

## Views from the Chair

By Ed Minihan, Town of Dunn Chair

The Sandhill Cranes returned a few weeks ago and are making a lot of noise as they engage in the continuation of the circle of life. While winter has its challenges, we are fortunate to see the return of Nature's renewal. Nature's renewal brings us closer to the spring planting season which our farmers are working diligently to prepare for. Our farmers have created a Producers Group and they are engaged in branding Town of Dunn agricultural products. I encourage you to read Meg Neilson's article on page 3 and if you have the resources, contribute to the cause, please.

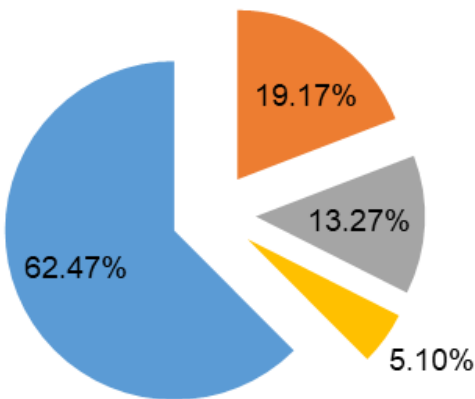
With the return a robust economy land and housing values have increased substantially. Taxes have also increased. This is due to school referendums and Dane County increases. When I was newly elected as Town Chair, my neighbor called to complain vociferously about his tax increase. He wanted to know what we were doing to make his taxes go up that much. My neighbor was usually a nice guy. He was a certified

engineer, and a vice president of a major construction firm. He was angry about the major increase in taxes on his farm. So I explained to him that the Town had no property tax (at the time, State shared revenues were sufficient to support Town operations). I also had to point out to him that there had been a major referendum, and that the Oregon School District was building a new multimillion dollar school - the contract for which his company had won and was engaged in building. We can think of this as the apex of irony, but this was an intelligent guy. He had no idea how local taxes were distributed. And frankly, most people do not. The check was made out to the Town of Dunn, so he figured the Town must be responsible. The fact is, depending on which school district you are located in, less than 14% of the taxes you pay actually go to the Town - of which, about half is then spent on services such as fire and police.

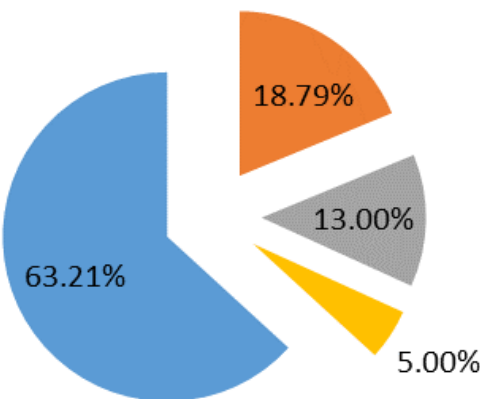
Continued on page 2.

### Where Do Your Tax Dollars Go?

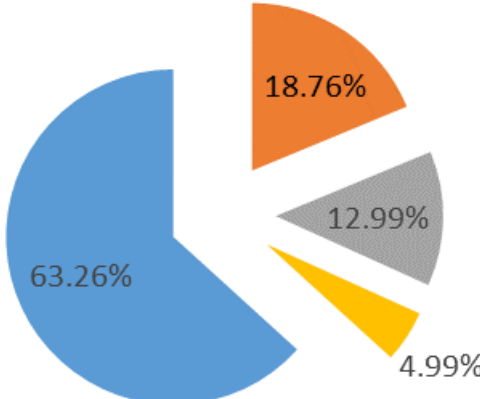
Stoughton School District



McFarland School District



Oregon School District



County Local School District Vocational

## COVID-19 Prevention: Residents are Asked to Request a Ballot by Mail or Email

We have convenient voting options in place for registered voters to help us reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in our community. More information appears on page 4 and 5 of this newsletter. Please help us minimize exposure for high risk workers and residents and have your ballot mailed to you!

**Request a Mailed Ballot:** Visit the MyVote website at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) to request a ballot to be mailed to you or to view up to date election and registration information.

**Request an Emailed Ballot:** Visit the Town of Dunn website at [town.dunn.wi.us/](https://town.dunn.wi.us/) for information about requesting a ballot to be emailed to you. These ballots must be printed and then mailed or hand delivered to the Town Hall. See page 5 for more information.

**YOUR  
VOTE  
COUNTS**

2020 Dates to Remember		
<b>April 7th, 7AM to 8PM:</b> Spring Election & Presidential Preference (See p. 4 & 5)	<b>April 21st, 7PM:</b> Annual Town Meeting	<b>June 4th or 5th:</b> Extra Trash Pick-Up (See p. 8)
<b>April 21st, 4PM to 6PM:</b> Open Book Session (See p. 7)	<b>May 12th, 4PM to 6PM:</b> Board of Review at Town Hall	<b>July 15, 2020, 5PM to 7PM:</b> Food Cart Night (See p. 6)

Annual Town Meeting April 21, 2020 at 7:00 PM	
I. Minutes	A. Minutes – Approve minutes of the November 19, 2019 Special Town Meeting
II. Announcements	A. Announcements by Chair B. Donations, if any.
III. Business	A. Land Trust Report B. Plan Commission Report C. Parks Commission Report D. Tree Board Report E. Building Inspector Report F. Police Report G. Cemetery Report I. Sanitary Districts J. Treasurer's Report - 2019 Audit K. Any new business from the floor allowed under Wis. Stats. Ch 60.10. M. Storm water management education as required by Section 216.07(2) of State Admin. Code. N. Noxious Weed Notice
IV. Schedule next meeting	

# Views from the Chair (*Continued*)

Shared revenues (the distribution of a portion of State revenues to local governments) have declined precipitously. Shared revenues were essentially a contract with the State to accept levy limits in exchange for the State to give monies to municipalities. So once saddled with levy limits, the State Legislation started reneging on their part of the bargain.

We do have a Town tax now, but because we are a Town that has retained the tradition of having the Annual Town Budget meeting hold the purse strings for the Town's taxes, our own citizens determine what the Town of Dunn will levy in local taxes - however, it cannot exceed

the levy limit regulation. There is no limit on other taxing authorities such as the County, school districts, or sanitary districts. The State of Wisconsin, the County, and the school districts all make their own decisions.

