



Town of Middleton

WINTER
2011

NEWSLETTER

Property Reassessment Status

The reassessment work continues with most residences on the north side of town having been inspected by the Town Assessor, Paul Musser. Remaining properties should be completed by April 2012. Please respond promptly when you receive the postcard requesting an appointment. If you will be gone for an extended period of time, please call Paul at 712-0236 for an appointment at a time you are available.



Mail Box Damage

The town crew clears town roads of snow as promptly as possible after each snow fall. Each year, a few mail boxes are impacted during the snow removal process. In the event this happens to a town resident, the criteria used to determine responsibility for the event will be whether the mail box was actually in contact with the town plow or was impacted by only the force of the snow removed.



- ✓ If the force of the snow being removed from the roadway causes the damage, the resident is responsible for all costs associated with the repair/replacement of the mail box and post.
- ✓ If the town plow came into contact with the mail box resulting in damage, the resident is asked to contact Town offices at 833-5887 the next business day during normal office hours. Town personnel will inspect and confirm that the plow did the damage. If confirmed, Town reimbursement is limited to \$50.00 per occurrence.

Further information on Town Ordinances covering mail boxes is available at the Town Hall.

 TOWN TIDBITS

Plowing Request from the Town Crew

Please assist the crew during snow removal times by keeping the town right-of-ways cleared of obstructions, including trash and recycling containers. Plow wings often extend upward off the pavement to sufficiently clear accumulated snow. Objects located in right-of-ways create temporary hazards for the crew and result in undesirable road drifts.

A couple points to remember: All parking is off road (all four wheels) and for a maximum of 48 hours in any one location. Vehicles parked across the road from each other create width barriers for plowing. Please park on the same side of the road if multiple cars are on the street. It is a violation of Town Ordinance (Section 4-3-5) to blow, plow, or deposit snow in the road before OR after the plow has passed by your driveway.



Plowing Safety Issue – Children Building Snow Forts at Road Edge

Some snow falls during the 2010-2011 snow season were hefty. Snow plow drivers reported that some children built snow forts in roadside mounds left by the Town snow plow. In at least one instance, the snow plow driver was alarmed at seeing a child in the fort as they were making a pass to push snow back from the roadside in an effort to build capacity to remove future snow accumulations from roadways. Nothing bad happened, but the Town wants parents to have children who make snow forts create them AWAY from the road edge. Snow forts have inherent dangers due to structural instabilities and the risk collapsing

snow fort roofs are always a danger – so the Town is NOT endorsing the building of snow forts under any conditions. It would be sad if something bad happened to any child for any reason, but it would be particularly tragic as a result of the Town doing what is required to keep roads passable and prepared for future snow events.

Voter Id – Informational Meeting

Do you want to know the impacts to voting from the recently passed Voter ID legislation? Mark your calendars to attend a public meeting scheduled for January 17 at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall. All are welcome! Questions will be answered or researched as appropriate.

Spring Elections

The Spring Primary (if necessary) will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2012. The Spring Election will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2012. The positions to be filled by this election are:

Office	Chair #	Incumbent
Town Board Supervisor	Seat #3	Stephen Tumbush
Town Board Supervisor	Seat #4	Richard Oberle

The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2011. Nomination papers are due by 5:00 p.m. on January 3, 2012. Call or come to the Town Office for a Candidate Registration Packet if you are interested in running for the Town Board.

Snowmobiles in the Town

Last winter the Town received feedback on snowmobiles from Town residents who are not snowmobile owners. As a reminder, snowmobilers should be as considerate of neighbors as users of Town trails are during other seasons of the year.

Town Ordinance Section 8 lists the following snowmobile regulations:

- Travel speeds within the Town should be twenty (20) miles per hour or less.
- Snowmobiling within the town is restricted between the hours of 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM to returning home by the most direct route.
- Snowmobile exhaust systems are to be of the size and type provided by the manufacturer and remain unmodified.
- Snowmobiles must be equipped with functioning headlights and tail lights conforming to Wisconsin Statutes.
- Snowmobilers must secure written permission from each property owner if travelling across private land to access snowmobile trails.
- Snowmobilers are to only use and remain on trails posted and approved by the Town Board for snowmobiles when on Town property.
- Snowmobiles must obey all posted signs on trails.
- Intoxicant or drug impaired individuals are not permitted to drive a snowmobile.

