

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD NEWSLETTER

Springfield Town Hall
6157 CTH P, Dane, WI 53529

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This Newsletter is a communication service published by the Town Board for the residents of the Town of Springfield

OFFICE HOURS: The office is generally open at the Town Hall from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8:00 a.m. to noon on Friday. Occasionally meetings or errands may alter that time frame, so you may want to call ahead at 849-7887.

TOWN BOARD MEMBERS	PLANNING COMMISSION
Don Hoffman, Chairman	Jeff Gabrysiak, Chair
Dave Laufenberg, Supervisor 1	Jeff Endres
Jim Pulvermacher, Supervisor 2	Karen Crook
Art Meinholz, Supervisor 3	Steve Resan
Dan Dresen, Supervisor 4	Elliott Long
Carolyn Hacker, Clerk Treasurer	Jim Pulvermacher
Bernie Laird, Assessor	Scott Laufenberg
Jan Barman, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer	



TOWN BOARD MEETING TIMES

The Town Board holds their regular monthly meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall (6157 County Highway P). Agendas are posted at the Town Hall, Schneider Road Business Center and the parking lot at the corner of Church Rd. and Co. Hwy. K and at www.townhall@town.springfield.wi.us. If a meeting time should be changed, it will also be posted. Our official newspapers are the Waunakee Tribune and the Middleton Times-Tribune. To be placed on the agenda contact the Clerk at 849-7887.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission meets the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall upon demand. The Commission hears zoning and re-zoning requests, land division requests and amendments to Dane County zoning ordinances. They act in an advisory capacity to the Town Board. Please contact the office to be placed on the agenda and to file the necessary papers for your request.

BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS

The Town contracts with the firm Independent Inspections, LTD. for a building inspector. Office hours are Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Town Hall or call # 1-800-422-5220 anytime. A reminder: permits are required for all new residential, agricultural and commercial buildings. Remodeling also requires a building permit. Re-siding, re-roofing and finishing of interior surfaces (e.g. carpeting) shall be exempt from permit requirements. Dane County also requires zoning and erosion control permits. We suggest that you call 266-4266 with questions regarding their regulations.



BURN PERMIT INFORMATION | From the Waunakee Area Fire District:

This letter is to reinform you of open burning policies in our town. Both of the fire districts in our town have an open burning ordinance, which details the rules that must be followed in order to burn. The Waunakee and Middleton Fire Districts require that a burn permit be issued prior to burning. Please call (608)849-5488 to obtain a permit for Waunakee. (See below for contact information for MIFD)

Why must people get burning permits or licenses?

1. It gives fire department personnel an opportunity to ensure that weather conditions are favorable for a burn and that the burn in question meets the requirements of local ordinances.

2. It notifies the fire department of your intent to burn brush, grass, leaves, etc. In the event the fire department receives an emergency call on the controlled burn, it gives us a chance to contact the permit holder to see if their fire is still under control or if a full fire response is needed.

3. The DNR Forestry Program, under Chapter 26, Wisconsin Statutes, and many local governments require burning permits to prevent forest fires and protect life and property. State laws

administered by the Air Management Program and many local ordinances spell out the kinds of materials that may be burned and the conditions under which burning will or won't be allowed.

The only exception to the above rules is if the fire is contained within a burn barrel or a commercially manufactured outdoor recreational fireplace. The fireplace must be an assembly that includes a bowl, pit or device for holding the wood and a method of containing embers and sparks.

If a burning permit or license is obtained, it does not give authority to burn materials that are illegal to burn under state or local law.

Failure to comply with the aforementioned rules may put firefighters and apparatus at risk and you may be required to pay restitution to the Fire District. Thank you for all of your support!

For the Middleton Fire District:

To contact Middleton Fire District please visit http://www.mifd.net/mifd/Burn_Permit.html and fill out burn permit form or call (608)827-1090. The MIFD will respond regardless and use the information in an effort to determine compliance.

PROPERTY TAX BILLS

If you owe the second half of your property tax you should have received a bill from the Dane County Treasurer by now. Make sure you write your check out to the DANE COUNTY TREASURER and mail it to them. The town does not collect taxes during this time. Payment is due by July 31, 2013 or interest and penalty will be charged. If you have questions, please call (608) 266-4151.

TOWN HALL AVAILABLE FOR USE

Any resident of the town may use the town hall for private functions. You need to contact the town staff to reserve a date, fill out a form and discuss the details. You will have to put down a \$25.00 deposit which is returned if everything is left in good condition. Let us know if we can help you.

MANURE DIGESTER IN THE TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD IS UNDER WAY

US Dairy Biogas, a Texas based engineering firm has the final OK to begin construction on the second manure digester in Dane County. The facility is owned and operated by Gunderson Lutheran Health System and it will be located on a 22 acre parcel owned by Leo and Carol Ziegler on Schneider Rd. The facility will have a generating capacity of 2.0 MW and produce more than 16,000,000 kWh of electricity annually. The digester will take manure from three local farms – the Ziegler Dairy Farm, Blue Star Dairy (owned by the Meinholz Family) and the Hensen Brothers Farm – and convert it into enough electricity to power around 2,500 homes each year. By working together with the private, public, business and agriculture sectors, we can help clean up our lakes, create home-

grown green energy and make it easier for our multi-generation family farms to continue growing their herds, crops and our local economy.



