



VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

FALL 2025 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, 2025
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.***



Thank you for Flag Donations

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

Our recent contributors are:

Steve & Laura Vechinski

Pat & Kathy McGrath

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 7th & 8th**. Please be aware that there may be some dirty water during this time.

THANK YOU!!

The Village thanks Bev Schraeder for her help in maintaining the Village flower beds in front of the Municipal Building. It is truly appreciated!!



Holiday Bazaar

Everyone is invited to the
Port Edwards United
Methodist Church
Annual Holiday Bazaar
and Luncheon on
Saturday, November 1st from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Lunch served all day – *Everyone welcome!!*



Winter Parking Restrictions

Winter parking restrictions start November 1, 2025 and end April 1, 2026. 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.



Fall is here, Village of Port Edwards Residents. I hope your summer went well (as quick as it went) and you took advantage of the great weather we had here in central Wisconsin. Before we all start settling into our fall and winter routines, I want to take a few moments of your time.

The year is three-quarters over and time is flying. The weather change is very inviting, and I hope everyone takes advantage of the outdoor activities we have regionally. We had some very successful events this summer with the Garage Sales, Firefighter's Athletic Association Dance, Lions Picnic, PEBA Baseball Softball Tournament, Bike Rodeo and Nepco Lake 100th Anniversary. We look forward to planning the Trunk or Treat event and Christmas Tree Lighting event.

We completed some major infrastructure projects this summer - resurfacing Ver Bunker Ave and relining of storm water pipe from Ripple Creek Pond. We also finished up the Legacy grant bike trail project along Port Road. We started a three-year complete rebuild project of 2nd Street from Edwards Ave to the downtown shopping center alleyway.

We continued to improve our parks this past summer. The Village received a \$500,000 Legacy grant to replace the Ripple Creek playground equipment in the summer of 2026. Also, we plan to repave the walking trail around Ripple Creek Park and improve the pickleball courts.

In the past few months, the Public Works Committee has been working on the eight-year trash and recycling contract as the current contract expires December 31, 2025.

Budget season is upon us, and your Village team will do our best to mitigate the major cost increases we all are seeing. Our Village is fiscally sound, and we hope to continue that into the years ahead.

I would like to compliment all the Village staff for the continuing job they do every day to keep this village running so smoothly.

If you ever have a question or issue, please give me a call at 715-451-0287.

Ben Martinson

Monarch News

The Village Monarch Park looked wonderful this summer. The underground sprinkling system that the Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank put in last summer really made the flowers and plants flourish this year. We are so thankful!



Many things were added to the park this summer including the Memory Board, a solar fountain donated by Mert Scheffler in memory of her mother and some cute decorations made by Ron & Karla Leverance. Thanks to people who just stepped up and helped with weeding in the gardens and adding plants. Thanks to Jane Draper and Kevin Haase for repairing and staining the Little Library. It takes many people to keep the park looking great.

The monarchs were not as plentiful this summer as they were last summer, but we did have quite a few monarchs, other butterflies and bees that enjoyed the park.

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

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.

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, Monday through Friday 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. ***Your prompt payment is greatly appreciated!!***

A NOTE FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Dear Residents of Port Edwards,

As the crisp fall air settles in and the colors of the season begin to paint our landscape, it's a time of transition here in the village. With school back in session, we not only welcome the return of routine but also the excitement that comes with the start of another school year. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community and support our local students and schools. I encourage everyone to attend and cheer on our local sports teams – let's fill the stands and show our pride for our Blackhawks! Whether you're supporting the athletes, attending school events, or simply connecting with friends and neighbors, this is a time for us to rally around what makes our community great.

One of the most exciting changes this year has been the completion of the new bike path along Port Road. This path now connects to the existing trail across the highway, creating a safe and enjoyable loop around the village. It's a wonderful addition for cyclists, walkers, and families, and I'm grateful for the generous support from the Legacy Foundation, which made this project possible. A big thank you to Ben Martinson and our Village crew, along with the contractors, for their hard work in bringing this vision to life. As you enjoy the path, please remember to take your garbage with you or use the waste receptacles along the way. Let's all work together to keep our village clean and beautiful for everyone to enjoy.

We're also pleased to welcome Tom's Garage to the village! It's always exciting to see new businesses choosing Port Edwards, and we encourage everyone to stop by and support this new venture. A big thank you to all our local businesses for their continued investment in our community. Your support is vital to our success.

As we move forward into the next year, we will soon begin the process of crafting the 2026 village budget. This is always an important time, as we must address ongoing challenges while ensuring we continue to invest in the services and infrastructure that support our residents and businesses.

We know that our village, along with many other municipalities, faces challenges ahead, but I am confident that if we work together, we can overcome them. The key to our success will be careful, thoughtful budgeting and making strategic investments in all our departments. Each of our village services—from public safety to street maintenance to parks—needs the right investment to continue serving our community effectively.

It's crucial that we remain good stewards of your tax dollars and make wise decisions in our budget. We will prioritize investments that not only meet our immediate needs but also set us up for long-term success and growth.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our village. Make sure to stop by our village events this fall and winter!

