

**TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE  
ANNUAL REPORT AND NEWSLETTER  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021**

Kris Hampton  
Town Chair

Mike DuPlayee  
Supervisor 4

Eric Lang  
EMS Chief

Mike Fonger  
Supervisor 1

Kim Banigan  
Town Clerk

April Hammond-Archibald  
Municipal Judge

Steven Anders  
Supervisor 2

Debra Abel  
Town Treasurer

Daniel Dresen  
Highway Superintendent

Kristi Williams  
Supervisor 3

Vicki Anderson  
Court Clerk

Nick Archibald  
Fire Chief

**2021 Population Estimate: 3918**

**Important Upcoming Events:**

**April 5, 2022: Spring Election (p.12)**

**April 19, 2022: Annual Town Meeting (p.3)**

**May 9-16: Annual E-waste Collection-NEW FORMAT! (p. 37)**

**Be sure to take the Park Shelter survey. Details on page 30.**

**Contact Us:**

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Cottage Grove, WI  
53527**

**web site:**

**[www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov](http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov)**

**Email: [clerktowncg.net](mailto:clerktowncg.net)**

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## **Tentative Agenda\***

### **Annual Town Meeting – April 19, 2022**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Town Meeting for the Electors of the Town of Cottage Grove will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 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.

You may join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone, at <https://www.gotomeet.me/Towncg/annual-town-meeting>. You can also dial in using your phone at (872) 240-3212 Access Code: 393-870-661. Please keep in mind that due to the difficulty of identifying electors, no voting will be allowed by virtual attendees.

#### ***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 2021 Annual Town Financial Statements
- VI. Dane County Sheriff's Office update
- VII. Update on yard waste disposal site for Town residents
- VIII. Update on bridge replacement and repair plans
- IX. Update on Comprehensive Plan update process
- X. Set date for next year's Annual Town Meeting
- XI. Other Business
- XII. Adjournment

\* The final agenda will be posted on Friday, April 15<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.

# DRAFT Minutes of Annual Town Meeting

## April 20, 2021

- I. Town Chair Kris Hampton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Town Clerk Kim Banigan recorded the minutes, and Treasurer Debra Abel was also present. A list of other attendees is available in the Town Clerk's Office. There was a total of 8 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 November 5, 2020 Annual Town Meeting as printed. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.**
- IV. Additions to agenda by Electors: Mike Anderson, 4582 Lotus Lane, asked to add the use of Town Roads by ATV/UTVs and snowmobiles.
- V. Presentation of the 2020 Annual Town Financial Report: Jeff Osvog of Johnson & Block Co, Inc. presented the [2020 Financial Highlights](#). He started with the balance sheet, which showed end of year accounts payable up compared to the previous year due to equipment purchases late in the year, and the December police service bill that was not paid until 2021. The unassigned fund balance of \$1,148,078 is also up from 2019, and is at 37% of the 2021 budget expenditures, which exceeds Town policy of 20-28%. Osvog said this is an indication that the Town has a good reserve in place to weather any losses in funding or unexpected expenditures. Moving on to the income statement, Osvog said that since revenues were over budget and expenditures were under budget, the use of fund balance was less than budgeted. At \$634,417, general obligation debt is at only 2.76% of the Town's debt capacity. Next Osvog presented graphical representations of expenditures and revenues. Most notable changes from the previous year included higher expenses for general government, which he attributed largely to election related expenses, higher expenses for public safety due to an increase in the Sheriff's contract, building permit expenses, and fire equipment, and an increase in debt service due to the loan taken out in 2019 to finance North Star Road improvements. The largest change in revenues from previous years was for intergovernmental revenue, mostly from the Routes to Recovery Grant. Taxes were also up slightly.
- VI. Dane County Sheriff's Office Update: A [2020 Financial Highlights](#) for service and citations issued was available in handout form and shared by the Clerk virtually. Lt. Jonathan Triggs was present virtually. He said that the majority of calls are to check property or are traffic related. Check property calls often turn into other types of calls, for example assist citizen, etc. Citations were mostly for speeding and operating without insurance. When broken out by contract deputies only, failure to stop at stop signs stood out as well. Lt. Triggs said that the Dane County Sheriff's Office will never call asking for money, and warned that scammers have been known to pose as family members calling to ask for money to get out of jail. He reminded everyone to lock their homes and vehicles, there have been thefts from vehicles as well as car thefts in the area.
- VII. Stormwater Presentation: [The Problem with Rain...](#): Chuck Nahn, Stormwater consultant for the Town explained that the urban areas of the Town, mostly including the Ravenwood, Nondahl, and Meadow Grove areas, are subject to a stormwater permit requirement by the WDNR. His presentation described things that the Town is doing to meet the permit requirements, including limiting road salt use, checking for illicit discharges, maintaining grassed swales along roadsides, participating in the MMSD Adaptive Management program, and requiring new development to

implement erosion and stormwater controls. Another required component is public education, including tonight's presentation and plans for presentations at the Monona Grove High School in the future. He listed some things residents can do to reduce stormwater pollution, including cleaning up pet waste, limiting use of salt and fertilizer, using commercial car washes, letting pool water sit 3 days between chlorinating and discharge, proper disposal of yard waste and household chemicals, and fixing vehicles that leak oil. Silvin Kurt asked what can be done about the flooding of the Koshkonong Creek due to all of the water coming from the City of Sun Prairie. He said when he moved here 50 years ago, it took 4 days for the water to get here, now it takes 4 hours. Nahn said he will bring this up to his associates at Dane County.

- VIII. Update on yard waste disposal options for Town residents: Hampton reported that the Town Board reviewed an ordinance for a yard waste drop off sight, for which there will be a public hearing on May 3rd. It is expected the Town Board will adopt the ordinance that same night, and the public works employees are working on setting up the site. It is possible it will be up and running the first week of May for residents to drop off their grass clippings, leaves and garden waste. No woody material will be accepted (brush or logs). The Town will haul the yard waste to Purple Cow Organics, LLC.
- IX. Update on Comprehensive Plan update process: Hampton said the Comprehensive Plan survey that was announced in the Annual Report and Newsletter has been extended until April 23rd, and urged residents to complete it if they haven't already. The Plan Commission will be working on a monthly basis with the Town's Planning consultant to update the Plan with what our residents want to see the Town look like in 20 years. Hopes are to complete it by the end of the year. The Clerk said that only 187 people had completed the survey.
- X. Update on bridge replacement and repair plans: The Town has received grants to replace the bridges on Uphoff Road and Femrite Drive. The projects will go out for bid in January of 2022, with construction taking place in the summer of 2022. Both roads will be closed for up to 2-3 months during construction.
- XI. Set date for next year's Annual Town Meeting: **MOTION** by Mike DuPlayee/Steve Anders to hold next year's meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.**
- XII. Other Business: Use of Town Roads by ATV/UTVs and snowmobiles. Anderson said that other communities with similarly sized roads do allow this, and he knows there are a lot of people interested in it as an opportunity to get out and about. When asked where riders would go in the Town of Cottage Grove, Anderson said there does not need to be a destination, just to be able to visit neighbors or drive between non-adjacent properties. Hampton said that owner's manuals he has read do not recommend ATV/UTV tires to be used on hard surfaces. Anderson said there are different types of tires available, and that trails in other areas are mostly roads. Mike DuPlayee and Mike Fonger both expressed concern over the amount of traffic on Town roads, and Kristi Williams said that the other areas he listed all have lower populations. As for snowmobiles, Anderson said he is not looking for the roads to be trails, he is just looking to be able to ride on roads to get from one place to another without getting a ticket. Anders thought that some areas allow for taking the shortest route between the rider's home and the nearest trail, the Town could look into that.
- XIII. Adjournment: **MOTION** by Mike DuPlayee/Kristi Williams to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Kim Banigan, Clerk

