New Public Works Building Completed!

Construction of the new Public Works building on E. Centralia Street started last Fall and finished this past summer. The new building was designed with a 50 plus year service plan in mind while providing opportunity for future expansion. Yard waste drop-off will continue at the old building on First Avenue for the remainder of the season.

Small photos above: Council and others at ribbon cutting, left; DPW staff, right
MAYOR’S MESSAGE

Hello from your Mayor,

There is so much that has happened this summer, I don’t know where to start! We hired a new Recreation Director, Karl Sorvick. We opened up our new Public Works building on Centralia Street. And we are looking into sites for a new City Hall.

And there were so many activities taking place this past summer! The Fourth of July celebration, Saturday Flea Markets, Ribfest, Holton Band concerts, Corn and Brat Days, Walworth County Fair, events at the pool, baseball and softball games, and so much more!

The new Love’s Travel Stop with a Hardees and Holiday Inn Express recently opened out on Hwy. 67. Watch for more businesses opening on that side of town.

Last but not least, Sam Tapson, our City Administrator for 21 years retired on September 6 and Jim Heilman took over.

I look forward to seeing everyone at events this Fall and Winter in our wonderful City.

Yours truly,
Mayor Howie Reynolds

13th Annual Elkhorn Oktoberfest
Saturday, October 19th, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Downtown Elkhorn: Craft and Vendor Booths, Chili Cook-Off, Wine and Beer Tasting, Car Show, Kid’s Activities, Live Music, Shuttle Service and Entertainment!
Visit the Elkhorn Area Chamber of Commerce’s website for more information: elkhornchamber.com

CHRISTMAS CARD TOWN

Experience the small town comfort and joy of the holiday season in Elkhorn. Join Advia Credit Union Friday, December 6th at 6:30 p.m. as we light up the town with Christmas Spirit at the Town Christmas Tree Lighting with the big man himself—Santa Claus—and his special helper, as they wave their wands to magically light the tree in the downtown square. Afterwards, all are welcome to the Matheson Memorial Library for the Peoples Bank sponsored Santa and Mrs. Claus Reception. Enjoy free hot chocolate, cookies, music and crafts while the kids wait for their turn to tell Santa what they want for Christmas. Parents don’t forget to bring your cameras!

Then, on Saturday, December 7th, bundle up the family and grab a spot downtown to watch the 38th Annual Christmas Card Town Parade beginning at 1:30 p.m. Many line up to see the Christmas decorated floats, novelty acts, music, animals, and of course, Santa and Mrs. Claus.

www.cityofelkhorn.org  (262)723-2219
CITY OF ELKHORN TRICK OR TREATING

Trick or treating within the City of Elkhorn will take place Thursday, October 31st from 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

The following is a list of safety tips to ensure that your trick or treat experience is a fun, safe experience for both yourself and your children:

- Do not allow a child to go “Trick or Treating” alone. Be sure older children TAKE A FRIEND and an ADULT accompanies young children.
- Be certain to accompany young children to the door of every house they approach.
- Children should be cautioned that they should NOT enter any home without permission from their parents.
- Make sure that all children carry a glow stick or wear reflective clothing. Facial masks should allow children to see and breathe properly and easily. All costumes and masks should be clearly marked as flame resistant.
- Parents should inspect all treats and dispose of anything that seems to have been tampered with, has been opened, or is not wrapped.

MULCH YOUR LEAVES INSTEAD OF RAKING & IMPROVE YOUR LAWN

Tired of raking leaves to the curb only to have the wind put them back into your yard, or your neighbors yard? (Or have your neighbors leaves end up in your yard?) Trees drop leaves at different times, so usually one raking doesn’t get the job done either, then you may end up having to bag those late drop leaves—which can be back breaking work. Try something new, easy and quick this year! Mulch the leaves! It is clean and easy and adds back beneficial nutrients into your lawn. Just use your lawn mower and you will be finished in the same amount of time it takes to mow your lawn! And research conducted by Michigan State and Purdue University show that lawn quality is improved by mulching leaves into the grass. Give it a try this fall.

