



Grant Town Hall
9011 County Rd WW
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Tel: 715-423-9193
Fax: 715-423-9115

Website:
townofgrantportageco.com

Board of Supervisors
Chair
Sharon Schwab 715-325-3827
Supervisors
Dale Winkler 715-213-5438
Jim Yetter 715-213-2000
Clerk
Vicky Zimmerman 715-325-6319
grantclerk@wctc.net
Treasurer
Diana Luecht 715-325-3134

Planning & Zoning
Plan Commission Chair
Jim Wendels 715-423-3496
Zoning Administrator
Marty Rutz 715-421-9200
Board of Adjustments Chair
David Luecht 715-325-3134

Emergency Services 911
Ambulance
United Emergency Medical
Services **715-423-7777**
Fire Departments
Grand Rapids **715-424-1815**
Plainfield **715-335-4253**
Severe Weather Alerts
Portage Co. Community Alert
Register: www.co.portage.wi.us
or by calling Sheriff's Dept.
715-326-1400

Webmaster Kathy Lee
715-423-3891

Spring 2016

Notice anything Different?

Last fall town officials agreed to begin a blanket replacement of every street sign in the Town. Some of this work started recently and perhaps you have already noticed a difference. The new signs are nine inches high (whereas the older style were only six inches), and are green with white letters. They do not have a white border like the older style. These changes, along with a high reflectivity index, makes the signs easy to read. Since "none of us are getting any younger", we're hoping these new and enlarged signs will be a positive change for older residents, and for emergency and delivery services overall.

Street sign posts and all our newer stop signs have stickers that identify them as town property. If you ever see anyone tampering with our town signs please contact the Portage County Sheriff's Department at 715-346-1400. When signs are removed, especially stop signs, it can be extremely hazardous for drivers. We're trying to improve safety on our roads where and when we can. Please help us keep it that way. Thank you!

Sharon

→ **Regular Monthly Board Meetings** ←
2nd Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

Transfer Station Hours

	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Apr - May	11am – 5pm	9am – 5pm
Jun – Aug	11am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Sep - Oct	11am – 5pm	9am – 5pm
Nov - Mar	11am – 4pm	9am – 4pm

TIRE DAY & CHOOSE TO REUSE
SATURDAY, MAY 21

[Newsletter compiled and edited by Sharon Schwab]

DO YOU HAVE CHICKENS, HORSES, SHEEP, GOATS, BOVINE OR “LIVESTOCK” OF ANY TYPE ON YOUR TOWN OF GRANT PROPERTY?

This is a reminder of **Livestock Premises Registration**. Livestock Premises registration applies to family farms, hobby farms, backyard poultry flocks, veterinary clinics, markets, livestock feedlots, livestock dealers and haulers. If you have only one chicken, you should register your property. When you register your property, the property is added to a central database. The database includes a contact person and list of species. The location gets a unique number. Wisconsin is the first state in the nation to mandate livestock premises registration. The goal is to be able to trace livestock movements within 48 hours in case of an animal disease outbreak, so state officials can find where an infection originated and what animals have been exposed.

- Any location in Wisconsin where livestock are kept or congregated must be registered.
- “Livestock” includes cattle and other bovine animals, swine, poultry, sheep, goats, horses and other equine animals, farm-raised deer and other cervids, gamebirds including pheasants, quail, wild turkeys, migrating waterfowl, pigeons, and exotic birds raised in captivity, bison, llamas and other camelids, ratites such as emus and ostriches, and fish.
- “Premises” includes farms and hobby farms; veterinary clinics with large animal hospital facilities; stables; animal markets; livestock feedlots, animal trucker and dealer premises where animals are kept; slaughter, rendering and dead animal plants; livestock exhibitions; and any other location where livestock is kept or congregated.
- The premises registration number stays with the location; that is, a change in property ownership will not change the premises identification number.
- Registration must be renewed every three years.

How to register

- Register online at www.wiid.org, phone the Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium (WLIC) at 888-808-1910, or use paper forms available from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) or WLIC.
- DATCP will send renewals every three years. Renewals submitted between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2018 will expire on July 31, 2019.
- Information required:
 - Legal name, trade name, mailing address, phone.
 - Primary premises and up to three secondary locations.
 - Name and phone for contact person who has knowledge of livestock movements to and from premises.
 - Type of operation.
 - Type of livestock.
- Registrants will receive a unique premises registration number printed on a convenient plastic card, which can be carried in a wallet or placed in a file.



