



Town of Middleton

FALL
2010

NEWSLETTER

Cooperative Project with the City of Verona

The Town of Middleton and the City of Verona are both in the Upper Sugar River Watershed. Like other state waterways, this watershed is subject to increasingly strict standards for erosion and water runoff quality. By March 2013, the Department of Natural Resources is requiring municipalities to remove 40% of the total suspended solids (TSS) from stormwater generated from in-fill and redevelopment. TSS represents organic materials such as plankton, decaying plant and animal matter as well as inorganic such as silt and industrial wastes.

The Town applied for and received grant monies in 2009 in anticipation of stormwater improvement projects within the Town. Fortunately, with its current 76% TSS rate, the Town already meets the DNR requirement.

It is a different story for the City of Verona where the TSS rate is only 27%. An additional challenge for the City of Verona is the limited number of locations available within the City for

future stormwater projects since the sediment-filtering projects can be land-intensive and expensive. After discussions with the City of Verona and looking at options, it was determined that a stormwater project within the Town would benefit both municipalities.

The project, which is already underway, expands two stormwater detention facilities located along W. Mineral Point Road at Welcome Drive by increasing the annual reduction of TSS from 8.8 tons to 20.3 tons.

In this win-win solution, Verona receives credits for the stormwater project, bringing the City closer to 2013 DNR compliance levels. The Town benefits by gets cleaner runoff, retaining the DNR grant and being reimbursed for its expenses by Verona for the stormwater credit the City receives through this project.

The project is expected to be completed by mid-September.

When are Fall Elections?

If you are a new resident in the Town of Middleton, be sure to register to vote. Forms are available at the Town Hall during business hours. Proof of residency is required if registering to vote during the 20 days before any election.

September Primary Election* – Tuesday, Sept. 14th

The purpose of this election is to decide representatives for each political party in the November General Election. Since this represents a political party position recommendation, the law DOES NOT ALLOW CITIZENS TO VOTE FOR CANDIDATES IN MORE THAN ONE POLITICAL PARTY.

**No Referendum questions are scheduled for this election*



General Election – Tuesday, Nov. 2nd

In addition to making choices on who will fill the offices below, citizens will vote on an advisory referendum regarding the Dane County Regional Transit Authority.

Offices up for election

1. Governor
2. Lieutenant Governor
3. Attorney General
4. Secretary of State
5. State Treasurer
6. U.S. Senate
7. U.S. Congress District 2
8. State Senate District 27
9. State Assembly District 79
10. Dane County Sheriff
11. Clerk of Circuit Court

What's happening to Voss Park?

The Town has contracted with Moll Construction to raise the soccer field and improve stormwater drainage in Voss Park (corner of W Mineral Point Road and Swoboda Road). Pooling on the fields has been an ongoing issue with this park and will be addressed with completion of this project. The Town was able to obtain clean

"fill" from the Sauk Point Detention Basin Project. Work in the park started in August and should be completed by October 1st. To allow for the grasses to fully establish, the soccer in Voss Park will remain offline until June 2012.



What's happening to Old Sauk Road in 2011?

Old Sauk Road has been on the list of roads to be improved for several years now. This summer the Town Board approved the final design parameters to reconstruct Old Sauk Road with an expected completion date of fall 2011.

Current plans for Old Sauk Road improve the section of road from the intersection of Pioneer Road west to Timber Lane. (Areas east of Pioneer Road are the responsibility of the City of Madison.) Road pavement will be widened to 28' from Pioneer Road to Swoboda Road and 24' from Swoboda Road to Timber Lane. The

added pavement width allows room for bicyclists to use the shoulders of the road, reducing the impact of being crowded by motor vehicles and improving overall sightlines for all vehicles travelling on this stretch of road.

The Town has applied for a Transportation Enhancement Grant to allow the Town to reconstruct the entire road to a width of 28' for the entire length. The Town will be notified the outcome of the grant application in November. Some preparation work involving culvert replacements and utility work will take place in 2010.

When is Fall Bulk Pick-up?

Fall bulk pick-up will occur during the collection cycle scheduled for **September 14 to 16** on your normal garbage pick-up date. Below is the list of items that Green Valley Disposal **DOES NOT** accept* for bulk pick-up:

- Trees/Branches
- Grass Clippings
- Sod
- Leaves
- Gas/Kerosene
- Propane Tanks
- Computers
- Paint
- Batteries
- Hot Ashes
- Hazardous Chemicals
- Asbestos
- Appliances
- Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- Pesticides
- Poisons
- Ammunition
- Explosives/Fireworks
- Mercury from thermometers
- Acid
- Fire Extinguishers
- Auto parts
- Antifreeze
- Needles

* For disposal of many of the items above see www.danecountycleansweep.com

If you have questions on whether specific items are eligible for pick-up, please call Green Valley Disposal directly at 251-7878.

