



Fall/Winter 2023

CIVIC CONNECTION

CITY OF ELKHORN

Mailing address: P.O. Box 920

Physical address: 311 Seymour Ct

Elkhorn, WI 53121

www.cityofelkhorn.org

CITY DEPARTMENTS

City Administration Office: 723-2219

Assessor: 1-800-770-3927

Building Inspection: 741-5115

Library: 723-2678

Fire/EMS: 723-2277

Municipal Court: 723-2340

Police Department: 723-2210

Public Works: 723-2223

Recreation Dept: 741-5114

Utility Billing: 723-2910

Utility Operations: 723-3138

Zoning: 741-5124

After hours (Electric, Water, Sewer emergency number: 723-3229)

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor: Bruce Lechner

District One: Tim Shiroda

District Two: Gary Payson Jr.

District Three: Ronald Dunwiddie

District Four: Scott McClory

District Five: Ken Meinel

District Six: Karel Young

CITY OFFICES CLOSED

November 23 & 24, 2023

December 25 & 26, 2023

January 1 & 2, 2024

March 29, 2024

City Administrator message

The City has been abuzz with activity since my update last spring, especially with economic development. Starbucks and Taco Bell recently opened, and Anytime Fitness broke ground on a gym that will be part of a new three-tenant commercial building on N. Wisconsin Street. There have also been several construction projects in the business park, including expansions by Pregis (30,000 SF), Elkhorn Electropolish (4,875 SF), and MaxPax (83,925 SF). In addition, Project Veteran Muscle Gym is in the process of relocating their facility from Lake Geneva to Elkhorn.

Since last spring there has also been significant progress on the proposed Creekside Community Development, which is a mixed-use residential and commercial development planned near the intersection of S. Lincoln St. and I-43. The City completed the project plan amendment and boundary adjustment for the tax incremental district. We also negotiated a proposed development agreement with the Creekside developers, who submitted their General Development Plan for review by the Plan Commission.

Economic development hasn't been the only area of activity since last spring. As many of you probably noticed, the City has been working on road improvement projects on S. Wright St., E. Market St., and E. Centralia St. The largest of these projects, E. Centralia St., should be done by November.

The City has been planning for other infrastructure projects, including improvements to the water system, such as finalizing designs for the Lakeland Water Treatment Plant rehab and the Northeast Water Treatment Plant sewer extension. To help fund water operations, the City submitted an application to the Public Service Commission to adjust water rates in the coming year. The City will keep the public updated when we receive more information from the PSC about potential rate increases.

Hopefully you have had a chance to enjoy the park improvements around the City. The new Babe Mann Park shelter was finished in late May and has been popular. The City partnered with the Elkhorn Rotary Club to install a kayak launch and fishing pier at Babe Mann Park as well as to install picnic tables. The City is also partnering with the Rotary Club to add benches and more trees to Babe Mann Park, which should be coming this fall. The City installed toddler playground equipment at Tasch Park using a donation from the Kiwanis Club. Since last spring the City has also been finalizing a partnership with a private property owner to provide a garden/park that will be open to the public near the Chamber building, using funds from a WEDC Vibrant Spaces Grant. The City also completed the purchase of 39.06 acres of open space from the County that had been acquired through tax forfeiture.

City Administrator message cont.

The City has been trying to improve services in other areas as well. The Common Council recently selected Badgerland Disposal, LLC, an LRS (Lakeshore Recycling Systems) company, as the City's new provider of residential solid waste collection and recycling services. LRS will take over these services on January 1, 2024. More information will be coming about the transition from Waste Management.

In an attempt to better recruit and retain City employees, the City hired an HR generalist in early September. It's our hope that this position will help the City fully staff public safety departments, especially the Fire Department. It's also our hope that the HR generalist will assist the City in modernizing personnel policies and coordinating trainings for City staff.

We are now in the middle of budget season, and the City is utilizing new capital improvement planning and budgeting software that will allow the City to not only better plan for future capital and budget needs but also provide the public with more information about how taxes and other revenues are being used.

Elkhorn is a wonderful community with a bright future. Our focus at the City is on providing the best quality of life possible for businesses, residents, and visitors. This is the mission that guides us, and we welcome the opportunity to work with community partners to make this happen.

If you want to learn more about the City's projects or have other questions or concerns about the City, please contact me at (262) 723-2219.