## Statement of Assessment – January 1, 2021

REAL ESTATE	LAND	IMPROVEMENTS	TOTAL
Residential	125,247,500	341,579,600	466,827,100
Commercial	6,032,700	19,024,100	25,056,800
Manufacturing*	874,100		874,100
Agriculture	3,204,000		3,204,000
Undeveloped	1,466,200		1,466,200
Ag. Forest	2,527,000		2,527,000
Forest Lands	1,135,000		1,135,000
Other	7,958,000	16,757,900	24,715,900
PERSONAL PROPERTY	LOCALLY ASSESSED	MANUFACTURING	MERGED
	820,200	4,400	824,600
<b>TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE</b>			<b>526,630,700</b>

## Statement of Taxes Levied – 2021 Tax Year

State Taxes	0.00
County Taxes	1,758,725.95
Local Assessment	1,738,962.00
Deerfield School District	706,383.93
Marshall School District	44,994.00
McFarland School District	93,978.00
Monona Grove School District	4,589,059.00
Stoughton School District	421,915.80
Sun Prairie School District	4,306.00
Vocational School	425,286.01
Underrun/Overrun	-0.40
Refuse and Recycling Collection	259,482.96
Street Lighting	791.25
Private Septic Maintenance	14,395.86
Lottery Credit Penalty	0.00
Omitted Property Taxes (from previous years)	0.00
S. 7043 Corrections	0.00
Managed Forest Lands	345.40
<b>TOTAL LEVY</b>	<b>10,058,625.76</b>

### 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	10.60598	7.44919	-1.96629	16.088880	275.31	77.63
Marshall #3332	8.67020	7.44919	-1.96629	14.153100	216.40	61.02
McFarland #3381	10.75916	7.44919	-1.96629	16.242060	279.78	78.89
Monona Grove #3675	11.45593	7.44919	-1.96629	16.938830	306.40	86.39
Stoughton #5621	9.33969	7.44919	-1.96629	14.822590	245.73	69.28
Sun Prairie #5656	12.44509	7.44919	-1.96629	17.927990	308.89	87.09

\* Local Taxes include: State \$0, Dane County: \$3.34, Town \$3.30, Vocational School \$0.81. The garbage/recycling charge is \$176.04/residence. The Private Septic Maintenance Fee is \$9.54 per septic system.

### Explanation of 2021 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 valued at \$200,000 in the Monona Grove School District.

	Mill Rates	Assessed Value	Net Tax
Town of Cottage Grove	3.30	200,000.00	660.00
Dane County	3.34	200,000.00	668.00
State of Wisconsin	0.00	200,000.00	0.00
Monona Grove School District	11.46	200,000.00	2,292.00
MATC	0.81	200,000.00	162.00
School Tax Credit	(1.97)	200,000.00	(394.00)
Mill Rate Total	16.94		3,388.00
First Dollar Credit			(86.39)
Lottery & Gaming Credit			(306.40)
Private Septic Maintenance Fee			8.67
Garbage/Recycling Collection Fee			169.20
Net Property Tax			3,173.08



## **Refund of tax overpayments of property tax**

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

### **2021 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 2021 taxes if, on January 1, 2021, you were the owner of the property and used the property as your primary residence. To claim the credit, complete and submit the 2021 Late Lottery and Gaming Credit Application ([Form LC-300](#)) along with a copy of your 2021 property tax bill to the Wisconsin Dept of Revenue prior to October 1, 2022.

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 it with the 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.

<https://www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/FAQS/slf-lottcr.aspx>.

### **2021 Finance Report**

The financial reports that follow are designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. Details of all reports shown in summary form are available on the Town's web site at

<https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/budget-taxes/>. If you have questions about these reports or need additional financial information, contact the Town's Treasurer at [treasurer@towncg.net](mailto:treasurer@towncg.net) or 608-839-5021 ext. 131.



## Statement of 2021 Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances

Revenue	Actual	Budget
Taxes	\$1,685,056.05	\$1,685,056.35
Intergovernmental Revenue	434,357.25	430,671.34
Licenses and Permits	105,624.48	98,100.00
Fines, Forfeiture and Penalties	31,015.85	30,000.00
Public Charges For Services	263,751.17	254,804.06
Intergovernmental Charges	206,391.78	197,914.48
Investment Income	7,270.50	20,100.00
Miscellaneous Income	25,718.40	20,683.44
Parks Income	31,353.50	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,790,538.98</b>	<b>\$2,737,329.67</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
General Government	\$417,259.80	\$404,680.50
Public Safety	897,719.90	1,037,836.29
Public Works	1,165,593.13	1,156,914.51
Culture, Education, Recreation	15,416.61	17,105.00
Health and Human Services	7,214.00	7,208.00
Conservation and Development	3,135.00	3,135.00
Capital Outlay	145,327.15	151,986.72
Debt Service		
Principal	85,431.82	82,869.49
Interest	22,610.88	22,531.83
Capital Lease	1,344.00	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$2,761,052.29</b>	<b>\$2,884,267.34</b>
Excess of Revenue Over Expenditures	\$29,486.69	( <b>\$146,937.67</b> )
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>		
Property Sales - Hwy & Fire Equipment	\$49,960.00	\$9,000.00
Liberty Cemetery Funds Revenue	800.00	800.00
<b>Total Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$50,760.00</b>	<b>\$9,800.00</b>
<b>Net Change In Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$80,246.69</b>	<b>(<b>\$137,137.67</b>)</b>
Fund Balance - Beginning	\$1,267,686.16	
Fund Balance - Ending	\$1,347,932.85	
Indebtedness Beginning of Year	\$1,009,753.00	
Indebtedness End of Year	\$974,220.00	

## 2022 Budget Summary

### General Fund

#### Revenue

General Town Property Tax	1,750,861
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,356,803
Licenses and Permits	95,900
Fines, Forfeiture and Penalties	30,000
Public Charges for Services	262,728
Intergovernmental Charges	610,540
Pleasant Springs Fire Revenue	65,038
Investment Income	7,100
Miscellaneous Income	20,848
Culture Recreation	

Total Revenue	<u>4,199,819</u>
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#### Expenditures

General Government	334,698
Public Safety	1,066,227
Pleasant Springs Fire Expense	65,038
Public Works	2,400,953
Culture, Education, Recreation	25,000
Health and Human Services	7,214
Conservation and Development	4,135
Capital Outlay	1,181,331
Debt Service	
Principal Repayment	433,381
Interest and Fiscal Charges	21,829
Capital Lease (Principal and Interest)	1,344

Total Expenditures	<u>5,541,150</u>
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Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>(1,341,331)</u>
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#### Other Financing Sources

Property Sales	3,500
Proceeds from Debt	1,046,573

Liberty Cemetery Revenue	800
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>1,050,873</u>
Net Change in General Fund Balances	<u>(290,458)</u>
Fund Balances - Beginning	1,182,157
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>891,700</u>
Surplus Funds Applied	
Hydrite Chemicals Fund	
Fire Dues Fund	18,478
Pleasant Springs Fire Fund	3,100
Unassigned General Fund	268,879
Total Surplus Funds Applied	<u>290,458</u>
Liberty Cemetery Fund	
Liberty Cemetery Fund Revenue	100
Liberty Cemetery Fund Expense	800
Net Change in Liberty Fund Balances	<u>(700)</u>
Fund Balances - Beginning	1,002
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>302</u>
2022 Highway Expenditures per mile	<u>17,834</u>
2022 EOY Indebtedness	1,607,744
2021 Town Levy	1,738,962
2021 Assessed Value	526,630,700
2021 Town Mill Rate (per \$1,000)	3.3021

### **Subscribe to notices of Comprehensive Plan Changes**

Under State of Wisconsin 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 that 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 subscribe to email updates related to Comprehensive Plan changes at <https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/subscribe-to-updates/>. This will provide you with emailed notice of all proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan, not just those that affect the use of your property.

