



TOWN OF GRAND RAPIDS

WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN

FALL/WINTER NEWSLETTER - 2019

2410 48th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 715-424-1821 www.townofgrandrapids.org

Town Board

Chairman Arne Nystrom

Supervisors Bill Clendenning
Patty Lumby
Dan Paulsen
Andrew Simon

Office

Clerk Lisa Dotter
Treasurer Amy Cook
Admin. Asst. Jewell Ninneman
Admin. Asst. Peggy Doughty

Planning/Zoning

Building Inspector Dan Hansen
Zoning Admin. Peggy Doughty

Public Works

Rick Austin
Mike Smith
Jake Bielmeier

Fire Department

Fire Chief Robert Piatt
Asst. Chief Mark Rusch
Asst. Chief Kevin Grosskreutz

Police Department

Police Chief Melvin K. Pedersen

Sergeant Dave Drinkwine

Officers Tammy Kubisiak
Seth Thome
Cody Conover
James Jaworski

Part-Time Officers Mike Wiberg
DeAun Adamczyk
Andrew Merkes
Cody Stankowski
Jeremy Krakow
Robert Krummel

Town Board Meetings

2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Plan Commission Meetings

2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Fire Department Meetings

1st Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

*Meeting dates subject to change - call the Municipal Building to confirm dates, time and location or check our website at

www.townofgrandrapids.org.

TAX PAYMENT DUE DATES

- ❖ First installment and/or payments in full are due on or before **January 31, 2020**
- ❖ All personal property taxes and special assessments are due by **January 31, 2020**
- ❖ All taxes of \$100 or less per parcel must be paid in full by **January 31, 2020**

All taxes paid after January 31, 2020, must be paid at the Wood County Courthouse, payable to Wood County Treasurer.

PAYMENT BY MAIL

Return your payment stub with your payment. Make checks payable to: Town of Grand Rapids Treasurer in the exact amount of your taxes.
Enclose a self addressed stamped envelope for return receipt.

Mail to: Town of Grand Rapids
Amy Cook, Treasurer
2410 48th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Dog license fees must be on a separate check.

Taxes must be receipted in 2019 to be deductible on 2019 income taxes. Our office will be closed on Tuesday, December 24; Wednesday, December 25; and Wednesday, January 1, 2020. Mailed payments that are postmarked on or before December 31, 2019 will be receipted in 2019.

PAYMENT IN PERSON

Taxes may be paid by cash, check, debit or credit card (a fee is charged by Gov Pay to process the debit or credit card transaction) at the Municipal Building at 2410 48th Street South during the following business hours:

Monday – Thursday
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

THE TREASURER'S OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 1-2 P.M. DAILY

TOWN DROPBOX (Not for US mail or 2nd Half Tax Payments)

A secured drop box has been installed at the Municipal Building entrance. Use this mailbox to leave correspondence for any town office or official, permit application, citation forfeiture, full or first-half tax payment in December or January ONLY.

NOTE: PAYMENTS AFTER JANUARY 31, 2020 ARE NOT COLLECTED BY THE TOWN TREASURER AND ARE PAYABLE TO THE WOOD COUNTY TREASURER

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING INFORMATION

The following items are **banned** from landfills and incinerators statewide and should be reused, recycled or composted:

Containers

#1 and #2 plastic bottles and jars
Aluminum containers
Bi-metal cans
Glass containers
Steel (tin) cans

Paper and Cardboard

Corrugated cardboard
Magazines, catalogs, and other materials on similar paper
Newspaper and newsprint materials
Office paper

Yard Materials

Grass clippings
Debris and brush under 6" in diameter
Leaves

Vehicle Items

Lead-acid vehicle batteries
Tires *
Used oil filters
Waste oils *
*These items may be burned in a solid waste treatment facility with energy recovery.

