## TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE ANNUAL REPORT AND NEWSLETTER

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018

Kris Hampton Mike Fonger Town Chair Supervisor 1

Steven Anders Kristi Williams
Supervisor 2 Supervisor 3

Mike DuPlayee Beth Gilpin

Supervisor 4 Municipal Judge

Kim Banigan Debra Abel

Town Clerk Town Treasurer

Beverly Homburg Jeff Smith/Daniel Dresen Deputy Clerk Highway Superintendent

Cyndi Peck Jude Wolf/Nick Archibald

Court Clerk Fire Chief

Jeff Matcha/Lisa Antoniewicz EMS Chief/Interim Chief

#### **Important Upcoming Events:**

**April 2:** Spring Election

**April 16:** Annual Town Meeting (p. 3)

**May 1-May 2:** Annual Curbside E-waste Collection (p. 46)

#### **Contact Us:**

Phone: 608-839-5021 · Fax: 608-839-4432

web site: www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov

Email: <u>clerk@towncg.net</u>

Mail: 4058 County Road N

Cottage Grove, WI 53527

2018 Population Estimate: 3895

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# Tentative Agenda\* Annual Town Meeting – April 16, 2019

#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Town Meeting for the Electors of the Town of Cottage Grove will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall located at 4058 County Road N in the Town of Cottage Grove, Dane County, Wisconsin. All residents and interested parties are invited to attend.

#### Agenda for the Town Meeting

- I. Call to Order
- II. Flag Pledge
- III. Approval of minutes of last year's Annual Town Meeting
- IV. Additions to agenda by Electors
- V. Presentation of the 2018 Annual Town Financial Statements
- VI. Introduction of new Fire and EMS Chiefs
- VII. Discuss Town Roads as ATV Routes
- VIII. Set date for next year's Annual Town Meeting
- IX. Other Business
- X. Adjournment

BY: Kris Hampton, Chairman

\*The final agenda will be posted on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall and on the Town's web site. This is the one meeting that allows for agenda items to be added during the meeting, so if there is something you would like to discuss with your fellow Town electors, come prepared to bring it up under item IV above.

NOTE: If you require an interpreter, materials in alternative formats, or other accommodations to access this meeting, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

# **Finance Report**

# **Statement of Taxes Levied – 2018 Tax Year**

State Taxes	0.00
County Taxes	1,472,116.92
Local Assessment	1,547,115.00
Deerfield School District	609,197.96
Marshall School District	48,804.00
McFarland School District	102,094.00
Monona Grove School District	4,242,185.00
Stoughton School District	391,890.45
Sun Prairie School District	3,775.00
Vocational School	395,452.52
Underrun/Overrun	-0.56
Refuse and Recycling Collection	241,054.56
Street Lighting	821.70
Private Septic Maintenance	12,926.97
Lottery Credit Penalty	0.00
Omitted Property Taxes (from previous years)	0.00
Managed Forest Lands	345.40
TOTAL LEVY	9,067,778.92

# Statement of Assessment – January 1, 2018

REAL ESTATE	LAND	IMPROVEMENTS	TOTAL
Residential	105,978,000	240,752,000	346,730,000
Commercial	3,903,900	13,157,700	17,061,600
Manufacturing	830,000	278,500	1,108,500
Agriculture	2,742,400		2,742,400
Undeveloped	1,395,800		1,395,800
Ag. Forest	2,292,100		2,292,100
Forest Lands	1,048,900		1,048,900
Other	7,547,300	14,606,000	22,153,300
DEDCONAL	LOCALLY		
PERSONAL PROPERTY	ASSESSED	MANUFACTURING	MERGED
FROFERIT	842,500	7,100	849,600
TOTAL ASSESS	ED VALUE		395,382,200

#### **Explanation of 2018 Tax Bills**

The following is a breakdown of mill rates along with an explanation of how tax bills are calculated and where your tax dollars go. The example is for property in the Monona Grove School District.

	Mill	Assessed	Net
	Rates	Value	Tax
Town of Cottage Grove	3.91	200,000.00	782.59
Dane County	3.72	200,000.00	744.66
State of Wisconsin	0.00	200,000.00	0.00
Monona Grove School District	14.13	200,000.00	2,826.00
MATC	1.00	200,000.00	200.00
School Tax Credit	(2.65)	200,000.00	(530.00)
Mill Rate Total	20.12	_	4,023.25
First Dollar Credit		-	(89.94)
Lottery & Gaming Credit			(218.44)
Private Septic Maintenance Fee			8.67
Garbage/Recycling Collection Fee			164.88
Net Property Tax			3,888.42

#### Tax rates by school district:

School district Property lies within	School Mill Rate	Local Mill Rate*	State School Credit	Total Mill Rate	Max. Lottery Credit	Max. First Dollar Credit
Deerfield #1309	12.10	8.64	-2.65	18.09	187.02	77.01
Marshall #3332	11.61	8.64	-2.65	17.60	179.52	73.92
McFarland #3381	13.17	8.64	-2.65	19.16	203.66	83.86
Monona Grove #3675	14.13	8.64	-2.65	20.12	218.44	89.94
Stoughton #5621	12.05	8.64	-2.65	18.04	186.25	76.69
Sun Prairie #5656	13.27	8.64	-2.65	19.26	205.16	84.48

<sup>\*</sup> Local Taxes include: State \$0, Dane County: \$3.72, Town \$3.91, Vocational School \$1.00.

The garbage/recycling charge is \$164.88/residence.

The Private Septic Maintenance Fee is \$8.67/septic system.

#### Refund of tax overpayments of property tax

Escrowing of property taxes often results in overpayment of property taxes. TCG ord. sec. 22.09, adopted on March 18, 2019, provides that overpayments under \$2.00 will not be refunded unless requested in writing by the taxpayer. All other overpayments will be mailed to the parties shown on the tax bill shortly after the Town Treasurer's first installment tax settlement with the Dane County Treasurer.

# Statement of 2018 Revenues and Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances

	<b>#1 550 500 00</b>
Taxes	\$1,559,788.20
Intergovernmental Revenue	321,552.07
Licenses and Permits	81,011.27
Fines, Forfeiture and Penalties	27,035.55
Public Charges For Services	242,150.49
Intergovernmental Charges	167,515.78
Investment Income	38,284.47
Miscellaneous Income	40,396.68
Total Revenue	\$2,477,734.51
Expenditures	_
General Government	\$357,861.05
Public Safety	658,491.91
Public Works	1,185,141.51
Culture, Education, Recreation	5,641.14
Health and Human Services	6,206.00
Conservation and Development	5,320.00
Capital Outlay	328,358.76
Debt Service	,
Principal	21,637.39
Interest	4,070.13
Total Expenditures	\$2,572,727.89
Excess of Revenue Over Expenditures	(\$94,993.38)
Other Financing Sources	
Property Sales - Highway Equipment	\$52,500.00
Property Sales - Fire Equipment	\$3,000.00
Liberty Cemetery Funds Revenue	800.00
Total Other Financing Sources	\$56,300.00
Net Change In Fund Balance	(\$38,693.38)
Fund Balance - Beginning	\$1,140,327.00
Fund Balance - Ending	\$1,101,633.62
Indebtedness Beginning of Year	\$334,077.00
Indebtedness End of Year	\$326,801.00

# 2018 Actual vs. Budget Actual

	Actual	Budget
Revenue		
Taxes		
Local Taxes	\$1,553,275.83	\$1,553,275.00
Village Annexation	\$6,512.37	\$6,512.37
Total Taxes	\$1,559,788.20	\$1,559,787.37
Intergovernmental		
State Shared Revenue	55,676.43	55,634.04
State Aid - Fire Insurance	15,331.45	15,700.00
State Aid - Transportation	176,401.13	176,541.25
State Aid - In Lieu Of Forest Lands	225.68	220.00
Environmental Impact Fees	232.00	232.00
State Aid - Croplands / Forest	301.25	200.00
State Aid - Recycling	7,423.83	7,400.00
State Aid - Highway and Bridges	14,114.46	14,114.46
Landfill Compensation Fee	51,639.84	50,600.00
County Aid - Veterans Graves	206.00	202.00
Total Intergovernmental Revenue	\$321,552.07	\$320,843.75
Licenses and Permits		
Business and Occupy License	\$3,885.00	\$3,800.00
Driveway Permit	1,350.00	
Dog License	1,441.75	1,500.00
<b>Building Permit and Inspection</b>	29,580.82	35,000.00
Zoning Permits and Fees	2,775.00	3,500.00
Cable Franchise Fee	37,331.70	
Right-of-Way Permits	3,727.00	1,700.00
Mining Permits	900.00	900.00
Overweight Permit	20.00	
Total Licenses and Permits	\$81,011.27	\$46,400.00