The Town is charged with doing the local property assessments which, when averaged, costs 10's of thousands of dollars each year. We are not compensated for that burden. We are currently negotiating the next re-evaluation, which is State mandated because of the increases in property values. We are also not compensated for election costs for State and National elections, which promise to be even

more costly this year.

The Town is required by law to be the tax collector for all of the taxing authorities over which we absolutely no control - and those authorities love it! The Town takes the heat when taxes go up. We get the angry phone calls because most folks do not understand the property tax system. And we understand why. The system is difficult to understand for most of the general public. Facts matter. This is not a complaint. We just want people to understand the system. In the Town of Dunn, you determine your own tax levy for local services.

2019 Tax Mil-Rates (per \$1,000 assessed value)

McFarland School District- 3381					Oregon School District - 4144					Stoughton School District - 5621				
		Change fr. prior					Change fr. prior					Change fr. prior		
	2019	2018	+/-	%		2019	2018	+/-	%		2019	2018	+/-	%
State	0.00	0.00	0.000			0.00	0.00	0.000			0.00	0.00	0.000	
County	4.21	3.95	0.26	6.56%		4.21	3.95	0.26	6.56%		4.21	3.95	0.259	6.56%
Local	2.91	2.89	0.03	0.91%		2.91	2.89	0.03	0.91%		2.91	2.89	0.026	0.91%
Vocational	1.12	1.06	0.06	5.52%		1.12	1.06	0.06	5.52%		1.12	1.06	0.058	5.52%
School Dist	14.16	13.97	0.19	1.34%		14.19	13.27	0.91	6.88%		13.71	12.77	0.940	7.36%
GROSS TAX	22.40	21.86	0.53	2.43%		22.43	21.17	1.26	5.94%		21.95	20.67	1.283	6.21%
State Credit	2.49	2.47	0.02	0.82%		2.49	2.47	0.02	0.82%		2.4908297	2.47	0.020	0.82%
Net Mil-Rate	19.90	19.39	0.51	2.64%		19.93	18.70	1.24	6.62%		19.46	18.20	1.263	6.94%
First \$ Credit	79.33	83.86	-4.53	-5.40%		79.50	79.68	-0.18	-0.23%		76.85	76.69	0.160	0.21%
Lottery Credit	220.11	203.66	16.45	8.08%		220.58	193.51	27.07	13.99%		213.24	186.25	26.990	14.49%

## Make your water softener **Freshwater Friendly:** Take Part in our Water Softener Improvement Program

All the salt we use ends up in local fresh water, whether it’s our lakes, streams or drinking water. Chloride, a component of salt, can threaten freshwater life in high levels, so minimizing our salt use is an important way to protect the aquatic plants and animals that make our waters so special.

We’ve all seen excessive road salt, which runs off into local water bodies when the snow melts. But there’s another major source of chloride that’s not as visible, typically hidden away in our basements: water softeners. Every bag of salt you put in your water softener ends up in the sewer system, which carries chloride to our local wastewater treatment plant. The treatment plant isn’t designed to remove chloride, so it leaves the plant in treated wastewater discharged to Badfish Creek and Badger Mill Creek.

Increasing the efficiency of your water softener, or reducing your soft water use, can minimize your salt use and keep our fresh waters fresh. Many water softeners are past their prime and have lost efficiency, meaning they use more salt than necessary. You can significantly save on salt by optimizing your water softener to use less salt or by replacing it if it’s at the end of its lifespan.

The Town of Dunn is partnering with Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District on a pilot program in our area to incentivize improvements to home water softeners. Through this program, you make an appointment with a trained service provider to receive a free evaluation of your home water softener. Your provider will either make adjustments to your softener’s settings to optimize it or, if your old softener qualifies as inefficient, your provider will give you a discount for a new, efficient softener or other water conditioning unit.

If you live in the Town of Dunn and are connected to sanitary sewer (you don’t have a septic system) you are eligible to participate in this limited-time program!

Water softeners must be evaluated by participating providers. Free water softener optimization/evaluations or softener rebates are for new services only. Rebates cannot be applied retroactively.

Take part in this program today by calling any of the following approved providers:

- Addie Water Systems: (608) 755-1031
- All Comfort Services: (608) 838-7300
- Capital Water: (608) 241-1511
- Culligan Total Water: (608) 226-5270
- Dave Jones Inc: (608) 222-8490
- Hellenbrand: (608) 849-5717

You can find more resources to reduce home salt use, including a helpful questionnaire to evaluate your water softener’s condition, at [Madsewer.org/HomeSaltReduction](https://www.madsewer.org/HomeSaltReduction) or [Madsewer.org/SaltSavers](https://www.madsewer.org/SaltSavers) .

For further questions contact Kelsey Shepperd at (608) 838-1081, extension 206, or [KShepperd@town.dunn.wi.us](mailto:KShepperd@town.dunn.wi.us) or Emily Jones at (608) 709-1857 or [EmilyJ@madsewer.org](mailto:EmilyJ@madsewer.org) .



# Dunn Producers Fledge New Concept

Article by Meg Nielsen

Like eggs in a down-lined nest, a new concept is hatching in the Town of Dunn. For the past year, a group of Dunn’s most viable small farm business owners have been incubating a plan to form an association of Town producers. Its purpose will be to promote group members and their products. And, of course, it will all be naturally done.



Photo from Vitruvian Farms

in Madison and its satellite communities will soon be seeing it on restaurant menus, event flyers and in print/media ads.

“We hope the increased exposure and the branding will raise recognition of these local businesses and boost business within the town,” said Jane Cisler, the group’s coordinator. Cisler, who formerly did marketing for the Wisconsin Cheesemakers Association planning world and U.S. Cheese contests, will be setting up the group’s Facebook page and website. As the groups coordinator, Cisler will also perform organizational duties and help plan upcoming events.

“The association’s goal is to promote farmers and producers that are growing and creating real food for the Madison area,” said Kevin Opperman of Highland Springs Farm. “Dunn is a farm-to-table Mecca. It is easy for people from surrounding towns and cities to drive 10 to 15 minutes to obtain real fresh and local food here. And while it is a bit out-of-the-box to drive to a farm instead of a grocery store to shop for your next meal, that’s what we are hoping for,” he added.