WINTER SIDEWALK CLEARING

A reminder to keep sidewalks safe this winter. Per the Elkhorn Municipal Code, the entire width of the sidewalk needs to be cleared of all accumulated snow and/or ice within 24 hours of the time that the snow or ice ceases to accumulate. If ice has accumulated, the owner is required to sprinkle the sidewalk with necessary material to accelerate melting or prevent slipping. Owners of property with sidewalks on two intersecting streets are required to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks of both streets, including the area bordering the crosswalk and the curb ramp. Do not plow, push, shovel or throw snow or ice onto any public streets, alley, sidewalk or public lands dedicated to public use except for parcels or lots where buildings are constructed within 5 feet of the street right-of-way and the sidewalks exist from the City right-of-way to the curb line. In such instances, it is permitted to deposit, in a nonhazardous manner, snow and ice from their sidewalks only onto public streets. If the City has to remove the snow and/or ice, the property owner will be charged without prior notice.
BE SURE TO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL THIS WINTER

Just a reminder for customers to continue to pay their utility bills throughout the winter months, so that a large utility bill on April 16th can be avoided. The bill does not go away, it just accumulates with penalties.

Elkhorn Light & Water will not offer a DPA to a residential customer who is a tenant if any of the following criteria applies:
1. The residential tenant has greater than $100 of account arrearages that are more than 90 days past due.
2. The residential tenant has defaulted on a deferred payment agreement in the past 12 months.
3. The residential tenant is responsible for account arrearages that were placed on any property owner’s tax bill in the utility’s service territory in the past 24 months.
4. The residential tenant has a balance that accrued during the winter moratorium that is more than 80 days past due.

Anyone within any of the above categories will not be allowed to make a DPA in the future.

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Energy Services for Walworth County is now taking applications for home energy assistance. To qualify for assistance, households must have gross income for the three months immediately preceding the month of application that is at or below 60 percent of the state median income guidelines. Income guidelines for the 2019-2020 program year are: $6,870 gross income 3 months prior to application for household of 1; $8,983.75 for household of 2; $11,097.75 for 3; $13,211.50 for 4; $5,325.25 for 5; $17,835.50 for 6; $17,835.50 for 7; and $18,231.75 for 8.

To apply, applicants must provide Social Security numbers for all members of the household, most recent energy bill, photo identification and written proof of household’s gross income for the three months prior to the application.

To apply or for more information call 1-262-427-8505 or visit homeenergyplus.wi.gov.

NOMINATION PAPERS FOR CITY OFFICES AT SPRING ELECTION

Anyone interested in running for the elected offices of Mayor or Alderman in District 3, 4 or 6 may obtain the necessary documents from the City Clerk’s office beginning November 15, or on the City website. New candidates should file a Campaign Registration Statement as soon as intent to seek elective office is known and before funds are collected or spent. Candidates may begin circulating nomination papers on December 1, 2019. Signed nomination papers must be filed with the Clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 7, 2020. The spring election will be held on April 7, 2020. If necessary, a primary election will be held on February 18, 2020. Contact the City Clerk with any questions on running for office.

My Vote Wisconsin

Register to vote, update your registration or request an absentee ballot online!

A website for voters to find their elected officials information, voting location, registration status, ballot and absentee information, and more!

https://myvote.wi.gov/
Items to be Recycled

Have your trash and recycling out to the curb by 6:00 a.m.

Cardboard (flattened)
Clean cardboard only; broken down and flattened, and placed inside the cart.

Aluminum
Aluminum beverage cans only. No food trays, aluminum foil, etc.

Glass (bottles and jars)
No window glass, light bulbs, TV tubes, drinking glass, etc.

Tin and Bi-Metal Cans
Soup, vegetable, juice cans, etc. All cans must be rinsed out completely.

Plastic and Aseptic Containers
This includes plastic bottles with threaded caps with recycling symbol 1 through 5 and 7. Juice and milk cartons are also accepted. All plastic bottles must be rinsed out completely.

Look for on the container.