	Actual	Budget
Fines, Forfeiture and Penalties		
Law and Ordinance Violation	\$27,035.55	\$30,000.00
Total Fines, Forfeiture and Penalties	\$27,035.55	\$30,000.00
Public Charges For Services		
Refuse Collection / Curbside	\$155,335.43	\$155,102.00
Recycling Charges	78,192.16	78,090.00
Title Search	1,425.00	1,500.00
Highway Maintenance	4,858.80	4,693.80
Street Lighting Fees	582.30	585.00
Parks	(1.30)	
Development Funds	854.65	
Other Charges	903.45	
Total Public Charges For Services	\$242,150.49	\$239,970.80
Intergovernmental Charges		
Fire Services	\$121,919.41	\$128,216.64
Emergency Building Maintenance	31,042.34	34,112.40
Landfill	10,450.89	8,000.00
Flynn Hall	3,514.18	4,333.33
Emergency Government	588.96	750.00
Total Intergovernmental Charges	\$167,515.78	\$175,412.37
Investment Income		
Interest Income	\$37,822.07	\$10,000.00
Interest on Special Assessments/Charges	462.40	250.00
Total Investment Income	\$38,284.47	\$10,250.00
Miscellaneous Income		
Rent	\$23,199.40	\$22,468.50
Dividends	282.33	250.00
Insurance Recoveries	5,860.47	5,860.47

	Actual	Budget
Insurance Refunds	3,217.00	
Other Miscellaneous	7,837.48	400.00
Total Miscellaneous Income	\$40,396.68	\$28,978.97
Total Revenue	\$2,477,734.51	\$2,411,643.26
Expenditures		
General Government		
Town Board	\$24,448.44	\$30,677.00
Planning Committee	1,382.10	2,153.00
Town Planner	1,353.25	8,000.00
Emergency Government	2,317.38	2,827.88
Clerk / Secretarial	60,235.44	67,836.36
Treasurer	32,070.48	32,859.71
Assessor	9,594.67	9,685.92
Judicial	18,853.55	22,954.22
Legal	32,289.50	48,000.00
Elections	8,720.18	9,000.00
Accounting	13,179.33	12,425.00
Property & Liability Insurance	25,410.00	27,853.35
Town Hall	9,309.45	13,500.00
Flynn Hall	5,993.97	10,000.00
Emergency Building	107,694.92	127,833.05
4091 CTH N Maintenance	5,008.39	3,997.97
Total General Government	\$357,861.05	\$429,603.46
Public Safety		
Law Enforcement	\$371,218.32	\$439,742.80
Fire Protection	101,431.67	172,555.00
EMS	157,455.52	157,455.52
Fire Inspection	2,276.79	1,937.70

	Actual	Budget
Building Inspection	26,109.61	30,000.00
Total Public Safety	\$658,491.91	\$801,691.02
Public Works		
Highway Maintenance	\$466,574.11	\$499,557.71
Highway Construction	440,554.18	412,458.24
Non-Hwy Maintenance	20,453.74	22,279.32
Garbage and Refuse Collection	155,782.44	155,102.00
Recycling	78,328.32	78,090.00
Landfill	23,448.72	18,650.00
Total Public Works	\$1,185,141.51	\$1,186,137.27
Culture, Education, Recreation		
Parks	\$5,641.14	\$9,000.00
Total Culture, Education, Recreation	\$5,641.14	\$9,000.00
Health and Human Services		
Colonial Club	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Veterans Graves	206.00	202.00
Total Health and Human Services	\$6,206.00	\$6,202.00
Conservation and Development		
Yahara Wins Pilot Project	\$5,320.00	\$5,320.00
Total Conservation and Development	\$5,320.00	\$5,320.00
Capital Outlay		
Fire Protection Equipment	190,157.72	190,157.72
Highway Equipment	\$108,701.04	\$108,000.00
Highway Building	29,500.00	0.00
Total Capital Outlay	\$328,358.76	\$298,157.72
Debt Service		
Principal	\$21,637.39	\$21,643.58
Interest	4,070.13	3,590.00

	Actual	Budget
Total Debt Service	\$25,707.52	\$25,233.58
Total Expenditures	\$2,572,727.89	\$2,761,345.05
Deficiency of Revenue Over Expenditures	(\$94,993.38)	(\$349,701.79)
Other Financing Sources		
Property Sales - Highway Equipment	\$52,500.00	\$30,000.00
Property Sales - Fire Dept Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Liberty Cemetery Funds Revenue	800.00	800.00
Total Other Financing Sources	\$56,300.00	\$30,800.00
Net Change In Fund Balance	(\$38,693.38)	(\$318,901.79)

# **2019 Budget Summary**

General Fund	
Revenue	
General Town Property Tax	\$1,553,627
Intergovernmental Revenue	308,016
Licenses and Permits	84,400
Fines, Forfeiture and Penalties	30,000
Public Charges for Services	243,799
Intergovernmental Charges	105,125
Pleasant Springs Fire Revenue	63,125
Investment Income	20,300
Miscellaneous Income	23,608
Total Revenue	\$2,432,000
Expenditures	ψ=,::==,::::
General Government	\$328,143
Public Safety	776,716
Pleasant Springs Fire Expense	63,125
Public Works	1,742,596
Culture, Education, Recreation	9,000
Health and Human Services	6,206
Conservation and Development	5,320
Capital Outlay	119,900
Debt Service	115,500
Principal Repayment	304,385
Interest and Fiscal Charges	4,410
Total Expenditures	\$3,359,800
Deficiency of Revenues Over Expenditures	(\$927,800)
Other Financing Sources	(4)=1,000)
Property Sales	\$29,000
Proceeds from Long-Term Debt	898,000
Liberty Cemetery Revenue	800
Total Other Financing Sources	\$927,800
Net Change in General Fund Balances	\$0
Liberty Cemetery Fund	**
Revenue	\$100
Expenditures	800
Deficiency of Revenues Over Expenditures	(\$700)
Highway Expenditures per mile	\$23,578
Projected December 31, 2019 Fund Balances	. ,
General Fund	\$1,026,087
Liberty Cemetery Fund	\$2,456
Indebtedness	\$920,417
Town Levy	1,547,115
Assessed Value	395,382,200
Town Mill Rate (per \$1,000)	3.9130

#### **Treasurer's Notes**

The financial reports are designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about these reports or need additional financial information, contact the Town's Treasurer at <a href="mailto:treasurer@towncg.net">treasurer@towncg.net</a> or 608-839-5021 ext. 33.

#### 2018 Late Lottery Credit

If you did not receive a lottery credit on your property tax bill and think you are eligible, you can still claim the credit. You may claim the lottery and gaming credit for 2018 taxes, payable in 2019, if, on January 1, 2018, you were the owner of the property and used the property as your primary residence. To claim the credit, complete and submit the 2018 Late Lottery and Gaming Credit Application (Form LC-300) along with a copy of your 2018 property tax bill to Wisconsin Dept of Revenue prior to October 1, 2019.

Please keep in mind that if this property continues to qualify for the lottery credit, you must also complete a Lottery and Gaming Credit Application (Form LC-100) and file with Dane County Treasurer's Office, so the credit may be applied to your future property tax bills.

For additional information and to obtain Lottery and Gaming Credit applications, contact the Wisconsin Department of Revenue or their web site. <a href="http://www.revenue.wi.gov/forms/lottery/index.html">http://www.revenue.wi.gov/forms/lottery/index.html</a>.

# Town now accepts credit and debit cards



As a convenience to our residents, the Town of Cottage Grove accepts payment for court fines, most permits, licenses and other miscellaneous charges through GovPayNet®. Beginning in December 2019, property tax payments will also be included.

Payments may be made with a major credit, debit or prepaid debit card, including:

MasterCard

VISA

AVIERICAN

EXPRESS

DISCOVER

CARDS

CARDS

Cardholders pay a service fee at the time of their transaction. There are no charges to the Town of Cottage for participation in the GovPayNet® service.

For more information, see <a href="http://payments.towncg.net">http://payments.towncg.net</a>.