## 2022 Elections

### April 5: Spring Election

**Polling place:** Town Hall, 4058 CTH N

**Polling hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Early voting location:** Clerk's office at the Town Hall, 4058 CTH N

**Early voting dates and hours\*:**

**March 22 – March 30:** Weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**March 31-April 1:** 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### August 9: Partisan Primary

**Polling place:** Town Garage, 4062 CTH N

**Polling hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Early voting location:** Clerk's office at the Town Hall, 4058 CTH N

**Early voting dates and hours\*:**

**July 26 – August 3:** Weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**August 4-5:** 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### November 8: General Election

**Polling place:** Town Garage, 4062 CTH N

**Polling hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Early voting location:** Clerk's office at the Town Hall, 4058 CTH N

**Early voting dates and hours\*:**

Oct. 25 – Nov. 2: Weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Nov 3-4: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

\*Additional early voting hours may be added, check

<https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/election-information/> for updates.

All voters are required to show a photo ID. For more information about photo IDs, please see:

<https://bringit.wi.gov/>



<http://myvote.wi.gov>



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My Voter Info	Find My Polling Place	What's on My Ballot	Update My Name or Address	Register To Vote	Vote Absentee	Track My Ballot
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## New and updated Town Ordinances

In 2021, the following ordinances were adopted:

Jan. 19: [Amending the Comprehensive Plan](#)

May 3: [Amending Ch. 16 to establish a yard waste drop off site](#)

July 6: [Amending s. 17.02 regarding notification requirements for non-metallic mining permit applications](#)

Oct. 4: [Establishing No Parking Areas](#)

## Dog Licenses

Wisconsin Statutes require every owner of a dog over the age of five (5) months to obtain a dog license each calendar year. Application for a dog license can be made at the Town Hall or online at: <https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/dog-license/>. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required for licensing. Renewal notices are emailed in December to all dog owners who provide an email address, unless they opt out. All others are mailed.

## Burning permits

### **OPEN BURNING IS ALLOWED BY PERMIT ONLY.**

Open Burning is regulated by Wisconsin Administrative Code sections [NR 502.11](#) and [NR 429.04](#). These sections primarily deal with WHO is allowed to burn and WHAT they are allowed to burn. Some areas of Wisconsin are further regulated as to WHEN burning is allowed through a requirement for a Wisconsin DNR burning permit. While the Town of Cottage Grove is not in one of these areas, TCG § [11.02 Outdoor and Open Burning](#) does require an annual burning permit from the Town for any open burning.

Once you have obtained your annual permit, you must call 608-839-5021 ext. 112 or visit the fire department web site at <http://www.cottagegrovefire.org/burn-permits> on the day of the burn to check for any burning restrictions. As a courtesy, permit holders planning to burn an area exceeding 6 acres are asked to leave a message on the burn line informing the fire department of their plans.

Annual burning permits applications may be obtained online at <https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/burning-permits/> or at the Town Hall during office hours.

## **Building Permits**

In general, building permits are required for construction of a new home, garage or shed, additions, decks, porches, pools, remodeling, finishing basements, re-siding or re-roofing, changing or adding electrical, plumbing, furnace, air conditioning and water softeners, any alterations to an existing structure, demolishing any building, and any construction to a commercial property. For more information, please see:

<https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/building-permit-information/> When in doubt about whether a permit is needed, always contact Building Inspector Jim Trebian at 608-697-7779 or [jtrebian@generalengineering.net](mailto:jtrebian@generalengineering.net). Be sure to include your email address on any building permit application.

## **Town Board Chair's Annual Report**

We've just spent another year living with Covid. During that time, the Town Board continued to meet in a hybrid format allowing for both in person attendance along with virtual attendance through the GoTo Meeting™ platform. This format will most likely continue because we have the equipment now to do so. The only exception will be the Annual Meeting which will require physical presence of electors in order to vote. If necessary, appropriate precautions will be in place.

With funds being made available from the ARPA Fund, we have been working with Charter/Spectrum Communications, TDS Metrocom and UpNetWi for expansion of Internet services in the Township. Dane County also has a Broadband Task Force working on Internet expansion, see article on page 28 and watch for updates of their progress on our social media page.

During 2021, the Town, working with Ayres Associates, continued its project to engineer and design the Uphoff Road and Femrite Drive bridges that are due for replacement in 2022. The bids for these two projects were reviewed and approved by the State, who will be providing 90% of funding, in January 2022. We are currently waiting for the formal contracts and scheduling plans for pre-construction meetings.

In 2021, the Fire Department ordered a new fire engine to replace one that had reached its retirement age. A new tanker (water truck) has also been ordered. Both trucks are expected to arrive sometime in the latter part of 2022.

The Town Board has also been looking at infrastructure needs of the Township, such as storm water management, roads, parks, especially where the Town could take advantage of funds from the federally-funded ARPA stimulus.

Last year, Public Administration Associates LLC (PAA) performed a comprehensive analysis of both our Fire and Emergency Medical Services Departments. Using National Fire Prevention Association criteria, PAA found that both Departments were performing well regarding all service levels. As there are always ways to improve our operations, the Board will be considering the ideas that were raised by PAA, and how and when they could be implemented.

The Plan Commission spent 2021 working on updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Every Township in Wisconsin is required to have a Comprehensive Plan and it must be updated every ten years. Our efforts should be wrapping up in the second quarter of 2022.

Once again, we want to give a big Thank You to all of our Fire and EMS volunteers. It is their efforts that helped protect us throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic we've all endured.

Kris Hampton  
Town Board Chairperson



## **New Deputy Clerk position opening**

The Town of Cottage Grove is seeking applicants for a Deputy Clerk to start on July 5, 2022. Under the direction of the Clerk, the Deputy Clerk will perform general receptionist duties and office support functions, respond to customer inquiries and information requests, and other essential functions related to maintaining public records, preparation of agendas and minutes, conducting elections, and issuing permits and licenses. In the absence of the Clerk, the Deputy Clerk will serve as a backup for taking of meeting minutes, payroll and financial functions, and other special projects as assigned.

Requirements include demonstrated abilities to operate a wide range of office equipment and software applications, meet and deal with the public in a respectful, professional and impartial manner, provide exceptional customer service, keep a professional demeanor during stressful encounters with the public, work under deadlines with competing priorities, follow complex oral and written directions, and make decisions in accordance with laws and regulations and established procedures. The Deputy Clerk must be bondable according to State Statutes, and able to obtain a notary public certification. A criminal background check will be required.

The Deputy Clerk will work three weekdays per week from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Additional hours will be required during election seasons, and some evening meetings will be required. Starting hourly wage is \$18.00. There are no benefits associated with this position.

To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, and completed application form to the Clerk at [clerk@towncg.net](mailto:clerk@towncg.net) by May 1, 2022.

The application form and complete position description can be found at <https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/job-openings/>.

## **Municipal Court Update**

The changes to the Municipal Court brought on in 2020 by Covid-19 led to workflow improvements that remain today. We continue to offer online (via zoom and phone) appearances to defendants, and have resumed in-person appearances each month. We are finding that approximately half of our defendants continue to prefer the online appearance options as we head into 2022. At the end of 2021 our Court Clerk, Vicki Anderson, retired. She spent two years in the role and was responsible for guiding the Court through the uncertainty of the initial Covid changes and protocols. We wish her well in retirement. At the end of 2021 a new court clerk was hired. Danielle King is a new resident in the Village of Cottage Grove and will be clerking the Court going forward.

# 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 § 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 608-839-4767.

