

TOWN OF GREEN VALLEY

Newsletter

July 2024

TOWN OFFICIALS

Chair: Terry Tipton 715-853-1555

Clerk: Janalee Jenerou 715-745-2699 e-mail: Clerk@tn.greenvalley.wi.gov

Supervisors: Gary Uelmen 715-745-2982, Brandon Nygaard 715-851-5365

Treasurer: Traci Nygaard 715-851-1453

Town Website: <http://townofgreenvalley.com>

Animal Control: Gary Uelmen 715-745-2982

Plan Commission: Chair: Bob Krause 715-853-6969, Secretary: Carol Nygaard 715-745-6056

Members: Wanda Nischke 715-584-2647, Alice Schneider 715-851-1277,

Claudette Tipton 715-853-1889

Building Inspector Coordinator: Tom Smith Inspections, LLC 920-655-1735

e-mail: tom@tsinspections.com website: tsinspections.com

Harter's Fox Valley Disposal: 715-253-2619 or 888-804-8556

Green Valley Sanitary District President: Corey Bristol 920-619-6846

Assessor: Accurate Appraisal, LLC 920-749-8098

Fire Chief: Leonard Wahl 920-373-3308

***Regular Town Board meetings are held the second Wednesday
of each month at 7PM at the Community Center.***

NEWS FROM THE CLERK'S DESK:

- Scheduled 2024 elections: August 13th & November 5th
- To save the Town some money, if you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail only, please inform the Clerk by e-mailing her at Clerk@tn.greenvalley.wi.gov
- This will be my last term as Clerk (ending April 2025). Thank You for your support over the past almost 20 years!
If a Town resident is interested in the Clerk position, please let me or a Board member know.
Training will be provided.

NEWS FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK:

- Hopefully Spring treated you well!
- Bids were opened for Olson Road from Wahl Rd to County C at the June 19th Town Board meeting. This will be "Ditch to Drain" within the current right of way. All culverts will be replaced and ditches cleaned to allow water to pass through. The surface removed, 3-4 inches of stone will be added to the surface and compacted before the new blacktop is laid.
- We have purchased a duel fuel generator which will be used to power the community center and truck shed when the power is out. It will need to be hooked up as needed but will cost much less than an Auto On with an automatic transfer switch since the Center is not occupied most of the time. This need was highlighted last April when our major snowstorm occurred on election day, I was fortunate to open the door on the truck shed before the power went out.

- A Huge THANK YOU to Green Valley Morgan Fire Department for the help cutting trees to allow the roads to get plowed.
- If you have improvements, buildings, driveways and anything that requires a permit please contact Planning and Zoning in the courthouse, Carol Nygaard or myself sooner than later. If the project requires a public hearing it will need to be posted in the newspaper 2 weeks prior to the public hearing which can really impact your start date!
- The Memorial Park Cemetery (in Advance) has 6 trees that should be removed. We are working with a tree trimmer that will be getting the highest priority trees removed as safely as possible as soon as possible. Several settled graves have been filled with black dirt and other holes filled along with some gravel added to the middle driveway. There is always more to do!
- Enjoy Summer!

NEWS FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK:

- Second half of the 2023 property taxes are due to the SHAWANO COUNTY TREASURER **on or before July 31st**. Please visit the Shawano County website for more information - <http://www.co.shawano.wi.us/departments/?department=75a158d7ca20>

PLAN COMMISSION: Regular meetings - first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Community Center Members: Chairperson Bob Krause 853-6969, Secretary Carol Nygaard 745-6056, Wanda Nischke 715-584-2647, Alice Schneider 715-851-1277, Claudette Tipton 715-853-1889.

- Please remember you must apply for a field access permit application and/or driveway permit application prior to receiving the permit. You will not be issued a field access and or driveway permit until the Plan Commission secretary has the application and fee payment and your site has been viewed by a member of the Town Board of Supervisors and/or the Plan Commission Chairman. You will not be issued a permit the day you request one.

GARBAGE & RECYCLING:

*** Per Harter's Fox Valley Disposal- If a holiday falls in the week of our normal pickup before our normal pickup day (Wednesday), pickup will be pushed back one day (to Thursday).***
If you have questions on garbage/recycling pickup, please call Harter's Fox Valley Disposal.

