

# The Official Town of Dunn Newsletter

Spring 1993

## Keeping Dunn's Identity Requires Effort

by Edmond P. Minihan, Town Chairperson

The town of Dunn has a unique identity and is an excellent place to live. The success of our Land Use Plan is used as an example across the nation to illustrate what can be done to maintain a community's identity and quality of life in an urban fringe area.

Because we are a desirable place to live near a large urban area, we attract a great deal of attention. There are those who look at what we have here and see dollar signs. They see a place to put large-scale urban development, a place to put a huge landfill or a place to expand the boundaries of their city or village. Be-

cause of pressures such as these, we cannot rest on our laurels.

Maintaining our identity requires an ongoing effort. More importantly, we must be united as a community in asserting that the town of Dunn is *not* for sale, *not* for exploitation; and *not* for urban development. In short, we need to fight for what we have. We have been successful in the past and will continue to be successful as long as we remain steadfast in maintaining our identity.

We have an annual opportunity to reaffirm both our individual identities as citizens of our town and the community identity of the town of Dunn. In Wisconsin, the

citizens of towns meet in assembly at least once a year. Our annual meeting is scheduled for April 13. It is the chance for all of us to participate in our local government.

There are other ways to participate as well. The town of Dunn has a number of commissions, committees and advisory groups. The more citizen participation there is, the better we meet the legacy of the town form of government. I urge all of us to participate to the fullest in the only level of government we can personally affect.

### AGENDA

TOWN OF DUNN  
ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 13, 1993

7:30 P.M. AT THE  
DUNN TOWN HALL

- I. Minutes of 1992 Annual and Budget Meetings
  - II. Announcements and introductions
    - A. Donation from Oregon Sportsmen's Club
    - B. Donation from LWCA
  - III. Swearing in of town officials
  - IV. Annual committee and commission reports
    - A. Building inspector
    - B. Cemetery Task Force
    - C. Police Chief
    - D. Parks Commission
    - E. Plan Commission
  - V. Financial report
    - A. Review 1992 audit
    - B. Treasurer's report
    - C. Sanitary district financial reports
  - VI. New business
- The annual town meeting is the meeting at which major issues and policy are decided for the coming year. In this session, like the fall budget meeting, the residents of the town are the decision makers. Every resident present casts a vote. This year, take an active role in your government and attend the annual meeting.

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## What Is Dunn's Indebtedness?

Rational Financial Management  
by Roz Gausman, Town Clerk

There have been some concerns expressed recently about the town's long-term debt, and some confusion about what it for and how much we actually owe. According to state law, the total general obligation indebtedness of the town may not exceed five percent of the equalized value of taxable property within the town. That means the allowable debt limit for the town of Dunn for 1992 was *more than \$10 million*. Our actual total general obligation debt as of December 31, 1992, was \$160,026, detailed below.

1992, the total fund balance was \$252,178. Interest earned in 1992 was \$27,988. Interest paid on the town debt in 1992 was

Years	Principal	Interest
1993	\$38,503	\$6,298
1994	31,028	7,704
1995	33,568	5,028
1996	8,392	3,048
1997	8,719	2,583
1998-2002	39,816	6,252
Totals	\$160,026	30,913

Loan Date	Item	Amount	Rate	Maturity	Principal Balance
07-05-88	Ford tractor	\$23,000	6.00%	1998	\$13,800
08-29-88	Grader	55,300	6.00%	1993	13,825
12-12-90	Ford dump truck	57,675	6.25%	1995	45,215
01-08-92	Tractor	26,652	5.75%	1995	26,652
12-09-92	Ford dump truck	60,534	5.25%	2002	60,534
	Total				\$160,026

### General Obligation Debt as of Dec. 31, 1992

It has been the recommendation of the town's treasurer and practice of the town board to borrow for capital expenditures when the interest rate earned in savings exceeds the interest rate for borrowing. As of Dec. 31,

\$7,165. All of the town's existing loans are with the State of Wisconsin Investment Pool at interest rates ranging between 5.25% and 6.00%. In 1993, the town will borrow approximately \$138,000 for three

major capital expense projects, which include: the Colladay Point storm sewer project (\$72,000); the cleanup of the contamination from the underground fuel tanks at the town garage (\$50,000), all but \$5,000 of which will be reimbursed through the state; and the setup costs for the expansion of the Dunn Burying Ground (\$16,000), which will be offset by the sale of plots beginning in 1993.

In addition to the loans mentioned above is a general obligation debt of accumulated vacation pay, holiday pay and compensatory time due all the employees for a total amount \$6,365.

# Buzz retires as Dunn's Representative on the Oregon Fire Board

Special thanks go out to Buzz Hanson of County B for his 30 years of service as the town's representative on the Oregon Fire District Board.

Buzz has served as the town's representative since the early 1960s when the district was first formed out of the village of Oregon and the portions of the four townships surrounding it: Dunn, Rutland, Fitchburg and Oregon. "Naturally we needed to have a representative from each township, so I was appointed by the town board," Buzz said.

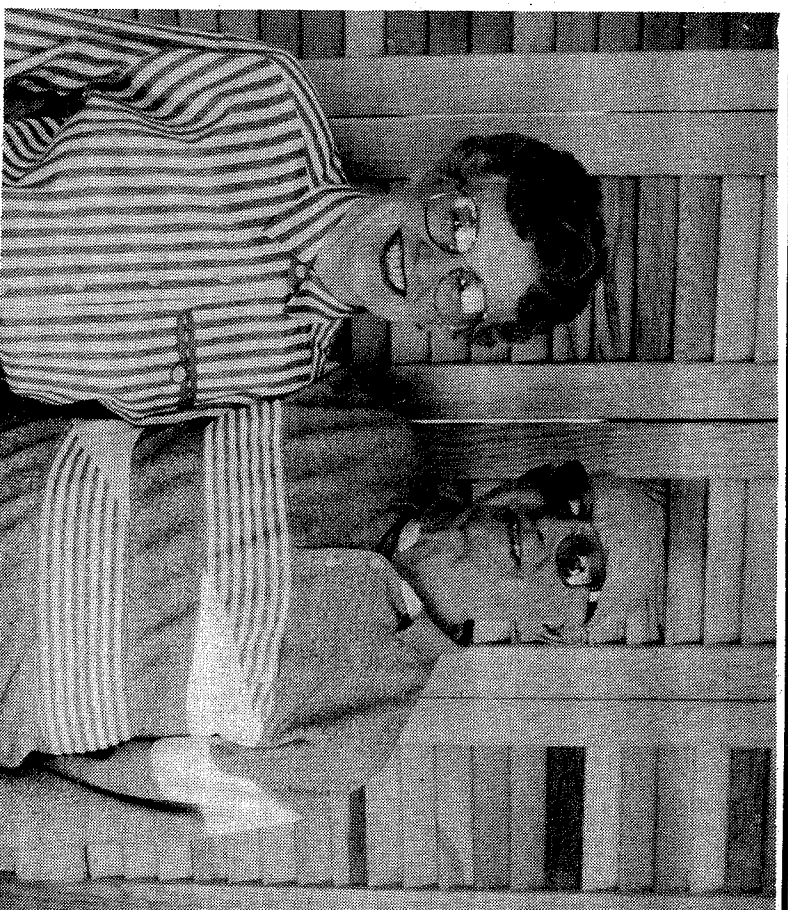
Before becoming part of the fire district, townships were served by the Oregon Village Fire Department and the town was charged on a per-fire-call basis. The districts were divided, he said, by the telephone exchange.

Buzz, along with Elmer Fosso, who has represented the

town of Rutland, both retired this past winter. Replacing Buzz as Dunn's representative is Mike Schnabel, who works with the Dane County Sheriff's Department and is himself a volunteer firefighter.

Buzz said he's enjoyed the years on the board, especially the early years when the board was active in overseeing the construction of the Oregon Fire Hall. He says the board's and the representative's role is primarily to pay the bills and oversee the purchase of new equipment. "If we have any questions, or anything comes up that takes some serious thought, we always check with our town board before we make any decisions," he said of the role he played as liaison to the town board.

Buzz said he's always admired how well the district and its staff



Buzz and Peg Hanson will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this spring.

of volunteer firefighters have worked together. "We've had a very distinctive and knowledgeable fire department," he said, "and we've had really good fire chiefs. I've enjoyed it."

Buzz is a former cattle dealer; he retired about 10 years ago. Today he's probably just as active with his volunteer entertainment

group called "Buzz and Marion." Buzz, with the help of long-time friend Marion Bratzky, and Peg, Buzz's wife of 50 years, entertain in area senior centers and nursing homes.

Thank you, Buzz, for your years of dedicated service as Oregon Fire District Board representative for the town of Dunn.

# Severe Weather Tips Help Save Lives

Severe weather, whether it is a tornado or a thunderstorm, is something we can experience almost all year 'round in Wisconsin. On June 17, 1992, we learned just how dangerous tornadoes can be. We also learned that there are a lot of precautions we can take to avoid being hurt or injured by tornadoes or other forms of severe weather.

During the spring and summer months severe weather conditions often develop when warm, moist air encounters cooler dry air. This can cause gusty winds, heavy rain, lightning, hail or tornadoes. When conditions are right for severe weather to occur, the National Weather Service office in Madison will issue a watch or a warning.

A watch simply means that conditions are favorable for the development of that particular kind of severe weather. Hence, we could have a severe thunderstorm watch, which would mean that the conditions are favorable for a severe thunderstorm to develop.

A warning means that the severe weather is occurring. In the case of a tornado, it means that one has been sighted.

