



VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER

Leaf Pick-up

It is again that time of year for leaves. Due to the tremendous quantity of leaves put out in just a short time, please remember to place leaves in the gutter section of the street in a long row along your property.

Only leaves may be placed along the gutter and please note that this is the only time of the year that anything can be placed in the gutter.

Separated piles of brush and grass must be placed on the boulevard area behind the curb and the brush must be stacked neatly with the cut ends facing the street. Also, roots must be removed from the brush and placed separately from the branches.

If you follow these rules, your leaves and other yard waste will be picked up in a timely manner.

***Village of Port Edwards
Trick or Treating
October 31, 2023
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.***



Flag Donations

The flag project is funded entirely from private donations and the flags require replacement every one to two years, so donations are always welcomed and encouraged so we can keep our flags flying bright and proud. The cost of one flag is approximately \$30.00.

Hydrant Flushing!!

Fall hydrant flushing will take place on **October 2nd, 3rd and 4th**. Please be aware that there may be some dirty water during this time.

The Village graciously thanks

Bev Schraeder for her help in maintaining
the Village flower beds in front of the
Municipal Building



Holiday Bazaar

Everyone is invited to the Port Edwards United Methodist Church Annual Holiday Bazaar and Luncheon on Saturday, November 4th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Winter Parking Restrictions

Winter parking restrictions start November 1, 2023 and end April 1, 2024. No parking on Village streets from 12:00 a.m. (midnight) until 6:00 a.m. The fine for violation of this ordinance is \$50.00.

A MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Hello Port Edwards residents!

As I am sitting here writing this, I have tomatoes cooking down on the stove to make sauce to preserve for our family. This is an indicator (in our house, anyway) that fall is indeed upon us. I don't know about you, but summer sure went by fast this year!

Since writing in the last newsletter, we have had some changes in the village. Our former administrator, Ray "Boz" Bossert and his family have moved to Florida. I appreciate all the work that he did for our village, and I hope he and his family enjoy their new adventure! We have welcomed back Duane Gau as the part time interim administrator, he is working with us two days a week (Thursdays & Fridays). Duane was here with us before we hired Ray, so he is familiar with the village and all the personnel and projects. He has jumped right in and picked up on things very quickly to help us navigate the issues we have on our plate. With that, I also want to say a big THANK YOU to our village staff! Without their knowledge, expertise and dedication to the village, this transition would be much more difficult.

The village board has started the initial 2024 budget discussion. We have a couple of challenges ongoing and ahead that we need to work together to address and overcome. All of our village departments and services need the right investment to service all our residents, including the NEPCO lake area, and businesses in Port Edwards. We must be good stewards of our tax funds and choose wisely on investments and our budget. We have recently had assessments done in the village. There will be upcoming discussions at committee levels and the board on how that will impact the village and our residents. Make sure to look at agendas, come to the meetings, utilize our zoom link, or watch it on our YouTube channel to get some of the details. If you have any questions, please contact our knowledgeable staff or a board member.

If you haven't been downtown recently, I encourage you to! The road, parking space and sidewalk in front of the municipal building has been redone and looks wonderful, and we also have a new mural! This mural is to honor our personnel that have served in law enforcement, fire department and first responders. I would like to thank the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce, Ben Eberlein and Nathan Plym of chamber's Community Leadership program class of 2023 for bringing this idea to the village! A huge shout out to Port Edwards' own Adam Andreasen (owner of AA Designs N Wraps) for the design and the artistic work on this! Don't forget to support all our local businesses!

The fall season also means school is back in session! Make sure to keep an eye out for additional bike and foot traffic as kids are going to and from school. Please keep the crossing guards' and children's

safety in mind while traveling in school zones, and please slow down for their safety. Give yourself plenty of time to make it to your destination with all the additional traffic and bus stops. I wish all students and school staff the best for the school year ahead! Good luck to all our student athletes, club members and coaches this year as well. Check out the Port Edwards School District website to get schedules for games and to stay up to date with what is going on in our schools!

I hope that you all have a wonderful fall and holiday season!

Sincerely,

Betsy A. Mancl

Port Edwards Village Board President



FALL / WINTER NEWS FROM THE FIRE CHIEF'S DESK!