“Development has occurred all around us – in Fitchburg, McFarland, Oregon – but because of our farmland preservation practices in the Town of Dunn, we don’t have the outside pressures that farmers in other areas might feel. As development continues around us, Dunn will remain free to feed the population of nearby towns. Our close proximity to urban areas allows purchasers to build relationships with our farmers and producers, and that is a valuable commodity in and of itself,” Opperman said.



Photo from Highland Spring Farm

For starters the Producers Association is planning several relationship building events this summer. Highland Springs Farm and One Seed Farm, conveniently located across from each other on Lalor Road, will host the first event on Sunday, June 28. Blue Moon Community Farm and Parisi Family Farm will hold a second event on Sunday, July 26. Day-long events will likely run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., organizers say. A third event is tentatively planned in August at Vitruvian Farm and a possible “Town of Dunn Farm Takeover” at a popular Madison restaurant is in the offing for September.



Photo from Parisi Family Farm

Criteria established by the Town of Dunn Producers Association state that membership is open to anyone who is a producer within the Town of Dunn, however, no large scale farms will be admitted. The Association is crafted for smaller farm market type industries. Products must be made locally and be

accessible for purchase locally. The initial group of Producers, those who have created the group, will discuss new member candidates to determine if they meet the prescribed criteria. Current Producer members are: Kevin Opperman of Highland Spring Farm, Tommy Stauffer of Vitruvian Farms, Kristen Kordet of Blue Moon Community Farm, Terry Parisi of Parisi Family Farm, and Kelly Lagman of One Seed Farm and Jim and Jane Cisler.

The Producers Association receives no funding from the Town, but the Town’s goals of farmland preservation are very much in line with those of the new organization, Opperman said.

Kordet, of Blue Moon Community Farm, recalls that Dunn’s Town Chair, Ed Minihan, called the group together in 2019. “Ed wrote a column in last year’s town newsletter about his experience with CSA and his relationship with local producers in the town. He later invited a group of us to a lunch at the Town Hall to talk about the possibility of collaboration– an open-ended discussion,” she said.



Photo from Blue Moon Community Farm

Ensuing meetings fledged the Producers Association. Discussions revealed that another purpose of the association could be to create an incubator where new farmers could learn from those with more experience, where ideas could be exchanged, and skills learned firsthand. Group members could pool their resources, possibly sharing distribution trucks and/or equipment, and perhaps even combining job opportunities.

“As our association gets more established, we have an interest in further developing land access and acquisition opportunities for small, direct-market farms in the area, and to collaborate on meeting the labor needs of our farms,” Kordet said.

“The Association could facilitate job-sharing between farms. The workers would have more consistent hours. The farmer would have a better job offer for workers. And workers could gain experience by being at more than one farm site. Everyone would benefit,” Cisler said.

“Dunn is a special place, and a very unique rural area that has, through careful planning and commitment to preservation, remained a vibrant agricultural area. Just look east, west, or north from Madison to see what the alternative may have been. We are very lucky to be farming here, and we have an important story to tell the larger community. We, as an association of producers, have big plans for this group to celebrate the rich agricultural resources of our town, to expand the community of local food producers, and to bring people to the town to appreciate all of its assets,” Kordet said.

The association decided at its March 2 meeting to ask for local sponsors for the Naturally Dunn summer events.

**Cherry Tomato Level - \$250:** Sponsor one farm event and receive a small logo placement on that event’s promotional materials.

**Slicer Tomato Level - \$500:** Sponsor the series of farm events and receive logo placement on promotional materials for all three events.

**Heirloom Tomato Level - \$1,000:** Sponsor the Association and receive logo placement on all materials promoting 2020 events and two tickets to the final Farm Takeover event.

Contributions from private individuals will also be accepted at these levels, or in any other amount, toward the support of Dunn’s small farmers and the preservation of food security in Dunn and the surrounding community. Please contact Jane Cisler for more information at (608) 286-5804 or at [janecisler@gmail.com](mailto:janecisler@gmail.com).



Photo from One Seed Farm

# April 7th Spring Election & Presidential Preference Sample Ballot

General Instructions	Presidential Preference Vote	Judicial
If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help. (Absentee voters: Contact your municipal clerk.)  To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●.  To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●.	<b>Choose a party in which to vote.</b> Fill in the oval next to your party choice, like this: ●. <b>Choose only 1.</b>	<b>Justice of the Supreme Court</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
	<input type="radio"/> Democratic	<input type="radio"/> Jill J. Karofsky
	<input type="radio"/> Republican	<input type="radio"/> Daniel Kelly
	<b>Democratic Party</b>	<input type="radio"/> write-in:
	<i>If you vote in this party, you may not vote in the other party.</i>	<b>Court of Appeals Judge</b> <b>District 4</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
<b>Special Instructions for Presidential Preference Vote</b>  <b>In the Presidential Preference Vote</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>You may vote for only one candidate.</li><li>You may vote in only ONE party.</li><li>If you vote more than once, your vote will not be counted.</li></ul> <b>Choose the party in which you will vote.</b> Within the party you have chosen, you have ONE of 3 choices:  <b>1.</b> Vote for a candidate whose name is printed on this ballot in the party you have chosen. <b>2.</b> Vote for an uninstructed delegation from Wisconsin to the national convention of the party you have chosen. <b>3.</b> Write the name of another person to become the presidential candidate of the party you have chosen.  <b>Fill in ONE oval in ONE party.</b>	<b>President of the United States</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<input type="radio"/> Rachel A. Graham
	<input type="radio"/> Tulsi Gabbard	<input type="radio"/> write-in:
	<input type="radio"/> Amy Klobuchar	<b>Circuit Court Judge, Branch 7</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
	<input type="radio"/> John Delaney	<input type="radio"/> William E. Hanrahan
	<input type="radio"/> Deval Patrick	<input type="radio"/> write-in:
	<input type="radio"/> Bernie Sanders	<b>County</b>
	<input type="radio"/> Andrew Yang	<b>County Supervisor</b> <b>District 34</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
	<input type="radio"/> Pete Buttigieg	<input type="radio"/> Patrick Miles
	<input type="radio"/> Tom Steyer	<input type="radio"/> write-in:
	<input type="radio"/> Elizabeth Warren	<b>Referendum</b>
	<input type="radio"/> Michael Bennet	To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "Yes," like this: ●.
	<input type="radio"/> Michael R. Bloomberg	To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to "No," like this: ●.
	<input type="radio"/> Joe Biden	
	<input type="radio"/> Uninstructed Delegation	
	<input type="radio"/> write-in:	
	<b>Republican Party</b>	<b>State</b>
	<i>If you vote in this party, you may not vote in the other party.</i>	<b>QUESTION 1:</b> <b>Additional rights of crime victims.</b> Shall section 9m of article I of the constitution, which gives certain rights to crime victims, be amended to give crime victims additional rights, to require that the rights of crime victims be protected with equal force to the protections afforded the accused while leaving the federal constitutional rights of the accused intact, and to allow crime victims to enforce their rights in court?
	<b>President of the United States</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes
	<input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump	<input type="radio"/> No
	<input type="radio"/> Uninstructed Delegation	
	<input type="radio"/> write-in:	
	<b>End Presidential Preference Vote</b>	