Phosphorus is the leading cause of green algae and other weed growth in Dane County's lakes and comes from both urban and rural sources, keeping the run off from the manure spread on the fields out of our water ways will help clean up our lakes. Madison Gas and Electric will purchase the megawatts of electricity annually from this facility through the burning of methane gas. The electricity will be added to the local electric grid to help serve all customers.

TOWN ROAD WORK FOR 2013



Bids will be awarded on July 12th for the 2013 road work.

Portions of the following roads will be chip sealing and/or wedging:
Riles Rd and Vosen Rd.

Portions of the following roads will have ditch work and shouldering:
Meffert Rd, Kingsley Rd, Kopp/Kuehn Rd and Riles Rd.

Culvert replacement at Enchanted Valley Rd
MSA Professional Services are providing professional engineering and surveying services to the Town for potential improvements along Foxfire Trail.

BOOKMOBILE LOCATIONS IN SPRINGFIELD



The Dane County Library Service has the Bookmobile scheduled for Saturdays at Don's Mobile Manor, Kalesey Ct. from 9:30-10:30 a.m., St. Martins Church from 1:30-2:15 p.m. and at St. Peters Church from 2:45-3:45 p.m. in Ashton. Besides loaning out books, DVDs, magazines and music CDs, there will be a Crafts and Fun Summer Reading Program at the Don's Mobile manor location. You can also find large print books at the Town Hall delivered once a month from the Dane County Library. These are available for check out to all residents. We encourage you to use these services as your tax dollars support them. If you want more information about these and other programs available through the Dane County Library, visit them at www.dcls.info, or go to your nearest library.

KINGSLEY AND KOHLMAN CEMETERIES

Most cemeteries in the town are affiliated with a church or a cemetery association. However, Kohlmann and Kingsley Cemeteries are town cemeteries. We are very fortunate to have many people who have donated time to return Kohlmann Cemetery into a very pretty spot after years of neglect. We are now asking for volunteers to help get Kingsley Cemetery cleaned up in the same fashion as we spruced up Kohlmann Cemetery. Please call the Town Hall at 849-7887 if you are willing to donate your valuable time for this cause.

DISPOSAL OF LARGE ITEMS

For town residents only, on Saturday, October 5, 2013 from 8 a.m. to noon, you will be able to drop off your large items for recycling. Dumpsters will be available in the Town Hall parking lot and you will need to unload your items into the dumpster. Large items include furniture, mattresses, carpet, water softeners, humidifiers but NOT dehumidifiers, small amount of wood products (cabinet or scrap wood), sinks, toilets, etc. We can't accept appliances, construction materials, stone, concrete, sod, large auto parts, tree limbs, branches, leaves, grass or stumps. A reminder that hazardous materials (paint, pesticides, petroleum products such as oil and solvents and explosives) are not accepted either but you can drop these off at the Clean Sweep program off of Fish Hatchery Road in Madison. If you are not sure about an item, please call us ahead of time and we will check with Waste Management if it is acceptable. There will be another opportunity in the fall for dropping off large items as this event will take place twice a year.



SHARING THE ROAD WITH FARM EQUIPMENT

The Dane County Sheriff's Office often talks about "sharing the road", and while most of the time we think of bicyclists and pedestrians, this time of year farm equipment should be included in that list.



We ask that motorist show courtesy and respect during the planting and harvest seasons by sharing the road with agricultural equipment. Farmers have the same rights and responsibilities as operators of motor vehicles.

To share the road safely, slow down as soon as you see farm equipment. With a recent law change, drivers may pass a slow-moving vehicle in a no passing zone if the slow moving vehicle is traveling at less than one-half of the posted speed limit and the passing can be completed safely. Do not attempt to pass a slow-moving vehicle if you cannot see clearly in front of the vehicle you are trying to pass. When attempting to pass, drivers should be alert, focused and patient.

For their part, farmers and other operators of slow-moving vehicles must follow safety regulations. According to state law, farm tractors, agricultural implements, animal-drawn vehicles or other vehicles that are normally operated at speeds below 25 miles-per-hour must display a "Slow Moving Vehicle" (SMV) sign on the left rear of the vehicle. In all cases—even when the vehicle is not a SMV—if it is operated during hours of darkness, the front and rear of the vehicle must have lights (white to the front, red to the rear) and the lights must be illuminated. A citation for failure to display a SMV sign or a violation of the lighting requirement each costs \$162.70.

Vehicles traveling slower than normal traffic must stay as far to the right-side of the roadway as practical. This does not mean slow vehicles must drive on the shoulder of the road although this is allowed if there is room to do so safely.

Those who travel frequently on rural roads know that they can present many challenges, when encountering farm equipment, caution, common sense, and patience will go a long way.