#### DRAFT Minutes of Annual Town Meeting – April 17, 2018

- I. The meeting was called to order by Town Chair Kris Hampton at 7:00 P.M. Town Clerk Kim Banigan recorded the minutes, and Attorney Susan Allen provided legal counsel. Treasurer Debra Abel was also present. A list of other attendees is available in the Town Clerk's Office. There were a total of 14 Town Electors who signed in.
- II. Flag Pledge.
- III. The minutes of last year's Annual Town Meeting were available in printed form. There was no reading of the minutes. **MOTION** by Kristi Williams/Mike DuPlayee to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2017 Annual Town Meeting as printed. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE**.
- IV. Additions to agenda by Electors:
  - A. Dog Park
  - B. Monona Grove School District Referendum
  - C. Recognition of former Fire Chief and Assistant Chief
  - D. Recognition of 45 years of service from Highway Superintendent Jeff Smith
  - E. Need by Deer-Grove EMS to replace cardiac monitors.
- V. Presentation of the 2017 Annual Town Financial Report: The 2017 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures was printed on the back side of the agenda. Jeff Osvog of Johnson Block and Company stated that the Town's financial statements have once again earned his firm's unmodified opinion that they fairly represent the Town's position in all material respects. He presented an overview of the Town's 2017 Financial Statements including the following highlights.
  - A. A summarized balance sheet showed total assets of \$3,398,733, largely comprised of cash and investments and taxes receivable, and total liabilities at \$470,773, including \$268,000 in short-term notes payable, which the Town has been using to fund road maintenance projects. The Town's total fund balance of \$1,140,327 is divided into five classes: Nonspendable (prepaid expenses and non-current receivables), Restricted (by a third party), Committed (sick leave liability), Assigned (by the Town board), and Unassigned. The Unassigned balance is 28% of budgeted

- expenses for 2018, which exceeds the Town's policy of 20-25%.
- B. A summarized income statement showed total revenues of \$2,473,688, which was about \$38,500 over budget. Other funding sources contributed \$16,500. Total expenditures were \$2,255,125, which was about \$193,500 under budget. Notable expenses that came in under budget included legal expenses, Emergency Services Building expenses, and law enforcement expenses. Net change in fund balance was \$235,113. General obligation debt totaled \$66,077, which is just .31% of the Town's debt capacity.
- C. Osvog used charts and graphs to illustrate revenue and expenditure categories and trends over the period of 2013-2017. Revenues are fairly consistent over the years, with a spike in Licenses and Permits in 2015 that corresponds to building permits issued for the County facility built at County AB and US Highway 12 & 18. A spike in Public Works expenditures in 2016 can be attributed to construction of Gaston Road related to the Village water main project. A 2015 spike in Capital Outlay corresponds to the purchase of a loader and truck. 2017 Revenues consisted of 63% taxes. 11.7% Intergovernmental, 11.6% Public Charges for Services, 6.5% Intergovernmental Charges for Services, 3.5% Licenses and Permits, 1.2% Fines, Forfeitures and Penalties, 1.7% Miscellaneous, 0.8% Investment Income. 2017 Expenditures were 51.1% Public Works, 30.3% Public Safety, 11.5% General Government, 4.3% Capital Outlay, 1.1% Debt Service, .3% Health and Human Services, .3% Conservation and Development and 1.1% Culture, Recreation and Education.
- VI. Update on policing of the Town by the Dane County Sheriff's Office: Lt. Gordon Bahler said that the deputies serving the Town over the past three years are all enjoying their roles in bringing the Sheriff's Office's vision of a safe community to the Town of Cottage Grove. He said our Town displays the most community pride of the Towns he serves. Deputies have on average responded to about 2500 calls for service each year, of which 1/3 to 1/2 are traffic related. The biggest crime sprees have been theft from unlocked autos and homes, which has been true throughout Dane County. In 2015 there were just 5 such cases in the Town, in 2017 there were 35. Lt. Bahler urged residents to

lock their cars, garages, and homes, and to take their garage door openers inside with them. Another growing concern is fraud cases. He gave an example of telemarketers asking for payment with items or debit cards for missing federal jury duty. Residents should report any suspected fraud to the Dane County Sheriff's Office, who will help them verify callers.

#### VII. Introduction of new Fire and EMS Chiefs:

- A. Hampton introduced Fire Chief Jude Wolf, who took office on January 1, 2018. Next month he will have been on the department for 20 years. Chief Wolf expressed his thanks to the community and to former Chief Bruce Boxrucker and Assistant Chief Tom Banigan for the legacy they left behind. He said his main responsibility is to protect the safety of the community and the 34 volunteer fire fighters. Efforts toward better and more training are under way, and more volunteers are needed.
- B. EMS Chief Jeff Matcha was not present. Hampton said he also took office on January 1, 2018, after former Chief Duane Erschen resigned to pursue other interests. Chief Matcha came from a position with MATC, and sits on State and County EMS Advisory Boards.
- VIII. Discuss speed limits on Town Roads and authority to change: Wisconsin Transportation Bulletin No. 21, Setting Speed Limits on Local Roads, was available in printed form as residents entered tonight's meeting. It outlines what statutory restrictions are placed on the Town's authority to change speed limits. Hampton reported that the Town Board recently reduced the speed limit on Vilas Road between Lane St. and Valley St. in response to a resident request. The County will soon perform a speed study on that segment to be sure the posted limit is the proper speed for that road under Chapters 349.11 and 346.57 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Joe Rauch, 4552 Vilas Road, stated that the new limit is a drastic improvement, and he came tonight to say thank you on behalf of his neighbors as well. Speed and noise are both reduced. Charles Roberts, 4364 Vilas Road, wondered if there will be future speed related problems on Vilas Road due to the anticipated development of the Widen property in the Village. Hampton said the Village Board has indicated they will work with the Town on this.
- IX. Dog Park: Discussion was that the former Natvig Landfill could

- be a possible site, however in the past neighbors have objected due to parking concerns. There is sufficient land around to add parking, but funding would be needed. Questions also arose regarding permitting and monitoring of the site. Suggestions were to see if the County would be willing to take it on as part of their dog park system.
- X. Monona Grove School District Referendum: Mike Fonger expressed concern over debt the school district is already carrying, and frustration that it was not mentioned in the survey as was suggested in a recent meeting between the school superintendent and Town Board members. He was also frustrated that the funding options on the survey did not include one to do nothing.
- XI. Recognition of former Fire Chief and Assistant Chief: The Town Chairman will send a letter of thanks to them both.
- XII. Recognition of 45 years of service from Highway Superintendent Jeff Smith: Hampton expressed thanks to Smith for all that he has done for the Town, and to make the job of the Town Chair easy over the years. There was a round of applause, and Hampton said there will be a retirement luncheon at noon on June 8th, Smith's last day with the Town.
- XIII. Need by Deer-Grove EMS to replace its very expensive cardiac monitors: The 12-lead monitors are discontinued and parts and service are becoming more difficult to come by. They are very expensive to replace, so donations from any group or individual would be appreciated.
- XIV. Set date for next year's Annual Town Meeting: The next Annual Town Meeting will be held beginning at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, April 16, 2019.
- XV. Adjournment: MOTION by Mike DuPlayee/Steve Anders to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 P.M.

Kim Banigan Clerk

## Town Board Chair's Annual Report

Early last year we learned that we would be losing an essential, valuable employee in our Public Works Department, Jeff Smith. Jeff had notified us of his intent to retire in June, after giving the Township 40+ years of service while maintaining our roads, parks, cemeteries, and Town buildings. Jeff had been in charge of seeing that the roads were taken care of throughout the year and passable in all weather conditions. He brought concerns about road conditions and assisted with determining budgetary needs to enhance and repair roads. He kept the parks and cemeteries trimmed and clean, and he was responsible for the Town's garage and sheds and the vehicles that were housed there. He knew the Town would need a well-trained replacement and before retiring, Jeff made sure that the new Highway Superintendent, Dan Dresen, was well acquainted with and trained in all of the responsibilities that Jeff had managed. Dan had been working for the Town for four years at that time, and he was eager for the challenge. The Town Board and its residents are grateful to Jeff for the work he performed and we thank him for his dedication to a job well done. We wish Jeff and Diane a long and happy retirement.

We had two additional vacancies in our Public Works Department, and by then Dan was responsible for recruiting and training two new hires. Those positions were filled in August with the hiring of Dan Anderson and Justin Madsen. The road crew is getting a lot of experience clearing our snowy roads this year!

We had an additional vacancy, this time in the EMS, in the position of EMS Chief. Eric Lang was hired and started with the Deer Grove EMS on January 2, 2019. Eric comes to us from the Sun Prairie EMS, and we're glad to have him in this important position.

In late 2018, the Town was notified that it had been awarded a grant from the State of Wisconsin for local bridges. This was in response to our application for replacement of the Femrite Road and Uphoff Road bridges. The grants will pay for 80% of the cost to design and construct the replacement structures. This process will begin in the spring of 2019, with construction and completion planned in 2021.

My report would be incomplete if I did not express our sincere thanks to all the men and women who make up our volunteer staff in the Town's EMS and Fire Departments. This fine group of men and women regularly give of their time and expertise to keep us safe and healthy. If you've ever wondered if there's a place for you in the EMS, or as a volunteer fire fighter, you can find contact information at the Town's web site.

Kris Hampton, Chairman, Town of Cottage Grove

#### Clerk's Notes

First of all, I would like to say thank you to the Town Board for approving an increase to my weekly work hours from 22.5 to 32.5 effective July 1, 2018. Not only does this provide me with more and uninterrupted time to address the ever growing duties of the clerk position, but it also allows me to offer afternoon appointments to those who need my undivided attention, or simply cannot get to the Town Hall during office hours. Feel free to call or email me if you are one of those people, and we will schedule a time that works.

