you have to shorten long limbs. If you can drag it to the street, the crew can chip it.
- **TIP #2** – Gather the materials into armload-sized bundles for easy handling
- **TIP #3** – Gather undersized twigs (of pencil size diameter) into paper sacks that will be shredded, on a tarp that will be left behind, in a wheel barrow, garbage can, tote, etc. to ensure a clean pick up. No plastic bags please.

Pick up dates and information on what is acceptable material for pick up can be referenced on the Town of Middleton website. Only acceptable material will be picked up.

## Wood Chips

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Material from the brush and small limb pick up are chipped and available to town residents for use as mulch. This is not commercial quality mulch and includes the wide variety of materials left roadside for the Town Crew to handle. Only full load quantities of approximately 4 cubic yards are

## Disposing of Yard Waste

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The Town has a Yard Waste Program allowing only town residents to bring yard waste to the Town Hall to be composted. Please deposit waste in the building behind the Town Hall, placing the yard waste as far into the building as feasible.

**NOTE:** Yard waste is limited to leaves, grass, and plant clippings. The Yard Waste Program excludes woody material (twigs and larger), noxious weeds and ANY paper, bags or containers. When leaving yard waste, note the rules posted at the site. This program is a courtesy for residents and could be discontinued if abused.

Noxious weeds are best disposed by putting them in a bag labeled 'Invasive Plants – Please Landfill' and placing the bag with other waste in your green trash disposal cart. These should not be placed in the Town compost container to become someone else's issue.

Dane County maintains compost sites at the old Dane County-Verona Landfill adjacent to the Badger Prairie Health Care Center, at the Westport Site at 5254 State Highway 19 and at the Lake Farm Site. For more information regarding composting call 266-4139.

available. This represents a materials pile of approximately 6' by 6' by 3'. When calling Town Hall to request delivery, be ready to specify the preferred unloading location as viewed from the road.

## NEWSLETTER

### West Middleton Youth Baseball and Softball

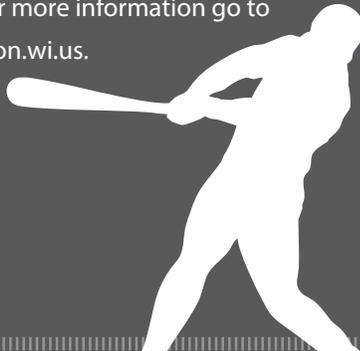
The 2011 season is around the corner and we are excited that registration has started. The West Middleton Youth Baseball and Softball Club provide youth leagues for boys and girls to match all levels of development and competition. We welcome the opportunity to provide a great summer activity for your children.

- Baseball leagues start at T-ball and go up through competitive teams playing in the Dane Co. Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth leagues.
- Girls' softball leagues are available for player's grades 1-8.

Games are played at the beautiful Pioneer Park ball fields in the Town of Middleton. Scholarships are available.

Registration forms are available on the Town of Middleton web site and can be mailed in to the Town Hall. The Town of Middleton will forward this information to the West Middleton Youth Baseball and Softball Club who coordinate the team rosters. There is an additional \$20 late fee starting April 1st.

In addition, we would love to have you join in helping us develop the program as a coach, coordinator, or other activity. For more information go to [www.town.middleton.wi.us](http://www.town.middleton.wi.us).



### Property Reassessment

Beginning in 2011 and ending in 2012, the Town will likely reassess the value of all properties within the Town. This responds to many comments by residents that currently assessed property values may not accurately reflect the present market value of homes. The process starts when Paul Musser contacts you for a reassessment appointment. During his visit, he will identify himself and have documentation from the Town to confirm his status as a representative of the Town of Middleton. Please allow him into your home for a complete and accurate assessment of your property.



### Building and Driveway Permits

Building permits are required for projects valued at over \$1,000, combined materials and labor, or that involve installing or relocating plumbing, electrical, heating (including furnace replacement), venting or air conditioning equipment. Additions, alterations or structural repairs to buildings also require a permit as do installation or upgrading of driveways. The exception to a permit is installing new shingles, siding or replacing windows/doors that are the same size as the existing.