Regarding work in the right-of-way, TCG § 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 § 25.04.”*

## Mailbox Installation

TCG § 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. The Bulletin can be viewed at [https://epd.wisc.edu/tic/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2019/12/Bltn\\_014\\_Mailbox\\_Safety.pdf](https://epd.wisc.edu/tic/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2019/12/Bltn_014_Mailbox_Safety.pdf) and 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. The post must be located in the shaded area on either side of the driveway. See

<https://www.countyofdane.com/documents/pdf/ordinances/ord076.pdf> for details.

### **Parking on Town Roads**

TCG § 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 § 08.09 Regulation Applicable to Agricultural Commercial Vehicles and Implements of Husbandry under the authority of § 348.27(19)(b)5a 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 § 08.09 at <https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/ordinances/> for more information. The Ordinance imposes a forfeiture for overweight operation. Permit application materials may be found at <http://www.dot.state.wi.us/business/ag/permits.htm>.

# Cottage Grove Volunteer Fire Department Report

The Cottage Grove Volunteer Fire Department is currently staffed by 36 active Volunteers and 3 honorary personnel from the Towns of Cottage Grove and Pleasant Springs and the Village of Cottage Grove. These men and women volunteer their time and expertise for Fire Prevention and Protection 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 served this past year. I would ask you the next time you see these people to say hello and thank them for their service.

The Fire Department put together an annual report that contains more information about the Department. It can be found on our web site at <http://www.cottagegrovefire.org> under the press release section. The report contains more information about call statistics, training, inspections and structure of the Department. The Fire Department will release a new annual report yearly moving forward.

The officers of the Cottage Grove Fire Department are:

Nick Archibald, Chief	Lance Severson, Captain
April Hammond, 1st Asst. Chief	Erik Severson, Lieutenant
Jess Robinson, 2nd Asst. Chief	Jason Kudrna, Lieutenant
Jason Helgeland, Captain	Kevin Laufenberg, Lieutenant

The Fire Personnel/Honorary members are:

H. George Ball	D.O. Mike Grob	
F.F. Joseph Baker	F.F. Thomas Grob	F.F. Katie Miller
F.F. Cole Brown	H. Joel Hammond	F.F. Tim Miller
F.F. Trevor Cooper	F.F. Josh Hammond	F.F. Mitch Strehlow
F.F. Emma Dabbs	F.F. Robert Kuckuk	F.F. Tom Strohbusch
P.F. Angela Elmer	F.F. Dennis Larson	P.F. Peter Strommen
P.F. Ehren Ezzell	F.F. Tom Laude	P.F. Jake Vetter
H. Roger Floreke	F.F. Justin Leistikow	F.F. Kat Walker
F.F. Brandon Fritsch	F.F. Grant Lorang	P.F. Nate Walker
F.F. Jamie Gogola	F.F. Arlin Maag	F.F. Paul Wendricks
F.F. Ryan Greendeer	F.F. Matt Mabie	

F.F. = Fire Fighter, D.O. = Driver Operator

P.F. = Probationary Fire Fighter, H. = Honorary Member

The Department responded to 328 calls in 2021 which was a 29% increase from 2020. The break-down of the calls were as follows: 87 in the Town of Cottage Grove, 119 in the Village of Cottage Grove, 68 in the Town of Pleasant Springs, and 54 requests for Mutual Aid assistance to other communities.

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 web site. 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 host its 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Fireman's Festival from June 16 to June 22, 2022 (Father's Day weekend). The Association utilizes some of the proceeds to provide scholarships to Monona Grove students for continuing education. The Association also answers donation requests from youth organizations in Cottage Grove and Monona. Proceeds from the Festival are also used towards tools, equipment, and training expenses. The Department used the proceeds from the 2021 Festival to purchase an Ultra-High Pressure pump system for Engine 4. This will be used for vehicle fires, brush fires, and overhaul at structure fires. Ultra-high pressure uses very high-water pressure and very fine water droplets to combat fires. It uses significantly less water than standard fire hose attacks.

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 once a year. Permit holders are required to call the burn line (608-839-5021 ext. 112) or check the fire department web site (<http://www.cottagegrovefire.org>) the day of their burn to listen to the recorded message to see if conditions are acceptable for burning.

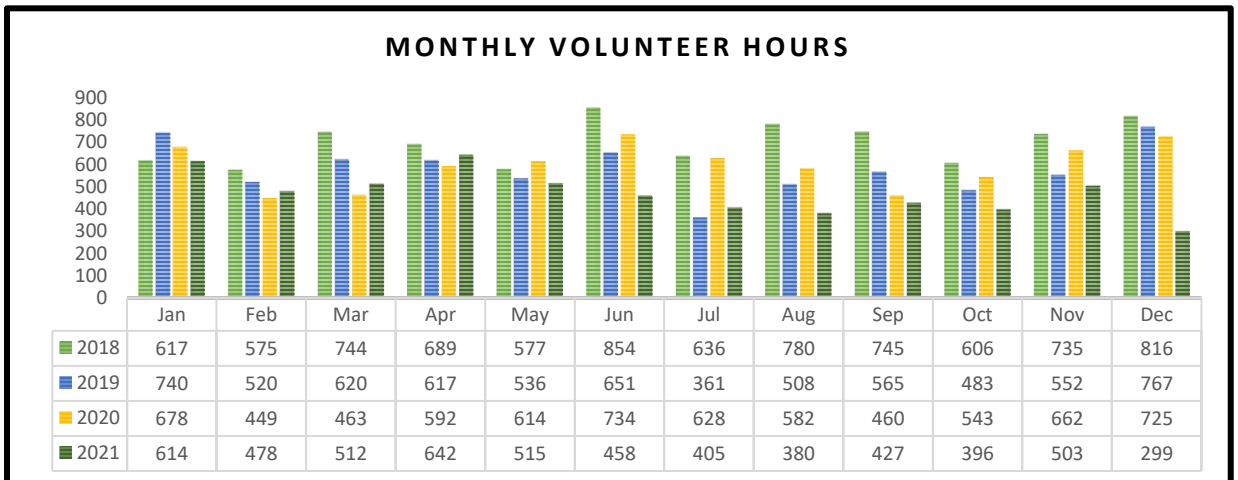
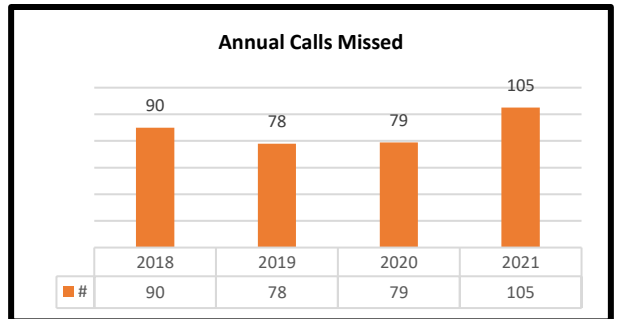
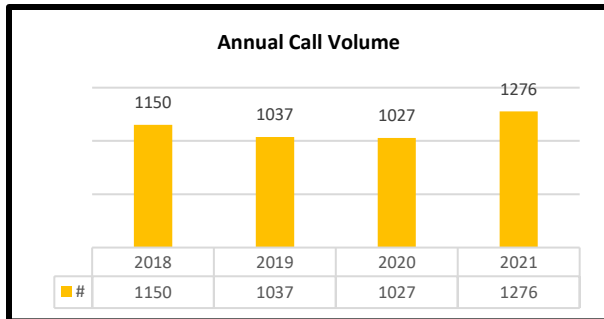
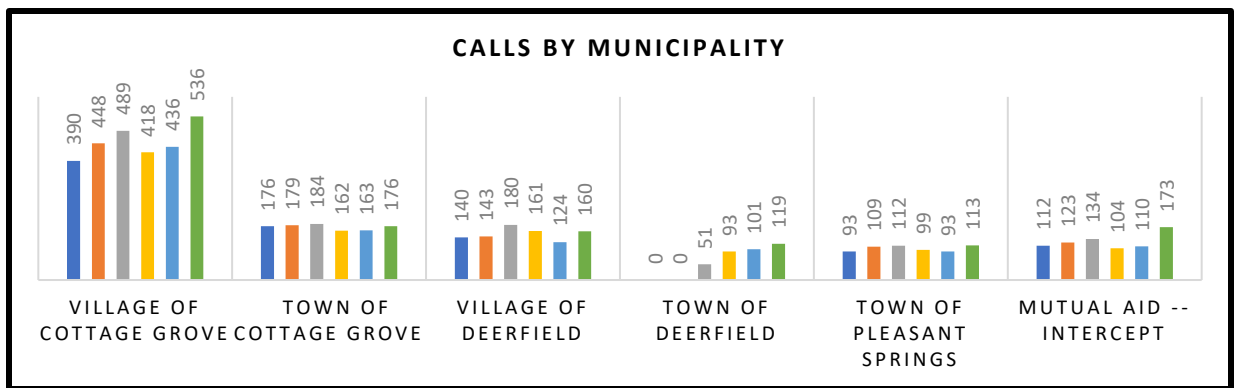
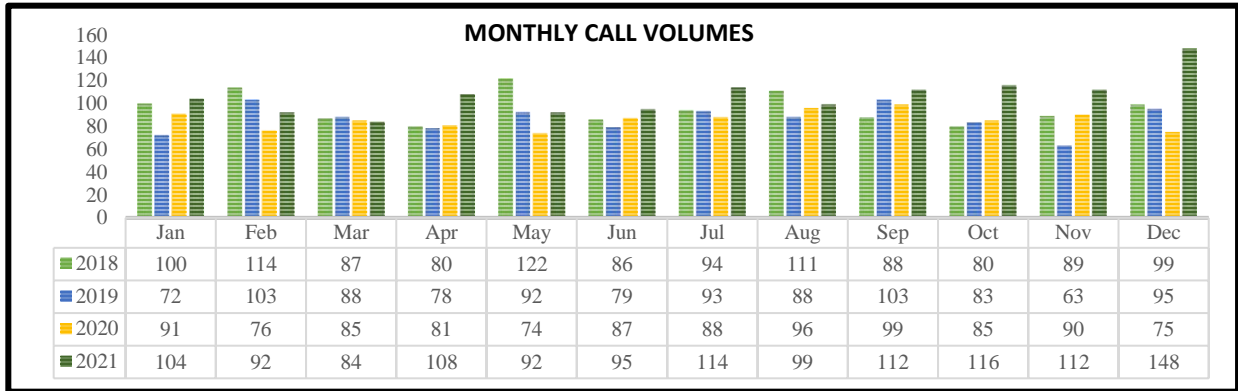
In case of an emergency dial 911.