Dane County has a tornado warning siren network that will sound a steady siren blast for at least three minutes. When you hear this warning it means that a tornado has been sighted and you

Tests of the county's outdoor warning sirens and the local emergency broadcast are scheduled for 12:05 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. The emergency broadcast system announcement is sent to participating radio, television and cable television stations as well as schools, hospitals, industries, private businesses, nursing homes and others who wish to participate in the warning system. A spoken test message is followed by activation of the warning sirens for three minutes with a steady sound.

should take cover immediately. There is no all-clear signal to let you know when the danger has passed, but that information is available from the radio, television or National Weather Service bulletins.

If your home isn't located near a siren, weather alert radios, which are tuned to the National Weather Service office at Truax Field, are a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information about severe weather. Most weather radios send an alert sound to indicate that a severe weather warning has been issued.

### Tornado Safety Tips

Remember that most tornado damage is caused by the violent winds and that most injuries are caused by flying debris. When a tornado threatens, seek shelter immediately; stay away from windows, doors, and outside walls and be sure to protect your head.

**In homes and small buildings:** Go to the basement or to an

interior part on the lowest level, such as a closet, bathroom or interior hall. Get under something sturdy and don't leave the building until the storm has passed.

**In schools, institutional buildings or shopping centers:** Go to a pre-designated shelter area. Interior hallways on the lowest floor are usually the best. Avoid auditoriums, gymnasiums, or other structures with wide, free-span roofs.

**In vehicles or mobil homes:** Leave them and go to a substantial structure. If there is no shelter nearby, lie flat in the nearest ditch, ravine or culvert with your hands shielding your head.

**In open country:** Lie flat in the nearest ditch or ravine with your hands shielding your head.

**On open water:** If the weather looks threatening, head to shore immediately. If you are caught in a storm, head the bow of the boat into the waves to prevent capsizing. If you do capsize, stay with

your boat.

**Severe Thunderstorm Safety Tips**  
For a thunderstorm to be considered severe, it must produce one of the following: wind gusts in excess of 58 mph, 3/4" or larger hail, or tornadoes. Additional dangers with thunderstorms are lightning, which can injure or kill and start fires, and flash floods from heavy downpours.

Stay indoors or get indoors or in a vehicle with an all-metal roof. If you can't reach a safe place, remember these tips:

- in a forested area, look for a low area under a thick growth of small trees; in the open, look for a low place like a ravine or valley — but be alert for flash floods.
- avoid tall, isolated trees in an open area — they make natural lightning rods.
- get out of and away from open water.
- get away from tractors and other metal equipment, such as motorcycles and golf carts.

- metal objects can carry lightning for long distances — avoid wire fences and clotheslines and metal pipes and rails.
- avoid small, isolated sheds

- if you feel your hair stand on end, indicating that lightning is about to strike, drop to your knees and bend forward with your hands on your knees — do not lie flat!

## Conservation Easements Help Keep Dunn a Special Place

Residents interested in protecting their land for conservation or agricultural purposes can do so with conservation easements. Probably the most notable donation in the town of Dunn was made along Lalor Road in the mid-1980s by Dr. Alice Watts.

Because of her generous donations and stewardship example, in October 1986 the town of Dunn officially declared the week of October 12-19 Alice Watts Week.

In 1986 Dr. Watts granted conservation easements on 126 acres to the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation and 100 acres to the American Farmland Trust. Previous to that she had donated 57 acres of land to The Nature Conservancy.

Land easements, such as the one to the American Farmland Trust, are a unique way of ensuring the protection of important natural resources and land uses.

An agricultural conservation easement is a legally recorded agreement through which landowners voluntarily restrict their land to agriculture and related open-space uses. If specific conditions are met, such as a demonstration of public benefit, easement donors are eligible for certain tax benefits.

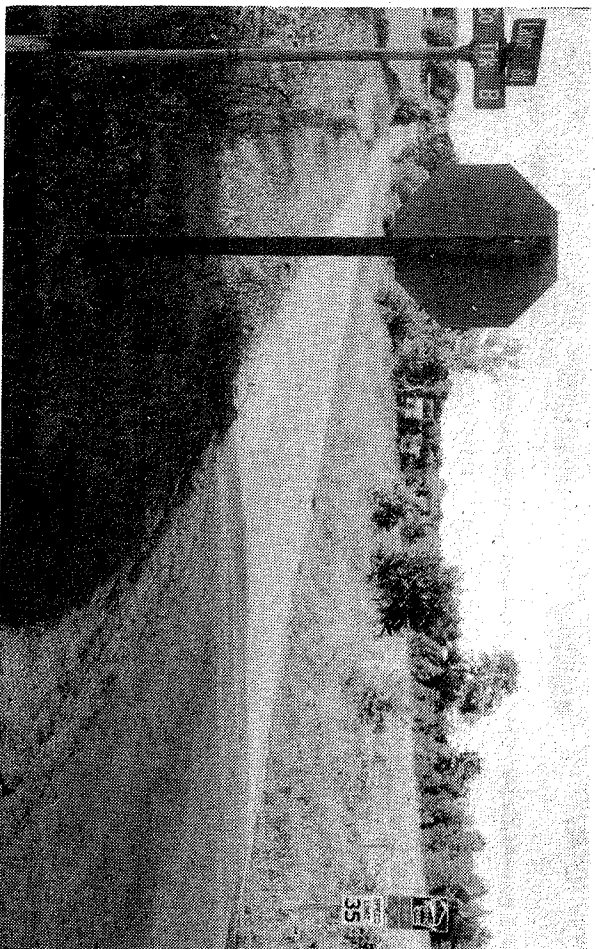
Although the duration of a conservation easement may vary to suit the needs of the landowner, most tax benefits are available only for perpetual easements that

each landowner's needs or situation. For example, while agricultural easements usually restrict all non-farm uses, they also can be written to permit some limited development, for instance, the construction of an additional farm, home, or other farm-related structure.

The benefits of donating a conservation easement are farmland protection and property tax savings. Profitability and economic survival are critical concerns in farming. But, unlike other business people, a farmer chooses to work directly with the land. By conveying a conservation easement, a landowner can protect his or her property's land resources, thus offering farming opportunities for today and generations to come.

A conservation easement can reduce federal and state income taxes, local property taxes and estate and inheritance taxes. In Wisconsin, a state tax credit of five percent of the value of the easement is provided for income tax purposes. For property taxes, if the property is not already receiving a farm-use valuation, this can result in lower property taxes. For inheritance taxes, donations of easements, whether during the landowner's lifetime or by bequest, can reduce the value of the farm for the purpose of calculating estate taxes.

Dr. Watts' land donations have been extremely important



Dr. Watts' restored prairie is just off County B on Lalor Road.

subject all future landowners to their restrictions.

A landowner who donates an agricultural conservation easement retains all rights to use the land for any purposes that do not interfere with an ability to farm the land, including the title, the right to sell, the right to restrict access or to deed it to whomever he or she chooses. However, the nonfarm rights are separated from the property and then retired.

A conservation easement can be individually tailored to reflect

because they are adjacent to about 400 acres of wetlands held by the DNR. These areas combined make up a critical environmental corridor that helps preserve the Lake Waubesa Wetlands.

In addition to her work to preserve this land, Dr. Watts has reconstructed a seven-acre prairie bordering her driveway and Lalor Road. She has planted seven varieties of native grasses and about 50 wildflower species.

Thank you, Dr. Watts, for working to preserve our agricul-

## Announcements

### Dunn Farmers' Market to Open Next Month

The Dunn Farmers' Market will be open on Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. starting in May. The market is held in the town hall parking lot and anyone with homegrown fresh produce or hand-crafted goods is welcome to join in. Watch for the Dunn Farmer's Market sign in front of the town hall as your signal that the market is open.

### McFarland Seniors Sponsor Friendly Visitors

The McFarland Senior Center's Friendly Visitor Program has several volunteers available for visiting with older adults who would like visitors or who would like someone with whom to do things. For more information, contact Susan Stumreiter, at 838-3154.

### McFarland High School Students to Help with Spring Chores

A new intergenerational program at the McFarland High School will match teams of students with people who might need a hand with spring chores. Students will help with raking, cleaning windows, vacuuming, dusting, changing light bulbs, and yard work. The program runs through the end of the school year and is expected to begin again in the fall. Contact Susan Stumreiter at 838-3154 for more information.

### McFarland Area Services Brochure Available

A new brochure describing the services available for older adults and people with disabilities in the McFarland area is available at the town hall. Pick one up or have one sent to you by calling 255-4219.

### Oregon Rotary Bike Ride Spins through Dunn

On June 5th, the Oregon Rotary will have its 3rd annual "Ride the Oregon Trail" bike ride. The ride highlights old stagecoach routes and railroad depot towns, and includes a t-shirt and a guide to area history. Most of the routes cover some portion of Dunn. Proceeds provide scholarships for area youths attending vocational schools. Costs are \$12 in advance, \$15 the day of the ride for adults, \$8 for full-time students. For more information, call Jerry Tyler, at 835-9499.

### Veterans Assistance Available through Local Office

The Dane County Veterans Service Office, at 217 S. Hamilton St. in Madison, can assist veterans in obtaining home loans, education benefits, disability benefits and more through both federal and state veterans programs. They can also help recently discharged veterans with records, military pay, and other problems. Office hours are 7:45 to 4:30 Monday through Friday. Appointments are recommended, so call 266-4158.

