



Farmington Town Hall Newsletter

Issue 6 www.farmington-waupaca.com Fall-Winter 2011

Farmington Town News:

2011 Wisconsin Act 35 (Act) made the concealed carrying of weapons legal in Wisconsin. This law took effect on November 1st. At the August 15th Town meeting, it was voted unanimously to post a "No Weapons Allowed Inside This Building" for our Town Hall.



Senior Center News:

While reading the *Waupaca Senior News*, it was noted that in the 2012-2013 budget for Waupaca, the Senior Center must begin charging small fees for their services. All instructor taught exercise programs and computer classes will be affected. Teri Moe reports that after meeting with their Advisory Board, some sort of fee will be established and township seniors will pay \$5 more than the city seniors. This will begin January 1, 2012. The Town Board was approached with this possible assessment back in 2009. At that time the Town Board felt that since the township supports the Park & Rec department for the youth, we could also take care of the extra \$5 difference for our seniors. This was approved at the October 17, 2011 Town Board meeting.

Low-Cost Spays for Strays:

Partnership benefits residents of Farmington Township.....by **Deb Schulz**.

In a progressive move toward reducing the stray and feral cat population, the **Farmington Township**,

The Lost Companion Feral Cat Management of Wild Rose and

Waupaca Small Animal Hospital have joined forces to offer low-cost spays and neuters.

Spaying and neutering strays not only reduced the number of unwanted litters of kittens, it also improves the health and behavior of outside cats. Cats who are sterilized are less prone to cancers and much less likely to roam, fight or be aggressive. This creates a better outdoor environment for both cats and humans.

From November 1 through December 31 of this year, and most Tuesdays thereafter in 2012, there will be scheduled surgery days held at **Waupaca Small Animal Hospital**. All surgeries will be scheduled through **The Lost Companion** and all cats brought in for surgery must be crated or in a live trap.

All participants will be required to pay a minimal fee of \$40 per female and \$20 per male. **Farmington Township** and **The Lost Companion** are covering the remainder of the cost at a reduced rate offered by **Waupaca Small Animal Hospital**. A distemper shot will also be offered at a low cost of \$8, which will need to be paid by the cat's owner.

To sign up your cats for a surgery date, please call **Deb Schulz** of **The Lost Companion** at **920-229-6250** to set up your appointment. A limited number of surgeries will be performed on each date so call early to reserve your spot(s). Payment in full will be due on the day of service. We will accept cash or checks made payable to **The Lost Companion**.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to help reduce the stray cat population and make a positive impact on our community.

This opportunity for cat welfare was approved at the Town Board September 19, 2011 meeting.

Winter Driving in Wisconsin.....

**by Andrew Carlin, Director, Waupaca County
Emergency Management**

Plan your travels and check the latest weather reports to avoid a winter storm. You can find out the latest road conditions by visiting the Wisconsin Department of Transportation travel information website at www.511wi.gov or by call 511.

It is also important to check and winterize your vehicles before the winter season begins. Keep your gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines. Make sure your car's battery is in good shape – cold temperatures can reduce the effectiveness of a battery by 50%.

If expecting adverse weather during your trip, tell someone at both ends of your journey where you are going and the route you intend to take. Report your safe arrival. Make certain that both parties have your cell phone number and license plate number before you start your trip.

Be gentle with both the accelerator and brake. If the rear of your car begins to slide on snow or ice, turn into the direction of the skid. Expect a second skid as the car straightens out, and be prepared to counter this sliding action.

Carry a winter storm survival kit in the back seat of your vehicle (in case your trunk jams or is frozen shut) that includes:

- *Blankets or sleeping bags
- *Flashlight with extra batteries
- *First-aid kit
- *Shovel, tools, booster cables and windshield scraper
- *High-calorie non-perishable food (raisins, candy bars, energy/protein bars, etc)
- *Sand or cat litter to use for traction
- *Cell phone adapter

Typically there are around 25,000 motor vehicle crashes during winter months when roads are covered with ice, snow or slush.

Many crashes are caused by "driving too fast for conditions". Also, when the first blast of winter arrives, motorists

often need to "re-learn" how to drive in slippery conditions.

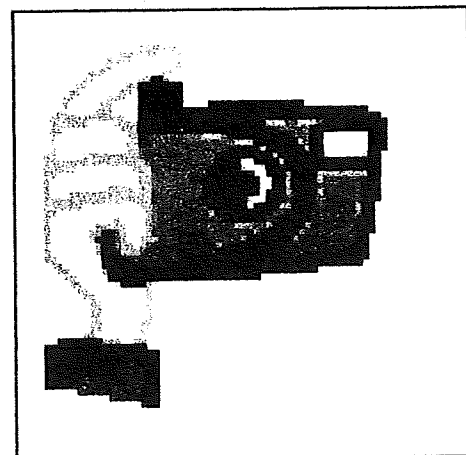
On average in Wisconsin, over 70 people are killed and 7,500 people are injured each winter season in accidents when roads are covered in ice, snow or slush.

