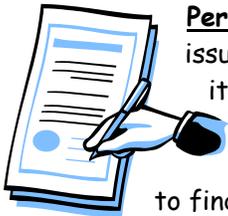




# Town of Springvale Newsletter July 2014



Have you ever thought you'd like to be more involved with the Town of Springvale governing board? This might be the opportunity.



**Permit Issuer:** We have all been deeply saddened by the death of Fred Krohn, the permit issuer for the Town of Springvale. Fred had accomplished the duties so well for so long, that it leaves a big hole in the Town's daily operation. The Board is currently seeking a town resident to take on the responsibilities and continue the work Fred has done. If you would be interested in becoming the Permit Issuer, please contact Dan Dahlke, Chairman, to find out more about the position and let him know of your interest.

**Springvale Board of Supervisors:** The Board of Supervisor will be looking for a new member as Orrin Kimble, Supervisor I, has decided that it is time to step down after many years on the Board effective at the end of his term in April 2015. All Board members, as well as Clerk and Treasurer, are nominated at a Town Caucus held in early January and those nominated will have their names placed on the April ballot. The Town Board in general is in charge of town affairs and the supervisors attend all monthly Board meetings as well as other meetings as may be called. It is a paid position including per diems for all meetings.



If you have any interest in serving as a Town Supervisor, please contact Pat Heyer at 979-0620 ([pat.heyer@gmail.com](mailto:pat.heyer@gmail.com)) for more information, or attend the Town Caucus in January. That meeting will be posted in our normal three places - the Town Hall door, Tabbert's Restaurant and the Brandon Food Mart prior to the caucus.

**Summer Road Work:** This summer, the roads that will be worked on are:

-  Bell School Road from Hwy M east .90 miles
-  Center Road from Bell School Road south .30 miles
-  Davis Road from County M east to Center Road
-  Hill Road from Hwy 23 south to the end
-  Metoval Road from County KK to N6886
-  Paul Drive from Hwy 23 south to the gravel portion

It is expected that the work will already be completed by the time you receive this

newsletter, but we wanted you to be aware of the roadwork plans.

In addition, Mike Oskola, our roadman, has just completed the early season ditch mowing and has graded and re-graded many of the road shoulders and the gravel roads that we maintain. He is also doing some blacktop patching where needed on roads.



If there is a problem with your road that the Board may not be aware of, please contact Chairman Dahlke to report the matter.



**Well Water Safety:** Often rural homeowners may be wondering about the quality of their drinking water.

The only way to know the quality is to test it, says Gloria Smedema, Sanitarian for Fond du Lac County. "With all this rain we've had this spring/summer and the possible impact to groundwater," Smedema states, "now is a great time to collect a water sample from your private well. Have it analyzed for both bacteria and nitrate levels."

The cost of the two tests through the County Health Department is \$40. Testing is free for families with a baby younger than a year and females who are pregnant or may become pregnant. Infants and pregnant women are at higher risk for nitrate poisoning.

Well water test kits are available at certified water labs including Fond du Lac County Health Department at 160 South Macy, Fond du Lac. Call [920/929-3085](tel:920-929-3085) with questions.

Another source of test kits is the laboratory at UW-Stevens Point, which can mail sampling bottles for bacteria, nitrates, metals such as arsenic, and pesticides. The lab there is at [715/346-4276](tel:715-346-4276).

Because water quality can change quickly, Smedema recommends testing on a regular basis, such as every 15 months. She also advises testing if a well's cap has been damaged or construction has disturbed the ground. Lastly, because hazardous materials around the property may contaminate groundwater, dispose of them properly.

**Open Burning:** We've had a lot of rain and the fields are beautifully green, however, this is just a reminder to be careful when burning trash or brush piles, etc. Be prepared with garden hoses and shovels/rakes because even though the wind may be calm when you light the fire, it can pick up very quickly and you could find yourself in a bad situation.



**Always call the non-emergency county Sheriff's number (929-3390)** to report that you are going to be burning a brush pile or large area. If a fire is reported and the fire department responds, you as the land owner will be charged for the fire call, even if the fire was reported by someone passing through using a cell phone and in fact you were there and had the fire under control. If you have reported the intent to burn to the Sheriff's Department, they will know not to send the trucks out. However, if the fire does get out of control, you need to call the Sherriff's Department back and let them know that you need assistance!

**Voting and Elections:** The August primary is soon upon us (August 12) and then the Fall election in November. The election laws, at least from the standpoint of what the Clerk needs to do, seem to be continually changing and some of those changes impact the voters. In the past I have been able to accommodate some of you who wished to vote absentee in person (come in person to complete an absentee request and ballot rather than receive it in the mail) in the evening or on weekends. This is no longer the case. The new laws mandate when I am able to allow people to vote absentee in person. If you want to vote absentee in person, please call the Clerk to make an appointment (929-0620).

Anyone can request an absentee ballot from the Clerk. There is a form online at the GAB website, ([gab.wi.gov](http://gab.wi.gov)) or you can send the Clerk your name,

address and address where the absentee ballot should be sent and a statement that you want an absentee ballot sent to you for a specific election. If you use the form provided by the GAB, you can request that a ballot be sent to you for each election during the year. This process needs to be repeated every year. However, if you are elderly or disabled, you can request that a ballot be sent to you with no end date. In both of these instances, the Clerk can continue to send you a ballot as specified, but if you fail to return a ballot, the request is nullified and you would need to make a new request.

