



2022 TAX COLLECTION INFORMATION



WAYS TO PAY YOUR TAXES

U.S. MAIL

- For income tax purposes, any end-of-month tax payments received after 12/31 but “postmarked” by December 31, 2022, will be receipted “December 31, 2022”.

24 HOUR DROP OFF

- A drop box is located on the east side of Village Hall – at 310 Chieftain Street. The drop box is checked daily, and tax payments found in the drop slot will be receipted daily using that day’s date or if on a weekend or holiday the following business day.

IN PERSON

- You may pay your taxes and receive your receipt at the Village Hall, during the regular office hours of 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

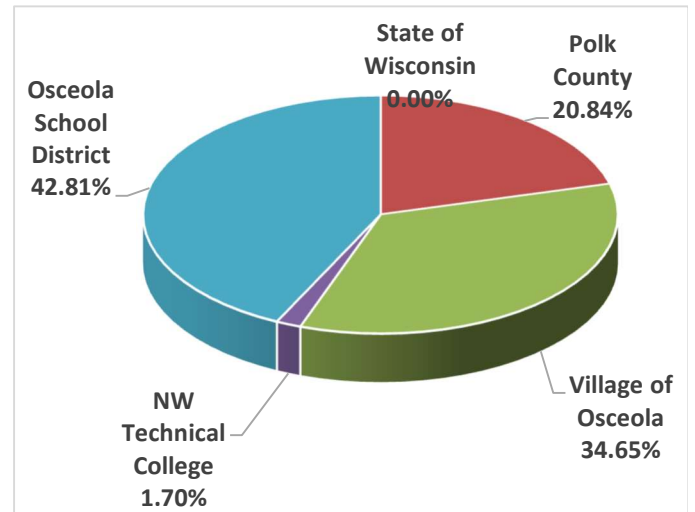
ON-LINE

- You may pay your taxes on-line with your debit card, credit card or e-check thru www.paymentservicenetwork.com They charge a convenience fee.

Receipts for tax payments and dog licenses will be mailed out only to those individuals that furnish a self-addressed stamped envelope. You may also check online at <https://www.co.polk.wi.us/>, click on property tax search on the left-hand side to see if your payment was received and applied. Please allow time for the payment to show up online.

LOTTERY CREDIT If this tax bill is for your primary residence and you have resided there since January 1, 2022 (or before) and there is NOT a lottery credit deduction on your tax bill, please call the Village Office at (715)294-3498 to get the required form to claim this credit. **The lottery credit for this year is \$191.53.** PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO APPLY FOR THE LOTTERY CREDIT.

THIS IS WHERE YOUR TAX DOLLARS GO:



DOG LICENSING Dog licenses are required in the Village of Osceola. Dog licenses must be obtained prior to April 1, 2023. Per state statues and Village ordinances dog licenses will not be issued without complete rabies information. Please call your veterinarian for a copy of your rabies vaccination certificate if you do not have one.

ADJUSTMENT TO SEWER UTILITY RATES

Please note that the sanitary sewer utility rates will be changing second quarter (April) 2023 and will be reflected on the second quarter bill received in July. The changes to the rate are necessary to ensure sustainability of the Sanitary Sewer Utility.

Current rate: Flow Charge \$9.00 Per 100 Cubic Feet (748 Gallons)
Sanitary Fixed Fee:

Meter Size	Quarterly Fee
All Meter Sizes	\$35

New Rate: Flow Charge: \$10.75 Per 100 Cubic Feet (748 Gallons)
Sanitary Fixed Fee:

Meter Size	Quarterly Fee
5/8" or 3/4"	\$40
1"	\$56
1 1/4"	\$64
1 1/2"	\$72
2"	\$116
3"	\$440
4"	\$560

No rate changes were made during this current billing cycle.

VILLAGE REMINDERS, cont. on page 4

2022 ELECTION DATES

- Spring Primary (if needed) February 21, 2023
- Spring Election April 4, 2023

COMMUNITY COFFEE with Osceola Police Department

Event is held at Caribou Coffee - remaining dates January 20 & 27; February 17 & 24; March 24 & 31

NEW GROUP FORMED AT THE SENIOR CENTER, By Jim Hendrickson

The Osceola Senior Center is pleased to announce the formation of a group that has a shared interest in local, national, and world affairs. It is being called "The Gathering".

The purpose of this gathering is to provide a platform that allows a free exchange of ideas, a place to find the answers to your questions, a place to describe your thoughts concerning your favorite books, newspaper articles, politics, religion, viewpoints, life experiences.



A place to meet and greet. A place to explore and acknowledge the views of others. Each member of the gathering has the right to discuss or remain silent on the subject being discussed.

The group will meet twice a month on the first and third Mondays at 12 Noon until adjournment (by 4 PM) in the Osceola Senior Center. Please feel free to bring your lunch or coffee.

For further information contact Jim Hendrickson at jimihnye@gmail.com.

WINTER SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS, by Todd Waters



Winter snow removal operations are in effect throughout the Village of Osceola this time of year. Now that we have transitioned and continue to move deeper into the winter months, Public Works' priority will be to keep Village streets, sidewalks, and parking lots clean of snow and ice. We are also responsible for clearing the infrastructure and spaces that keep utilities, police, fire, and public amenities capable of responding and continuing to provide those amenities to the Village of Osceola citizens. Please keep in mind that with every snowfall we are responding and will need the necessary 24 hours at the end of each snow cessation to complete these public safety maintenance actions.