### Mandt Community Center seeks Donations

The Stoughton Junior Fair Association and the Stoughton Youth Hockey Association have joined together in an effort to raise \$410,000 toward the construction of a new community center in Stoughton. The center would cost \$1.1 million and would be built in Mandt Park (the Stoughton Junior Fair Grounds). The city of Stoughton will back a \$550,000 loan for the center if the fund-raising goal is met. The new center would be used year 'round as an exhibition and concert hall and ice arena. Questions about the center can be directed to Jerry Furseth, 873-9817, or Jerry King, 873-7135. Donations can be mailed to Mandt Community Center, Inc., P.O. Box 119, Stoughton, WI 53589.

### April 8 Meeting Set for Colladay Point Project

A special meeting will be held Thursday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the town hall to discuss the preliminary plans for the Colladay Point storm sewer project. The town's engineer, Warren Meyer, will explain the design proposal to get feedback from residents before final approval.

tural base and the southwest Lake Waubesa Wetlands. American Farmland Trust, 407 S.

Conservation easement information is available at the Dunn Town Hall or by writing to the

Dearborn St., Suite 1550, Chicago, IL 60605, or by calling (312) 427-2943.

# On the Road Again with Jim: It's Pothole Season

by Jim Manson, Road Crew Foreman

Springtime means that the weight limits are back on the town roads. Just a reminder — load limits are five tons for single axle, 10 tons for tandem axle. This year the roads are a lot softer than they usually are. I don't know if it's because of the excess moisture we have this year and all the freezing and thawing that's been occurring or what ever.

There are about nine or 10 new homes under construction in the town, and I know those people are anxious to keep going, but the heavy equipment is just too likely to damage the roads.

Road damage doesn't show up immediately. Some of it won't show for another year or so, maybe two years. First, the pavement cracks. The next year it'll let more moisture down in the pavement and then, with the freezing and thawing, chunks start

to break loose. The moisture underneath makes the pavement stay softer during the summer months, too.

We had about 11 miles of road sealcoated last year and it is all bad. We are holding the contractor responsible for their work, and all of those roads will be redone this year. The pea gravel didn't stick to the oil, so we have a lot of excess gravel along the roadsides and the oil is tracking into homes all over. It has to be covered, and the excess gravel swept up and removed. This has been sticky all winter. It just sticks to everything. It gets all over the kitchen floor and on the carpeting (I know, because my road was one of the ones done last year). It is tough to get off.

We haven't yet made the final decision about which roads will get new sealcoating this year. We'll be doing a little over a mile

of road reconstruction, including Woodland Road, Edgewood Drive, Tura Road, and Hart Circle, all in the Olsonia Plat.

We found quite a lot of composted yard waste in town ditches late last fall and some throughout the winter. We have also been finding tires and appliances — stuff that is hard to get rid of. Yard waste in the ditch acts like a dam holding back the water, and it also can plug the culverts if it washes down.

The big project for the road crew now is potholes and they are going to be bad this year. We check for these all the time. We try to get over all of the roads at least every other day. Pothole season is really all year, but during the springtime for about six weeks it's worse than at other times of the year. Anything you fill in the spring, when there is so much water in the potholes, is

only temporary. It won't stay, and we will have to redo just about all of them.

We'll also be doing a lot of sign work this spring. We've had a lot of signs stolen or run over lately. We had a stop sign stolen only a week ago. If anyone sees that a stop sign is missing, I wish they would call the town hall, because that is serious.

This summer, we'll be spending some time working on the new portion of the Dunn Burying Ground. As soon as all the stakes are in to mark where the road goes, we'll have to take all the topsoil out and put in six to eight inches of crushed lime rock for the road. We'll probably be seeding the new portion, too. We mow the old part of the cemetery along with the roadsides in the summer.

## Dogs Caught Molesting Farm Animals Will Be Destroyed by Police Chief Bob Berry

There have been several reports of wild dogs and coyotes in the township. One recent call was from a farmer on Peterson Road, who reported that two large, wild, unlicensed, stray German shepherd dogs were in the sheep pen, killing sheep. Officer Jeff Loud, of the Town of Dunn Police Department, responded.

The dogs were still in the sheep pen, with three dead sheep. They were frothing at the mouth and were aggressive toward Officer Loud, coming at him in a threatening manner. Both dogs were then disposed of by Officer Loud. Any dog, licensed or unlicensed, caught in the act of bothering any

domestic farm animal(s) in the town of Dunn will be disposed of.

I continue to get complaints from concerned parents who walk with their children to the bus stops: "motorists just won't slow down" Most offenders are members of their immediate neighborhood.

Radar is being used again on request and speeders will be issued speeding citations. As will drivers who do not come to a complete stop at stop signs.

Some of the high-intensity reflective stop signs have been shot at and totally destroyed. The cost for one sign alone is more than \$80. Adding the cost of

labor to install a new one makes this a very expensive act of criminal property damage. Some street signs have been stolen outright. If you see any suspicious vehicles and you can get a license plate number, please report it immediately. Most of the incidents happen during the nighttime hours; call the Dane County Sheriff's Department at 266-4948 and report anything you feel is of a suspicious nature.

Litter-bugs are still active in the township and have been dumping tires, wood and discarded office machines along the roadways and on town property. Some have been caught. With

your help, we can catch more.

To contact me Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., call the town hall at 255-4219.

During my patrolling in the township, I have observed many unlicensed inoperable vehicles on private property, which is in violation of a town ordinance. Hopefully, spring will bring about proper disposal of these vehicles.

I hope you all had a healthy winter season and are looking forward to this spring, when we can forget about the cold and snow and get back to working on our laws.

## Hearing Scheduled for April 20 on Proposed Junk Ordinance

Storing junk and debris on private property to the extent that it causes a nuisance for other people has become an issue for many Dunn residents. In response to this growing problem, the Dunn Town Board has scheduled a public hearing, April 20 at 7:30 p.m., on a proposed ordinance to regulate the storage of junk.

The proposed ordinance defines junk as "any old or scrap metal, metal alloy, any discarded property, including motor vehicles, vehicle parts, trucks, tractors, refrigerators, household appliances, furnaces, washing machines, stoves, machinery, machinery parts, wood, bricks, cement blocks, or other unsightly debris or waste."

The ordinance will also regulate waste such as construction waste, ash, sludge, refuse, rubbish, garbage, and discarded recyclables.

The proposed ordinance will not prevent normal functions of active farm operations, so long as junk or waste is stored more than 500 feet from any roadway and is out of public view.

If this ordinance is adopted as proposed, it will be unlawful to store junk or waste on public or private property and open to public view except in an enclosure and with a permit from the town board.

Disassembled, inoperable, unlicensed vehicles, implements and equipment, including racing

cars and equipment, will need a permit from the town board to be stored longer than five days in an area open to view. The ordinance authorizes law enforcement officers to have such vehicles or parts towed away at the owner's expense, or require the owner to move them to areas where such storage is not prohibited.

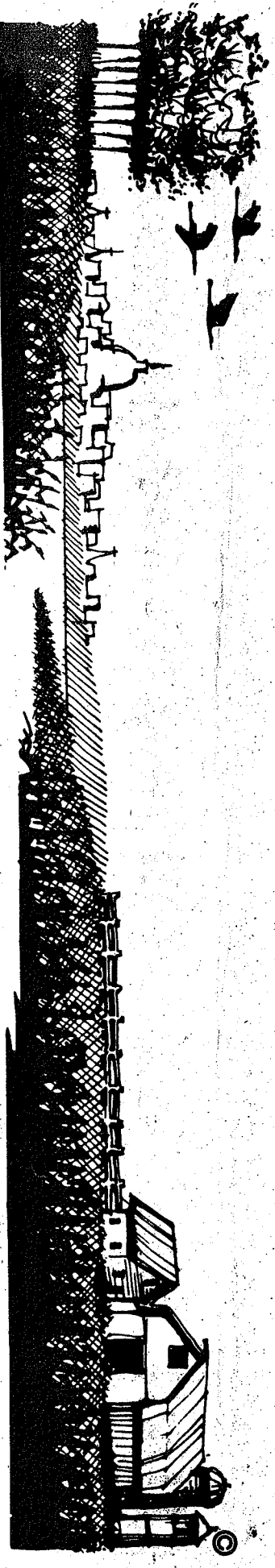
A permit will also be required to store junk within 2,000 feet of village limits, 750 feet of the center line of a state or federal highway, or 500 feet of the center line of a town or county highway.

The ordinance provides for a permit fee between \$10 and \$50, to be determined by the town board. Complaints of violations will

be made to the town clerk's office, and a police officer or other appropriate inspector will be sent to the premises. If it is determined that the ordinance is indeed being violated, notice will be served on the violators, and also posted on the property, that the violation must be corrected within 10 days, or the town will have it corrected at the owner's expense.

The ordinance also provides penalties of \$10 to \$50 for each offense, along with prosecution costs. Each day that junk remains stored in violation of the ordinance is a separate offense.

A copy of the ordinance is available at the town hall.



# The Dunn Recycling Guide

1993

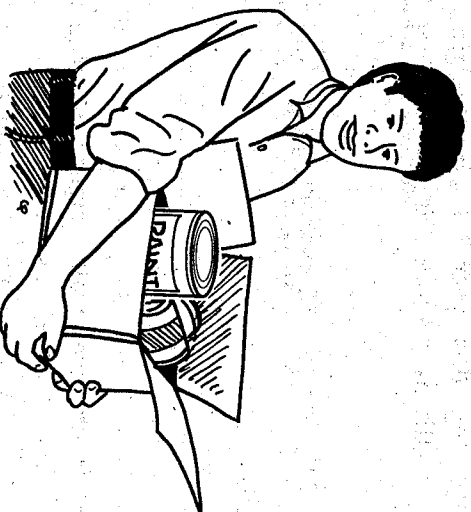
## Clean Sweep Goes Year 'Round at County Collection Site

On April 22, Earth Day 1993, Dane County will be holding its grand opening of a new, permanent household hazardous waste collection facility at the Dane County Clean Sweep Collection Facility, located at the county highway garage, 2302 Fish Hatchery Road.