Tax Assessor News....by James Stephens

This next summer, I or one of my agents will be around to all properties in the Town of Farmington because of a new State revenue requirement. We will be taking a picture of every home in the township. Effective 2013, every home must have a photo and a foot print sketch online. This **will not** be a reassessment of your property. Myself or any representative I send out in the area will have **CENTRAL ASSESSORS SIGN ON THE VEHICLE AND WILL CARRY IDENTIFICATION**. If you have a concern of what someone is doing, please feel free to ask for ID. In some cases, I will be remeasuring the outside of your building, as in some cases we used the plans for square footage and do not have the exact footage of each wall.

We will be starting this process in April or May of 2012.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 715-258-9255.



Recycle Electronics Instead of Trashing Them in This Holiday Season.. by Debbie Krogwold, Recycling Coordinator

When you find that shiny new TV or laptop under the tree this holiday season, you may feel the urge to get rid of the old electronics gathering dust in your basement.

The **E-Cycle Wisconsin** program, funded by electronics manufacturers, provides convenient electronics recycling options for Wisconsin residents. In Waupaca County, residents can properly dispose of their TVs and computers at the County's Processing & Transfer Facility, E4981 Swan Rd., Manawa. Cost is \$2 per item for residential and \$0.30 per pound for commercial.

Electronics contain valuable materials that can be recycled and reused. These materials include plastics, steel, glass and precious metals like gold and copper.

Many devices also contain harmful materials such as lead, mercury, cadmium and chemical flame retardants. If electronics are disposed of improperly, these materials can harm human and environmental health.

For more information on the County's electronics program or any other solid waste or recycling program, please contact the Waupaca County Solid Waste & Recycling Department at 715-258-6240 or visit www.waupacacountyrecycling.com

Green Tips for the Holiday Season!
Avoid the gift-wrap trap! Reduce waste and save money with these gift-wrap alternatives:

- *Scarves, handkerchiefs, or bandanas
- *Old posters and maps
- *Old sheet music
- *Newspapers, Sunday comic pages
- *Wallpaper scraps, fabric scraps

- *Home-sewn cloth bags
 - *Fabric scraps (especially for the quilters on the list)
 - *A present in a present (a hat in a matching scarf; cookies in a reuseable tin or jar; kitchen gifts in towels; barbeque utensils in a tablecloth)
 - *Reuseable decorative bags
 - *Cake pan, basket, wooden box
- Don't forget to recycle posters, sheet music, and newspapers afterwards!

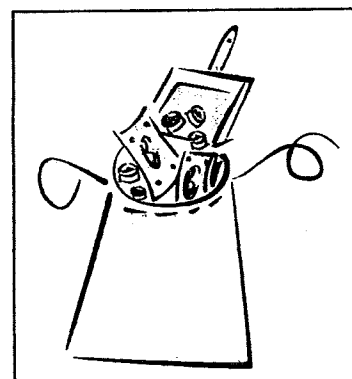
Eco-friendly, no-waste gift ideas:

- *Season tickets to a sporting event
- *Membership to a museum or non-profit organization
- *Theater tickets
- *Refillable pens
- *Stainless steel coffee mug or water bottle
- *Compost bin
- *Reuseable food storage containers
- *Cloth napkins, along with a gourmet dinner
- *Reuseable razor
- *Durable wooden toys

Waupaca Recycling Compost

Commission - Caroline Murphy, Supervisor

Their meeting was held on September 8, 2011. The Town of Farmington is one of five municipalities who support the Recycling Center at 601 Lakeside Pkwy (Cty K) Waupaca. Out share for 2012 is \$11,602.39. We are also a 'point of sale' location for the **orange trash tags** used with the "Pay-By-The-Bag" garbage service. Cost for tags: \$2.00 for one; \$10.00 for a sheet of five.



Road Updates:

There were seven roads reconstructed this past summer: Nancy, Sabine, Teddy Bear, Duvenick, Norris, part of County Park, and Rusch. **Crack filling** was done to many others.

The Town Board took their **road tour** throughout the township on October 28, 2011 which enabled them to concentrate on projects for 2012.

As a reminder: Emergency fire numbers are provided for your protection. **Fire numbers are required, not optional!** Numbers must be visible at eye level for the ambulance and fire department. If a post has been lowered or damaged, please contact Town Hall at 715-258-2779. Residents are also responsible for checking their numbers to see if branches or weeds need to be removed to make the number visible from the road. Also, vandals have been busy damaging not only the fire #'s, but also road signs and mailboxes. Please contact Sandy Grenlie at 715-258-2779 to report any damage or missing signs. **THANK YOU!**

This summer and early fall, Farmington's employees removed many downed trees from town roads because of heavy rain and wind damage. "Simpson Tree Service" has been cleaning up Towns road right of way.