Stay safe and have a great year.

Respectfully, Nick Archibald, Fire Chief



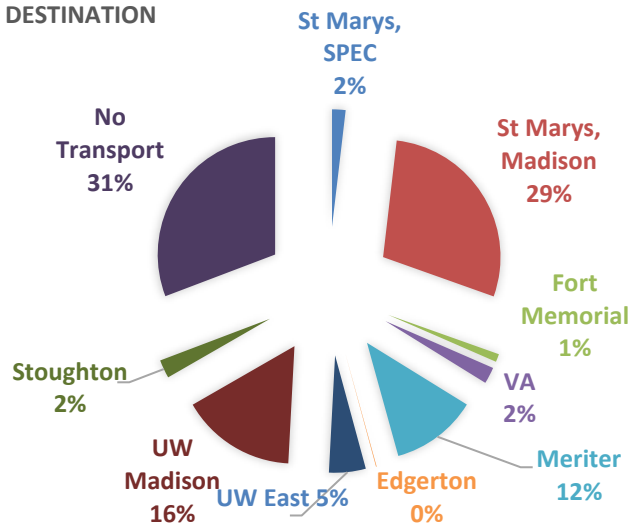
# Deer-Grove EMS 2020 Review





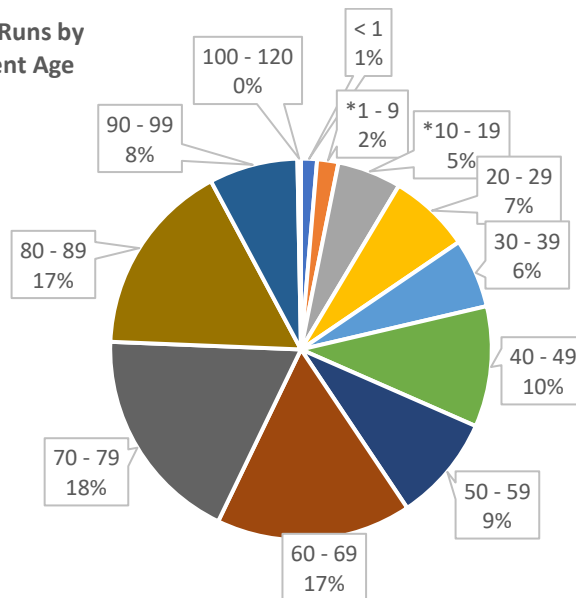
2021 AVERAGE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TIMES (In Minutes)				
Notified to Enroute	Enroute to Arrive at Scene	Arrived on Scene to Left Scene	Left Scene to Arrive at Destination	At Destination to Back in Service
2.15	8.72	21.17	23.52	22.42
<b>TOTAL CALL COMPLETION TIME:</b>				1 hr 44.25 min
Ave. Transport Miles	15.93	Max Transport Miles	41	

2021 HOSPITAL DESTINATION



**2021 DGEMS HIGHLIGHTS**

2021 Runs by Patient Age



All members of the Deer-Grove EMS Department would like to thank the Deer-Grove EMS District Commission and residents of our response area for their continued support. We would not be able to provide exemplary pre-hospital medical care to our residents without the continued financial commitment provided to us.

Our roster currently has 44 members. The membership breaks down to 8 Full Time Paramedics, 19 Casual Paramedics, and 16 Volunteer members. Of these members 35 are Paramedics, 2 are advanced EMTs and 7 are EMTs. DGEMS also employs a part-time office manager.

The Deer-Grove EMS staff continued to work through a pandemic response for the duration of 2021. While we did have lost time because of COVID-19 infection of our staff, we are very proud to say we never found ourselves in a staffing crisis. Our ambulances stayed in service and provided continuous 24/7/365 coverage to the DGEMS response area and beyond. This can be attributed to two things- the Department's ability to provide protective equipment to our staff, and the staff member's commitment to following all safety protocols whether on or off duty.

As illustrated by the previously presented statistics, even in COVID-times it was a very busy year for DGEMS. We responded to record number of calls for service. We were able to accomplish this task through the hard work of our dedicated staff members, whether they are paid or volunteer. Along with providing 24/7/365 service for one primary ambulance, we were able to place a second ambulance in service for 2347 hours in 2021. We did see a dip in volunteer hours but hope strong recruitment and loosening of COVID restrictions will help bring us more volunteer time. Toward the end of 2021 DGEMS also provided periodic emergency coverage to the Cambridge Area EMS Department while they worked through staffing and COVID complications.

DGEMS participated in these special events throughout 2021: Village of Cottage Grove Splash Pad Grand Opening, numerous rugby tournaments at the WI Rugby Complex, Hot2Trot Race, Cottage Grove Fireman's Festival, Luke Bryan Farm Tour, paramedic stand-by coverage for racing at Madison International Speedway, The Ride bicycling event, and Deerfield High School Football games.

