



Newsletter

CITY ALDERMEN

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CITY DEPARTMENTS

City Clerk (262) 569-2175

Economic Dev. (262) 569-2185

Finance (262) 569-2170

Fire Department (262) 569-6428

Human Resources (262) 569-3225

Library (262) 569-2193

Parks, Rec. & Forestry (262) 569-2199

Planning & Zoning (262) 569-2166

Police Department (262) 567-4401

Electric & Water Utility (262) 569-2196

Wastewater (262) 569-2192

Public Works (262) 569-2189

From Our Staff to Your Home

We hope you find this inaugural city newsletter informational and helpful. Our goal is to provide important information briefly for our residents. Staff have shared information important to their departments that you may commonly seek, or may not have come across yet.

The city aims to provide a newsletter distributed in the Parks, Recreation and Forestry recreation guide mailed bi-annually to city residents.

We will also have extra newsletters available at City Hall, the Community Center and the library.

We hope you find this newsletter useful and if you have suggestions, please let us know.



- Diane Gard, City Administrator

Stay Informed



Sign-up for email and text messages from our Events Calendar and News and Announcements directly from our website through 'Notify Me:' <http://www.oconomowoc-wi.gov/list.aspx>



Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Oconomowoc.WI>



Follow us on Twitter @ WI_Oconomowoc



Watch us on YouTube ~ Oconomowoc, WI

Oconomowoc ... There's an App for that

The Official City of Oconomowoc Smartphone App has been launched! The city-wide application makes community information readily available to our residents and visitors. The App will be used on mobile devices to share: Things To Do, Events, Shopping, Dining, Entertainment & Lodging, as well as news and announcements for the Oconomowoc community.



The App will act as a comprehensive communication tool for the community to access information from the City of Oconomowoc, School District, organizations and also area businesses.

Please search for City of Oconomowoc to download the App today available for both android and apple devices.

Fall / Winter Calendar of Events

- Every Sat. May - Oct.....Farmer's Market - Downtown
- August 13th.....Moonlit Movies
- August 15th - 16th.....Oconomowoc Festival of the Arts
- August 15th.....Light up the Lake Boat Parade
- August 15th.....Festival Week Fireworks
- August 19th.....Legion Band Concert
- August 21st.....Friday Night Concert
- September 11th.....9-11 Remembrance Concert
- September 12th.....Fall Festival
- September 12th.....Moolit Movies - Adult Night Out
- October 31st.....Halloween Parade
- October 31st.....Trick or Treating
- November 6th.....Fall Gallery Night - Downtown
- November 27th-29th.....German Christmas Market
- December 5th.....Holiday Open House - Downtown
- December 5th.....Christmas Parade



Sign-up for our Events Calendar Notifications:
<http://www.oconomowoc-wi.gov/list.aspx>

Too many Things to Remember?

Save time and money by signing up for free recurring automatic payment of your utility bill from your checking and savings bank account. No more writing checks or paying postage. You will still receive your monthly bill in the mail to monitor your utility usage and efficiency.



The form is available at City Hall or on the city's website. You can also call (262) 569-2198 to have the application mailed to you.

When are my Taxes Due?

Property taxes may be paid in full or through the installment plan using the due dates below. If you choose to pay by mail, it must be postmarked by the Post Office on or before the due date and received within 5 business days of the due date to be considered paid on time.

If you do not pay by the installment due dates, the entire remaining balance becomes immediately due and is subject to interest and penalties (1.5% per month), retroactive to Feb. 1, 2016.

REAL ESTATE TAX DUE DATES	
1st installment	January 31, 2016
2nd installment	April 30, 2016
3rd installment	July 31, 2016
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	
<i>Payment is due in full by Jan. 31, 2016 (Installment plan is not available)</i>	

Is your pet licensed?

Remember that pet licenses for all pets over 5 months old are required by state law and expire on Dec. 31 of each year. Veterinarians do not issue licenses, but can provide proof of rabies certificate needed to obtain a license.

Max 3 licensed animals per household. Check out our website for more information.

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY

(262) 569-2199 • www.oconomowoc-wi.gov/parks

Hold Your Next Gathering in a City Park

City of Oconomowoc park shelters are the perfect spot for your next graduation party, family reunion, birthday party or any other gathering.

The first day you can reserve a shelter for 2016 is Jan. 2, 2016. The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department opens at 8 a.m. and staff will take reservations on a first-come, first-serve basis beginning Jan. 2.