These are common sense rules meant to balance the enjoyment of all Town residents, regardless of whether they enjoy this particular winter sport or not. The information above is a summary. Further details on Town Ordinance Section 8 are available at the Town office.

Older Adult Services – Middleton Senior Center

A partnership between the City and Town of Middleton brings Meals on Wheels and Case Management to Town of Middleton citizens.

Meals on Wheels are available to home bound persons, age 60+, and provides a nutritious lunch-time meal delivered by volunteers Monday through Friday. An assessment determines eligibility. The cost for the service is a donation.

Case Managers have access to a wide range of resources and will work with seniors and their families to ensure they receive services and assistance needed to stay independent. Based on need and availability of services in the Town, assistance may be short-term or ongoing.

To learn about these offerings as well as other services and activities at the Middleton Senior Center, contact us at:

Middleton Senior Center
7448 Hubbard Ave.
Middleton, WI 53562
Phone: (608) 831-2373

Online at: www.middletonseniorcenter.com

Please let the Middleton Senior Center know you are a resident of the Town of Middleton! The Town of Middleton provides funds to support the Middleton Senior Center knowing that Town residents may use our services, helping us to keep track of how many people we serve in our community.

Jill Kranz, Director



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. Town personnel can be reached by phone at 833-5887 or by e-mail at info@town.middleton.wi.us.



Date	Activity	Time	Location
Dec 26 - 30	Town Hours for Tax Collection	7:30 am - 4:00 pm M -TH 7:30 am - noon - F	Town Hall
Jan 3 - 5	1st Holiday Tree Pick Up		
Jan 17	Voter ID Public Info Meeting	6:30 pm	Town Hall
Jan 17 -19	2nd Holiday Tree Pick Up		
Jan 31	Final Date for Tax Payment at Town	7:30 am to 4 pm	Town Hall
Feb 21	Spring Primary Election	7 am to 8 pm	Town Hall
April 3	Spring Election	7 am to 8 pm	Town Hall
May 1 - 3	Spring Bulk Pickup		

Important Contact Information

- Dane County Sheriff Dispatch..... 255-2345
(Non-emergency)
- Street Light Outages
MG&E 252-7333
Alliant 1-800-Alliant
-Reporting outages via web is an option
- Veolia ES Waste Disposal, Inc 251-7878
- Animal Control 838-0413
- Middleton Fire Department 827-1090
(Non-emergency)
- Middleton EMS Department 827-1040
(Non-emergency)
- Town Inspector – Fred Hankel..... 833-4346
- Town Assessor – Paul Musser..... 712-0236
- Well Water Testing - DHMDC 266-4821

★ DEPUTY'S NOTEBOOK ★

Law enforcement personnel want families to avoid domestic violence over the holiday season. Experts know that although the holidays are supposed to be a time for family bonding and merriment, for many women and children they are instead a time for fear and violence.

The stress associated with the holidays comes from many sources: pressure to provide for the family, money issues, spending time with distant family members, work issues, and more. Also, people tend to use more alcohol around the holidays. Studies have found that about half of all domestics occur when at least one of the parties have been using alcohol.

Here are some suggestions for you as we move into the holiday season.

- **Get adequate rest** each night and limit the amount of caffeine and alcohol you consume.
- **Focus on things you are grateful for.** Stressors trigger feelings of anger, sadness and depression that in turn lead to bad lifestyle choices, which in turn reinforce a cycle of negative behavior.
- **Enjoy natural sunlight**, especially in the winter. Low levels of vitamin D often result in lower levels of energy.
- **Be physically active** since any type of exercise is a stress reducer. Make clearing the driveway of snow and ice more enjoyable by viewing it as an opportunity to spend time outside.
- **Eat healthy.** Proper nutrition promotes health, well being and rejuvenation.
- **And finally relax.** Identify 15 minutes each day for some peace and quiet.

Happy Holidays and Be Safe

Deputy Garrett Page

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
www.town.middleton.wi.us