Appliances

Air conditioners
Boilers
Clothes dryers
Clothes washers
Dehumidifiers
Dishwashers
Freezers
Furnaces
Microwaves
Ovens
Refrigerators
Stoves
Water heaters

Electronics

Cell phones
Computers – desktop, laptop, netbook, tablet
Computer monitors, keyboards, mice, speakers
Computer scanner
Desktop printers (including those that fax and scan)
DVD players, VCRs, DVRs and all other video players
External hard drives
Fax Machines
Flash drives/USBs
Other items that plug into a computer
Televisions

Advanced Disposal's Guidelines for Curbside Service:

Curbside garbage service

- Pickup once per week.
- Garbage must be placed curbside the night before collection day, or prior to 5:00 a.m. on the scheduled day of collection.
- Households units are limited to four (4) 30-gallon containers per week not to exceed 50 pounds each.
- Items NOT accepted for garbage pickup include: Hazardous Waste, Oil, Liquids, E-Waste, Sharps, Medical Waste, Yard Waste, Recyclables, Tires, and Auto Batteries.

Curbside recycling service

- Pickup once per week
- Recyclables must be placed curbside the night before, or prior to 5:00 a.m. on the scheduled day of collection.
- Items accepted for recycling pickup include: Bi-metal and aluminum cans, clear, green brown container glass, plastics #1 - #7, corrugated cardboard, newsprint and magazines.

Bulk waste service

- Bulk pickup is on-call. **Call (715) 421-3939 to schedule service.**
- Bulk waste must be placed curbside the night before, or prior to 5 a.m. on the scheduled day of collection.
- **Items NOT accepted for pickup include: No electronics, no appliances, no tires, and no auto batteries.**

For more information and to find a registered electronics recycler check out the DNR website at:

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ecycle/>

Town Website

Check out our website at www.townofgrandrapids.org and sign up to receive notification of the notices that are posted to the website to your email.



CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

The Town will provide pickup of Christmas trees during the second and third full weeks of January (January 13-24, 2020). Remove bags from trees. Trees with bags, wreaths, lights and garland will not be picked up. Trees should be on top of the snow bank at the edge of the road.

Trees may also be dropped off at the Town Garage, 2811 Two Mile Avenue, or at the Municipal Building, 2410 48th Street South, in the designated drop off areas. All bags, wreaths, lights and garland must be removed from these trees also.

SAVE THE DATES!

February 15, 2020	Kiwanis Winter Youth Outdoors Day
April 11, 2020	Grand Rapids FD Easter Egg Hunt
May 16, 2020	Choose-to-Reuse Event
June 6, 2020	Grand Rapids Firefighters' Celebration

PILING OR PUSHING SNOW ONTO OR ACROSS ROADWAYS

It is illegal for any person or business to allow the piling or pushing of snow or other materials from their private drives or parking areas onto or across any public roadway, thoroughfare or bridge. This is prohibited by WI State Stat. §346.94 (5) as well as the Town's Ordinance No. 4 and carries a fine of \$10-\$100 per incident. Besides being illegal, it can also create a hazard for vehicles traveling the roadways or cause damage to vehicles and snowplowing equipment. This includes snow blowing, especially at the end of driveways. Be aware of oncoming traffic to avoid creating a hazard.



REMINDERS FROM YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT



BE A CRIME STOPPER: Tipsters reporting information that leads to an arrest may be eligible for a cash reward. Anyone who has information on any crime or other criminal activity can contact Wood County Crime Stoppers via any of the following options:

1. Search "P3 Tips" in the Apple Store or Google Play to download the app to your mobile device.
2. Call 877-325-STOP (7867)
3. Go to www.woodcountycrimestoppers.com and leave a web tip.

2020 DOG LICENSES: If you are a dog owner, a reminder to make sure you pay the annual license fee to obtain a license and collar tag for "man's best friend". Per Town Ordinance #8, this shall be done "at the time and in the manner provided by law for payment of personal property taxes". This also applies to dog exemption permits, those households with more than two dogs. Make sure your dog's rabies vaccination is current prior to coming in and paying the annual license fee.

SNOWMOBILERS, do you know?