Newspapers, Magazines, Office Paper
Glossy inserts, catalogs, mail circulars, phone books, paperback books, school papers, cereal boxes, envelopes, wrapping paper, etc.

Place your recyclables in the recycling containers provided. These containers are to be left with the residence if you move.

Please keep your recyclables separate from your other garbage and easily accessible. Keep carts at least three feet apart and away from other objects (mailboxes, light poles, etc.)

City of Elkhorn’s Recycling Collection is every other week, the same day as weekly trash services

Please call Public Works at 262-723-2223

with any service questions or issues

- **NO MEDICAL WASTE**—i.e. needles, rubber gloves, oxygen tubes, IV bags, etc.
- **NO YARD WASTE**—it is illegal to landfill these items
- **NO WET PAINT or HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**—contact Walworth County for disposal of these items
- **EMPTY or DRY PAINT CANS**—these items may be placed in the standard trash containers
The City of Elkhorn is a permitted MS4 community as defined by the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). With that in mind, storm water from Elkhorn, which travels to the Rock River and Upper Fox River, is now being monitored by the WDNR. In order to stay compliant and protect the environment we maintain ordinances and policies to keep grass, dirt, branches, yard waste and garbage off the street. This prevents said debris from clogging inlets and ending up in our tributaries. We ask that you do your part and follow said policies and ordinances as outlined within this notice and as found on our website.

2019 Fall Brush Collection Schedule

**Weeks of October 14 & October 28 (Tuesday—Friday)** | East of Wisconsin St
**Weeks of October 21 & November 4 (Tuesday—Friday)** | West of Wisconsin St

**RESIDENT GUIDELINES:**

* No vines, rakings or roots (these may be brought to the Yard Waste Drop-Off Site, see below)
* Do NOT co-mingle leaves with brush
* Place cut ends, no larger than 6 inches in diameter or 12 feet in length, facing direction of traveling traffic

All brush must be placed on the terrace by 7 a.m. on Tuesday of your brush collection week. Public Works personnel will begin the route on Tuesday morning and will collect properly disposed of brush sometime during your scheduled week. Please do not place brush out after Public Works personnel have gone by, they will only go through the route once during the week. Parked cars must not block brush piles. **If you hire a contractor for tree work, the contractor must take all debris.**

2019 Fall Leaf Collection

Fall Leaf Collection begins the week of October 14—October 18 (Monday-Friday) and ends the week of November 18—November 22 (Monday—Friday). The City is divided into 5 color coded sections; each section has an assigned week day for leaf collection. Please view the map on the next page or the City’s website for your pickup day. Advanced Disposal is contracted to conduct leaf collection.

**LEAVES WILL ONLY BE COLLECTED DURING YOUR LEAF COLLECTION DAY**

* Please rake leaves into the street at least 12 inches away from the curb to allow storm water to pass, leaves will be picked up off of the street
* Do NOT place leaves sooner than the Saturday prior to your pickup week
* Leaves MUST be ready for collection no later than 7 a.m. of the scheduled pickup day
* Do NOT combine brush with leaves or place leaves in bags or boxes

**Yard Waste Drop-Off Site | City Garage**

12 E. First Avenue (Fenced in area adjacent to N. Washington Street)

**Open through November 16, 2019**

**Wednesdays:** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
**Saturdays:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

* Leaves, vegetables, and grass clippings; NO stumps, roots or shrubs with intact root balls
* Yard/garden debris and brush—including clean, woody vegetative material no greater than 3-inches in diameter
* Tightly bundle limbs and branches no greater than 3 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length with twine (**NO wire or nylon**)
* 30 gallon paper bags or dry cardboard boxes not larger than 3 X 3 feet; **NO Plastic bags**

**Christmas Tree Collection**

January 6–10, 2020
Leaf Collection Program

Please refer to the current Newsletter or website for dates of pick-up.