The nights are getting cooler, the days are getting shorter, and fall and winter will soon be upon us. Fire prevention week is October 4th – 10th. Please mark your calendars, this is a great time to change your batteries in your smoke detectors and make sure they are operating properly. The Law is one smoke detector minimum per floor and this also goes for carbon monoxide detectors. These two things that have been proven to save lives. This is also a great time to go over your escape plan with your children if you have them; if not still go over your planned two routes out of your home.

If you burn wood in your home please have your chimney cleaned and inspected yearly. Also, avoid the seasonal rush and have your furnace inspected/ serviced before you need to use it. We really don't want to come to your home and make a big mess because of a lack of preventative maintenance.

With heavy and drifting snow, please remember to keep all your furnace exhaust vents on your home clear of ice and snow blockage. This is a common reason fire departments are called to homes for carbon monoxide detectors going off or people getting headaches or feeling sick. It only takes a minute to check.

At this time I would like to ask everyone a big favor, please help us out during the winter and the snow season. If you have a fire hydrant by your home or even close, could you please keep it cleaned out for us? This is really important if we need to use it, because every minute a fire burns it doubles in size. It is recommended a 3 foot by 3 foot area around the hydrant be cleared. This gives us the area we need to do our job if needed.



Are you interested in helping your community and having a lot of very rewarding experiences? We are always looking for new members! We have a fillable application on line at the Village of Port Edwards web site under the tab employment, or stop into the Village Office or the Fire Station or Email me at PEFD.Chief@portedwardswi.gov This is a commitment that is well worth it! Serve and get to know your community.

Have a safe and happy Holiday season from all of us at the Port Edwards Fire Department!!

Chief Jason Worden



Hello from the Port Edwards Police Department!

Traffic Safety / School Zone Crossings:

School is back in session, so our children will be out walking and biking to and from school. Please use extra care and SLOW DOWN in the school zones at 5th Street/Letendre Avenue and 5th Street/Ver Bunker Avenue. Our Crossing Guards, Debbie and Randall will be out making sure our kids cross safely. Please do your part when you see children in the area and maintain the 15 MPH speed limit through the school zone. Our crossing guards are appointed by the Police Department and will report all violations directly to the Police Department for enforcement. Fines start at \$111.40.

Vehicles to stop at stop signs and school crossings.

346.46(2m)(2m) Every operator of a motor vehicle approaching a school crossing which is controlled by an adult school crossing guard appointed under s. 120.13 (31) or 349.215 shall follow the directions of the school crossing guard. If directed by the school crossing guard to stop, the operator shall stop the vehicle not less than 10 feet nor more than 30 feet from the school crossing and shall remain stopped until the school crossing guard directs the operator to proceed.



Yielding to Emergency Vehicles:

I have noticed a lot of confusion lately about what to do when an emergency vehicle is approaching. I have had vehicles pulling into center medians, stopping in the left lane of traffic, continuing to the next cross street, and otherwise not yielding to the emergency vehicles. What should you do when you see an emergency vehicle approaching from the front or rear? The short answer is, PULL TO THE RIGHT AND STOP.

Wisconsin law (State Statute 346.19) states that operators of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive their vehicle to a position as near as possible and parallel to the right curb or right-hand edge of the shoulder of the roadway, clear of any intersections. This applies to emergency vehicles that are using an air horn, siren or flashing lights, including police vehicles, fire trucks, and ambulances. The owner of a vehicle involved in a

violation of s. 346.19 (1) for failing to yield the right-of-way to an authorized emergency vehicle shall be liable for the violation.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 715-887-3030 or stop down to the Police Department to see us.



Scott Drew
Chief of Police

Village Monarch Park

I hope you have noticed all of the action at the Village Monarch Park this summer. The park is really taking shape due to the help and generosity of several people. Many people have donated money, time, plants and hard work to make the park a reality. Tim Martin has been working on the raised bed gardens. Ron & Karla Leverance donated the cute caterpillar planter and Pat & Kathy McGrath put up the monarch life cycle signs. People have pulled weeds and donated many plants.



The "Little Free Library" was built by Brian Miller and dedicated in memory of Jessica Draper Haase. If anyone has books to donate you may just put them in the library (both children's and adult books are welcome). If the library is full, you can give them to me and I will put them in as needed.

Bill Karberg has volunteered to make a sculpture with a butterfly theme for the park. He will donate his time and his talents but is in need of some materials. This would help to keep the cost at a minimum. He is looking for materials such as: sheet metal - copper, brass, aluminum and stainless steel. Stainless steel tubing, 1/8 inch diameter up to 1 1/2 inch, any length or any other materials that might be interesting.

