

TOWN of NEENAH

Urban Living in a Rural Setting

Vol. 27, Issue 1

Spring 2024



Town of Neenah Annual Meeting

Tuesday April 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for the swearing in of your Town Officials elected on the April 2 ballot. This Annual Meeting is your meeting of Town Residents and is also an opportunity to see the changes made at your Town Hall.

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

At the time of writing this article, it seems appropriate to say; "Here comes Spring". No wait. Haven't we experienced spring like weather numerous times already !?! It seems as though Sprriing... Spruung...and then dozed off a bit and Spruung again! Incredible. My Daffodils are all confused. Along with the mild temperatures that we have had during this confused "winter/spring" season, I have seen numerous walkers out enjoying the mild temperatures. Good for you. But what is not so good is the fact that the vast majority of you walkers do not take the precautions of wearing any type of reflective clothing whether you are walking day or night and especially at dusk. Why is reflective clothing important? Not only does this clothing make it easier for motorists to see walkers at night, but it also makes them more visible to motorists during the daytime. High-visibility clothing reduces the risk of accidents and improves safety overall. Whether you're a cyclist, pedestrian, or jogger, the right kind of safety clothing can spell the difference between being seen and tragedy

When you wear reflective gear, you avoid appearing "invisible" to drivers, especially at low light periods of the day and night. In fact, you remain four times more likely of being hit by a vehicle at nighttime without some sort of reflective clothing. Let's be safe out there. Another event that happens with warm mild weather is "Yard Work". Yayyyy! Well sorta. While many of us relish getting out and cleaning up beds, others not so much. Albeit, fall leaf and flower bed debris has more volume, the cleanup of dead

leaves and grasses at spring and fall are annual events. So now what to do with this dried yard debris. Numerous residents choose to burn this debris. And, numerous residents prefer that their neighbors do not burn the debris. At present time the burning of nonhazardous yard debris is allowed. However it is an ongoing debate of the pros & cons of that privilege in the changing population demographics in our town. The third Tuesday in April, 4/16/24, is our annual meeting. I would offer that would be an excellent time to have an open discussion on this long standing privilege vs. the concerns of those that say it's time we change that privilege. The Annual Town Meeting is "YOUR" meeting. Why not attend?

Although the Town of Neenah does not have any major projects planned for this 2024 year, there always are the yearly road maintenance and improvement projects. Both your Town Board and your Road Supervisor are encouraged to see the results of improved methods of maintenance applications and have contracted with a private road improvement vendor to do this maintenance work. Well maintained roads are a major part of our budget.



Bob Schmeichel

(Continued on page #2)

(Continued from page 1)

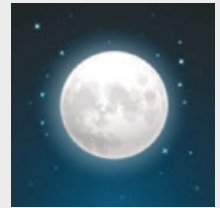
Another improvement that will occur this year is that our volunteer fire department will be taking delivery of a brand new Fire Truck! Your town board has unanimously approved the purchase of this new vehicle and the "tired" old one will be "retired" and sold. Speaking of the fire department, our TNFD is made up all volunteer firemen & women. If any of you who are 18 years of age and older and would like to pursue a much needed position in our "Great TNFD Team" and serve our residents with fire protection, contact Chief Dan Osero. We do need more fire fighters.

And now for my "Fun Facts for 2024"... 2024 is a leap year, which you probably know. Happy Birthday to all you February 29th babies !

Also, we, well NASA, is planning a return to the moon and that we are going to have a total solar

eclipse this year. Wonder how the eclipse would look up there?

But did you know that the moon is actually slowly moving away from the earth at the rate of 3.8 centimeters per year. That means back when Julius Caesar was looking at the moon it was 257 feet closer to earth.



And just so you know, Australia is wider than the moon. Hmmm...who cares ?

So to all you romantic Moon Gazers, the moon has long been regarded as a symbol of life, eternity, and love. The old saying of "To the Moon and Back" is as far-reaching as love can be.

Have fun out there this spring and summer and be safe, as you are "Moon Watching"

Bob Schmeichel

Two Supervisor Candidates on Ballot

The April 2024 Spring Election Ballot has several contests for your consideration including Presidential Preference , Town Board Supervisors, Circuit Court Judge Branch1, Neenah Joint School District and two State Referendum Questions.

