



Town of Middleton

SPRING ISSUE | 2015 | NEWSLETTER

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CIVIC HAPPENINGS

When is the Spring Election?

The Spring Election will be held on Tuesday, April 7.

The local Town positions to be decided by the Spring Election are Town Board Chairperson and Supervisor Seats #1 and #2.

Milo Breunig is the incumbent for the Chair of the Board, but has decided not seek reelection.

Bill Kolar will be running for Town Chair.

For Supervisor Seat #1, Tim Roehl (Incumbent) is running unopposed and Brett Renteria is running for Supervisor Seat #2.

Other offices on the ballot are Justice of the Supreme Court, Dane County Circuit Court Judges, Municipal Judge and School Board Candidates.

In addition, a Constitutional Amendment will be on the ballot asking the following question:



QUESTION:



Election of Chief Justice.

Shall Section 4 (2) of Article VII of the constitution be amended to direct that a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be elected for a two-year term by a majority of the justices then serving on the court?

Town of Middleton Annual Meeting

The Town will have its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:00 pm.

The Annual Meeting is meant to be an informative opportunity for Town residents to hear what the Town is planning to accomplish during the coming year. It is also an opportunity for residents to express their views and ask questions. All town residents are encouraged to attend this public meeting.



Board of Review

Open Book is the best opportunity for you, as a taxpaying property owner, to review the assessment of your property. **The Open Book window is Monday, April 20 through Thursday, May 7.**

This process starts with the property owner doing research. The property owner compares the assessment of their property against similar properties (via information available online at Access Dane, Town website or in the Town Hall during business hours). Since Assessors look at comparable sales to determine the value of a property, the materials presented should show sales or assessments of comparable homes that substantiate the change. This work provides needed evidence to justify the proposed change in property valuation.

If the decision is to proceed with an appeal based on a perceived inequity in property valuation, a change in valuation request is made directly to Paul Musser using the information gathered during the research phase. Paul can be contacted in advance of Open Book to provide documentation and discuss the assessment. Another option is to contact the Town Hall to make an appointment with Paul during the windows of time that he will be available at the Town Hall for these discussions. Please realize that Paul cannot do anything about the 2014 property taxes already billed. His role is to create an accurate assessment of Town properties.

Paul Musser • Musser Appraisal Service
PO Box 620213 • Middleton, WI
(608) 712-0236 • musser.apprz@frontier.com

For those not satisfied with the outcome of the Open Book discussion, an appeal may be escalated to the Board of Review, comprised of the Town Board. The property owner registers their appeal by informing the Town Clerk, David Shaw, of their intent to make an appeal at the Board of Review. By State Statutes, this notification must be received at the Town 48 hours in advance of the Board of Review Meeting (effectively by noon on May 15th).

The initial Board of Review meeting is scheduled for May 18th at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall and will occur concurrently with the Town Board meeting held that night. Paper work submitted to the Town Clerk will be distributed to the Board of Review that night with appeals to be heard at a later date. Town staff will schedule the hearings for evenings after May 18th.

PARKS, TRAILS AND CONSERVANCIES RE-AWAKEN FROM WINTER TO WELCOME WARM-WEATHER VISITORS

Have you seen that first robin? How about a crocus poking up through frosty ground? With spring comes the chance to rediscover – or explore for the first time – warm-weather activities in the Town’s 10 parks and five conservancies, and along its 22 miles of pedestrian and/or biking trails.

With warmer weather also comes the chance to be outside for those upcoming parties and picnics, including high school graduation parties. It’s not too early to consider reserving a **park shelter** as the spot to celebrate that young scholar now off to the wider world.

Shelters are rented for a minimal fee on a first-come-first-served basis. More details about rental can be found at the “Park and Recreation” tab on the town website, <http://town.middleton.wi.us>.

Additional topics are available at the tab and include:

- Trail maps
- A detail of each park and conservancy and the amenities offered
- Descriptions of on-leash dog walking areas and the Town’s Canine Coordinator Program
- A copy of the 2013-15 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Get in touch if you want to offer feedback on the website and, in fact, on all of the Park Commission’s action. The Commission meets at 6:30 pm on the second Monday of every month at the Town Hall. There is a standing agenda item for public input.