Depending on which school district you are located in: The following will also be on your ballot:

**Stoughton School District**  
**Ballot ONLY**

School District
<b>Stoughton Area School District</b> <b>School Board Member</b> <b>Vote for not more than 3</b>
<input type="radio"/> Holly Tellander
<input type="radio"/> Timothy Bubon
<input type="radio"/> Jessica Royko
<input type="radio"/> Steve Jackson
<input type="radio"/> write-in:
<input type="radio"/> write-in:
<input type="radio"/> write-in:

**Oregon School District**  
**Ballot ONLY**

School District
<b>Oregon School District</b> <b>School Board Member Area II</b> <b>Vote for not more than 2</b>
<input type="radio"/> Kevin Mehring
<input type="radio"/> Heather Garrison
<input type="radio"/> write-in:
<input type="radio"/> write-in:
<b>Oregon School District</b> <b>School Board Member Area III</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
<input type="radio"/> Tim LeBrun
<input type="radio"/> write-in:

**McFarland School District**  
**Ballot ONLY**

School District
<b>School District of McFarland</b> <b>School Board Member</b> <b>Vote for 1</b>
<input type="radio"/> Craig Howerly
<input type="radio"/> write-in:

## Town Business During Covid-19:

In accordance with recommendations from Dane County Public Health, social distancing measures are being practiced.

Routine business such as absentee voting, dog licenses, building permits, and other functions will be conducted by phone, email, or mail whenever possible. The transfer site will be open every Monday and Wednesday from 9am-3pm, but the key will not be available at other times. Please do not visit the Town Hall if we can assist you by phone or email. Many Town members are high risk and are required to work on essential functions at the Town Hall in-person.

As this is a fluid and ever-changing public health concern, please see the Dane County Public Health’s website for the most current information.

## Dredging an agricultural ditch? Repairing or installing drain tile? Breaking out new land?

Complete the entire checklist below before beginning projects:

- See staff at the Farm Services Agency [(608) 224-3767] to complete Form AD-1026 to certify USDA wetland and highly erodible land (HEL) compliance; once submitted, you will receive a letter in response from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).
- Meet with Dane County Water Resource Engineering staff to determine the project location and, if necessary, complete a Dane County Erosion Control Permit Application. This permit will be issued when other agencies have provided their written approval (approval via email is acceptable). Appointments are recommended.

Staff Contacts	Email	Phone
Jess Starks	starks@countyofdane.com	(608) 224-3647
Jason Tuggle	tuggle.jason@countyofdane.com	(608) 224-3735
Jim Neidhart	jim.neidhart@countyofdane.com	(608) 224-3738

### Additional Steps if a Floodplain is Present or Shoreland Tree Cutting is Proposed:

- Dane County Zoning may require a Shoreland Zoning Permit and/or a Shoreland Mitigation Permit. Contact Hans Hilbert at (608) 266-4993 or [Hilbert.Hans@countyofdane.com](mailto:Hilbert.Hans@countyofdane.com).

### Additional Steps if a Navigable Stream, Wetland, or Hydric Soils are Present:

- For activities in a mapped State wetland or hydric soils, in or impacting a navigable stream, contact the waterway/wetland intake line at [DNRWMSPublicInquiry@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRWMSPublicInquiry@wisconsin.gov) or (608) 267-3125 for permitting information and a written response. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources may have jurisdiction.
- If Waters of the U.S. or indicators such as hydric soils are present (includes most wetlands and many water features), the US Army Corps of Engineers may have jurisdiction. Contact [mvp-reg-inquiry@usace.army.mil](mailto:mvp-reg-inquiry@usace.army.mil) or (615) 290-5525 for information and a written response. Please include “Dane County, WI” in the subject line to avoid delays.

For more information please contact Dane County Water Resource Engineering Division at (608) 224-3730 or [rediv@countyofdane.com](mailto:rediv@countyofdane.com).

# Town of Dunn Voting: Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 and Other Viruses

The Town is practicing measures for preventing virus transmission and will be adjusting practices in response to the recommendations of Dane County Public Health. We are now encouraging all voters to consider the options for **voting by mail or email instead of in-person voting**. Our community has a strong history of coming together to help each other when challenges like tornados, floods and droughts have happened. The challenge of reducing the spread of viruses is a similar opportunity to come together to make our community better, safer for everyone, and to care for one another. Each of us has the opportunity to help the most vulnerable people in our community by taking steps to minimize virus transmission. Here are some things for voters to consider:

1. **Everyone is asked to consider requesting a ballot by mail on the MyVote website:**  
Prior to April 2, registered voters may request a ballot to be mailed to them by visiting *myvote.wi.gov*. The ballot and certificate must then be returned by mail or hand delivered to the Town Hall drop box which is located by the front door of the Town Hall by 8pm on Election Day, April 7, 2020. Ballots that are not in the hands of the Election Inspectors by 8pm on April 7, will not count, so please return your ballot promptly!
2. **Consider requesting a ballot by email:**  
Registered voters who have access to a printer and are comfortable with emails that include PDF attachments may wish to consider this option. The ballot and certificate are sent by email, however, they must be mailed or hand delivered to the Town Hall or to the Town Hall drop box by 8pm on Election Day, April 7, 2020. More information on email ballots appears to the right of this article. Emailed ballots are not available on the MyVote website, so please visit *town.dunn.wi.us/* to request a ballot by email.