All leaves need to be on the street, 12" away from the gutter, by 7 a.m. on day of pick-up.
Please call the Department of Public Works with any questions: 262-723-2223.
One of the more frequent concerns we hear from residents is that of vehicles speeding in their neighborhood, which not only causes concerns for their personal safety and that of others but the associated problems of noise. Often what follows is a recommendation to erect stop signs to slow motorists or install more speed limit signs, which people mistakenly believe will solve the problem. The police department’s initial response is to evaluate the concern and we do this by ensuring the speed zone is appropriately posted according to DOT standards, reviewing crash statistics, as well as collecting speed data in the area of the concern. Estimating vehicle’s speeds from a stationary position is often difficult, even for those who have been trained, and quite often the results of the data collection reveal that overall vehicle speed is not what it was thought to be. Nevertheless, from that data we are able to glean a wealth of information to enhance our enforcement efforts. From the data collected we are able to determine what is referred to as the 85th percentile speed, which is important as the 85th percentile represents the speed that 85% of motorists are traveling at or below. Further, studies have shown that the 85th percentile represents the speed that motorists believe is safe to travel at and is a factor to determine what the speed limit should be posted for. In addition, the data will guide our enforcement efforts as it will provide the days and times when the problem is more prevalent. From this information, the police department can focus its resources more effectively and efficiently and look to address the driving behavior of those motorists that are most likely to cause traffic crashes.

Please keep in mind that speed was a factor in nearly 1/3 of the fatal accidents in Wisconsin in 2014 and crashes are more likely to occur in urban areas. The police department is asking for your cooperation in enhancing traffic safety by slowing down for everyone’s safety. If you have a concern of motorists speeding in your neighborhood, please contact the Police Department.

WINTER PARKING REGULATIONS

The parking or leaving of any vehicle on any street in the City is prohibited when the National Weather Service has issued any of the following winter storm messages which are in effect for our area: winter weather advisory, winter storm warning or blizzard warning. These parking restrictions will remain in effect for a period of 12 hours after the expiration of the winter storm message. Failure to comply may result in the removal of any vehicle parked in violation of this, and the vehicle owner shall be responsible for the cost of towing, storage and any other charges in connection with its removal in addition to the penalties set forth in the city ordinance.

The City offers an alert notification reminder when National Weather System winter storm messages prompts winter parking regulations. To sign up to receive text notifications to your cellular phone of the start of parking restrictions in the City, text this message: @elkhomdpw to: 81010 (this service is free, however, texting rates may apply). You can opt-out of messages at any time by replying: @LEAVE.
No School Adventure Days
Looking for something for your children to do during no school days?

Check out our new program offering, NO SCHOOL ADVENTURE DAYS! These programs are specifically designed for Elkhorn School District Students.
Some of our adventures include: Safari Lake Geneva, Miller Park, Snow tubing and much more!

Blast Ball Ages 4 - 5
Baseball in January, no problem!
This new program teaches age 4-5 children the basics of baseball while making it fun and entertaining for family and friends!
The program only uses one base and it “honks”! The program runs January 14-February 14 at the Elkhorn High School Agility Center.

Co-Ed Volleyball League
Tuesday Nights
November 5 - February 25

Looking for a league? Join the co-ed volleyball league held at Jackson Elementary school on Tuesday nights. $160 per team, registration deadline October 29th!

To sign up for a program go to www.cityofelkhorn.org or give us a call at 262-741-5114
September is “Library Card Sign-up Month” so if you do not already have a library card, stop in the library and get your free card! If you have lost your library card, replacement cards are also free during September (usual cost is $1). A library card is an important school supply for every child. Your library card will give you access to books, movies, video games and so much more! You can use any of the free databases on our Digital Resource page. Download free ebooks from Wisconsin’s Digital Library called Overdrive/Libby app. Other databases include Ancestry.com for genealogy research, Duolingo to learn a foreign language, Kanopy to stream movies, Gale Courses, and more.

We offer many programs for all ages at the library. We have baby and toddler story times weekly, visits from Lakeland Animal Shelter on Mondays at 4:15 p.m., Lego programs for kids, Anime club and more! Did you know that all children’s and young adult materials checked out at our library are fine-free? They are! so no need to worry about late fees.

