

TOWN OF MAPLE CREEK

W10388 County Road W, PO Box 224, New London WI 54961

www.townofmaplecreek.com

2026 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Now that we have survived snowstorm "Elsa".....

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

There will be major road construction by the WI DOT starting soon that will impact Town of Maple Creek residents. The proposed construction date is March 26th to July 15th (weather permitting). US 45 will be closed to through traffic and detoured via US 10 and WIS 22. Access to residents, businesses, and emergency vehicles will be maintained during construction. They will be constructing a roundabout at the US 45/County D intersection. The project ID numbers are listed below. Follow the website for updates/progress. The project website is: <https://projects.511wi.gov/us45waupaca/>

- Wisconsin DOT Project ID: 1140-00-77 on US 45-Givens Road to Church Road-Outagamie and Waupaca Counties.
- Wisconsin DOT Project ID: 6220-04-76 on WIS 54-W Jeanne Street to County Rd S-Outagamie and Waupaca Counties.

SPRING ELECTION

The Spring Election will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Maple Creek Town Hall located at W10388 County Rd W. You will be asked to state your name, address, and to provide a Photo ID!!

On the ballot:

Justice of the Supreme Court—Vote for 1—Chris Taylor, Maria S. Lazar

Circuit Court Judge Branch 2—Vote for 1—Emily Lonergan

Circuit Court Judge Branch 3—Vote for 1—Kyle J. Sargent

County Supervisor District 31—Vote for 1—Dennis Clegg

NL SD School Board—Vote for not more than 2—John P. Heideman, Jeff Gulbrandsen

Shiocton SD School Board—Vote for not more than 2—Mindy Hofacker, David G Gomm

There are two more Elections scheduled this year. August 11th is the Partisan Primary and November 3rd is the General Election. If you are new to Maple Creek and need to register, or if you've changed your address or your name, please contact the clerk to get registered or go to myvote.wi.gov for more information. Remember, you need a photo ID and proof of residence to register. Voting Absentee: If you are a US Citizen, 18 years of age or older on Election Day and have resided in Maple Creek for at least 28 days, you can request to vote absentee. You will need to be registered in advance and provide proof of identification. You may make application for an absentee ballot by mail, in person, e-mail or through MyVote.wi.gov. The deadline to make application by mail is 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 2nd. You may also request and vote an absentee ballot in person in the clerk's office by appointment during the hours of 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and weekends by appointment, with the last day being Sunday, April 5th. Contact the clerk with any questions.

*"If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free, it is the responsibility of every American to be informed."
Thomas Jefferson*

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ELECTORS – TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

This is the only meeting during the year where the Town Electors have an opportunity to discuss any Town business without an agenda. Any item may be raised from the floor. However, the town electors at the annual meeting may only take action on the items they are authorized to act on by state law, as outlined in Wis. Stats 60.10(1). For items listed in 60.10(2), the electors can vote to authorize the town board to take certain actions, such as authorizing the construction of a new town hall, but the town board will ultimately decide whether to move forward with the project. If the statutes do not give the electors any power to act on a particular item, any resulting vote on that issue would be purely advisory to the town board and not binding. Please plan to attend. Refreshments will be served.

RAFT PERMITS

It's that time of year when the ice goes out and the rafts go in and a raft permit is required. All registrations expire on December 31st of each year. Please contact the clerk for your raft permit. The total cost of the permit is \$30.

CEMETERY

Then cemetery commission will have their spring meeting on Monday, March 30th at 6:00 p.m. Reminder.... Winter decorations are to be taken down by April 15th. Spring decorations can be put up after that date. Commission members are: Paul Gitter-Chairperson, Gary Coroneos-Sexton, Karen Stuhr and Tory Much, Secretary.

