



# ROCHESTER NEWS

Village of Rochester • 300 W. Spring St, Rochester, WI 53167 (262) 534-2431

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday 8:30a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

**Ed Chart, President**

Gary Beck  
Christopher Bennett  
Nick Ahlers  
Christian Johnson  
Leslie Kinsey  
Douglas Webb

## Board of Trustees

## STAFF

**Betty Novy ext. 185, Administrator-  
Treasurer**  
bnovy@rochesterwi.us

**Sandi Swan ext. 181, Village Clerk**  
sswan@rochesterwi.us

**Lynn Spleas ext. 180, Administrative Assistant**  
lspleas@rochesterwi.us

**Christopher Birkett, DPW Supervisor,  
Animal Control Officer**  
262-332-1017  
cbirkett@rochesterwi.us

**Lee Greivell, Building Inspector**  
262-424-6957, lgreivell@gmail.com  
For Appointments  
Office Hours:  
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Zoning Services**  
Racine County Planning & Development  
262-886-8440  
RCPublicworks@racinecounty.com

**Agendas and Minutes can be found on the  
Village Website:  
<http://rochesterwi.us>**

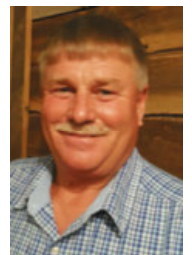
*December 2021, Volume 15 Issue 4*



## FROM THE PRESIDENTS PEN

Greetings,

The holidays are once again upon us. This year is not much different than last year. We still are fighting the Covid Pandemic. Some of us got vaccinated and some not, that is each person's preference. We have to be respectful of others choices. The Christmas season is about peace, love and friendship. I look forward to 2022, recovering from the pandemic and hopefully getting back to the way life used to be. To be sure, restoration will need to include enduring change. We've learned to use technology for business meetings, shopping services and personal conversations. These new strategies will continue into the future, but don't forget the old ways of in-person conversations and helping others when possible. Stay strong and be informed about your choices for the future, not only with the pandemic, but life in general. We will prevail and thrive; we are a strong



*(Continued on page 2)*



## NEWS & UPDATES

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community. Help others when you can and don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. In the future, when we look back at the last two years, we will remember the day when gatherings were small and we longed for reunions to be larger again. As the future unfolds and we return to more normal routines, we can carry those memories of the past and be hopeful for what is to come.

In closing, please keep our essential workers in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you to our firefighters, EMTs, nurses, and doctors that have been going out of their way to keep us safe. In addition, thank you to all of you that are lending a helping hand and checking in on your neighbors.

So from my family to yours, we hope that your holiday season is filled with happiness and good health. Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you this past year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Ed Chart



### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR REPRESENTATIVE— Speaker Robin Vos



The fall legislative session was a busy one for the Wisconsin State Assembly. We accomplished some big things and returned to some pre-pandemic traditions.

After not being able to honor them last year, this October floor session we recognized 99 first responders for the “First Responder of the Year” awards. For our Assembly District, the award went to Lieutenant Kelly Goetzke of the Racine County Sheriff’s Office. Lieutenant Goetzke is a team leader for the SWAT and Crowd Control Teams that navigated through the historic civil unrest in South-eastern Wisconsin in 2020. He also played a critical role in the countywide collection and distribution of PPE throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. It’s was an honor to recognize Lieutenant Goetzke for his outstanding service and leadership.

The Capitol Christmas Tree has also returned! The 32-foot balsam fir tree was donated to the state by the Menominee Nation, and the decoration theme is “hometown for the holidays.” Wisconsin’s century-old tradition of the Capitol tree brightens the rotunda and sparks holiday joy. The 2021 Wisconsin State Capitol Ornament celebrates the tree’s return. If you’d like one for your home, you can visit [shop.wisconsinhistory.org/2021-commemorative-capitol-ornament](http://shop.wisconsinhistory.org/2021-commemorative-capitol-ornament).