Adam J. Swann



2024 ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

**VISIT [MYVOTE.WI.GOV](https://myvote.wi.gov) TO MAKE SURE YOUR
REGISTRATION IS UP TO DATE.
FOR OTHER ELECTION INFORMATION VISIT
[ELECTIONS.WI.GOV](https://elections.wi.gov)**

February 20, 2024 - Spring Primary (if necessary)

April 2, 2024 - Spring Election & Presidential Preference Primary

August 13, 2024 - Primary Election

November 5, 2024 - General Election

All elections are open 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

In-person absentee voting will be held
at the City Administration Offices.
Check the city website for dates and
times prior to each election.

www.cityofelkhorn.org

**Photo ID is
required**

NOMINATION PAPERS FOR CITY OFFICES AT SPRING ELECTION

Anyone interested in running for the elected offices of Mayor, Alderman
in Districts 3, 4 or 6 or Municipal Judge may obtain the necessary documents from the
City Clerk's office mid to late November or at www.cityofelkhorn.org.

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 1st.

Signed nomination papers must be filed with the Clerk by 5 p.m.
on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

The spring election will be held on April 2, 2024.

If necessary, a primary election will be held on February 20, 2024.

Contact the City Clerk with any questions on running for office.

If you have any questions about elections please call:

Lacey L. Reynolds - City Clerk

or

Rebeca Perez - Deputy City Clerk

262-723-2219



Greetings from your library! The Matheson Memorial Library is here to connect you with resources that will enrich, enlighten, and entertain you and your families. With a lovely, historic building, a diverse and extensive collection, and the best library staff around, we're here to help you find your next great read, dip your toe into new experiences, and share your passions and interests with our community.

The library is a great place for the entire family to spend time together during these long fall and winter months. Whether you just want to hang out, read in a quiet space, or meet up with friends and take a break from the cold, we've got you covered.

The library is for everybody. Whatever your background or beliefs, you are welcome here, and we can help you to find a wide variety of materials to explore any interest or satisfy any curiosity. This is your library, and this fall we want you to use it to the fullest. Our amazing library staff are here to help you, so ask them lots of questions!

The library could use your talents! If you're looking to share your love of the library, or you'd just like to meet some very amazing people, please consider joining our Friends group. They help us out in a variety of ways, from fundraising to helping with programs, and they have some pretty exciting "fun-raisers" planned for the coming fall and winter. Please consider joining and getting involved!

The library is all about lifelong education. We can help you find your next great read, learn a new skill or hobby, and provide resources to help you study for that big test or learn a new, marketable skill. Don't forget that a library card for your children is the best (and cheapest) back to school supply you can get.

The library is all yours. Let us know how we're doing, and be sure to suggest any additions to our collection and/or services you think would make us better. Keep an eye on our online calendar (www.elkhorn.lib.wi.us/wordpress/calendar) so you don't miss any of our adult, teen, or children's events.

We hope you have a wonderful fall and winter, and we'll see you at the library!



BARDS &

BOOKWYRMS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15TH AT
THE HORTICULTURAL HALL

Come join us for D&D and
other fun role-playing games
starting at 1pm until 6pm



LAKE GENEVA
PUBLIC LIBRARY



Matheson Memorial Library



2023 FALL LEAF COLLECTION

With Waste Management's contract expiring the City will be transitioning to perform leaf collection internally with staff from the Public Works Department.

The City of Elkhorn offers residents curbside leaf collection services each spring and fall. Spring Leaf Collection runs the first two weeks of April. Fall Leaf Collection usually runs for six weeks commencing on the third Monday of October (weather pending). Exact start date and duration of collection varies depending on the season and weather.

The City's Public Works Department will strive to collect as long as the season allows. Please look for announcements and updates on our Website and Facebook page regarding commencement and final day of collection services for the season. You can also contact our office at 262.723.2223.

Leaves raked out after the deadline will not be collected.

Residents can mulch the leaves into the lawn or bring them to the City's Compost Site located at 401 E Centralia Street, at the dead end of Getzen Street.

The City's Compost Site is always an option for residents to dispose of leaves, yard waste (such as flowers, pumpkins, garden trimmings and weeds), brush and branches. It is open seven days a week (8:00AM to 8:00PM) from April 1st through the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

During leaf collection services, rake leaves into the street at least 1-foot away from the curb to allow storm water to pass and prevent flooding. The 1-foot gap also mitigates concerns with equipment and the curb being damaged.

Do not combine brush with leaves, the City offers a separate brush collection operation. Do not include pumpkins, litter or yard waste such as flowers, garden trimmings and weeds in leaf piles. Do not place leaves in bags or boxes.