*The earliest snowmobile trails can open is December 15th and close on March 31st.

*The snowmobile trails do not open until the local clubs confirm that the trails are in proper and safe riding condition. Then the Wood County Parks and Forestry Department gives official notice to open the trails. You can always check these websites:

<https://www.co.wood.wi.us/Departments/Parks/Snowmobiling.aspx>; <http://kellnerknights.org/>;

<https://www.facebook.com/KellnerKnights/> for more details.

*In the Town of Grand Rapids, certain town highways are designated snowmobile routes that may be used only for direct access to and from authorized snowmobile trails and are marked as such. These can only be ridden on when the trails are open.

*In the Town of Grand Rapids when the trails are open, it is permissible to use the most direct and reasonable route from your home to the trail system along town highways outside of the roadway. (See Grand Rapids Town Ordinance 11.)

*All town ordinances can be found on the Town of Grand Rapids website at <http://www.townofgranrapids.org/>.

School Bus Safety Reminder

A vehicle that approaches a stopped school bus that is displaying flashing red warning lights must stop not less than 20 feet from the bus and remain stopped until the bus resumes motion or the operator extinguishes the flashing red warning lights. Failure to do so could result in a fine between \$30 and \$300. This law does not apply to vehicles driving in the opposite direction on a divided highway but does apply if no barrier is present on multi-lane street or highway.



REMINDERS FROM YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRST RESPONDERS



CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES: When you set your clocks back in November, did you remember to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors? Also, if your detectors are more than ten years old, it is time to replace them with new ones. A properly functioning smoke detector increases your chances of surviving a fire in your home by 90%.

SNOW REMOVAL: When removing snow from your driveway and sidewalks, remember to pace yourself. Make sure you are well hydrated by drinking a glass of water prior to starting and again when you are done. Keep children away when using a snow blower. The snow blower may pick up a rock, a piece of chipped concrete or even a piece of ice, which can become a dangerous missile. Never refuel a snow blower while it is running or inside your garage. Let the engine cool for several minutes before refueling. Spilled fuel on a hot engine can ignite and cause a fire.

Also, please keep all entrance doors to your residence cleared out in the event of a medical call, as many times it is difficult to remove patients out of homes with blocked exits. Those also serve as a secondary egress in the event of a fire!

PREVENT ELECTRICAL FIRES: Never overload circuits or extensions cords. Do not place cords and wires under rugs, over nails or in high traffic areas.

ALTERNATE HEATERS: Portable heaters need their space; keep anything combustible at least three feet away. Never leave these units unattended.

FIREPLACES AND WOOD STOVES: Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist. Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials. Keep air inlets on wood stoves open, and never restrict air supply to fireplaces.

CHRISTMAS TREES: Christmas trees are a part of the traditional holiday celebration. If not handled properly, they can cause an extremely dangerous fire threat. A dried out tree can catch fire and burn a living room in just 30 seconds. When buying a live tree, look for one that is not shedding needles. If branches snap when bent, the tree is already too dry. Keep trees watered. A mixture of lemon-lime soda and water will keep a tree moist longer. Keep trees away from all heat sources including fireplaces, room heaters or wood stoves. When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly. When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant".

FREE SMOKE DETECTORS AVAILABLE

If you are in need of a smoke detector, please contact the Grand Rapids Fire Department at (715)424-1815 or visit the Town website at www.townofgrandrapids.org to print out a request form (under Community tab, Forms & Permits). The Fire Department will supply and install up to 3 smoke detectors in your residence at no cost. The detectors are supplied free of charge by the American Red Cross.



2020 Wisconsin Election Dates



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| February 18, 2020 | Spring Primary (if needed) |
| April 7, 2020 | Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary |
| August 11, 2020 | Partisan Primary |
| November 3, 2020 | General and Presidential Election |

Visit myvote.wi.gov to register to vote. Eligible WI voters who have a current and valid WI Driver License or WI State ID card can now register completely online.