The winter season is upon us and it always brings some travel challenges. The Wisconsin Emergency Management website at <http://ready.wi.gov> has winter safety tips for keeping you safe. It’s recommended to have an emergency kit for your car that includes items like a flashlight, booster cables and food. For the latest on travel conditions, go to [www.511wi.gov](http://www.511wi.gov) or call 511. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation has updates on social media as well.

I am thankful to be your representative and promise to continue listening to your concerns and learn about your priorities for our community and Wisconsin. If you would like to share your thoughts related to the state, I invite you to reach out to my office at (608) 266-9171 or email at [Rep.Vos@legis.wi.gov](mailto:Rep.Vos@legis.wi.gov). I look forward to hearing from you.

Michelle and I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!

*Speaker Vos represents the communities of Rochester, Burlington, Town of Burlington, Yorkville, Dover, Union Grove, Mount Pleasant and Sturtevant.*



# INFORMATION

## Village Holiday Closings

The Clerk's office will be closed  
Thursday, December 23th  
Friday, December 24th



Limited hours Friday, December 31st  
8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.  
Closed Monday, January 3, 2022

## ASDA

Will pick up your discarded Christmas tree after the holidays. Just place your tree curbside with your regular trash and they will pick it up!



### Bill Czaja Ins Agcy Inc

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www.billczaja.com  
Bus: 262-534-5195  
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1211999




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## INFORMATION

### NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION APRIL 1, 2022



#### NOTICE IS HEREBY

**GIVEN** that at an election to be held in the Village of Rochester, on Tuesday, April 1, 2022, the following office are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. The terms for Village Trustees will begin on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. All terms are for two years.

#### Office

Village Trustee  
Village Trustee  
Village Trustee

#### Incumbent

Christopher Bennett  
Christian Johnson  
Leslie Kinsey

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN**, that the first date to circulate papers is Wednesday, December 1, 2021 and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 in the office of the village clerk.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN**, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

If you are interested in running for the Village Board, nomination papers are available at the Village Hall, 300 E. Spring St. If you have any questions about serving your community in this capacity, please contact the clerk's office at 262.534.2431

### TAX BILLS



Racine County residents can now sign up to receive notification when a tax bill is ready, when a tax bill payment has been processed, when an installment tax payment is due, and if the parcel has been marked as tax delinquent. Sign up here: <https://ascent.racinecounty.com/AscentNotifica.../index.html>

### 2022 DOG LICENSES



Licenses are to be renewed every year. All dogs five (5) months of age or older must be licensed according to Wisconsin State Statute § 174.05. Licenses must be obtained by **January 31st**. After that date a \$5.00 penalty will be charged. Pet owners may renew or purchase licenses by mail or drop box. Please provide proof of rabies immunization with payment and a self addressed stamped envelope enclosed along with the correct payment. Dog Licenses must be paid for separately from tax payments.

Fees are as follows:

- Altered Dogs = \$10 Male or Female
- Unaltered Dogs = \$15 Male or Female
- Puppies = \$4 (license by 5 mo. of age)



Dog licenses help us reconnect you with your dog if your dog is lost and ensure that dogs in the community have been properly vaccinated. In the event you have lost your dog, please contact the Racine County Sheriff's Department non-emergency number at 534-5166.

## LATEX PAINT DISPOSAL

Most times right after holding our hazardous waste event we get the call.....**What can I do with these cans of left over paint?!** Good news is you don't have to wait for an event to dispose of latex paint.

Latex is **NOT** a hazardous waste (it is a water-based product), but it is a liquid waste that must be properly disposed. Dumped illegally, it can plug up septic fields, overload sewage treatment plants, and create environmental messes on the ground. Here are some options to consider:



### 10 cans or less

1. Purchase a commercial paint hardener and follow the label directions. These products are available at hardware stores and improvement centers for \$1.00 to \$2.00 dollars.
2. Open can lids and expose paint to sun and warm temperatures. This technique works best in the summer with small amounts of left over paint.
3. Cans can be placed in the trash after paint has hardened.



**Latex paint is not hazardous** | **Oil-based paint is hazardous waste**

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how will you spend it?