OPEN BOOK AND BOARD OF REVIEW

As has been done in prior years, the Open Book meetings will take place over the phone with the assessor. Please call in advance to set up a telephone appointment. After you have set up an Open Book appointment, the assessor will initiate the call for your Open Book session at the appointed date and time. The date and time for the Open Book is Monday, April 20th from 2-4 p.m. You may call the assessor during regular business hours (Monday – Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm). When leaving a message please provide your name, phone number, the Municipality, and the Parcel Number from your assessment notice or tax bill. Property owners may contact the assessor, Associated Appraisal Consultants with any questions; 920-749-1995 or email at info.apraz@gmail.com

The Board of Review is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th from 5-7 p.m. It is recommended that you contact the assessor to attempt to resolve any disputed assessment before making a formal appeal to appear before the BOR. If you wish to enter a formal appeal, you must give your intent to appeal by contacting the municipal clerk at least 48 hours before the BOR begins. Please call the clerk to obtain an Objection Form and to make an appointment. This form must be filled out in its entirety and returned to the clerk.

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits ARE required in Maple Creek. Please contact Elisabeth Racine at SPS Inspection Service, LLC, with questions. Phone: 920-266-9611, e-mail spsinspectionsservice@gmail.com.

MEETING MOTION HIGHLIGHTS:

Town Board:

December 8, 2025

- Janke made a motion, seconded by Stracy, to approve the Election Inspector list for the period of January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2027. Ayes 2, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1. MOTION CARRIED.
- Janke made a motion, seconded by Stracy, to approve 6 hours of Election training for the clerk before December 31, 2025. Ayes 2, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1. MOTION CARRIED.
- Stracy made a motion, seconded by Janke, to approve the Clerk hiring Jerry Ernst to shovel the Town Hall ramp when needed. Ayes 2, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1. MOTION CARRIED.
- Stracy made a motion, seconded by Janke, to approve hiring Supervisor Janke to clean the stage lights. Ayes 2, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1. MOTION CARRIED.
- Janke made a motion, seconded by Stracy, to approve for the clerk to get pricing on cabinets for the bathrooms and a shelf to hang the brooms/mops, etc. Ayes 2, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1. MOTION CARRIED.

January 12, 2026

- Stracy made a motion, seconded by Janke, to approve the Employee Wages Sheet for 2026. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Janke made a motion, seconded by Stracy, to approve the purchase of two cabinets for the bathrooms and a broom rack for up to \$400. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 0. MOTION CARRIED.

January 17, 2026

- Stracy made a motion, seconded by Janke, to approve the Village of Bear Creek invoice for \$11,316.32 for Fire Department Turnout Gear. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Stracy made a motion, seconded by Griffin, to approve sending a letter to the Village of Bear Creek Trustees, with copies to the Chairman's of the Towns of Bear Creek, Lebanon, and Deer Creek, expressing our disappointment that the approval process for purchasing this fire equipment was not according to the contract that was signed in November of 2024. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 0. MOTION CARRIED.

February 9, 2026

- Griffin made a motion, seconded by Janke, to approve the Outagamie County Highway Department to advertise the asphalt production part of the contract for LIRP funds on the Towns behalf. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Griffin made a motion, seconded by Janke, to renew internet services for a year with Star Communications for \$516.96. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Griffin made a motion, seconded by Janke, to send Election Inspectors to the County for Election training. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 0. MOTION CARRIED.

Plan Commission:

There were no meetings since the last newsletter.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS (Town Hall):

- ✓ March 30 – Cemetery meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- ✓ April 6 – Plan Commission meeting, if needed
- ✓ April 7 – Spring Election, 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- ✓ April 13 – Town Board meeting 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ April 20 – Open Book 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- ✓ April 21 – Annual Meeting of Town Electors 6:00 p.m.
- ✓ May 4 – Plan Commission if needed, 6:00 p.m.
- ✓ May 5 – Board of Review 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- ✓ May 11 - Town Board meeting 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ June 1 – Plan Commission if needed, 6:00 p.m.
- ✓ June 8 - Town Board meeting 6:30 p.m.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING:

Dates:	Garbage (Harter's): 1-888-804-8556	Recycling (LRS) 1-920-759-0501
April	3, 10, 17, 24	10, 24
May	1, 8, 15, 22, 30	8, 22
June	5, 12, 19, 26	5, 19
July	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	3, 17, 31

