



## 2024 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, 2024, and received the first week of January will be receipted “December 31, 2024”.

#### **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.

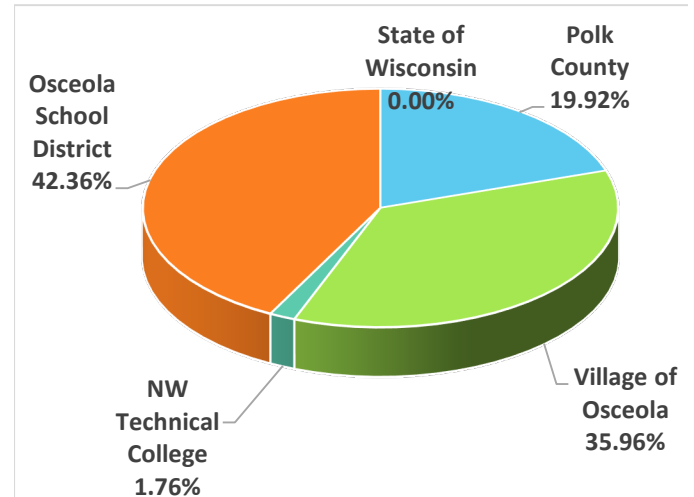
#### **ON-LINE**

- You may pay your taxes on-line with your debit card, credit card or e-check thru [www.paymentservicenetwork.com](http://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.

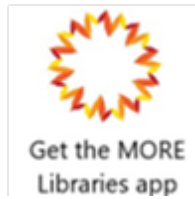
**LOTTERY CREDIT** If this tax bill is for your primary residence and you have resided there since January 1, 2024 (or before) and there is NOT a lottery credit deduction on your tax bill, please call the Village Office at (715)294-3498 to get the required form to claim this credit. **The lottery credit for this year is \$169.04.** 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, 2025. 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.

**LIBRARY NEWS, Anne Miller, Director**



We always love seeing you at the library, but sometimes life gets busy. With the MORE Libraries app you can access the MORE online catalog wherever you use your phone. Over 1.4 million items from over 50 MORE libraries are at your fingertips–anytime, anywhere.

The app gives you all the power of the desktop online catalog to do things like:

- Search the collection, reserve items and choose where to pick them up
- Manage multiple accounts
- Save titles for later
- Renew checked out items
- Place and manage holds
- Browse recommendations and new titles



There are some special features that only appear on the app. You’ll find a list of MORE libraries and their open hours that you can sort to find the locations closest to you. You can even use the app to search for the libraries that offer the services and programs that you want. When you come visit us at the library you can use your library card barcode that is stored in the app to check out.

You can find the app by searching on “MORE Libraries” on the Apple App Store and Google Play.

**VILLAGE REMINDERS**



**2025 ELECTION DATES**

Spring Primary (if needed) - February 18, 2025  
Spring Election - April 1, 2025

**VILLAGE OF OSCEOLA 2025 FEE SCHEDULE**

At the regular December Board meeting, the 2025 Fee Schedule was adopted. You can review on our website at [www.myosceola.com](http://www.myosceola.com) or by coming into the office.

**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, 2025.

**ICE RINK** – The ice rink will be available pending weather conditions. Public Works Department will be working on the rink as time allows. Once the rink is up and running a news posting will be put on the Village website at [www.myosceola.com](http://www.myosceola.com) and an email will go out to all that have signed up to receive.

**MAILBOXES** – Mailboxes should be made of sturdy materials and installed appropriately with USPS standards. Mailboxes and the posts they mount on degrade with time in the elements of Northwest Wisconsin. They suffer wind, rain, snow and the wintry blast of snow and ice from the plows maintaining the streets. If you have questions if your mailbox is installed and maintained appropriately, please visit <https://www.usps.com/manage/mailboxes.htm>. If you believe your mailbox has been damaged by snow removal efforts by the Public Works Department, please contact the Public Works Department or email [info@myosceola.com](mailto:info@myosceola.com).

## 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 [www.olsonsanitation.com](http://www.olsonsanitation.com) 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 ice 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 on January 31<sup>st</sup> for "Coffee with a Snowplow Driver" to talk about our snow removal timing and actions. Stop by with questions, complaints, or words of encouragement.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT, Chief Bach

I hope everyone is having a good holiday season this year. The cold is here, and I'm sure the snow is on its way. Hopefully we can get a few more inches on the ice before the snow hits so we have a better ice fishing season than last year! We love this time of year at Osceola PD because we have so many opportunities to participate in community events. We had officers at the *Shop with a Hero* event in St. Croix Falls where we had the opportunity to help local kids pick out Christmas presents. We were also able to raise over 900 pounds of non-perishable items for the Open Cupboard following our *Stuff the Squad* event at the Osceola Police Department. Lastly, *Coffee with a Cop* is also in full swing and is scheduled for the last two Fridays of every month at Caribou Coffee from 8:30am – 10:00am. Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates in case something comes up and we must cancel, otherwise we hope to see you there!

In other news, the Osceola Police Department is busy with its hiring process searching for two officers to bring our department back up to our previous staffing levels. The labor market in law enforcement has been dismal, making it difficult to find applicants who would be a good fit for OPD. Because of this, I've decided to start expanding our efforts and we will now be considering applications for candidates who have not been through the law enforcement academy. If we find the right match, Osceola PD would sponsor this applicant and send them through the law enforcement academy before working as a police officer in our community. Traditionally we had only considered applicants who have already graduated, but I want to make sure that we aren't dismissing anyone who would make for an outstanding Osceola police officer. I look forward to giving everyone an update soon.

I sincerely wish everyone a happy holiday season and we look forward to serving into 2025!

