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# Village News



Village of Osceola (715) 294-3498 [info@myosceola.com](mailto:info@myosceola.com) [www.myosceola.com](http://www.myosceola.com)

## LIBRARY NEWS

It's Back to School season which is also time for fresh new library programming. The library has something for everyone. Storytime is back and a new Little Learners sensory and art program as well. Teens and tweens, need something to do after school? We have a Nintendo Switch, craft supplies, and movies and snacks on Wednesdays after school.

Book Clubs? We have two! Are you an adult that likes to craft or learn new skills? We have crafting classes too. The library has something to offer everyone in our community. Access to thousands of books, magazines, computers, printing, faxing, and a kids and family area that can't be beat.

The Wilberg Memorial Public Library of Osceola is open to everyone, and our library staff are here to help you find the materials you need and provide a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

If you're looking forward to spooky season, we have you covered with "Visiting the Beyond: Paranormal Presentation" by Curt Strutz, across the hall from the library on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm. It's an interactive and extremely unique presentation that will have you on the edge of your seat!

Check our website, social media pages, or come to the library to get a full schedule of events.

Happy Fall!



## POLICE REMINDERS, by Chief Pedrys



**COMMUNITY COFFEE** - The Osceola Police Department will be starting up "Community Coffee" event weekly at Caribou Coffee again this year. This event has been a great success in the past and we are looking forward to starting again after the year we had last year. We will hold this event the last two Fridays of each month, from October 2022 through March 2023. The event will run from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. the following dates:

October:	21 & 28	January:	20 & 27
November:	18 & 25	February:	17 & 24
December:	23 & 30	March:	24 & 31

**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.

**NOTICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS OF THE OSCEOLA MUNICIPAL WATER UTILITY**

**WATER RATES**

5/8-inch meter:	\$ 24.00	3-inch meter:	\$273.00
3/4-inch meter:	\$ 24.00	4-inch meter:	\$330.00
1-inch meter:	\$ 60.00	6-inch meter:	\$411.00
1¼-inch meter:	\$ 78.00	8-inch meter:	\$510.00
1½-inch meter:	\$ 99.00	10-inch meter:	\$699.00
2-inch meter:	\$162.00	12-inch meter:	\$906.00

Plus Volume Charges:

**100 cubic feet = 748 gallons**

First	4,000 cubic feet used each quarter:	\$3.62 per 100 cubic feet
Next	26,000 cubic feet used each quarter:	\$2.72 per 100 cubic feet
Over	30,000 cubic feet used each quarter:	\$1.64 per 100 cubic feet

**PUBLIC WORKS REMINDERES**



**BRUSH PICK-UP** - Brush chipping for residents within the Village of Osceola will begin **Monday October 10<sup>th</sup> and will continue through the week, ending on Friday October 14<sup>th</sup>**. If it is not curbside during that week, IT WILL NOT BE PICKED UP. All brush must be less than 3" in diameter and 6' in length and stacked **neatly and parallel** to the curb. No shrubs, trees, or stumps with attached roots will be picked up nor chipped.

**LEAF PICK-UP** - Leaves will be picked up as time permits **beginning Monday October 17<sup>th</sup> and running through November 18<sup>th</sup>**. Leaves **MUST** be in **biodegradable paper bags** and placed along the curb. We **WILL NOT** pick up plastic bags, bags with grass or mixed materials, or bags weighing more than 40 lbs.

**TRASH RECEPTACLES** - With winter approaching this is a reminder to adhere to Waste Management Policy in the placement of your trash receptacle. Public Works deems these an obstruction in streets, sidewalks, and lots while conducting snow removal and street sweeping efforts. During pick-up days it is appropriate for your receptacle to be in your driveway or on the boulevard.

**SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL** – The Village Code requires the owner, occupant, or person in charge of every building, structure to include an unoccupied lot in the Village to clean the snow and ice from the entire width of the sidewalk in front of the building within 24 hours after the cessation of a snowfall. If any ice cannot be removed, the owner or occupant is required to sprinkle the ice with ashes, salt, sawdust, or sand.

**SNOW, LEAVES AND OTHER DEBRIS REMOVAL** – Village Code requires that no person shall clear their property of accumulated snow, ice, leaves, lawn clippings 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 failure to clear sidewalks and/or depositing snow, ice or leaves upon any sidewalk, alley, or street of the Village is a public nuisance. The Village Administrator, or designee, may cause any snow, ice or leaves deposited to be removed and cause the cost of said removal to be charged to the owner of the property from which said snow, ice or leaves 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.

**RIGHT-OF-WAY TREE TRIMMING** - Public Works will be conducting right-of-way trimming or removal of trees and shrubs through the fall and into early winter. Public and private trees or shrubs impeding roads and sidewalks preventing pedestrians, vehicles, line of sight and equipment from safe travel will be trimmed appropriately. Work conducted conforms to Village Code Chapter 124. Please keep private trees and shrubs from obstructing pedestrians, driver sightlines, or impeding vehicular traffic flow and parking. Village code states sidewalk clearance height shall be 10 feet and roadways must be a minimum of 13 feet. Public Works may bill the resident appropriately for the cutting, trimming, and removal of branches and vegetation that impede these areas.

## ELECTION INFORMATION

The Village of Osceola is offering this fundamental election information to answer questions we are frequently asked. Please keep in mind this is basic information that does not cover every situation or circumstance. Please contact the Village Clerk at 715-294-3498 if you have any additional questions.