#### **Updated Town web site Coming Soon**

Since 2004, the Town's web site has been hosted through the Wis. Dept. of Administration, and has served us well. However, while the WDOA municipal web sites are still operational, no updates have been offered. With this in mind, the Town Board approved a redesign of the Town's web site by Town Web Design, Inc., a company that boasts having over 80 decade long municipal customers. We are excited to use the new features our new site will offer, including a responsive design to adapt to a variety of devices and screen sizes, and improved notification services. The new site will be up very soon, if it isn't already by the time you receive this newsletter.

#### **2019 Elections**

April 2: Spring Election – Local and school district races along with Judicial and County Supervisor races.

Absentee voting in the Clerk's office is allowed during these hours:

March 11-27: 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., weekdays, and afternoons by appointment.

March 28: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. March 29: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Requests for mailed absentee ballots will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on Thursday March 28.

#### **Voter Registration/ Voter Photo ID**

If you are not registered to vote in the Town of Cottage Grove, you may do so on election day, but please be sure to bring along your proof of residence. All voters must show a photo ID before they can vote on election day or by absentee ballot. For more information voting, go to <a href="http://myvote.wi.gov">http://myvote.wi.gov</a>.

#### **ExpressVote® Universal Voting System**

The Town is pleased to offer a new option for voters to mark their ballots beginning with the 2019 Spring election. The Town Board approved the purchase of one ExpressVote® in 2019. This ballot marking device offers the following advantages:

- Eliminates marginal marks and the need for election officials to interpret voter intent.
- Makes every vote count by eliminating the possibility of over votes or cross over votes.
- Produces a verifiable paper record that is human and machine readable.
- Enables ADA voters to mark their ballot independently.
- Saves on costs by using blank card stock rather than more expensive, pre-printed ballots.
- Eliminates the worry of running out of pre-printed ballots.

Ballots marked by the ExpressVote® must still be deposited in the tabulator. The ExpressVote® only marks the ballot, it does not tabulate the votes. If you are interested in using this new technology at the Spring election, be sure to let poll workers know at the time your ballot is issued.

#### **Posting Locations for Town Notices**

Town notices are posted on the Town's web site at: <a href="http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov">http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov</a>, and on the indoor and outdoor bulletin boards at the Town Hall, 4058 County Road N. Meeting notices are typically posted by noon on the Friday preceding the meeting. In addition to the above locations, election related notices are also posted at Doubledays at 4586 Baxter Road, and Noras Tavern at 1843 US Highway 12 & 18. Notices required to be published will be published in the legal section of the Wisconsin State Journal.

#### Tax, Assessment and Zoning Answers Online

Dane County's property listing web site, Access Dane, contains property tax, assessment and zoning information, past and present, for all properties in Dane County. The integrated DCIMaps feature along with links to Google and Bing maps provide mapping features. Check it out at <a href="https://accessdane.countyofdane.com/">https://accessdane.countyofdane.com/</a>. Additional assessment information is available on the Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc. web site at <a href="http://www.apraz.com">http://www.apraz.com</a>.

#### **New and Updated Town Ordinances**

In 2018, the process of re-codifying the Town's ordinances that began in 2017 continued. The first set of re-codified ordinances were adopted on January 8, 2018, to include Chapters 01 - 11. At the time of this printing, the remaining chapters were still under review, with adoption expected later this spring.

All Town of Cottage Grove ordinances can be found on the Town's web site at <a href="http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov">http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov</a>.

On March 18, 2019, the following were adopted:

- An amendment to sec. 01.07 Destruction of Public Records to include the Town's adoption of the General Records Schedule for Wisconsin Municipal and Related Records as approved by the Wisconsin Public Records Board.
- Creation of sec. 22.09 Refund of Real Estate Tax Overpayments, including a provision that overpayments under \$2.00 are not refunded without a written request from the taxpayer.

#### **Committee Member Interest**

If you are interested in serving on any of the Town's committees, please email the Town Clerk at clerk@towncg.net with the committee(s) you are interested in, and your qualifications. New committee appointments are made after the Spring election each year.

#### **Notification of Comprehensive Plan Amendments**

The Town has a Comprehensive Plan under Section 66.1001 of Wisconsin Statutes, which it may update or amend from time to time. Under state law, the Town must maintain a list of persons who submit a written or electronic request to receive notice of any proposed change to the Comprehensive Plan that affects the allowable use of property owned by the person. Persons who wish to add their name to this list should provide their name and preferred method of notice to the Clerk. One easy way to do this is to sign up on the Town's web site for email updates related to Comprehensive Plan changes. This will provide you with emailed notice of <u>all</u> proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan, not just those that affect the use of your property. If you would only like notification of changes affecting the allowable use of your own property, email or mail your request directly to the Clerk using the contact information on the front of this report.

#### **Transfer of Development Rights Program**

The Town of Cottage Grove's Smartgrowth Comprehensive Plan includes a Transfer of Development Rights Program. The purposes of the program include:

- Maintain the Town's rural, agricultural character.
- Preserve large viable areas of farmland with a minimum of nonfarm divisions.
- Allow farmers to collect a reasonable non-farm value on their land without dividing lots.
- Transfer development rights towards areas of existing development and services.
- Help ensure the long-term viability and land base of the Town.

The details of the Transfer of Development Rights Program can be found in the Visions and Directions volume of the Comprehensive Plan on the Town's web site at <a href="http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov">http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov</a>. If you are the owner of land in an Ag Preservation area of the Town (see Map 10 Future Land Use, also available under Comprehensive Plan on the Town's web site), and would like to learn more about the opportunity to preserve farmland by selling your development rights, please contact the Clerk at <a href="mailto:clerk@towncg.net">clerk@towncg.net</a> or 608-839-5021 ext 32. Developers interested in purchasing development rights should also contact the Clerk for a list of potential sellers.

# **Highway Department Reminders Private Snow Removal Reminder**

Please keep the following in mind when you or a hired contractor are removing snow on your property: TCG Ordinance 08.06 Regulation of Private Snow Removal states that "No person shall allow snow, or ice, or both, which is removed from private property, to be deposited in any highway or right-of-way within the town limits, in an amount that creates a traffic or safety hazard, without immediately removing the accumulation from the highway or right-of-way....Violations of this ordinance shall be punishable as a class B forfeiture under TCG 25.04.

This includes making sure snow is not piled so as to obstruct culverts or ditches. As the property owner, it is your responsibility to keep your culvert clear and in good repair.

#### Work or obstructions in Town Road Right-of-Way

No trees, posts, fences, large rocks, retaining walls, basketball hoops, etc. may be placed in the road right-of-way, which extends 33 feet from the center of the road or 60 feet from the center of a cul-de-sac. Please be warned that by placing anything in the road right-of-way, you are accepting the liability should anyone hit it. If you have any questions on where the roadway ends, call the Highway Department at 839-4767.

Regarding work in the right-of-way, TCG Ord. sec. 08.03 states: "No person shall make any excavation or fill or install any culvert or make any other alteration in any town roadway or in any manner disturb any town roadway or bridge without applying for and receiving a permit from the highway superintendent. ...Any damage caused to Town property and/or right of way due to any work done under this permit is the responsibility of the permit holder. Violations of this ordinance shall be punishable under TCG Ordinance 25.04."

#### **Mailbox Installation**

TCG Ord. sec. 12.045 was adopted in accordance with Wisconsin Transportation Bulletin No. 14 – Mailbox Safety in order to improve roadside safety for vehicles that might inadvertently leave the roadway. It states:

"The support should be a wood post, steel pipe, or steel channel installed no more than 24" in the ground and extending to a vertical height such that the bottom of the mailbox is a minimum of 42" but not to exceed a maximum of 48" above the ground surface. The support should be the following dimensions:

- Square wood post: no larger than 4" x 4"
- Round wood post: no larger than 4" in diameter
- Steel pipe: no larger than 1 1/2" inside diameter
- Steel channel: no more than 2 lbs./ft.

The box-to-post attachment should be sufficient to prevent the separation of the box from the support post when struck.

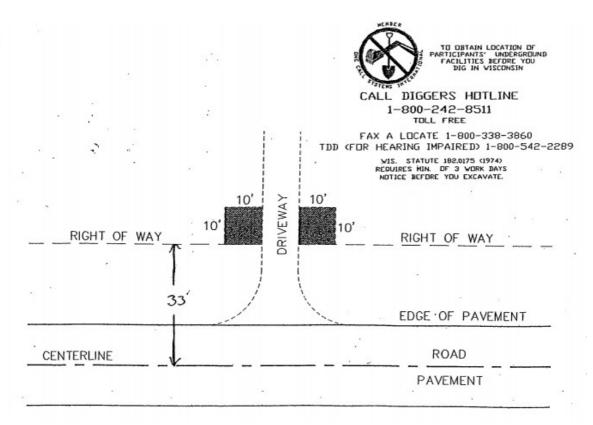
No more than two mailboxes should be mounted on one support post. For multiple installations, support posts must be spaced a minimum longitudinal distance apart which is equal to three-quarters of the height of the posts in the installation. Thus, for example, in an installation where posts are four feet above ground, they should be spaced three feet apart.

