



Village of Port Edwards

Summer 2024 Newsletter



As required by Chapter 985 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, the Village hereby notifies all property owners and residents in the Village of Port Edwards that every person is required by law to destroy all noxious weeds and other rank growth of vegetation on land in the Village which he owns, occupies or controls.

Betsy A. Mancl – Village President

NOTE FROM VILLAGE PRESIDENT

It is summertime!

I would like to officially welcome Rick Hess, the newest trustee to the village board! I would also like to congratulate Erik Saylor and Lonn Radtke for their re-elections. Trustee Radtke was nominated and voted to be this year's Vice President. I look forward to working with each of you to help our village succeed.

Since the election, we held our annual Strategic Planning Meeting. This year it was held at the Environmental Learning Center here in Port Edwards. This is a beautiful place to be able to hold smaller meetings and events. El Cafe catered our lunch, which was delicious, per usual!

This year we discussed options for our village when it comes to the Village Administrator position, as well as our police and fire departments. Nothing has been decided at this point, but there have been continued discussions on these topics and how we can move forward with them. I thank our interim administrator, Duane Gau, for putting the topics together for us to discuss. I'd like to thank the board, commission members, employees and residents that were present for this. It is so helpful to have as many people as possible hearing the same information and being able to ask questions and get answers to be able to move forward in our work.

We have now passed our Village Wide Garage sale weekend, which is the unofficial "kick off to summer". I hope those of you who had garage sales were successful in cleaning out those garages and adding to your pocket! Our first Music in the Park event is coming up, make sure you stop out and enjoy live music, good food and community! Speaking of all of those things, make sure to stop and support the Port Edwards Firefighters Athletic Association street dance and the Lions Club community picnic! These organizations support our other local organizations and clubs within the village. Keep an eye out for lemonade stands to stop at and more garage sales where you might find a new treasure.

As you all know, there is quite a bit of construction going on and will continue throughout the summer. Not only along the highway but in the village as well. Please make sure you are traveling safely throughout the village and give yourself extra time to get to your destinations. Make sure to watch for pedestrians, bicycle riders and motorcycles!

Thank you to all our village staff as well! From the office staff assisting residents to the public works staff working in the cold and the heat, and the police and fire departments keeping our village safe and

coming to our aid in times of crisis, these individuals keep our village running day in and day out, and I greatly appreciate all of what they do.

I hope you all have a great summer and I hope to see you supporting our village events! Whether it be Music in the Park or ball games in the park, make sure you take in the beauty of summer!

Wishing you all the best,

Betsy A. Mancl
Village President



A MESSAGE FROM OFFICER ABBOTT

Hello all,

For those who do not know me, I am Officer Brandon Abbott. I have been employed at the Port Edwards PD for almost 5 years. I am currently working on a new program that will help the village in many different capacities. I was gifted this cute little guy we have named “Bosco” from local breeder, Dawnies Doodles. I am currently working with the Port Edwards School District and the Village Board to implement a Therapy/Search & Rescue program.



Bosco is a Goldendoodle and is almost 3 months old. He will go to training with me and will be certified as a therapy dog when he turns 1 year old. After that, he will get trained in Search & Rescue. Some of the highlighted areas we will use Bosco in are the High School, Grade School, Churches, and other social events along with Search & Rescue calls of service.

We hope to see you all out in the community and look forward to bettering our Village of Port Edwards.

Officer B Abbott

Leaf, Grass and Brush Pickup

On a weekly basis, the crew will pick up grass that is properly placed. Typically grass pickup is on Mondays and Tuesdays. Brush will be picked up on the same week as recycling.

All brush and grass must be placed on the boulevard area behind the curb making sure that there are no rocks or foreign objects in the piles. PLEASE NO BAGGING OF YARD WASTE!!

- Grass and leaves must be placed separate from brush.
- Brush must be stacked neatly with the cut end facing the street.
- Roots must be removed and placed separately from the branches.



If you need compost or wood chips, please contact the Municipal Building to arrange delivery of the material. Delivery is free to Village residents.

Sprinkling Restrictions

Lawn sprinkling restrictions begin on June 15th. Odd-numbered addresses will sprinkle on odd-numbered days and even-numbered addresses on even-numbered days. Likewise, sprinkling is only allowed from 6:00 P.M. until 10:00 A.M. Please help conserve water by sprinkling during the early morning or evening hours.

Sprinkling restrictions end on September 15th.



Water & Sewer Billings

Water and sewer billings are quarterly, the 1st of January, April, July, and October with the bills

due 20 days later. If not paid on time, a 3% late fee will be added. 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 payment box in front of the Municipal Building, or mailed in. You can also go to the Village website at www.vi.portedwards.wi.gov to make credit or debit card payments.

PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY!

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.

Cemetery Maintenance & Allowable Decorations

The Village of Port Edwards takes great pride in the appearance and upkeep of the cemetery. The rules of the cemetery limit what can be placed for decorations. Only traditional flower plantings are allowed at the cemetery. Please be aware that if you have items that are not flowers (such as lights or other objects) they may be removed and disposed of. The Village asks that all people enjoying the cemetery abide by the rules established to keep the Port Edwards cemetery one of the nicest maintained in the region.

Thank you for Flag Donations

The flags flew brightly in the Village this past year thanks to donations from our wonderful residents.

