

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Madison, WI  
Permit # 549

Town of Dunn  
4156 County Rd B  
McFarland, WI 53558

**Annual Town Meeting  
April 18th, 7 PM  
In-Person at the Town Hall**

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Town Meeting called pursuant to Wis. Stats. 60.12(1)(c), by the Town Board of the Town of Dunn, on April 18, 2023, at 7 PM. To view the meeting agenda and Zoom link, please visit [dunn.civicweb.net](http://dunn.civicweb.net).

**Stay in the Loop!**

- Follow Our New Facebook Page: [facebook.com/townofdunndanecountywi](https://facebook.com/townofdunndanecountywi)
- Sign up for email alerts: [dunn.civicweb.net](http://dunn.civicweb.net).
- Visit the 'Announcements' tab on our website: [www.townofdunnwi.gov](http://www.townofdunnwi.gov)

**Arbor Day Potluck  
Saturday, April, 29th, 2023,  
4 PM to 6 PM**

Dunn Town Hall, 4156 County Road B, McFarland WI  
Bring your favorite dish to pass and enjoy your community! Come meet other residents and share in this fun family event. Free trees and door prizes.

**Help Wanted at the Town Transfer Site**

The Town is seeking to fill a part-time position to cover two Saturdays a month at the Town Transfer Site. Heavy equipment operator experience preferred. Hours 7:45 am to 4:15 pm. If interested, please contact Hardy Krueger at [hkrueger@townofdunnwi.gov](mailto:hkrueger@townofdunnwi.gov) or (608) 838-1081, ext 7.



**Views From the Chair**

*By Steve Greb, Town Chair*

The cranes were back a few weeks early this year. We saw our first pair here mid-February. As I write this, a blanket of fresh snow has fallen and I'm sure the hungry cranes are rethinking their early arrival. With the changing climate, we've seen changes in phenology - the study of the timing of recurring biological events. We've seen changes ranging from bird migration to spring flowers to ice cover on our lakes. The latest Wisconsin trends show continued warming, increases in rain and snow, and more frequent extreme rainfall events. These changing climate trends impact our agricultural practices, including planting dates, new crop varieties, and longer growing seasons. Impacts for the town include frequency of snow plowing, road and park maintenance, storm water management, and lake levels. Planning for these challenges will be crucial to maintain a vibrant economy, reduce health risks, and promote public safety.

How can we to reduce our carbon footprint and adapt to a changing climate? In 2020, the Oregon School District opened Forest Edge Elementary School, a 126,000sq. ft elementary school, a "net zero" building, which means it will produce at least as much energy as it uses in a year. We should strive to do the same. We are currently considering solar panels for the Town Hall and outbuildings to reduce our carbon footprint. In the future, we may consider new generation equipment such as electric lawnmowers and heat pump systems. Of course, we use efficient indoor and outdoor motion-detector lighting. The Town also encourages tree planting, providing climate resiliency through the increased shade and helps sequester CO2 from the atmosphere. Our Parks Commission sponsors our annual Arbor Day event where we've provided 1,000's of free trees over the years. We also have a number of successful "farm-to-market" operations with proximity to the Madison markets with minimal transportation/energy costs.



*Photo by Kevin Cronk*

To respond to our changing climate we have worked with Dane County and efforts are underway to expand the lower Yahara River's holding capacity and improve management of our lake levels during high water periods, which also has the added benefit of removing excess nutrients from our waterways. We encourage homeowners to install rain gardens on their property, reducing or eliminating the runoff from their properties. Increased use of cover crops helps hold the soil and slows the flow of runoff waters from agricultural lands.

Collectively, all these actions make economic and ecological sense. The Town's philosophy has always been to take a long-term view on land use and our future. Continued proactive measures will help preserve and protect our Town for the future, not just for us but the sandhill cranes who have resided here long before us.

## Your Personal Contribution to Cleaner Water

Info from WDNR Rain Garden Manual. Photo from water.phila.gov

Rain gardens are capturing more than just water lately; they are capturing the attention of homeowners nationwide. Rain gardens are landscaped areas planted with wildflowers and other native vegetation that soak up rain water, mainly from the roof of a house or other buildings. The rain garden fills with a few inches of water after a storm and the water slowly filters into the ground rather than running off into a nearby stream, river, or lake.

Prior to human development, our natural areas absorbed and filtered rain water. As cities and suburbs grow and replace forests and agricultural land, increased stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces becomes a problem. Stormwater runoff from developed areas increases flooding because there are fewer places where rainwater is slowed and infiltrated. Stormwater run off also carries pollutants from streets, parking lots, and lawns into local streams and lakes, and leads to costly municipal improvements in stormwater treatment structures. By reducing stormwater runoff, rain gardens can be a valuable part of reversing these trends. While an individual rain garden may seem like a small thing, collectively they produce substantial neighborhood and community environmental benefits.