RESERVATION AREAS		
Location	Fee	Amenities
Fowler Park Capacity: 125	\$100/day	Restrooms, electric, water, trash, picnic tables, grill
Roosevelt Park Capacity: 200 total	\$100/day per half of shelter or \$200 full shelter	Restrooms, electric, water, trash, picnic tables, grill
Riverside Park Capacity: 40	\$75/day	Restrooms, electric, water, trash, picnic tables, grill
Roosevelt volleyball court shelter Capacity: 40	\$100/day	Trash, picnic tables
Roosevelt Areas 1, 2 and 3 Capacity: 150	\$25/day per picnic area	Picnic tables, trash, grill
<i>A \$50 fee does apply to all reservations if you are not a City of Oconomowoc resident</i>		

Enjoy Recreation Programming All Year

The Oconomowoc Recreation Department offers programming for all ages throughout the year at the Community Center and other sites. Check out our webpage for the amazing program selection and registration.

The department publishes a recreation guide bi-annually. The spring-summer guide is mailed to all city residences around March and the fall-winter guide is mailed around August of each year.



Fowler Park Shelter



Riverside Park Shelter

Host Your Birthday Party, Meeting at the Oconomowoc Community Center

The Oconomowoc Community Center is a great location to hold smaller gatherings such as birthday parties and business meetings. Enjoy the view of the lake and the spacious upper hall. We provide tables, chairs and do setup and cleanup.

Plan your child's next birthday party here with one of our instructors. We offer two-hour birthday parties which include one hour of art, gymnastic, or music instruction and one hour for cake and gifts. Cost is just \$150 for city residents. Call (262) 569-2190 for more information on reserving space at the Community Center.

UTILITY DEPARTMENT

(262) 569-2196 • www.oconomowoc-wi.gov/utilities

Are the Lights on? Let us know

The days are starting to become noticeably shorter and with that, the street lights in your area are coming on sooner. Have you noticed a problem with one in your neighborhood or on your way home?

If you see a street light that is not working properly such as blinking or “cycling” or if it is simply broken or not working at all, please reach out to us so we can address the problem.

Call (262) 569-2196, or if you prefer, you may also report a problem online at www.oconomowoc-wi.gov and click the Public Utilities electric icon for a link to the Report an Outage form.

What to do During a Utility Emergency

Do you know how to reach us in the event of a power outage or utility emergency? Occasionally power outages and main breaks occur. Weather, traffic accidents, construction accidents and equipment failure can all result in loss of Utilities. Whatever the cause, our crews will work to restore your power as quickly as possible.

To report an emergency, call (262) 569-2196 between 7:30 am and 4 pm, Monday-Friday or (262) 567-4401 after hours.



Heating Bill Help for Those Who Need It

With the heating season fast approaching, is it time to consider assistance with your utility bills?

If you are concerned that costs to heat your home will be prohibitive, you may want to look into Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP). Operating with federal and state funding, the WHEAP program provides assistance for qualified individuals and families to help cover heating costs, electric costs, and energy crisis situations.

For more information on the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) and how to apply, please call 1-866-HEATWIS (432-8947) or visit our webpage.

Exchange your Old Holiday Lights for New LEDs

This December Oconomowoc Utilities will again be sponsoring a Holiday Light exchange in 2015.

Oconomowoc Utilities customers may exchange 1 strand of old, inefficient holiday lights for a new strand of LEDs. Simply bring your old set and a paid Oconomowoc Utilities bill to City Hall during normal business hours and we'll give you a new strand of LEDs for free.



Utilities Offers Annual Scholarship

Did you know that Oconomowoc Utilities and their partner Wisconsin Public Power Inc. offer an annual scholarship?

Eligible candidates are Oconomowoc Area students whose parents or guardians are Oconomowoc Utilities customers.

The purpose of the program is to increase awareness of the benefits of public power, requiring an essay be submitted regarding the subject.

Early in each calendar year the department reaches out to the Oconomowoc area schools and posts on the City website details regarding scholarship submission.

The 2015 scholarships were awarded to Logan Wonn and Brayden Dawson as the 2014-15 school year.

~ Congratulations to our Winners!

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

(262) 569-2166 • www.oconomowoc-wi.gov/planning

What are They Building Over There?

The City is abuzz with new projects underway. With the improving economy, development has picked up in both residential and commercial projects.