Sample Ballots are posted to the Town of Neenah website and can be found on Myvote.wi.gov.



David Bluma

David has been a Town resident since 2010 and is running for a second term as Supervisor for the Town of Neenah. "I have enjoyed my first term meeting residents and increasing my knowledge

of the Town of Neenah". David has been with his current employer Avery Dennison for 32 years and is a member of the leadership team overseeing orders, scheduling and material purchasing.

Jim Weiss



Town of Neenah Supervisor

Jim Weiss is running for reelection to the Town Board of Supervisors for a 7th term. Jim has been a Town of Neenah resident for more than 25 years. He has a keen interest in promoting a healthy, safe, and sustainable Tow of Neenah. Jim has been involved in sales, marketing, and corporate training during his career. He currently is a driver for Bergstrom Automotive. Jim has 4 children and 12 grandchildren who all reside in the Fox Valley area. Jim's son Dave lives in the Town and is a volunteer fireman for the Town of Neenah Fire Department.

Jim is involved in numerous organizations including St. Margaret Mary parish and the Neenah-Menasha YMCA.

ELECTION INFORMATION

April 2, 2024

Presidential Preference Primary and Spring Election

Polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Polling Location: 1600 Breezewood Lane, Neenah

If you plan to vote by absentee ballot, visit myvote.wi.gov to request an absentee ballot. It is recommended that you request your ballot early and return your ballot quickly after receiving it. Absentee ballots must be received in the Clerk's Office by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

When returning your absentee ballot, your certificate envelope must include:

- Voter Signature
- Witness Signature and Witness Address – complete with house number, street name and city.

If any of these items are missing, the ballot will be returned to the voter.

Visit myvote.wi.gov to register to vote, see what's on your ballot, request an absentee ballot and track your ballot.



Important Dates

- ◆ 3/12/2024—Clerk's Office mails ballots to those that have an absentee application on file.
- ◆ 3/13/2024—Deadline to register to vote online, after this date, voters must come to the Clerk's Office to register to vote or register on Election Day.
- ◆ 3/19/2023 thru 3/29/2024 – In Person Absentee Voting in the Clerk's Office. Visit the Town website for Absentee Voting hours.
- ◆ In person Absentee Voting is not permitted on the Monday before the Election.
- ◆ 4/2/2024—Spring and Presidential Preference Election



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PARKS AND TRAILS COMMITTEE

What does the volunteer Park and Trails Chairperson do in the "off months" during the winter? Along with putting together strategic planning for the

parcs and trails, I am writing grants to help fund improvements.

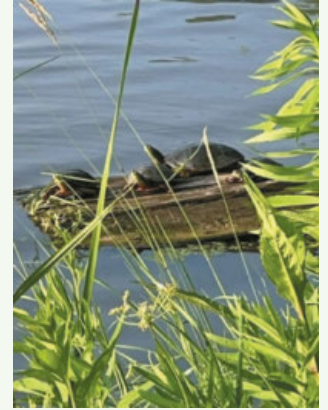
The Parks & Trails Committee has put together a master playground plan and a reforestation plan for future improvements.

In late April, we have planned a reforestation event with Lakeview Elementary School and will be planting trees, educating on forestry, and getting muddy!

Many of you have met me when you are out enjoying our great town resources. I always make it a point to introduce myself and ask if you are enjoying the park and what you would like to see to make it a better experience. I also regularly monitor Google reviews and use comments for improvements.

CONSERVANCY PARK and TURTLE ISLAND

What does that have to do with Turtle Island? Turtles bask in the sun to absorb heat. Last spring I built and launched a turtle island at Conservancy. The island was so popular with the "shell" community, that they were pushing each other off the island into the water! This winter I launched a bigger island off the peninsula to accommodate more turtles.



If you have not seen them or visited Conservancy Park, come out and enjoy the paths... walk slowly so the turtles do not get afraid, and enjoy!

Coming soon to Conservancy Park: New signage and woodland trail.

