



TOWN OF NEENAH TODAY

www.townofneenah.com
email tnneenah@tds.net

Vol. 14, Issue 3 • July-September, 2011
1600 Breezewood Lane, Neenah • 920 725-0916

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Town newsletter to switch to digital publication

Cuts in state revenue sharing, coupled with a cap on the tax levy has caused the Town Board to discontinue producing and mailing a printed version of the Town newsletter. Starting with the October, 2011 edition, the newsletter will be available electronically. You may read it online or download the newsletter and print it yourself.

Elimination of the hard-copy edition will save the Town \$4,000 to \$5,000 in paper, printing, and postage costs annually. A limited number of printed copies will be available for pick-up at the Town Hall for those without computer access.

The Town of Grand Chute recently

announced their plans to eliminate their printed newsletter, and other municipalities are expected to follow suit.

NOTICE: This is the last Town newsletter you will receive in the mail.

You will be able to view and/or download the Town of Neenah newsletter by going to the Town website, <townofneenah.com>, and click on the “Newsletters” tab on the left side of the screen. You will see the current issue, as well as all past issues going back to July, 2007.

If you would like to receive an email notice whenever a new edition of the Town newsletter is available, click on the “newsletter sign-up” box in the middle of the Town Home Page.

Quarry representatives address current blasting, future plans

The Town Board invited representatives from Michels Materials to attend the June 13 Town Board meeting to update the community on their current blasting operations, as well as future plans.

One of the Town’s main land uses are the quarries on Tullar Road and Hwy CB. Michels Materials has been operating the quarries since the late 1980s. Before that you may remember Courtney & Plummer and 4X Corporation as the operators, dating all the way back to the 1930s.

As more people move in next to the quarries we get more concerns about the quarry operations. Michels representatives Bob Bingen and Kristen Waas

noted that people southwest of the quarry are experiencing more activity because the operation has been moving across the floor in that direction over the past several years. The past three to four years have been a bit quiet due to the slow economy, but things have picked up this year to supply the Highway 41 construction.

Bingen said that the company sets up three seismographs to monitor each blast and ensure that all blasting activity is well within state limits. Over the next several years activity will remain strong on the south and west sides of the quarry

QUARRY

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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**

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

ADVERTISING RATES FOR THIS NEWSLETTER

full page –	\$240
1/2 page –	\$125
1/4 page –	\$60
1/8 page –	\$30

This newsletter is circulated to Town of Neenah residents and businesses.

*Call Dave Dexter at
920 858-6096 for information.*



Paper and plastic products such as those shown above should NEVER be flushed down a toilet or floor drain. The pumps that operate the Town of Neenah sewer system cannot handle these materials and they will burn out, resulting in sewage backups into residents' homes.

Sanitary District warning

by Jan DeKeyser
Sanitary District Secretary

During a time of significant belt-tightening on the part of towns, cities, counties, and even special districts, we need to remind our residents of things that cause the cash register to go ca-ching, ca-ching, ca-ching. You will hear more about belt-tightening from the Town and the Sanitary District when it's time to work on the 2012 budgets.

In the meantime, this article is to advise town residents who are serviced by the sanitary sewer system how you can help save many thousands of dollars. In 2010 we had four instances of lift station problems, and thus far in 2011 we have had two more. This is costly and is caused by infiltration and inflow (I&I) and flushing of articles down the toilet that should not be flushed.

The I&I (clear water) is often caused by illegally connected sump pumps. We have an ongoing program of televising our underground lines and we are able to identify these sump pump connections by the clear water surges shown on the video. We are also able to identify clear water entering the system from leakages. Yes... these leakages can be both in the main line and in private laterals. We are

pleased to report that everyone we contact regarding a leaking lateral has been most cooperative when told it must be dug up and repaired. Flooded basements after heavy rains also contribute to I&I.

The plugged lift stations caused by foreign objects such as rags, diapers, baby wipes, feminine care products, non-woven disposable cleaning wipes, clothing, etc., is very difficult to deal with. The most recent blockage cost the District more than \$5,700. This included pumping the lift station by a carrier to haul the waste away (or it would back up into homes), cleaning the lift station (two large garbage bags were filled of debris we removed), vacuuming, and miscellaneous supplies. This did not cover the cost of a new pump or the cost of repairing the one that was damaged.