Grant Medical First Responders

by Robin Mateer, Jerry Reinwand, and Lisa Ross

Grant Medical First Responders (EMR) are looking for people who are interested in being part of our Grant EMR team. You do not need a medical background, just a dedication for helping your fellow neighbors in times of need. Classes are available through Midstate Technical College. After completion of a one-year commitment to Grant EMR you can be reimbursed for your training by the Town. Your commitment to Grant EMR is simply whenever you are available to respond to calls, plus a team meeting the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Grant Town Hall.

If you are interested in becoming a Grant EMR please contact Jim Yetter at 715-213-2000, Jerry Reinwand at 715-570-8720 or Lisa Ross at 715-459-2493 today!

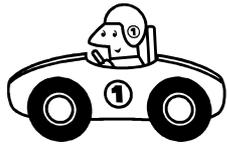


Dog Licensing Update

by Diana Luecht, Treasurer

The Town of Grant works with Portage County Humane Society (PCHS) on animal control. Here are a few facts:

1. 43 complaints were handled by PCHS. There were: 3 complaints, 2 bites, 23 running at large, 3 barking dogs, 1 mistreated, 7 strays and 4 miscellaneous.
2. Dog licenses issued in 2015 were 435.
3. The Town held a clinic on February 19, 2016. The clinic offered rabies shots, Lyme booster, leptosporosis booster, microchips and sold dog licenses. The clinic was supported by a \$250 grant from Thrivent. Those that attended were happy to see the clinic held and there have been requests about doing it again next year.
4. All dog license expire December 31st. The Town includes a dog license renewal form in your tax bill every year for your convenience. You have a grace period from January 1st until March 31st each year to purchase your license. Late fees are assessed after April 1st. To avoid late fees many people send the form in for dog license(s) at the same time they pay their taxes.
5. If you are new to our Town or still need to license your dog, you may contact me at 715-325-3134 to make arrangements. Wis. State Statute 174.05 requires all dogs over the age of 5 months to be licensed. The cost for a license is \$7.00 if the dog is spayed or neutered; otherwise \$17.00. The late fee is \$10.00.



Roads, roads, roads...

By Sharon Schwab

Tower Road Bridge, located between 87th and 90th Streets was reconstructed last fall. Portage County Highway Department's Bridge/Culvert Aid program paid 50% of the costs. If you haven't ventured out to take a look you can do from your armchair by checking out our website, and clicking on *Roads*, then *Tower Road Bridge Project*.

This year Portage County will cost share culvert replacements on Evergreen Avenue where it crosses Ten Mile Creek. The four aging and deteriorated culverts will be replaced with two larger arch pipes. In addition, the road will be realigned to provide a straighter path; removing the dangerous reverse curves that have resulted in accidents in recent years. Road and culvert design is being conducted by Jewell Associates Engineers; Inc. Construction on this project will likely begin this summer.

Cost-share applications with the state programs titled: Local Road Improvement – Discretionary (TRIP-D) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) are currently pending with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT). The TRIP-D applications are for the following roads with safety concerns: 1) Culvert crossings over Buena Vista Creek on 95th and 100th with failing pavement, inadequate guardrails, and loss of wall integrity abutting the culvert pipes; 2) Quarry Road (90th-100th) for common excavation, sand lift, and road base. Recurrent high groundwater conditions make this road, with many residential homes, nearly impassable in the spring and during high precipitation events; and 3) Mill Road (100th – CTH F) for proper ditching, road base, and eventual asphalt surface. This road is the last unpaved section from a county highway (F) to a state highway (73) and consists of only disintegrated granite, native sand, or relayed cold mix. The road supports an electric substation, residential homes and has heavy agricultural and passenger traffic.

A TAP application was submitted for Mertz Subdivision by Jim Wendels, Plan Commission Chair. This new state program would pay 80% cost share for bicycle and pedestrian paths throughout the entire subdivision. The Town would contract to have the roads redesigned and resurfaced to make better and safer connections to Grant Elementary School. The decisions for LRIP-D and TAP are expected later this spring.