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[oakparkplace.com/burlington](http://oakparkplace.com/burlington)



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## ROCHESTER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### ROCHESTER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Can you believe that 2021 is over? We had some interesting things happen this year, such as Day in the Country being such a wonderful opportunity for people to get out and see old friends, and perhaps make some new ones while enjoying all of the fun the vendors and community members had to offer.

Thank you for baking pies for the pie contest, as well as for coming to our booth and enjoying barbeque, brats and hot dogs (all of which we sold out of). The first place pie winner made a cherry-cranberry grand mariner pie, created by Leslie Ludtke. The second place pie winner made a double-decker pecan cheesecake pie, created by Shirley Zimmermann. Finally, the third place pie winner made a chocolate raspberry pie, also created by Shirley Zimmermann.

Thanks to all who came and baked, bid and bought for this fun event. Hopefully we will have continued success with the event next year!

We also had some nice collections given to us this year. Examples are pictures of the seminary/academy. We also received pictures of the Honey Creek grade school; a wedding dress; articles and newspaper clippings, about the post office that was built and currently used in



Rochester. If you have anything that you would like to donate please call 262-534-2071, or you may drop items off at the Village Hall in Rochester and we will pick up. We also would like old telephone books and business items like pencils and pens, old matchbook covers, etc. What you toss could have historic status so please keep us in mind!



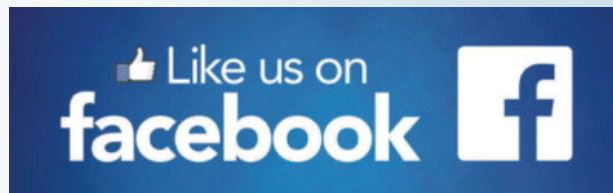
We are looking forward to next year as it is right around the corner! We have not decided on the tea yet as we want to keep our guests safe....but we will have some events for sure!

The members of RAHS would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a VERY Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

"Til March winds blow....  
Joni Beck



*Aerial view from Scott's Hill*





## ROCHESTER FIRE & RESCUE

### SAFETY MESSAGE FROM ROCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE



As the weather gets colder, we have to adjust our driving practices. With the 40 plus years this writer has been in the Fire Service, I have responded to many traffic accidents that could have been minor or even prevented following some of the Winter Driving Rules.

Stay alert! Don't be distracted by your phone or radio. Follow the 3-4 second rule. That is to stay 3-4 seconds behind the car in front of you. When driving in slippery conditions increase your following distance to 6-8 seconds.

Do not use your cruise control. The driver needs complete control. Road conditions can change in a split second. Slow down!



Check the weather conditions before you head out. Make sure your tires are in good condition and properly inflated. Keep the fuel tank at least half full in case you become stranded as road conditions worsen. Have an emergency kit in the car that contains blankets, water and energy bars. This will sustain you while help is responding.

Most important is to wear your seat belt. The seat belt is designed to work along with all the other safety equipment in your vehicle.

Have a safe Holiday Season.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT NEWS

### CENTRAL RACINE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (CRCHD)

#### MESSAGE FROM CENTRAL RACINE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

##### Prepare for Influenza Season

CRCHD encourages you to prepare for the influenza (flu) season. People who have the flu often feel some or all of these signs and symptoms:

- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue
- Fever or feeling feverish/chills
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea (more common in children than adults)

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. Flu viruses are primarily spread by droplets from coughing, sneezing, or talking. Less often, a person might also get the flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, eyes, or nose. Individuals can help prevent the spread of flu by remembering to:

- **Wash your hands:** Handwashing remains one of the most important lines of defense against illness.
- **Cover your cough:** Use a tissue to cover your cough or sneeze to limit the spread of the virus. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- **Stay home if ill:** It is recommended that individuals ill with fever should stay home from work or school and avoid other people until they are fever free for at least 24 hours.
- **Get vaccinated:** An influenza vaccine is the best way to reduce the chances that you will get the flu.

