

Farmington Town Hall Newsletter

Issue 16

www.farmington -waupaca.com

Fall-Winter 2016

Farmington Town News:

Summer road work: American Asphalt resurfaced two town roads: Sheridan and the south part of Oakland Dr. from the railroad crossing. The Town also did work on Jess, Riverwood and by the Covered Bridge bridge area.

Because of that lengthy rain downpour we had, Faulks Bros. and Town maintenance crew worked on repairing several washed out right-of-ways.

Tom Simpson has been busy trimming back trees in the road right-of-ways for your driving safety.

We appreciate our resident phone calls to notify us of any brush, tree or limbs that have fallen down that could affect safe driving conditions.

August Referendum results:

At the August 15th Town Board meeting, it was voted to accept the results of the referendum on waste/recycling pick-up and not pursue any further investigation of putting it on the tax bill.

Winter snow removal:

The Town contract continues with Faulks Bros. Contact either Town Cell (715-513-0013)(24/7), Caroline Murphy (715-498-9820) or Town Hall (715-258-2779) with any concerns. **Reminder:** Please do not snow blow or shovel snow into the roads. Once it becomes ice and solid, it makes it harder for the plows to clear. **THANK YOU!**

DEAD DEER:

Residents should call the Sheriff's dept. at 715-258-4466 if they see any dead deer on or alongside state, county and town roads.



- ✓ 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 O
- ✓ Public Hearing on the 2017 Budget will be held at Farmington Town Hall on November 21, 2016 @
 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, 2017.
- ✓ **Dog licenses** also due January 1, 2017. Please bring along proof of rabies vaccination (M/F - \$10 N/S - \$5)

The Town currently oversees three cemeteries: **Barton**, **Salem and Sheridan**. Sites are available for purchase at \$300.00 which includes Perpetual Care. Anyone interested can contact the Cemetery Sec., Sandy Grenlie at the Town Hall (715-258-2779)

Oak Wilt..... by Ben Baumgart, forester, Bureau of Forestry, DNR

Thousands of oak trees in the urban yard and woodland settings die from oak wilt every year. The activity residents do can directly affect the spread of this fungal disease. As the seasons change from winter to spring and summer to fall, there are times responsible landowners **should not** conduct any cutting, pruning or wound any tree in general. Spring and summer is the worst time of the year to do any of that since oak wilt is most active at this time.

Our forestry office, located at Hartman Creek State Park, gets numerous phone calls about insect and disease questions. The most often question is about oak wilt because central WI has a lot of oak trees (both red and white oak) and oak wilt is well established here. Here are some of the most commonly asked questions:

