

The West Milwaukee

Official Publication of the Village of West Milwaukee



Summer is here, and there is no shortage of exciting events happening in our community! Mark your calendars and get ready to make memories with your neighbors. Check out this edition of the Village Newsletter to see what's coming up!



SUMMER 2024

pop up BEER GARDENS

LIVE MUSIC. FOOD. GAMES

JUNE 20, 2024

JULY 25, 2024

5 PM - 9 PM

THIS ISSUE:

MORE DETAILS Learn more about your role in maintaining **ON PAGE 6** our public spaces Page 5.

> Read up on the WAWM School District's 2024 Referendum proposal on **Page 7**.

> > _____

The WAWM Rec. Dept. celebrates 90 vears of service. Learn more on Page 8.

Important revaluation information on Page 11.

WEST MILWAUKEE PARK

www.westmilwaukee.org

Summer Newsletter | 1

Welcome to the summer issue of the Village Newsletter.

Welcome to the summer issue of the Village Newsletter. Summer weather is here and with it the promise of summer activities in West Milwaukee and throughout the area. The Village will be hosting TWO Pop-Up Beer Gardens at West Milwaukee Park on Thursday June 20th and July 25th. There will be live music, food trucks, and activities from 5 to 9 PM. We are having a new beer vendor this year. This is your park, I hope you can come out to enjoy it.

No Mow May, an initiative to preserve areas of our yards for spring pollinators is seen by some as an excuse to not cut your grass at all for the entire month. Well, we are now into June so please cut your grass and clean up your yards. (You know who you are)

The Greenfield Avenue reconstruction project is moving along nicely. The project includes some design enhancements and changes at some intersections to improve safety and reduce excessive speeds. Your Village Board is also working to include enhancements along West National Avenue to accomplish those same goals.

When you have a chance, please, thank our Police, DPW and municipal staff for the outstanding effort they have shown to support all of us and keep our Village a great place to live. Thank you!

Public Service opportunities come up from time to time to participate as a citizen commissioner. If you would like to be considered to serve in some capacity, please contact me.

Please remember that you are always welcome to attend our Village Board meetings on the first and third Monday of the month at 7 PM. There is always an opportunity for public comments at the start of these meetings. Hope to see you!

Sincerely,

John Stalewski Village President 645-1530 ext. 126

john.stalewski@westmilwaukeewi.gov

F President John Stalewski



WEST MILWAUKEE

Village Hall (414) 645-1530

4755 W. Beloit Rd. 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday www.westmilwaukeewi.gov www.visitwestmilwaukee.org

> Police Non-Emergency (414) 645-2151

Student Enrollment and Address Changes?
Has your address changed?

Visit our Enrollment Center!
West Allis - West Milwaukee School District
Administration Building
9333 W. Lincoln Ave.
Monday — Friday, 7:30 am — 4:30pm

Proof of Residency is required. Visit the district website for more information.

Contact the Enrollment Center via email enrollment@wawmsd.org or telephone at (414) 604-3014

Village Assessor

Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc.

W6237 Neubert Rd. Appleton, WI 54913

Assessment Questions: 1 (800) 721-4157

Fax: (920) 731-4158 Email: aacmke@apraz.com

Property Info: www.apraz.com

(You can access Real Estate property information, current owner addresses, and more. For residential parcels more detailed information is available: styles, stories, year built, assessments, legal descriptions and more.)

PUBLIC HEALTH VENDING MACHINES

As part of our commitment to collaboratively promote health and prevent opioid-related overdoses, we have acquired two innovative Public Health Vending Machines using resources from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Public Health Vending Machine grant. These vending machines are located in easily accessible locations and serve as another harm reduction resource in the community. They offer a discreet and convenient way for individuals to access FREE supplies without judgment or barriers. The Public Health Vending Machines are stocked with Narcan, Fentanyl Test Strips, COVID



-19 Test Kits, Medication Disposal Bags, Hygiene Kits, and Socks. Stop by the Public Health Vending Machines to pick up what you need!

LOCATIONS

West Allis Health Department 7120 W National Ave. West Allis Located outside & available 24/7

Community Medical Services 2814 S 108th St. West Allis Located outside & available 24/7

WEST ALLIS INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024 AT 7:00 PM

Parade starts at 77th St., heading east on Greenfield Ave., south on 70th St., ending at Orchard Ave.