The front of the mailbox should be aligned with the outside edge of the shoulder, and must not extend over the edge of the traveled way or over the edge of a paved shoulder. Installations should avoid blind spots or poor sight distance locations."

#### **Location of Fire Numbers**

Please check to be sure your fire (address) number is located appropriately and unobstructed so that emergency responders can find you. Every second counts in an emergency, don't let precious time be lost because your location is not clearly marked.

Section 76.07 (1) Dane County Code of Ordinances provides that address numbers for buildings shall be installed on a post which shall not be located more than 10 feet from the driveway serving the building and not more than 10 feet from the road right-of-way. The post may be located on either side of the driveway. Height of the number shall not be less than 3 feet or more than 4 feet above the ground. The number shall be installed parallel or perpendicular to the road and shall not be concealed from view from the road in either direction by trees, shrubs, bushes, etc., (see diagram).



The post must be located in the shaded area on either side of the driveway.

Compliance with the above listed instructions is very important with regard to emergency services. Failure to install a number as specified could delay effective service.

#### **Parking on Town Roads**

TCG Section 09.05 PARKING RESTRICTIONS includes the following:

"No person shall park a vehicle, including, but not limited to: motor vehicles, agricultural equipment, buses, recreational vehicles, mobile and modular homes, trucks and trailers, on the pavement of any highway within the Town limits, for any period of time that would create a hazard to other persons using the highway; without obtaining prior written authority to do so, from the police department."

"No person shall park any vehicle within the right-of-way of any highway within the Town limits, for more than 24 consecutive hours; without written authorization from the police department."

"No person shall park any vehicle in any private driveway, or on any private lands within the Town limits; without first obtaining the permission of the landowner or tenant of the parcel on which the vehicle is parked."

"No person shall park a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) with a weight in excess of 20,000 pounds in a private driveway or on any private lands, outside of an enclosed garage, in a platted subdivision within the town limits; except for such time as is reasonably necessary to load or unload the CMV, without written authorization from the police department. NOTE: The seasonal weight limit restrictions, described in s. TCG § 09.07, shall also apply; regardless of whether or not authorization is obtained, or where the CMV is parked."

"No person shall park and leave unattended, any vehicle transporting hazardous materials, in a quantity required to be placarded under the regulations of the US Department of Transportation, within the Town limits; without first obtaining written authorization from Dane County Sheriff."

"Any motor vehicle left unattended within the town limits for more than 48 hours; in the right-of-way of any highway, or on any private lands without the permission of the owner or tenant, shall be considered an abandoned vehicle."

"Any vehicle that is found to be abandoned, may be impounded and disposed of in accordance with § 342.40, Wis. Stats."

### Implements of Husbandry/Ag Commercial Vehicles

In order to protect the Town's roads from excessive wear, and assure that vehicles are safe to operate on Town roads, the Town has adopted TCG ord. section 08.09 Regulation Applicable to Agricultural Commercial Vehicles and Implements of Husbandry under the authority of § 348.27(19)(b)5a and Wis Stats. And Wis Admin Code TRANS 230, which states:

"It shall be unlawful and a violation of this ordinance for any person, without a permit therefor, to operate an implement of husbandry, including a Category B implement of husbandry, or an agricultural commercial vehicle on any Town road under the jurisdiction of the Town which exceeds the length and/or weight limits imposed by § 348.15(3)(g), Wis. Stats."

If you have questions about farm vehicles please contact the Town to determine whether a permit is required. See TCG Ord. Section 08.09 for more information. The Ordinance imposes a forfeiture for overweight operation. Permit application materials may be found at <a href="http://www.dot.state.wi.us/business/ag/permits.htm">http://www.dot.state.wi.us/business/ag/permits.htm</a>.

### **Town Parks Survey**

The Town Parks Committee is seeking your input about your current use and future wishes for Town parks. The original announcement of the survey in the cover letter mailed out with 2018 tax bills only resulted in 20 responses! Please help the Town prioritize future park improvements by taking a few minutes to complete the survey found at http://parks\_survey.towncg.net or use the QR code below to access on your smart device. The survey will accept responses through April 30th.



#### Stormwater Management Leaves: a Rich, Fall Treasure, Not Waste

What you do with your leaves matters: they can make lakes green or they can be an asset to your yard.

Phosphorus (an important plant nutrient key to your yard's health) is great for a green lawn, but it also makes for green lakes. Leaves are rich in phosphorus. So, when leaves are piled along the ditch line, they can blow into the ditch, which lead directly to the nearest lake or stream. Leaves can also clog driveway culverts which contributes to local flooding problems.

Once in the water, the decaying process uses up oxygen in the water (something fish and other critters need) and the nutrients feed algae. Even if the leaves themselves stay put along the ditch, rain seeping through them creates a rich nutrient tea that also gets washed down into the ditch and on to the nearest lake or stream.

Nobody likes to swim in a slimy, pea-green lake and it's not good for our dogs to swim in scummy water, either. So, instead of raking leaves this fall, consider simply running the lawn mower over them and leaving them on the turf. If you don't have too many leaves, you can just leave the chopped leaves where they lie and skip fertilizing next year. If you have a lot, collect the chopped leaves with the mower's bag and add them to your compost pile. Chopped leaves mixed with grass clippings and kitchen waste make a fabulous compost and provide organic matter to the soil. If you don't have a compost bin or pile, you can use the chopped leaves as a mulch around trees and shrubs or spread them in your garden.

Whole leaves take quite a while to break down for compost, so, it's best to chop them with a mower or use the reverse setting on your leaf blower. However, whole leaves can be piled over wood mulch in your planting beds. Be sure to avoid covering perennial flowers or spring bulbs with whole leaves, as matted leaves can smother the plants. They can also smother weeds, so put whole leaves in areas where you want to start a new bed.

As autumn winds begin to blow streams of red, yellow, orange and brown, don't view fallen leaves as just another chore, something that must be dealt with and gotten rid of—think of them as an asset, a rich treasure for next year's flowers, shrubs and gardens. It's a great way to love your lakes, not "leaf" them.

The article was adapted from an original article on <a href="www.ripple-effects.com">www.ripple-effects.com</a>.

# **Sheriff's Office Report**



#### DANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE





SHERIFF

TIM R. SCHUETZ Captain, Support Services (608) 284-6186 CHRISTOPHER J. NYGAARD Captain, Security Services (608) 284-6165 JANICE L. TETZLAFI Captain, Field Service (608) 284-6870



Deputies Steve French, Brian Biwer, and Jen Grafton, are proud to have begun their fifth year of committed service to you, the citizens of the Township of Cottage Grove.

Our Mission is to provide a safe and secure community through professional service and partnerships. Our deputies respond to calls in the Township and take your concerns very seriously. We want you to feel safe in the community in which you live. Sometimes, in your own neighborhoods, you may see things that you feel need to be addressed. This can range from suspicious activity to traffic issues, that need regulating and that is what we want to proactively address.

Our building, located at 2560 Nora Road, provides office space for our three Township Deputies, two Detectives, two Emergency Preparedness Coordinators a Probation and Parole Liaison. K9 Boone is still working with his handler, Deputy Brian Biwer as well.

In 2018, our deputies responded to numerous calls for service which included Crashes, 911 Disconnects, EMS Assists, Citizen Assists, Assisting Other Agencies, Damage to Property, Welfare Checks, Suspicious Activity, Alarms, Preserve the Peace, Thefts, and Thefts from Auto. Among other types of calls these appear the most in statistics within the Township.

It should be noted, while our theft from autos are not high in volume, they are occurring all around us and we are not immune to them in the Township. Items are typically taken from unlocked vehicles. Also it is important not to leave your vehicle running if you are not inside it. Citizens vehicles are typically taken when warming up in a driveway or leaving it running at a gas station to run in for a minute all around Dane County. Please remember that the cost of turning your vehicle off, if you are not in it outweighs, the cost of having it taken from you.

Also in 2018, our deputies wrote 1,434 citations in 1,144 traffic incidents. The most common issue was speeding, which resulted in 804 of those citations. Other citations that were of significance were driving without insurance, operating while suspended or revoked or without a license and non-registered vehicles.

Our presence in the Township can help deter criminal activity, but we cannot be aware of issues without your help. What may seem to be even the littlest of things, could be a lead for something bigger. We ask that if you "see something", you "say something". Best results happen when reports come to us sooner than later.