Parks and Trails Committee Chair Tom Jankowski

BUILDING PERMITS

NOVEMBER 2023

Humberto Puga -Tundraland/Leaf Homes	1271 Pemmican Ct.	Deck	\$47,021
Gregory Paustian - Dufek Construction	997 Bayview Rd.	Mud room	\$11,000
Josh Groom-Tundra Land/Leaf Homes	130 Highland Ct.	Plumbing	\$14,776
Thomas Kehl-Solcius LLC	7016 Woodenshoe Rd.	Electric Solar	\$30,553
Paul Rasmussen - Cumings Electric	140 Adella Beach Rd.	Electric	\$1,000
Roy Nation	169 Villa Dr.	Attached Garage	\$40,000

DECEMBER 2023

Steven White - Healthy Home Heating &Cooling	116 Wenban Ave.	8) HVAC	\$6,313
Joy Glatczak - Freddy's Handyman Service LLC	123 Highland Ct.	4) Deck	\$7,000
Lisa McAllister - Black Haak Heating Inc.	106 Poplar Ct.	8) HVAC	\$14,000
Amy Surprise-Salm Plumbing, Inc.	636 Dartmouth Dr.	7) Plumbing	\$9,000

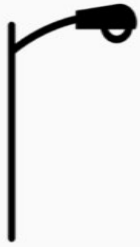
JANUARY 2024

Paul Auer	842 Terra Cotta Dr.	Basement remodel	\$ 40,000
Steve Alexander - Black Haak	1371 Harvest Moon Dr.	HVAC	\$ 5,000
Taylor Hansen	105 Hilltop Dr.	HVAC	\$ 6,397
Pat Baptist	843 Terra Cotta Dr.	Basement remodel	\$ 35,000
Mid-West Mini Storage - Bearded Kaptain LLC	187 Rockwood Ln.	Construction Building #1-#6	\$ 1,540,678
Nick Borgwart Healthy Home Heating & Cooling	1870 Breezewood Ln.	HVAC	\$ 12,297
Wendy Stabler - PJ Electrical Services LLC	141 Courtney Ct.	Electric	\$ 2,000
Roy Buck	138 Woodside Ct.	HVAC	\$ 5,000



Saturday, May 18, 2024, 8:00 a.m. to noon.
 City of Neenah Tullar Road Garage, 1495 Tullar Rd.
 You do not need to be a city resident to participate.

Electronics that are required to be Recycled include: Cell phones · Computer monitor · Computers (Desktop, Laptop, Netbook, Tablets) · Computer accessories · (keyboards, mice, speakers external hard drive, flash drives) · Desktop printers (including those that scan, fax and/or copy) · E-Readers · DVD players · VCR's · Televisions · Microwaves · Small appliances Many items are free, some may incur a small fee.



To report a problem with your street light, visit we-energies street light outage.

<https://www.we-energies.com/slo/>

This is an interactive map that is simple to use to identify and report the street light that is having a problem. Or you can contact the Town Office at 920-725-0916,

provide the location and description of the problem.

Large Item Pick—Up

Do you have a large item to dispose of?

Contact Harter's Fox Valley Disposal to schedule a pick-up: 888-804-8556 or take to the Winnebago County Landfill at 100 west County Road Y in Oshkosh



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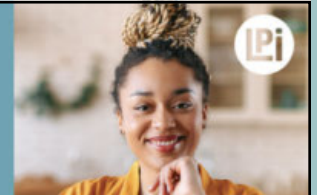
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Winnebago County Revolving Loan Fund for Growth in our Community



Brooke Cardoza

Are you a business owner in Winnebago County looking to grow? Need additional funds to help expand your business? In collaboration with Winnebago County, Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation has introduced the Winnebago County Revolving Loan Fund with the goal of supporting local businesses in Winnebago County. Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation was established in 2015 as a private-public non-profit economic development corporation. According to their website, greateroshkosh.com, Greater Oshkosh EDC “...exists to preserve the health of existing companies, foster a positive entrepreneurial environment, connect companies to workforce and talent development resources, enhance the business climate and promote the quality of life in the greater Oshkosh area.”

The loan program is designed to provide existing businesses in Winnebago County with capital they may need for growth and expansion. They will match \$1 for every \$1 of traditional capital investment sources within a range of \$25,000 to \$205,000.

The fund supports a wide range of business needs including the acquisition of land and buildings, inventory, site preparation, construction, rehabilitation, fixed equipment installation, intellectual property, clearance or demolition, working capital, research and development, employee training, marketing for new products or entry into a new niche, employee recruitment and transfer, and interest rate buy-down with private sector lenders.



