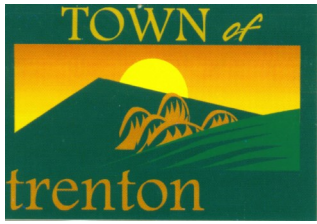


# The Town Crier

FALL 2022

## The Trenton Township Newsletter



Town website address: [townoftrenton.wi.gov](http://townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### PUBLIC WORKS

From the Desk of Joe Gonnering

#### **Curbside Collection Contract**

The curbside collection contract with Waste Management ends on December 31, 2022. It is expected that the monthly cost will increase with whichever provider ultimately serves the Town of Trenton.

Requests for Proposal (RFP) will be solicited to be received for consideration by October 18. Supervisor Jeff Esselmann has chaired a committee of residents to prepare the Request for Proposal available to contractors during the bidding process. Specific terms requested in the new contract include the following:

- ⇒ Streamlined process for reporting collection issues, including an online portal on the town's website
- ⇒ Dedicated Customer Service representative available on collection days from 7:00 am-5:00 pm
- ⇒ Missed service resolved within 24 hours
- ⇒ Collection hours 6:00 am-5:00 pm
- ⇒ Annual "bulk items" disposal event at the Town Hall for items that do not fit in the curbside cart
- ⇒ Seasonal dumpster at the Town Hall for residents to dispose of yard waste (leaves, sod, etc.)
- ⇒ Continued annual electronic waste event at Town Hall

Note that these terms are not guaranteed, but it is our hope that some of these services will be offered in the proposals received.

Updates on the new contract will be posted on the town's website, [townoftrenton.wi.gov](http://townoftrenton.wi.gov), as new information becomes available. In addition, we hope that the 2023 collection cal-

Thank You

To everyone who contributes in any capacity to making the Town of Trenton a great place to live—a **HUGE THANK YOU!** During my time as a town official, I have received countless reports of people going above and beyond in their service to the town.

From public works employees (including full-time, part-time, recycling workers and snowplow drivers), office staff, election workers, all the way to residents who pick up trash along their roads, the town benefits from the dedication to improve the quality of life here.

I am proud to call the Town of Trenton my home. Thank you!

endar will be included in your property tax bill mailing. However, depending on when the contract will ultimately be awarded, the timing may not be conducive to this expectation. So, watch the website, tell your neighbor or contact the Clerk in December. Mailing a letter to all residents with updates would cost about \$2,000, so we'd like to use alternative means of communication.

#### **Seasonal Reminders**

Autumn brings falling leaves and the difficulty of disposing them. Chopping leaves into mulch for gardens and flower beds is an environmentally conscious option. Residents with a large amount of leaves can offer to share mulch with a neighbor. Town ordinances allow burning of small camp fires, brush and leaves. However, burning of noxious materials (including roofing and other building materials) is prohibited. Violating the burning ordinance is subject to Town cita-



tions as well as review by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

As we welcome autumn, we also look ahead to winter. Town ordinances prohibit shoveling, plowing, dumping, pushing or otherwise discharging snow, ice, slush or a combination thereof onto any Town road. Failure to comply with this ordinance will result in a citation.

In addition, residents are required to keep mailboxes accessible by clearing the snow around them. If a mailbox is damaged during a snow plowing event, contact the Town Department of Public Works. If the damage was caused by the plow, the Town will replace it with a metal mailbox. If the damage was caused by the force of snow, the Town is not responsible for repair or replacement.

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

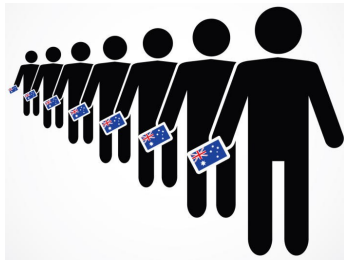
Elections	2-3
Invasive Species	3
Property Tax	3
Police Department	3
Town Directory	4

## ELECTIONS

### November 8 Election

The November 8 Fall General Election is quickly approaching. A high turnout (90%) of registered voters is expected.

Due to the limited space inside the Town Hall, long lines are difficult to manage. Accommodating 90% of the town's 3,500 registered voters requires about ten hours, assuming we can consistently check in six voters every minute throughout the day. Certain times on election day are typically busier: at the opening of the polls at 7:00 AM, around noon and from 4:00 PM until the polls close at 8:00 PM. Please plan ahead and avoid these busy times if possible.



Voters arriving during a busy time may be asked to wait outside or in their vehicles so that the Town Hall does not become overcrowded. After taking a number to manage the voting order, an electronic sign will inform voters when the voting area is ready for the next group.

Please make sure you have your Photo ID ready when you enter the polling place so that we may check you in quickly.

### Absentee Voting

One way to avoid the lines on election day is to vote by Absentee.

Applying for an Absentee ballot is easy at [MyVote.WI.gov](http://MyVote.WI.gov) or by submitting a completed Applica-

tion for Absentee Ballot (Form EL-121) to the Town Clerk.