Prior to Fall of 2023, the City was divided into 5 sections, one section for each day of the week. This day coincided with refuse collection which makes collection challenging. In addition, some of the daily routes are leaf heavier than others with mature trees. Assigned routes do not allow for flexibility with inclement weather and other operations occurring at this time of the year. For example, during the beginning of the season it is possible we could clear all five routes within three days. During heavier times, it may take all five days or possibly longer. Due to these challenges, the City will no longer maintain an assigned day per each daily route. Place leaves when you are able throughout the Spring and Fall Leaf Collection schedule as detailed above, you will no longer have an assigned day. Leaf collection operations will cycle through the City systematically with the goal of clearing it weekly.

2023 FALL BRUSH COLLECTION

Monday-Friday

East of Wisconsin St.: Weeks of October 2 & October 16

West of Wisconsin St.: Weeks of October 9 & October 23

MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE & RECYCLE UPDATE FOR 2024

The City's Garbage & Recycling contract with Waste Management (current provider) expires on December 31, 2023. The City will be executing a new 5 year contract with LRS. Weekly garbage pickup and recycling every other week will remain the same. Stay tuned for additional information to be included in utility billings and on our website as we navigate through this transition.

www.cityofelkhorn.org

**2024
CHRISTMAS
TREE
COLLECTION
01/08-01/12**



**If you hire a contractor for
tree work, the contractor
must take all debris**

**LEAF BURNING
IS NOT ALLOWED
IN THE CITY**

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 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.

Be sure to pay your utility bill this winter

Just a reminder to continue to pay your utility bill throughout the winter months. The bill does not go away, it just accumulates with penalties. Elkhorn Light & Water will not offer a deferred payment agreement (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 arrears 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.

If any of the above criteria applies you will not be allowed to make a DPA in the future.

Home Energy Assistance

**INCOME GUIDELINES FOR THE
2023-2024 HOME ENERGY PLUS
PROGRAM YEAR
(10/01/2023 through 9/30/2024)
60 PERCENT OF STATE MEDIAN
INCOME GUIDELINES**

**Assistance may be available through:
Energy Services of Walworth County
262-427-8505
<http://energybenefit.wi.gov>**

Who is eligible?

Your household may be eligible for the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP), Weatherization Assistance Program, and the HE+ Program Services based on a number of factors. If your household gross income (before taxes and other deductions) is less than the amount shown on the chart below, you may be eligible. You can apply at your local WHEAP agency, online, or by phone.

Household Size	ONE Month	Annual Income
1	\$2,820.67	\$33,848
2	\$3,688.58	\$44,263
3	\$4,556.50	\$54,678
4	\$5,424.50	\$65,094
5	\$6,292.42	\$75,509
6	\$7,160.33	\$85,924
7	\$7,323.00	\$87,876
8	\$7,485.75	\$89,829

Winter Parking



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 in effect for our area:

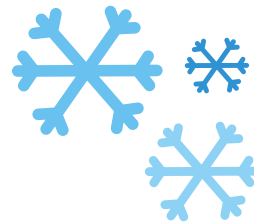
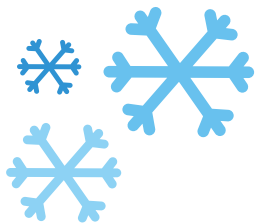
winter weather advisory, winter storm warning or blizzard warning.

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.



Winter Sidewalks

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 properties 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. Please 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 lot 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 the snow and ice, in a nonhazardous manner, from their sidewalks only onto the public streets. If the city has to remove the snow and/or ice, the property owner will be charged without prior notice.



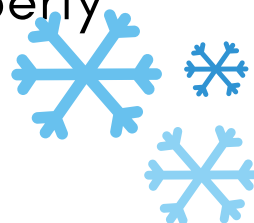
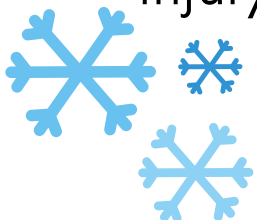
In the event of a fire emergency during the winter, could firefighters find the hydrant near your home?

The City of Elkhorn encourages residents to be aware of the fire hydrants near their home and keep snow shoveled away from it during the winter season.

Clear a path approximately 3 feet around the hydrant. Please consider helping a neighbor who is elderly or has a medical condition by shoveling out a hydrant in front of their home. This act of kindness will benefit the entire neighborhood.

Keeping fire hydrants clear gives the Fire Department room to work with the hydrant should the need arise.