- Refuse pickup is every Friday while recycling pickup is every other Friday. The only exception is when there is a holiday DURING THE WEEK, then pickup is on **SATURDAY** as highlighted in **bold** on the table.
- If for some reason you are missed during the garbage/recycling pickup, please call Harter's or LRS right away so they can get back to you while their trucks are still in the area.
- Harter's also offers large item pickup days during the month. Call them for the details.
- If you would need a replacement garbage tote, contact Harter's. There is a charge for this. If you need a replacement recycling tote, contact one of the town board members.
- If you ever have questions on recycling pickup, go to this website for a calendar for the whole year.
<https://www.recyclomoreoutagamie.org/residential-recycling/pick-up-calendar/>

SOLAR FARM NEWS....SIGN THE PETITION

Update: There has been a file added to our website that has a map of the proposed area for the solar farm. This is where we will post any updated material/information that we get. The City of New London’s Council has been in discussions with Avangrid to sell some land to them in the Northeast Industrial Park. Avangrid is proposing to purchase 12-15 acres to construct the collection substation, underground collection lines, and an Operations and Maintenance facility.

Dear Neighbors, Say “no” to the proposed 150mw “Howlin’ Wolf” solar farm to be built by Avangrid Solar, a member of the Iberdrola Group. Construction is anticipated to begin as early as 2027. The Town Board of Maple Creek is opposed to this proposed 1200-1600 acre solar farm in Maple Creek. We would like to know if you are too.

****It puts Maple Creek’s future at risk!****

- 1) This project replaces peaceful landscapes with fencing and panels; disrupting wildlife and removing prime farmland from crop production. Despite current discussions regarding decommissioning, the reality is that this rural land will be lost forever. Industrial-scale solar projects are typically for 30-40 years.
- 2) Property Values could drop. Nearby homes have lost value in similar projects. The expected reduction in property value ranges from 5-25% depending on proximity.
- 3) Environmental harm is real. Solar farms can disrupt ecosystems, cause runoff and introduce toxins. Greenwashing doesn’t make it safe. Uncontrolled runoff of water and topsoil is a well-documented byproduct of industrial-scale solar site development. This massive increase in watershed sedimentation impacts all downstream rivers and estuaries.
- 4) Solar Power generation is very inefficient when taking into consideration the amount of land that is needed.
- 5) Maple Creek bears the cost and others profit. The power generated goes elsewhere. We’re left with the aesthetic eyesore and potential problems. (Some of the comments here are from “Citizens for Responsible Solar”)

****Let your voice be heard!****

At the bottom of this newsletter, there is a portion that you can cut-off, sign and send to the Town of Maple Creek, PO Box 224, New London, WI 54961. These will be scanned in and added to the petition.

We have collected 114 signatures already. Thank you. You can also contact the Clerk to sign the petition during office hours.

This petition will then be sent to your Federal Government, Governor, Legislators, Public Service Commission, Outagamie County and surrounding Municipalities. If you have any questions regarding this proposed solar farm or its location, please contact one of the Town Board.

_____ cut off here **Mail to:** Town of Maple Creek, PO Box 224, New London, WI 54961 _____

I oppose the proposed 1500 acre “Howlin’ Wolf” solar farm in the Town of Maple Creek, Outagamie County. Please add my name to the petition:

_____ name _____ address

_____ name _____ address

_____ name _____ address

_____ name _____ address

Contact Information

Susan Griffin, Chairperson
meeting agendas
920-538-3312
maplecreekchair21@gmail.com

Tory Much, Treasurer
taxes, dog licenses
920-982-3915
maplecreektreasurer@gmail.com

Lynette Gitter, Clerk
meetings, election admin
920-982-5258
maplecreekclerk@gmail.com

Adam Janke, Supervisor
920-572-1327
townofmaplecreek.adamjanke@gmail.com

Tom Stracy, Supervisor
920-205-9026
townofmaplecreek.tomstracy@gmail.com

Aimee Stracy, Constable
animal calls
920-470-3101

Paul Gitter, Cemetery Chairman
culvert, driveway permits
920-538-4999

Gary Coroneos, Cemetery Sexton
& Plan Commission Chairman
920-982-5617

Harter’s Refuse Service (*refuse*)
1-888-804-8556
Lakeshore Recycling Service
(LRS) (*recycling*)
920-759-0501

Elisabeth Racine
building permits
920-266-9611
spsinspectionsservice@gmail.com

Associated Appraisal
1-800-721-4157
www.apraz.com