This year-round facility will initially be open on Friday, Saturday and Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but these days and hours may change, said Hazardous Waste Coordinator Honora Kraemer. By having the facility open all year, residents will no longer have to hang onto their unused or unwanted household hazardous wastes the entire year Kraemer said. The facility will replace the annual Clean Sweep program, which began nine years ago.

The service is free of charge to county residents, but is limited to households. Business and agricultural wastes will not be accepted.

Products that will be accepted at the site include household cleaners containing organic solvents, banned and other pesticides, paint and paint-related products, aerosol cans, acids, bases, poisons, photographic chemicals, and pool chemicals.



By keeping these materials out of the garbage and sewer systems, we're keeping them from contaminating our soil and water, and keeping our environment healthier.

Empty containers from pesticides and other hazardous materials should be rinsed three times with clear water and then disposed of with your garbage.

The site will not accept ammunition, explosives, medical waste, hypodermic needles, or waste oil and other recyclables. Information regarding safe disposal of these materials will be available at the site, or by calling City of Madison Public Health Department at 266-4821.

### How to prepare your materials

- leave everything in its original container
- label all containers with their contents
- do not mix contents of different containers, except paint (see below)
- securely package containers for transport
- store hazardous materials safely and away from children while using them and until disposal.

The largest category of materials collected in the Clean Sweep program is paint. Handling paint at the collection site is very labor intensive. Your help in the following areas is appreciated:

- recycle paint whenever possible by using it or giving it away
- consolidate partial cans, but only if they are the same type of paint — latex with latex, oil with oil
- be sure labels tell what kind of paint it is
- open up containers with only a little or no paint, so that they can dry thoroughly. Once dry, these containers can be disposed of with the rest of your garbage.

## Dunn Transfer and Recycling Center: The Accent is on Recycling

Make the Dunn Transfer Site your first stop for recycling all of your household recyclables.

To bring in your recyclables and trash you must have a current Dunn Resident Sticker on your vehicle windshield. The cost is \$12 (prorated monthly) and it can be purchased at the Town Hall during the week or from the transfer site attendant on Saturday.

You will also need a 10-punch ticket, which can be purchased for \$10 per ticket. Each punch allows a resident to drop off a 30-gallon trash bag.

Please help us serve you better by following these recycling rules:

**Plastics**—Rinse and remove caps and rings; labels can remain. Flatten as much as possible. These have a 1 or 2 on the bottom. We can take only milk jugs, soda bottles and detergent bottles.

All other bottles, and plastics with numbers 3 through 6, and *all* plastic caps must be placed in the trash. Currently, these do not have to be recycled by law, but we are hoping to find a buyer for these plastics soon.

**Aluminum**—We don't pay for aluminum cans, but we do accept them for recycling. If a magnet sticks, it's not aluminum. And please, no aluminum foil.

**Tin cans**—Food cans only. Rinse, remove labels, and flatten.

**Aerosol cans**—must be placed in the garbage

Dunn Transfer Site Costs	
Garbage (30-gallon bag)	\$ 1.00
Large furniture	\$4.00
Hide-a-bed	\$7.00
Mattress or boxspring	\$3.00
Bath fixtures (sink/toilet)	\$3.00
Small furniture (chair)	\$2.00
Water softener or heater	\$3.00
Television set	\$3.00
Tires	\$2.00

Dane County Landfill Costs	
Carload under 500 lbs.	\$5.00
Pickup truck & trailer under 1000 lbs.	\$11.25
1000-1500 lbs.	\$24.00
over 1500 lbs.	\$32.00/ton
Tires	\$0.85/ea.
bulk and all truck tires	\$85.00/ton

or taken to the Dane County Clean Sweep Collection Facility at the Dane County Highway Garage at 2302 Fish Hatchery Rd.

**Paint cans**—are considered regular trash *only* if empty and allowed to dry out. For cans with paint still in them, take them to the Dane County Clean Sweep Collection Facility.

**Newspaper**—should be dry and bundled. Keep bundles no thicker than 6 inches. No other paper, including magazines or junk mail.

Corrugated cardboard—must be tied in bundles. No cereal boxes, detergent boxes, tissue boxes or beverage boxes.

**Glass**—jars and bottles only; no light bulbs, dishes, glasses, mirrors or window glass. Sort by color: clear, green and brown. Rinse and remove caps and rings.

**Scrap metal**—We still accept any scrap iron, steel, copper, or other metal. No compressors or motors.

**Lead-acid batteries**—we may discontinue accepting batteries because the state is considering requiring that they be kept on a concrete slab inside a heated building.

**Motor oil**—Soon the waste oil depository at the town garage will be moved to the transfer and recycling center, where it's use can be monitored by the attendants. There are other places nearby including the Dane County Highway Garage on CTH B and N just north of Stoughton, the Oregon EMS building, and the McFarland municipal building.

**Leaves and grass clippings**—put in our compost pile at the transfer site. Do not leave your clippings and leaves in plastic bags or other containers when you drop them off.

Leaves and clippings can also be dropped off at Dane County's compost site at Lake Farm Park on Libby Road.

Continued on Page 4A



## Nonpoint Source Control Is the Backyard Solution to Pollution

Our landscape used to be covered with tall prairie grasses and oak savannahs. As we have gradually replaced more and more of the natural vegetation and porous soil surface with rooftops, driveways, decks, patios, and streets, the amount of water running off toward nearby lakes and streams has increased dramatically.

Each time it rains, stormwater flushes all sorts of wastes off lawns and streets into lakes and streams. This flushing action is representative of a relatively unrecognized type of pollution called *stormwater runoff* or *nonpoint source pollution* (meaning that the pollution cannot be traced to a single, point source but is the accumulation of a variety of sources).

Runoff accounts for as much as 90% of the pollution that ends up in our rivers, lakes, and aquifers, according to the Department of Natural Resources. Stormwater washes everything in its path into local waterways: oil and grease from cars; fertilizers and pesticides from lawns and gardens; and eroded soil from fields and construction sites. Bacteria counts in stormwater runoff can be as high as in raw sewage.

The DNR offers these examples of stormwater problems and solutions:

**Problem:** If downspouts empty onto driveways, pollution from the roof joins with oil, grease, and metals from the driveway and street before finding its way to a local waterway.

**Solution:** Direct downspouts away from paved areas and onto densely covered ground so the water can soak in without eroding soil. Use a rain barrel to catch downspout water and use it for your garden. Rain water is slightly acidic, which helps plants take up important minerals from the soil.

**Problem:** Fertilizers, weed killers and pesticides that don't fully incorporate with the soil and vegetation end up in runoff.

**Solution:** Apply pesticides only on dry, calm days, and do not overapply them. Do not apply them when a heavy rain is expected soon. Get a soil test before fertilizing. Don't apply insecticides "just in case", and find out the right time of year to apply weed killers. Keep residues and spills off paved areas, where they can wash into waterways more easily. Sweep, don't wash, fertilizer and soil off driveways and sidewalks.

**Problem:** Stormwater runoff from leaves, grass clippings and other yard wastes encourages aquatic weed and algae growth.

**Solution:** Compost yard wastes, till them into the garden, or collect them and drop them at a composting site. If a lawn is cut frequently, just leave the clippings on the grass. They won't contribute to thatch, which is roots and sheaths, but will decompose quickly and actually fertilize your lawn for you. Leaves and other yard waste should be kept out of gutters and off paved areas to reduce leaching of nutrients into runoff.

As of January 3, 1993, yard wastes have been banned from all licensed landfills and licensed incinerators that do not recover energy in the entire state. The ban is expected to reduce the state's waste by as much as 17%. Alternatives to burying yard wastes in landfills include:

- planting more perennials to reduce the amount of waste generated
- using grass clippings, leaves, and chipped woody material as a mulch
- leaving grass clippings on the lawn to recycle the nutrients

- composting yard waste, either in your backyard or at a community compost site
- spreading yard wastes, composted or uncomposted, on farm fields, where they can provide organic matter to the soil and nutrients to the crop.

Other tips to reduce water pollution from your home, yard, and neighborhood:

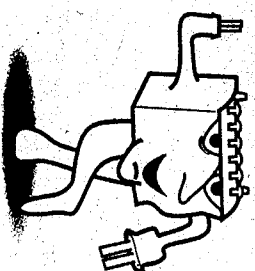
- maintain a healthy lawn. Healthy lawns are porous and reduce runoff by soaking up rain water. Bald or thin spots can contribute soil to runoff water, as well as fertilizers and pesticides that remain on the surface.
- install gravel trenches alongside driveways and patios so rain water is caught and absorbed instead of adding to runoff problems.
- use porous materials such as bricks and wooden planks for walkways and patios.

## Recycle lead-acid batteries

Recycling an old battery is easy as long as you handle it carefully — you don't want to spill the sulfuric acid that's in them.

Used vehicle batteries are hazardous because they contain highly corrosive sulfuric acid, lead and other toxic metals. When burned, these materials pollute the air. When thrown into a roadside ditch or dumped in a landfill, batteries can crack and deteriorate, leaking lead-contaminated sulfuric acid into the soil. Sulfuric acid is considered a hazardous waste, and it can leach into surface water and groundwater, polluting lakes, streams and drinking water supplies.

A standard automotive battery contains 18 pounds of lead and there are about 3.7 million of them in cars today. So, going by 1990 market prices, that's 33,249 tons, or \$23 million worth of lead. All of them can be recycled and used to make new batteries, cable coverings, light bulbs, electronic equipment, radiation shielding and other useful products.