Road Construction

Pioneer Road Construction – The City of Madison will be installing 1,050 feet of sanitary sewer line along Pioneer Road (between Valley View Road and Mineral Point Road) to serve the Birchwood Point subdivision on Mineral Point Road. This **Lower Badger Mill Creek Sanitary Sewer Interceptor** Project will be fully paid for by the City of Madison. The project is anticipated to start the end of March or early April. When the project commences, Pioneer Road (between Valley View Road and Mineral Point Road) will be closed for three weeks. Please make alternative travel plans during construction. Citations will be issued to those who do not reside or who are not doing business within the construction area.

Information with links to the project and a map of the project can be found at the Town of Middleton website www.town.middleton.wi.us.

Questions regarding the project can be directed to Sara Ludtke, Public Works Coordinator at (608) 833-5887.



Deputy's Corner

Be a Responsible Pet Owner!

February was "Responsible Pet Owner" month and the American Kennel Club gives advice on how to be responsible to and for your pet. I would like to focus on the pet owner's responsibility to your community.

DOG LICENSING - All Town of Middleton/Dane County residents owning a dog 5 months or older **must** have their animal licensed. These licenses can be obtained through the Town and are good for 1 calendar year.

EXERCISING YOUR DOG - There are several areas in the Town to walk your dog. Ed Tallard Park off of Airport Road allows you to walk your dog on leash. There are several other "on leash" trails in the town, including public recreational trails in the Stonebrook Estates area and Prairie Homes Estates. In all other public areas and parks, dogs are not allowed. In most if not all cases there is signage.

Dogs must **always** be under control of their owners and must always be on a leash unless on the owner's property. We also ask you to:

- Please clean up after your animal. Dog feces can pose health risks to people and other pets.
- Please be respectful of other community residents when walking your dog.
- Please keep rabies and vaccination information up to date.

As always, if you have questions about Town of Middleton ordinances for animals or any other general ordinance question, feel free to contact Deputy Mohr at mohr.michael@danesherriff.com or Deputy Garrett Page at page@danesherriff.com. As always, be safe.

Regards, Deputy Garrett Page

New to the Town *and* Want to ote?

Log onto My Vote Wisconsin:
<https://myvote.wi.gov> to:

- ✓ Check the status of your voter registration.
- ✓ Use "Click & Mail" to update your registration (you must print the form and bring to the polling place with you).
- ✓ Find the location of the polling place for your residential address.

Do you have brush and small tree limbs to be picked up?

The Town Crew is scheduled to chip brush and tree limbs left at curbside during the following weeks:

- **April 6 and 20**
- **May 4 and 18**
- **June 1 and 15**
- **July 6 and 20**
- **August 3 and 17**
- **September 7 (Crew will not chip on Labor Day)**
- **October 5**
- **November 2**

(The town trash calendar also identifies the weeks the crew will be chipping.)

Reminder:

- Place the trunk ends of limbs and branches toward the road.
 - o Do not shorten long limbs.
 - o If you can reasonably get it to the street, the crew can get it into the chipper.
- Gather the smaller branches, brush, etc. into armload-sized bundles for easy handling.
 - o Gather undersized twigs (of pencil size diameter or smaller) into paper bags 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.
 - o No plastic bags please.
- Christmas wreaths have wires and need to go into the green trash container to be picked up by Advanced Disposal Service with the rest of your trash. They pose a hazard to both equipment and Town personnel.



Important: Have your brush and tree limbs out on Monday morning of each chipping week. It takes the crew approximately five days to chip the Town. Pick up dates and information on what is acceptable material for pick up can also be referenced on the Town of Middleton website at www.town.middleton.wi.us. Only acceptable material placed in piles according to Town guidelines will be picked up.

Wood Chips are available for distribution!

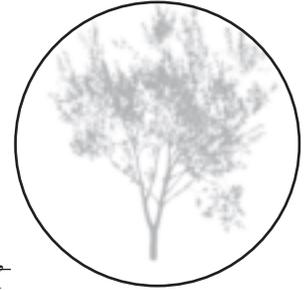
Material from the brush and small limb pick up are chipped and available to town residents for use as mulch. This is not commercial quality mulch and includes the wide variety of materials left roadside for the Town Crew to handle. Only full load quantities of approximately 4 cubic yards are available.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

Tree Trimming in Road right-of-way

The Town Crew will be trimming trees and brush that are in the road right-of-way.