Winter snow removal contract was approved for Faulks Brothers at our September 19, 2011 Town Board meeting. Contact either Dale Trinrud (715-281-4803) or Sandy Grenlie (715-258-2779) with any concerns.

* **Town Board meetings** are held every **third Monday @7:00pm** at the Town Hall located at the corner of State Road 54 and County Road Q.

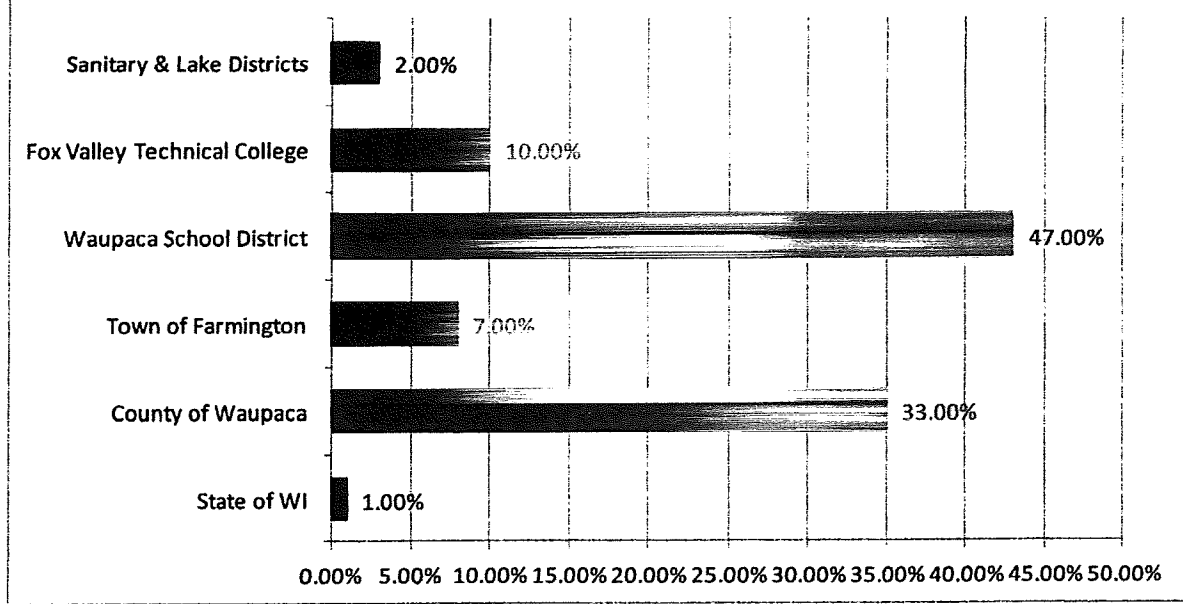
* **Public Hearing** on the 2012 Budget will be held at Farmington Town Hall on **November 21, 2011 @7:00pm** followed by the special meeting of electors and monthly Board Meeting.

* **Taxes** will be mailed out **mid December** with 1st installment due **January 31, 2012**. Dog licenses also due January 1, 2012. Please bring along proof of rabies vaccination. (M/F - \$10; N/S - \$5)

* **Mark** your calendar to come to the Town Hall on **November 15, 2011 at 5:30pm** for a public informational meeting given by the Department of Transportation to explain their plans for detours and dates of road work affecting residents during their **2012 State Hwy 54 road reconstruction**. Reconstruction will be from the edge of the city west to Townline Rd.

* **County Line Trailblazers and Scandinavia Viking** snowmobile clubs were given permission to travel town roads when necessary. Please be vigilant and courteous while driving at night for the snowmobilers.

Where Does Your Tax Money Go?



State of WI	\$81,178.09	1%
County of Waupaca	\$2,932,949.56	33%
Town of Farmington	\$651,844.00	7%
Waupaca School District	\$4,240,398.16	47%
Fox Valley Technical College	\$851,204.19	10%
Sanitary & Lake Districts	\$151,095.41	2%

Total 2010 Statement of Taxes \$8,908,669.51 100%

Town officials are often asked how collected tax dollars are spent, The chart above shows where your property taxes collected in 2011 for the 2010 tax year were spent.

In October and November of each year the clerk receives "Tax Levy Certification" from the State, County of Waupaca, School District of Waupaca, Fox Valley Technical College and the Sanitary Districts. Those levy amounts along with Farmington's levy totaled \$8,908,669.51.