In February \$20,000 was awarded to the Town of Grant through the Transportation Improvement Program (TRI) to reconstruct Oak Street (a minimum of 1700 linear feet east of CTH U (80th Street). Project design, a requirement for WisDOT funding, is being completed by Quest Engineers, LLC. Other pending road projects but without state cost share include: Elm Road resurfacing (90th – 100th), pulverizing, ditching, gravel, and chip seal for Grove Avenue (CTH U – 84th St).

This summer town employees plan to restore ditches and rebuild 110th Street (Quarry - CTH W). This will be followed by an application of 3-4" of ¾" gravel base with a granite top-dressing on the north end by two homes. Similar work is pending for 87th Street (Tower – Evergreen).

Please be reminded that WisDOT will install J-turns this summer at the junction of CTH U (80th Street) and STH 54. Traffic will be diverted for at least three (3) weeks during this construction. For more information contact Tim Hanley, WisDOT Project Manager at 715-421-8050.

Spring is the best to ask, "What's in Your Water"? Have you had your private well tested recently (every 15-18 months is recommended). If not, please consider at least testing for:

1. Total Coliform Bacteria - This tests the bacteriological safety of your water supply. If your water tests positive simple chlorination of the well may take care of the problem. Persistent problems may indicate a cracked well cap or casing.
2. Nitrate plus Nitrate-Nitrogen - These are the most common chemical contaminants in Wisconsin groundwater. They may also serve as an indicator of other contaminants such as pesticides or trace organic chemicals from septic system effluent. Elevated nitrate levels are particularly dangerous to infants less than 6 months of age. Boiling the water (to get rid of bacteria) will only concentrate the nitrate levels so it's important to test for both.



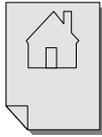
Do you have old copper pipes that may have been soldered with lead? If so, like those in Flint, MI you might be drinking contaminated water. To avoid this possibility, run your water until it's cold if it has been sitting in the pipes for six hours or more. This flushing will remove any lead that may have leached from the solder, and now should be safe to drink or cook with. No need to waste the flushed water - use it for other things such as bathing, washing hands, or watering plants.

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS

by Kathy Lee

It is hard to believe it has been almost two years since the Sesquicentennial Business Directory was published. I do not plan to publish another print guide, but I would like to include a business directory on the Town's website. There will be no cost to have your Town of Grant business included. The guide will include the name of the business, the address, a phone number, email, a website address (if you have one), and a short description of the business. Businesses will be listed based on categories. Tentative categories are agriculture/farms, animal husbandry, auto (repair/sales/salvage), banks, bars, beauty salon, Christmas trees & wreaths, churches, clothing, clubs, construction, dog and pet (grooming/kennels/training), entertainment, food products, gifts, hunting preserve, insulation, landscaping, massage therapy, painting, restaurants, septic service, storage, taxidermist, vacation rentals, wellness, and yarn. If your business does not fit under any of these categories, additional categories can be added.

If you would like your business to be included, send me the name of the business, the location, phone number, email, website address, and a short (1-3 sentences) description. You can send it to K.LEE.RN@CHARTER.NET or to Kathy Lee, 9330 Buena Vista Road, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494.



Section 2.3 Housing Programs

Several means are available to the Town of Grant to maintain and improve housing conditions and satisfy the needs of all residents. To meet the needs of residents with low and moderate income and elderly and handicapped residents needing housing assistance, the Town should help residents participate in Federal, State, and County housing programs that make available loans and grants to build, repair or obtain adequate housing. Some of these programs are listed below.

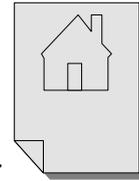
- Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) – provides a listing of numerous housing programs including low interest loans for first time homebuyers, home improvement loans, and tax credit programs for elderly and low-income family housing.
- Housing Authority of Portage County (HAPC) – offers a housing assistance program through the Housing Choice Voucher Program. Federal funds are available to help low income persons pay rent on privately owned dwelling units. Most housing types can qualify including single-family homes, duplexes, apartments, manufactured homes, and town homes. All units must meet HUD's standards.

Currently the Town of Grant does not participate in these housing programs provided by the Housing Authority of Portage County.