House Numbers



Dane County Code of Ordinances requires a consistent style of address numbers and how they are to be installed and displayed at each residence in the county. For those already installed, please check that they have not become obstructed from view by trees, shrubs, bushes, etc. ALWAYS place house numbers on the same side of the street as your residence.

This ordinance is critical to the rapid ability of emergency services to be able to respond to crisis situations. Failure to install these numbers as specified may result in the delay of EMS, Fire or Law Enforcement personnel.

If not already installed, posts, signs and numbers may be purchased at the Town Office during Town hours. Instructions or questions on details of installation and placement can be answered by Town or County personnel.

★ DEPUTY'S NOTEBOOK ★

This summer the Town purchased a bicycle for neighborhood patrols, allowing me the opportunity to be more accessible to the community and be able to hear your comments and concerns first hand. While out on bicycle patrol, I have met many of the Town residents. If you are out in your yard or enjoying the late summer weather, don't be surprised if I stop by and say "Hi".

Knowing that fall is upon us, here are a few reminders to Town residents to keep our community safe and criminal opportunities to a minimum.

- The start of the school year is fast approaching. For some this will add more "stress" to already busy lives until we and our kids adjust to the school year routine again. Be on the alert for children moving to or from school bus stops, and playing in neighborhoods after school. Please be particularly aware of kids waiting at the bus stops, and take extra caution in the school zones. An accident happens in seconds, regret lasts a lifetime.
- The other area I would like to address is speeding. I would ask residents to make a more concerted effort to watch your vehicle's speed when commuting through the Town for everyone's safety.
- Finally, we continue to have situations where thefts are occurring from unlocked cars. A good habit for all residents when leaving their vehicle ungaraged at their residence is to lock doors. This is a crime prevention activity that pays dividends by avoiding hassles associated with the loss of personal property.

If you have any concerns that we can assist you with, please feel free to contact either me, Deputy Garrett Page at page@co.dane.wi.us or Deputy Mike Mohr at mohr.michael@co.dane.wi.us.



Leaves – What to do with them?

Fall is a time when many residents deal with leaves. The University of Wisconsin – Extension Offices offer these thoughts when doing fall clean up:

- The best way to deal with modest amounts of leaves is to mulch them into your lawn since they include good nutrients for the lawn. Mulching reduces the leaf size speeding up decomposition. The only caution is not to let the leaves mat during this process; allow ample grass to show through the mulched leaves.
- An alternative to mulching the leaves into the lawns is to mulch and incorporate into flower or vegetable gardens since the material makes good organic fertilizer and soil conditioner.
- During the spring, left over leaves can be used to lessen seedling injury caused by late freezes and to smother emerging weeds.
- Leaves can be placed in compost bins with other appropriate plant material to make a rich soil source for the future.
- As a point of information, any plant material piled on a hard surface for a period of time as short as one day tends to leach out nutrients. Because piles of plant matter represent a concentrated source of decomposing material, these nutrients often end up running off with rain water into the watershed and ultimately in local lakes. Don't pile plant material on hard surfaces without addressing them for any longer than absolutely necessary.

Only you can determine the right amount of ground shade that is right for your yard, recognizing that shading also generally means working with leaves in the fall. You'll want to balance the amount of work needed to achieve the desired shade levels against time, energy and/or investment associated with trees providing that shade. Where possible, the 'simpler the better' is a truism that applies well to managing leaves and yard trimmings.

Source: Managing Leaves and Yard Trimmings, A Series of Water Quality Fact Sheets for Residential Areas, Environmental Resources Center, University of Wisconsin – Extension and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

What do I do with weeds?

The number one action to take with any weed is to remove it so it doesn't proliferate. If you can get ahead of weeds going to seed, you can use the associated plant matter as compostable material in your yard.

Noxious weeds are best disposed by putting them in a bag labeled "Invasive Plants – Please Landfill" and placing the bag with your other trash in your Green Valley Disposal cart.

If you are unsure what plants are identified as noxious weeds by the DNR, please visit the Town website or the DNR site at <http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives> where photos of the invasive plants are available.

Where are composting sites?