Greater Oshkosh EDC has established an easy loan process including 1. Schedule a meeting 2. Complete the application 3. Get approval 4. Sign agreement and 5. Grow your business! Loan terms, interest rates, repayment and collateral will be determined on a cause-by-case basis. Qualified enterprises must operate within the corporate limits of Winnebago County and have at least two years of financial history.

In addition to the Winnebago County Revolving Loan Fund, Greater Oshkosh EDC offers other capital programs including Greater Oshkosh Capital Catalyst Fund, Greater Oshkosh Revolving Loan Fund and the Rural Winnebago Revolving Loan Fund. Making these funds available to business owners in Winnebago County, including residents in the Town of Neenah, helps to create opportunities and growth in our community. For more information on Greater Oshkosh EDC loan programs and the Winnebago County Revolving Loan fund, visit greateroshkosh.com/funding-and-capital/

DOG LICENSING REQUIRED

The State of Wisconsin requires that all dogs receive rabies vaccinations by a veterinarian, and are licensed annually by their local municipality.

The licensing year for dogs is January 1—December 31, and licenses for 2024 were available for 2024 beginning the first week in December 2023.

Be sure to bring a copy of your rabies certificate to the Town Hall when registering your furry friend (a copy is not kept on file). The Town requires licenses for dogs over 5 months of age, and new residents must license their dog within 30 days.



How to obtain a license:

By mail:

Include a completed application (found on our website under Resources), rabies vaccination certificate, proof of sterilization, the appropriate payment and a self-addressed stamped envelope. Once your application has been processed, the certificate and new license will be mailed back to you.

At the Town Office:

Bring in the rabies vaccination certificate, proof of sterilization and the appropriate payment.

License fees:

Spayed or Neutered: \$5.00;
Not spayed or Neutered: \$10.00

Note: Any license purchased after March 31 (except for new dogs) will be assessed a \$5.00 late fee.

**PREVENT RECYCLING FIRES BY SAFELY
DISPOSING OF USED BATTERIES**

Many batteries, especially lithium ion, pose a fire risk due to their chemistries and ability to hold a charge. Batteries can spark and start a fire if their terminals touch metal or each other.

**Rechargeable batteries should never go in
your trash or recycling bins**



Recycle rechargeable batteries for free at locations such as Winnebago County Solid Waste or local home improvement stores. Visit Call2recycle.org for locations, at the time of this printing, Ace Hardware of Appleton, Home Depot and Lowes accept recyclable batteries.



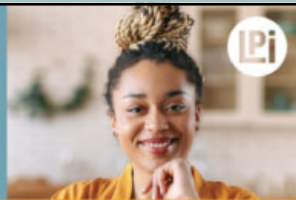
Single-use alkaline batteries (the more common household AAA, AA, C, D, 9V, etc.) are not considered hazardous and should be placed in the trash.

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Campfire Safety

Sitting under the stars by a crackling fire has its appeal. It's where stories are told, sing-a-longs happen, and meals are cooked over an open flame. Campfires bring family and friends together. But campfire mishaps can cause injuries. With a few safety tips, you can prevent these accidents.

SAFETY AROUND THE FIRE

- Before setting up a campfire, be sure it is permitted. Check with your local fire department.
- If campfires are permitted, they need to be at least 25 feet away from any structure and anything that can burn.
- Clear away dry leaves and sticks, overhanging low branches and shrubs.
- Avoid burning on windy, dry days. It is easier for open burning to spread out of control when it is windy and dry.
- Watch children while the fire is burning. Never let children or pets play or stand too close to the fire.
- Attend to the campfire at all times. A campfire left alone for only a few minutes can grow into a damaging fire.
- Keep a campfire small which is easier to control.
- Never use gasoline or other flammable or combustible liquids.
- Always have a hose, bucket of water, or shovel and dirt or sand nearby to put out the fire. Make sure to put it completely out before leaving the site.
- If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop, and roll. Stop, drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth until the fire is out.
- Treat a burn right away. Cool the burn with cool water for 3 to 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth. Get medical help if needed.



ROAST WITH CARE

If roasting marshmallows, help young children. Never shake a roasting marshmallow. It can turn into a flying, flaming ball. A heated metal skewer can cause burns.