### HOW CAN RAIN GARDENS BENEFIT YOU AND THE ENVIRONMENT?

#### Aesthetic Pleasure

Rain gardens enhance the beauty of yards and neighborhoods.

#### Improve Groundwater

Rain gardens increase the amount of rain water that filters into the ground, which recharges local and regional aquifers.

#### Habitat Friendly

Rain gardens provide valuable habitat for birds, butterflies, and many beneficial insects.

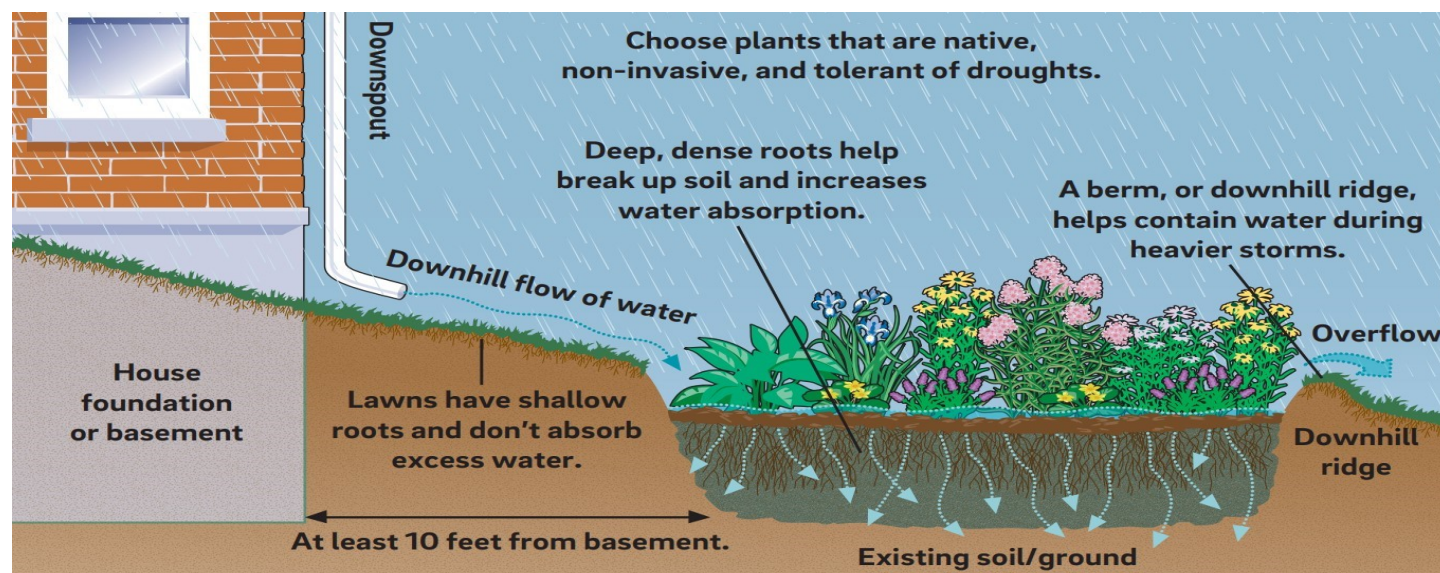
#### Remove Pollution

Rain gardens help protect streams and lakes from pollutants carried by urban stormwater, like lawn fertilizers and pesticides, oil and other fluids that leak from cars, and numerous harmful substances that wash off roofs and paved areas.

#### Flood Prevention

Rain gardens can protect communities from flooding and draining problems.

## Recycling information



## Funding Available for PDR Program

By Ben Kollenbroich, Planning and Land Conservation Director

The Town's Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program protects lands to assure the future availability of land for farming and to support the local agricultural economy. Through PDR, "development rights" (potential residential development on a property) are purchased by the Town and are permanently eliminated through a conservation easement agreement. So far, 39 properties, totaling 4,000 acres have been protected through PDR in the Town of Dunn.

In January, 2022, the Wisconsin Farmland Protection Partnership Project was awarded a \$7 million grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to help certain towns, counties, and nonprofits permanently protect farmland through conservation easements. The Town of Dunn is a part of this partnership and can use grant funding to purchase development rights through the Town's PDR program. The money from this current grant cycle is available for the next four years.

More information about the Town's PDR program can be found by visiting [www.townofdunnwi.gov](http://www.townofdunnwi.gov) and searching "PDR".

If you are interested in enrolling your land into the PDR program, please contact Ben Kollenbroich at [bkollenbroich@townofdunnwi.gov](mailto:bkollenbroich@townofdunnwi.gov) or (608) 838-1081, ext 3. You can also download a pre-application form by going to [townofdunnwi.gov/applying-to-the-pdr-program](http://townofdunnwi.gov/applying-to-the-pdr-program). Simply completing this form does not commit you to selling your development rights.