- 1. What is oak wilt? Oak wilt is caused by a fungus <u>Ceratocystis fagacearun</u> that invade the water conducting vessels of the sapwood. When the fungus invades the vessels, certain cells develop balloon-like projections caked tyloses, which extend into the vessels and plug them. This disrupts the sap flow and causes the leaves to wilt. The fungus then can produce spore masses on a fungal mat which forms under the bark of infected oak trees. Oaks are more susceptible in spring as new wood is forming.
- 2. What are the first signs of oak wilt? Leaves at the top of the tree or at the tip of the lateral branches wilt first. Symptoms usually are seen in June and July but are occasionally observed throughout the summer. A slight curling and dull paling of leaves appear first at the tip and edges and progress toward the base. Leaves gradually turn brown or bronze and defoliation occurs (leaves drop) within a few weeks. Trees wilted in late summer may not defoliate until the following spring. Sometimes observed are brown streaks in the outer sapwood throughout the tree coincident with foliar symptoms. The streaks mark clusters of water-conducting vessels colonized by the pathogen. Oaks in the white oak family are much more resistant to oak wilt. They often remain healthy after surrounding black and red oaks have been killed. Wilted bronzed leaves appear only on scattered branches and leaf fall may be light. Infected white oaks may die slowly, but, in many cases, they recover.
- 3. How does it spread? Oak wilt moves from infected to healthy trees in two ways:
 - a. Through connecting root systems called root grafts. Roots often united oaks of the same group growing within 50' of one another. The oak wilt fungus spreads from infected to healthy trees through these root grafts.
 - b. Through fresh wounds via insect vectors. Insects, especially "picnic beetles" which is a sap beetle, spread the oak wilt fungus by carrying the spores from fungus mats on infected trees to fresh wounds, such as pruning wounds or wind storm damage, on healthy trees.
- 4. Are all oaks losing leaves suffering from oak wilt? No. There are a variety of fungus and canker pathogens that affect and kill oaks in our area. Some of these pathogens have similar symptoms as oak wilt. Careful diagnosis of the symptoms and other observations will reveal what is affecting the tree.
- 5. Where did the disease come from? Oak wilt is only found in the United States and occurs in the south central and the Midwest states. Since the 1930's, oak wilt has killed thousands of oak trees in southern Wisconsin and has extended its range extensively since then.
- 6. **Is this nature's way of cleansing the forest?** No, not necessarily. Nature usually follows the survival of the fittest in its order of removal. Oak wilt does not always hit the suppressed, unhealthy trees. Many times vigorous looking trees die. More than likely a vigorous tree has a better chance of survival compared to an unhealthy tree. It is important to promote vigor in our forest through sound forest management.
- 7. Will oak trees not tough enough to live in a tension zone with oak wilt have pines take over? (Tension zone is an area in the state where southern species and northern species converge.) All oak trees will not die out due to the oak wilt fungus. In order for oak trees to propagate extensively, some sort of disturbance needs to take place to regenerate back to oak. At the turn of the century that disturbance was logging in vast areas. Today things are different. Logging still occurs but is much gentler than it was. Oak stands that have no disturbances will slowly

convert to other species that are shade tolerant such as red maple and white pine. Oak wilt in some instances has acted as the needed disturbance and has actually regenerated oak back in the stand.

- 8. What is the "Park" doing about the problem? Promoting a healthy vigorous forest through sound forest management.
- 9. What are foresters doing about the problem on private property? There is no cure for oak wilt so control consists of preventing the disease from spreading. Through education, identification of oak wilt and other insect and disease problems our forestry office will assist landowners in trying to curb oak wilt. It is a problem that is hard to get rid of and is most likely here to stay.
- 10. How can a landowner control oak wilt? There is no cure for oak wilt so control consists of preventing the disease from spreading.

One control method is to sever the root connection between healthy trees and infected trees. The depth of the severing trench should be at least 4 feet and midway between the healthy and infected trees. Where several oaks are present, place a second root barrier. The barrier must be placed ahead of the fungus to do any good. Any device that cuts or breaks the roots can be used. Grafted roots can also be severed chemically by soil fumigants. Avoid any pruning or cutting of any trees from April 1 through September is advised. Infection through wounds occurs commonly in spring between bud opening and full leaf development (usually April 1 – July 15). If wounding does occur during the susceptible periods, treat the wounds immediately with wound treatment compound or thick paint to prevent insect infestation.

Trees that are identified with oak wilt should be killed and removed to prevent the spread of the spores from fungal mats on infected trees. Wilted trees should be girdled as soon as the disease has been confirmed. Girdling will speed the drying of the wood and reduce fungus mat formation. Cut oak wilt-killed trees in the winter months (October 1-March 31) for firewood. The wood should be cut and split to reduce fungal mat formation and be completely covered and secured with plastic the first summer after cutting. If the bark is removed, no covering is necessary.

Procedures for Town Hall Meetings:

Town Board meeting. The residents do not have much of a say in the actual decisions. The board can only vote on issues that the statutes give the board authority over.

Public Input: Unless a public hearing is on the agenda, the public does not have a right to speak at town meetings. The board MAY provide for a period of public comment by indicating such on the agenda. (Sec. 19.84(2) Wis. Stat.) This is optional and could be put on the agenda for some meetings and not others. If allowed, public comments would then only be allowed at the designated time. Public comment should not be allowed if it is not on the agenda. The board may still ask questions of audience members if they have a special knowledge about the topic being discussed. The board does not need to address everything brought up by citizens at the board meeting. Often times these are listening sessions where issues can be brought to the board's attention so they can learn more about that topic and possibly study it in the future. The board does not have to respond right away, and would not be able to make a decision concerning issues brought up during public input sessions unless specifically noticed.

