



Town of Grafton Times

DECEMBER 2009

Special Interest Articles:

- Recycling News
- Building Inspection Reminders
- Stormwater Runoff

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Message from Chairman Bartel

Merry Christmas to you and your family from all of us at the Town Hall. 2009 was all in all a good year for your Town government. We were able to stay within budget, improve efficiencies and provide services that we require as residents. Your Town tax dollars are spent keeping the town roads in good repair, meaning plowed in the winter and rebuilt and repaired in a timely manner. We also provide for fire and rescue protection that is second to none, garbage and recycling pickup, and keeping an excellent public library accessible for all. We keep an office open and staffed to help us through the necessary workings of the building inspection department, tax collections, helping residents with issues of concern and for all clerical needs that go with running our township. We also provide for engineering and planning that is necessary for us to keep up with the development needs for the future which will keep our township strong.

I could go on but the bottom line is that if you have a home that is assessed at \$250,000 you are paying about \$620 in town tax for your share of Town government expense. To keep it in context, a friend of mine to plows snow in the winter charges around \$30 to plow an average driveway. If you have your driveway plowed 10 times in a winter that is \$300. I am confident that your Town Board is doing it's best to spend your tax dollars wisely and we still look at every penny spent on every line in the budget.

The Town Board meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall. I invite you to attend at least one meeting this year, make it your New Year's resolution to become involved. Your input and questions are always appreciated and we would like to meet you in person. We are, after all, managing your business, your town.

Your Town Chairman

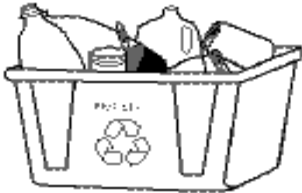
Lester A. Bartel, Jr.

Please note that the Town's website has changed to www.townofgrafton.org

Garbage and Recycling – VEOLIA WASTE SERVICES 1-800-387-0949

Garbage and Recyclables must be out before 7:00 A.M. on the day of pick up.

If your garbage is missed, please call Veolia at 800-387-0949.



❖ **BULKY ITEMS** – Call Veolia to schedule pick-up. Remember the item must be small and light enough for one person to move.

❖ **CARPETING**- Pieces should be cut and bound less than 5 feet in length and weigh less than 50 pounds.

❖ **SMALL APPLIANCES**- Small appliances such as toasters can be put with your regular trash

❖ **LARGE APPLIANCES**- Larger items like stoves and refrigerators call PORT RECYCLING at (262)284-4060 or Veolia at (800)-387-0949.

❖ **LATEX PAINT**- Dry out the remaining paint and place in trash.

Glass never wears out -- it can be recycled forever. We save over a ton of resources for every ton of glass recycled -- 1,330 pounds of sand, 433 pounds of soda ash, 433 pounds of limestone, and 151 pounds of feldspar.

ALTERNATIVE DISPOSAL SITES

Port Recycling
(262)284-4060, 728 Schmitz Drive, Port Washington, WI – Furniture, televisions, appliances, car batteries, etc. Call for pricing, hours, and pick-up

Veolia Environmental Services
(262)243-8998

EARN CASH- Port Recycling and Arrow Disposal will pay you money for aluminum cans, copper, stainless steel, radiators, and brass.

Arrow Disposal
(262)284-1166
3860 Cty Rd H
Port Washington, WI
Call for fees.

Ozaukee County Hazardous Waste
(262)483-8998
1275 Mineral Springs Drive, Port Washington, WI- Open Mondays only 8:00 am- 5:00 pm
See Town's website for complete listing of accepted materials

BRUSH-LEAVES-YARD WASTE

The Town of Grafton does not offer yard waste pick-up. The following options are at your disposal.

❖ **Composting and Mulching** – These are the most environmentally friendly ways to manage yard waste. Mulching returns valuable nutrients back to the soil and results in greener grass and foliage.

❖ **Burning**- You can burn yard waste without a permit. Please be cautious and always have a water source available.

❖ **Independent Landscapers**-Often landscapers will offer their services for clean up.