#### **The Myth of the "Stomach Flu"**

Viral infections, such as norovirus, cause vomiting and diarrhea and are commonly referred to as "stomach flu." Influenza viruses primarily causes respiratory, not gastrointestinal illness, and influenza vaccine will not protect against the "stomach flu." Reduce your risk of both illnesses by washing your hands regularly and staying home if you are ill.



## INFORMATION

### WESTERN RACINE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT

#### Wastewater Treatment & Interceptor System Improvements



ROCHESTER, Wisconsin – When residents in the Village of Rochester, Village of Waterford, and Waterford Sanitary District turn on a faucet or flush a toilet, they usually don't think about where their wastewater goes next. For those served by these municipal sewer systems, their wastewater ends up at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) owned and operated by the Western Racine County Sewerage District (WRCSD).

On November 11, WRCSD submitted its Wastewater Facilities Plan to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This document presents the most cost-effective and environmentally sound alternative for WRCSD's WWTP and interceptor system for the next 20 years, considering criteria such as population growth, increased organic loading, and stricter phosphorus limits.

After evaluating several alternatives, WRCSD concluded that the Rochester Lift Station and a segment of the interceptor system should be replaced to keep up with peak flow events (i.e., heavy rainfall). The WWTP's organic capacity has already been exceeded, so WRCSD plans to increase its organic capacity by reusing tankage and installing diffused aeration to implement enhanced biological phosphorus removal (EBPR). A combination of EBPR, chemical phosphorus removal, and non-point source reductions via Adaptive Management are proposed to achieve compliance with the DNR's tightening phosphorus limits. In addition, aging infrastructure and equipment will be replaced to ensure continued operation and regulatory compliance.

The estimated total cost for the aforementioned improvements is \$14.3 million; user rates may be impacted depending on the availability of federal funds obtained by WRCSD. The project is slated for completion by December 2023. With these improvements, WRCSD will continue to meet its regulatory requirements and provide the high-quality services to which its customers have become accustomed for years to come!

#### Public Hearing

WRCSD will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office, located at 1020 N. River Road in Rochester. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain public input regarding the Wastewater Facilities Plan, copies of which are available at the District Office and the Rochester Public Library, located at 208 W. Spring Street, during normal business hours. Anyone interested is invited to attend this meeting.

If you wish to comment but cannot be present, please submit a written statement by 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 to Jeff Bratz, Plant Manager, at the District Office. For more information on WRCSD, please visit <https://www.racinecounty.com/departments/public-works-and-development-services/western-racine-county-sewerage-district>.





# VILLAGE MEETINGS

## Standing Meetings at the Village Hall:

- Plan Commission Meetings: Fourth Wednesday of every month
- Public Works Committee Meetings: Third Monday of every month
- Village Board Meetings: First and Third Mondays of every month
- Honey Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District: Third Tuesday of every month
- Zoning Board of Appeals: Fourth Thursday of every month
- Library Board: First Tuesday of every month

Open meeting laws require that meeting notices be posted at least 24 hours in advance of every meeting and that the items being discussed at the meeting be detailed in the notice. Please contact the Village Clerk for information on how to place an item on an agenda. Agendas are posted, most commonly on Fridays for the up coming week on the Village Website: <http://rochesterwi.us>