The Department also embarked on several large projects, some of which are still in the works: A request for proposals was issued for a billing company to process our EMS incidents. Ultimately, we choose to stay with our current company but did get a lower rate. Another RFP was issued for a patient care reporting software. ImageTrend Elite was chosen, and we are currently in the build-out phase of this product. Finally, an RFP was issued to hire a consulting firm to perform a staffing study. Many firms submitted a proposal, with Public Administration Associates being the firm selected to complete the work. They completed their work and now the Department is working to implement their recommendations. Finally, after the promotion of Lieutenant McMullen to Captain, a

selection process was completed to promote a member into the vacant LT position. After evaluating, the highly qualified candidate Devon Anders was selected for promotion.

The Deer-Grove EMS District's Commission and staff look forward to 2022 with lofty goals of adding staff members, placing a new ambulance in service, and continuing our flawless work in the Dane County EMS community.

## **Sheriff's Office Report**

Sheriff Calvin Barrett and the Dane County Sheriff's Office appreciate the opportunity to serve your community. Your contract deputies, Deputy Brian Biwer, Deputy Jennifer Grafton, and Deputy Kristina Grams would like to thank you for your support and partnership in making the Town of Cottage Grove one of the premier places to reside in Dane County.

The deputies assigned to the Town of Cottage Grove are dedicated to establishing and developing strong community partnerships, as well as providing professional service to all in our community. We are an organization that seeks to enhance the quality of life for the citizens we serve.

The current pandemic has changed things significantly over the past few years, but it does not hinder the service we provide. We are doing our best to keep ourselves healthy as well as those we serve by taking extra precautions.

Our deputies actively seek out opportunities to work in partnership with our community, reducing crime and solving identified problems. Our working relationships throughout the neighborhoods of the Township create a proactive community-oriented policing approach.

We are at the start of our eighth year in this contract. Since the start of the contract in 2015, the Township Police Station has seen increased activity in use for meetings, training, and major case briefings. Our special events teams, K9 unit, reconstruction team, crisis negotiation team, and our community deputies actively train in our building. This creates an increased law enforcement presence in the Township. In addition to the contract deputies, we have one detective, an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and a retired deputy who works part time to assist her.

The past year the contract deputies responded to approximately 1,500 calls for service within the Township ranging from traffic crashes, a high-profile homicide that spilled over into the Township, EMS assists, damage to property, citizens assist, welfare checks, suspicious activity, alarms, and preservation of peace calls. We have been successful in addressing issues where traffic enforcement is needed throughout the Township. We utilize traffic speed bumps, additional speed signs, and the addition of stop signs in recent years where patterns were problematic.

We are seeing an increase of frauds and scams against vulnerable populations. Please be mindful that these scammers will tell victims not to tell anyone about money they have come into, to avoid using their own banks, buy gift cards as payment, or send cash in order to collect winnings.

As we move into the year 2022, we encourage everyone to call in suspicious behavior when you see it. We also invite you to explore the web for information on crime activity in our community. Community Crime Map connects law enforcement with the community to reduce crime and improve public safety. Crime mapping helps the public get a better idea of the crime activity in their area so they can make more informed decisions about how to stay safe. To see what's happening in the community, go to [www.communitycrimemap.com](http://www.communitycrimemap.com). The Dane County Sheriff's Office released the organization's new smartphone application back in 2020, which helps serve as a way for the Sheriff's Office to connect with Dane County residents and visitors, providing information quickly and efficiently to anyone with a smartphone. The app offers quick access to items of public interest and is easy to use. Users can submit a tip, search and view those housed in our jail, view jail information, the active warrant list, connect to the organization's social media platforms, read the latest news and find out about upcoming events, or even leave feedback. The Dane County Sheriff's Office app is available for download for free in the App Store and Google Play, just search "Dane Sheriff" to download the app.

Over the years our deputies have proudly served the Town of Cottage Grove. Deputy Kristina Grams replaced Deputy Steven French when he took another position within the department in April of 2021. Deputy Brian Biwer retired on February 1, 2022, along with K9 Boone. Deputy Jacob Zilli will be taking his place in March of 2022.

We continue to enjoy our partnership with the Town of Cottage Grove and are proud to serve our community! Thank you for your continued support.

Lieutenant Jonathan Triggs  
Deputy Brian Biwer and K9 Boone  
Deputy Jennifer Grafton  
Deputy Kristina Grams



## Emergency Government Committee Report

The Town of Cottage Grove Emergency Government Committee will soon be expanding to include more members. Current members are Town Supervisor Mike Fonger and citizen members Otto Kraus and Stephanie Lehmann. We are prepared to respond to any emergency at the call of the Town Chairperson.

The Town encourages 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 <http://www.ready.gov>.

**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.**

Submitted by Mike Fonger

## Drinking Water Testing Resources

**Remember the last time your well water was tested?** If the answer is NO, perhaps it is time for another test. Information on water well maintenance and testing well water is available from <http://www.publichealthmdc.com/environmental-health>.

### Well Water Testing Recommendations

Test your well water every year for contaminants including coliform bacteria, and nitrates. You should also test if you notice any change in taste, odor or appearance, or after flooding.

Visit the <https://www.publichealthmdc.com/environmental-health/laboratory-services/drinking-water-testing> page for testing information or call the Public Health Lab at (608) 243-0357. Public Health Madison and Dane County can recommend other tests depending on your well's location, age, etc.

### Well Maintenance

For basic information about well water system maintenance, see <https://www.publichealthmdc.com/documents/WhatsAWellOwnerToDo.pdf>.

Information on disinfecting contaminated wells is at <https://www.publichealthmdc.com/documents/BactiInWell1.pdf>

Contact Environmental Health [www.publichealthmdc.com/environmental-health](http://www.publichealthmdc.com/environmental-health)

**Email:** [health@publichealthmdc.com](mailto:health@publichealthmdc.com)

**Phone:** (608) 242-6515

Good health depends on safe drinking water, check your well regularly.

## **Dane County Broadband Task Force Information**

The 15 member Dane County Broadband Task Force was created in 2021 by the County Board to focus on how to provide broadband access to all of Dane County's residents, particularly those who live in rural areas where broadband access may be lacking or non-existent.

The Task Force aims to create a greater community understanding of Dane County's challenges related to high-speed, reliable and affordable internet access for the County as a whole. They are working to prepare local partners in Dane County to have the background and knowledge (e.g., accurate maps, data on speeds, access, etc.) to apply for various grants and funding to expand access to unserved and underserved areas of the county, and increase awareness of the issues those without reliable internet access face.

The Task Force is collecting data, researching and exploring various funding mechanisms, partnering with stakeholders to identify where broadband access is and is not, exploring alternative solutions, and will make recommendations to the County Board on the role of Dane County in facilitating the expansion of broadband services to residents. The Task Force is working to survey rural in specific areas to identify homes and neighborhoods in which service is not available. Communities and internet service providers will be able to use their report to be able to apply for grants to expand access to these areas.

### **Visit their web site for more info:**

<https://board.countyofdane.com/initiatives/Broadband-Task-Force>

### **They are asking for your help!**

To bolster the effort to create more accurate maps of service coverage and speeds, the Task Force is encouraging members of the public to take 2 minutes to complete the MadREP speed test. The more data that is collected, the fuller the picture of broadband access issues in Dane County will be identified and utilized by the many organizations and units of government to expand access and provide affordable, reliable service to every resident.

The speed test can be found here:

<http://madisonregion.org/industry-and-innovation/broadband/>

Please contact the Task Force at [Dane.Broadband.Task.Force@countyofdane.com](mailto:Dane.Broadband.Task.Force@countyofdane.com) or contact the Chair of the Task Force and our County Board Supervisor Melissa Ratcliff at [Ratcliff.Melissa@countyofdane.com](mailto:Ratcliff.Melissa@countyofdane.com) or call 608-266-5758 and let them know of your broadband issues and how it has impacted you.