Some of the sulfuric acid in batteries can be reused in new batteries or in fertilizer, but most of it is neutralized for safe disposal. Battery casings are recycled into new casings, wastebaskets and other plastic products.

Studies show that about 8.5 million, or up to 10 percent of all lead-acid batteries bought in the U.S. are not being recycled. If they're not being thrown away or recycled, where are they? According to the Battery Council International, they are accumulating in people's garages and basements: 20 percent of Americans are storing two or more old batteries.

If you have a "used battery collection" lying around, try recycling. Those batteries will do a lot more good being recycled than sitting in your garage, and you'll be ridding your home of a hazard.

Dry cell, alkaline and other household batteries are also hazardous. They contain mercury, cadmium, nickel and other potentially toxic chemicals. The Wisconsin Legislature is analyzing how the recycling law could provide more convenient statewide access to household-battery recycling facilities. Currently, these batteries are considered garbage and should be disposed of in the trash.

### Handling Your Battery Safely

- If you remove the battery from your car, boat, tractor or other vehicle yourself, be careful. Lead-acid batteries contain explosive hydrogen, in addition to sulfuric acid.
- To avoid explosions and acid burns, keep open flames away from the battery and don't smoke near it.
- Wear safety glasses or goggles when working with batteries.
- Take care when using metal tools. You might accidentally make a direct connection and create a dangerous spark.
- If you drop a battery, use baking soda or lime to neutralize any spilled acid. Use gloves and avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing.
- When taking a battery to a retailer, keep it right side up and carry it in a wooden box or leak-proof container.
- If you don't plan to deliver the battery right away, place it somewhere safe, away from children and pets.
- Don't store batteries outside in frigid weather. Frozen batteries can crack and leak sulfuric acid.



# Grass clippings: Good as gold for your lawn

## Why bag your grass clippings?

Consider for a moment *not* bagging your grass. Gone are the hassles of stopping every few minutes to empty the mower bag, raking, wrestling with expensive trash bags. Instead, by not bagging your grass, your clippings are working their way back into the soil and playing a very important role.

Clippings contain the nutrients your lawn needs to grow. Every bag of grass clippings contains up to 1/4 pound of usable organic nitrogen. You can reduce your fertilization costs by recycling lawn clippings back into the lawn.

You may say that not bagging your grass is unhealthy for your lawn... it will cause excessive thatch build-up and kill your lawn. The fact is, thatch is made up of grass roots, dead leaf sheaths, and rhizomes, which decompose slowly, not the grass leaves that are cut when you mow. Grass clippings decompose rapidly, and can help make your lawn more vigorous and durable.

## Recycle your fertilizer

Successfully recycling grass clippings back to your lawn requires only the kind of attention all lawns should have on a regular basis. Mow when your grass is dry and 3 to 4" tall. Never

### Grass clipping benefits

According to turf experts, grass clippings:

- reduce water evaporation from the lawn,
- reduce lawn wear by creating a cushioning layer, and
- facilitate better growth by providing nutrients and keeping the soil temperature cooler.

cut it shorter than 2 to 2½" in height. This height will allow your lawn to have a larger and deeper root system — making a stronger defense against weeds and droughts.

Use a sharp mower blade (a mulching mower if you have one). A sharp blade and frequent mowing will mean finer clippings that will decompose quickly. (If you have trouble using your mower without the bagger, call your hardware store or dealer for assistance.)

Avoid overfertilizing your lawn. If it becomes too dense with growth, your clippings won't reach the soil to decompose.

Remove excessive thatch before leaving your clippings on the lawn. Although a ½" of thatch is no problem, a thick layer will keep clippings

from reaching the soil.

Limit the use of lawn chemicals. Save money and allow soil organisms to return nutrients to the soil by first correctly diagnosing lawn problems and then applying corrective measures only when needed.

## Compost your clippings

You may choose to collect your clippings every third time you mow... or every other time. If you want to collect your clippings occasionally, recycle them as a mulch in the garden or in planting beds. Mulching adds nutrients to soil, reduces weed problems, lowers the soil temperature and increases the moisture. Mulch also helps maintain good soil structure and minimizes erosion by protecting the soil surface.

However, avoid mulching with grass that's been recently treated with herbicides that can harm your plants. Chemically treated clippings should be left on the lawn or in your compost bin, where herbicides will breakdown in about six weeks.

If you can't use grass clippings in your own yard, find a neighbor who can... or take them to either the town compost pile at the transfer site or the county compost pile on Libby Rd. at Lake Farm Park.

## Dane County Has Three Public Compost Sites

Dane County opened its three yard waste compost sites on Monday, April 5, 1993. These sites are available for dropping off non-woody yard waste, or for picking up finished compost. The use of the sites is free.

The site most convenient for Dunn residents is the Lake Farm site on Libby Road, just east of the county's Lake Farm Park. The hours are Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Westport site on Highway 19 one-half mile east of Highway 113 is open Tuesday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the Verona site on the east side of the county's Verona landfill is open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Dane County's compost sites accept only nonwoody plant material. They do not accept brush, Christmas wreaths, or garlands (because of the metal wire), or trash of any sort including pieces of fences, plastic bags or styrofoam, plastic lawn edging or similar material.

The sites also provide free compost. Small users should bring their own containers and shovels. For large users, trucks can be loaded by the county if arrangements are made in advance.

Homeowners may find that home compost systems are more convenient, saving both the time and effort of using the county's facilities while producing usable compost. More information about home composting will be available at the annual Dunn Arbor Day Celebration and Potluck. Information is also available in this issue of the recycling guide, at local libraries, and garden and hardware stores, or from the county. For more information on the county compost sites, call the county hotline at 267-1502 or Al Czecholinski at 266-4139.

## How to recycle used oil

**DO use a dirt-free pan** that can hold as many quarts as your car's crankcase and that has *not* been used for paint, cleaning solvents, antifreeze or anything besides motor oil.

**DO drain the old oil filter** by punching a hole in the top and inverting it over your drain pan. Dispose of the old filter by putting some paper towels over the hole. Put the old filter and paper towels in the box the new filter came in and put the box in the trash.

**DON'T put used oil in garbage bound for a landfill.** The contamination in used oil can leak into groundwater or collect in the landfill drainage system where it must be pumped out and hauled to a sewage treatment plant. Running used oil through a landfill is an expensive process that wastes a valuable resource, could cause pollution and accomplishes nothing.

**DON'T pour used oil down a drain.** If the oil is poured down a drain that leads to a septic system, it can hinder or stop the biological processes that make the septic system work.

If the drain leads to a wastewater treatment plant, the oil could reduce plant efficiency, causing more contaminants to flow out of the plant's discharge pipes and into a nearby lake or stream. At its worst, oil clogs plant machinery and may cause an unscheduled shutdown. Repairs are an expensive and avoidable use of taxpayer dollars.

**DON'T pour used oil into a storm sewer.** Storm sewers lead directly to lakes, streams and wetlands where oil spoils habitat for fish and wildlife and interferes with swimming, boating and other recreation. Pouring oil down a storm sewer is illegal.

**DON'T toss used oil on the driveway, street or ground.** Such practices lead to reduced soil productivity and, through percolation and runoff, contaminate lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater.

**DON'T spread oil to suppress dust or kill weeds.** These practices harm land and water resources.

**DON'T dispose of oil in lakes, streams or wetlands.** It's illegal and harmful to fish, wildlife and outdoor recreation.

**DON'T burn oil outdoors.** Burning oil in a backyard barrel can result in toxic smoke that contaminates the air you and others breathe.

**DON'T mix oil with other things.** Just a small amount of something else can cause the contents of an entire 200-gallon collection tank to be classified as a hazardous waste that has to be delivered to a special, expensive hazardous waste recycling or disposal facility. Do not add antifreeze, solvents or anything else to oil bound for recycling.

## Do it right at the Dunn Transfer Site

Continued from front page

**Brush**—only brush and limbs for the burn pile. We cannot take stumps or lumber, but the county's Rodefild Landfill will take stumps.

**Tires**—we charge \$3 each and they must be removed from the rim. We do not take tractor or other oversize or balloon tires. Tires can also be taken to the Rodefild Landfill for 85¢ each, for auto tires only, or \$85.00 per ton prorated for all tires.

**Appliances**—Neither the town nor Rodefild Landfill take appliances, but several private recyclers do, and they are willing to pick them up for a small fee. Check the table on this page for other appliance recyclers.