Development Update

- **Prairie Creek Ridge** – Single-Family Homes, north of Lake Drive, west of CTH P, under construction.
- **Pine Ridge Estates** – Single-Family Homes, north of Lisbon Road, west of CTH P, under construction.
- **The Glen of Oconomowoc** – 2 & 4 family condominiums, north side of Lisbon Road, west of CTH P, under construction.
- **Gateway Apartments** – 42 units, at the roundabout in Downtown, under construction.
- **Retreat at Prairie Creek** – 144 apartments, north side of Lisbon Road, west of CTH P. Going for approvals.
- **Qdoba Restaurant** – Valley Road and Summit Avenue, near Brennan's. Approved.
- **Starbucks** – New stand alone building in Pabst Farms. Going for approvals.

Recently Approved Businesses

The City continues to fill vacant buildings with new businesses. Here is a sample of new approved businesses.

- **Moon Lite Grill** – Summit Center Marketplace
- **Oil Well** – 31 S. Main Street
- **Reflexology Station & Massage** – Summit Center Marketplace
- **Hops & Leisure** – 1225 Robruck Drive
- **Crafty Cow** – 153 E. Wisconsin Avenue

Outdoor Dining

Want to dine outside? Planning recently approved several outdoor patios, including the following.

- **Moon Lite Grill** – Summit Center Marketplace
- **Buca** – 515 E. Wisconsin Avenue
- **Hops & Leisure** – 1225 Robruck Drive
- **Mazatlan** – 511 E. Wisconsin Avenue



The Glen of Oconomowoc: Under Construction



Outdoor seating is very popular in the City of Oconomowoc

Boat and Camper Storage

Want to store your boat or camper on your property? The City requires these to be parked in the rear or side yard, a minimum of 5' from the property line. No parking in the front or street side yard unless parked on a designated driveway parking space.



City Steps out of its Boundaries to work in the Entire Watershed

The City of Oconomowoc is spearheading a long term, unprecedented watershed project for the Oconomowoc river basin.

This unique, innovative program is known as the Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program, (OWPP) and is being implemented within the structure of a new DNR watershed improvement program aimed at phosphorous reduction called "Adaptive Management." The City has selected this innovative approach after determining it is clearly advantageous from an environmental and economic standpoint. A federal grant from the Department of Agriculture has also been awarded to the City to help offset the costs over the first five years of the 15-year project. This Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) grant was announced in January and was one of only three grants awarded in Wisconsin and 105 across the U.S. This speaks well for the City's program as over 600 applicants nationwide were considered.

RCPP's historic focus on public-private partnerships enables private companies, local communities and other non-government partners a way to invest in efforts to keep our land resilient and water clean, and promote economic growth in agriculture, construction, tourism and outdoor recreation, and other industries.

Over 30 "Partners" made up of public and private entities, lake management districts, and local government agencies have already joined the OWPP. Two of these partners, Tall Pines Conservancy and Ruckert and Mielke Inc., have combined efforts with the City to steer the program to significant progress and recognition since its inception in early 2014.

The project will encompass an area 89,000 acres in size, 49 miles in length, including 17 lakes and two Class 1 Trout Streams, three impaired tributary streams and three lakes which have pending impaired status. The City holds the only treatment plant WPDES Permit in the watershed and operates a 4.0 MGD Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility for the City, surrounding communities, and lake properties.

For more information, contact Tom Steinbach at (262) 569-2192 or e-mail at tsteinbach@oconomowoc-wi.gov.



The Paddling for Clean Water Event was held June 13th 2015 on the Oconomowoc River raise awareness for the Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program (OWPP).



Free Group Tours

Did you know that the City of Oconomowoc Wastewater Treatment Plant gives tours of the facility? Yes we do and there is no charge. The Oconomowoc Wastewater Treatment Facility offers tours by appointment and can be tailored to time constraints and age group.

Tours are offered Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and should be scheduled at least two weeks in advance. To schedule, please call Tom Steinbach at (262) 569-2192.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(262) 569-2189 • www.oconomowoc-wi.gov/dpw

New Service Saves Money

Since January when the new automated refuse and recycling pick up began, there was an immediate savings on residents' tax bill of \$60 along with an increase in recycling. With the single-stream system residents were able to recycle 516 tons of material in the first four months of 2015. This is an amazing 240 tons more than the same time period in 2014; an 87% increase!

Hazardous Waste Collection

Household Hazardous Waste collection is Saturday, Sept. 12 at 630 Worthington St. 8 a.m. – noon. For a list of acceptable items visit: www.waukeshtown.gov/recycling.

