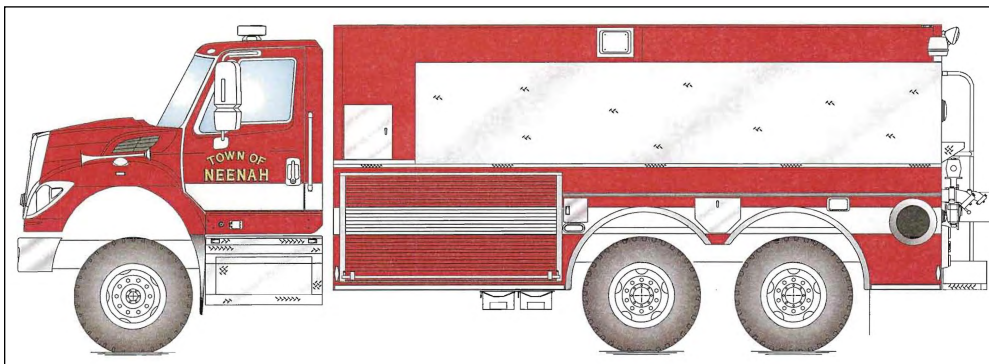




www.townofneenah.com
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TOWN OF NEENAH TODAY

Vol. 15, Issue 2 • April – June, 2012
1600 Breezewood Lane, Neenah • 920 725-0916



This is an artist's rendition of what the new Town of Neenah fire tender will look like. The tender carries 3,000 gallons of water to supply firefighters, as the Town doesn't have fire hydrants.

Town purchases new fire tanker

The Town of Neenah board has voted unanimously to purchase a new fire truck tanker from Pierce Manufacturing for \$260,000, less applicable discounts. The truck will replace the previous tanker which the Town bought used 28 years ago. The old truck no longer adequately meets Town needs and has become a maintenance headache.

A team of veteran firefighters developed the specifications for the new truck. Pierce will custom-build the vehicle, which is expected to be

delivered by year-end.

The tanker truck is crucial to the Town's fire-fighting abilities, as the Town does not have fire hydrants. The tanker supplies the water to put out major structural fires.

The Town Board tentatively plans to finance the truck purchase over a ten year period. The annual cost for the owner of a \$100,000 house should be under \$10 per year.

The Fire Department will solicit buyers for the old truck, with an asking price of \$20,000.

Armstrong, Dexter win close supervisor race

Only 12 votes separated the three candidates for Town Supervisor at the April 3 election. The top two were elected.

Challenger Glenn Armstrong led the field with 393 votes, followed by incumbent Dave Dexter with 385. The two will serve two-year terms. Incumbent Glenn Winkler finished third, with 381 votes.

Due to the presidential primary on

the same date, voter turnout was higher than usual for a spring election. However, Town Clerk Robin Coburn expressed surprise at the large number of voters who voted in the presidential race but failed to vote for any candidate for Town office.

Winkler had served on the Town Board for ten years. He will continue to serve as chair of the Town's Trails Committee.

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TOWN OF NEENAH REGULAR MEETINGS

*Regular meetings are held
at the Town Hall
beginning at 7 p.m.
Special meetings may be held on
other days and times*

**Town Board of Supervisors
2nd & 4th Mondays**

**Town Plan Commission
3rd Monday**

**Town Parks Committee
1st Monday (April – Nov.)**

**Town Trails Committee
3rd Monday (March-Nov.)**

**Sanitary District #2
2nd Tuesday**



Building permits are issued by Building Inspector Gary Klinka (727-9200). Permits are needed to construct a fence or build a deck. If you aren't sure you need a permit, check with Gary.

BUILDING PERMITS

(PROJECTS VALUED AT \$1,000 OR MORE)

January, 2012

NAME	ADDRESS	JOB	COST
Todd Bruce	150 Sturgis Lane	Remodel	\$3,000
Arthur Brazee	156 Plummer Ct	Repairs	\$3,500

February 2012

NAME	ADDRESS	JOB	COST
Ryan Kuhlow	770 Terra Cotta Dr	Remodel	\$15,000
Boardwalk Bldrs	1248 Pemmican Tr	New Home	\$210,000
Boardwalk Bldrs	744 Milkweed Ct	New Home	\$190,000
Boardwalk Bldrs	1254 Pemmican Tr	New Home	\$210,000
Boardwalk Bldrs	1271 Pemmican Tr	New Home	\$190,000
Integrity Homes	763 Milkweed Ct	New Home	\$185,000
Robert Michalkiewicz	1610 Oakridge Rd	Remodel	\$5,000
Tuckaway Storage	1987 County Rd II	Warehouse	\$52,000