	Hours	Aluminum	Other metals	Appliances	Glass	Newspapers	Mixed paper	Corrugated cardboard	HDPE & PETE plastics	Other plastics	Motor oil	Batteries	Tires	Grass, leaves, etc.	Stumps	Limbs	Clean wood
Dunn Transfer Site CTH B	Wed. 8am-4pm Apr-Nov Sat. 8am-4pm All Year	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓1		✓	✓2	✓		✓	✓
Rodefild Landfill Hwy 18 McFarland 838-9555	M-F 7am-3pm Sat. 8am-11am																✓3
Dane County compost site Lake Farm Park Libby Rd.	M-W-F -S 7am-3:30pm Tu-Th 7am-10:30am													✓			
Recycle Worlds 2701 Packers Ave. Madison, WI 53704 244-5451	M-F 9am-5pm Sat. 8am-4pm	✓	✓									✓					
Madison Recycling Center 2200 Fish Hatchery Rd. Madison, WI 53713 251-2115	M-F 7:30am-5pm Sat. 8am-Noon	✓	✓									✓					
Ben Heifitz, Inc. 1802 S. Park Street Madison, WI 53713 255-0960	M-F 7am-4:30pm Sat. Closed Sun. 7am-Noon		✓	✓4								✓					
Century Acres 3705 Hoepker Road Madison, WI 53704 241-3156	Call																✓
J&S Recycling and Surplus 214 N. Main Street Deerfield, WI 53531 764-5358	After May 1st Mon&Wed 9am-Noon 4-6pm Sat. 9-1pm	✓	✓	✓5					✓								
Samuels Recycling 4400 Sycamore Ave. Madison, WI 53714 241-1571	M-F 7:30am-3:30pm Sat. 7:30-Noon	✓	✓6	✓7	✓8	✓						✓					
Reynolds Aluminum Recycling 3029 Milwaukee Street Madison, WI 53714 241-5789	Stoughton at Pamida Wed., Fri., & Sat. 9am-2:30pm Milwaukee Street M-F 8am-5:30pm Sat. 8:30am-3:30pm	✓															
Severson Scrap Metals 1707 Moorland Road Madison, WI 53711 222-4604	M-Sat. 7:30am-4:30pm	✓	✓	✓9								✓					
Larry's Used Furniture 2898 S. Syene Rd. Fitchburg 271-8162	4-8pm weekdays 10am-6pm weekends Call ahead	✓	✓	✓10	✓							✓					

- 1 Collecting for recycling, but still looking for a buyer. Place in separate bin.
- 2 Charge of \$3 per tire.
- 3 Only until 1:30 pm.
- 4 Remove capacitors from appliances; condensers from refrigerators.
- 5 Call for pick-up charge.
- 6 Automobiles and farm equipment also taken.
- 7 No microwave ovens; freon and compressors must be removed from refrigerators and freezers; no appliances with capacitors.
- 8 Bottles and jars only.
- 9 \$15 charge for refrigerators and freezers with freon, other appliances no charge.
- 10 Call first; charge for refrigerators and freezers.



**Materials Banned from Landfills in Dane County**  
Items currently banned:

Brush	Grass
Leaves	Barrels and Drums
Newspaper	Hazardous Waste
Infectious Waste	Tires
Corrugated Cardboard	Glass Containers
Metal Containers	HDPE Plastic Containers
Lead-Acid Batteries	PETE Plastic Containers
Used Oil	Major Appliances

As of January 1, 1993:  
Yard Waste (beyond grass, leaves, and brush)

As of January 1, 1995:  
Magazines  
Plastic Containers

Office Paper  
Polystyrene Foam Packaging





## Waste Management Asked to Clean City Disposal Site

From a local perspective, the cleanup of the City Disposal site on Sand Hill Road seems to be taking a long time, but Susan Pastor of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said the EPA is still doing legal work to get the responsible parties to pay for the cleanup.

Last week Pastor said a unilateral order had been issued to Waste Management, the largest of the parties responsible for the contamination, requiring them to do the design and cleanup work on the landfill and groundwater at the site.

The EPA signed a record of decision for the Superfund site in September 1992, outlining the final cleanup methods to be used. Under this order, Waste Management must extract and flare methane gas and volatile organic compounds, cap the landfill with two types of covers, and restrict

land use at the site. They must also pump and treat contaminated groundwater and discharge treated water to Badfish Creek.

If Waste Management complies with the order, they will be providing a work plan to the EPA explaining how they intend to proceed. That is expected this summer.

"Maybe later in the summer, they will be doing pump tests or learning more about the soils so that the cap can be designed," Pastor said. "I don't expect any work there this spring. It'll more than likely be this summer."

Failure to comply with the order would subject Waste Management to daily penalties of up to \$25,000 and damages of three times the cost of the project, according to EPA Deputy Regional Administrator David A. Ullrich.

## Libby Landfill Update The End May Be in Sight (Again)

The fight to prevent the proposed Libby Landfill from being built along the northwest shore of Lake Waubesa may be finally turning in the town's favor.

Last week the Lake Waubesa Conservation Association, a grassroots citizen's organization that has raised funds to pay for legal fees and helped fight the proposed landfill, received information that the Wisconsin Court of Appeals accepted Friend of the Court Briefs from several influential organizations. Those briefs could help in an effort to reverse a July 1992 court ruling that favors Madison Landfills, Inc., the company hoping to build the Libby Landfill.

Acceptance of the briefs is important due to the weight these parties carry. Backing the local committee (and the town of Dunn) with separate Friend of the Court briefs are the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, the Wisconsin Towns Association and the Wisconsin Counties Association. In addition, a joint brief filed by Wisconsin Public Interenor, Wisconsin Environmental Decade and John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club has also been accepted by the court.

To put the acceptance of these briefs in perspective, here is a quick review of the legal battles of the past 18 months. In November 1991, Madison Landfills and the local negotiating committee met before the Waste Facility Siting Board in an arbitration hearing. That hearing was called

because the two sides could not agree on terms for building the landfill. Following three days in arbitration hearings, the WFSB selected the Madison Landfills offer, but deleted a portion of the offer that would have allowed Madison Landfills to bypass all local rezoning and permitting requirements.

In its ruling, the Waste Facility Siting Board concluded that it lacked the authority to take away local zoning because, in this case, such zoning was not discriminatory or arbitrary. If it had been discriminatory or arbitrary, and thus obstructing the construction of the landfill, the siting board could have kept it in Madison Landfill's offer.

Madison Landfills then proceeded to fulfill a promise to appeal any judgements against it and challenged the WFSB decision. In July 1992 their appeal was heard by Judge Gerald Nichols, who ruled that the WFSB did not have the right to alter the arbitration offer. With that decision, the local committee, which includes Dane County, the city of Madison and the town of Dunn, appealed Judge Nichols' ruling. Now, with the backing of the League of Municipalities, the Towns Association, the Counties Association, the Public Interenor, Wisconsin Environmental Decade and the Sierra Club, a favorable response to the local committee's appeal is more likely. Our next step is another wait

### Volunteers Needed

Oregon Area Senior Center — 835-7100  
contact Nell Mally

*Substitute front desk receptionist* — two shifts are available: from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. Responsibilities include answering the phone, taking messages, relaying messages, and acting as greeter at the door. We need substitutes and people who could volunteer two to four times each month.

*Meal deliverers* — occasionally we need a driver to deliver noon meals to older adults living in the town of Dunn. There generally are about five meals and they can be delivered within a short amount of time. They are picked up at the center. Mileage reimbursement is available. Call if you could substitute.

Stoughton Senior Center — 873-8585  
contact Barb Patterson

*Meals on wheels drivers* — regular or substitute drivers. Hours are fairly flexible and mileage reimbursement is available.

*Driver escort* — drive older adults to appointments

*Kitchen assistants* — help prepare meals at the senior center. Volunteers are needed to assist at the center's meals, at our pancake breakfast fund-raiser, or to come and bake cookies.

McFarland Senior Center — 838-3154  
contact Susan Stumreiter

*Driver escorts* — The RSVP Driver Escort Program is in need of volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments, the grocery store, or other events. The hours are flexible, and drivers should anticipate being available one to two times a week.

*Senior Olympics volunteers* — McFarland High School will be hosting the track and field events, the softball throw, and the basketball toss. Volunteers can help by measuring distances, recording scores, and organizing individual events. The event will be held during the first week in June.

Town of Dunn — 255-4219

*Calligrapher* — to make a roster of town officials.

*Photo assembler* — The 1991 aerial photos of the town are ready (and in color!) and need to be assembled on a board to replace the older version at the back of the town hall.

### Libby Landfill Background

The proposed Libby Landfill, located just north of Lake Farm Park along Libby Road, has been the subject of an intense battle since it was first proposed in 1982. The landfill is proposed to be located 1,200 feet from Lake Waubesa and, if it is built, will be visible from McFarland, the South Beltline and almost every home on the lake.

The landfill received the preliminary engineering approvals from the DNR in February 1991 after a year-long delay because one of the investors, Tom DeBeck, a co-owner of the groundwater-polluting Refuse Hide-away Landfill in Middleton, fell under state bad-actor legislation because of his involvement with the Middleton landfill. Once DeBeck sold his ownership in the proposed Libby Landfill, the process continued to where it is today.

ing game. Appeals like this one the community to enforce local can take six months to a year to zoning, the 10-year battle to stop be heard, but with a successful the Libby Landfill may finally be appeal that restores the right of over for good.

# Join in the Arbor Day Potluck on April 30th

Composting — what it is and how (and why) to do it — will be the topic of the annual Arbor Day Celebration and Potluck, Friday, April 30th, at the town hall. Mindy Habecker, Dane County Extension agriculture and natural resources agent, will be the featured speaker. This is a particularly timely topic, since the county's ban on yard waste in landfills went into effect this January 1. She will have a demonstration and plenty of tips, so you won't want to miss this.

Bring a friend or two, too! Lots of great, home-cooked food is guaranteed. Mindy's presentation will begin about 8:00 p.m. A special part of the Arbor Day celebration is the presentation of the annual Stewardship Awards to individual who have helped enhance and preserve our town. Last spring, the Stewardship Award was presented to Jane and Wes Licht for their leadership and roles as environmental educators.