We serve the people of the Town of Cottage Grove very proudly and want to make this the best community possible. By building partnerships, our deputies continue to get to know our citizens by name, and our citizens feel safe. Thank you for your support.

Lt. Gordon Bahler
Deputy Steve French
Deputy Brian Biwer and K9 Boone
Deputy Jen Grafton
Dane County Sheriff's Office

\*Note: for a summary of 2018 calls and citations, go to <a href="http://police.towncg.net">http://police.towncg.net</a>

# Cottage Grove Volunteer Fire Department Report

The Cottage Grove Volunteer Fire Department is currently staffed by 29 active Volunteer's and 8 honorary personnel from, the Town and Village of Cottage Grove along with residents from the Town of Pleasant Springs. These men and women volunteer their time and expertise for Fire Prevention programs in the community and all Emergencies. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire staff, for all their hard work and dedication to this department and the communities they serve this past year. I would ask you the next time you see these people say hello and thank them for their service.

There are six Divisions within the Department, Investigation, Maintenance, Prevention, Personnel/Records, Training/Safety and Fire Inspections. The Training division provided the staff over 2,828 man-hours of training in 2018. The Prevention division conducts tours of the Emergency Services Building and fire prevention demonstrations to the schools and day care facilities throughout the year. The Inspection division conducted 310 inspections in the Town of Cottage Grove, Village of Cottage Grove, and the Town of Pleasant Springs.

The officers of the Cottage Grove Fire Department are:

Nick Archibald, Chief
Mark Kudrna, Captain
Erik Severson, Lieutenant

April Hammond, 1stAssistant Chief
Lance Severson, Lieutenant

The Fire Personnel/Honorary members are:

F.F. Chris Alexander	H. Ken Gulbranson	F.F. Arlin Maag
H. George Ball	H. Joel Hammond	F.F Matt Mabie
F.F Kat Berggren	F.F. Josh Hammond	H. Mike McCormick
F.F Dan Borchardt	F.F Jason Helgeland	H. Dick McCutchin
F.F. Cole Brown	F.F. Abigail King	F.F Katie Miller
F.F. Charles Cluney	F.F Kraig Knapp	F.F. Tim Miller
F.F. Morgan Engels	H. Duane Kopp	H. Mark Severson
H. Roger Floreke	F.F. Jason Kudrna	P.F Tom Strohbusch
F.F. Brandon Fritsch	F.F. Dennis Larson	F.F Josh Truss
F.F. Keith Gabrielse	F.F. Brandon Laue	F.F. Paul Wendricks
P.F Thomas Grob	F.F. Kevin Laufenberg	

F.F. Fire fighter P.F. Probationary Fire fighter H. Honorary

The Department responded to 306 calls in 2018 which was a 2.6% increase from 2017. The break-down of the calls were as follows: 107 in the Town of Cottage Grove, 95 in the Village of Cottage Grove, 63 in the Town of Pleasant Springs, and 41 requests for Mutual Aid assistance to other communities.

The Department recruited 4 new personnel in 2018, unfortunately 5 members left the department. The Department, like 80% of the communities across the nation, relies on volunteers to answer the call. If you have an interest in learning more or are interested in joining the department, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.cottagegrovefire.org">www.cottagegrovefire.org</a>. Training evolutions are completed on the first, third, and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month. Other trainings and make-ups are scheduled sometimes on the fifth Tuesday evenings. Members also complete training on scheduled Sunday mornings.

The Firefighter's Association, of which all the personnel are a member, will once again be hosting its Annual Fireman's Festival, June 13th to June 16th. This event is held each year on Father's Day weekend and will be our 88th annual event. The Association utilizes some of the proceeds to provide scholarships to Monona Grove students for continuing education and answering donation requests from youth organizations in Cottage Grove and Monona. The Association also uses proceeds towards tools, equipment, and training expenses.

Please remember, open burning in the Town of Cottage Grove is by permit only. The Town of Cottage, in an effort to make this easier on the residents, has a yearly permit system for ALL open burning. The resident can pick up their permit at the Town office or online at <a href="http://burn\_permit.towncg.net">http://burn\_permit.towncg.net</a> once a year and are then required to call 48 hours prior to the scheduled burn with all the pertinent information.

In case of an Emergency dial 911.

Stay safe and have a great year.

Respectfully

Nick Archibald, Chief.



### **Deer-Grove EMS Report**

MISSION STATEMENT: Deer-Grove EMS provides for the health and well-being of our

communities with a team of professionals that are dedicated, knowledgeable and have a vested interest in our neighbors.

<u>VISION STATEMENT</u>: Deer-Grove EMS will be recognized as leaders in our profession and as positive community role models. We will provide exemplary services and patient care to our communities by investing in public education, training and teamwork. We will be accountable to each other, to our patients and to our communities. We will also strive to encourage one another's professional growth as we guide the department into the future.

Deer-Grove EMS began 2018 by celebrating the departure of long-time Chief Duane Erschen. As the result of the work put forth the by the hiring committee, Chief Jeff Matcha was selected and began his tenure immediately. The transition from one Chief to the next was seemingly flawless. The department and all its members continued the path of the high-quality pre-hospital medicine and determined community interaction. Unfortunately, Chief Matcha resigned the position in July and the search for a new Chief was initiated. Deputy Chief Antoniewicz was asked to take the role of Interim Chief and performed the new duties masterfully. She was able to maintain the core mission of the department, along with make improvement to the learning management platform and billing practices.

#### **Services Provided:**

Deer-Grove EMS primarily staffs one ambulance 24 hours a day, seven days a week with two career Paramedics. Whenever possible or necessary, the staffing is increased to include a second ambulance. This is done through the creative use of budget dollars allocated for staffing and the availability of volunteer EMT's or Paramedics. The membership roster for DGEMS is a combined grouping of paid career, paid part-time and volunteer EMT's, AEMT's and Paramedics.

Hours Worked Summary		
Full-Time		
LTE		
Volunteer		

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Note the importance of the contribution of the Volunteer members

of our department. Our group of volunteers donated 8,381 hours to the community. This would equate to an approximate \$140,000 subsidy of the EMS District in hourly wages alone.

#### Calls for Service Breakdown:

Village-	Town-	Village-	Town-	Town-	Mutual
Cottage	Cottage	Deerfield	ield Deerfield Ple		Aid-
Grove	Grove			Springs	Intercept

#### Response-Related Times:

The Dane County Communications Center uses pre-alerting for all incident types. This means that the appropriate resources are being sent to emergencies almost as soon as the call-taker begins to gather information. In years past, the call-taker would have to use the emergency medical dispatching process to generate a call-type code and then finally send resources to the emergency, which could take up to two minutes. This allows to get to the scene in more timely fashion. The table below shows the yearly average for each response time.

	2018	2019
Notified to Enroute	0:02:14	0:02:00
Enroute to at Scene	0:08:17	0:08:07
At Scene to Left Scene	0:18:56	0:18:15
Left Scene to at Destination	0:22:14	0:23:37
At Destination to In Service	0:21:54	0:19:52

#### **Community Connection:**

DeerGrove EMS and its members strive to maintain a strong connection to the community. The Community Medic Division connects with different populations groupings through blood pressure check clinics, community CPR education events and fall prevention programs. The Public Relations Division illustrates the abilities of our department to the area youth though school presentation, station visits or local youth group gatherings. DGEMS actively participates in each of the Fireman's Festivals in Cottage Grove and Deerfield. We expand our services during these events to include additional staff and vehicles for stand-by readiness and a bicycle team for specialty response. You will also see DGEMS providing event coverage for many of the large bicycle and running events planned in our response district.

Thank you for your support,

Eric Lang, Chief <u>elang@deergroveems.com</u> 608-839-5658

## **Emergency Government Committee Report**

#### Who We Are and What We Do

Established under Town and Village ordinance, the Cottage Grove Combined Emergency Government is the central point of coordination within Cottage Grove for response and recovery to large-scale emergencies and disasters. The Cottage Grove Combined Emergency Government consists of four committee members and meets the first Thursday of every month in the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) Room located in the Emergency Services Building.

We all know that a large-scale emergency or disaster can arise at any time and from various natural or man-made causes. The best way to minimize potential loss and speed up the process of recovery from an event such as a tornado, snowstorm, fire or a hazardous incident is to plan. Our primary focus when not in a response or recovery mode is to ensure that Cottage Grove is prepared to respond. Our meetings include reports from the Police Department, Fire Department, Deer-Grove EMS, Monona Grove School District, Hydrite and Landmark Services. The meetings include discussion, policy and procedure development, and training.

During the pat year, we have upgraded EOC equipment to include cell phones, two large screen monitors, WIFI and a cell signal booster. Thank you Hydrite Chemical Company for the grant! We continue to improve!

The Town would like to encourage all residents to do their part to be prepared for emergencies. The Department of Homeland Security maintains a very useful web site to assist you with preparing emergency plans and kits for your family. Please see <a href="http://www.ready.gov">http://www.ready.gov</a>.