Water is the principal agent used by the Fire Department to control and extinguish fires. Delays in locating and hooking up to a fire hydrant can seriously hamper a fire suppression operation, raising the risk of injury and possibly resulting in additional property damage.



CLUE ROOM

**NOW IN
TWICE THE
SPACE!**



- Family-Friendly
- Age 10 & Up*

Elkhorn Recreation Center
Fridays & Saturdays
October - November
5:15PM // 6:00PM // 6:45PM // 7:30PM

\$36Res. // \$46Non-Res. Per Group
Groups of 2-8 People. Age 10 & Up.*

* Children under age 10 are not allowed in the room (strictly enforced). An adult must be in the room with ages 10-18.

Do you have what it takes to solve the classic "who dunnit" mystery in 30 minutes or less?

You'll be surrounded by many "rooms" in one where you'll investigate while solving original puzzles and brainteasers.

**FURNISHINGS & PROPS
PROVIDED BY:**
Circle of Friends Thrift Store



REGISTER: <https://elkhornwirec.recdesk.com>



**TRICK OR TREATING WILL BE
OCTOBER 31ST FROM
5:00PM- 7:00PM**

The following is a list of safety tips to ensure that your trick or treat experience is a fun, safe experience for both you 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 sure to accompany young children to the door of every house they approach.
- * Children should be cautioned NOT to enter any home without permission from their guardian.
- * Encourage carrying a glow stick or wearing reflective clothing. Facial masks should allow easy breathing. 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.



Name a Snowplow

SUBMIT NOW
THROUGH OCTOBER



Deadline: October 31

Let's make our Wisconsin winter weather worth it! Send us your clever snowplow names to liven up the snow storm season! We just might assign yours to one of our 6 city trucks! (Examples: Scoopy Doo, Clearopathathra,... you get the idea.)

Here's how it works:

1. Submit your creative snowplow name suggestion by going to www.cityofelkhorn.org/parksrec.
2. The city staff from all departments will pick the top 12 names which will be posted on Facebook on November 6th.
3. While the public voting period is open from November 6th - 10th go to www.cityofelkhorn.org/parksrec to vote.
4. The 6 winning names will be posted on our Facebook page on November 15th at 3PM.

GUIDELINES: Names must be submitted by residents living inside the city limits of Elkhorn. Entries will be accepted in the order received, and duplicate names/entries will be excluded. The Rec Dept. reserves the right to omit a name for any reason. More detailed guidelines at the website above.



2024 Pet Mayor

NOMINATE NOW
THROUGH NOVEMBER

Deadline: November 30

DOES YOUR PET HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

GUIDELINES: Pet must reside inside the city limits of Elkhorn. Winner will be announced on December 20th via our Facebook page. Inauguration will take place in January at the city administration building. The 2024 Pet Mayor will receive a plaque and official collar.

1. STEP ONE: Submit \$10 donation per pet to the Recreation Department located at 200 Devendorf Street. CASH ONLY, PLEASE. Proceeds will go to the Elkhorn Food Pantry and Lakeland Animal Shelter.
2. STEP TWO: By November 30th, submit a photo of your pet with your pet's qualifications and reasons why they should be Elkhorn's Pet Mayor by going to www.cityofelkhorn.org/parksrec. See official rules here.
3. STEP THREE: The general public will vote on the winner. Bring \$1 cash per person to the Recreation Center between December 4th - 15th.

Welcome new City of Elkhorn Employees



Welcome new City of Elkhorn Employees



Kacey Keogh–Human Resources Generalist

My name is Kacey Keogh and I am the new Human Resources Generalist for the City of Elkhorn. I have over 8 years of experience working in HR and have worked in various industries including hospitality, manufacturing, and local government. Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my family, husband, and our dog. I look forward to supporting the employees at the City of Elkhorn and making a positive impact to the team.

Christopher Sprigler– City Treasurer

I am proud to have the opportunity to join the City of Elkhorn as the Treasurer. I spent the last 16 years working for a public accounting firm in Lake Geneva gaining vital experience that I believe has prepared me for the challenges ahead. I have been a resident of Walworth County for more than 35 years and look forward to doing my best for you. A married man, I have five adult children and four grandchildren that keep me busy when I am not working. I have developed a hobby of volunteering at major golf events and am currently deciding which tournament to attend as a volunteer next.



Applied Material Solutions, Inc.

Elkhorn, WI

Thanks to a generous donation from our community partners at Applied Material Solutions, Inc., we were able to outfit each of our patrol cars with its own lifesaving AED machine!

We are so grateful to AMS for their continued support of our community.