Be sure to follow the instructions enclosed with your absentee ballot. Failure to follow the instructions could cause your ballot to be rejected at the polls. The most common reasons absentee ballots are rejected include:

- ⊗ Voter failing to sign the ballot certificate envelope
- ⊗ Witness failing to sign the ballot certificate envelope
- ⊗ Witness failing to supply his or her address on the ballot certificate envelope
- ⊗ Ballot returned by a person other than the voter or placed in the drop box

If the Clerk finds any of these issues, your ballot will be returned to you so that you may attempt to satisfy the requirements before election day. Oftentimes there is not enough time to accomplish this, so it is CRITICAL to read, understand and follow the instructions included in the packet containing your ballot.

Voting Absentee in person is available at designated times (see above) or by appointment, beginning October 25.

## In-Person Absentee Voting Hours

**Wednesday, October 26: 12:00 PM-2:00 PM**

**Monday, October 31, 2:00 PM-4:00 PM**

**Wednesday, November 2, 12:00 PM-2:00 PM**

**Friday, November 4, 4:00 PM-5:00 PM**

**By appointment by calling  
262.675.6009 or 262.290.0154**

### Registration

Registering on Election Day is allowed, HOWEVER, be aware that this process takes additional time and lengthens the waiting time for everyone. Registration online or by mail is easy, but the deadline for this option for the November 8 election is October 19. Oftentimes, voters attempt to register online after this date and are surprised when they have to start over on election day. After this date you MUST register in the Clerk's office. The deadline to register in person is 5:00 PM on November 4.

### Accessible Voting

All Wisconsin voters have a right to cast a ballot privately and independently at their polling place on Election Day. The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requires that every polling place in the State meets Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards. This requirement includes accessible voting machines.

Voters voting at the polling place in Wisconsin are required to sign the poll list before receiving a ballot. You are exempt from this requirement if you cannot sign the poll list because of a



physical disability. The election inspectors will write "exempt by order of inspectors" in the signature line and issue you a ballot.

Voters may vote curbside (voting without leaving your vehicle) if they cannot enter the polling location. To request curbside voting, call the Clerk on election day either before or as soon as you arrive at the town hall for voting.

### Ballot Basics

The Fall General Election is always non-partisan, allowing voters to vote for candidates regardless of party. For example, you may vote for a Governor candidate in one party and a State Assembly candidate in another party.

When completing your ballot, please be sure to completely fill in the oval next to your choice. The voting equipment will reject your ballot if it has difficulty determining your vote. You will be able to correct it before inserting it again into the ballot box but completing it sufficiently the first time will make voting day progress

more smoothly for everyone. These are examples of correct and incorrect markings:

**This counts**

**This doesn't count!**

**This doesn't count!**

**This doesn't count!**

**This doesn't count!**

### Voting Assistance

If you need help marking your ballot on Election Day, you may take anyone you choose with you into the voting booth, **except your employer or your labor union representative.** After you have marked your ballot, the person helping you must then sign the ballot in the space provided. The election workers will write the name of your assistor on the voting list. Your assistor does not need to be qualified to vote.

### Be Informed

Be an informed voter by reviewing the sample ballot before each election, available at the Town Hall or online at [MyVote.WI.gov](http://MyVote.WI.gov).

Please contact the Town Clerk or the Wisconsin Elections Commission for additional election information.

See you at the polls on November 8!

## INVASIVE SPECIES

Two recently introduced invasive plants to our neighborhoods are Wild Parsnip and Purple Loosestrife. Both of these have impacts on the local ecosystem function as well as biodiversity. Why are these important to you? There are economic impacts to our agriculture and recreational industries as well as increasing the costs of our infrastructure maintenance (ditches, retention basins, etc.). Plus the impact on our



health. Wild parsnip contains toxic compounds, called furanocoumarins. These compounds can cause serious rashes, burns, or blisters to skin exposed to the sap and then sunlight. The plant poses a risk to residents and

agricultural workers who unknowingly become exposed to the plant in the wild.

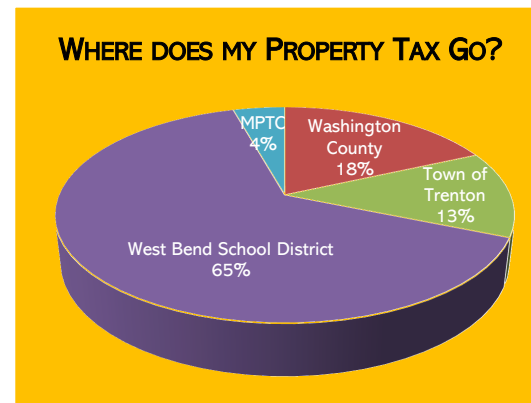
For information on controlling these and other invasive species, visit [dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/invasives/control.html](http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/invasives/control.html).