Annual meeting: The annual town meeting is a meeting of the town's electors, with those present comprising the body that is meeting (60.14(1)). A qualified elector is someone eligible to vote in the town per Ch.6 of the state statutes but does not have to be a registered voter. Any qualified elector present may make or second motions, participate in discussion of a matter and vote. Town officials are generally just electors like everyone else. All actions are decided by a majority of the electors present and voting (60.14(2)) There is no absentee or proxy voting allowed. The annual town meeting may transact any business over which the town meeting has jurisdiction. (60.11(6)). No agenda is required to be noticed. Annual meeting held in April.

Scandinavia Vikings Snowmobile Club and the County Line Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club were approved to run trails in the road right-of-way at our September and October Board meetings. Please be vigilant and courteous while driving at night for the snowmobilers. Safe driving for everyone is our concern.

Waupaca County is divided into eight zones. To find out which are open or closed, please call Waupaca County Parks & Recreation Dept. at 715-258-6243 OR visit www.waupacacountyparks.com/Snowinfo.aspx.

The Chain O'Lakes becomes busy during the winter with ice fishermen, walkers and cross country skiers. Snowmobilers and other vehicular drivers, PLEASE observe safety conditions and keep your distance.

Farmington township is home to the Waupaca segment of the **Ice Age Trail** which starts within Hartman Creek State Park, running north of the park to Indian Valley Road and south to the park through the Emmons Creek Fish Hatchery and Wildlife Area. The segment is part of the 1,000 mile National Scenic Ice Age Hiking and Skiing Trail. The trail is for **hiking, snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing – no biking.**The Ice Age Trail is closed during deer gun season. Maps are available at the Waupaca County Parks & Recreation Dept in the courthouse. You can also visit the website www.iceagetrail.org or call 715-258-6243 or 800-227-0046 for local contact information.

Help Others Stay Warm......from Wisconsin Public Service

Having to choose between food, medicine and heat isn't an easy choice to make – but it's one some Wisconsin families may have to make this winter. That's where your donation to the **Keep Wisconsin Warm/Cool Fund** can help.

It is a voluntary, nonprofit community-based utility assistance program that helps the elderly, disabled and others with limited incomes pay their heating bills. It was created by and is funded by local businesses (including utilities), donations and individual contributions. It is committed to providing a safety net for these low income and most vulnerable population. With heating costs accounting for as much as 50 to 60% of their monthly income this winter, some people will need the assistance the Fund provides more than ever.

Your donation to the fund provides:

- Help for paying utility bills
- Home weatherization and conservation
- Replacement or repair if old, inefficient and dangerous furnaces
- Debt reduction, budget counseling, money management
- Connection ot other resources and programs to allow people to help themselves.

For more information, call 800-891-WARM (9276) or visit www.keepwisconsinwarm.org

Why didn't I get a weather warning? ... by Eric Halverson, Deputy Director Waupaca County Emergency Management.

In the past, severe thunderstorm, tornado, and flash flood warnings were issued for entire counties. In 2007, the National Weather Service began using warnings in the shape of a polygon, which are intended to warn only the locations and people inside the polygon of impending severe weather. Warning polygons represent state of the art NWS capabilities and understanding of severe weather which enables the National Weather Service to specify the locations that are most likely to be affected by a severe thunderstorm, flash flood or tornado. At the point which most storms become severe, forecasters have been following them for a while and know where the storms will track and how they will behave. Based on this information, NWS forecasters then draw a polygon that defines the locations that are threatened by the storm and issue a watch or warning for that specific area.

Not all storms are easy to identify. Heavy precipitation can mask a potential tornado signature on radar. At night, trained weather spotters have a more difficult time seeing weather events. There are also fewer citizen reports in the middle of the night, These sources are all used to determine if a warning should be issued.

All-hazards weather alert radios usually alert by county. If an area within the county is under a warning, the weather alert radio will sound. Many people program the surrounding counties into the weather radio to give them more advanced warning.