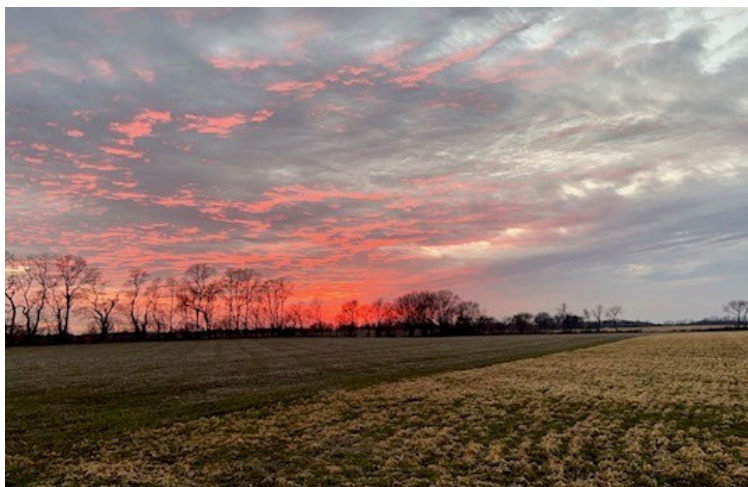


Photo by Kelsey Shepperd

## Scam Alert! Four Signs

### It's a Scam:

By Deputy Fox, Dane County Sheriff

- 1. Scammers PRETEND:** to be from an organization. They might use a name like the Social Security Administration, the IRS, or pretend to be from a business. They use technology to change phone numbers that appears on caller ID.
- 2. Scammers say there's a PROBLEM or a PRIZE:** They may say things such as you're in trouble with the government, you owe money, that there's a virus on your computer, that there's a problem with one of your accounts and they need to verify your information, or that your family had an emergency. They may also say you won something but have to pay a fee to get it.

**3. Scammers PRESSURE you to act immediately:** Scammers want you to act before you think and might threaten to arrest or sue you.

**4. Scammers tell you to PAY in a specific way:** They often insist you pay by sending money transfers or by gift cards.

### 5. How to Avoid a Scam:

- Stop. Talk to someone you trust before you do anything.
- Block unwanted calls and text messages.
- Do not give personal or financial info out in response to a unexpected request including Social Security number or bank account information.
- Don't click on any links!
- Resist the pressure to act immediately.
- Never pay with a gift card or money transfer service.

Report Scams to: [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](http://ReportFraud.ftc.gov) or 1-877-382-4357

**If you receive any phone calls that seem suspicious, hang up and call the non-emergency number at (608) 255-2345.**

## On the Road Again

By Todd Klahn, Highway Superintendent

With spring and summer around the corner, roadside mowing will begin. Please keep all obstacles out of the road right-of-way which is typically 33 feet from the center of the road.

Each year several road related projects are completed within the Town. In summer of 2022, the reconstruction of Rutland Dunn Townline Road, Hook Island Rd, Labrador Rd, and part of Sand Hill Rd was completed with the help and cooperation from the Town of Rutland and the City of Stoughton. We are happy to report this large project was made possible through obtaining significant grant funding.

Roads scheduled for paving a 2-inch overlay in 2023 include: Brian St, Bruce Pkwy, Maple Dr, Maya Ct, Oak St, Orchard St, Scott Ln, and Thomas Ln. Driveway aprons will be cut and/or milled so the new road surface and the driveways can meet properly.

Due to a 2-inch increase in road height, property owners on these roads will need to adjust their mailboxes to be in compliance with the Town of Dunn's Mailbox Policy. The mailbox policy can be found on the Town's website, [www.townofdunnwi.gov](http://www.townofdunnwi.gov), under the Government tab, and then Town Policies tab.

Sealcoating will be completed on the following roads: Alsmo Ln, Bible Camp Rd, Camp Leonard Rd, Crescent Rd, Elvehjem Rd, Exchange St, Fish Camp Rd, High St, Morris Park Rd, North Ct, Peterson Rd, Ridge Ct, Stoney Crest Rd, Tower Rd, and Willow Ct.

There are plans to replace 3 culverts on Schneider Dr.

As always, we appreciate your patience during slight inconveniences and delays with summer repair and maintenance.