## Town of Dunn Safety

Deputy Leslie A. Fox, Dane County Sheriff’s Office, Southeast Precinct

Law enforcement is being challenged by the growing number of calls for service involving people with mental health needs. It is imperative we recognize when mental illness may be a contributing factor during a call for service so we can respond in a manner as to de-escalate crisis situations.

The Dane County Sheriff’s Office has partnered with the Journey Mental Health Center. A Crisis Worker, from Journey, is embedded part time with the Sheriff’s Office Field Services Division. The goal of utilizing an embedded mental health worker is to create a better response to mental health related calls and to engage in preventative follow-up work that may reduce repeated law enforcement contacts with the same individuals.

Our mental health crisis worker is available to co-respond to calls for service, conduct consultations via phone, and assist with Emergency Detentions. Additionally, the mental health crisis worker can accompany deputies on proactive home visits to connect mental health consumers to services.

Together, we can problem solve a wide array of mental health issues and work toward curbing incarceration and creating better short-term outcomes for community members.

3. **If you still would like to vote in-person, consider voting early at the Town Hall:** At the time of this publication Early Voting Hours are as followed:

Days	Dates	Times
Monday - Friday	3/23 - 4/2	8am - 4pm
Saturday	3/28	9am - 12pm
Friday	4/3	8am - 5pm

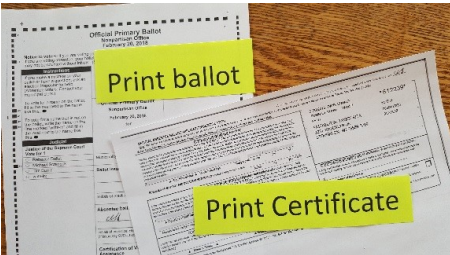
4. **If you’re not feeling well:** Please call (608) 838-1081 (Ext #201) as soon as possible and we will review voting options. Hospitalized voters may be able to vote on Election Day, or we may be able to email or mail a ballot.

5. **If you are voting in-person on Election Day expect these safety measures:**
- As long as supplies last, hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance and exit. Please bring your own hand sanitizer if you can!
  - Tissues at the entrance and a waste bin at the exit. Voters should keep the tissue with them while in the polling place and then discard it when leaving.
  - Sanitized pens will be handed out at check-in and collected at the exit.
  - You will be asked to take your ID out of your wallet.
  - Surfaces will be treated with a 24-hour germicide approved by the CDC and wiped down periodically.

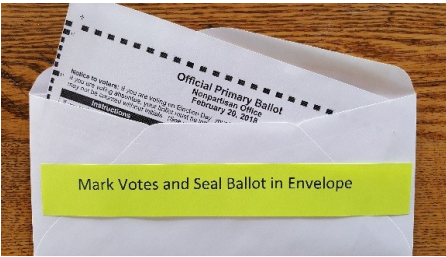
6. **At the time of this publication, the Town had a very low supply of hand sanitizer. We hope to have more by Election Day. However, if you can, please bring your own hand sanitizer on Election Day.**

# Requesting and Returning Emailed Absentee Ballots

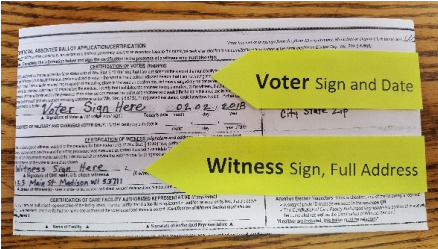
- Step 1: Print an absentee ballot request form by visiting *town.dunn.wi.us* .
- Step 2: Email the completed form to *TownHall@town.dunn.wi.us* . You must include a copy or image of your valid photo ID in this email.
- Step 3: You will receive an email from the Town with your ballot materials and detailed instructions.
- Step 4: Print the ballot and certificate.



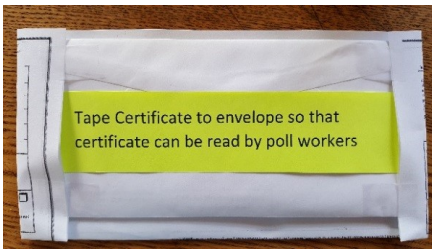
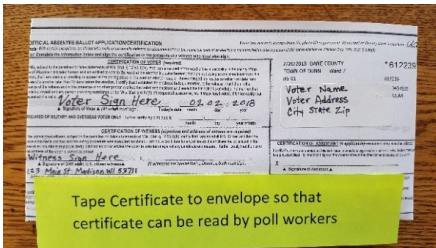
Step 5: Mark ballot & seal it in an envelope.



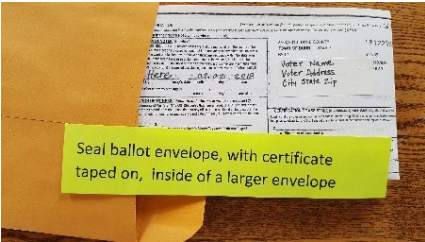
Step 6: The Voter & Witness must sign, date, and provide address on certificate.



Step 7: Attach certificate to the envelope containing your ballot.



Step 8: Your ballot can now be hand delivered to the Town Hall or placed in a larger envelope for mailing. See below.



Step 9: Place ballot inside a larger envelope for mailing. Affix **sufficient postage and MAIL PROMPTLY. All absentee ballots must be received no later than 8PM on Election Day.**

# Fire & Carbon Monoxide Safety



65% of reported home fire deaths occurred in homes without a working smoke detector. The Oregon Area Fire & EMS District was granted smoke detectors from WisSafe and the American Red Cross with the goal of making sure every home in the Oregon Area Fire & EMS District

(OAFED) has working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Smoke alarms should be tested monthly and batteries replaced yearly unless 10 year batteries. Smoke alarms need replacement every 6 to 10 years.