We have a variety of programs for adults including three book discussion groups each month. Our newest book club is a Short Story Book Club that meets at Someplace Else Restaurant on the 4th Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m. Pick up a copy of the short story at the Information Desk and join us for some drinks, food, and good conversation. We host a Memory Café monthly for people who have early stage Alzheimer’s, dementia, or mild cognitive impairment. This program, for individuals and their caregivers, is a stress-free social event with a different topic each month. Check our web site www.elkhorn.lib.wi.us or library newsletter for more information on these and other programs.

Support the Friends of the Library by joining for just a $10 membership fee. We are always looking for new members and volunteers to help at our events. The Friends will host a Trick or Trivia event on October 26th, Fridays with Oscar Movie Nights in February, and they work diligently to maintain their ongoing Book Store in the library, along with many other events throughout the year.

As always, I encourage you to contact me with any comments or suggestions regarding the library. You can reach me by phone at 262-723-9140 or by email at lseije@elkhorn.lib.wi.us

Lisa Selje,
Library Director
WALWORTH COUNTY CLEAN SWEET HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

The Walworth County Public Works Department is sponsoring a Clean Sweep Program Friday and Saturday, October 4th and 5th. This event will help household residents, businesses, schools and municipalities properly dispose of damaged, banned, unusable or unwanted products that contain volatile chemicals.

Clean Sweep services are provided free-of-charge to household residents who may drop off items without an appointment at the following times and locations:

Friday, October 4th - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. City of Delavan, 490 Richmond Rd (Cty Hwy M & P), Delavan and City of Whitewater Public Works Complex, 150 East Starin Rd, Whitewater

Saturday, October 5th - 8:00 a.m. to Noon Walworth County Public Works Department, W4097 County Road NN, Elkhorn

Clean Sweep program services are also available to any business, municipality, school, or other service provider that generates small amounts of hazardous waste, and classifies as a Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) according to DNR standards. VSQG program participants pay for product disposal but the cost is significantly less than contracting individually for this service. The program is cost-effective and convenient. Anyone interested, must pre-register and provide a list of products they want to dispose of by Tuesday, September 26th.

For more information, please contact the Walworth County Public Works Department, at (262)741-3116.

M A R K  Y O U R  C A L E N D A R S  F O R  T H E  F O L L O W I N G  D A T E S

City Hall will be closed in observance of holidays during the fall and winter, the dates are:

- Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29
- Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25
- Tuesday, December 31 and Wednesday, January 1
- Friday, April 10, 2020

Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday, November 3rd at 2 a.m. so be sure to set your clocks back 1 hour

Winter and Spring Elections (all are 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.):

February 18, 2020 - Spring Primary (if needed), this election will take place at the Parks & Rec Center at 200 Devendorf Street

April 7, 2020 - Spring Election, this election will take place at the Parks & Rec Center located at 200 Devendorf Street
Please help us welcome Alyssa Montgomery as our new Recreation Supervisor! She comes to us from Madison School and Community Recreation as Assistant Recreation Programmer with previous experience as program supervisor in the City of Monroe Recreation Department. Joining us back in May, she has already proven to be an important asset to our department. She looks forward to seeing you while supervising our youth and adult programs. Alyssa currently resides in Janesville, WI and will be marrying her fiancé Kris in October of this year. Welcome Alyssa!

Please welcome Konnor Mohr who started working for the Department of Public Works this past July. He has lived in the Elkhorn area for his entire life. In his free time Konnor enjoys hunting, fishing and just being outdoors. He also helps with the Elkhorn Wrestling team. If you see Konnor around town, be sure to say “hi”! Welcome Konnor!

Welcome Tim Wald who started working for Public Works this past June. He lives in the Elkhorn area with his wife, dogs and daughter who just started first grade. Tim is also a Lieutenant on the Elkhorn Area Fire Department and has served the community for 15 years. He enjoys fishing anytime he can get on the water or ice and has taught his daughter the tricks of the trade. When he’s not on the water, you can probably catch him watching or listening to any Badgers, Packers, or Brewers game. Tim hopes to see you around town! Welcome Tim!

You can receive this newsletter delivered automatically to your email when it becomes available, just go to the City’s website to sign up!

www.cityofekhorn.org