In the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 the Town did not increase the levy with the allowable 3%. In 2009 and 2010 the Town did take the allowable 3% increase knowing that Shared Revenues, Municipal Services and GTA would be cut, and the state imposed Tax Levy Limit is expected to be frozen. In the 2012 budget, Shared Revenues will be cut \$17,944.00. Municipal Services cut \$2,713.00.

- Included in the 2012 Budget are major expenses:
- * Road Construction Projects - \$220,000
 - * Other Highway/Signage/Tree maintenance - \$132,000
 - * Snow Removal - \$75,000
 - * Fire Protection - \$101,460
 - * Ambulance - \$47,484
 - * Dayton Landfill - \$80,000
 - * Youth Park 'n Rec - \$57,091
 - * Recycling - \$11,603

The Town has always utilized Waupaca County Highway Department for road projects and maintenance in the past. They always did exceptional work for the Town of Farmington, but in 2008, in an effort to maintain services and not raise taxes, the board chose to open the bidding process to private industry. Allowing for competitive bidding, Town Tax Dollars are spent more responsibly and more miles of quality roads will be constructed.

TOWN OF FARMINGTON, WISCONSIN

YEAR 2012

PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Estimated	2011 Budget	2012 Budget
REVENUES					
Taxes:					
General Property Taxes	\$ 614,408	\$ 632,834	\$ 651,841	\$ 651,844	\$ 651,317
Other Taxes	2,656	3,010	3,425	-	-
Intergovernmental Revenues	299,984	288,933	283,670	284,126	263,481
Licenses and Permits	49,648	45,897	47,826	46,410	49,775
Fines and Forfeits	540	19	640	200	100
Public Charges For Services	7,938	5,306	9,075	4,878	6,170
Commercial Revenues	67,708	22,437	333,310	19,800	58,500
Total Revenues	1,042,882	998,436	1,329,787	1,007,258	1,029,343
EXPENDITURES					
General Government	159,884	143,037	142,659	155,388	161,331
Public Safety	164,449	171,965	173,898	177,508	173,044
Public Works and Transportation	536,610	437,805	538,089	447,550	452,550
Sanitation	99,141	102,563	79,108	121,376	139,603
Health and Human Services	7,019	9,891	10,009	9,694	11,166
Culture and Recreation	58,766	58,766	58,766	58,766	59,766
Conservation and Development	3,867	2,137	-	-	-
Capital Outlay	1,800	4,070	-	7,000	3,000
Other Financial Uses				29,976	28,883
Total Expenditures	1,031,536	930,234	1,002,529	1,007,258	1,029,343
Net Change in Fund Balances	11,346	68,202	327,258	-	-
Fund Balances - Beginning	827,391	838,737	906,939	906,939	1,234,197
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 838,737	\$ 906,939	\$ 1,234,197	\$ 906,939	\$ 1,234,197

Election Day Voting Wisconsin's New Voter Photo ID Law

Information provided by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

What should I expect on Election Day?	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Remember to bring acceptable photo ID to the polling place. You should also bring along proof of residence, in case you need to register at the polls.2) Voters should have their photo ID ready when they enter the polling place.3) Check with the greeter, if that polling place has one. Greeters will usually be able to verify if you are already registered or need to fill out a new registration. If the polling place covers multiple wards, the greeter will be able to direct voters to the correct line.4) Fill out a new registration form if necessary. Newly registering voters will have to provide proof of residence. You do not necessarily have to show your photo ID when registering, but you will have to show photo ID before being issued a ballot.5) Poll workers will ask you to state your name and address. This is not a new requirement of the voter photo ID law. It has always been a requirement.6) Poll workers will ask you to show your photo ID.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The photo ID must be one of the acceptable documents specified by law.• The photo ID must be current. For driver licenses and state ID cards, military IDs, and passports, they can be expired, if they expired since the last November general election – no more than two years ago.• A voter's photo ID must reasonably resemble that voter.• The name on the photo ID must conform to the voter's name on the poll list. An exact match is not necessary. For example, Bob conforms to Robert, Sue conforms to Susan, and Smith-Jones conforms to Smith if the voter has recently been married.7) Poll workers will ask you to sign the poll list. If you are unable to sign because of a physical disability, you are exempt from this requirement. You should inform a poll worker that you are unable to sign.8) Poll workers write the Election Day Voter Number in the poll list, and issue the voter a ballot.9) If you do not have a photo ID, you are allowed to vote by provisional ballot. You can bring your photo ID to the polling place later that day. You may also present your photo ID to the municipal clerk in person, or provide a copy of your photo ID to the municipal clerk by 4 p.m. the 3rd day after Election Day (Friday). If you provide photo ID by the deadline, the ballot will count. If you don't provide photo ID by the deadline, your ballot will not count. <p style="text-align: center;">Please be understanding and kind to the poll workers!</p>
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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.