None of us want raw sewage backed up into our basement. We have been lucky in this regard because our maintenance crews are alerted by emergency alarms and they have been able to keep up... even when it means working straight through the night.

How can you help? Have a family gathering and explain to everyone living in the home about items that cannot be flushed down the toilet. Hopefully, everyone will do what they can.

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

Jan DeKeyser – 725-3284
Dave Dexter – 858-6096
Geoff Hibner – 729-4780
Glenn Winkler – 722-2289

CLERK/TREASURER

Robin Coburn – 725-0916

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Gary Klinka – 727-9200

FIRE CHIEF

Ed King – 725-8261

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 10 – Tim Hamblin – 722-4593
District 28 – Jerry Finch – 725-6170
District 29 – Joanne Sievert – 729-9358

Town of Neenah Today

Volume 14, Issue 3 • July 2011

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CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Let's Chat...or Sing....

Summertime ...Summmertime ...Summmertymmme

IT'S SUMMERTIME!

by Bob Schmeichel

So let's all get outside and enjoy summertime outdoor activities. A refreshing ride on a bike or a walk on a warm early summer's night can be very enjoyable. But as motorists, we all have to pay special attention to those kids and adults who are riding bikes or walking up and down our Town roadways.

Safety is very important to summertime fun. All of our town roads have speed limits. However nowhere is it stated that you have to maintain that speed limit. If the posted limit is 35 mph and you know that during the good weather months people frequently use the roadway you travel for walking and biking... SLOW DOWN! Even when you do not see someone on the roadway, a person or kid on a bike could appear from nowhere, or someone could trip and fall, and in an instant something tragic could happen. So PLEASE slow down. It's safer... you'll get there just the same... and enjoy the ride.

Likewise, many of us like to take a stroll on a warm summer night. Walking at night without alerting motorists you are on the roadway, increases your chances of injury or death. Drivers cannot avoid what they cannot see. Please, when walking in the early morning hours, at dusk, or at night, wear retro-reflective outdoor clothing and carry lights to make yourself more visible. Do not assume that drivers – just by having their bright lights on – can see you. Plus, by walking on the left side of the road, cars will not be approaching you from behind.

Fireworks

Ah yes, those wonderful pyrotechnics that light up our night skies. Remember, two rules apply: "Local Laws" and "Common Sense."

Annually, June 16 through July 16 is known as "FIREWORKS SAFETY MONTH." This time of year is associated with the greatest number of injuries due to misuse or mishandling of fireworks.



**Town Chairman
Bob Schmeichel**

Once again, I know what you're saying... "Come on... who are you kidding? Everyone does it... Don't be a party pooper"...I know, I get it...

However, two facts need to remain up front and foremost:

- Safety for yourself and others
- Respect of others

Explosive fireworks are associated with flash blindness, third degree burns, loss of fingers, and permanent scarring. Misuse of fireworks can also cause life-threatening residential and motor vehicle fires.

Explosive fireworks, when ignited during "late night hours" are not very respectful of those living around you.

Here is a quick refresher guide to Wisconsin fireworks laws, Wis. Statutes Sec. 167.10

1. NO PERMIT is needed and no age restrictions for: sparklers, stationary cones and fountains, toy smoke snakes, smoke bombs, and caps, noisemakers and confetti poppers are legal without permits, unless restricted by local ordinances. (Parents, these are all fun for your kids; however, FYI: sparklers account for one-third of the injuries to children younger than five years of age.)

2. VALID PERMIT REQUIRED, GROUP USE ONLY, NO USE BY MINORS OR INDIVIDUALS FOR : All other fireworks, including roman candles, firecrackers, bottle rockets, mortars, and anything that explodes and leaves the ground. Valid permits must be issued by a designated municipal official or employee. Permits issued or sold by vendors are never valid.

Should you so choose to have your traditional fireworks fun, PLEASE... do it safely and early. However, the best "bang" for the buck is free at one of the many community fireworks events put on by professionally trained fireworks personnel. They safely entertain you at a safe distance and at a reasonable time.

Please be safe out here.