- Garbage should be placed in bags and put out in your garbage cart.
- **Recyclables must be placed loosely in your recycling cart; NOT in bags in your cart.**

Harter's will do large item pick-ups, but the days of the week may change due to increased volume. Call Harter's to schedule a pick up; they will do large item pick-up a minimum of every other week. Some items require a fee to be picked up.

(The following information was found on the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources website.)

COMPOSTING IN WISCONSIN

Compost is an environmentally friendly way to create healthy soil for Wisconsin's landscape. Compost made from yard materials and other organics, like food scraps, can replenish soil with microorganisms and nutrients.

Wisconsin law prohibits landfill disposal of yard materials (also called "yard waste"), including leaves, grass clippings, brush and pieces of wood (branches, sticks, etc.) under 6

inches in diameter. Composting is an easy, inexpensive alternative to landfills that puts these resources to use instead of simply throwing them away.

Compost is a soil-like material rich in stabilized carbon produced from the breakdown of organic materials. It is considered a "soil amendment" rather than a fertilizer because it usually contains smaller amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium than mineral-based commercial fertilizer products.

Benefits of applying compost include:

- restoring or enhancing the ability of sandy soil to hold moisture and clay soils to drain;
- repairing or preventing damage caused by erosion; and
- aiding plant growth – e.g., in residential gardens, public landscapes or after construction and mining projects are completed.

OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE FOOD WASTE

Because not all food can be composted at home, preventing food waste is also an important step in reducing what goes to landfills.

Edible food that is thrown away or becomes spoiled, along with food scraps such as banana peels and watermelon rinds, make up the largest amount of waste sent to Wisconsin landfills. Making small changes to how food is handled at home can significantly impact this amount, save valuable resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition to saving landfill space and generating fewer greenhouse gasses, preventing food waste also keeps the land, water, energy and labor that went into producing the food from going to waste.

Your household can benefit economically when you take action to prevent food waste. A 2020 study conducted by Penn State estimated households lose \$1,866 a year on food that's thrown out. Purchasing more food than what is needed often leads to more food waste. Storing food in the best manner for that food type can go a long way to reducing food waste and saving the time and money associated with additional grocery store runs.

When waste prevention isn't possible, diverting food waste from landfills is the next best option. Landfills emit greenhouse gasses as waste breaks down. In 2020, an estimated 615,500 tons of wasted food and 238,500 tons of food scraps were disposed of in Wisconsin landfills. Keeping this amount out of landfills saves the equivalent in greenhouse gas emissions as taking 592,035 passenger vehicles off the road for a year.

WISCONSIN'S COMPOSTING LANDSCAPE

Today, more than 200 state-licensed composting facilities manage some 200,000 tons of yard materials each year, and hundreds of thousands more tons of yard materials are achieved through home composting and mulching in place.

Wisconsin also generates an additional 500,000 tons of other compostable materials – including food scraps – each year that could be composted and made into useful products.

Department of Natural Resources staff are working with nonprofits, local governments and businesses to help them build and expand composting operations in Wisconsin.

By composting yard materials and certain food scraps at home, residents can make their own compost for garden and landscape projects while reducing costs for off-site composting or disposal. Composting is also a preferred alternative to burning yard materials, and many communities ban burning.

Home composters can make compost in bins or in a heap, though bins are generally a better way to manage the materials. There are a number of home composting containers available commercially, and it is also fairly simple to create your own.

There are no current state regulations on small-scale, home composting operations of fewer than 50 cubic yards, but all composting should be done in a nuisance-free and environmentally sound manner. This includes minimizing odors, not attracting excessive numbers of pests and not placing compost piles in wetlands or other sensitive areas. Along with yard materials, certain food scraps can also be easily composted at home. Be sure to follow recommendations on what types of food scraps can be composted at home in order to prevent odors and avoid attracting animals and other pests.

What to compost

- Yard materials
- Vegetable and fruit scraps
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Teabags
- Nutshells
- Eggshells
- Clean, unwaxed paper, such as newspaper and cardboard
- Animal manure (not pet waste)

What not to compost

- Meat or fish scraps, bones and packaging
- Dairy products (milk, cheese, egg yolks, etc.)
- Fats and oils or foods containing fats and oils
- Pet waste
- Diseased or insect-ridden plants
- Highly invasive plants like garlic mustard, unless completely dry and without flowers or seeds
- Plastics labeled as "compostable" or "biodegradable" (these items should go to a composting facility)

GREEN VALLEY-MORGAN FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The department has been busy the last few months with training and various department reviews. Last fall the department completed the application to submit to for review to improve the insurance rating for the townships we serve. The department was successful in lowering our rating from a 9 to a 7. This is a significant improvement. We encourage you to reach out to your insurance agent to ensure that your company is aware of the improved rating. With coverage premiums increasing you may not see a reduction in your premium but the saving could be there just absorbed by inflation.