## PROPERTY TAX

### Where Does My Tax Go?

Did you know that of your entire property tax bill, only about 13% remains with the Town of Trenton? Your tax is paid to the Town of Trenton and the Town then distributes it to Washington County, West Bend School District and Moraine Park Technical College (MPTC). The pie chart at right shows the distribution of the 2021 tax levies.



### Tax Bills

Your property tax bill will be available for viewing sometime late in November. You may review your property tax bills online as soon as they are available. They

will be mailed early in December.

Your property tax bill mailing will include an instruction sheet with valuable information about paying your taxes, including hours for paying in person. A 2023 trash and recycling collection calendar will be printed on the back side of the instruc-

tions IF THE NEW VENDOR HAS BEEN CHOSEN IN TIME (see cover article regarding refuse and recycling). For your convenience, a dog license application (for up to three dogs) will also be included.

Visit [townoftrenton.wi.gov](http://townoftrenton.wi.gov) (Property Taxes page) to find a link to the County property information portal. If you don't have internet access, please contact Town Treasurer Nicole Cozuli-Meer at 262.675.6009 x103 for assistance.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Trenton Township Police Department now has two new email addresses, for our Command Staff (Police Supervisors) and for our Pa-

trol Officers (see below).

Our agency non-emergency phone number has remained unchanged: 262.689.0661.

As always, dial **911** in an emergency.

### Police Command:

[tpdcommand@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:tpdcommand@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### Police Patrol:

[tpdpatrol@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:tpdpatrol@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

I hope each and every one of you finds time during this fall season to get out and spend time with those who matter to you. All too often we find ourselves wrapped up in the daily stressors of life. I am guilty of it too. If I have learned anything throughout my career it's this: life is too short not to get out there and enjoy it! Fall is such a wonderful time in Wisconsin! Make some time to enjoy it with family



and friends. Before you know it the holiday season will be upon us followed by the long and firm grip of winter.

Feel free to reach out to us with any questions, comments or concerns.

Regards,

Chief S. Swiertz

# The Town Crier

Trenton Township  
1071 Hwy 33 East  
West Bend, WI 53095

PRSR STD  
US Postage Paid  
West Bend WI  
Permit No. 122

## CONTACT INFO

675-6009 (p)  
675-6052 (f)

### CHAIRMAN

**Joseph C. Gonnering**

262.689.5345

[Chairman@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:Chairman@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### SUPERVISOR

#### WEED CONTROL CONTACT

#### EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT CONTACT

**Ed Doerr**

262.675.6925

[Supervisor.Doerr@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:Supervisor.Doerr@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### SUPERVISOR

#### RECYCLING COORDINATOR

**Jeff Esselmann**

262.305.1246

[Supervisor.Esselmann@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:Supervisor.Esselmann@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### CLERK

**Cindy Komro**

262.675.6009 x101

262.290.0154

[clerk@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:clerk@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### TRASH & RECYCLING HOTLINE

262.675.6009 x102

[recycling@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:recycling@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### TREASURER

**Nicole Cozzuli-Meer**

262.675.6009 x103

[treasurer@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:treasurer@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

**Charles Schmidt, Director**

262.675.6009 x109

[dpw@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:dpw@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

**Barb Davies**

262.675.0415 x104

[zoning@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:zoning@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### BUILDING INSPECTOR

**Walter Groteleuschen**

262.675.0909 (home)

262.675.0415 x105 (office)

[building@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:building@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### APPRAISER

**Michael Grota**

262.253.1142

Grota Appraisals

N88 W16573 Main St.

Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

866.909.4458

888.960.0008

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Steven Swiertz, Police Chief**

262.689.0661

West Bend, WI 53095

[tpdcommand@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:tpdcommand@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

[tpdpatrol@townoftrenton.wi.gov](mailto:tpdpatrol@townoftrenton.wi.gov)

### NEWBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Mark Chesak, Chief**

262.675.6262

### WALLACE LAKE SANITARY DISTRICT

**Judy Mastenbrook**

262.338.6934

P.O. Box 31

West Bend, WI 53095

### SCENIC DRIVE SANITARY DISTRICT

**Mary Kilian**

414.331.0883

PO Box 1092

West Bend, WI 53095

### GENERAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday 8:00AM–2:00PM Tuesday 9:00AM–12:00PM

Wednesday 9:00AM–12:00PM Thursday 9:00AM–12:00PM

**BUILDING INSPECTOR** Thursday 3:00PM–5:00PM

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR** Friday 9:00AM–3:00PM

Town Hall Yard Hours: Second Saturday 8:00AM–Noon

& Fourth Thursday (March to October) 4:00–8:00PM

Accepting **only** brush, waste oil, batteries, metal goods.

Other large items, including building materials (but NOT hazardous waste) can be taken to the Waste Management Transfer Station, W124N9355 Boundary Road, Menomonee Falls. The disposal charge is based on the weight of the items and a minimum fee applies. Hazardous waste options are listed on the Household Clean Sweep page of the Washington County website or by calling 262.335.4445.