Building Permit Applications and other information is found under the 'Forms' section of the town website. The town inspector, Fred Hankel, is available to answer your questions Monday through Friday by calling Town Offices (833-4346) or Fred Hankel's cell phone (843-8996).



*Top of page: A competitive sack race at Freedom Fest 2010*

*Above: Enjoying the day at Pioneer Park*

## Freedom Fest 2011

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Join us for a fun time at a PLANNING meeting for Freedom Fest 2011.

### ***What is Freedom Fest?***

In 2010 we had a 4th of July party for all of the residents in the Town of Middleton. With approximately 200-300 people attending, your friends and neighbors celebrated the 4th of July with an ol' fashion picnic in Pioneer Park. The day started with a 5k race, children's bike parade, followed by a cookout/beer tent and then family games (cake walk, 3-legged race, balloon toss, dunk tank and more).

Now we need your help and ideas as we continue this fun event. Can you help plan this great family event? If so, join us Wednesday, April 13th at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall (Old Sauk/Pioneer Rd). What a great way to be involved in your community and shape how Freedom Fest 2011 will look. Questions? Contact Mike Hanson: [hanson24@hotmail.com](mailto:hanson24@hotmail.com). Title your email 'Freedom Fest' please.

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Dog license applications are due by the end of March to avoid late fees being assessed. Recently the Town has received several reports of residents not licensing their dog(s). Dane County fines owners of dogs without licenses \$109 per dog. Licenses are required each year for all dogs in the Town of Middleton and are part of a concerted effort to be sure that all dogs have been protected from rabies. Please license your dog, not only because it is the law, but also to help us provide the best service to the community.

**DOG  
LICENSE  
REMINDERS**

## Electronic Waste

Late in 2010 all electronic waste was banned by State Law from being thrown out with the trash. Special arrangements can be made for the proper disposal of computers, monitors, televisions, cell phones, printers, fax machines, VCR's, DVD players, devices with video displays and the many other items that are electronic.

Presently, several large computer and appliance stores are starting to offer drop off sites for e-waste. There are also two locations in the Madison area taking e-waste for a fee:

- FILE 13 .....848-0013
- Resource Solutions.....244-5451

Veolia ES Solid Waste, Inc. will be able to collect and haul the e-waste items from customers in the Town for an additional charge to cover the special care needed to not break these items during transport. Please contact Veolia ES Solid Waste directly to coordinate this service and to arrange for payment of associated fees directly to Veolia. Veolia's phone number is 251-7878.

## Tree Trimming in Road Right-of-Way

The Town Crew will be working on trimming trees and brush that are in the road right-of-way. The Town right-of way is 33' in each direction, from the center of the road. Most trees and brush that will be trimmed or removed are causing visual impediments to vehicles and/or drainage problems. If you have any questions, you can contact Jerry Wagner, Lead Town Crewman, at 833-5887, ext. 73 or 575-1045 (cell).

## Homeless Cats

Dane County Friends of Ferals is a local group of volunteers working to control the feral/outdoor cat population. To date, over 2,100 feral/stray cats have been rescued, housed, spayed or neutered, vaccinated and adopted to caregivers. This group vaccinates, spays or neuters feral cats/kittens in Dane County on a monthly basis - same day in/out at low or no cost.

For truly wild cats, once spayed or neutered, these cats are great at rodent control on farms. Adopt one at just \$10 for a sterilized, vaccinated cat that will be delivered to your property!

The group sponsors twice weekly tame cat and kitten adoption fairs. Volunteers are always welcome. Contact us at 608-467-4067. For more information please visit: [www.daneferals.org](http://www.daneferals.org)



## Gypsy Moths Update

Areas in the Town of Middleton targeted for Gypsy Moth control last year will be sprayed again in 2011. The spraying will occur mid-May to early June. The product sprayed has no apparent toxicity to people, animals or insects other than caterpillars per Dane County Parks. Town Park Rangers welcome input from people in areas where infestation is a concern, whether already identified or a developing issue. Call the Town to contact the Park Rangers.

