

Pleasant Springs Times

Pleasant Springs
Town Hall
2354 County Rd N
Stoughton, WI
53589

Clerk's Office
873-3063

Fax
877-9444

E-mail
cttops@tds.net

The Town Office is
OPEN

Monday, Tuesday
10:00 am - 4:00
pm

Wednesday
Closed

Thursday
Noon - 6:00 pm

Friday
Closed

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN... by Dick Green

The arrival of spring is very welcome this year. We have had so many bouts of snow and ice that our Public Works staff have set a record for overtime this winter. Our men with the snow-plows did a superb job of keeping the town roads open. Let's hope the plows can be put to rest until next winter. Thanks to our new salt shed we had enough salt to make it through this winter. Several of our neighboring townships ran out of salt and were unable to get salt.

Many of you have called the office to complain about the potholes in the portion of Williams Drive south of County B. This stretch along with the portion of Williams Drive north to Circle Drive was resurfaced in 2007. The part north of County B has not developed potholes like the part south of County B. The wear on that portion is due to the heavy truck traffic to and from the City's industrial park. We are patching the road for 2013 and plan to resurface this portion in 2014. We have asked the City to share the costs of the resurfacing.

Speaking of road projects, in 2013 work will be done on the following roads:

Tower Drive, Koshkonong Road, Door Creek Road, Roidt Drive, Streb Way, Rinden Road, and the roads in the Bellview subdivision.

By the time this newsletter goes out, the spring election will be over and I will no longer be your town chairman. I chose not to run again for office due to several family issues. I thank you for having elected me to serve as a supervisor and town chairman for the past ten years.

Comings, Goings and Change ups....

Goings

-After several years of service on the Plan Commission and Town Board, including serving as Town Chairman from 2007 to 2013, Richard Green has stepped down from service in the Township. Thanks for all of your service and dedication to the Township!

-In January after several years of service, on both the Town's Plan Commission and Town Board, Don Lund resigned as Town Board Supervisor #1, and moved to North Carolina. Thanks for all your years of service!

Comings

-David Pfeiffer was elected to serve as Supervisor #1 for a two year term beginning the 3rd Tuesday in April.

Changeups

-Mary Haley was elected to serve as Town Chairperson. Mary has previously served as Town Board Supervisor #4 and on the Plan Commission. The Town Board will appoint a resident to serve out the remainder of Mary's previous position as Supervisor #4.

Pleasant Springs Times Continued

PLAN COMMISSION

Vivian Green
873-4096

Janiece Bolender
877-3671

Gayland Snorek
873-5263

Rob Montgomery
873-9682

Brenda Taylor-Tummett
205-2224

Jim Shanks
877-0600

The Plan Commission meets at Town Hall
6:30 pm, the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

OPEN BOOK—May 2, 2013

from 9am to 2pm, and 3pm to 7pm.

The single most asked question during property tax time is, what can I do if I disagree with my assessment?

Open Book is property owner's annual opportunity to address those concerns.

Property owners can:

- *Learn how the assessment was calculated
- *Compare your property to similar properties
- *Verify open land acreages and valuations.
- *Learn how market activity affected the assessment.

To schedule an appointment for Open Book, please contact Accurate Appraisal at 1.800.770.3927 or log on to:

www.accurateassessor.com and click on the scheduling link. If you cannot be present at Open Book, please call Accurate Appraisal, or e-mail your questions to: question@accurateassessor.com.

BOARD OF REVIEW



The Board of Review for the Town of Pleasant Springs of Dane County shall meet on Thursday May 30, 2013 beginning at 5:30 at the Pleasant Springs Town Hall, 2354 County Road N, Stoughton, Wisconsin, for the purpose of reviewing and examining the assessment roll of real and personal property in said town, and all sworn statements and valuations of real and personal property therein, and of correcting all errors in said roll whether in description or otherwise, and to perform such other duties imposed by law.