March 2012

NAME	ADDRESS	JOB	COST
Eric Pershing	779 Milkweed Ct.	Egress Window	\$2,925
Animal Welfare League	951 County Road G	Remodel	\$8,040
J.V. Service	1911 County Road II	Remodel	\$15,000
Jacob's Design	1389 Birch Park Ln	New Home	\$230,000
Brian Cupp	1423 Radcliff Rd	Remodel	\$15,000
Paula Wick	104 Cumings Ln	Electrical	\$3,000
Tom Nichols	778 Terra Cotta Dr	Remodel	\$8,000
Schaefer-Cumings	787 Milkweed Ct	Electrical	\$1,300
Hennessy Homes	877 Terra Cotta	New Home	\$250,000
Hawley Dieckoff Post 33	451 S Green Bay Rd	Shed	\$2,200

Town of Neenah

1600 Breezewood Lane • Neenah, WI 54956
www.townofneenah.com
 Email: tnneenah@tds.net
 (920) 725-0916
 Town population
 3,035

CHAIRMAN

Robert Schmeichel – 729-5995

SUPERVISORS

Glenn Armstrong – 722-3355
 Jan DeKeyser – 725-3284
 Dave Dexter – 858-6096
 Geoff Hibner – 729-4780

CLERK/TREASURER

Robin Coburn – 725-0916

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Gary Klinka – 727-9200

FIRE CHIEF

Ed King – 725-8261

ANIMAL CONTROL

Robert Schmeichel – 729-5995

PARKS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Jan DeKeyser – 725-3284

PLAN COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

Tom Stolla – 967-3364

LAND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Don Verbrick – 722-4651

TRAILS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Glenn Winkler – 722-2289

WEED COMMISSIONERS

Dave Dexter – 858-6096
 Geoff Hibner – 729-4780

NEWSLETTER

Dave Dexter – 858-6096

SANITARY DISTRICT COMMISSIONS

#2 – President – Don Verbrick – 722-4651
 #3 – President – Bryan Von Deylen – 751-8791

COUNTY BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

District 7 – Bill Roh – 725-5999
 District 9 – Tom Widener – 725-1156
 District 30 – Chuck Farrey – 582-7733

Town of Neenah Today

Volume 15, Issue 2 • April 2012

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CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Beautiful weather in the Town of Neenah!

Wow... SPRING really SPRUNG... this year !

Last year the robins were confused, running around on the top of the snow banks. This year the plants are confused into blooming earlier than ever.

Good thing there has been a bit of a cool down, otherwise my daffodils, that are in full bloom, would have been finished blooming by Easter.

Given that the month of March has had above-average temperatures, many town residents, like myself, got a good jump on cleaning up our yards. I would like to ask that we all help to clean up the accumulated debris in our ditches and culverts. April 22 is "Earth Day." Why not have an Earth Day event of your own, right in your neighborhood? Also, do not forget Arbor Day on April 27. Plant a tree, with your kids' or grandkids' futures in mind. I like to refer to the credo of that great Wisconsin naturalist, Prof. Aldo Leopold: "You take care of the Land and the Land will take care of you."

Walkers and bicyclists have also emerged with the early warm weather.



Town Chairman Bob Schmeichel

er. Motorists need to take extra care and "PLEASE SLOW DOWN" when traveling on our town roads. Also, walkers and bicyclists should wear brightly colored or reflective clothing so all can safely see you.

In the "Let's All Help Out" subject, I have personally noticed that our rural route mail carriers have sometimes had difficulty getting easy vehicular access to our mail boxes because of the positioning of our new garbage/recycling containers. I have talked to a couple of mail

carriers and both said that it is not the size but the placement of the containers. Keeping these containers in-line with and at least a few feet away from the roadside mailbox certainly would help out these fine people.

And one last note of thanks to the many Town of Neenah volunteers who have committed their own time to serve on the various committees, commissions, and boards. The Town has benefited from all of your personal time commitments. In the past we have been fortunate to have had several town residents who served the Town for years on end. That includes our volunteer firefighters.

Although I would like to list the many standout people who served the Town, I want to personally thank two stalwart gentlemen who recently decided to step down from their valued volunteer positions. Thank you to Joe Nemmetz for his 30-plus years as a Town of Neenah Volunteer Fireman, and Tony Kranner for his 30-plus years serving on the town's Plan Commission. When you see either of them, tell them "THANK YOU."