## **Cottage Grove Area Historical Society**

The Cottage Grove Area Historical Society (CGAHS) had its beginnings in 1976 when local residents were asked to contribute local history for America's 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. People may make appointments to see what is in the archives.

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 <https://www.facebook.com/CGWIAHWI> and <http://www.cgahswi.org> or stop at one of the group's brat feeds scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. between Piggly Wiggly and the Bank of Sun Prairie in Cottage Grove.

For more information contact Dennis Bork at [acres2@frontier.com](mailto:acres2@frontier.com) or call 608-839-5578.



## Town Park Shelter Survey



The Town Board and Parks Committee have had preliminary discussions about adding shelters to Town parks and/or behind the Town Hall to promote and enhance outdoor experiences, especially in light of the pandemic we have all endured. The neighborhood park shelters would be open-sided pole-buildings, much like the one shown above that is in Bass Park. Keep in mind that water, sewer and electricity are not available in neighborhood parks, so no facilities could be included in those shelters. There may be a possibility of extra amenities in a shelter behind the Town Hall. We would like your input on the matter.

Please tell us your thoughts by taking the survey at <https://forms.towncg.net/ParkShelterSurvey> to help guide the Town's decision making about park shelters to best meet community needs and interests.

The survey will close on **April 30, 2022**.

To learn about the locations and amenities at each of the eleven neighborhood parks in the Town of Cottage Grove, please see: <https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/town-parks/>.



# **Stormwater Management**

## **Stormwater Pollution- Public Education**

Since 2004, we've had a stormwater permit with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources regulating stormwater discharge from our urbanized areas. One of the major components of the permit is to provide public education and allow for public input concerning stormwater discharge and pollution.

Examples of past stormwater public education/input efforts include:

- Articles in our Annual Report
- Pamphlets/posters displayed at Town Hall
- Inserts in Property tax bills
- Links on Town web site
- Video available at Town Hall for resident's use
- Presentations at Annual Town Meeting

In 2021, we decided to expand our public education campaign due to recent changes in our stormwater permit requiring more direct face-to-face public education efforts. On November 4, 2021 we presented a stormwater pollution lecture to 24 senior biology students at Monona Grove High School covering:

- Increasing extreme rainfall events
- Stormwater Pollution-General description
- Detrimental Impact of Stormwater Runoff in Yahara Lakes
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention- Municipal level
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention- Personal Level

The students used a Rainfall Simulator to simulate stormwater runoff from eight different urban land types and conducted a virtual tour of local municipal stormwater pollution prevention practices including rain gardens, stormwater detention basins and underground stormwater vaults.

We intend to continue to provide this lecture annually at Monona Grove High School in future years.

## **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. While our hopes for a more normal year in 2021 were dashed, we still managed to provide essential services and support for older adults and their families.

Like 2020, we remained focused on providing meals to homebound seniors throughout the year. Our on-site dining opened, then closed, then opened again due to the covid variants and the increased numbers of positive tests in our area. Regardless, the kitchen staff and volunteers adapted as necessary. Perhaps the biggest challenge we faced was the impact of “supply chain issues”. Our food supplier was at times unable to fill our orders or was forced to substitute food. Normally we have deliveries twice weekly, but throughout the year it was sometimes limited to once a week. We regularly updated our home delivered meal recipients and asked for their patience and flexibility as we dealt with the uncertainty.

The Adult Day Center remained opened throughout 2021. We feel very fortunate that the steps we took to ensure the health and safety of our day center participants worked well. We only closed once due to covid. We were able to re-open two weeks later with no other infections reported. We also began to take on new clients on, as throughout the year, as some of the public health restrictions were lifted.

We held an all outdoor StrawberryFest last June. It was more than the drive thru event in '20, but still not our normal event. But it was great to be outside on a beautiful early summer day, listen to great music and enjoy catching up with old friends.

And after much delay, we finally had our official 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. Halloween Day marked 50 years to the day that the open house was held for the brand-new senior center back in the fall of 1971. With special guests Governor Tony Evers, Dane County Executive Joe Parisi and Sun Prairie Mayor Paul Esser, we were able to announce our fundraising goal was surpassed! We were also pleased to have Bonnie Laviro & Holly Cremer Berkenstadt join us. Bonnie & Holly are the daughters of our founders Garvin & Helen Cremer. With the support of many wonderful individual donors, we were able to raise \$50,247! Thanks to all of our friends in Cottage Grove that supported this effort.

Like we said last year, we are proud to say we were able to keep providing much-needed essential services, no staff members lost their jobs and our bills are paid. Again, we thank the Town of Cottage Grove for their support that helped make this possible.

## **Dane County Senior (60+) and Disabled Transportation For Medical Appointments**

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Dane County's Driver Escort service provides medical rides to Dane County seniors, 60 years and older, on a donation-only basis. The service is offered Monday-Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Each community has a ride coordinator who schedules rides for area seniors with volunteer drivers from their community. In the Cottage Grove/Marshall area, Susan Sorrentino is the ride coordinator, 608-837-3772.

The RSVP Vets Helping Vets (VHV) program provides medical appointment rides to Dane County veterans of all ages and their immediate family members, on a donation-only basis. The service hours are the same as Driver Escort. The VHV Coordinator Lorrie Hylkema can be reached at 608-238-7901 or [lhylkema@rsvpdane.org](mailto:lhylkema@rsvpdane.org).

Both programs urgently need volunteer drivers. It's a flexible volunteer job, where a driver can choose to drive based on their own schedule. Mileage reimbursement is provided at 58.5 cents/mile and excess liability insurance is provided. Contact Driver Services Co-manager Mary Schmelzer for more information, 608-441-7896 or [mschmelzer@rsvpdane.org](mailto:mschmelzer@rsvpdane.org).

### **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, 608-294-8747, 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. Ride 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.

## Refuse and Recycling Information

Waste Management is under contract with the Town to provide weekly curbside collection of trash and recyclables. Vendor-supplied carts are used to work with their automated pickup system. These containers are to be left with the residence if you move. 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 is shown at the end of this article, and is also available at <https://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov/garbage-recycling/>.

Have your trash and recycling containers out to the curb by 6:00 a.m. Keep containers at least 3 feet apart and away from other objects (mail boxes, light poles, parked cars, etc.)

The following items are not picked up with regular routes, but can be scheduled at no extra charge by calling 1-888-960-0008:

- **MOST APPLIANCES AND LARGE ITEMS**
- **WASTE OIL:** Common engine oil only. Must be in a leak-proof, non-breakable one-gallon jug with a threaded lid, labeled OIL.
- **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.

**The following items WILL NOT be picked up (it is illegal to landfill these items):**

- **NO MEDICAL WASTE** – i.e., needles, rubber gloves, oxygen tubes, IV bags, etc.,
- **NO YARD WASTE** (the Town has a seasonal drop off site for non-woody yard waste)
- **NO WET PAINT or HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:** There will be NO pick-up on New Year's 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.

### Items to be Recycled

Recyclables should be placed loose in the recycling container. Plastic bags are not recyclable, and bagged recyclables may be discarded in the trash during the sorting process.

**ALUMINUM CANS** - Includes used beverage cans only. No foil or food containers.

**CONTAINER GLASS** – Includes clear, brown, green and blue container glass only. Glass should be clean. Glass **DOES NOT INCLUDE** ceramic cups, dishes, ovenware, plate glass, safety and window glass, heat-resistant glass such as Pyrex, light bulbs, mirrors, lead-based glass such as crystal.