FACT

Campfire accidents send thousands of people to emergency rooms with burn injuries every year.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

TOWN OF NEENAH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Did you know the Town of Neenah Fire Department is volunteer/ paid-on-call?

Did you know there are different ways to join and serve your community? You can choose between being an active firefighter, EMR, or both.

The Town of Neenah will pay for your State Certified Trainings once you have become a member.

Currently the Town of Neenah Fire Department has openings

for Firefighters and EMRs. Are you ready to serve your Town of Neenah Community?

Volunteer firefighting is very rewarding and a valuable way to serve your community. It takes dedication and many hours of training to become a firefighter or EMR.

If you're willing to put in the time and effort, Town of Neenah Fire

Department is ready for you to serve.

More information and applications can be found on our website:
www.townofneenah.com



Please check the weather conditions before you burn.

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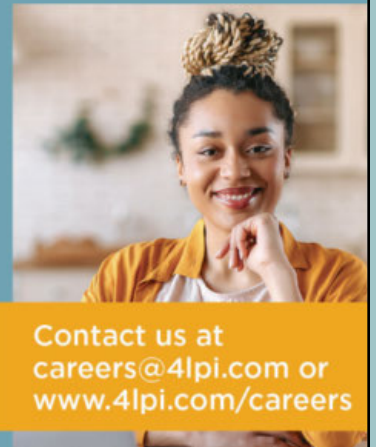
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Protecting our Water-ways – You can Make a difference

Did you know that storm drains are not connected to the sanitary sewer systems and treatment plants? Whatever enters the catch basins in our parking lots and roads goes untreated into our creeks, streams, rivers and lakes!

Did you know that grass clippings contain phosphorus, the nutrient that turns lakes green with algae! One bushel of fresh grass clippings can contain 0.1 lbs of phosphorus—enough to produce 30–50 pounds of algae growth if it finds its way to a lake or river!

Did you know that nutrients and fertilizers can actually pollute our waterways, causing the green algae growth we see in many of our rivers and lakes?

Did you know that excess lawn watering, especially over fertilized lawns causes polluted water to drain into our storm drains and out into our fresh water?

Did you know it has been estimated that an average acre of a well maintained urban lawn receives an annual input of five to seven pounds of pesticides. Some of that pesticide gets washed away by rain or lawn watering into the street and into storm drains.

Grass Clippings, fertilizers and pesticides are entering our water- ways, polluting our rivers and lakes, and harming our wildlife.

You can make a difference

Proper Lawn care will make a difference in protecting our waters and wildlife, and save you money and time.

- ⇒ Leave grass clippings on the lawn
 - ◇ Leaving grass clippings in place leaves the equivalent of 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 sq ft – the same amount you would get from 1 fertilizer application.
- ⇒ Set the lawn mower at a higher setting (over 2.5 inches) letting shorter blades fall back onto the lawn as natural fertilizer. Sharpen mower blades every 1 – 3 years
 - ◇ Lawns mowed higher are more competitive against weeds.
 - ◇ Lawns mowed higher withstand heat stress better, need less watering, and are more resilient, reducing bare spots and soil erosion.
 - ◇ Lawns maintained at higher heights usually develop deeper roots and dry out slower
- ⇒ Mow when your lawn needs it, not on a fixed schedule
- ⇒ Water your lawn only when needed, not on a fixed schedule
 - ◇ Use a rain gauge to measure rainfall and watering
 - ◇ Use a sprinkler that shoots low to the ground – oscillating sprinklers often loose water to evaporation
 - ◇ Determine your lawn's watering needs – if grass in a foot- print does not spring back, watering is needed
- ⇒ Practice hand-weeding
- ⇒ Use mulches to reduce weeds
- ⇒ Spot treat weed and insect areas
- ⇒ Evaluate if a pesticide is necessary
- ⇒ Learn to live with a few weeds!



CLERK'S CORNER



Ellen Skerke

The following is a summary of Town Board action taken during Town Board Meetings December 2023—January 2024.