ELECTION/ELECCIÓN

2024 ELECTION DATES

Tuesday, August 13th – Partisan Primary Tuesday, November 5th - General Election

2024 FECHAS DE LAS ELECCIONES

Martes, 13 de Agosto – Primaria partidista Martes, 5 de Noviembre – Elecciones generales

FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Wednesday Night Live is a FREE, weekly summer concert series held exclusively at the Bud
Pavilion on the Wisconsin State Fairgrounds.

GATES OPEN

7-10p

2024 LIVE MUSIC LINEUP

June 12th—Bella Cain

June 19th—The Toys

June 26th—Almighty Vinyl

July 3rd—Chasin' Mason

July 10th—Generation Z

For more information visit: **BUDPAVILION.COM**

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE 6-9:30PM
SPECIAL EVENT!

6P

August 30th—The Cheap Shots

CLERK/TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM CLOSED:

Thursday, July 4, 2024 (Independence Day) Monday, September 2, 2024 (Labor Day) Thursday, November 28, 2024 (Thanksgiving) Friday, November 29, 2024

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 Wednesday, December 25, 2024 (Christmas) Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Real Estate Tax Payments

<u>Your final tax payment installment is due July 31, 2024.</u> Please make sure that your tax payment is either in our office by the due dates, or postmarked by the post office by this date.

Personal Property Tax Payments

Your personal property taxes were due on January 31, 2024. If they were not paid in full, there is a 1.5% penalty and interest that accumulates per month, until paid in full.

Tax and assessment information is available online. Please visit our website at <u>www.westmilwaukee.org</u> and click on the words <u>"Property Tax Portal".</u>

Payments can also be made by credit or debit card.



After the July 31st due date, the tax bills will be turned over to Milwaukee County and you will have to make payments to the Milwaukee County Treasurer's Office.

PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE

As we enter the summer months, it's important to recognize the role each of us plays in maintaining our public right-of-ways. One often overlooked aspect of this responsibility is the care of curb strips. These narrow patches of greenery enhance the aesthetics of our streets and contribute to the overall well-being of our community and environment. However, recent observations suggest that some residents may be unaware of the regulations surrounding the maintenance of curb strip grass.



Curb strip grass, those slender stretches of lawn between the sidewalk and the curb, offer more than just visual appeal. They help reduce soil erosion, absorb rainwater, and mitigate heat.

In our commitment to preserving the integrity of our community's landscape, it's crucial to adhere to local regulations concerning curb strip maintenance. Planting vegetation or trimming trees within these areas typically requires a permit. This ensures that any modifications are carried out responsibly and with consideration for the safety of drivers and pedestrians.

Unauthorized planting or trimming can have unintended consequences, such as obstructing pedestrian pathways, interfering with utility lines, or damaging existing infrastructure. Additionally, certain species of trees or plants may be invasive or incompatible with the local environment, posing long-term risks to the health of our urban ecosystem.

By working together to uphold these guidelines, we can ensure our neighborhoods remain inviting green havens for all to enjoy. Let's keep our streets beautiful, safe, and tree-friendly.

Thank you for your cooperation and dedication to maintaining our community!

It is the policy of the Village of West Milwaukee to assure equal opportunity to live in adequate housing facilities regardless of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, handicap, sexual preference, marital status of persons maintaining a household, lawful source of income, place of birth, or age, and to prohibit discrimination in housing by any persons.

In connection with any real estate transaction which affects any housing accommodation on the open market, or in connection with any public sale, purchase, rental or lease of any accommodation, it is illegal within West Milwaukee for a person, owner, financial institution, real estate broker or sales representative to:

- 1. Refuse to sell, purchase, rent or lease to a person because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, handicap, marital status, sexual preference, sex, age, or place of birth.
- 2. To discriminate against a person in the terms, conditions or privileges on the sale, purchase, rental or lease of any housing accommodation.

Any person who has a complaint, or who may be aggrieved by any unlawful practice which is prohibited by the Village ordinance (50-30) or State Statute (106.50), may file a complaint after the alleged unlawful practice has occurred. In addition to the local Code of Ordinances, an individual can pursue complaints under both State and Federal Fair Housing Laws. If a person chooses to pursue a complaint through a Federal Administrative Agency, the complaint must be filed with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) within one year of the last act of discrimination under the 1968 Federal Fair Housing Act (FFHA). To file a Federal Court Action under the FFHA one must file the complaint within two years of the act of discrimination. In addition, under the Civil Rights Act of 1866, which only applies to racial discrimination, a person has up to three years to file a judicial complaint. Additional contact telephone numbers for complaints include the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council (414-278-1240), the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (414-297-3214, Ext. 8300 or 8301), or the State of Wisconsin Equal Rights Division (414-227-4384).