**PLASTIC CONTAINERS** – Includes only food and beverage bottles and containers marked with the #1 through #7 recycling emblem. Includes aseptic packaging such as juice boxes and soup broth containers. **DOES NOT INCLUDE** motor oil bottles, plastic bags, Styrofoam cups or containers and packaging peanuts.

**TIN CANS** – Includes metal cans, bi-metal cans and steel containers which must be clean. Cut out end can be secured inside can.

**MIXED PAPER PRODUCTS** – Includes all grades of papers including: white, colored, ledger, shiny, coated, carbonless, envelopes – including windowed, labeled and kraft; newspapers, magazines, phone books, computer printout paper, glued pads and tablets, file folders, post-it notes, spiral notebooks, cereal boxes, shoe boxes, paper grocery bags, beverage cartons. Can include paper clips and staples. **DOES NOT INCLUDE** waxed paper, hand towels, napkins or paper plates.

**CORRUGATED CARDBOARD** – Includes clean corrugated cardboard only. Cardboard must be flattened and bundled in bundles not more than twelve (12) inches high by twenty-four (24) inches wide and thirty-six (36) inches long. **DOES NOT INCLUDE** waxed cardboard or soiled cardboard. ALL paper products may be placed in a paper bag.

**Not Recyclable Items (place in trash):** plastic bags, pesticide or herbicide containers, Styrofoam or microwave containers, aluminum foil, dry empty paint cans, aerosol cans.

# Town of Cottage Grove Recycling Weeks (shaded)

# 2022

January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Collection is on Wednesday for residences east of and on both sides of County Highway N, on Thursday for residences west of County Highway N.



## **Recycling Electronics – NEW FORMAT THIS YEAR**

The Town and Waste Management will continue to offer an annual collection of electronic waste items, **but starting in 2022, instead of a curbside collection, residents will need to bring their discarded electronics to a centralized drop off site at the Town Garage at 4062 CTH N (next door to the Town Hall) between May 9-16, 2022.** Hopefully this will eliminate some of the confusion that has resulted in missed pickups, etc. in previous years. The following items will be accepted: Computers, tablets, printers, fax machines, scanners, copiers, TVs, computer monitors, keyboards, mice, hard drives, speakers, flash drives, external modems and other computer peripherals, video payers, cell phones. **NO AIR CONDITIONERS, DE-HUMIDIFIERS OR ITEMS CONTAINING REFRIGERANTS.**

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 <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ecycle/wisconsin.html>.

### **Hazardous Waste Disposal**

**Dane County Clean Sweep** accepts hazardous household waste such as paint-related products, pesticides & poisons, organic solvents, ignitables, and aerosols, rechargeable batteries, and electronics. 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, at the Dane County Landfill is open from 7:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. M–F and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Closed Sundays and Holidays.

**FEES APPLY TO SOME ITEMS.** Before visiting Clean Sweep or the Product Exchange Room, please review the guidelines at <https://landfill.countyofdane.com/services/clean-sweep> or call (608) 838-3212 for current conditions.

## Town Calendar of Events

Meeting and other Town notices are posted on the Town's web site at:

<http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov>, and on the indoor and outdoor bulletin boards at the Town Hall, 4058 County Road N. Election notices are also posted at Nora's Tavern at 1843 US Hwy. 12 and Doubleday's at 4586 Baxter Road. Meeting notices are typically posted by noon on the Friday preceding the meeting. Notices required to be published will be published in the legal section of the Wisconsin State Journal.

Town Board meetings .....	7 p.m. first & third Mon. of the month
Plan Commission Meetings .....	7 p.m. fourth Wed. of the month
Local candidate nomination papers due to clerk ....	first Tuesday in January
First installment taxes due.....	January 31 <sup>st</sup> to the Town Treasurer
Spring Primary (if needed).....	third Tuesday in February
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 .....	May or June, watch for notice
Alcohol License annual public hearing.....	first Monday in June
Non-Metallic Mining permit annual public hearing....	first Monday in June
Second Installment taxes due .....	July 31 <sup>st</sup> to County Treasurer
Partisan Primary (even years) .....	second Tuesday in August
Budget Workshops .....	Oct. and Nov., watch for notice
General Election (even years).....	first Tuesday in November
Annual Budget Hearing and Town Budget Mtg.....	Nov. or early Dec. – watch for notice
Tax Bills Mailed.....	early December
Candidate first day to circulate nomination papers...	December 1 <sup>st</sup>

# Town of Cottage Grove Contact Information

IN ANY EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

## Phone

### **Town Office**

4058 County Road N  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

<http://www.tn.cottagegrove.wi.gov>

608-839-5021  
608-839-4432 Fax

Regular Hours\*: 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., M-F

\*CLOSED FRIDAYS BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY AND LABOR DAY

### **Public Works**

4062 County Road N  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527  
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., M-F

608-839-4767

### **Building Inspector – Jim Trebian**

General Engineering Company  
916 Silver Lake Drive, PO Box 340  
Portage, WI 53901  
email: [jtrebian@generalengineering.net](mailto:jtrebian@generalengineering.net)  
<http://www.generalengineering.net>

608-745-4070 Office  
608-697-7779 cell

### **Dane County Sheriff's Office** (non-emergency)

<https://www.danesheriff.com/>

608-255-2345

### **Fire Dept** - 4030 County Road N (non-emergency)

<http://www.cottagegrovefire.org>

608-839-4343  
608-839-4427 Fax

### **DEER-GROVE EMS** - 4030 County Road N (non-emergency)

<http://www.deergroveems.com>

608-839-5658  
608-839-4427 Fax

### **Town Assessor**

Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc.  
P.O. Box 291, Greenville, WI 54942  
<http://www.apraz.com>

800-721-4157

## Utility and Service Providers

*Phone numbers are accurate at the time of printing, but it is probably best to check the company web sites for current contact information.*

	<u>Phone</u>
<b>Gas and Electric Providers</b> (depending on area)	
Alliant Energy Customer Service/Billing	800-862-6222
Electric Emergency/Outage	800-862-6261
Gas Emergency	800-862-6263
<a href="http://www.alliantenergy.com">http://www.alliantenergy.com</a>	
Madison Gas & Electric Customer Service/Billing	608-252-7222
Electric or Gas Emergency/Outage	608-252-7111
Toll-free Emergency	800-245-1123
<a href="http://www.mge.com">http://www.mge.com</a>	
WE Energies Customer Service/Billing	800-242-9137
Electric Emergency/Outage	800-662-4797
Gas Emergency	800-261-2345
<a href="http://www.we-energies.com">http://www.we-energies.com</a>	
<b>Telephone/Internet/TV</b> (not all are available in all areas)	
AT&T Customer Service/Billing	800-288-2020
Repair Service	800-246-8464
<a href="http://www.att.com">http://www.att.com</a>	
Charter/Spectrum Customer Service/Support	855-707-7328
<a href="https://www.spectrum.com/">https://www.spectrum.com/</a>	
Frontier Communications Customer Service/Billing	800-921-8101
Technical Support	800-239-4430
<a href="http://www.frontier.com">http://www.frontier.com</a>	
TDS Telecom	855-220-2592
<a href="http://tdstelecom.com">http://tdstelecom.com</a>	
UpNetWI	608-234-5980
<a href="https://www.upnetwi.com/">https://www.upnetwi.com/</a>	
DirecTV	800-531-5000
<a href="http://www.directv.com">http://www.directv.com</a>	
Dish Network	800-333-3474
<a href="http://www.dish.com">http://www.dish.com</a>	

Phone

HughesNet

<http://www.hughesnet.com/>

844-737-2700

Viasat

<http://www.viasat.com/>

760-476-2200

**Trash and recycling collection**

Waste Management

1-888-960-0008