- CAP Services - a non-profit corporation, also has several programs available to low and moderate income residents of Portage County including Home Buyer's Assistance, Housing Rehabilitation and Weatherization programs. Financial assistance under these programs is provided through a deferred loan which is due upon sale of the home or transfer of title.
 - Home Buyer's Assistance Program - provides a down payment and rehab assistance. Buyers must contribute some of their own money to the home buying process and complete home buyer education. The down payment assistance can also be used for closing costs, encouraging home ownership.
 - CAP's Housing Rehabilitation Program - provides funds to assist low and moderate income homeowners for necessary repairs, including but not limited to: installing attic, wall, crawl space, water heater and hot water pipe insulation; sealing air leaks into the home; and, installing low-flow shower heads, faucet aerators and energy-efficient light bulbs in every home. Based upon the projected energy savings, furnaces, refrigerators and freezers may also be replaced.
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – a federally funded program, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration to assist local governments with housing programs that primarily benefit low and moderate income residents. CDBG funds can be used for a wide variety of financial and technical assistance to improve and expand housing, increase affordable housing opportunities and provide services to people without housing. The variety of federal and state programs it manages benefits persons with disabilities, low and moderate income residents and homeless populations. The Division partners with local governments, homeless service providers, developers and housing organizations throughout the state to improve housing conditions for low to moderate income Wisconsin residents. This allows municipalities like Grant, who may not have the experience or resources to administer a grant, to improve the housing conditions in their community.

Type	Conservancy/Residential/Agricultural	Commercial/Industrial
New residence including mobile home (new or old) & commercial/industrial building	\$200.00	\$400.00
Additions: Structural alteration for Primary residence or Commercial/Industrial Building	\$100.00	\$200.00
Establish an address	\$50.00	\$50.00
Moving a previously located residence or commercial/industrial building into the town	\$300.00	\$400.00
Moving residence or commercial/industrial building within the town	\$200.00	\$400.00
Moving accessory building within the town	\$100.00	\$200.00
Moving accessory building into the town	\$200.00	\$400.00
Moving building through the town on town roads	\$30.00	\$30.00
Accessory building or addition under \$1000 or 100 square feet or less	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accessory building or addition above 100 square feet to 200 square feet	\$30.00	\$60.00
Accessory building or addition above 200 square feet to 2500 square feet	\$50.00	\$100.00
Accessory building or addition above 2500 square feet	\$75.00	\$150.00
Utility Accommodation Policy (UAP)	\$20.00	\$20.00
Outdoor wood burner furnace installation	\$25.00	\$25.00
Razing any building	\$15.00	\$15.00
Signs and Billboards	\$25.00	\$50.00
Public Hearing	\$150.00	\$300.00
Certified Survey Map review and processing	\$20.00	\$20.00
Driveway	\$25.00	\$25.00
Quarrying – Permitted Use	\$50.00	N/A
Quarrying – Conditional Use (does not include public hearing fee)	\$250.00 minimum plus \$50.00/acre greater than 1 acre in size with a maximum amount of \$1,250.00 (Example for 3 acres: \$250 + \$150)	
Decks, Porches, Pools	\$15.00	\$30.00
Telecommunication Tower	\$500 – Class 2, \$3000 – Class 1 and new installation	
Penalties – Failure to purchase a permit prior to construction, moving or demolition shall result in twice the cost of such permits		
Fees are charged by current zoning district or proposed zoning district at the time of construction		

Town of Grant Zoning (building) Fees – Effective July 1, 2014



Zoning Update – by Marty Rutz, Zoning Administrator

I issued 35 zoning permits for 2015 to a total of \$3235.00 (compared to 36 permits and \$3460.00 in 2014). Of the 35 there were:

5 - New Residences	23 - Accessory Buildings	9 - Addresses
4 - Decks	1 – Addition	2 - Porches
1 - Pond	8 driveways (\$150.00)	
27 Utility Accommodation Permits	9 – Certified Survey Maps reviews	



WISCONSIN VOTER ID INFORMATION



provided by the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Portage County

It is now required in Wisconsin to show proper identification (ID) when exercising your right to vote. You will be asked at the polls to show an ID. The following are acceptable forms of ID:

- WisDOT issued driver's license (even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended)
- WisDOT issued ID card
- WisDOT issued ID card or driver license without a photo (issued under religious exemption)
- Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- U.S. passport
- ID card issued by a federally recognized Indian Tribe in Wisconsin (may be used even if expired before the most recent general election)

If you don't have an acceptable ID to vote you may obtain a WisDOT issued ID card for free from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). To get your free ID you will need a certified birth certificate, a Social Security card and a utility or phone bill. If you don't have a certified birth certificate you can bring the other forms and the DMV can locate your birth records. That will take some time, so don't wait until the last minute.