Anyone wishing to contest real or personal property at Board of Review will need to submit a written objection to the Clerk, 48 hours prior to Board of Review. Objection packets can be obtained at the Clerk's office during office hours. For more information on Board of Review, please contact the Clerk at (608) 873-3063.

Control the Spread of Noxious Weeds

In order to prevent the spread of noxious and invasive species, state statute requires that every landowner must destroy all noxious weeds on all lands he owns, occupies or controls. The term "noxious weeds" includes Canada thistle, leafy spurge and field bindweed. If a landowner fails to comply, the town can order the weeds destroyed and the landowner is responsible to repay all costs associated with the work. The Town Board appreciates your responsible compliance and cooperation.

NEW CLEAN SWEEP FACILITY OPENS MAY 1, 2013

Dane County will officially open its new Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility on May 1, 2013. The 4,500 square foot facility was designed to be operated on a year-round basis and features expanded waste handling capabilities and a much larger area devoted to product exchange.

The facility is located at the Dane County Landfill site, 7102 US Hwy. 12 & 18, Madison, WI 53718. Hours of operation will be Tuesday through Friday, 7:00am—2:45pm and Saturdays from 8:00am to 10:45am.

The Dane County Clean Sweep program is one of the largest continuously operated household hazardous waste programs in the State of Wisconsin. Since the opening of its first permanent seasonal facility in 1993, Dane county has captures over 10.8 million pounds of household hazardous waste, and the program continues to serve a critical role in pollution prevention and public health and safety enhancement efforts in Dane County. Residents should call (608) 243-0368 for additional details or visit: www.danecountycleansweep.com



Pleasant Springs Times Continued

TOWN BOARD

Mary Haley
Chairman
873-9013

David Pfeiffer
Supervisor 1
873-0880

Tom McGinnis
Supervisor 2
877-0462

Jay
Damkoehler
Supervisor 3
205-9658

To be
Appointed
Supervisor 4

The Town Board
meets at
Town Hall,
at 6:00 pm, on the
1st & 3rd
Tuesdays of
each month,
unless
otherwise
noticed.

Burning Garbage: A Problem for Our Communities (article courtesy of WI DNR)

What's so bad about burning garbage?

- 1. It's Unhealthy.** If you burn garbage, we will all breathe and eat it, because smoke and ash pollute the air, water and food supply.
- 2. It's Unsafe.** Burning garbage or brush leads to wildfires, property damage and sometimes loss of life.
- 3. It's a Nuisance.** The smoke and ash smell, and irritate eyes and lungs. It's especially bad for people with asthma or heart disease.

We've burned for years. What has changed?

Garbage has changed in the last 50 years. Today's garbage contains plastics, dyes, and other chemicals that release hazardous toxins when burned. Many of these materials were not around a few decades ago.

The pollutants from burning today's garbage cause many health problems and we understand them better than in the past.

We know more about how harmful smoke from burning garbage is, especially for kids and anyone with asthma or trouble breathing.

Alternatives to Burning

- *Recycle paper, cardboard, bottles and cans
- *Compost leaves, grass clippings, small brush and vegetable scraps.
- *Donate or reuse old clothes, furniture and other household items.
- *Send waste that can't be reused, recycled or composted to the landfill. Get a Dumpster for large amounts of waste, such as agricultural plastics and construction and demolition debris.



Pleasant Springs Times Continued

RAIN GARDENS: A HOUSEHOLD WAY TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY IN YOUR COMMUNITY *(excerpt from UW-Extension article)*

Agendas are posted the Friday before the meeting at the three posting locations listed below:

Town Hall, 2354 County Rd N

Sanitary District Bldg., 2083 Williams Dr

East side of the Red Oak Ct cul-de-sac

Copies of the agenda are also available on the website in the Town Board section.