The Town right-of-way is approximately 33' in each direction, from the center of the road.

Most trees and brush that will be trimmed or removed are causing visual issues for vehicles and/or drainage problems. If you have any questions, you can contact Jerry Wagner, Lead Town Crewman, at the Town office by dialing (608) 575-1045.



What to do with Noxious Weeds

Noxious weeds should be disposed by placing the weeds in a bag labeled "Invasive Plants – Please Landfill" and placing the bag with other waste in your green trash disposal cart.

Dane County also maintains a compost site at Rodefeld which is located at 7102 Hwy 12 & 18 – one-half mile east of I-90 and across from Yahara Hills Golf Course. For more information regarding composting call (608) 266-4139.

NOTE: Some residents place their yard waste in public areas – i.e. land adjoining parks, trails, or easements. This is a violation of Town Ordinances. Do not use public lands or easements as personal dumping sites for anything!

Have Junk – Will Toss! Spring Bulk Pick Up is May 12, 13 & 14

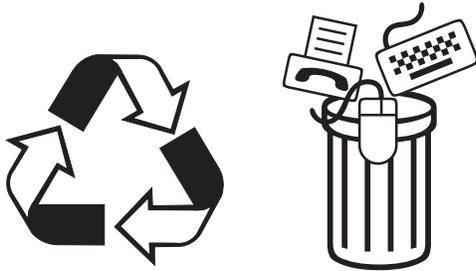
Advanced Disposal will pick up bulk items on your normally scheduled trash collection date on May 12-14. The items below will NOT be picked up by Advanced Disposal:

- ✘ 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, tires and hot ashes.

Disposal of items not accepted by Advanced Disposal may be accepted at Dane County Clean Sweep – see their website at www.danecountycleansweep.com. If you have questions on whether specific items are eligible for pick up, please call Advanced Disposal directly at (608) 251-7878.

Tossing Electronic Waste?

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 offering drop off sites for e-waste.



Fire Numbers are important!

Dane County Code of Ordinances requires a consistent style of address numbers as well as 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.

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

PulsePoint



PulsePoint – Save a Life, Get the App

How can we improve patient outcomes from cardiac arrest?
How can we double or even triple people's chances for survival?
How can you help save a life?

There's an exciting new opportunity both you and your community may be interested in. Dane County Emergency Medical Services, Meriter-UnityPoint Health, and the City of Madison are excited to introduce PulsePoint® Respond mobile application to Dane County.

PulsePoint® Respond is a mobile application that lies at the intersection of technology, innovation, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Based on a smartphone's GPS coordinates, PulsePoint® Respond alerts CPR-trained bystanders to someone nearby who is having a sudden cardiac event that may require CPR. The mobile app is activated by the Dane County Public Safety Communications Center simultaneously with the dispatch of local EMS and fire resources.

The purpose of the mobile app is to increase the survival rates of cardiac arrest victims by:

1. Reducing collapse-to-CPR time by increasing citizen awareness of cardiac events beyond a traditional "witnessed" area.
2. Reducing collapse-to-defibrillation times by increasing awareness of public access to automatic external defibrillator (AED) locations through real-time mapping of nearby devices.

The mobile app is only activated if the event is occurring in a public place (the app is not activated for residential addresses). The CPR alerts appear just as other notifications on a smartphone, such as texts or voice-mails but with a distinctive alert tone. The app also shows the location of the nearest AED, provides directions to the AED in real-time in context with the responders' current location. In addition to the life-saving CPR/AED functionality, the app provides a window into EMS and Fire activity in your community, offering a unique opportunity for civic engagement and transparency.

If you have been trained in CPR, please consider this app! If you haven't yet been trained in CPR, please consider attending a class this month. YOU can help save a life by performing compressions on a cardiac arrest victim. If you are interested in being trained in CPR visit www.danepulsepoint.com.

SAVE A LIFE, GET THE APP!

Keep the Town Looking Good

As the snow and ice recede, the roadsides of the Town of Middleton show signs of improper waste disposal. When you are out for a walk or just in your neighborhood, pick up and clean up this year. Let's keep the Town of Middleton a beautiful place we call our home.