## 2022-23 Winter Season Roundup

By Hardy Krueger, Parks, Buildings, and Grounds Superintendent

This winter season has been unusual to say the least. Rain, snow, ice, snow, rain, freezing rain, sleet, snow... repeat. Winter storms seemed to arrive on Thursdays and Fridays to conflict with the Town's trash and recycling pick up days. You can help by following parking and garbage/recycling cart placement guidelines. If there is a winter weather event, please park all vehicles off the roadside (in your driveway). Also, garbage/recycling carts should be placed in your driveway apron, not in the road. Following these tips will facilitate snow plowing and reduce risk of accidents. To be honest, a plow truck is like a pig on ice and the majority of the weight is on the front right of the vehicle.



Photo from Creative Commons.

Every plow season some mailboxes are damaged, majority of which are due to the weight of snow coming off the plow. Since 2014, the Town has a mailbox policy in place to help mitigate this type of damage. When plowing, it is difficult to see mailboxes in relation to the wing plow on the truck. This is one of the reasons for the mailbox policy specifying mailbox placement and installation dimensions above and off of the road surface. If you are repairing or replacing your mailbox, you must follow the Mailbox Policy. The policy can be found on the Town's website at: [www.townofdunnwi.gov](http://www.townofdunnwi.gov), under the Government tab, and then Town Policies tab.

We try our best to not dig/gouge into the shoulders off the paved surfaces however, it inevitably happens. We rely on frost getting into the ground during plowing season and we have gotten little of it this year. You may wonder why we wing back the snow as far as we do - this is to allow for snow storage for future snow events and also to get frost into the ground along the road edge. This helps extend the life of the road by supporting the roadbed and mitigates road edge failure.

## Wild Parsnip: An Expanding Problem in Wisconsin

Excerpt of article by Mark Renz, University of Wisconsin Madison. Photos from UW Extension



First year rosette.



Second year flowers/seed heads.

Wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) is a non-native plant that causes a range of impacts to the environment, the largest concern is its ability to inflict skin burns to people that come into contact with the plant's sap. This reaction is called phytophotodermatitis, which results in skin burns when exposed to sunlight. This plant is a biennial that produces a flower/seed head in the second year. Fortunately, this plant is easy to manage with a range of tools. Implementation of the appropriate management practice at the correct time is critical. While the management tools below can be effective, the best results occur when individuals develop a multi-year management plan for infestations as one year of control with any technique rarely eradicates populations.

### CONTROL OPTIONS

**Removal:** Pulling or cutting the root from the stem is an effective control technique but is best utilized when infestations are small and isolated and before seeds are produced. Plants can be pulled to remove the taproot, but the best success has been observed when cutting the taproot with a sharp shovel one to two inches below the soil surface. If the entire taproot is severed, it will not re-root and produce viable seeds.

**Mowing:** Results have been very successful if implemented at the correct stage (after the emergence of flower heads, but before seeds enlarge) for three consecutive years. If using this method, plants will resprout and likely flower but in Wisconsin's climate, these resprouting plants rarely produce viable seeds IF mowed at the correct stage. Mowing prior to flowering will likely

result in viable seed being produced if populations are not mowed when resprouts are flowering. Annual management is required for multiple years to eliminate seeds from the seedbank.

**Herbicides:** A range of herbicides are effective at controlling wild parsnip. Applications of herbicides that include metsulfuron, 2,4-D, or dicamba have provided greater than 90% reduction in flowering plants the following year. Unfortunately seedling germination the following spring is not reduced from herbicides. Therefore, application would need to be applied the following year to prevent seed productions for two consecutive years. Applications when seeds are present on the plant ARE NOT RECOMMENDED. The best results are obtained with spring and fall applications to the rosettes. It is important to note these herbicides can impact other broadleaf species, but are safe to most established grasses. If concerned about off-target damage to nearby desirable broadleaf plants, individual spot treatments are recommended. Non selective herbicides that contain glyphosate, while effective, are not recommended as they will also injure desirable plants.

## LWCA Awarded \$25,000 Grant

Lake Waubesa Conservation Association (LWCA) is excited to announce they have been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Wisconsin DNR to create a Comprehensive Lake Management Plan. This grant is a critical first step in creating a long-term vision for improving and protecting Lake Waubesa. For more information, please visit [www.waubesa.org/](http://www.waubesa.org/)

## 2023 Extra Trash Pick-Up

Extra Pick-Up will occur on June 15/16 & October 12/13. All extra pick-up items must curbside by THURSDAY 6 AM regardless of your normal service day. Only one trip will be made through the Town. The event will continue into Friday if Pellitteri is unable to finish on Thursday. Please direct questions to Pellitteri Waste Systems: (608) 257-4285 or [info@pellitteri.com](mailto:info@pellitteri.com)

## Make Plans To Control Spongy Moth Before The Eggs Hatch

Article and photos by Bill McNee, DNR Forest Health Specialist, Oshkosh, [Bill.McNee@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Bill.McNee@wisconsin.gov) or (920) 360-0942

Spongy moth (formerly known as gypsy moth) egg masses typically begin to hatch in April as temperatures warm. Each mass that hatches may produce up to 1,000 leaf-eating caterpillars.