Christmas Tree Pick-Up
Ozaukee County Highway Department will pick up trees on or around:
▪ **January 6, 2010**
▪ **January 20, 2010**
Please have them by the road by 7:00 AM.



BUILDING INSPECTION NEWS

Inspector: Rick Fellenz
(262) 377-1087

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday
7:30 AM – 10:00 AM

- ✓ **REMINDERS**-the Town of Grafton requires building permits for many home projects. Please call if you are unsure or have questions.
- ✓ **DOUBLE FEES APPLY** if you fail to take out a permit before work starts!

REQUIRES PERMITS:
 New Construction
 Garages, Barns, or Sheds
 Remodeling
 Pools
 Decks
 Water Heater or Treatment Replacement

DOES NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT:
 Replacement of doors or windows (no structural changes)
 Re-siding
 Re-roofing (first or second layer)

When in doubt about permits, please call the Hall!



Town Treasurer
Tax Information

Jan Strachota
(262)377-8500

TAX COLLECTON AT THE TOWN HALL

1102 Bridge Street – Grafton, WI 53024

**Payments put in the mail slot next to the door will be credited the following business day.

December 15-18, 21-23, 28-30	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
December 31, 2009	9:00 AM –12:00 PM
January 15, 22, 27-29	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
March 19, 26, 29-31	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
May 20-21, 27-28	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
June 1	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Please Note:

Town Hall will be **CLOSED** the following days:

- Saturdays and Sundays
- Christmas Day
- New Year’s Eve Day
- Good Friday
- Government Holidays

Local Banks Accepting Payments:

Harris Bank- Grafton locations
 1102 Falls Road & 1200 Washington Street

Cornerstone Community Bank – Grafton

Port Washington State Bank – Grafton

Refund Information

Payments can be made at the listed banks anytime. Banks can issue refunds on-site. Refunds for payments made at Town Hall will be issued by check at the next scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting.

Dog Licensing






Mutland Meadows in the Town of Grafton is a great place to let your dog run and relax. It's FREE too!

Mutland Meadows
789 Green Bay Road
Across the street from
Lime Kiln Park

All licenses are valid from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. Puppies should be registered by 5 months of age (WI Stat. §174.05). Renewals are due by March 31, 2010. A late fee of \$5.00 will apply after that date for late renewals, not for new licenses.

Please bring in a current Rabies Certificate which includes the vaccine manufacturer, expiration date, and vaccine serial number (WI Stat. §174.07). If mailing, enclose a copy of the rabies certificate, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to receive your license and tag in the mail.

 Spayed or Neutered Dogs	\$5.00
 Male or Female Dogs	\$10.00
 Multiple Dogs	\$35.00

Address Markers

The new address markers have made a big improvement in the Town of Grafton. The larger signage makes it easier for people to find your residence, including the Grafton Volunteer Fire Department and the Ozaukee County Sheriffs Department which is essential to locate you in the event of an emergency. Unfortunately, there are a few instances of people who moved or removed the markers. Because of this, we need to remind everyone that the markers were installed as a safety feature for all residents. To alleviate personal responsibility of the markers, they are and will remain **Town Property and are placed in the Town Right of Way, not on personal property.** Anyone removing them is guilty of destroying Town property and is in violation of the ordinance that requires them. During the annual road tour, the Town will inspect for any removed or altered address markers. Removed or altered markers will be replaced at **full cost to the property owner** and the Town will prosecute following provisions stated in the ordinance. Removal of address markers is no different than removing a speed limit or stop sign. If you know of someone in your neighborhood that has done this, please gently remind them of the potential consequences. Also, any damaged or stolen signs should be reported immediately for a prompt replacement.

Thank you!

What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater runoff is the portion of rain that does not infiltrate into the ground. Rain that falls on hard surfaces like streets, parking lots, rooftops becomes runoff and flows directly into storm drains and ditches that empty into our streams, rivers and lakes. In most areas, stormwater runoff enters these waters without being cleaned of pollutants.