Town Board and Plan Commission agendas can also be found on the Town website at pleasantsprings.org

Cassandra Suettinger
Clerk/Treasurer

Lisa Spangler
Office Assistant

Rain gardens are just what they sound like—gardens that soak up rain water, mainly from your roof, but also from your driveway and lawn. They are landscaped areas planted to wild flowers and other native vegetation to replace areas of lawn. The gardens fill with a few inches of water and allow the water to slowly filter into the ground rather than running off to storm drains. Compared to a patch of conventional lawn, a rain garden allows about 30 percent more water to soak into the ground.

Holding back runoff helps prevent pollutants such as fertilizers from washing off your yard, into storm sewers, and eventually into nearby streams and lakes. By reducing the amount of water that enters the local storm drain systems, rain gardens can also reduce the changes for local flooding, as well as bank and shoreline damage where the storm drains empty into streams and lakes.

People in many parts of the country are starting to build rain gardens in their yards and promoting their use in other locations, such as neighborhood parks. You can help in your own yard by simply building one or more rain gardens to collect runoff from your roof. Rain water can sometimes be collected from your driveway or lawn by locating a rain garden in a low spot where the water naturally drains.

Benefits of a Rain Garden:

- *Increasing the amount of water filtering into the ground, which recharges ground water and helps reduce the amount of pollutants washing off to lakes and streams.

- *Helping sustain adequate flows in streams during dry spells

- *Providing valuable wildlife habitat

- *Enhancing the beauty of your yard and the neighborhood

- *Helping protect communities from flooding and drainage problems

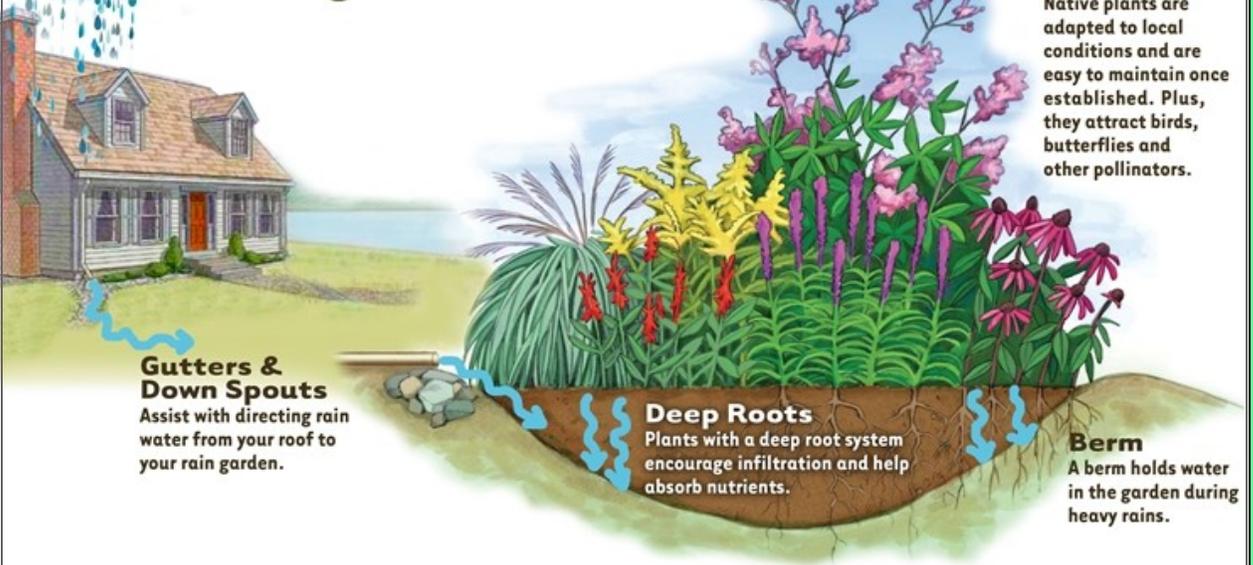
- *Helping protect streams and lakes from damaging flows and reducing erosion of the stream-banks and lakeshores

- *Reducing the need for costly municipal storm water treatment structures.

For more information on rain gardens, see full publication at:

<http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/pdf/gardens.pdf>

How does a rain garden work?