Late winter and early spring is a great time to inspect trees for egg masses and treat or remove masses within reach. Wisconsin weather has been favorable for this pest over the last three years and populations have grown.



Picture of egg masses. Photo by Bill McNee.

Egg masses are tan-colored lumps about the size of a nickel or a quarter. They can be found on trees, buildings and other outdoor objects. Egg masses are often found in sheltered places such as firewood piles and the inside of bird houses. The highest populations and most rapid population increases are usually found where oaks and other preferred species are growing on mowed lawns, street terraces or sandy soil.

If egg masses are found, there are two options to help reduce pest numbers prior to egg hatch. Horticultural oils can be directly sprayed on the egg masses to suffocate them. These oils are typically applied when temperatures are above 40 degrees and not expected to dip below freezing for a few days. Adding a little food coloring to the spray mix helps identify the treated masses and shows that oiling has been done. A second method is to scrape egg masses into a can of soapy water and leave them to soak for a few days before throwing them in the trash. When choosing this method, target egg masses that were produced during the previous summer. Older masses that are faded and feel spongy do not contain viable eggs and do not need to be oiled or removed.

Bacterial or chemical insecticide treatments may be appropriate for larger trees with many egg masses. Insecticide treatments are usually most effective when done while the caterpillars are small (mid-to-late May in southern counties). Treatments include foliage sprays, soil injections, and trunk injections. Physical controls such as sticky bands and burlap collection bands may be sufficient to prevent heavy defoliation as long as the egg mass numbers are not too high.

Arranging for insecticide treatments ahead of time can secure an applicator, as well as avoid a last-minute rush when pesticide application businesses may already be very busy. Resources for finding a qualified pesticide applicator include the Wisconsin Arborist Association, International

Society of Arboriculture, or a local internet search.

Host trees enduring heavy defoliation and/or drought stress in 2022 are at elevated risk for mortality if defoliated in 2023 and will often need insecticide protection.

Visit Wisconsin's spongy moth portal ([spongymoth.wi.gov/Pages/home.aspx](http://spongymoth.wi.gov/Pages/home.aspx)) for additional information on egg mass oiling and removal, physical controls, and insecticide application.



Picture of caterpillar larvae. Photo by Bill McNee.

## Thank you, Dale Martinson!

by Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer/Manager

The Town of Dunn would like to congratulate Dale Martinson on his retirement in January. Dale is a town resident and joined our road crew more than 27 years ago.

You may have seen Dale out plowing roads, mowing roadsides, or assisting with other public works projects around town. He has been an asset to the Town throughout his employment here. The Town thanks Dale and wishes him all the best in his future endeavors!

## Parks Commission Update 2023

In 2022, the Town Parks Commission continued its maintenance and improvement of the Town's parks.

Invasive species removal and prairie restoration work continued at Dunn Heritage Park. The Town also received a Dane County grant to help restore areas in Dunn Heritage Park that were damaged by flooding.

Over the next few years, the park will be improved with select boardwalk installations, pond dredging, and tree plantings. These activities should help make the park more accessible, improve fish spawning habitat, and capture more runoff from surrounding properties.

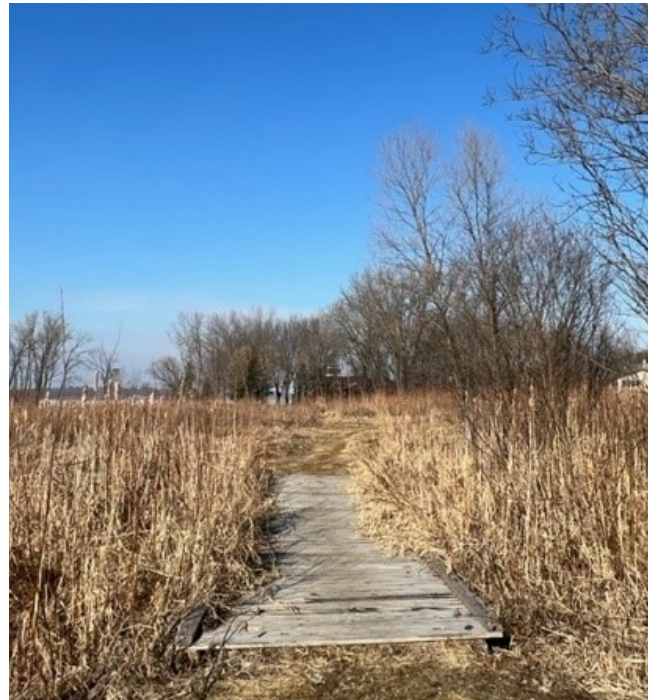


Photo by Kelsey Shepperd.