— Bob Schmeichel,
Town Chairman

Town's County Board members change

All the County Board members representing the Town were unopposed this spring, though the faces have changed due to redistricting.

Town of Neenah residents west of Hwy. 41 and north of Breezewood are now in County Board District 9, represented by Tom Widener. Residents east of 41

and north of County G and South Park are now in District 7, represented by Bill Roh. Residents in the remaining southern parts of the Town are in District 30, represented by Chuck Farrey.

Both Widener and Farrey had represented the Town prior to the last redistricting.

TOWN OF NEENAH OFFICE HOURS

Town Hall:
1600 Breezewood Lane

Monday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Tues.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Fri.-Sat.-Sun. Closed



Renew Our Waters

Every choice counts.

Restore Your Shore

Redefining the “perfect” shoreline will provide beauty and color to the shoreland, increase habitat for wildlife and ultimately increase water quality.

The number of people living near and using Northeast Wisconsin's waters is at an all time high and continues to increase. You may have purchased your water front property because you enjoy fishing, swimming, boating, bird watching or simply unwinding by dangling your feet in the water. As more and more of us buy or build homes on the shores of our lakes and rivers, we threaten the very qualities that brought us there.

“PERFECT SHORELAND LOT” – NOT SO PERFECT

Decades of traditional lawn maintenance have led to ideas about what the “perfect shoreland lot” should be. Large lawns mowed all the way to the water's edges and no aquatic vegetation are seen at properties on lakes and rivers across Wisconsin. Creating this “perfect shoreland lot” has led to a serious loss of natural shoreland habitat and poor water quality on thousands of lakes.

To protect our waters and the recreation we enjoy, we must redefine our definition of the perfect shoreland lot and begin to landscape for wildlife and water quality.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Plants that were a natural part of the water's edge prior to development provided more than beauty and color to the shoreland. Plants, both living and dead, provided habitat for wildlife both in and out of the water. Water quality is improved when the plant and animal community on the water's edge thrives. Native plants on the shore and in the water filter pollutants entering the water. By altering the water's edge of our lakes and rivers, we have destroyed habitat, disrupted the natural balance and decreased water quality.

BRINGING “NATURAL” BACK TO NATURE

To protect our waters and the recreation we enjoy we need to redefine our definition of the perfect shoreland lot and begin to landscape for wildlife and water quality. Create a buffer zone, which is a natural strip of vegetation along your property's frontage. The goal of a bufferstrip is to restore the shoreline, both on shore and in the water, with the vegetation that occurred there naturally. This includes, trees, shrubs, wildflowers, shoreline plants, grasses and submersed aquatic vegetation. For more information on shoreland restoration visit our website RenewOurWaters.org.

Stormwater is rain or snowmelt and water from things people do, like overwatering the lawn or washing the car. We can choose products carefully and shape our lawns and pavement so water sinks in. When we do, runoff is reduced, pollutants filter out and streams and groundwater are protected.

Untreated runoff is the biggest threat to our nation's water quality, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Let's make the small, important changes that will reduce that threat and improve water quality and our lives!

Realize

What touches the ground enters the water

Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium
P.O. Box 1861 Appleton, WI 54912 | 920.858.4246

RenewOurWaters.org



*Is your
Neighborhood
affected by*

Foreclosures?

During the nation's economic challenges, increasing numbers of homes are in the lengthy and often complicated foreclosure process, creating residential areas dotted with abandoned properties. Foreclosures cut across multiple socioeconomic boundaries, and have been seen in some of the most affluent neighborhoods.

From January through December 2011, some 1,384 separate foreclosure actions happened in Outagamie County. During the same period, 146 foreclosure filings occurred in Calumet County

and Winnebago County recorded 1,408. *Source: RealtyTrac.com*

How much can you do to take care of an abandoned property? Who should you call? Where do financial institutions draw the line on their responsibilities?

Know your options and the risks. Knowledge is crucial. The Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region and United Way Fox Cities brought together a community task force to study and gather this information to help anyone concerned about home foreclosures in the Fox Cities.

Warning Signs: How to Identify a Possible Abandoned Property

Even if you haven't met everyone in your neighborhood, it's still not difficult to tell when a property has been foreclosed on or been abandoned. Here are a few warning signals you might spot.

- Lawn in need of mowing for more than three weeks.
- Weeds growing high in the yard.
- Sidewalk or driveway in need of snow removal.
- No signs of activity — no lights on, no one leaving or returning, no visitors.
- Overgrown garden or flower beds.
- No garbage set out for pickup.
- Stray animals hiding under porches or other protected areas.
- "Strangers" in neighborhood at odd times.
- Excessive noise, or excessive night-time activity at property.
- Possible criminal activity.