Personnel of OAFED will be inspecting and installing, at no cost, smoke detectors with 10 year batteries for anyone that lives in the District. This includes the Town of Dunn, Village of Oregon, Town of Rutland, and parts of the Town of Oregon. Additionally, OAFED personnel will confirm your carbon monoxide detectors are working properly. If there are any non-working smoke detectors, OAFED will install new smoke detectors in the appropriate places, maximum of 3 per home.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas produced by burning gasoline, wood, propane, charcoal or other fuel. Improperly ventilated appliances and engines, particularly in enclosed spaces, may allow carbon monoxide to accumulate. Carbon monoxide poisoning occurs when oxygen in your red blood cells is replaced with carbon monoxide. Signs and symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning may include dull headache, weakness, dizziness, nausea or vomiting, shortness of breath, confusion, blurred vision, loss of consciousness.

For more information, please contact the Oregon Area Fire & EMS District (OAFED) at (608) 835-5587.

# Town of Dunn Food Cart Night

Food AND nature, what a combo! Join Groundswell Conservancy and hosts Carole and Don Schmidt on Wednesday, July 15th from 5PM to 7PM for an evening on the land.

Purchase your food, and then find a spot to settle in to enjoy the picturesque setting of Carole and Don's prairie with friends and neighbors. Then walk the trails through their incredible prairie. The American prairie is one of the most threatened ecosystems on the planet. Thanks to the Schmidt's, their prairie is protected forever with a conservation easement.

What to bring: Cash for food, a blanket or camp chairs, and sturdy shoes if you plan to walk the trails. Depending on the weather, sunscreen and bug spray are also recommended. There are restrooms on site.

Registration: Entry to this event is free; food and beverages are available for purchase. All are welcome to attend, but pre-registration is encouraged so we know how many people to expect. Sign up at [groundswellwisconsin.org/TODFoodCart](http://groundswellwisconsin.org/TODFoodCart)



Photo from Groundswell Conservancy

# Town of Dunn Parks Update

Thank you to everyone who filled out the 2019 Parks Survey! According to the survey, the top priority was to maintain the Town's existing parks and open space, however if the Town had the opportunity to create a new park, residents asked for a nature preserve with walking trails. Additionally, the survey found that the most visited park is Dunn Heritage Park, followed by Simpson Park and Sinaiko Park. We will be using this survey information to help update our 5-year Parks Plan.

After many delays in grant funding, we are happy to report that it appears that acquisition of the Nelson property, which was approved in 2016, looks to be finalized this year. The property will measure around 33 acres in size and will have walking trails, and be open to hunting and trapping. An extensive prairie restoration, which will take place over multiple seasons, will also take place on the property.

The Town is also happy to share that a grant was awarded by Dane County which will help improve and rehabilitate Dunn Heritage Park from recent flooding events. The grant will help pay for boardwalks, dredging, new trees, and a canoe launch. These projects should take place over the next few years and should help residents walk through the park year-round.

Due to Covid-19, the Town of Dunn Arbor Day Celebration will be rescheduled for a later date. Please monitor the Town's website and Facebook page for updates regarding a reschedule date.

# Road Right-of-Ways (ROW)

All Town roads are located on land that is referred to as **road right-of-way (ROW)**. This road ROW is the area that is needed for traffic lanes, shoulders, ditches, pedestrian traffic and public utility purposes. On a two-lane road, the general rule of thumb is that the road ROW is 66 feet wide, approximately 33 feet on both sides of the center of the road. However, there are instances where the road centerline does not match the center of the road ROW. Wisconsin law presumes this 66-foot width (Wis. Stat. s. 82.16 and s. 82.31) unless there is evidence to the contrary.

The Town has the responsibility to maintain roads in reasonable repair so that it is reasonably safe and convenient for public travel. Regulation and control of activities and work in the Town road ROW is necessary to provide efficient and safe operations of the Town's road system.

Encroachments to the road ROW may pose potential safety hazards. These include, but not limited to: structures, vehicles/trailers, landscaping, fences, berms, rocks/stones/boulders, trees/plantings, signs, etc. Property owners that have encroachments on the Town's road ROW's may be liable for injuries caused by striking them.

Mailboxes and newspaper tubes along with their supports are encroachments that are allowed. Since their general location is next to the shoulder of the road, it is highly likely that vehicles may strike them. Therefore, mailboxes must be installed in accordance with the Town's Mailbox Policy to minimize any traffic hazard. To minimize the possibility of liability should an errant vehicle strike the mailbox structure, mailbox owners must resist the urge to reinforce or strengthen the post. The mailbox structure must be built to break away or yield if struck to protect the motoring public. Please visit [town.dunn.wi.us/media/1518/tod-mailbox-policy.pdf](http://town.dunn.wi.us/media/1518/tod-mailbox-policy.pdf) for the Town's full mailbox policy.

Before proceeding with any activity along a Town road ROW, please contact the Town Hall to verify the road ROW. To prevent serious injury or damage, property owners also must call Diggers Hotline at 811 or (800) 242-8511 to locate and mark any buried utility facilities.

Your cooperation will help keep our roadsides free of obstacles and hazards to ensure safer travel and more efficient maintenance of our roads.

# New Dane County Zoning Ordinance Adopted

In December, the Town adopted the new Dane County Zoning Ordinance and updated our Comprehensive Plan to incorporate these changes. Properties in Dunn now fall under this updated code. For zoning questions, please contact Dane County Zoning at (608) 266-4266.

Grants Extending Internet Options for Dunn

On the Road Again...



Tower construction at the Town Hall

Over the past few years, the Town of Dunn has heard from numerous residents that internet options are expensive, limited, or non-existent. Internet is no longer an option or a luxury for residents; it is a necessity. The Town has heard of instances where residents have lost jobs due to the inability to telecommute due to lack of internet options; instances where school children cannot complete homework assignments because they need to upload assignments online; and instances where hospitals want to provide patients with better access to health care through online portals but cannot due to the lack of reliable internet services within the Town. In 2017, the Town worked with Four Lakes Broadband on a Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) grant to install a broadband internet tower at the Town Hall.

Four Lakes Broadband started construction the tower in September of 2019. Four Lakes Broadband has since finished their installation and residents that are within the service range of this tower can now sign up to receive an internet connection from this tower. For more information about this service and to learn whether you are within the tower’s service range, please visit [fourlakesbroadband.com/sign-up/](http://fourlakesbroadband.com/sign-up/).