## Thank you, Jay Hoel!

By Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer/Manager

The Town would like to thank Jay Hoel for his 25 years of service to the Town. Over that timeframe, you may have seen him out mowing our parks system, planting trees, overseeing operations at the Town Transfer Site, working on various building projects around the Town, installing playground equipment, or burning prairies. Jay was also the sexton for the Town's Burying Grounds and the Noxious Weed Commissioner. Jay retired this year and his jovial and hardworking personality will be greatly missed. Jay Hoel will be receiving the 2022 Stewardship Award at the Town's Annual Arbor Day celebration for his 25 years of outstanding service as the caretaker of Dunn's parks system. Visit page 5 for more information on the event.



The Town also began prepping part of Simpson Park to transform roughly an acre into a native prairie and walking area.

### Park Reminders

- Motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles and ATVs, are not allowed in Town Parks or on Town property. Please use the designated approved routes.
- Town property is not to be used for the storage of private property or other private uses.
- Keep your dogs leashed - many parks are conservancy lands that are home to prairie plants and birds. We have received complaints of dogs running loose in Town parks. Unleashed dogs also interfere with walkers and have gone on to private properties.

### Parks Native Prairie Prescribed Burning

Conditions and weather permitting, spring prescribed prairie burns are proposed to occur at Town parks throughout April. Prescribed burning helps maintain healthy prairie ecosystems by stimulating native plant growth and controlling woody vegetation and invasive species. Not only is it one of the most efficient management tools, it's also the most cost effective!

### Parks Commission Seeks Volunteers

The Town's Park's Commission is seeking volunteers to help with controlled burning and invasive species removal. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ben at [bkollenbroich@townofdunnwi.gov](mailto:bkollenbroich@townofdunnwi.gov) or (608) 838-1081, ext 3.

## Arbor Day Potluck

Saturday, April, 29th, 2023 from 4 PM to 6 PM

Dunn Town Hall, 4156 County Road B

The Parks Commission is happy to announce that after a three year hiatus, the Town will be hosting its Arbor Day Celebration! The event will begin promptly at 4 PM.

Yimmuj Yang will discuss her work at Groundswell Conservancy in creating equitable access to farmland for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) farmers and land seekers. Bring your favorite dish to pass and enjoy your community! A potluck dinner will held after the presentation. Brats, hot dogs, plates, napkins, eating utensils, and a beverage will be supplied. Come meet other residents and share in this fun family event. There will be free trees and door prizes!

Due to the three year hiatus, multiple Stewardship Awards will be awarded. Tim Andrews will receive the 2020 Stewardship Award for his many years of outstanding service on the Plan Commission and Tree Board and for sharing his knowledge of trees with the Town. Kristen Kordet will receive the 2021 Stewardship Award for her entrepreneurial spirit in creating a successful, female-owned CSA. Jay Hoel will receive the 2022 Stewardship Award for his 25 years of outstanding service as the caretaker of Dunn's parks system. Carla Bryhan will receive the 2023 Stewardship Award for her dedication to cleaning up trash along the roadside and beautifying her neighborhood.



Photo by Kevin Cronk



Photo from Creative Commons.

## Oregon School District Tax Levy Increase

By Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer/Manager

Town of Dunn property owners in the Oregon School District had about a 22% increase in their school district tax on the December 2022 tax bill. The increase was due in part to an increase in the school district tax levy and in part due to an increase in the State of Wisconsin Bureau of Equalization estimate of the town's equalized value. When the estimate of equalized value for the town increases more than other municipalities in the school district, our share of the school levy increases.

For the December 2023 tax bill, the Oregon School District reports their levy will increase by about 10% as a result of their recent referendum and that property owners in the Oregon School District should expect to see this increase in school tax levy on their next tax bill.

For more information about school funding visit the Wisconsin Policy Forum Article on WI School Funding at: [drive.google.com/file/d/1WzhfYug5c55avud1LhU9ArMSpNmCGRz4/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WzhfYug5c55avud1LhU9ArMSpNmCGRz4/view)

Oregon School District Contact:

**Andy Weiland**, Business Manager,  
(608) 835-4012 or [atw@OregonSD.org](mailto:atw@OregonSD.org)

## What Are Regenerative Farming Practices?

Article by Nicole Gulotta, Thrive Market

Regenerative International defines regenerative agriculture as a farming practice that helps reverse climate change by “rebuilding soil organic matter and restoring degraded soil biodiversity—resulting in both carbon drawdown and improving the water cycle.” This system focuses on biologically diverse soil, mineral-rich food, and improving the health of soils and crops within the farm.