In the event of an emergency please tune to local radio and television stations for emergency response updates.

The Emergency Government Committee will provide real time updates to all stations and request that information be disseminated as rapidly as possible.



# Cottage Grove TRIAD 2019 Events

Cottage Grove Triad is an organization of Cottage Grove seniors (50+), CG Police Department and the Dane County Sheriff's Office. Sponsored by RSVP of Dane County, it is part of the National Triad, which began in 1988 to reduce both criminal victimization and

unwarranted fear of crime affecting older persons. The sole purpose of Triad is to promote senior issue awareness, safety and to reduce the fear of crime that seniors often experience.

All programs are at Taylor Ridge Senior Apartments, 510 Westlawn Dr., 10:00 a.m., unless otherwise noted. Please contact Mary Stamstad at <a href="mailto:mstand@rsvpdane.org">mstamstad@rsvpdane.org</a> or 608-441-7897 for reservations and more information, unless otherwise noted.

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM/SPEAKER	LOCATION
1/15/19	10AM	Living With Anxiety, Depression & Other Mental Health Issues Speaker: Kaitlyn Mellom from NAMI Dane County	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI
2/19/19	10AM	Daily Money Management- Phil Wiedenbeck- Bank of Sun Prairie-Cottage Grove	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI
3/19/19	10AM	Travel Safety- Christine Bergan, AAA	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI
4/16/19	10AM	Advance Funeral Planning- DARRIN Kolka-Cress funeral Home	
5/21/19	10AM	Yoga for Seniors: How to keep our bodies strong for safety!	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM/SPEAKER	LOCATION
6/18/19	10AM	Scams/Financial Elder Abuse or Fraud	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI
7/16/19	10AM	Keeping your Independence and Remaining Safe in your Home	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI
8/20/19	10AM	Comfort Dogs - Dogs on Call	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI
9/17/19	10AM	Scams/Financial Elder Abuse or Fraud	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI
9/27/19?	8AM	Dane County and State Triad Conference	American Family Insurance 6000 American Parkway Madison, WI
10/15/19	10AM	Medicare Updates: What is Happening and What Should We Know?	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI
10/19/19 ?	8AM- 12PM	Car Winterization	Meineke Car Care 222 W Cottage Grove Rd Cottage Grove
11/19/19	10AM	OPEN Possibly Aging and Alone?	Drumlin Residences 107 E. Reynolds Street Cottage Grove, WI

## **Dementia Friendly Cottage Grove**

The Dementia Friendly Cottage Grove effort is sponsored by Cottage Grove Triad. The Team consists of a variety of volunteers, businesses and professionals. We currently have 8 community members and 3 staff members on our Team. Eleven members were trained to be our trainers, with 4 of the 11 also trained to facilitate our Memory Café.

### **Highlighted Actions:**

- Added two new members to the Team.
- Planned and initiated the development of Purple Folders to be given to all trained businesses, churches and organizations for sustaining understanding and positive interaction with people with dementia.
- Participated in community events to further the understanding of the Dementia Friendly Community effort as well as to encourage Memory Café participation
- Received donations for our Memory Café from the Chamber of Commerce, memorials and a Team member through his business.

### **2018 Accomplishments:**

- To date, 50 businesses, churches and organizations have been trained since our beginning in February, 2016.
- Memory Café celebrated its first year anniversary in April; it has continued to grow from 2 participants to more than 25 and continues to meet at Hope Lutheran Church.
- Five Memory Care Kits completed; they are "Life on the Farm", Experiencing Nature", "Bird Watching", "Places Near Home" and "Dogs-Man's Best Friend".
- Provided an information table at the Piggly Wiggly grocery store and at the craft sale during the kick-off of "Christmas in the Grove".
- Participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's, the RSVP Safety Conference, and the ADRC DFC Leader's month meetings.

### **Benefits:**

- Businesses that have been trained display the purple angel log, are making changes in their places of business to help people with dementia feel more welcome with trained staff to better serve caregivers and persons with dementia, and better signage.
- Our Memory Café benefits caregivers and there persons with

- dementia by providing a trusted place to meet socially without judgment. See more about the Memory Café below.
- People know that Cottage Grove is a Dementia Friendly Community through the outreach of our members and businesses. We continue to become better prepared to work with caregivers and their loved ones to understand the barriers that those afflicted with memory loss endure.

### **2019 Plans:**

- Continue training businesses/churches, in-home businesses and organizations and independent realtors, with re-training offered as needed.
- Work with local EMS and Law Enforcement to provide information on Purple Sheets to go in the File For Life.
- Work with the Chamber of Commerce and community newspaper to keep the community apprised of our successes in becoming more Dementia Friendly.
- Encourage more of our Memory Café participants to use the Memory Care Kits.
- Meet Monthly
- Add new volunteer trainers to our team
- Celebrate Care Givers with an event just for them.
- Plan a Lunch & Learn about the Dementia Friendly effort.
- Participate in more community events.
- Develop a plan for how we want Dementia Friendly Community to look in Cottage Grove.
- Search for a fiscal agent to administer funds for Dementia Friendly Cottage Grove

#### 10 Year Goal:

To have 95% of non-franchised businesses trained and keep all businesses up to date with training.

# Cottage Grove Memory Café

The Cottage Grove Neighborhood Memory Cafe has been meeting since April, 2017. We have been a meeting place for anyone who is experiencing beginning changes in memory. It has been a fun, social way for caregivers and their person with dementia to connect with others who are dealing with the same issues. Our attendees come together with family or friends in a relaxed environment at Hope

Lutheran Church, the 4th Wednesday of each month, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

We begin each Memory Cafe with treats, discussions of interests and sharing of information for upcoming events before going into our program or activities. Some of the 2018 programs have included, Rosemaling, wood carving, chair yoga, mindfulness, guitarist, painting with chocolate, nature photography, camping experiences with the Girl Scouts and decorating Christmas cookies to take home. In addition, we often do crafts, play word games, share experiences on our theme for the day and participate in sing-a-longs.

Our first 'field trip' was to the Huston Horse Farm complete with learning about the care and training of the Huston horses as well as the country of origin of the hoses and their horse and cart competitions..

We celebrated our 1st year anniversary last April when the Madison Ukulele group joined us with their talent and a sing- a-long. Also, we celebrated with cake and ice cream!

Four volunteers host the Cafe each month----Pat Donovan, Camilla Farwell, Carol Kelley, and Georgia Punswick. They have also completed five Memory Care Kits for Cafe attendees to take home and enjoy on a check-out basis. The themed Kits include, Bird Watching, Places Near Home, Dogs-Man's Best Friend, Experiencing Nature, and Life on the Farm. Funds for these kits were provided for by a Dementia Friendly Team member.

Our goal is for more Cottage Grove Town and Village residents to enjoy the opportunity to use Memory Cafe as a resource in providing loved ones with Dementia and their caregivers a way to get out and enjoy themselves in a caring, cheerful environment. It is an honor to serve the Memory Cafe attendees. As one participant put it..."We are a Memory Cafe with a heart."

For more information about Dementia Friendly Cottage Grove or the Memory Café, contact Georgia Punswick at 839-4426 or <a href="mailto:gpunswick@yahoo.com">gpunswick@yahoo.com</a>

## Dane County Elderly (60+) and Disabled Transportation For Grocery Shopping and East Towne Area

Transit Solutions Inc. has been providing transportation for grocery shopping to persons over 60 and those with disabilities for several years. These trips are funded by Dane County and will continue indefinitely. The grocery bus operates every Wednesday, provided there are people who want to ride it! Cost to use this service (if you can afford it) is \$1.00 for a one-way trip; \$2.00 for a round trip to go grocery shopping! Contact Transit Solutions, 294-8747, at least 24 hours in advance.

Starting times on Wednesdays for grocery shopping begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Town and Village of Deerfield and continue on to Cottage Grove Town and Village. Times are dependent on the number and location of participants. You will shop at Piggly Wiggly in Cottage Grove and leave for home at about 11:00.

On the first and third Friday of every month persons 60 and over (or persons with disabilities) may participate in a scheduled trip to Madison (East Towne area) for shopping or lunch. The charge is \$3.00 round trip. Those who participate will be able to help make decisions on trip locations. Pick up times will start at 10:00 a.m. in Deerfield with Cottage Grove following. Return will be at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required at least 24 hours in advance.

Important: at least a 24-hour notice must be given for all trips, using the phone number above. If you need special help, Transit Solutions, Inc. can provide accessible vehicles if they know in advance.

Contact Transit Solutions Inc. (294-8747) if you have questions about this service.

# **Colonial Club Senior Activity Center**

Greetings from the Colonial Club in Sun Prairie!

From all of us at the Colonial Club, we extend our deepest thanks to the Town of Cottage Grove for their continued support.