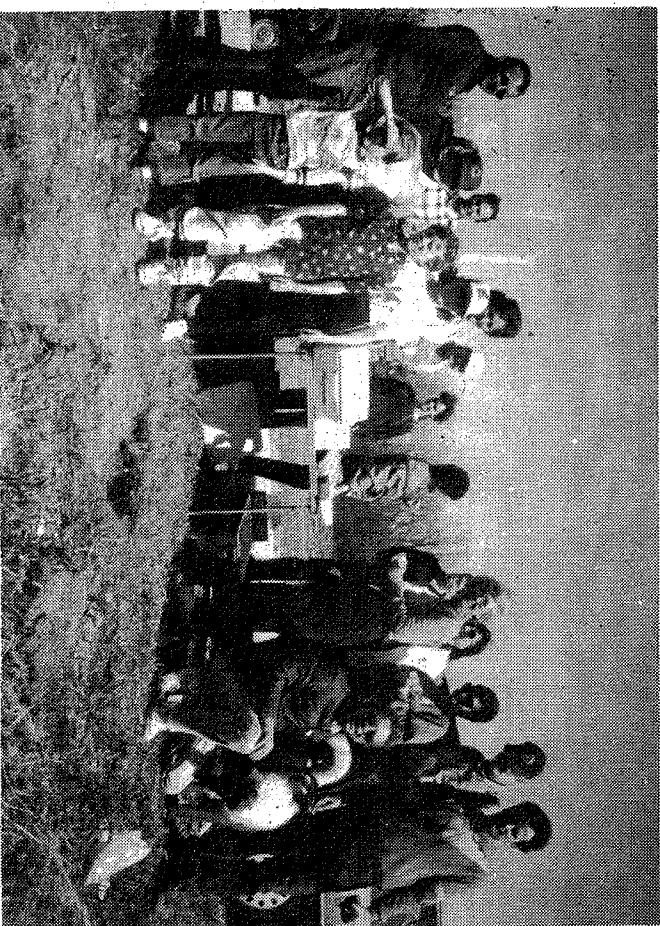
## Spring Clean-Up Day is April 17; Rain date, 24th

The annual Arbor Day tree planting ceremony will be at Spartan Hills Park on Saturday, May 1, at 10:00 a.m.

As usual, the potluck dinner will start about 6:30 p.m. Bring a dish to pass and your own table settings.

Roadside Clean-Up Day will be April 17th this year, with Saturday the 24th as the rain date. Parks commission members will be at the Town Hall on Election Day to ask residents to volunteer to help clean up their favorite stretch of road. If no one is at the sign-up board, please pencil in your name by the road you picked.

Do your part this year by filling up a garbage bag (or pick up truck) with roadside debris and recyclables from along town roadsides. Make a morning of it and enjoy the fresh air. Afterward, everyone is invited to the town transfer station at 2 p.m. to drop off the trash and recyclables and enjoy some refreshments and a group photo. Call the town hall for information if you miss the sign-up on Election Day.



Spring Clean-Up Day is plenty of work, but every year it's followed with a picnic and treats at the Dunn Transfer and Recycling Center.

The town of Dunn wishes to say

# Thank you

to The Steak Escape, of Madison, and to all of the other individuals, municipalities, organizations and businesses that provided their assistance in the aftermath of the June 17, 1992, tornado.

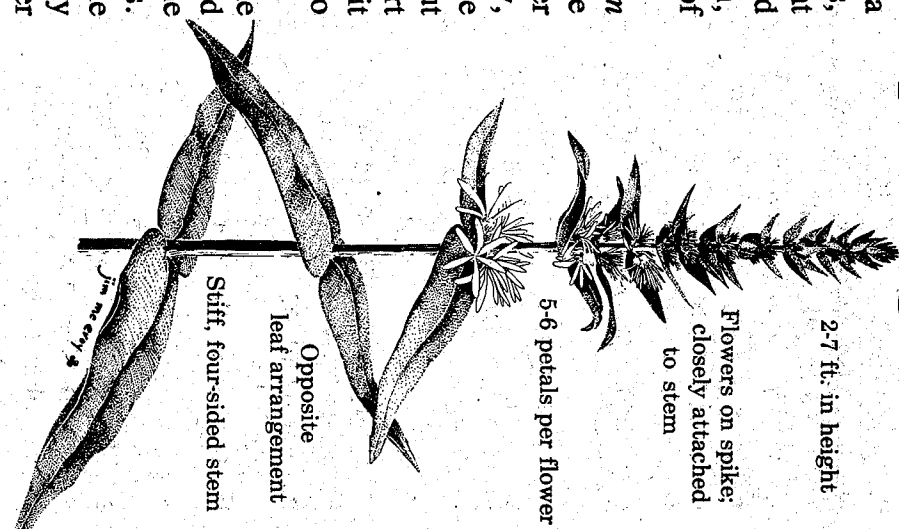
## Help to Prevent Purple Loosestrife from Spreading

Although not considered a noxious weed by state statutes, purple loosestrife is a plant that should be treated as one and destroyed, says Rich Henderson, botanist with the Department of Natural Resources.

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) is a highly aggressive plant that is rapidly taking over wetlands in Dane County, southern Wisconsin and the Midwest. Loosestrife chokes out other wetland plants that support many birds and mammals, and it provides little food benefit to wildlife.

Native to Europe, purple loosestrife is well established and a serious problem throughout the northeastern United States. Because it is attractive, purple loosestrife has been widely distributed for use in flower gardens. Unfortunately, it has the capability to survive in the wild.

It is found mainly in shallow wetlands and ditches or other areas with wet soils. In small quantities, young plants can be pulled by hand and older ones carefully dug. The roots of the older plants will resprout if they are broken, so extra care must be taken in removing the plant. In larger areas, herbicides like



Roundup can be used on land or Rodeo in wet areas, but Wisconsin law requires the herbicide applicator have a permit from the Department of Natural Resources if an herbicide is to be applied to water.

Please contact Rich Henderson at 275-3214 to report any sighting of plants or for more information about destroying the plants.

## Dunn Burying Ground Landscaping starts soon

Visit Burying Ground for Memorial Ceremony by Jo Reynolds

Spring projects are once again the focus of the Dunn Cemetery Task Force. With the acquisition of the adjacent property (and despite the delay caused by the tornado last summer), committee members will recommend landscape plantings for the new part of the burying ground in addition to holding their annual cemetery clean-up.

Glen Northrup, the project surveyor, suggested that the work be done in the order of: staking and graveling the road, seeding and fencing, then the actual planting. The final step — and a continuing one — will be landscaping. The task force hopes to select plantings that reflect heritage garden plantings and meet several other criteria, including hardness, ease of care and mowing, and low price. Since we have no allotted budget for the landscaping, individual donations of perennials, shrubs or trees are welcome. Several donations of memorial trees and roses have already been offered, while others have offered transplants from their own properties. We may be able to do a good portion of the landscaping with donated materials. Costs for other materials will need to be approved by the town board, but the sale of cemetery plots will ultimately offset these costs. (It has not yet been determined when plots will be available for purchase — probably after platting and staking are finished.)

Please contact the town hall if you are interested in donating plants, either as a memorial in the new addition (traditional trees, shrubs or perennials) or in the original burying ground (annuals or perennials).

Once again, our committee would like to extend an invitation to all to attend the annual Memorial Day ceremony held at the burying ground by the Oregon-Brooklyn VFW. Each year this group provides a memorable way to honor all veterans, including the five Civil War and one War of 1812 veterans buried here. The exact time of the ceremony will be listed in the *Oregon Observer* the week prior to Memorial Day.

# Hook Lake Savanna Will Evolve Slowly

by Doris Rusch, DNR Wildlife Biologist

Converting more than 500 acres of crop land and "weedy" woodlots to oak savanna is going to take many years and a lot of patience. Patience was never one of my virtues, but if we can wait, if we can get all the management done, we'll see a glimpse of our history.

The landscapes will resemble what our great-grandparents saw (minus the bison and tepes). Perhaps I'll not be around to see the little bur oak seedlings grow into giants with massive spreading branches heavy with acorn mast, but my daughter will.

Actually, the Hook Lake landscape on the old McMannus parcel has already changed, but it's a transitory change, and not at all what we want for a final vista. For the next few years, we're going to have to live with the hundreds of little white tubes stuck upright all over fields like headstones at Arlington Cemetery.

We'll have to live with standing dead box elder, looking brown and ugly to some. We'll have to live with piles of honeysuckle brush. We'll have to live with weeds (lambquarters, pigweed, and thistle) in the fields. We'll have to listen to the buzz of chainsaws, and smell the smoke of early spring fires.

Let's take stock of what has occurred on the land since the McMannus parcel was purchased by the state.

1. A controlled burn in spring 1991 killed many of the little box elder saplings growing in set-aside fields. The fire also killed or hurt some of the honeysuckle and exotics growing in woodlots. It reduced the fuel load (dead wood and plant matter) and thus the risk of an uncontrollable fire in the future.

2. Three 10-acre fields were prepared in the spring of 1991 by our field worker, Jim Lunde, for seeding prairie grasses and flowers. Donations from the Dane County Land Conservation Committee, Pheasants Forever, Audubon Society and others allowed us to plant \$30,000 worth of prairie seed on the three fields. With a gang of volunteers, we broadcast planted 27 species of prairie seed by hand. All seed was from plants of Wisconsin genotype and cost \$60 to \$150 per ounce! Is this seed worth more than gold?

3. For two weeks, a Wisconsin Conservation Corps crew pulled honeysuckle out of the woodlots and stacked it into brush piles. We also tried to kill all mature box elder to keep them from spreading seed far and wide

into our new prairie fields. We used a small bulldozer to clear the woodlots behind the McMannus residence and at the edge of Hook Lake. Cleared earth under the oaks was planted in flowers and grasses.

4. We received a \$15,000 grant from the Small Business Association for planting trees — 2,700 young bur, white and black oak, complete with tubex shelters to increase survival.

5. We hired two seed collectors, who spent the late summer collecting great bagfuls of prairie seed, and spent the winter cleaning and preparing the seed for this spring's planting.