The department will be holding our **annual fireman's picnic** the second Saturday in August just like in years past. Last year the picnic was held in conjunction with the town's 150th Anniversary with many different events, most notable was a parade and three bands performing starting at noon. The event was a success, so by popular demand we will be doing most of the events again with a few changes. The parade will begin at 11:00 and music will start at noon. So save the date of **August 10th, 2024** to come to the fire station in Green Valley and enjoy the day with friends and family. There will be a car show, three bands, a gun raffle, bucket raffles and of course food and refreshments. Watch for posters advertising the events of the picnic around the various businesses in the area and the postings on Facebook. The event takes a lot of planning and volunteers to make it run smoothly, if you would like to help make the day a success and give a little of your time the department is always looking for some extra help, contact one of the fire fighters and let them know. **See you on August 10th.**

The early spring was very dry and the department responded to many wild land fires. The recent rains and the greening up of the vegetation has lessened the wild land fire threat; however, it can quickly change to being dry again so please use caution when burning. If you are going to have a controlled burn please call the Shawano Sheriffs non-emergency number (715) 526-3111 or Fire Chief Leonard Wahl at (920) 373-3308 to report your controlled burn.

The Green Valley Morgan Fire Company is looking for young volunteer minded individuals to join our department. The department holds monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at the Green Valley station on Oak Avenue. Come check out our department and see what we are all about or contact any member or Chief Wahl at (920) 373-3308 to set up a time to meet.

Enjoy all your summer activities and stay safe.

HISTORY COMMITTEE:

Jean Froelich 715-851-2675 jmfcatpaw@gmail.com

Hello from the History Room!

I have been working diligently on completing my Ph.D. in history from Liberty University, and hopefully, the end is in sight.

I wanted to give you some historical information about our state that you may not know. For instance, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, had three socialist mayors who helped propel the state into world fame. E. P. Allis, the owner of Allis-Chalmers (the famous orange tractor), was so intelligent that his products were sold worldwide. He was incredibly productive during the war eras. Here's a fascinating local connection: Senator Joseph McCarthy, a name many of you are likely familiar with, actually worked at a law firm in Shawano for a few years before his political career took off in Congress. This local tie adds an intriguing layer to his story. Finally, Meta and Victor Berger helped found the Wisconsin Socialist Party. Both were very active in different areas of politics. While their children were young, they vacationed at Shawano Lake for many years.

I know it is not Green Valley history, but as I dig into the town hall files, I will find new and exciting tidbits to share. To history!

GREEN VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT #1:

Regular meeting the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the GV Fire Department Building unless posted otherwise.

District Board: President – Corey Bristol, [920-619-6846](tel:920-619-6846); Treasurer - Peggy Bristol, [920-619-6847](tel:920-619-6847); Secretary - Lisa Bergner, [715-851-2288](tel:715-851-2288);

- Sump pumps are to be discharged into the yard and not the sewer.
- Also, recently we removed 3 large industrial disposal rags that were tangled around the pumps. We now have a 6-hour bill for the removal and repair to the pumps. **This is unacceptable, now we all have to pay because someone did this, whether it's the cost to remove and repair, or the system being down. This affects everyone in the District.**
- Remember there are only (3) “P’s” that go in the toilet!
- We appreciate your prompt payments for the first quarter. Let’s keep it up!
- If you have any questions or issues with the Green Valley Sanitary District, you should contact the board. Thank you.

KRAKOW SANITARY DISTRICT:

President: Daniel Cota, 920-899-3652; Treasurer: Tom Gwidt, 920-899-3890

Secretary: Ronald Smurawa, 920-655-4631, krakowsanitary@yahoo.com

Plant Operator: Dale Wagner, 920-899-3381 contact for emergency issues only

Bookkeeper: Jean Banker, 715-851-3403, jbanker05@icloud.com) contact for billing questions

- If you have questions or issues with the Krakow Sanitary District, you should contact the Sanitary District Board as listed above.