For convenience I have provided a few reminders that include two excerpts from the Village of Osceola Code. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to the Public Works Department Coordinator. We look forward to teaming up with "Coffee with a Cop" again this winter for "Coffee with a Snowplow Driver" to talk about our snow removal timing and actions. Stop by with questions, complaints, or words of encouragement. We hope everyone has a safe winter and a Happy New Year.

Sanitation Cans

Ensure your sanitation cans are not placed beyond the curb or driveway and into the street. The safest place for them is clearing an appropriate place in the boulevard or within your driveway or yard. While we do our very best, there are times when snow leaving the wing of plow trucks removes sanitation cans from their upright position. It's appropriate to remember that during and at the end of a snowfall our priority is to remove snow from curb to curb so that vehicles and pedestrians can move safely along with emergency services the ability to respond. Please visit Waste Managements' website if you have questions about where your sanitation can should be placed.

Snow and Ice Removal 186-6. The owner, occupant, or person in charge of each and every building, structure, or unoccupied lot in the Village fronting or abutting any street shall clean, or cause to be cleaned, the sidewalk in front of or adjoining each such building, structure or lot of snow or ice to the width of such sidewalk within 24 hours after the cessation of a snowfall. If ice has so formed that it cannot be removed, the owner or occupant shall keep the same sprinkled with ashes, salt, sawdust or sand.

No person or persons owning or leasing any private or commercial property shall clear their property, including parking areas, lots and driveways, but except sidewalks, of accumulated snow, ice or other debris onto any Village street or other Village property. Snow shall not be piled at or near intersections so as to obstruct the view of pedestrians or operators of motor vehicles.

The deposit of snow or ice upon any sidewalk, alley or street of the Village contrary to the provisions of this section shall be and is declared to be a nuisance and, in addition to the penalty provided for violation of this section, the Village Administrator or designee may cause any snow or deposited to be removed and cause the cost of said removal to be charged to the owner of the property from which said snow or ice has been removed. If not paid within 30 days, the cost of the removal shall be added to the tax roll as a special tax or recovered in an action against the owner or occupant.

VILLAGE REMINDERS CONTINUED



ALL-NIGHT PARKING –Village Code prohibits the parking of unoccupied vehicles on any Village Street, or in a Village parking lot, between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. from November 15 through April 15. Winter parking restrictions are in effect and enforced during that time, even if there is no snow. Vehicle owners are subject to towing, storage charges and a parking ticket.

CHRISTMAS TREES – Final day for Christmas Tree pickup will be January 31, 2023.

STREET LIGHTS – If you notice a street light that is out or not functioning properly, please notify the Village Office at 715-294-3498 or email us at info@myosceola.com. Please provide us with the nearest address to the affected street light, which will allow us to locate the street light and see that it is repaired.

CHAMPION AIRCRAFT, By Deb Rose

In December 1903 the Wright brothers took their first manned flight in North Carolina. Others soon hopped on the new found flying industry and began building and flying their own planes. Within a few decades the ever-progressive Osceola had both its own airport and an aircraft manufacturer, Champion Aircraft.

The story of Champion Aircraft began with a dream by company founder and Osceola native, Robert Brown. A love of flying led Brown, along with friends Al Brandt and Ned Keys, to form the company in late 1954. The trio bought the production rights, tools and engineering data of the Champion airplane from Aeronca Aircraft Corporation. With space in a rented hangar at Holman Field in St Paul the production of new planes began. The first production off the line was cause for a celebration and open house that was attended by then Minnesota Governor Orville Freeman, many flying enthusiasts and media. According to the May 1955 edition of *Flying* magazine "Operational features of the new ship include assemblies for photography, spraying, dusting and fogging." Price for the new plane in 1955 was \$3,795.

The threat of flooding at the low lying airport near the shores of the Mississippi River forced the budding business to consider a move. After negotiations with the Village of Osceola in 1956 a new plant was completed in Osceola. By '57 production was in full swing. At its height the plant produced one airplane per day!

The success of the business brought many workers to Osceola. Many who moved here have family that continue to live here to this day. In 1963 Champion Aircraft merged with Bellanca who then moved their production to Osceola, also. At its height the company produced several top of the line aircraft models. One of the most interesting planes the company manufactured was the Citabria aerobatic airplane. This model was the first sport plane to have an inverted fuel line, so the engine didn't die when the plane was flown upside down. With an experienced pilot this plane could perform loops and rolls! According to Molly Brown, wife of company founder Bob (and co-owner of the business) and an avid flyer herself, the Citabria was one of the best planes the company built.

Sadly, in 1972 a massive slump in the sales of personal aircraft hit the industry forcing Bellanca/Champion Aircraft to close its doors in Osceola. Several years later, a company in Wisconsin bought the rights and production of Champion and under the name American Champion Aircraft Corporation, began anew. Fortunately, there are still fans and enthusiasts of the Champion planes who refurbish and maintain some of these older planes. Every once in a while, we still see one flying over Osceola.



Minnesota's Governor Orville Freeman (right) discusses the new plane with Champion Aircraft Pres. Robert Brown.