If you don't compost on your property, a compost site behind the Town Hall is available for small amounts of compost materials (non-woody leaves, grass and plant clippings). Larger amounts should be taken directly to the Dane County compost sites at the old Dane County-Verona Landfill adjacent to the Badger Prairie Health Care Center. Other sites are the Westport Site at 5254 State Highway 19 and at the Lake Farm Site at 7102 Highways 12 & 18. For more information regarding composting call 266-4139.

Neither the Town nor Dane County accept noxious weeds as part of the materials that can be placed in compost locations. (See 'What do I do with weeds?' for more information on what to do with noxious weeds.)

Do I need Burning Permits?

Burning permits are no longer required. Keep in mind that as a resident you are accepting responsibility for managing any burn you initiate given weather conditions for the date you are burning as well as meeting town ordinances.

Burns are not allowed on Saturdays, Sundays and Federal Holidays. Knowing that fall brings abundant leaves, an exception is made for the first and third Saturdays in October, November and December.

Burns must start AFTER 8:00 AM and be fully extinguished by BEFORE 3:30 PM on days when the wind speed is below 15 MPH. Additional burn ordinance information can be obtained by contacting the Town Hall.



BUILDER'S CORNER: The Town frequently gets questions about when permits are required. Here is a partial list of those activities when a permit and/or Town involvement is needed:

Buildings – <i>moving or razing</i>	Required – fee	Roofing –	Not required
Commercial property –	Required – fee	<i>replacing/no changes to structure</i>	No notice to Town needed
<i>new or additional construction</i>		Roofing –	Required - fee
Driveways – <i>new</i>	Required – fee	<i>substantial decking replacement</i>	
Driveways – <i>replacing</i>	Required – no fee	<i>or changes to structure</i>	
Furnaces, Air Conditioners or Water Heaters –	Required – fee	Windows/Doors –	Not required
<i>new or replacement</i>		<i>replacement – original size retained</i>	No notice to Town needed
Garages/Accessory buildings –	Required – fee	Windows/Doors –	Required – fee
<i>new or additions</i>		<i>replacement – original size altered (expanded)</i>	
Homes - <i>new</i>	Required – fee	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 Thursday at the Town Hall or by calling Town Offices (833-5887).	
Homes - <i>remodel/addition</i>	Required – fee		
Pools	Required – fee		

Brush and Small Tree Limb Pick-up

The Town Crew chipping schedule for the remainder of 2010 is:

FALL CHIP WEEKS:

SEPTEMBER 6, SEPTEMBER 20,
OCTOBER 4, NOVEMBER 1

As always, have your brush out on Monday mornings of chipping weeks:

- Place the trunk ends of limbs and branches toward the road.
- Gather the materials into armload-sized bundles for easy handling.
- Gather undersized twigs (of pencil size diameter) into paper sacks that will be shredded or on a tarp that will be left behind to ensure a clean pick up. No plastic bags please.

Fall Mulching Opportunities

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 delivered. This represents a materials pile of approximately 6' by 6' by 3'. When calling Town Hall for full load quantities (833-5887) to be delivered, be ready to specify the preferred unloading location as viewed from the road.

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 generally 33 feet 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.

Are Gypsy Moths invading your neighborhood?



Late August and September are prime times to notice this invasive species. Only male moths fly; their coloring is primarily brown. Females don't fly, and are white in color. If you are finding significant numbers of moths in your area or adjacent areas, please contact the Town Hall with this information and your address. Information about Gypsy Moth infestations will be forwarded to the Wisconsin DNR and taken into consideration when identifying areas to be targeted for DNR action in spring of 2011. The DNR evaluates sites against guidelines so notification is not a guaranty that the DNR will spray your area in 2011, however without your help an area that should be identified may be missed.



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.

**Calendar
of Events**

Sept 6	Town Office Closed		Holiday Closing
Sept 14	Election	7 am to 8 pm	Town Hall
Sept 14-16	Bulk Pick-Up		Normal Trash Day
Oct 2	Med-Drop	9 am to 1 pm	Middleton High School
Nov 1	Final brush chipping week		
Nov 2	Election	7 am to 8 pm	Town Hall
Nov 25-26	Town Office Closed		Holiday Closing
Dec 20	Tax bills will be mailed on or before this date		
Dec 24	Town Offices Closed		Holiday Closing

Important Contact Information

Dane County Sherriff Dispatch.... 255-2345
(Non-emergency)

Street Light Outages
MG&E 252-7333
Alliant..... 1-800-Alliant

Green Valley Disposal..... 251-7878

Animal Control 838-0413

Middleton Fire Department 827-1090
(Non-emergency)

Middleton EMS Department 827-1040
(Non-emergency)