If you do not have a way to get to the DMV or to the poll to vote and are age 60 or older or have a disability the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Portage County (ADRC) can assist you in getting there. Contact the Transportation Department at the ADRC at 715-346-1401 for assistance.

INSTALL YOUR MAILBOX PROPERLY

There are two key aspects of the installation:

1. Face of mailbox is directly over the edge of shoulder
2. The suggested mounting height to 41-45". Refer to:

<https://www.usps.com/manage/mailboxes.htm>

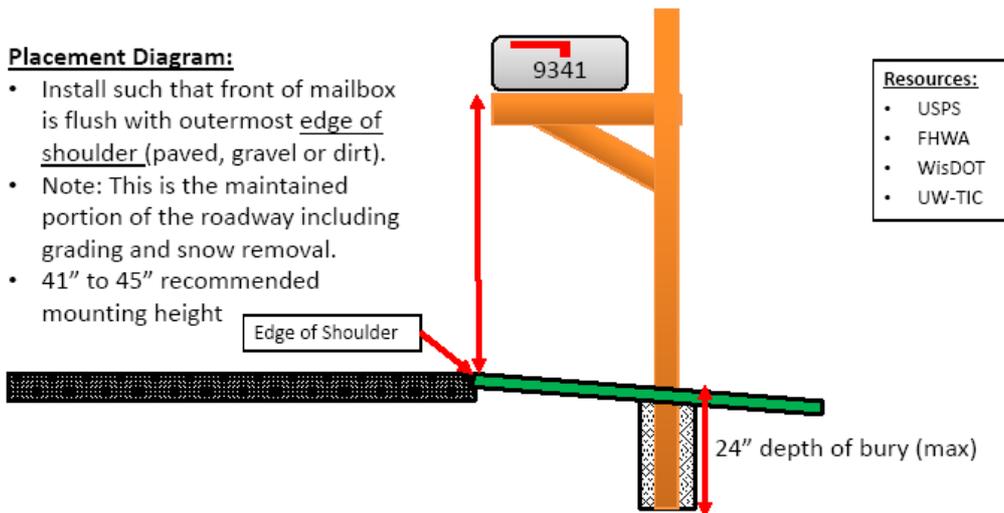
Mailbox Installation Guidelines

Mailbox and Post:

- Use a mailbox with Postmaster General's seal of approval.
- Recommend a wooden post no bigger than 4" X 4" or a maximum 2" diameter standard steel or aluminum post.

Placement Diagram:

- Install such that front of mailbox is flush with outermost edge of shoulder (paved, gravel or dirt).
- Note: This is the maintained portion of the roadway including grading and snow removal.
- 41" to 45" recommended mounting height



ROADSIDE CLEANUP CHALLENGE

Not long ago, I was taking a walk and met Dorothy Raasch on Elm Street. She was picking up trash along the road. Since that time I have noticed trash scattered on the sides of other roads that I walk. I decided to pick up items along a three mile rectangle from 95th Street and County FF, to County FF and 100th Street, to 100th Street and Lake Road, to Lake Road and 95th Street, and back to 95th Street and County FF. I completed the roadside clean-up on April 14 and 15.

I challenge you to pick up trash along a route you walk. Can you meet my distance of three miles? The total distance added up to six miles when I reversed directions and did the opposite side of the road. Maybe you can exceed it. Maybe you can only do a quarter of a mile. Whatever you do will contribute to the beautification of our Town!

Kathy Lee

ATV/UTV Ordinance

The Town of Grant Board in collaboration with the Town of Grant Plan Commission will hold a public hearing regarding a proposed DRAFT ATV/UTV ORDINANCE on Wednesday May 18 beginning at 7:00 pm. The public hearing will be held in the banquet facility at Wild Horse Saloon, 9031 County Road WW.

Contact Clerk Vicky Zimmerman at the Town Hall at 715-423-9193 or Plan Commission Secretary Kathy Lee at 715-423-3891 or the Town of Grant website to obtain a copy of the proposed ordinance.

Town of Grant

9011 County Road WW

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Presorted Standard U.S. Postage Paid Wisc. Rapids, WI Permit 98
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