Picture courtesy of www.watershedcouncil.org

Pleasant Springs Times Continued

CHANGE OF HOURS AT THE BRUSH BURNING COMPOST SITE!!

Beginning in June of 2013, the Brush Burning Compost Site will change hours of operation. In an effort to be more accommodating to the residents, the Town is lessening the hours on Saturday and opening up an additional day on Wednesday for the period of June through September. See below for the adjusted schedule. The Board will rely on the feedback received to gauge if this will be a permanent change.

The Brush Burning/Compost Site, 1754 Tower Drive, will be open to receive grass clippings, leaves, and clean brush 4 inches in diameter and smaller, on the following Saturdays from 8:00 a.m to 1:00 pm:

Saturday, April 6, 2013 8am to 1pm	Saturday, April 13, 2013 8am to 1pm
Saturday, May 4, 2013 8am to 1pm	Saturday, May 18, 2013 8am to 1pm
Saturday, June 1, 2013 8am to 11am	Wednesday, June 5, 2013 6pm to 8pm
Saturday, July 6, 2013 8am to 11am	Wednesday, July 10, 2013 6pm to 8pm
Saturday, Aug. 3, 2013 8am to 11am	Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2013 6pm to 8pm
Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013 8am to 11am	Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2013 6pm to 8pm
Saturday, Oct. 5, 2013 8am to 11am	Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013 8am to 11am
Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2013 2pm to 5pm	
Saturday, Nov. 2, 2013 8am to 1pm	Saturday, Nov. 9, 2013 8am to 1pm
HOLIDAY TREE DISPOSAL Saturday, January 4, 2013	HOLIDAY TREE DISPOSAL Saturday, January 11, 2014

This site is open to Pleasant Springs residents only. Lumber and construction materials are NOT allowed. You may not use the site to dispose of waste for businesses or non-residents. Please do not leave material in garbage bags. Please empty contents and take bags with you.

The Dane County Landfill, 7102 US Highway 12-18, is available for all county residents, Monday -Friday 7am -2:45pm and Saturday 8am-11am.

Don't forget to obtain your Town Resident sticker in order to use the B/B Compost Site.

FEE FOR BRUSH BURNING COMPOST SITE

The Town Board is considering implementing a fee for use of the Brush Burning Compost Site. Currently costs for the site continue to rise, and the Town is considering implementing a fee to offset the costs. The Board is considering a \$25 annual permit fee and a \$5 daily fee. The Town Board would like obtain feedback from the residents on the proposed changes. Feedback can be emailed to cttops@tds.net, mailed to 2354 County Highway N, Stoughton WI 53589, or residents can make in-person feedback during the public comment section of any Town Board meeting. Town Board meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Pleasant Springs Times Continued

New Ordinance on Direct Sellers

Last summer the Town Board passed a new ordinance. **All direct sellers or solicitors will be required to obtain a permit from the Town Office before conducting business in the Township.**

The following items shall be prohibited:

1. Sales between the hours of 9pm to 9am
2. Sales at any dwelling where a sign is displayed prohibiting sales or solicitation
3. Calling at the rear door of any dwelling
4. Remaining on the premises after being asked to leave.

Any residents who discover a direct seller or solicitor without a permit, or to report suspicious activity, are encouraged to contact the Dane County Southeast Sheriff's Precinct at 608-283-3960.

For additional information on this ordinance please contact office staff.

Fall Construction at the Lake Kegonsa Boat Launch!!

Beginning in the Fall of 2013, the Town's Lake Kegonsa Boat Launch will undergo construction. The proposed project consists of replacement of the existing launch ramp, installation of a new floating pier, bio-retention basin, and landscaping.

The Town was awarded a grant from Wisconsin Recreational Boating facilities grant from the DNR in the amount of \$101,250 to cover 50% of the costs, and has applied to receive additional funding from the Dane County PARC Grant.

Burning Guidelines

- ◆ Call the appropriate fire department non-emergency number and register your burn. Let the department know when, where, and what, you are burning.