We still have more plans for the park. If you would like to contribute a monetary donation you can drop off your donation at the Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank in Port Edwards for the "Friends of the Monarch" account. Robb Sigler from the bank has been very supportive of this entire project, and Mert Scheffler from the bank has been instrumental in getting things done.

Thanks to each and every one of you who have helped in some way! YOU ARE APPRECIATED!

Kathy McGrath

Port Edwards Water Utility Rates

The Public Service Commission requires that water rates be published semi-annually. The following rates took effect on September 18, 2023 and will be on your January 1, 2024 water bill:

Quarterly Service Charge for Meter:

5/8 or 3/4" meter -	\$ 16.44	3" meter -	\$222.07
1" meter -	\$ 41.15	4" meter -	\$365.98
1 ½" meter -	\$ 82.24	6" meter -	\$694.98
2" meter -	\$115.16		

Quarterly Service Charge for Sprinkling Meter:

5/8" meter -	\$ 5.40
1" meter -	\$ 10.50
1 ½" meter -	\$ 21.00
2" meter -	\$ 28.00

Plus Volume Charge:

First 25,000 cubic feet used each quarter - \$1.41 per 100 cubic feet
Next 375,000 cubic feet used each quarter - \$1.26 per 100 cubic feet
Over 400,000 cubic feet used each quarter - \$0.94 per 100 cubic feet



Billing: Bills for water service are rendered quarterly and become due upon issuance following the period for which service is rendered. A late payment charge of 3 percent but not less than 50 cents will be added to bills not paid within 20 days of issuance. This one-time 3 percent late payment charge will be applied to any unpaid balance for the current billing period's usage. This late payment charge is applicable to all customers. The utility customer may be given a written notice that the bill is overdue no sooner than 20 days after the bill is issued, and unless payment or satisfactory arrangement for payment is made within the next ten days, service may be disconnected pursuant to Chapter PSC 185, WI Admin. Code.

Water & Sewer Billings

Water and sewer billings are quarterly, the 1st of January, April, July, and October with the bills due 20 days later. After late notices are sent out you have ten days to pay or your water will be shut off. If your water has been shut off, there is a \$20.00 reconnect charge. Water bills can be paid at the Municipal Building from 8:00 a.m. - Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., dropped in the silver payment box in front of the Municipal Building, or mailed in.

Garbage and Recycling



Please remember to place your weekly garbage and bi-weekly recyclables out for curbside pickup by **6:00 AM** each day of pickup. Recycle pickup is every other week on your regular garbage day. **LOOSE GARBAGE MUST BE PUT IN BAGS BEFORE PLACING IN CONTAINER!!** Please note that pizza boxes are not recyclable. If you experience less than satisfactory service, please give us a call at the Municipal Building, 715-887-3512.

After collection, containers shall be removed from the curb or roadside (including alleys) within 12 hours.

Community Calendar Items

Sept. 12	Village Board Meeting, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 pm
Oct. 2	Hydrant Flushing, Beware of Dirty Water
Oct. 3	Hydrant Flushing, Beware of Dirty Water
Oct. 4	Hydrant Flushing, Beware of Dirty Water
Oct. 10	Village Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Oct. 31	Village "Trick or Treating", 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Nov. 1	Parking Restrictions Begin
Nov. 4	Port Edwards United Methodist Church Bazaar & Luncheon, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Nov. 14	Village Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Nov. 17	Fall Leaf Collection Ends
Nov. 23	Village Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov. 24	Village Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 5	Village Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Dec. 25	Village Offices Closed for Christmas Holiday
Dec. 26	Village Offices Closed for Christmas Holiday



Does your organization or church have an event you would like publicized? Submit it for the next Village newsletter by stopping at the Municipal Building or calling 715-887-3512 for more information.

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Municipal Building
201 Market Avenue
PO Box 10
Port Edwards, WI 54469
715-887-3512

Village Board

President: Betsy Mancl
Trustees: Tiara Grunden
Caleb McGregor
Jen Moore
Lonn Radtke
Erik Saylor
Joseph Zurfluh

Village Office Staff

Administrator: Duane Gau (Interim)
Clerk-Treasurer: Diane Tremmel
Cashier-Secretary: Kim Holcomb