Waupaca County also has an alerting system called **Code RED**. Code RED can send warning information to your land-line phone, cell phone, text message or as an email. You must sign up for CodeRED to receive weather warnings. When you sign up for CodeRED, you are asked to enter the address to be warned, If the warning polygon issued by the National Weather Service includes your address, you will receive a warning. If your address is not in the polygon, you will not receive a warning.

So what does this mean for you? When the weather alert radio sounds or you become aware of a severe weather warning from CodeRED or other sources for your area, you need to act quickly! Go to your shelter immediately. If the sun is out or the weather is benign, tune to your NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards radio or your favorite local media outlet to get more details on the storm. It is our goal that only those inside the polygon should take action. As technology in personal warning devices advances, we hope to minimize your personal false alarm rate or the number of times you are alerted for impending severe weather when it does not actually affect your location. If ever in doubt over whether you are at risk, seek shelter first and then get additional weather information immediately.



Waupaca A Radio by Josh Werner, IT-Communications Specialist, City of Waupaca

Waupaca Radio FM 96.3 is a FM radio station operated by the City of Waupaca as a service to area residents. Our mission is to "connect the citizens of the Waupaca area with the activities of their government and community."

Programming you will hear on Waupaca Radio FM 06.3 includes audio of various government meetings; community speakers; non-profit/community groups; student programming and a wide variety of music including polka, oldies and jazz. Waupaca Radio is here as a resource for any community group; non-profit organization; school and government agencies to utilize to promote upcoming events, produce short education/informational segments, airing of government meetings and more.

Learn more about Waupaca Radio, see our program schedule and find out how you can utilize the station at our website www.waupaca.tv. If you have additional questions contact Joshua Werner, 715.258.4405 or werner@cityofwaupaca.org.

Understanding the VA Home Loan Guaranty.....by Jesse P. Cuff, Waupaca County Veterans Service Officer

What is a VA guaranteed home loan? The VA Home Loan Guaranty program is a benefit for eligible Veterans looking to purchase a home as a primary residence. This includes existing homes, preconstruction homes, and the refinance of an existing home loan. You will need a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) which can be obtained via eBenefits, or through your lending institution. The VA home loan is not a one-time benefit. Once a VA home loan is satisfied, you can use the benefit again.

What are the advantages to a VA guaranteed home loan?

- * Equal opportunity for all qualified Veterans to obtain a VA loan
- * Reusable
- * No down payment (unless required by the lender or the purchase price is more than the reasonable value of the property)
 - * No mortgage insurance
 - * One time VA funding fee than can be included in the loan
 - * Veterans receiving VA disability compensation are exempt from the VA funding fee
 - * VA limits certain closing costs a Veteran can pay
 - * Can be assumed by qualified persons
 - * Minimum property requirements to ensure the property is safe, sanitary, and sound
 - * VA staff dedicated to assisting Veterans who become delinquent on their loan

Who is eligible? Generally, the following people are eligible:

- * Veterans who meet length of service requirements
- * Service members on active duty who have served a minimum period
- * Certain Reservists and National Guard members
- * Certain surviving spouses of deceased Veterans

Note: There are other groups of individuals who may be eligible. To determine your eligibility, check eBenefits, contact VA Eligibility Center at 1-888-768-2132, or contact our office at 715-258-6475.

Understanding these and other VA Benefits can seem daunting, but the Waupaca County Veterans Service Office can help. If you could use a little help navigating the VA Benefit system, please schedule an appointment today!

Waupaca County Veterans Office

811 Harding Street

For more information:

Waupaca, WI 54981

http://w[Type a quote from the document or the

summary of an interesting point. You can position the text box anywhere in the document. Use the Text Box Tools tab to change the formatting of the pull quote text box.]

ww.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/index.asp 715-258-6475

www.facebook.com/Waupaca Veterans Office

Hours: Monday - Friday 8am to 4pm



Waupaca County Recycling & Solid Waste Disposal Information

Provided by Debbie Krogwold, Recycling Coordinator

Wi Recycling Law and Waupaca County Ordinance requires residents and businesses separate the following items from their garbage for recycling. These items are banned from landfills.