– Bob Schmeichel
Town Chairman

Wisconsin's New Voter Photo ID Law

Information provided by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

(See contact information below)

<p>What has changed in the law?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wisconsin law requires voters to show an acceptable photo ID to vote starting with the 2012 February Primary. ➤ In any election before the 2012 February Primary, the law requires election workers to ask voters for an acceptable photo ID at the polling place, but voters without an acceptable photo ID will still be allowed to vote. ➤ An acceptable photo ID will be required before receiving a ballot at the 2012 February Primary and all subsequent elections.
<p>What is an acceptable ID?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">An acceptable photo ID is not required to have a current address.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended ➤ A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card ➤ A Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service ➤ A U.S. passport <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p><i>Identifications above must have an expiration date after the November 2, 2010 election.</i></p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented ➤ An unexpired driving receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT ➤ An unexpired identification card receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT ➤ An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin ➤ An unexpired identification card issued by a Wisconsin-accredited university or college that contains the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Date of issuance -- Signature of student -- Expiration date not later than two years after date of issuance
<p>How do I get a free photo ID to vote?</p>	<p>Wisconsin law requires the Department of Transportation to provide free ID cards to any individual who will be at least 18 years of age on the date of the next election and who requests a free ID for the purpose of voting. The regular fee is \$28.</p> <p>Due to the need to provide a birth certificate and other documents to receive a DOT-issued ID, individuals should start the process of obtaining a statutory identification well in advance of an election at which they wish to vote.</p>

For detailed information about the Voter Photo ID law, please visit the Government Accountability Board website: <http://gab.wi.gov> or call 1-866-VOTE-WIS or contact the G.A.B. Help Desk at 608-261-2028 or TTY 1-800-947-3529.

Firemen's Picnic



Sept. 11, 10am-3pm at Mahler Park
The entire Town is invited
FREE Admission

Food will be available for purchase:
Hot Dogs • Burgers • Brats



The event will feature displays of the Department fire apparatus, fire extinguisher training demonstrations, and a simulated smokehouse for children.

Representatives of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department and Gold Cross Ambulance Service will also be present.

The ThedaStar helicopter will take off and land at mid-da



For more information about the event, please contact Brad Liebhauser at 920-450-6755.

QUARRY

continued from page 1

and mining is anticipated on the west side of Hwy CB on the Pansy property.

John Ahlgrimm from Ahlgrimm Explosives also attended the meeting to explain blasting procedures and the

science behind the seismographs to ensure that no properties are adversely affected.

The Michel's representatives asked for the Town's continued support as they continue mining limestone from the quarry. If anyone would like to be on a pre-blast notification list, please contact Michels' dispatch office at (920) 727-1522.

It is estimated that the quarry will be in operation for at least the next 50 years supplying our local building needs.

To learn more about the quarrying industry Michels invites everyone in the Town to attend the 13th annual QUARRY QUEST event on Sept. 17. All proceeds go to local children's charities and educational events.

Town of Neenah recycling schedule

If you live WEST of Highway 41 or NORTH of Winneconne Ave. (JJ/114), your recycling and trash pick-up day is TUESDAY. Trash will be picked up every week; recycling will be 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 pick-up day is WEDNESDAY. Trash will be picked up every week; recycling will be 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

<u>GROUP A</u>	<u>GROUP B</u>
July 12	July 19
July 26	Aug. 2
Aug. 9	Aug. 16
Aug. 23	Aug. 30
Sept. 7 (Wednesday)*	Sept. 13
Sept. 20	Sept. 27
Oct. 4	Oct. 11
Oct. 18	Oct. 25

EAST of Hwy 41 RECYCLING PICKUP WEDNESDAYS

<u>GROUP A</u>	<u>GROUP B</u>
July 13	July 20
July 27	Aug. 3
Aug. 10	Aug. 17
Aug. 24	Aug. 31
Sept. 8 (Thursday)*	Sept. 14
Sept. 21	Sept. 28
Oct. 5	Oct. 12
Oct. 19	Oct. 26

***NOTE:** *Trash and recycling pickups during the week of Labor Day will be pushed back one day due to the holiday. This was NOT indicated correctly on the magnetic recycling calendars many of you received from the Town.*

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. (*See article on page 5 for further information.*)

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.

BUILDING PERMITS

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



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.