RESPECT OUR WATERS

As the weather warms up and we start working on our yards, it's important to think about how we use fertilizer. Using too much fertilizer can harm lakes and rivers nearby, especially during a heavy rainfall. All those extra nutrients from the fertilizer can wash into the water and make it hard for plants and animals to survive.

To help keep our water safe, try using things like mulched leaves in your garden. Mulch naturally enriches soil and minimizes the need for chemical inputs, like fertilizers. If you need fertilizer make sure you apply it responsibility by testing your soil to see what it needs, making sure rain is not on the forecast, and by following the instructions of how much to apply. If you want to learn more about taking care of your yard, check out www.respectourwaters.org/yard-mgmt.



POP UP BEER GARDENS THURSDAYS 5 PM-9 PM JUNE 20, 2024

BEER: COMPONENT BREWING

MUSICIAN: RYAN MCINTYRE

FOOD TRUCKS: PINA MEXICAN EATS

TWO BROTHERS & THE SISTER

GAMES: WAWM REC DEPARTMENT

MEET & GREET ADOPTABLE DOGS: RESCUE GANG

JULY 25, 2024

BEER: COMPONENT BREWING
MUSICIAN: MARR'LO PARADA
FOOD TRUCKS: PINA MEXICAN EATS
TWO BROTHERS & THE SISTER
GAMES: WAWM REC DEPARTMENT
MEET & GREET ADOPTABLE DOGS: MADACC



November 2024 Referendum: Investing in the Future of West Allis-West Milwaukee School District.

This November, the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District is proposing a referendum aimed at addressing critical facility needs and investing in our dedicated educators and staff. This referendum does not include school consolidations. Instead, it focuses on enhancing our current infrastructure and retaining our talented staff.

Invest in our People

Retaining our dedicated staff is our top priority. We have a talented and passionate team who cares about our students, schools, and community. However, currently 50.3% of our staff have between 0-5 years of experience. According to exit interview data, the number one reason for leaving is compensation. Our staff compensation lags behind neighboring districts by about 6%. We want and need our educators and staff to stay. The proposed referendum would support increased compensation to attract and retain educators.

Invest in our Schools

Our district's buildings, with an average age of 80 years, are costly to maintain, consuming more funds than 85% of school districts statewide. The proposed referendum aims to address critical needs such as updating HVAC systems and roofing and enhancing safety measures. Investing now ensures a safer, more efficient learning environment for our students.

Engaging the Community

Throughout the school year, we have engaged with community members through referendum sessions. These sessions provided information regarding the proposed referendum and an opportunity for small group questions and discussion. We will continue to provide opportunities for engagement throughout the summer and fall. For the latest updates on the proposed referendum, we encourage you to visit our website wawmsd.org/discover/2024referendum. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant West Allis-West Milwaukee School District.

Enrollment

West Allis-West Milwaukee schools provide engaging learning experiences in classrooms where students are welcomed, challenged, and supported. Instruction is personalized and engaging and focuses on college/career readiness and 21st-century skill development. We develop school cultures where students, teachers, and families form strong relationships to support learning. Go to wawmsd.org/enroll for more information.

Stay Connected!

Follow us on social media to stay up to date on all the exciting happenings in our district! We highlight the learning, activities, and amazing people that make our district so special, along with district-wide events and important upcoming dates. Join us on Facebook and Instagram with #WAWMProud and #TheWestWay!





You belong here this summer...and ALWAYS with the WAWM RCS Department!

We are so excited to celebrate our 90th year of service with you! Kicking off our anniversary celebration this summer, we invite you to be on the lookout for some fun activities and events. Do you have pictures of yourself or your kids participating in our department programs, classes and events through the years that you would be willing to share? In 1958, a fire destroyed many of the historical documents of our department. As we reflect on our 90 years of service, we are working to capture as much of our history as we can and need your help to fill the gaps created by the documents that were lost in the fire.

Although many things have changed in 90 years, the one thing that has stayed consistent is our department's commitment to serve the community through valuable and enriching programs, events and services. As we celebrate our 90th year, we will also celebrate National Park and Recreation month this July. This year's theme, "Where You Belong," couldn't fit any better with our anniversary. In addition to celebrating our 90th year of service, join us in acknowledging the many ways our staff fosters a sense of belonging in West Allis and West Milwaukee by providing welcoming and inclusive programs, essential services for all ages and abilities, and safe and accessible spaces, all in an effort to build meaningful connections throughout the community for years to come.