Be attentive to changes in things you normally see and hear. Contact your municipality with any concerns you may have.

Taking Action: One Step at a Time

Reach Out: Meet your neighbors. You might not know who used to live in that empty house a few doors away, but someone else might, and they may know the status of the property. Ask questions.

- Was there a change in the family's situation?
- Is the house for sale? Has it been sold?
- Is it a foreclosure?
- Has anyone been caring for the yard or exterior of the house?

Share your knowledge.

Get the Facts: The ownership status of the property has an impact on your options as a neighbor to keep the lawn maintained, pick up leaves or repair damaged property.

Your municipality or the financial institution with an interest in the property can help. Call your municipality (numbers on next page) to see what they know, and discover your rights, responsibilities and risks.

Get involved.

Work Together: One thing the Fox Cities does really well is collaborate for a good cause. Neighborhood safety and security is one of those causes.

If you're involved in a PTA or other school organization, a Neighborhood Watch, a church, scouting group or area business group, you can pool resources among the members to keep your neighborhood in good shape.

Partner with your neighbors.

Foreclosure 4-1-1 is a collaborative project of:



Town of Neenah recycling schedule

If you live WEST of Highway 41 or NORTH of Winneconne Ave. (JJ/114), your recycling and trash pickup day is TUESDAY. Trash is picked up every week; recycling is picked up every-other week. If you live between County Hwy. JJ/Winneconne Ave. and Larsen Road, you are GROUP A. If you live north of Larsen/ Oakridge or south of JJ/Winneconne, you are GROUP B.

If you live EAST of Highway 41 and SOUTH of Winneconne Ave. (JJ/114), your recycling and trash pickup day is WEDNESDAY. Trash is picked up every week; recycling is picked up every-other week. If you live south of Bell St. and west of the Hidden Acres subdivision, you are GROUP A. If you live anywhere else in this area, you are GROUP B. Maps are available on the Town's website or at the Town Hall.

WEST of Hwy 41 RECYCLING PICKUP TUESDAYS

GROUP A

April 17
May 1
May 15
May 30 (*WEDS)
June 12
June 26
July 10

GROUP B

April 24
May 8
May 22
June 5
June 19
July 3
July 17

EAST of Hwy 41 RECYCLING PICKUP WEDNESDAYS

GROUP A

April 18
May 2
May 16
May 31 (*THURS)
June 13
June 27
July 11

GROUP B

April 25
May 9
May 23
June 6
June 20
July 5 (*THURS)
July 18

Please remember the following recycling-collection requirements:

- 1) Only Veolia-supplied carts will be emptied
- 2) Carts should be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. on your collection day.
- 3) Carts must be facing the street as indicated by arrows on the cart lid.
- 4) ***Please leave at least five feet of space between your cart and any other object, such as a light pole, mailbox, or other trash/recycling cart.***
- 5) Veolia will not pick up trash or recycling that does not fit inside the cart. Lids must be closed to be serviced. Material outside the cart will NOT be collected.
- 6) Please bag your trash to prevent loose materials from blowing out.
- 7) Recycling must be ***loose in the cart -- no plastic bags or stringed paper bundles.***

8) Please do not tightly stuff or compress material into the carts, as the carts may not completely empty into the truck. The truck will not return for carts that did not empty.

9) Electronic waste (TVs, radios, VCRs, DVD players, computers and computer parts, cell phones, etc. will NOT be accepted. Please take all such items to the Winnebago County landfill or to an e-recycling facility.

10) No oil, oil filters, or oil-absorbent materials.

11) No grass clippings, yard waste, Christmas trees, or ashes will be accepted.

12) No hazardous wastes will be accepted.

If you have questions about your trash/recycling service, or to report a missed pickup, call Veolia at 920 685-6666.

For information on Winnebago County recycling and hazardous waste disposal, call 920 232-1850.



Volunteers clean trash from new town park

Thirty scouts, parents, and siblings from Boy Scout Troop 43 spent March 17 cleaning trash from the Town's future conservancy park located next to the stormwater pond on County Road A. The volunteers hauled away more than 2,500 pounds of trash and scrap.

Ben Hamblin from McMahon Engineering was on hand to assist with the clean-up. He also gave a talk on the purpose and design of the stormwater pond. This helped the scouts understand the process of cleaning our stormwater before it enters the lake.