March, 2011

NAME	ADDRESS	JOB	COST
Schultz/Biggar	530 Muttart Rd	Remodel	\$3,500
Lorraine Panske	480 Sunrise Bay Rd	HVAC	\$4,028
Harmon/Black Haak	109 Cumings Ln	HVAC	\$2,000
Boardwalk Bldrs	1234 Pemican Tr	New House	\$180,000
Kurt Konietzki	107 Courtney Ct	Other	\$10,800
Gibson Iron	139 S Fieldcrest Dr	Construction	\$440,000

April, 2011

NAME	ADDRESS	JOB	COST
Mauer/Rucon	758 Terra Cotta Dr	New House	\$250,000
Boardwalk Bldrs	1228 Pemican Tr	New House	\$190,000
Schafhauser/Blueton	825 Terra Cotta Dr	New House	\$325,000
Integrity/Werth	743 Milkweed Ct	New House	\$165,000
Dave Dausey	1495 Deerwood Ave	Garage	\$8,500
Reis/Bayland	300 Tullar Rd	Roofing	\$60,000
Stor-It	300 Tullar Rd	Electrical	\$6,300
Reader Valentine	139 S. Fieldcrest Dr	Plumbing	\$10,000

May, 2011

NAME	ADDRESS	JOB	COST
Curry/Houlihan	102 Limekiln Dr	Remodel	\$20,000
Lycon/Michaels	700 Tullar Rd	Roof Cover	\$7,000
Hinz/Sullivan's	1517 Deerwood Dr	Remodel	\$35,000
Marks/Black Haak	119 Ferdinand St	HVAC	\$3,300
Verbeten/Berhoff	552 Sunrise Bay Rd	Remodel	\$26,000
Todd Brelage	471 Rainbow Beach Rd	New House	\$50,000
John Cox	172 Plummer Ct	Repl Fndtn	\$4,850
Roy Buck	138 Woodside Ct	HVAC	\$6,400

Plastics by the numbers

by Jan DeKeyser

We've all seen the tiny numbers on the bottom of our water bottles, yogurt containers, milk jugs, and nearly everything plastic. Most of us know that these codes define what type of plastic we're looking at, and many of us rely on them to know whether to throw our container in the trash or the recycling bin. But resin codes, as these numbers are called, are not always what they seem to be.

The word "plastic" identifies an assorted set of materials with varying physical properties like strength, flexibility, clarity, weight, etc. Companies that use plastic for their products or packaging select the specific plastic that meets their needs. When plastic products or packaging are discarded, variations in material it is made of can create serious challenges for recycling, since plastics made of some materials cannot be recycled.

Responding to this problem, a voluntary coding system was introduced in 1988. Under this system, manufacturers emboss their products with a code that allows recycling processors to separate different types of plastic. The code consists of a number indicating the primary chemical the item is made from and the familiar "chasing arrows" symbol around the number. Most plastic products are made from one of six major types (see table). Thirty-nine states, including

SYMBOL	NUMBER	MATERIAL	ABBREVIATION	IS IT RECYCLABLE IN TOWN OF NEENAH?
	1	polyethylene terephthalate	PETE	Yes
	2	high density polyethylene	HDPE	Yes - Only narrow-necked items
	3	polyvinyl chloride	PVC, V	No
	4	low density polyethylene	LDPE	No
	5	polypropylene	PP	No
	6	polystyrene	PS	No
	7	miscellaneous	OTHER	No

Wisconsin, have adopted laws requiring the use of these codes on plastic products or packaging.

Unfortunately, not all of these codes imply the item can be recycled. In the Town of Neenah you should only recycle plastic narrow-necked bottles marked #1 and #2. Do NOT recycle wide-mouth #2 containers or any of the #3, #4, #5, #6, or #7 items.

What is coming in the future? A new code chart! It will update, or possibly replace, the current code. The new code chart will add new varieties like bioplastics for composting. When you recycle plastics, all of society benefits from energy savings, greenhouse gas reductions, decreased reliance on foreign oil, and reduced air and water pollution. Improved codes could make recycling plastics easier, more effective and even more beneficial.

— TOWN OF NEENAH REMINDERS —

RECYCLING: All town recycling is picked up every-other week, depending on where you live (see page 4). All recyclables to be picked up must fit inside the container supplied by Veolia. They will no longer 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.

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.

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.

GYPSY MOTHS. If you suspect a gypsy moth infestation on your property or see it elsewhere, call the Oshkosh DNR office at 424-3050 for instructions on how to destroy them before they destroy the trees.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.