Together, we can continue to make Port Edwards a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Warm regards,
Betsy A. Mancl
Village President



Greetings from the Port Edwards Fire Department!

As the leaves begin to change and we welcome the cooler days of fall, I want to take a moment to reflect with gratitude on the progress and support our department has experienced this year.

I continue to be humbled and thankful for the outstanding leadership of our Village Board and administration, whose support ensures we can serve our community effectively. Most importantly, I am forever grateful for the members of the Port Edwards Fire Department. Our department has now grown to **23 dedicated members**, and last month we reached a milestone—our busiest month on record with **41 calls for service**. This achievement highlights both the demand for our services and the incredible commitment of our volunteers.

1. Fire Prevention Week

This year, Fire Prevention Week will be held **October 5th through 11th**. We will be visiting local schools during this week to promote fire safety and prevention. An **Open House** at the Fire Station will also be scheduled during this time, with fun and educational activities for families. Please watch for the official date on our Facebook page.

2. Community CPR Training

On **September 6th**, we proudly hosted a **community CPR event**, giving residents the opportunity to learn life-saving skills. The turnout was excellent, and we were encouraged to see so many community members eager to be prepared for emergencies. We plan to hold additional CPR trainings in the future based on community need—please let us know if you or your organization would like to participate in future session.

3. Upcoming Gun Raffle

The Firefighters Athletic Association will once again be holding a **Gun Raffle** later this fall. The date for the drawing is still being finalized, and more details will be announced soon. This raffle is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, and we greatly appreciate the community's continued support.

4. Fire Safety Reminders

With the colder months ahead, please take a moment to:

- Test your smoke alarms and replace batteries if needed.
- Replace alarms that are over **10 years old**.
- Keep fire hydrants clear of snow this winter.
- If using outdoor fire pits, remember to:
 - Always monitor fires.
 - Avoid burning on windy days.
 - Keep fires 30 feet away from buildings.
 - Burn only clean, dry wood—never plastics or garbage.

5. Burning Permits

Burning permits are required for brush in nonresidential areas and may be obtained from me, a local Emergency Fire Warden, or by calling **1-888-WIS-BURN**. Residential burning requires Village Board approval.

6. Join Our Team

We are always looking for community members interested in serving as firefighters or first responders. If you want to be part of a committed, service-driven team, please reach out to us.

Together, we will continue building a stronger and safer Port Edwards. Thank you for your trust, encouragement, and partnership in keeping our village safe.

With gratitude and respect,

Dustin Lease

Fire Chief, Port Edwards Fire Department



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS!!

The Port Edwards PD and FD had a good showing at the Bike Rodeo on Aug 31st. Special thanks to the Wisconsin Rapids Elks Lodge for purchasing the bikes and other prizes to make the event happen. Officer Mertes along with members of the PEFD had 20 kids come to enjoy this free event.

Reminders

-School started on September 2nd. Please keep an eye out for children walking and biking to and from school, as well as our crossing guards helping them safely do so. The speed limit drops to 15 MPH in school zones, which will be monitored by Officers.

-November 1st will be here before we know it, and with that date begins the enforcement of the parking ordinance for winter parking. Per Municipal Ordinance 7.06(3), you cannot park vehicles on Village streets between the hours of Midnight and 6:00 am. The intent of this ordinance is to provide an obstacle free environment for the DPW as they plow the Village streets. This provides more safety for them and less chance of damaging your vehicles.

Help us Help You

Did you see someone snooping around a car parked on the street? Are there a lot of cars coming and going from your neighbor's house for a reason you can't seem to understand? You know your neighborhood: Is someone wandering around that doesn't look right? Please contact the dispatch center when you see these things at (715)421-8701. An Officer will be sent to your location to check on the matter and act upon it. This action could range from extra area patrol to further investigation, to possible arrests and charges, or other actions, dependent upon the situation. I've heard all too often throughout my career that calls weren't made because someone "didn't want to waste the Police Department's time." Please don't have this mindset. From our perspective, we don't view it as a waste of time. We'd much rather find out it's nothing now than find out later that it was something and an opportunity to solve a crime was missed. Dispatchers also have the ability to send phone calls to Officers who may be on the road rather than in the office, or to their voice mail.

Chief Abbott

Community Calendar Items

Oct.	7	Hydrant Flushing, Beware of Dirty Water
Oct.	8	Hydrant Flushing, Beware of Dirty Water
Oct.	8	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.	1	Port Edwards United Methodist Church Bazaar & Luncheon, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Nov.	12	Village Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Nov.	21	Fall Leaf Collection Ends
Nov.	27	Village Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov.	28	Village Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec.	3	Village Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Dec.	24	Village Offices Closed for Christmas Holiday
Dec.	25	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.

PLEASE NOTE: VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS ARE NOW HELD ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

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

Village Board

President: Betsy Mandl

Trustees: Nick Flugaur

Rick Hess

Eric Hummel

Lonn Radtke

Erik Saylor

Joseph Zurfluh

Village Office Staff

Administrator: Ben Martinson

Clerk-Treasurer: Diane Tremmel

Cashier-Secretary: Kim Holcomb