Senior Transportation Options

In January of 2019, McFarland Senior Outreach Services began offering transportation services to Dunn residents. Prior to this, Stoughton Area Senior Center and Oregon Area Senior Center managed transportation services. Transit Solutions Inc. is currently providing the rides under a Dane County contract. The ride schedule is:

- *1st Monday of the month:* Super Walmart in Monona (Pick-up starts at 9:30am)
- *2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month:* Pick n Save in McFarland (Pick-up starts at 9:30am)
- *3rd Tuesday of the month:* Shopping in Madison (Destinations vary). Please check the McFarland Area Senior Newsletter or call 838-7117 for destinations.
- *2nd Thursday of the month:* McFarland shopping destination of your choice (9:30am to 12pm)
- *Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday:* McFarland Senior Dining Site. Reservations are required 24 hours in advance.

*Medical rides:* Provided through volunteer RSVP drivers. You can request a ride by calling our office at 838-7117 and asking for Katie. Katie works Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

A one-time preregistration as a passenger must be completed. We require a 5 working day notice for rides. We cannot guarantee a ride, however, we rarely are unable to fulfill requests. Rides are limited to no more than three a month per individual. Rides must be given during the hours of 8am and 4:30pm. All passengers must be able to get in and out of a vehicle on their own. We reserve the right to cancel rides due to unsafe weather conditions or when schools are closed.

Cost for all of these services are on a donation basis. If you would like to set up a ride or have further questions, feel free to contact (608) 838-7117. This information and more is available in the McFarland Area Senior News. A online version can be found by visiting [www.mcfarland.wi.us/senioroutreach\\_newsletters](http://www.mcfarland.wi.us/senioroutreach_newsletters) . Hard copies can be picked up the Dunn Town Hall. Copies can be emailed to you monthly if you provide us with your email. We hope you consider utilizing these services to enhance your independence. If we can answer any other questions, regarding services or resources, please give us a call. We are here to assist the seniors of Dunn.

Along with spring, comes the time to fix potholes. The Town of Dunn Highway Department will apply patch to the potholes temporarily until the permanent patch can be applied.

Roadwork bids for 2020 are currently being considered. Roads scheduled for construction and repair for 2020 include Halverson Road between Green Road and Lake Kegonsa Road. The process will be to grind up, grade, roll and pre-pave the roads which may make travel difficult at the time, but passable.

Roads which are scheduled for sealcoating in 2020 include the following: Alma Road, Gannon Street, Lake Farm Road, Meadowview Road, Nora Lane, View Road and Zuercher Court. Don’s Road will be double-sealed.

The highway department will also assess culvert needs within the Town. A couple of larger culverts will be installed on Barber Drive, (by the Quam Marina) and also on Larsen Road.

Lastly, with summer road right of way mowing and maintenance, please remember to keep the road right-of-way area clear. The road right-of-way (ROW) is typically 33 feet from the center of the road. Please see page 6 for more information about ROW.

Notice of Open Book Session

Pursuant to Sec. 70.45 of Wis. Statutes, the Town of Dunn 2020 Assessment Roll will be open for examination beginning Tuesday, April 21, 2020. Open Book Session is set for: Tuesday, April 21st, 2020 from 4:00PM to 6:00PM at the Dunn Town Hall, 4156 County Road B, McFarland, WI.

The assessor will be available during Open Book Session. Property owners may contact the assessor in advance. The assessor may be reached at:

Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc.  
Toll-Free: 1-800-721-4157  
Phone: (920) 749-1995  
Fax: (920) 731-4158  
Email: [info@apraz.com](mailto:info@apraz.com)  
Mail: 1314 W. College Ave, Appleton, WI, 54912

Volunteer Opportunities

<b>Oregon Area Food Pantry</b> Is in need of volunteers to assist with tasks including help with restocking tables, carry-outs, registration, etc. Volunteers are needed for distribution days and community collections and events. For info, contact: <a href="mailto:oregonfoodpantry@hotmail.com">oregonfoodpantry@hotmail.com</a>	<b>McFarland Youth Center</b> Is welcoming community members who would like to tutor, help out with one of their programs, create your own program, lead a discussion, or just hang out with the kids. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact MYC for more information: <a href="mailto:McFarlandYouthCenter@gmail.com">McFarlandYouthCenter@gmail.com</a> (608) 838-3839	<b>McFarland Senior Center</b> Is seeking drivers to deliver meals and/or drive seniors to medical appointments. Mileage and extra insurance is provided. Set or flexible schedule. If interested contact: <b>5915 Milwaukee St, McFarland, WI 53558</b> (608) 838-7117
<b>Oregon Senior Center</b> Is in need of kitchen helpers, drivers to deliver meals and/or drive seniors to medical appointments, and reception help. If interested, please contact Lucy at: <b>219 Park Street, Oregon WI 53575</b> (608) 835-5801	<b>Shared Table Community</b> Is seeking volunteers to help with bringing food, preparing and serving meals, setting up or cleaning up, providing musical entertainment, or bringing a neighbor or friend in need of a nutritious meal or companionship. Groups and businesses are also welcome to volunteer. Volunteers are provided the information and training. For more information, contact: <a href="mailto:info@sharedtablecommunitymeals.com">info@sharedtablecommunitymeals.com</a> (608) 345-3403	<b>Stoughton Area Youth Center</b> Is in need of volunteers to assist with afterschool homework help, cooking, watching children, being active in the gym with students, and someone to teach arts and crafts. Hours are from 3PM-6PM during school days or between 12PM-4PM on non-school days. If you can't provide your time but would like to provide assistance, snack donations or gift cards to local grocery stores for 20 to 30 kids is greatly appreciated. <b>567 E. Main Street, Stoughton, WI 53589</b> (608) 877-9980
<b>Town of Dunn</b> The Town’s Parks Commission is seeking volunteers to help with prescribed burning. If interested, please email Ben at <a href="mailto:BKollenbroich@town.dunn.wi.us">BKollenbroich@town.dunn.wi.us</a> .		