Ben Hamblin



Tips to reduce, reuse, and recycle

With the “spring cleaning” season arriving early, this is a good time to help the environment and go easier on your pocketbook by reducing, reusing and recycling more of your unwanted items and trash.

To kick start your clean-up, here are some simple tips everyone can take to reduce their waste.

Reduce

Opt out of junk-mail by registering with the Direct Marketing Association at <www.dmachoice.org>.

Avoid creating trash whenever possible. When ordering food, don't take any unnecessary plastic utensils, straws, etc., don't accept “free” promotional products and buy products with the least amount of packaging.

Pack a waste-free lunch with no throwaway bags, containers, plastic wrap, etc. Use reusable containers to store food instead.

Avoid single-use items like juice boxes, soda bottles, paper dinnerware or

plastic utensils. Buy cleaning supplies and other non-perishable materials in bulk to cut down on packaging.

Reuse

Donate usable clothing, appliances, furniture and other items to nonprofits or secondhand stores in the area. Not only will you reduce the amount of waste you produce, you'll also help others in the community.

When remodeling or making improvements to your home, donate usable items like cabinets, lighting, appliances, lumber, flooring and windows to construction resale shops. Habitat Restores www.habitat.org is a great option.

Recycle

Recycle in your home and workplace. The Town of Neenah makes it easy to recycle with biweekly pickups of recyclable materials. The following items can be co-mingled in your recycling bin: newspaper; magazines & catalogs; junk

mail & envelopes; office & writing paper; fiberboard cartons; phone books; paperback books; hardcover books (remove covers); aluminum cans; tin cans (labels can stay on); aerosol cans (remove caps); glass food/beverage containers; plastic narrow-necked bottles marked #1 and #2.

Please rinse your cans and bottles before recycling. Do NOT recycle paper/cardboard with food on it (such as pizza boxes), diapers, and automotive fluid bottles.

Clear out the electronics that have been collecting dust in your closet. You cannot put electronics in your recycling bin, but the Winnebago County landfill at 100 W. County Road Y, Oshkosh, will accept TVs, printers, copiers, and similar items for \$2 each. They charge \$.25 each for light bulbs. Small items, such as cell phones and computer mice, are accepted at no charge.

Some electronics retailers and thrift shops will also recycle unwanted electronics.

— TOWN OF NEENAH REMINDERS —

BURNING: Burning is permitted in the Town of Neenah, but the Fire Department requests that you use common sense (dryness and wind are always factors to watch), and that you call the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office non-emergency number (236-7300, #0) before and after burning to avoid false alarms. Please be considerate of your neighbors when burning, making sure the smoke isn't blowing in their direction. Burning garbage is prohibited.

RECYCLING: All town recycling is picked up every-other week, depending on where you live (see page 6). All recyclables to be picked up must fit inside the container supplied by Veolia. They will not pick up bagged or boxed items, or recyclables in other containers. Please do not wrap items with string or place anything inside plastic bags. Electronics, waste oil, and other materials may not be placed with your recyclables or in the trash.

DOGS: All Town of Neenah dogs must be licensed. The license is issued by the clerk/ treasurer. The cost for neutered/spayed dogs is \$5; all others are \$10. Dogs cannot run at large. They must be confined to your property or on a leash and under your control if off the property. NOTE: leashed dogs are allowed in Town parks provided you immediately pick up any waste.

DEER/WILDLIFE PROBLEMS: The Town has no authority to handle wildlife problems. If you see a dead animal on the road call the County Sheriff at 236-7300, ext. 8. If you have other wildlife problems, call a private pest/wildlife control service.

BUILDING PERMITS: All building permits are issued by Building Inspector Gary Klinka (727-9200). Permits are needed to construct a fence or build a deck. If you aren't sure you need a permit, check with Gary.

ADDRESS SIGNS: Homeowners are responsible for maintaining the emergency address signs placed in front of their homes by the Town. Assure that the signs remain visible by keeping brush and snow away from the sign. Also, do not remove or relocate the sign.

OBSTRUCTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY and DRAINAGE DITCHES: You cannot place a fence or greenery in the town's road right-of-way. No part of a mailbox should extend over the paved portion of the road. In addition, culverts and drainage ditches must be kept clear of obstructions and must not be filled in. If you have a question about water drainage issues or the right-of-way, call Town Chairman Robert Schmeichel.

MINUTES AND AGENDAS: Town minutes and agendas are posted on the Town website (<www.townofneenah.com>) and are also available for inspection at the Town Hall during regular business hours.