Another change is that if you vote absentee by mail, your ballot does not have to be returned to the Clerk by the election day. It will be counted as long as you have it postmarked by election day

and it is received by the Clerk by 5:00 pm on the Friday after the election.

The down side to this is that if the ballot is not at the Town Hall by the close of election on election day (8:00 pm), the Clerk is required by law to reconvene the Board of Canvassers (the election workers) to certify the election. The accumulated

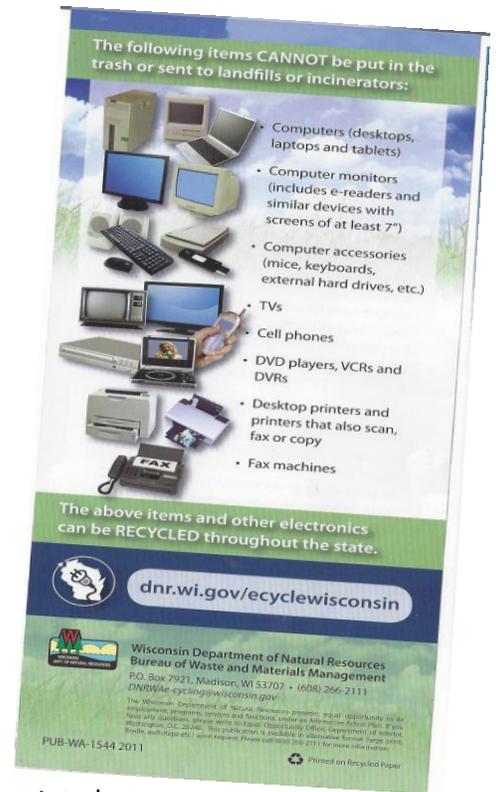
cost to the Town taxpayers for this process is approximately \$200 for every election where this happens. **Please make every attempt to get the ballot to the Town Hall by the close of election.** If you call the Clerk, she will come to your home to pick it up if you request it.

**Recycling:** During a recent review of the Town's recycling program, the town was found to be doing a good job of recycling. We were also told we needed to update our recycling ordinance as the previous one was very outdated. At the July Board meeting the Board adopted a new recycling ordinance. Nothing really changes as far as the residents are concerned. As in the past, if you take recyclables directly to a dealer, please let me know the type of recyclable and the pounds. Also, if you shred paper for bedding, let me know those tons as well.

I have pasted in below some of the flyers distributed by the DNR. I did check out the websites shown on these flyers and there is a lot of good information contained on them.



I find that I often have so many plastic bags accumulate and didn't know what to do with them. I did realize that many grocery stores have a bin available to put the plastic bags, but the idea that you can also put other types of plastic in them was new to me—like the items show on this leaflet.



Another note: It is illegal for anyone to burn materials such as furniture, metal, painted or treated wood, plastics, shingles, siding, tires and wire.



For anyone new to the Town, **materials for recycling are picked up every other Tuesday.** For example, during the Months of July and August recycle pick up is on July 8, 22, August 5 and 19. **Garbage pickup is every Tuesday.** Garbage should be put out in the garbage dumpsters provided by Waste Management. No containers have been provided for recycle materials, but it can be put out in clear plastic bags or your own plastic totes. It is single stream recycling, which means you do not need to sort paper from cans from plastic, etc. All can go together in one container or bag.

By all means let's be open-minded, but not so open-minded that our brains drop out.  
*Richard Dawkins*

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." *Maya Angelou*

**We are in need of resident/property owners contact information.** With the progression of the wireless age, it is often difficult to find phone numbers or contact information for town residents. There have been occasions when a check for tax payment is incorrect and the treasurer needs to contact the party. During the election process, there are occasions when the Clerk needs to contact a voter. On those occasions it is sometimes impossible because we cannot locate contact information. For such instances, we would like to have contact information on file.

**Town Officials**

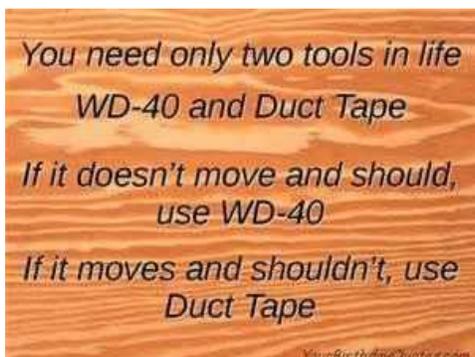
Town Board Chairman	Dan Dahlke 920 346-2726
Clerk	Patricia Heyer 872-2828
Supervisors	Orrin Kimble 346-5246
	Terry Madigan 920 872-2003
Treasurer	Rose Riedeman 920 960-2339

Also, if the clerk had a substantial number of e-mail addresses, it would save postage to be able to e-mail this newsletter rather than mail it. However, with the few that I have on file, it doesn't even pay to go through the effort.

If you are willing to give us your contact information, you may call Pat Heyer at 920 872-2828 and leave a clear message (if she is not available to answer the phone) or e-mail her at [pat.heyer@gmail.com](mailto:pat.heyer@gmail.com).

Thank you in advance for your help with this project.

Permit Issuer Building Permits  
(except new-home construction) Position Open Call Dan Dahlke for information  
Permit Issuer - New Homes Kunkel Engineering - 920 356-9447  
Assessor Joel Ryan 922-2411  
Town e-mail: [FDLSpringvale@gmail.com](mailto:FDLSpringvale@gmail.com).



**The greatest revenge  
is to accomplish  
what others say you  
cannot do.**

**So go out & do it.**

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