# Recycling Guide

## Town of Dunn Transfer Site

4030 County Road B, McFarland WI  
(about 1/4 mile east of the Dunn Town Hall)

Open the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month, 8 AM to 3:45 PM  
Wednesdays, April through the end of November, 2 PM to 4:45pm

### The Transfer Site accepts:

**Brush and Wood:** Brush and limbs that are free of soil. We cannot take stumps, lumber, or furniture. Dane County’s landfill will take tree stumps, construction materials, and many other large items. Please call (608) 838-9555 for information.

**Leaves and Grass Clippings:** Any compostable material.

**Holiday Trees:** Trees without tinsel, decorations, or stands. (Pellitteri will not pick up trees left at the curbside).

**Antifreeze:** Used antifreeze that is free of oil.

**Motor Oil:** Used motor oil that is free of other liquids.

**Automotive Type & Rechargeable Batteries:** Household batteries are NOT accepted.

**Tires:** We charge a fee based on our costs for disposal. At the time of this publication, auto tires without rims are \$5 and \$10 for tires with rims. Semi-truck tires cost \$10 for disposal and tractor tires cost \$25.

**Appliances:** We accept all appliances EXCEPT FOR TVs, electronics, water softeners, and dishwashers.

**Scrap Metal:** Scrap iron, steel, copper, and other metals. (We only accept motors after gas and oil has been drained).

**Questions? Please call the Town Hall at (608) 838-1081**

### Paper Recycling Acceptable Items:

- Cardboard (empty)
- Catalogs, magazines, and phone books
- Cereal and cracker boxes (empty)
- Paper milk and juice cartons or boxes
- Computer and office paper
- Envelopes and junk mail
- Holiday gift wrapping paper (no foils)
- Pizza boxes (no food or grease)
- Newspapers
- Paper egg cartons
- Paper grocery bags
- Shredded paper (place in a clear transparent plastic bag and tie shut; a full bag should be the size of a basketball)

### Plastic Recycling Acceptable Items:

- All plastic bottles (no motor oils or gasoline)
- Plastic containers/cups #1-7, including #1 clamshell
- Plastic bags (no black or brown bags. Place in a clear transparent plastic bag and tie shut; a full bag should be the size of a basketball)

### Recyclable Metal and Glass Acceptable Items:

- Aerosol cans (empty)
- Aluminum cans and aluminum pie plates
- Glass bottles and jars (clear, blue, brown, green translucent glass)
- Metal pots and pans
- Small metal appliances (toasters, blenders, etc. Nothing larger than a basketball.)
- Small metal plumbing fixtures, faucets, valves
- Tin and steel cans

### Non-Recyclable Items Acceptable Items:

- Brake rotors/drums
- Construction waste
- Deli containers - except #1 plastic
- Electronics
- Frozen food or microwave dinner plates
- Glassware and ceramics
- Metal items heavier than 10 pounds
- Mirrors and windows
- Motor oil and gasoline containers
- Plastic film, wrap, and Styrofoam
- Recyclable containers containing liquid or food
- Misc: Carpet, clothing, diapers, fishing line, hoses, ropes, and shoes

### Recycling Tips

- Recyclables will not be picked up if not in a cart or a clear untied bag.
- Containers containing food or liquids, construction waste, or electronics CANNOT be placed in the recycling cart.
- Should you choose to bag recyclables you place into the cart, please use clear or transparent bags and do not tie or seal. Clear bags can be purchased at most grocery and hardware stores.
- Do not flatten or crush plastic or metal items.
- Do not place smaller items inside larger containers - all items should be loose and empty.
- Remove all food waste, plastic, Styrofoam & packing peanuts.
- Flatten cardboard boxes and cereal boxes to make room in the recycling cart.
- Your recycling cart will not be picked up if it contains trash, yard waste or prohibited items.
- In a week containing a Holiday, garbage and recycling pick up is delayed by one day. Please plan accordingly.
- For additional volume pick-up or contact Pellitteri. For a fee, they will provide a 65-gallon or a 95-gallon cart for trash. For free, you may also receive a 35-gallon or a 95-gallon cart for recyclables.
- Town of Dunn Spring 2020 Extra Pick-Up Dates are June 4th and June 5th. Pick-up dates follow your normal trash and recycling schedule.

**For more information: Visit [pellitteri.com](http://pellitteri.com) or call (608) 257-4285**



### Medicine Drop-Off

Protect our water! Do not flush unwanted or unused medications. Drop these items off at local police departments. Contact:  
McFarland Police Department at 838-3151  
Oregon Police Department at 835-3111  
Stoughton Police Department at 873-3374

## Electronic Recycling

*Information from the Wisconsin DNR ECycle Program*

Electronics are one of the fastest growing parts of the waste stream. TVs, laptops, cellphones and other electronics contain valuable materials that can be recovered through recycling. Electronics also contain hazardous materials, such as lead and mercury, which can harm human health and pollute the environment if not properly managed. Wisconsin has a electronics recycling law which keeps millions of devices out of landfills and incinerators. The following electronics cannot be put in the trash in Wisconsin, or sent to Wisconsin landfills and incinerators:

- TVs
- Computers (desktop, laptop, netbook and tablet computers)
- Printers (including those that scan, fax and/or copy & 3-D printers)
- Monitors
- Other computer accessories (including keyboards, mice, speakers, external hard drives and flash drives)
- E-readers
- DVD players, VCRs and other video players (i.e., DVRs)
- Fax machines
- Cell phones
- Appliances, including air conditioners, clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators, freezers, stoves, ovens, dehumidifiers, furnaces, boilers, water heaters and microwave ovens. These electronics can be recycled at various locations across the state. For a full list of collection sites, visit: [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), search “ecycle”. Some collectors may charge fees and may not accept all devices. Contact collectors beforehand to learn about their policies.

## Clean Sweep Wisconsin

Dane County offers a place to bring hazardous household materials and electronics such as TVs, computers, paints, poisons, oil, and rechargeable batteries. Fees may apply. Please contact Clean Sweep Wisconsin prior to delivery of items to receive more information.

Open year round,

Monday-Friday 7AM to 2:45PM & Saturdays 8AM to 10:45AM.

Closed Sundays and Holidays.

Call (608) 838-3212 or visit [danecountycleansweep.com](http://danecountycleansweep.com)