### HOW DO I REGISTER TO VOTE?

You can register to vote online at <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>, by mail, or in person at Village Hall M-F, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You must provide proof of residency including items such as an unexpired Wisconsin Driver's License or State issued ID, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or stub, credit card statement, DNR licenses, concealed carry license, residential lease or facility intake document, or real estate tax bill. These documents must contain your current address. You cannot use an insurance or other general bill or invoice. You can register to vote in person on Election Day, but please be advised it will take some extra time.

### WHAT CAN I USE FOR A PHOTO ID?

You will be required to provide an unexpired photo ID to vote in person or absentee, unless you are indefinitely confined. Acceptable photo ID is a Wisconsin Driver's License or State ID Card or receipt for the same, a US Passport, Veterans Affairs ID card, Tribal ID card, US Uniformed Services card, or a Certificate of Naturalization. A WI University or WI Tech College ID is permitted only with enrollment verification. Your photo ID need not have your current address on it, providing it is not expired. An employer photo ID is not acceptable.

### WHEN CAN I EARLY VOTE?

You may vote in person absentee (early vote) at Village Hall beginning Tuesday October 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. and ending Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. You will be required to show a photo ID to vote. There is no voting on the Monday (day before) the election.

### WHERE AND HOW DO I VOTE ON ELECTION DAY?

Voting on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, will be at the Village Hall Discovery Center upstairs **for Village of Osceola residents only**. Voting is no longer at the Osceola High School. Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are in line to vote at 8:00 p.m., you will be permitted to vote. **We are expecting a high turnout for this election. You may have to wait in line to vote, so please allow ample time.**

### HOW DO I GET AN ABSENTEE BALLOT?

You may vote absentee by mail by requesting a ballot at <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> or, in writing by filling out a form and submitting it to the Village Clerk. You can do this by mail or e-mailing to [villageclerk@vil.osceola.wi.us](mailto:villageclerk@vil.osceola.wi.us). You must include a copy of your photo ID unless we have it on file, or you are indefinitely confined. You may return your ballot by mail or handing across the counter at Village Hall. Due to a recent federal court decision disabled voters may have assistance in returning their ballot. **You may no longer use the drop box on the east side of the building.** You can track the status of your ballot at <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>. All absent ballots must be received by the time the polls close on Election Day. **Please make sure on the back of the envelope you sign, date, and have a witness sign and fill out their complete address including zip code. A common reason ballots are rejected is that the back of the envelope is not properly filled out.**

In conclusion, we are committed to provide you with a positive election experience to the best of our ability as allowed under law. Please be patient, courteous, and respectful of other voters and the election inspectors who demonstrate good citizenship by serving. We are all in this together!



## JUST ANOTHER WEDNESDAY IN OSCEOLA, by Deb Rose

This is a story of old-fashioned technology, volunteer firefighters and a community coming together when a local business faced adversity. Otherwise known as just another Wednesday in Osceola.

August 27, 1980, started like any other day here in town. The weather was great, kids were back in school, high school football was back on Friday nights and the Osceola Fair was just around the corner. When a courier stopped at 7:40 a.m. at the Bank of Osceola, located right in the heart of downtown, and dropped a package off near the vault in the lobby, nothing seemed awry. About a half hour later when Roger Hoiby showed up to work at the bank and opened the door, smoke came billowing out. The fire spread fast, and the call went out to the Osceola Fire Department. The fire department in town was, and still is, made up of volunteers from all walks of life throughout our town. When the fire phone rang, or the siren sounded members dropped their regular lives and became the local fire brigade. On this day one fireman was waiting with his daughter as she readied to take her driver's test when the fire call came. With no cell phones he had to borrow the business phone to call home to let his wife know she was going to have to come down to the Driver's License desk and finish up with her so he could run next door to the fire hall and get ready to fight the fire. As the flames grew the call went out to neighboring fire departments that help was needed to get the fire under control. By the time the Osceola, Dresser, St Croix Falls and Lindstrom Fire Departments got the blaze under control little was left of the interior of the bank. All that was left was the concrete structure, a few walls and the façade of the building. Even the floor had caved in. Lee Gunderson, president of the bank, feared for the worst. He knew incidental type records were lost but they didn't know what they would find when they opened the vault. The air-tight, fire proof vault had performed as it was designed, and when opened it was as if nothing had happened. All deposit balances and loan records were intact.

Faced with a destroyed building and sensitive documents that needed a home, Lee Gunderson, president of the bank, was left with the question of what now? Fortunately, the Doll Building just up the street on 3<sup>rd</sup> and Cascade was empty and offered a temporary place for the bank to set up shop. Local businesses stepped up with donated furniture and office furnishings. Other banks, who were in direct competition with the Bank of Osceola, volunteered bank specific equipment and supplies. By the next day, at least in some part, the bank was back open for business.

Now with a makeshift home that would allow the bank to get back to business, the attention turned to finding a future home. Should they try to build on the old site? Move to another part of town? Wanting to stay located in the vibrant downtown area of Osceola they eventually settled on building on 3<sup>rd</sup> and Chieftain and moved into a new home in 1983.

As for the fire, a defective incinerator in the basement was suspected as cause. And the destroyed building, it now houses the post office.



## BOARD OF REVIEW



Board of Review will be held on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 6:00 p.m. at Village Hall. This is your opportunity to dispute the assessed value of your property. Please see the Village website <https://www.vil.osceola.wi.us/> for more information or contact Village Clerk Fran Duncanson at 715-294-3498.