Regenerative agriculture features four core practices:

**1. No-tillage/minimum tillage:** Tilling is a popular method for preparing soil for crops and may include shoveling, hoeing, and raking. At large farms, the soil is often agitated mechanically, which has been known to decrease soil health since it fractures the soil, disrupts soil structure, and accelerates soil erosion. Having a no-till or minimum-tilling policy helps enhance soil aggregation (the soil’s ability to form a strong bond), water infiltration (the soil’s ability to retain water), and carbon sequestration (removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere).

**2. Restoring soil and plant microbiome:** To improve soil health, regenerative agriculture adopts several practices that include cover crops, crop rotations, and compost and animal manures—all to help support the soil’s microbiome.

**3. Building ecosystem diversity:** It probably comes as no surprise that a healthy and diverse ecosystem starts with

the soil. Utilizing compost and creating pollinator habitats are just two examples of ways a regenerative farm can boost the overall ecosystem.

**4. Well-managed grazing practices:** A farm isn’t only about soil and plants—and regenerative practices support animal health, too. Commercial farming has been shown to increase greenhouse gas emissions generated by livestock and increase our surplus of corn and other grains for animal feed. Plus, constricting animals in cramped feedlots enables the spread of disease and leads to a poorer quality of life. Pasturing animals and allowing them to graze naturally helps increase soil biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and insect diversity.



Photo by Andrea Zacharias



Photo by Hardy Krueger

## The Town Welcomes Travis Martinson

by Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer/Manager

After the retirement of two full-time crew members, Dale Martinson and Jay Hoel, the Town began recruiting for a new full-time position in Public Works. We are happy to announce that Travis Martinson joined our road crew in January and is putting his considerable skills to good use.

Travis grew up in the Town of Dunn and lives nearby. He graduated from Stoughton High School and Madison Area Technical College. He has years of experience operating heavy equipment, plowing, repairing and maintaining vehicles, buildings and equipment, as well as welding and metal fabrication. He loves the outdoors and is active in agricultural pursuits.

## Thinking About Solar Power?

By Paul D. Smith, MD, town resident for 27 years.

### Why install roof-top solar panels to generate electricity?

- To preserve the environment in Wisconsin and the world for the next generations.
- Lower your utility bill from day one.
- Use renewable energy and lower your carbon footprint.

### Key Facts About Solar Energy

- Solar panel warranties for manufacturing defects are usually 10-12 years. The electronics have warranties for 10-25 years. The roof racks that hold the solar panels usually have a 25-year warranty.
- Bifacial solar panels can also make electricity on their back side from light reflected off the roof.
- Solar panels make less electricity over time, but they have a “production guarantee” that their electricity output will be at least 80-92% for 25-30 years.

### Can I Sell My Solar Energy Back to the Grid?

- Alliant Energy, Madison Gas and Electric, and Stoughton Utilities all have solar energy programs that will provide financial credit if your solar installation system produces more energy than is used.

### How much will it cost?

- An average home solar installation on the roof costs about \$25,000. It often takes about 8 years to pay for the system with your lower energy bills.
- The federal government has incentives that include a 30% income tax credit for solar installation costs.
- The state of Wisconsin Focus on Energy program also has an incentive program for \$1,000 for homes and up to \$50,000 for commercial installations based on the size of installation.
- Businesses also qualify to use the Federal 5-year depreciation Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System.

### For more information on rebates, incentives, or how to find a solar contractor, visit:

- [Focusonenergy.com](http://Focusonenergy.com)
- Alliant Energy: [www.alliantenergy.com/cleanenergy/ourenergyvision/solargeneration](http://www.alliantenergy.com/cleanenergy/ourenergyvision/solargeneration)
- Madison Gas & Electric: [www.mge.com/our-environment/green-power/solar-power](http://www.mge.com/our-environment/green-power/solar-power)
- Stoughton Utilities: [stoughtonutilities.com/residential/solar](http://stoughtonutilities.com/residential/solar)

## Discounted Solar Installations Available Through Community-Buy Program

By Paul D. Smith, MD



Photo from Creative Commons.

If you are considering a solar installation, be sure to ask if there are any community-buy discounts available from the solar installation company. Community-buy programs are where individuals, businesses, and non-profits can use their purchasing power to get a discount on the price of their installations. For example, People’s United Methodist Church (PUMC) has a community-buy program with Midwest Solar Power LLC. Midwest Solar is offering area residents a 6% discount for home solar installations if contracts are signed before May 31st, 2023. An installation that normally would cost \$25,000 would get a \$1,500 discount and cost estimates are free. Midwest Solar has a variable discount for commercial installations.

Be aware, in this particular community-buy program, the church will receive a grant from Midwest Solar for each installation to decrease the cost of the church’s project. PUMC will be holding meetings about this program and you can learn more by contacting them: (608) 835-3755 or [office@peoplesumc.org](mailto:office@peoplesumc.org).