Our recent contributors are:

***Port Edwards Lions Club
Ronald & Sara Nelson
Larry & Lois Brostowitz***



The flag project is funded entirely from private donations and the flags require replacement every one to two years. **Donations are always welcomed and encouraged so we can keep our flags flying bright and proud. Thank you!!**

18th Annual Blackhawk Scramble

Monday, June 24, 2024, at the Pines Course, Lake Arrowhead Golf Club

9:30 a.m. Registration & Driving Range - 11:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Cost: \$85 each/\$340 per foursome

All proceeds go to student enrichment projects!

NEW THIS YEAR: Both a bag lunch and dinner included!!



For more information on this event hosted by the Port Edwards Education Foundation, please contact Corey Searles (715-884-6650) or Sue Mitchell (715-213-0156) email mitchell5@charter.net or Sharon Morell (715-340-0155) email scmorell@charter.net.

FRIENDS OF THE MONARCHS



The milkweed is growing, and we will be seeing monarchs any time now. I know many of the village residents have planted milkweed and nectar flowers. I, along with the bees and butterflies, thank you. Milkweed is so very important for giving the monarchs a place to lay their eggs and the blossom of the milkweed attracts both butterflies and bees of all kinds.

The Village Monarch Park needed lots of attention earlier in the spring. Unfortunately, there were only two people to do all the work. If the gardens are going to remain, we need more people to help out. As any gardener knows, keeping up with the weeds and grass that invades the raised beds is an ongoing job. Again, I am asking for volunteers to help. If you are not sure what to do, just reach out and you can work alongside someone to get to know what needs to be done.

Thanks to Gary and Mary Barr for donating the new butterfly decoration to the park. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated!

Remember the Annual Garden Walk on Saturday, July 20th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Two gardens in the village will be on the Walk. Roberta Bingham's garden at 1151 Wisconsin River Drive and our gardens for what we do for the monarchs at 1030 2nd Street. We will be

doing a monarch presentation at our home at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. that day. We will also have handouts to give away and monarch items to purchase.

Pat and I will also be at the Port Edwards Community Picnic on Tuesday, July 23rd. Karla Leverance will be joining us to show live parts of the monarch life cycle. We will be doing a monarch presentation that afternoon at 5:30.

Come to one of our presentations to learn how you can get involved in monarch preservation. Please contact me if you are willing to help at the Village Monarch Park. I'm sure hoping I get some calls!

Kathy McGrath ~ 715-887-3448 ~ mcgfam@charter.net

The Port Edwards Firefighters Athletic Association

Street Dance is Friday, June 14th. Enjoy good food, drinks and music. There is no admission charge. Please come join the fun!!



FROM THE DESK OF THE INTERIM VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR



Residents of The Village of Port Edwards. Like I stated in the last newsletter I am back as your Interim Administrator and only here for two days a week. Tuesday, or Thursday and try to schedule my days in Port Edwards when Committee's meet. I have lunch at El Café and have been meeting some residents to chat. Yes, Sandy looks me up to give me her two cents.

Interim Administrator just means that, I am now working with the Village Board in planning my departure, which will be December 1, 2024, right after setting the budget for 2025.

There are going to be some changes in staff in the Village. The Village is in the process of recruiting for new Fire Chief and we are getting new members in joining the Department too. The Police & Fire Commission (PFC) have been busy in attracting new members. It isn't official, but our beloved Police Chief has indicated he will be retiring sometime

between December 2024-February 2025. Once again PFC will be hard at it and new faces.

As for the Administrator the Village Board will be looking at several alternatives for 2025. These are some of the alternatives they heard at the strategic and goalsetting meeting end of April:

- Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Administrator/Economic Development/Planning/Zoning Coordinator. Disadvantage, it is hard to find a qualified parson with this background & Village budget can't afford FTE in this position for the size of Port.
- Shared Administrator/Economic Development/Planning/Zoning Coordinator with another community i.e. Town of Rome or Grand Rapids. Disadvantage, it is hard to find a qualified parson with this background and trying to sever two communities at the same time.

- FTE Police Chief/Administrator. Disadvantage would need an FTE Community Resource Office (CRO) & FTE Police Chief/Administrator. No budget savings.
- No Administrator. Budget savings.
 - Department heads run their departments – report to Village Board
 - Department heads run their departments – report to Village President - Change the ordinance to provide the managerial powers to Village President.
 - Department heads run their departments – Assign Department Head as lead manager of staff and report to Village Board.
 - Assign Department Head as Administrative Coordinator and reports to the Village Board.

All the above alternatives will require Ordinance changes and one will be flushed out over the next few months by Village Board and the Standing Committees. Some changes must occur the Village no longer has the revenues to operate as is and inflation is driving up cost.

Some good news is the Village Tax Increment District (TID) is healthy (funds available) and will be funding some major street & utility projects over the next few years. However, this revenue stream will dry up within five years.

If you have any questions or want to give any input on the above, please contact me at villageadmin@portedwardswi.gov

Stay “PORT PROUD!”

Community Calendar Items

June 11	Village Board Meeting , Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 pm
June 12	Bulk Pickup
June 14	Port Edwards Firefighters Athletic Association Street Dance
June 15	Sprinkling Restrictions go into effect
June 24	18th Annual Blackhawk Scramble , Lake Arrowhead Golf Club
July 4&5	Village Offices Closed for Holiday
July 9	Village Board Meeting , Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 pm
July 10	Bulk Pickup
July 20	Garden Walk , 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
July 23	Port Edwards Lions Community Picnic
Aug. 13	Village Board Meeting , Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 pm
Aug. 14	Bulk Pickup
Aug. 28	Music in the Park , Ripple Creek Park
Sept. 2	Village Offices Closed for Labor Day Holiday
Sept. 10	Village Board Meeting , Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 pm
Sept. 11	Bulk Pickup



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.