If interested in a more committed endeavor, contact the Dane County Adopt a Highway Program. For questions regarding this program call (608) 266-4011 or email highway@countyofdane.com.



Improving your Home or Driveway?

Building projects planned during the winter are beginning to pick up in the spring of the year. A building permit is required for projects valued 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 'Construction & Permitting' section of the Town website. The Town Inspector, Fred Hankel, is available to answer your questions Monday through Friday by calling Town Offices, (608) 833-4346, or Fred Hankel's cell phone (608) 843-8996.



West Middleton Youth Baseball and Softball is having youth league open registration for boys and girls that match all levels of development and competition. Baseball leagues start at T-ball and continuing up through competitive teams playing in the Dane Co. Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth leagues. Scholarships are available.

Home games are played at the beautiful Pioneer Park ball fields in the Town of Middleton. More information can be found on the West Middleton Youth Baseball and Softball Club website, including photos of our events and an easy to complete online registration form: <http://www.westmiddletonbaseball.com>

Did You Know...

- A Dog License is the Law. Wisconsin State Statutes require annual licensing for all dogs five months of age or older. The license year is January 1 through December 31. Owners must license any dog within 30 days of acquiring a new dog or moving to the unincorporated area of the County. **Renew your dog license before March 31st to avoid the late fee.**
- Check out the Town of Middleton website at **www.town.middleton.wi.us**. Information is available about Town Board, Parks, Finance and Plan activities along with many other options. Subscribe to keep up to date on happenings.
- Homeowner Associations, we need you to keep in touch by providing update information when new officers are elected. Send the contact information to **info@town.middleton.wi.us**



Freedom Fest is a 4th of July “Ol’ Fashion Picnic in the Park” for all of the residents in the Town of Middleton.

The 2015 event will be our sixth annual celebration. Approximately 300-400 people attended last year and we hope it continues to grow.

The day starts with a 5k race (last year was 80 runners), children’s fire truck bike parade, followed by a cookout/beer tent and then family games. Please visit the Town of Middleton website as the day draws closer for more specific details and times for Freedom Fest.

As participation in this event grows, we are in need of donations. Money raised from the event is put back into the community. A donation from Freedom Fest has put in place a permanent community grill in Pioneer Park for everyone to use. Freedom Fest is now registered with the state as a non-profit. Donations for food/ beverages/games and prizes are always helpful.

Your help and ideas can make this day a fun event for all ages. If you have any suggestions, desire to volunteer time or donations, please contact Mike Hanson via email: **hanson24@hotmail.com** and put Freedom Fest in your subject line.

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

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Office Hours

Town Offices: 7555 W. Old Sauk Road, Verona, WI 53593
Town Hours: 8 am to 4 pm—Monday through Thursday
8 am to noon—Friday
Town Phone: (608) 833-5887
Town Email: info@town.middleton.wi.us
Town Website: www.town.middleton.wi.us

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION
March 31	<i>Dog License Application Due Date</i>		Town Hall
April 6	First Brush Chipping Date	As scheduled	
April 7	Spring Election	7:00 am to 8:00 pm	Town Hall
April 21	Town Annual Meeting	7:00 pm	Town Hall
May 12, 13, 14	Bulk Pick Up	<i>On normally scheduled trash day</i>	
May 18	Board of Review	7:00 pm	<i>Town Hall</i>
May 25	Town Offices Closed		<i>Memorial Day</i>
September 1	Town Offices Closed		<i>Labor Day</i>

KEY CONTACT INFORMATION

Dane County Sheriff Dispatch

Non-emergency (608) 255-2345

Street Light Outages (Can be reported via email)

MG&E (608) 252-7333

Alliant 1-800-255-4268

Advanced Disposal (608) 251-7878

Animal Control (608) 838-0413

Middleton Fire Department

(Non-emergency) (608) 827-1090

Middleton EMS Department

(Non-emergency) (608) 827-1040

Town Building Inspector

(Fred Hankel) (608) 833-4346

Town Assessor

(Paul Musser) (608) 712-0236

Well Water Testing - Public Health

Madison & Dane Co. (608) 242-6515