During a storm, rain runs off of saturated or hard surface areas and picks up and mixes with things like:

- Oil, grease, metals and coolants from vehicles
- Fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals from gardens and homes
- Bacteria from pet wastes and failing septic systems
- Soil from poor construction site practices
- Soaps and detergents from car washing

The way to protect and clean our waterways is to make sure only rain – and nothing else – goes into the storm sewers and ditches.

Top 10 Things You Can Do to Curb Stormwater Pollution

- 1. Maintain your automobile and lawn mower. Always recycle used oil, antifreeze and other fluids. Fix oil leaks in your vehicles.**
 2. Wash your car at a commercial car wash rather than in the street or in your driveway. If you wash your car at home, wash it on your lawn.
 - 3. Pick up after your pets and keep animals out of streams. Scoop your dog's poop and properly dispose of it. Also, make sure fences and other structures are keeping cows, horses and other animals out of streams. Compost manure in a designated area so that it doesn't wash off into nearby waterways.**
 4. Cut down on fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. If you use these chemicals, follow directions and use them sparingly. Don't fertilize before a rainstorm. Consider using organic fertilizers. Let your lawn go golden brown in the summer months; it will rebound in the fall. Compost or mulch lawn clippings. Preserve existing trees or plant new ones - trees hold rainfall and help manage stormwater.
 - 5. Replace part of your lawn with native, drought-resistant plants. Add compost to planting soil and dress it with mulch to improve plant growth and reduce stormwater runoff.**
 6. If you are on a septic system, maintain the system. Septic systems require regular inspections, maintenance and pumping or they will fail, cost a lot of money to fix, and could pollute nearby lakes and streams. Have a professional inspector check your system regularly and have it pumped out when needed.
 - 7. Reduce impervious surfaces at home and increase the vegetated land cover of your property. Impervious surfaces include your roof, driveway, patios and lawn. Reduce rooftop runoff by directing your downspouts to vegetated areas, and not to the storm drain on your street. For your driveway and patios, consider putting in permeable paving or patterns of cement and brick that allow water to filter through it.**
 8. Drive less. Leave your car at home at least one day each week and take a bus, carpool or bike to work. Combine errands when you drive. Get vehicle emissions checked and repaired. Buy a lower emission vehicle.
 - 9. Support your local storm water program. Programs to maintain a community's stormwater system, prevent flooding and protect natural resources may cost money in the short run but save money for damages to public and private property in the long term. Take advantage of opportunities to educate yourself and your family about your local watershed. Consider volunteering for stream restoration or other local volunteer projects.**
 10. Make smart growth choices. Choose to live in a neighborhood that provides you with all conveniences- low maintenance homes and lawns, nearby shopping, walking paths, easy-access to buses and trains, and green, open spaces to enjoy.
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Town of Grafton

1102 Bridge Street
P.O. Box 143
Grafton, WI 53024

PHONE:
(262) 377-8500

FAX:
(262) 377-0332

E-MAIL:
clerk@townofgraffton.org

We're on the Web!

See the new site at:

www.townofgraffton.org

View minutes, agenda, contact
information and newly added
FAQ's

Town of Grafton Officials

Chairman	Lester Bartel	375-0236
Clerk	Jessica Schmidt	377-8500
Deputy Clerk	Lila Schwan	377-8500
Treasurer	Jan Strachota	377-8500
Building Inspector	Rick Fellenz	377-1087

Board of Supervisors

Nancy Rogers	375-1141
Steve Schaefer	375-2292
Tom Sykora	375-6165
Tom Grabow	377-7650

Plan Commissioners

Karron Stockwell	377-7472
Lou Hefle	377-7212
Bob Wolf	377-7409
Mike Ansay	376-0496
Lyle Sperber	377-3680
Larry Tutewohl	377-6894
Alt. Jonathon Stevens	377-1046

Meeting Reminders:Public is Welcome!

Plan Commission Meetings:	1 st Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 P.M.
Town Board Meeting:	2 nd Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 P.M.
Open Space Commission:	4 th Monday of the Month at 7:00 P.M.

TOWN OF GRAFTON

1102 Bridge Street
Grafton, WI 53024