- ◆ Stoughton Fire Dept (873-7218)

McFarland Fire Dept (838-3278)

Cottage Grove Fire Dept (839-4343)

Pleasant Springs Residents do not need a permit.

*If you are unsure of the correct department to call, contact the office staff at 873-3063 for assistance.

*Do not burn when conditions are overly dry or windy. See DNR page at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/restrictions.asp>.

*Fires must be extinguished within one half hour of sunset. Any smoldering material counts as a burning fire.

*Keep the burning pile small, and no bigger than 4' x 4'.

*You may burn yard waste and clean, untreated wood from a single family or household on the property where it is generated ONLY. You may **not** burn for others.

NEVER LEAVE THE FIRE UNTIL IT IS COMPLETELY OUT. YOU MUST ATTEND THE ENTIRE BURN; THIS INCLUDES SMOLDERING ASHES.

Pleasant Springs Times Continued

Public Works

Ted Keehn
Jim Alme
205-9169

Office Hours

Monday and
Wednesday
7:00 to 8:30
a.m.

Waste/
Recycling
Pelliteri
257-4285

Building
Inspector
Steve Kittelson
873-8784
445-9715

FIREWORKS ORDINANCE

The Town would like to take an opportunity to remind residents of Chapter 103 of the Town ordinances relating to fireworks. The use of fireworks, as defined in section 167.01(1) of the Wisconsin States Statutes, will require a Fireworks use permit.

Residents wishing to hold a fireworks display should stop by Town Hall to obtain a firework's use permit application. Residents should keep in mind the following criteria:

1. If the number of expected spectators is over 30 people, Town Board approval is required. (Please plan ahead to allow the proper time to be placed on a Town Board agenda for consideration.)
2. The request must be for a SPECIFIC date and time.
3. Residents should be aware the issuance of an temporary burning ban shall terminate any firework use permits issued.



A copy of the complete ordinance is available upon request from the Town Office.

Check out one of the Town's three Little Free Libraries!

Locations:

1. Quam Park
2. Lake Kegonsa Boat Launch
3. Town Hall

What is a Little Fee Library?

It is a small library where residents can leave a book or take a book. There are no library cards, there are no librarians, just people sharing their love of reading and their favorite books!

Dog License

If you have not licensed your dog by March 31st, a late fee of \$10.00 must be added to the normal license fee. Please remember that all dogs must be licensed each year, and fines for dogs running at large range between \$100 and \$400.

Building Permit Information

Spring is in the air, and that means many residents will be starting construction projects for home improvements, renovations, etc. For questions on necessary permits please contact the Town's Building Inspector Steve Kittelson. Steve can answer questions relating to building permits, fences, construction inspections, Uniform Dwelling Code Compliance and pre-construction information.

Building Inspector's Office Hours

Thursday 4:40pm to 5:30pm
Pleasant Springs Town Hall
2354 County Highway N
Stoughton WI 53589
(608) 873-8784 or (608) 445-9715

Residents should be aware any projects that require equipment or materials in excess of 12 tons, will be required to obtain a driveway access damage deposit permit before a building permit will be issued. For questions, or to obtain a permit, contact Public Works at 205-9169

*Permit fees double for any project that commences without a proper building permit

OFFICE HOUR CHANGE!!

In an effort to provide more convenience to residents, the Town office will no longer be closing for the lunch hour on Monday and Tuesday. The Office will be open on Monday and Tuesday from 10am to 4pm, and Thursday Noon to 6pm.

DID YOU KNOW?

Your resident sticker is good for both dropping brush off at the Brush Burning Compost Site AND free parking at the Boat Launch on Williams Drive. Stop by Town Hall and pick up your free resident sticker!

Second Installment Tax Payments

Real estate tax payments are due on July 31, 2013. Please note that the second installment must be sent to the **Dane County Treasurer in Madison** and checks must be made payable to the Dane County Treasurer. Payments cannot be accepted at the Pleasant Springs Town office. Please refer to the tax bill for the correct mailing address.