December 2023 Volume 11, Issue 4

VILLAGE NEWS



Village of Osceola (715) 294-3498 info@myosceola.com

www.vil.osceola.wi.us

2023 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 "<u>postmarked</u>" by December 31, 2023, and received the first week of January it will be receipted "December 31, 2023".

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

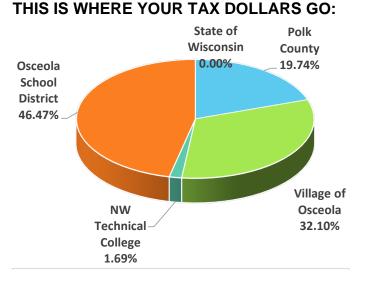
You may pay your taxes and receive your receipt at the Village Hall, during the regular office hours of 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

ON-LINE

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

Receipts for tax payments and dog licenses will be mailed out ONLY to those individuals that <u>furnish a</u> **self-addressed stamped envelope**. You may also check online at <u>https://www.co.polk.wi.us/</u>, 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, 2023 (or before) and there is <u>NOT</u> 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 \$232.40**. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO APPLY FOR THE LOTTERY CREDIT.



DOG LICENSING Dog licenses are required in the Village of Osceola. Dog licenses must be obtained prior to April 1, 2024. Per state statues and Village ordinances <u>dog licenses will not be issued without complete rabies information</u>. Please call your veterinarian for a copy of your rabies vaccination certificate if you do not have one.

LIBRARY UPDATE, by Anne Miller



Storytime will be back in 2024 on Tuesdays at 10:30am beginning January 9th. Join Ms. Michelle for stories, songs, an activity, and fun. Also, back in the new year will be activities on school in-service days.

The Adult Winter Reading Program is returning in the new year! Read and watch your way to prizes during January, February, and March. Stop into the library for more details. Programs this winter for adults will include a series of discussions with local estate and business planning attorney, Jagath Karun and a program with Looking Glass owner Gwen Minnick-Wright on the hot topic of vintage. The popular jigsaw puzzle contest will also make a return, so get your team of up to four people ready to puzzle the day away. Did you know the library has two book discussions? Get Lit and the WMPL Book Discussion. Stop into the library for more information and to pick up the next discussion book.

Check the library Facebook page and website (<u>www.osceolapubliclibrary.org</u>) for dates and times on all upcoming programs.

VILLAGE REMINDERS



VOTING INFORMATION

Make sure you are registered and ready to vote by visiting myvote.wi.gov. My Vote is a great tool allowing voters to register online, update a name or address, request an absentee ballot, find a polling place, and see what is on the ballot.

2024 ELECTION DATES

Spring Primary (if needed) - February 20, 2024 Presidential Preference & Spring Election - April 2, 2024 Partisan Primary – August 13, 2024 General Election – November 5, 2024

<u>COMMUNITY COFFEE</u> with Osceola Police Department

Event is held at Caribou Coffee - remaining dates January 19 & 26; February 16 & 23; March 22 & 29

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.

<u>CHRISTMAS TREES</u> – Final day for Christmas Tree pickup will be January 31, 2024.

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 <u>info@myosceola.com</u>. 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.

WEBSITE – Exciting news! The Village of Osceola has an updated website. Please take a moment and check it out at <u>www.myosceola.com</u> and let us know what you think. Some new features that are exciting for us to share are (1) sign up to receive updates from the Village, (2) home page has direct links to board agendas, minutes, meeting recordings and village code, and (3) when important news needs to be shared there will be a notice running across top of page, so not to be missed 💬

WINTER OPERATIONS IN THE VILLAGE OF OSCEOLA



When does Public Works come out to plow?

We have 3 Public Works operators that work long hours throughout the winter to ensure that our streets are plowed and treated as efficiently as possible.

Snow and ice operations begin when any of the following conditions are met:

- Snow accumulation of 2" or more is expected
- Drifting snow is causing hazardous travel conditions
- Icy conditions are adversely affecting travel
- Time of snowfall is affecting peak travel times

What is the goal of snow and ice operations?

The immediate objective of snow and ice control operations is to maintain reasonably safe driving conditions during and following storm events. This does not, however, mean that bare pavement should be expected by motorists, nor does this mean that all streets will be free of snow and ice. Motorists and pedestrians are expected to take necessary precautions and to observe safe winter driving habits. Keep in mind that our snow and ice operations focus on the heavily-traveled roadways within the Village, such as school district, industrial parks, hospital, downtown area, and residential trunks.

Will winter weather affect waste and recycling collection?

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 Olson Sanitation's website at <u>www.olsonsanitation.com</u> if you have questions about where your sanitation can should be placed.

Do I have to clear the sidewalk in front of my house?

The Village Code 186-6 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. As we move into the 2024 winter season, the Public Works Department will **ONLY** maintain sidewalks that border public lands and buildings.

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.

What else do I need to know about Winter Operations?

- Snow should not be shoveled or blown into the street.
- Do not pull up behind snow plows when they are equipped and engaged for snow removal.
- The Village encourages residents to clear the snow from any fire hydrants near your house.
- Residents are asked to check the condition of their mailbox and post in most cases, a strong post and secure mailbox will withstand the impact of snow coming off the snowplow.

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.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, by MSA

Village of Osceola Community Survey

The Village is updating its Comprehensive Plan and CORP!

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

The purpose of this plan is to determine long-term community goals and aspirations over the next 10+ years, establishing Village policies and actions related to transportation, utilities, land use, recreation, housing, and economic development.

What is a CORP?

CORP is a nickname for a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, which is a parks and recreation planning document. It is necessary to apply for many grants, including the Wisconsin DNR Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant, and must be updated every 5 years.

Why is it important to get my feedback in this survey?

The current Comprehensive Plan was first adopted more than a decade ago, and much has changed since then. This survey is an important opportunity for Village of Osceola community members to contribute their thoughts and opinions related to the growth of the community. Your feedback will help shape community goals and actions within the Plan.

The CORP is necessary to apply for parks and recreation grants, which the Village of Osceola hopes to take advantage of during the 2024 grant application cycle.

This survey should take roughly 10-15 minutes to complete, and your answers will remain anonymous. It's also intended for members of the Osceola community, including anyone who lives, works or shops in the community on a regular basis.

Your time and responses are greatly appreciated!

SURVEY LINK/QR CODE: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OsceolaCommunitySurvey



OLSON SANITATION

The Village of Osceola begins a new contract with Olson Sanitation out of Somerset, Wisconsin for refuse and recycling services. Below are pricing rates for their services to Village residents.

Service Level	2024	2025	2026
32 Gallon	\$11.00	\$11.50	\$12.00
64 Gallon	\$13.00	\$13.50	\$14.00
96 Gallon	\$15.00	\$15.50	\$16.00
64 Gallon -Recycling Bi-Weekly	\$3.00	\$3.25	\$3.50

NOTES:

- 1. All rates are the fee per month per service level and are billed bi-monthly.
- 2. Olson Sanitation DOES NOT charge fuel fees, environmental fees, or energy surcharges.

Trash and recycling are picked up on Wednesdays. They ask that you have your Trash and Recycling out by 5:00 am and give them the entire day to pick up. The first pick up day begins on January 3, 2024. Please review your bill and if you think there is an error, please contact them directly at 715-247-3440 to discuss.