In 2018, we continued to serve the Town of Cottage Grove and eight other towns, villages and cities in northeast Dane County. In the Town of Cottage Grove, we delivered 321 meals to home bound residents and 145 meals at our congregate site in Sun Prairie. Additionally, we offered 31 hours of private, one-on-one case management support, provided 635 hours of care in our adult day center, 86 hours of supportive home care and approximately 335 miles in transportation services.

Overall, we continue to see a demand for services among people aged 60 and over. Each year we see ebbs and flows, with still some significant increases in our nutrition, case management and transportation programs; with slight increases in our adult day center participation and the home chore program. To ensure that we can provide services to older adults in the Town of Cottage Grove, we need both financial and human support. We especially need drivers to come to the Colonial Club and deliver meals in the Cottage Grove area. Please contact Kim Peterson, our Volunteer Coordinator at 837-4611 ext. 120 to learn more about how you can help your neighbors with this critical service.

In addition to the support we receive from several municipalities, we also have to fundraise on our through our special events like StrawberryFest and AleFest to help meet all our financial obligations. Your support of these events goes a long way in helping the Colonial Club. Strawberryfest 2019 is scheduled for Saturday, June 15, 2019. Alefest is Friday, Nov. 1, 2019. Keep watching in the monthly Courier newsletter, (which is available at sites in Cottage Grove) for additional details. Again, we greatly appreciate the support of the surrounding communities like the Town of Cottage Grove as we continue to fulfill our mission of *enhancing the well-being and independence of older adults*.

Bob Power, Executive Director



# **Cottage Grove Area Historical Society**

P.O. Box 46 Cottage Grove , WI 53527

The Cottage Grove Area Historical Society (CGAHS) had its beginnings in 1976 when local residents were asked to contribute local history for Americas Bicentennial celebration. These individuals continued to meet and discuss the area's history.

In January 1989, the group became a nonprofit organization and obtained tax exempt status. With these qualifications, the CGAHS became eligible as an affiliate of Wisconsin's State Historical Society.

The CGAHS archives are presently located in the basement of Flynn Hall. Board members are in the process of history room organization which will temporarily limit public access to the collections until this is completed.

The CGAHS typically meets quarterly (March, June, September, December) on the third Tuesday of the month at a place, date and time to be determined.

To see more of the Society's activities, visit us online at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CGWIAHWI">https://www.facebook.com/CGWIAHWI</a> and <a href="https://www.cgahswi.org">https://www.cgahswi.org</a> or stop at one of the group's brat feeds scheduled for June 2 and August 2 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. between Piggly Wiggly and the Bank of Sun Prairie.

For more information contact Dennis Bork at acres2@frontier.com or call 608-839-5578.

# **Refuse and Recycling Information**

Advanced Disposal is under contract to pick up refuse and recyclables in the Town using vendor-supplied carts to work with their automated pickup system. Trash is picked up weekly, and recyclables are collected every other week. If you live on County Road N or anywhere to the east of N, your pickup day is Wednesday. If you live west of County Road N, your pickup day is Thursday. A calendar highlighting recycling weeks was mailed with property tax bills in December, and is also shown below. Most appliances are also picked up at no additional charge, however you must call 608-251-7878 to make arrangements.

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:** There will be NO pick-up on New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Collection will be one day later when the holiday falls during the week. If your pick-up day falls before the holiday, your pickup will not be affected.

# Town of Cottage Grove Recycling Weeks (Shaded) 2019

	January								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
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June

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	May								
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August									
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	November							
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	December								
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29	30	31							

### Items to be Recycled

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

**NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, OFFICE PAPER:** Glossy inserts, catalogs, mail circulars, phone books, paper-back books, cereal boxes, envelopes, wrapping paper etc.

**CARDBOARD (Flattened):** Clean cardboard only. Must be broken down, flattened and placed inside cart.

### **GLASS (CLEAR-BROWN-GREEN):**

All bottles and jars must be rinsed out. No window glass, light bulbs, TV tubes, drinking glass, etc.

**ALUMINUM:** Aluminum beverage cans only. No aluminum foil, TV dinner trays, etc.

**TIN & BI-METAL CANS:** Soup, vegetable, juice cans, etc. All cans must be rinsed out completely.

PLASTIC CONTAINERS: Plastic bottles with threaded caps, TYPE 1 through TYPE 5 and TYPE 7. Look for the △ coding on the bottom of the bottle. All plastic bottles must be rinsed out completely.

waste oil: Common engine oil only. Must be in a leak-proof, non breakable one gallon jug with a threaded lid, labeled OIL. Limit 2 gallons per week.

### **LEAD ACID VEHICLE BATTERIES:**

Car and truck batteries only. Battery casings must be unbroken.

**TIRES:** Car tires off the rim, two (2) per week per unit, up to eight (8) per year.

# Place oil, batteries and tires beside your recycle container.

Place your recyclables in the containers provided. These containers are to be left with the residence if you move. Please keep your recyclables separate from your other trash and easily accessible. Keep carts at least 3 feet apart and away from other objects (mail boxes, light poles, etc.)

**Empty or Dry Paint Cans:** These items may be placed in the standard trash containers.

**NO MEDICAL WASTE – i.e.** needles, rubber gloves, oxygen tubes, IV bags, etc., **NO YARD WASTE, NO WET PAINT or HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**. It is illegal to landfill these items.

### **Recycling Electronics**

The sixth annual curbside collection of electronic waste items (E-waste) will be during the week of April 29 – May 3. On your normal pickup day during that week, place your discarded electronics out with your trash and recyclables.

Wisconsin's electronics recycling law establishes the E-Cycle Wisconsin program to collect and recycle certain electronic devices. It is based on a product stewardship approach, which assigns primary responsibility for collection and recycling to the manufacturer. The law also bans certain electronics from Wisconsin landfills and incinerators. For more information, including a list of facilities that accept discarded electronics, go to <a href="http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Ecycle/wisconsin.html">http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Ecycle/wisconsin.html</a>.

### **Hazardous Waste Disposal**

**Dane Clean Sweep** is a place to take hazardous household materials such as oil-based paints and paint-related products, pesticides & poisons, household products containing organic solvents, ignitables, and aerosols, rechargeable batteries, and electronics (there is a fee for TVs and monitors). Hazardous agricultural and business wastes are also accepted, however no electronics will be accepted from businesses. The site also includes a product exchange program which allows you to bring in chemicals that are still usable, including paint, thinners, solvents, and pesticides. These products are available free to the public at the on-site product exchange store.

Clean Sweep, located at 7102 US Hwy 12, Madison WI 53718, (Beltline/12/18 East toward Cambridge) across from the Yahara Hills Golf Course at the Dane County Landfill is open from 7:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. on Monday – Friday and Saturdays from 8:00 A.M. to 10:45 A.M. Closed Sundays, Mondays and Holidays.

### FEES APPLY TO SOME ITEMS.

Payment accepted by cash, Visa or Mastercard. Businesses must pay with Mastercard or Visa when dropping off materials. For complete rules and information, call 608-838-3212, or see <a href="http://www.danecountycleansweep.com">http://www.danecountycleansweep.com</a>.

# **Town Calendar of Events**

Meeting and other required notices are posted at the Town Hall and online at <a href="http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov">http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov</a>. Notices requiring publication are published in the legal section of the Wisconsin State Journal. Please call the office at 839-5021 to be placed on an agenda.

	7 P.M. First & Third Mon. of the month7 P.M. Fourth Wednesday of the month			
Papers Due to Clerk	· _ · _ · _ · _ · _ · _ · _ · _ · _			
First Installment Taxes Due	January 31 <sup>st</sup>			
Spring Primary (if needed)	Third Tuesday in February			
Public requests for Comprehensive				
Plan Changes Accepted	February 15 <sup>th</sup> - March 15 <sup>th</sup>			
Comprehensive Plan				
Annual Review	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday in March			
Spring Election	First Tuesday in April			
Annual Report Published	.Late March			
Annual Town Meeting	7:00 P.M. Third Tuesday in April			
Board of Review	within 30 day period beginning on 4th			
	Monday in April – watch for notice			
Annual Alcohol Licensing				
Hearing and Board Approval	First Monday in June			
Annual Non-Metallic Mining				
Hearing and Board Approval	First Monday in June			
Second Installment Taxes Due to the				
Dane County Treasurer				
Partisan Primary (even years)				
Budget Workshops				
General Election (even years)	First Tuesday in November			
Annual Budget Hearing				
and Town Budget Meeting	Nov. or early Dec. – watch for notice			
Election Inspectors Appointed				
(even years)	First Monday in December			
Tax Bills Mailed	Early December			
First Day to Circulate Nomination				
Papers for Local Office	December 1 <sup>st</sup>			

# **Town of Cottage Grove Contact Information** IN ANY EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

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