- Appoint Dan Osero as Fire Chief for a two-year term effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025
- Appoint Election Inspectors for the 2024–2025 Election Cycles effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025
- Appoint Steve Coburn as Commissioner to Neenah–Menasha Sewerage Commission for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2024 and expiring December 31, 2026
- Approve Amended and Restated Easement Agreement between the Town of Neenah and

- properties located at 584 Hunters Point Rd and 580 Hunters Point Rd
- Approve Resolution 2023–36 Accepting DNR Urban Forestry Grant for \$5,000 for 2024.
- Approve 2024 General Engineering Agreement with McMahon Associates Inc
- Approve Statement of Intent of 2024 Winnebago County Industrial Development Board Per Capita Funds
- Approve Resolution 2024–01 Certified Survey map, Woodenshoe Rd
- Approve Statement of Work from Clifton Larsen Allen for 2023 Audit Services and Compilation and Preparation of Financial Statements

OPEN BOOK and BOARD OF REVIEW

Do you have questions about the assessed value of your property?

Contact Bowmar Appraisal at 920-733-5369. Town of Neenah usually holds Open Book and Board of Review in May of each year. The schedule will be posted on Town of Neenah website.

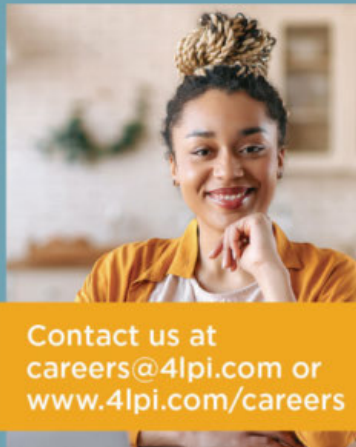
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Town Hall Office Hours:

Monday: 8:30am-4:30pm
Tues-Thurs: 8:30am-12:30pm
Friday: Closed

Chairman

Bob Schmeichel (920)729-5995
rschmeichel@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Office Hours: By appointment.

Supervisors

David Bluma (920) 636-8340

dbluma@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Brooke Cardoza (920) 727-1750

bcardoza@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Jim Weiss (920) 727-1952

jweiss@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Tom Wilde (920) 427-9912

twilde@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer

Ellen Skerke (920) 725-0916

eskerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Vicki Boushele (920) 886-7545

vboushele@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Building Inspector

Gary Klinka (920) 727-9200

Fire Chief

Dan Osero (920) 725-0916

Plan Commission Chairman

Pete Weyenberg (920) 716-8309

Parks & Trails Committee Chair

Tom Jankowski (920) 851-5539

Weed Commissioner

Dave Bluma (920) 636-8340

Town of Neenah Sanitary District

Commission #2-President

Dan Osero (920) 740-5757

Regular Meetings

Regular meetings are held at the Town Hall beginning at 7PM.

Special meetings may be held on other days and times.

Town Board of Supervisors
2nd & 4th Mondays

Town Plan Commission
3rd Monday

Sanitary District #2
Second Tuesday

SPRING REMINDERS

- **BUILDING PERMITS**
 - ⇒ Building a Fence? Contact Winnebago County Zoning for a permit
 - ⇒ Installing a Swimming Pool? Contact Winnebago County Zoning for a permit
 - ⇒ Building a Deck, Garage Shed or other Accessory Building? Contact Winnebago County Zoning for Zoning Permit and Town of Neenah Building Inspector for a Building Permit
 - ⇒ Remodeling? Contact Town of Neenah Building Inspector for a permit.
 - ⇒ Electrical and plumbing work may require a permit contact Town of Neenah Building Inspector
- 2024 RECYCLING CALENDAR MAGNETS are available in the Town Office.
- **WEIGHT LIMITS:** Weight limits on Town Roads are in effect as of February 12, 2024. Notice was posted to the website. Weight Limits remain in effect until weather and road condition permit. Contact the Town Office with any questions: (920)725-0916
- **YARD SIGNS:** Yard signs are NOT permitted in any Town Road right-of-way, including advertisements and political signs.
- **PETS IN TOWN PARKS:** No animals or pets other than leashed dogs are allowed in Town parks. Dogs owners are required to immediately pick up and dispose of excrement on Town park property or adjacent to Town park property.
- **ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY WORK:** Work in the Town road right-of-way (other than mowing) must be permitted through the Clerk's office prior to any work being performed.
- **BURNING:** Remember burning is permitted in the Town as set forth in Ordinance 5.05. Be respectful of your neighbors when burning. Contact Winnebago County Sheriff before and after burning (920)236-7300 #0 to avoid false alarms.