6. Several research projects were begun by UW students on the site, including an inventory of birds and mammals, population and distribution of ruffed grouse, and survival of young oak stock with and without tubex shelters.

What's next? What work is planned for this spring and summer?

A controlled burn is planned for this spring. The burn will favor the prairie species by eliminating the competing cool season plants. The burn will also reduce the brush invasion into fields, and further set back the honeysuckle growth in the woodlots.

The property is difficult to burn because a south wind is needed to keep smoke from Rutland-Dunn Road and from developments to the east and west. South winds in spring that do not carry moisture are rare. If a south wind favors us, landowners nearby will find a yellow notice of the burn on their door knob.

Another 30 acres will be prepared for prairie seeding by Jim Lunde. Since we have great stores of cleaned prairie seed this year (thanks to our collectors),

we'll need to buy only a few species.

Work will continue in the woodlots all season to clear out the exotic species and to open up the oaks. Little oaks can then regenerate and other native prairie species can grow.

Neighbors of a wildlife area enjoy the benefits of direct access to a "huge yard" to ramble in that, for most of the year, has few other visitors. However, these neighbors also put up with the strangers who use the public lands. There may be occasional trespassing, littering, and dog confrontations.

For the most part, members of the public are responsible and have great integrity — but there are always some who have little respect for property or rules. If problems arise, we can usually

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## Advisory Committee Members Sought for Park Dunn Heritage Park to be seeded in grass this summer

Parks commission members and program presenters practically outnumbered residents at a special information meeting about funding and design of the Dunn Heritage Park on March 11, 1993, at the town hall.

The meeting was called to inform residents about a new plan to help finance the park's development, to give the parks commission a sense of the direction residents wished for that development, and to request that residents form an advisory committee to more directly guide the park's design. None of the 10 or so neighbors at the meeting offered their assistance. They did, however, request that the land be seeded into grass this spring.

The proposed 28-acre park is located between Tower Road and Jordan Drive on the south shore of Lake Waubesa. Last year, the parks commission had hoped to raise 50 percent of the funds for the park's development with Wisconsin Stewardship Fund money and had hired a design firm to propose a design and file the necessary paperwork. Those plans fell through when the project was not selected for state funding and when neighbors decided the plan would make a more active recreational park than they wanted. The designer had added many features to the plan to gain "points" in the competition for Stewardship Fund dollars. At last month's meeting,

Suzanne Wade from the Yahara/Monona Priority Watershed District and Duane Wagner from the Dane County Land Conservation Department explained a possible alternative funding source under the state's Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Abatement Program.

A watershed is all of the land that contributes water to a particular point; the Yahara River watershed is made up of hundreds of small watersheds that contribute to it. In the case of Dunn Heritage Park area, the watershed is 400 acres and includes the Spartan Hills, Waubesa Heights and Burmeister Woods subdivisions and farmland.

Under the NSWPA program, Wagner said the town could receive 70 percent funding for improvements made to the land that would help eliminate nonpoint source pollution. Primarily, that would include any water routing on the lower portion of the park land. He also said the program could cover more of the costs if townspeople contributed labor to the project to make up the remaining 30 percent.

Nonpoint source pollution is primarily water runoff that contains soil or other materials collected as it flows over farm fields, yards and streets. In addition to the solid materials in the water, it also carries phosphates and fertilizers that cause weed growth in the lake. Since the park is within the Yahara River

Watershed, the nonpoint source pollution that enters Lake Waubesa as silt from this land helps it qualify for funding. Wagner said a farm to the south of the park is the primary contributor to the nonpoint source pollution entering the lake through the park land, and that by his working with the land owner and with the town, funding could be received to control the runoff, which would essentially be most of the earth moving needed in the future park.

One restriction to this funding comes from the NSWPA program's regulations, which might require water retention ponds to be built on a watershed of this size. As Wagner explained, the area would require two ponds as large as 200 feet by 200 feet and two to three feet deep to hold all the runoff from a 25-year storm. This option would require more engineering, more maintenance, more expense, but would use the least amount of park land.

Residents, however, opposed the ponds and requested that shallow scrapes be built to retain the water, or a grass strip be installed by the farm owner to reduce the sediment flow. Ten or 11 scrapes would be needed to hold the same amount of water as the ponds. Residents favored such an approach because it uses natural processes to slow water flow and remove sediments and will require less engineering and

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# Spring Reaffirms Plan Commission's Importance

by Steve Greb, Plan Commission Chair

Occasionally during Plan Commission meetings, when the hour is late, I look around the room at the bloodshot eyes and listen to the strained voices and I wonder whether our work is worth it.

But then spring comes along. I can once again sit on my back porch; the air has lost that cold winter bite. The loud rattling call of the sandhill cranes echoes across the nearby marsh as they settle in for the night. Soon choruses of spring peepers will fill the night air.

These sites and sounds, I feel, are in part the fruits of the Plan Commission's labor. Fifteen years ago, the town of Dunn enacted a strong land-use policy, which sought to preserve and protect the agricultural and natural features of our township.

Today, through strict adherence to that plan, we have kept our township the enjoyable place to live that it is. Collectively, the town's residents have developed policies that determine the future of land use in our township, and the Plan Commission will continue to carry out those mandates.

I know I speak for all the commission members when I say that we appreciate all of the support we received during the past year. We welcome everyone to attend our meetings, held on the second Monday of every month. Enjoy your spring! I know I will.

## Hook Lake Savanna Evolves Slowly

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The DNR folks who are working on the Hook Lake Wildlife Area are: Mike Foy, the new Dane County Wildlife Manager (273-6275); Dennis Gengler, Wildlife Technician (273-5943); Mark Martin, Natural Areas Manager (266-8916); and Doris Rusch, Area Wildlife Biologist (273-5944).

## Tornado and Theft Losses Are Deductible

A copy of IRS Publication 547, *Nonbusiness Disasters, Casualties, and Thefts*, is on file at the town hall. This publication explains how to treat casualty and theft losses for tax purposes when the losses are not business related. You have a casualty loss if you suffer damage to your property as a result of disasters such as tornadoes, fires, car accidents, and similar events. You have a theft loss if someone steals your property. You may be able to deduct the loss if you file Form 1040 and itemize your deductions of Schedule A. You can also obtain a free copy of this publication by calling 1-800-829-3676.

# Town Legal Expenses Detailed

Recently letters have been published in area newspapers that have been misleading as to the amount of money the town has spent on legal fees. In an effort to clear up any confusion, we are presenting a break-down of all legal expenses for the past two years. The biggest single legal expense (75%) has been incurred in our effort to prevent the Libby Landfill from being built on the western shore of Lake Waubesa. Fortunately, over the past two years we have had several allies, such as the Lake Waubesa Conservation Association, which donated \$20,000 (of which \$5,000 came from the village of McFarland) toward legal fees in September of 1991 and will present an additional \$10,000 later this month. In addition, Dane County has donated \$25,000 plus attorney time; the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation has donated one-half of the lead legal firm's costs; and many citizens have contributed through individual donations.

## Detail of Legal Expenses in 1991 and 1992

Date	Libby Landfill	Misc.	Watzke Assessment	Aberg Suit Ordinances	Land Use Issues	Cemetery	Cable TV	WTA Annex.	Total
Feb. 1992	494.14	671.20	595.00	3950.20	586.50	1937.00	541.10		541.10
Mar. 1992	791.52								
Apr. 1992		351.50	323.00	755.60		2665.60		178.50	178.50
May 1992	8208.59								
June 1992	3786.94	228.50	229.90	800.15		719.65		18.50	18.50
July 1992			1007.50	237.50				8.50	8.50
Aug. 1992	3824.80								
Oct. 1992		1885.40	367.60	152.30	367.50				
Nov. 1992	8557.47			4153.60					
1992 Total	25663.46	3136.60	2523.00	1742.15	954.00	5322.25	568.10	348.50	568.10
Less revenue	-9747.21								
Net expense	15916.25								15916.25
Jan. 1991		357.00							
Feb. 1991		161.50							
Mar. 1991	1352.13	87.50							
Apr. 1991	2372.12	42.00							59.50
May 1991	1770.68	404.50							
June 1991	10818.07	654.50							
July 1991	7650.41	102.00				8.50			
Aug. 1991	18198.81	374.00							
Oct. 1991	22728.64	76.50				110.50			
Nov. 1991	10441.60	212.50				544.00			
Dec. 1991	5321.21	188.33				59.50			
1991 Total	80653.67	2660.33				722.50	59.50	119.00	2616.00
Less revenue	-35252.79								
Net expense	45400.88								45400.88
2 year total	61317.13	5796.93	2523.00	1742.15	954.00	6044.75	627.60	467.50	2616.00
									82089.85

## Heritage Park Goals

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 Residents also seemed to feel that the scrapes themselves, when planted in wetland vegetation, could be a major step toward their goal of restoring the wetlands along the lake.

Residents were insistent that the land be planted with a perennial grass this spring, and felt that the change from corn could help them better visualize what they want the park to eventually look like. Bill Gausman has volunteered to seed the land with timothy this spring as soon as his own crops are in.

Other parts of the project discussed by the neighbors were restoration of the oak savannah and prairie restoration on at least part of the property. The Dane County Parks Department has offered a training session for residents to learn about collecting and planting prairie seed.

Wagner said he will be contacting the farm contractor who rents the farmland to the southwest of the park to ask for help in controlling the runoff. If he gets the support of the farmer and the landowner, the parks commission will be able to pursue the NSWPA program funding.

Residents willing to volunteer on an advisory committee should contact parks chair Elaine Andrews at 222-2255 or contact the clerk's office in the town hall.