Winter Weather Reminders

The City requires that all property owners remove snow and ice from the public sidewalk within 24 hours after it has stopped snowing and/or after a thaw/freeze event.

When removing the snow and ice...

- Snow and ice cannot be deposited onto any portion of the street and or a driveway that is private or public, except for the owner's private property. This includes pushing the snow onto or across a public street.
- Shovel the public sidewalk on all sides of your property for the full width of the walk down to bare pavement.
- If you have a handicapped crossing along your public sidewalk adjacent to your property make sure that the handicapped ramps and curb crossings are cleared to their full width and are accessible.
- When ice has formed, the owner or occupant need to treat the sidewalk with a material which prevents it from being dangerous to pedestrians.
- Clear snow to your mailbox, if you have a curbside mailbox, keep the approach and exit to your curbside mailbox clear. Otherwise delivery and collection of mail may be hindered. The plows get as close as possible but it is the responsibility of the property owners to keep it clear.
- Take time to clear accumulated snow around the hydrant nearest to your home or business. You will be assisting the Fire and Water departments and the house you save might be your own.



Please Don't Rake into the Street

As fall approaches please remember that any raking or blowing leaves into the street is prohibited. This causes backups in the storm sewers which can also lead to flooding. Everything going into our storm sewers drains directly to our lakes.

Once leaves and grass clippings end up in our waters they release nutrients that accelerate the growth of algae. This results in a greenish tinted lake with foul smelling dying algae that can kill fish and generally make water recreation an unpleasant experience.

Mulching is an excellent alternative and the nutrients released actually improve our lawns. We are surrounded by beautiful lakes and know we all want to help in keeping our City an amazing place to live.



Free Wi-Fi, E-Books and Programs at the Library

The Oconomowoc Public Library is proud to be your source for free access to books, movies, music, wi-fi, e-books, and programs for all ages!

Get your free library card at the checkout desk with your photo ID and proof of current address. You can use your library card at 16 libraries in Waukesha County and use the online resources available for library patrons:

- E-books and MP3 audiobooks - Access thousands of audiobooks and e-books and stream movies right to your e-reader, tablet, or smartphone. Visit the library's website and click "Download e-books, audiobooks, video."
- Gale Courses - Free, instructor-led 6-week classes. More than 300 courses to choose from, and new classes begin every month. The course catalog includes accounting, weight loss, computer skills, and more.
- Transparent Languages Online - Learn one of hundreds of languages, from Afrikaans to Zulu.
- Flipster - Read your favorite magazines online. Hundreds of titles are available for just about any area of interest.
- Consumer Reports - Research before you make an important purchase! Click on "Helpful Links" on the library's homepage.
- Genealogy - The library's reference staff is well-versed in genealogy, and there are free genealogy databases including Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest Online.

Homebound? You can have library materials delivered to you and picked up by volunteers. For more information, call (262) 569-2193.

2016 Election Dates

Feb. 16, 2016 - Spring Primary (if necessary)
April 5, 2016 - Spring/Presidential Preference
Aug. 9, 2016 - Partisan Primary (if necessary)
Nov. 8, 2016 - General Election (Presidential)



Photo ID

It's the law. You must now provide photo ID when you vote at the polls or before Election Day if voting absentee. Don't Have Photo ID? You may obtain a free identification card from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Division of Motor Vehicles. The DMV will require you to present documents in order to obtain the WI identification card. Visit the DMV website for a list: <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/dmv/license-drivs/how-to-apply/id-card.aspx>

Have you Moved Since you Last Voted?

You can check voting information at the State of Wisconsin Government Accountability Board (GAB) website, <https://myvote.wi.gov/>. You will be able to see if you are registered, at which address, where your polling place is and your voting history. If your information is incorrect, you will need to re-register. To do this, please come into the Clerk's Office at City Hall and fill out a form or download one from our website.

Interested in being an Election Inspector?

If you are a people-person and are interested in helping out with our local elections, the City of Oconomowoc needs you.

Please contact the City Clerk, (262) 569-2175 for more information on becoming an election inspector.

The Expanded Library System Means More for You!

On January 1 2016, the borders of the Waukesha County Federated Library System will expand to include eight public libraries in Jefferson County enabling library users in Waukesha and Jefferson counties to access items from 24 libraries.

You will have more titles to choose from on our online catalog. Please contact Library Director Betsy Bleck at (262) 569-2193, extension 207 if you have questions about your new-and-improved library system!