Thank you for being a part of our 90-year journey to where we are today. We have many exciting events in the works along with the completion of our new addition at 2450 S. 68th Street. If you haven't been out to see our Recreation Center, please stop by for a tour and share your favorite recreation stories with us! You belong here with us as we look forward to our next 90 years serving West Allis and West Milwaukee!





UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS

Father/Son Mini Golf Tourney * Saturday, June 15 4-6pm Recreation Center

FREE Summer Family Outdoor Movie Series Rec on the Run begins at 6pm Movie Starts at

> Friday, June 7 - LaFollette Park Friday, July 12 - WA Athletics Complex Friday, August 16 - Recreation Center

> S'mores and More Family Campout* Friday, July 26 6pm - Saturday, July 27 9am

FREE Classics at the Creek

Honey Creek Park Beer Garden starts at 6pm | Movie begins at

Wednesday, June 19 Wednesday, July 24 Wednesday, August 14

FREE Throwback Summer Playground

6-8:30pm

Friday, June 14 - Klentz Park Friday, July 19 - Liberty Heights Park

FREE Family Music at Burnham Pointe Park Series

> Wednesday, June 26 6-8pm Wednesday, July 17 6-8pm

Run-Free Marathon*

Saturday, July 20 3-5pm Klentz Park

*Registration Required - FEE

SILVER CITY FEST

Be part of VIA's 13th annual Silver City Fest presented by Ethnic and Diverse Business Coalition (EDBC) on Saturday, September 7th from 12pm – 5pm on National Avenue between 32nd & 35th St. The Silver City Fest is a vibrant and lively event that celebrates the diversity and culture of our communities. Enjoy and experience Milwaukee's local businesses, music, dance, food and art scene at this annual event. Don't miss this FREE opportunity to embrace the unique flavors and traditions that make our community so special!

For more information please visit viacdc.org.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

LOVE DOES NOT HURT.

END THE VIOLENCE NOW.

24/7 HOTLINE ______ 414-219-5555



WISCONSIN STATE FAIR

THURSDAY AUGUST 1—SUNDAY AUGUST 11

HOURS:

SUNDAY— WEDNESDAY 10 AM - 10 PM THURSDAY— SATURDAY 10 AM - MIDNIGHT

WISCONSIN STATE FAIR PARK 640 S. 84TH ST WEST ALLIS, WI

2024 SPRING CLEANUP RECAP

Our recent community cleanup event was a great success, thanks to the incredible efforts of dedicated volunteers and donors; including Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful (KGMB), Product Service and Manufacturing, Culver's and Dunkin' of West Milwaukee! We tackled litter and debris, transforming our neighborhood into a cleaner, more vibrant space. Together, we collected 1740 pounds of trash, showing the power of collective action in making a positive impact. Beyond the physical cleanup, the event brought us closer together as a community, fostering connections and a sense of pride in our shared surroundings. Let's keep the momentum going and continue to work together towards a cleaner, greener future for all. Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to making our community a better place for everyone!



BIKE HELMET PROGRAM

With summer fast approaching it is important for your child to have a bike helmet that fits properly, and the West Allis Health Department can help. Call us at 414-302-8600 to make an appointment for a bike helmet fitting or to purchase a low-cost children's bike helmet for \$12.

LGBTQI+ SERVICES

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is committed to inclusive mental health support for all. Specialized LGBTQI+ services are available nationwide for youth and young adults to con-

nect with a skilled, compassionate counselor 24/7 via text, call, and chat. Here's how to use LGBTQI+ services to access specialized mental health support: text PRIDE to 988, press 3 when calling 988, or select LGBTQI+ in the pre-chat survey at 988lifeline.org



2024 WEST MILWAUKEE REVALUATION

Property Assessments and Taxes: Common Questions and Answers for Property Owners

As a property owner and taxpayer, Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc. (AAC) and the Village of West Milwaukee want to help you better understand the assessment process and Wisconsin's property tax system.

Why is my property being reassessed?

Assessors are required by law to update assessments and assessment records annually. State law also requires that each municipality update assessed values to reflect changes in market conditions as often as possible to maintain fair and equitable property taxation. A reassessment has no impact on the total amount of tax revenue collected but it might change the amount you owe.

How are property taxes calculated?

There are four components to your property tax.

- The tax levy is the amount of revenue needed to support entities such as your municipality, school district, county, and technical college.
- The tax base is the total assessed value of all the area's properties and is the role of the assessor.
- The tax levy is divided by the tax base to get the tax rate (aka "mill rate").
- This tax rate is then multiplied by your property's assessed value. This calculation results in the amount of property taxes you owe.