- Plastic bottles & containers, glass food/beverage bottles & jars, steel cans, aluminum cans
- Paper: cardboard, boxboard, newspaper, magazines, catalogues, office paper, junk mail
- Electronics: TVs, computers, printers, cell phones, and other components
- Appliances, Tires, Vehicle Batteries, Used Motor Oil, Oil Filters

Recycle More & Pay Less for Garbage! Check out the popular Waupaca Regional Recycling Center's Payas-You-Throw garbage disposal program. The less garbage you have (by recycling your paper, cans, plastic and glass bottles), the less you pay to get rid of that garbage! Great for the environment and great for your pocketbook! Stop in during hours of operation (Mon 12-6, Fri 7-4, Sat 7-5) or visit www.waupacacountyrecycling.com for the program flyer. The Center is located just off of Hwy 10 on HWY K next to the Waupaca Cemetery.

Where Do I Recycle Electronics and Appliances? Waupaca County Processing & Transfer Facility (PTF), E4981 Swan Road, Manawa. Cost: \$0.25 per pound for residential electronics; \$0.30 per pound for commercial electronics; \$0.50 per pound for electronics that have been disassembled.

How Do I Get Rid of Furniture, Carpet, Drywall and other Large Bulky Items? All of these items and household garbage are accepted at the Waupaca County PTF. Minimum charge of \$15 (400 lbs.) or \$72 per ton. Brochure available online, www.waupacacountyrecycling.com. NOTE: The PTF will be closed Saturdays December through February. All open loads must be covered and secured. Payment cash or check ONLY. No credit or debit cards.

How Do I Dispose of Unwanted Medications? Medication drop-boxes for the disposal of unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications, including pet medications, are available year-round at the Clintonville, Manawa, Marion, New London, and Weyauwega Police Departments, and the Waupaca County Sheriff Department. You can now dump all your pills into a sealed plastic bag, Recycle the empty pill bottles. Keep liquid medications in original bottles and place in a sealed clear plastic bag.

<u>What About Sharps, Needles and Lancets</u>? Riverside Medical Center accepts used sharps and provides collection containers at no cost. Call 715-258-1000 for additional information.

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

- Scarves, bandanas, fabric scraps (especially for the quilters on the list)
- Old posters, maps, sheet music, or Sunday comic pages
- A present in a present (a hat in a matching scarf; cookies in a reusable tin or jar; kitchen gifts in towels; barbecue utensils in a tablecloth)

Green Gift Ideas for the Holiday Season! (google 'Green Holiday Living' online)

- Theater tickets
- Membership to non-profit organization
- Stainless steel coffee mug or water bottle
- Compost bin .

TOWN OF FARMINGTON, WISCONSIN

YEAR 2017

PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Estimated	2016 Budget	2017 Budget
REVENUES Taxes:					
General Property Taxes Other Taxes	\$ 651,058 3,624	\$ 651,297 3,636	\$ 651,297 5,724	\$ 651,317	\$ 651,317
Intergovernmental Revenues	263,089	274,190	313,449	264,545	263,842
Licenses and Permits	62,099	66,363	61,076	61,775	61,475
Fines and Forfeits	849	92	92	100	100
Public Charges For Services	4,047	6,393	3,646	4,836	4,836
Commercial Revenues	51,189	115,336	53,431	50,500	50,500
Total Revenues	1,035,955	1,117,307	1,088,715	1,033,073	1,032,070
EXPENDITURES					
General Government	167,737	157,456	167,682	183,736	179,171
Public Safety	178,481	179,858	170,220	175,392	178,133
Public Works and Transportation	416,440	407,778	554,528	502,550	502,550
Sanitation	42,304	39,075	44,035	49,662	43,859
Health and Human Services	8,981	12,423	8,454	13,754	9,754
Culture and Recreation	59,126	58,766	58,766	59,266	63,753
Conservation and Development Capital Outlay	705.665	765		-	<u>.</u>
Other Financial Uses	785,665	124,565	33,723	18,000 30,713	25,000 29,850
Total Expenditures	1,658,734	980,686	1,037,408	1,033,073	1,032,070
Net Change in Fund Balances	(622,779)	136,621	51,307	_	-
Fund Balances - Beginning	1,454,515	831,736	968,357	968,357	1,019,664
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 831,736	\$ 968,357	\$ 1,019,664	\$ 968,357	\$ 1,019,664