## TOWN TIDBITS

### **WANT MORE/FASTER INFORMATION?**

Keep up to date on events and actions involving the Town by signing up for email notifications. Simply click on the 'Subscribe Now' link from the Town of Middleton website ([www.town.middleton.wi.us](http://www.town.middleton.wi.us)).

### **DO YOU HAVE NEW NEIGHBORS?**

Keep your neighbors up to date on Town information by letting them know that current Town Newsletters and trash schedules are available at the Town Hall during business hours. The Town will be glad to mail this information to the new neighbor if alerted to the change in ownership.

### **WELL WATER TESTING**

Well water should be tested annually, especially in households including pregnant women, infants and young children. For more information on making arrangements for testing, send an email to [health@cityofmadison.com](mailto:health@cityofmadison.com) or call the Public Health Madison & Dane County (PHMDC) Laboratory at 608-266-4821.

### **RESERVING PARK SHELTERS**

Town park shelters can be reserved by calling the Town at 833-5887 and completing a reservation form. Reservations are made on a first come/first serve basis. Forms with required reservation information can be downloaded from the Town website under 'Forms and Permits'. The fee schedule associated with these resources is also found at this same site.

### **CULTURAL AFFAIRS POSTER**

The 2011 Dane County Cultural Affairs Art Poster is out and can be picked up from the Town office. More information about this poster can be obtained on their website: [www.culturalaffairscommission.com](http://www.culturalaffairscommission.com). A donation to Dane County to cover the cost of time and materials is appreciated.

## **Protecting Madison Area Waterways**

Rain gardens are an attractive way to reduce time spent on lawn/yard care while helping our lakes, rivers and streams. Once established, native plant species are low maintenance and provide perennial solutions to yards as well as food for birds. Plants are available in multiples of four, at an attractive cost of \$1.80 each. Go to [www.myfairlakes.com](http://www.myfairlakes.com) for more information or contact Marcia Hartwig, Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership (MAMSWaP) Storm Water Education Coordinator, at 608-224-3746, [hartwig@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:hartwig@co.dane.wi.us).

UW Extension and Sustain Dane are offering a workshop on rain gardens, rain barrels and drip irrigation on Saturday, April 9th, for a fee of \$5. To register for the workshop, go to [http://danedocs.countyofdane.com/webdocs/pdf/myfairlakes/2011\\_Plant\\_Dane\\_workshop\\_brochure.pdf](http://danedocs.countyofdane.com/webdocs/pdf/myfairlakes/2011_Plant_Dane_workshop_brochure.pdf).





### Office Hours

Town business is conducted at 7555 W Old Sauk Road, Verona, WI 53593.  
Office hours are: 8 am to 4 pm Mon-Thur; 8 am to Noon Fri.

**PHONE:** 833-5887 **E-MAIL:** info@town.middleton.wi.us.

**WEBSITE:** www.town.middleton.wi.us

**Calendar  
of Events**

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION
Spring/ Summer	Old Sauk Rd. closed		
April 4	First brush chipping week	ongoing	
April 5	Spring election	7 am - 8 pm	Town Hall
April 12	Town meeting	7 pm	Town Hall
April 27	Open book	5:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Town Hall
May 3, 4, 5	Bulk pick up		
May 30	Town Office Closed		
July 4	Town Office Closed		

### Important Contact Information

- Dane County Sherriff Dispatch.... 255-2345  
(Non-emergency)
- Street Light Outages  
MG&E ..... 252-7333  
Alliant..... 1-800-Alliant
- Veolia ES Solid Waste, Inc..... 251-7878
- Animal Control ..... 838-0413
- Middleton Fire Department ..... 827-1090  
(Non-emergency)
- Middleton EMS Department ..... 827-1040  
(Non-emergency)
- Town Building Inspector..... 833-4346  
(Fred Hankel)
- Town Assessor ..... 712-2847  
(Paul Musser)
- Well Water Testing ..... 266-4821  
(DHMDC)