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# FUN & GAMES

winter 

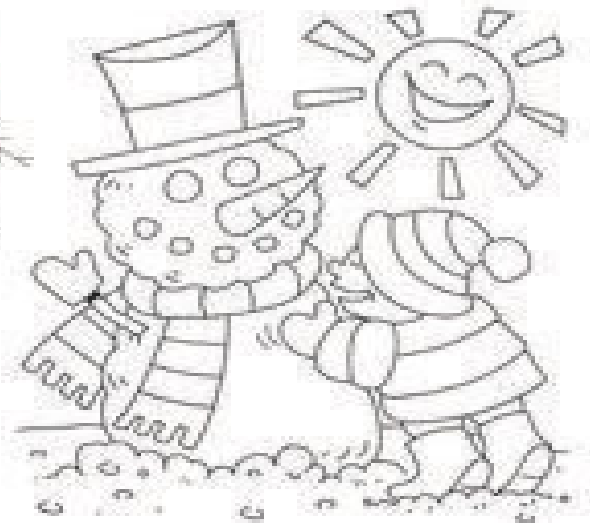
Winter



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SEASON  
SKATING  
SLEDGE  
SLIPPERY  
SNOWFLAKE  
WEATHER  
WIND

COLD  
FREEZING  
FROZEN  
HAT  
ICE  
MIGRATE  
SCARF  
SHOVEL  
SKI  
SLIDE  
SNOW  
SNOWMAN  
WET  
WINTER





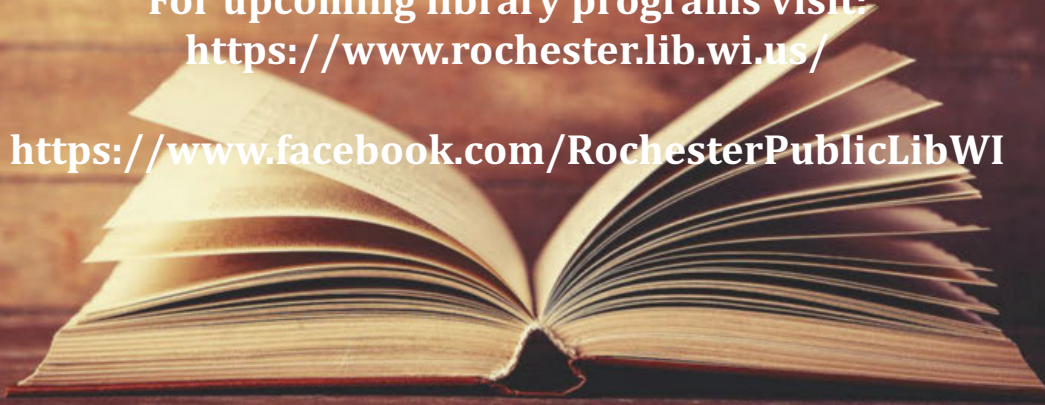
## INFORMATION

### Rochester Public Library

WINTER HOURS: Oct 1—May 1: Monday—Thursday 9:30a—7:30p  
Friday—Closed  
Saturday 9:30a—4:00p  
Sunday 1:00p—4:00p

For upcoming library programs visit:  
<https://www.rochester.lib.wi.us/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RochesterPublicLibWI>



On behalf of the Village  
Board and Staff we wish  
you a Happy and Safe  
Holiday Season



Reflections of the Past...



Visions of the Future

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## VILLAGE OF ROCHESTER



### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



#### **Kathy Romanak – Assessor**

For general information of real estate property and or assesses values, contact Kathy Romanak at her home office (262) 893-6001. Email inquiries to [kathyromanak88@gmail.com](mailto:kathyromanak88@gmail.com)

#### **Animal Control**

For helpful information on animal issues, contact Christopher Birkett at (262) 332-1017

#### **Garbage & Recycling**

Collection Day = Every Friday  
Have your garbage out by 6 a.m. Fridays. For information, contact: ASDA (262) 539-2086

#### **Rochester Cemetery**

Gary Schrader (262) 534-5544

#### **Honey Creek Cemetery**

Debbi Perman  
262-534-2954

#### **Deputy Cindy Milam**

Racine County Sherriff's Department  
Non – Emergency line: (262)534-5166

#### **Rochester Volunteer**

##### **Fire & Rescue**

Non-Emergency: (262) 534-3444  
*-Volunteers Welcome-*

#### **Rochester Public Library**

Mary Stapleton, Director  
(262)534-3533

##### **Winter Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 9:30 am - 7:30 pm  
Saturday: 9:30 am -3:00 pm  
Sunday 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.  
CLOSED FRIDAYS

#### **Rochester Historical Society**

History and genealogy questions answered.

Joni Beck (262)534-2071

#### **Rochester Post Office**

(262) 534-6100