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF FARMINGTON, WISCONSIN

YEAR 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

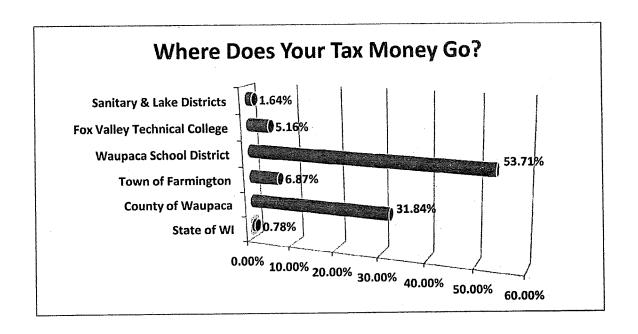
Notice is hereby given that on Monday, November 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall of Farmington, a PUBLIC HEARING on the PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET of the Town of Farmington in Waupaca County will be held. The proposed budget in detail is available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. The following is a summary of the proposed 2017 budget.

General Fund		Year 2016 Adopted Budget	Year 2017 Proposed Budget	% Change	
REVENUES Taxes: General Property Taxes Intergovernmental Revenues Licenses and Permits Fines & Forfeits Public Charges For Services Commercial Revenues Other Financing Sources: Fund Balance Applied		\$ 651,317 264,545 61,775 100 4,836 50,500	\$ 651,317 263,842 61,475 100 4,836 50,500	0.00% -0.27% -0.49% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00%	
TOTAL REVENUES		\$ 1,033,073	\$ 1,032,070	-0.10%	
EXPENDITURES General Government Public Safety Public Works and Transporta Sanitation Health and Human Services Culture and Recreation Capital Outlay Other Financial Uses TOTAL EXPENDITURES	ition	\$ 183,736 175,392 502,550 49,662 13,754 59,266 18,000 30,713 \$ 1,033,073	\$ 179,171 178,133 502,550 43,859 9,754 63,753 25,000 29,850 \$ 1,032,070	-2.48% 1.56% 0.00% -11.68% -29.08% 7.57% 38.89% <u>-2.81%</u> -0.10%	
All Governmental and Proprietary Funds Combined	FUND BALANCE JANUARY 1 \$1,019,664	TOTAL REVENUES \$1,032,070	TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$1,032,070	FUND BALANCE DECEMBER 31 \$1,019,664	PROPERTY TAX CONTRIBUTION \$651,317

Towns Tax Rate= \$1.39

Given under my hand and official seal at the Town Hall of Farmington in Wisconsin this 21st day of October, 2016

Following this Public Meeting on the 2017 Proposed Budget we will hold Special Meeting of the Electors
Followed by Monthly Board Meeting



FROM 2015 STATEMENT OF TAXES

State of Wisconsin	\$74,268.55	00.78%
County of Waupaca	\$3,017,578.30	31.84%
Town of Farmington	\$651,317.00	06.87%
Waupaca School District	\$5,090,592.57	53.71%
Fox Valley Technical College	\$489,190.74	05.16%
Sanitary & Lake District	\$155,546.04	01.64%
Total Levy	\$9,478,493.20	100.00%

2016 EXPENDITURES

Danid Duningto	\$334,792.00
Road Projects	• •
Shouldering, pot holes	\$12,210.00
Sweeping Roads	\$10,991.00
Flex Crack Filling/sealing	\$60,992.00
Snowplowing (2015 - 2016)	\$79,979.00
Roadside cutting	\$10,560.00
Tree Trimming r/w	\$10,280.00
Waupaca Fire Dist	\$87,867.00
Gold Cross Ambulance	\$44,099.00
Park 'n Rec	\$57,091.00
County PTF	\$9,662.00
Landfill Monitoring	\$40,000.00
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