# RECYCLING GUIDE

## PELLITTERI WASTE SYSTEMS

### PAPER PRODUCTS

Empty cardboard, catalogs, magazines, phone books, empty food, milk and juice cartons, paper, envelopes, paper cups (no straws or lids), junk mail, gift wrapping paper (no foils), pizza boxes (no food or grease), newspapers, egg cartons, paper grocery bags, and shredded paper (placed in a transparent plastic bag and tied shut; bags should be no larger than the size of a basketball).

### PLASTIC PRODUCTS

All plastic bottles besides motor oil or gasoline bottles, #1-7 plastic items (including #1 clamshell)

### METAL AND GLASS PRODUCTS

Empty aerosol cans, aluminum cans or plates, metal pots and pans, small metal appliances (nothing larger than a basketball or heavier than 10 lbs), small metal plumbing fixtures, faucets, valves, tin and steel cans, and clear, blue, brown, or green translucent glass bottles and jars.

### NON ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Brake rotors or drums, construction waste, deli containers except #1 plastic, electronics, frozen food or microwave dinner plates, glassware and ceramics, metal items larger than a basketball or heavier than 10 lbs, mirrors, windows, motor oil and gasoline bottles, propane tanks, plastic film or wrap, styrofoam, recyclable containers containing liquids or food, carpet, clothing, diapers, fishing line, food, hoses, ropes, and shoes.

### RECYCLING TIPS

- Effective November 1st, 2022, additional bags of recycling outside of carts need to be prepaid and prescheduled for pick-up. Please contact Pellitteri Waste Systems a minimum of one day prior to your normal pick-up day for scheduling. After scheduling, place extra recyclables in clear, plastic bags (up to 32 gallon and no more than 50 pounds). Improperly prepared additional recyclables will not be picked up.
- Do not flatten or crush plastic or metal items. Only flatten cardboard boxes.
- Do not place smaller items inside larger containers. Items should be loose and empty.
- Remove all food waste, plastic, styrofoam, and packing peanuts.
- Your recycling cart will not be picked up if it contains trash, yard waste, or prohibited items.
- In a week containing certain observed Holidays, garbage and recycling pick up is delayed by one day. See Pellitteri's website for collection calendars.
- Please do not overload your carts; the lids should shut.
- For additional pick-up volume or for additional questions, contact [info@pellitteri.com](mailto:info@pellitteri.com) or call (608) 257-4285.

## MEDICATION DROP OFF

Protect our water! Do not flush medications down the drain. Drop off unwanted or expired medication at police departments. Contact the following for more information:

McFarland Police Department at (608) 838-3151  
Oregon Police Department at (608) 835-3111  
Stoughton Police Department at (608) 873-3374

## TOWN TRANSFER SITE

Open to Town residents only  
4030 County Road B, McFarland, WI 53558  
1/4 mile east of the Dunn Town Hall  
Open monthly on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays  
8 AM to 4 PM, exceptions may be on Holiday weekends. Also open Wednesdays, April through the end of November, 2 PM to 4:45 PM

### ACCEPTED ITEMS

Brush and wood free of soil, leaves and grass clippings, any compostable material, holiday trees without tinsel, decorations, or stands, antifreeze that is free of oil, motor oil that is free of other liquids, automotive type and rechargeable batteries, all appliances (except water softeners and dishwashers), scrap metal, and motors free of gas and oil.

Tires are also accepted for a fee. 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.

### NON ACCEPTED ITEMS

Construction materials, dishwashers, electronics, furniture, mattresses, household batteries, lumber, shingles, stumps, TVs, and water softeners.

Direct additional questions to (608) 838-1081.

## DANE COUNTY CLEAN SWEEP

7102 US Hwy 12, Madison, WI 53718  
Please contact Clean Sweep for current hours.

Dane County Clean Sweep offers a place to bring hazardous household materials and electronics. Visit [danecountycleansweep.com](http://danecountycleansweep.com) for a list of acceptable items. Fees apply. Please contact Clean Sweep Wisconsin prior to delivery of items or to receive more information.

Direct additional questions to (608) 838-3212.

## ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

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 prohibits the following electronics from being put in the trash or sent to Wisconsin landfills and incinerators:

TVs, computers, printers, scanners, fax machines, monitors, computer accessories such as keyboards, mice, speakers, external hard drives, flash drives, e-readers, VCRs/DVD players, and cellphones.

These electronics can be recycled at various locations across the state. For a list of collection sites, visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search "ecycle". Some collectors may charge fees and may not accept all devices. Contact collectors beforehand to learn about their policies

Direct additional questions to Wisconsin DNR ECycle at (608) 264-6001.

REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.