Does a change in my assessed value impact my property taxes?

A change in assessed value doesn't always mean an increase or decrease in property taxes. During a year when all assessed values in your municipality are being increased to full market value, the tax rates will generally decrease proportionally. What matters is whether your assessment (on a percentage basis) has increased or decreased more than the municipality's overall percentage change. This market update revaluation has resulted in an overall estimated increase of 35% in the total assessed value of real estate within the Village of West Milwaukee.

What do assessors look at when determining my property's value?

Assessors will consider all factors that may affect the value of your property, including size, construction type, age, amenities, location, and condition. They also must consider fair market value (which is what a typical buyer would pay for the property), as well as historical property data, home inspection findings and market trends. The best indication of your property's value is a comparison to similar properties in your area that have been recently sold on the open market.

Do all assessments change at the same rate?

No, not all assessments change at the same rate. The recent activity of buyers and sellers in the community will dictate which types of property values are increasing more quickly than others. In one area, sales may have increased substantially while in another neighborhood, there may not be any change or even a decrease in property values. Different types of properties within the same neighborhood may also show different value changes. For example, one-story homes may be in more demand than two-story homes or vice versa, or older homes may be selling at a much higher rate.

What is mass appraisal or mass assessment?

Municipalities hire AAC to perform mass appraisal or mass assessment services on their behalf. We use consistent processes to collect property data and analyze local real estate sales. Mass appraisal is the process of appraising all properties in a municipality using a valuation model that is based on actual sales data, customized to fit local market conditions, and applied to individual properties based on each property's unique attributes. The advantage of the mass appraisal process is that it produces uniform and consistent appraisal values, which helps to ensure fair and equitable tax distribution.

What is the role of the assessor as it relates to property taxes?

It's important to understand that assessors don't determine tax rates or collect property taxes. An assessor also doesn't create the assessed value of a property, but rather interprets what is happening in the marketplace through real estate sales.

Does the assessment process include an interior inspection?

In many cases, interior inspections aren't needed. If your municipality has requested an interior inspection and you don't allow access, the assessor will base your valuation on the next best information available, such as existing property records, building permits, etc. It's generally in your best interest to allow the assessor to view the interior to make sure that your assessment is based on current and complete information about your home.

What rights do I have as a property owner?

You have several rights as a Wisconsin property owner, including receiving notice of an inspection during a revaluation year, the right to say "no" to an inspection or speak with us, and the right to appeal an assessment. However, agreeing to speak with assessors when requested, and allowing them to view the property, will ensure that they are using current and complete information when making a valuation.

Scan the QR codes for more information on "What to Expect When Your Property is Assessed" & "Understanding Your Tax Bill."

You'll find answers to more questions about the assessment process on our website www.apraz.com.









Village of West Milwaukee 4755 West Beloit Road West Milwaukee, WI 53214 PRSRT STD US POSTAGE P A I D 53151 PERMIT NO.188



Official Publication of the Village of West Milwaukee

Police Department Emergency	911	Village President, John Stalewski	(414) 645-1530 ext. 126
Police Department Non-Emergency (24 hours)	(414) 645-2151	Village Administrator, Kim Egan	(414) 645-1530 ext. 131
Police Night Parking Permission	(414) 671-8093	Village Clerk/Treasurer, Susan Schupp	(414) 645-1530 ext. 124
Police Chief	(414) 645-2151	Superintendent of Public Works, Jim Stenzel	(414) 645-1530 ext. 160

Clerk/Treasurer's Department	8:00 a.m.— 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday	(414) 645-1530
Department of Public Works	7:00 a.m.— 3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday	(414) 645-6238

Village Hall	4755 W. Beloit Rd.	(414) 645-1530	Property Maintenance Inspectors, Joe	(414) 645-1530 ext. 129
Municipal Court Room	1345 S. 47th St.	(414) 645-5411	VanDerLinden and Rick Durica	
Community Centre'	1345 S. 47th St.	(414) 645-1530	Building Inspector (SAFEbuilt)	(414) 645-1530 ext. 127
West Milwaukee Post Office	4300 W. Lincoln Ave.	(414) 643-0443	Court Clerk	(414) 645-5411
Health Department (West Allis)	7120 W. National Ave.	(414) 302-8600		,
W.A. W.M. School District	1205 S. 70th St.	(414) 604-3000	Assessor, Associated Appraisal	(920) 731-4158
W.A.W.M. Recreation Department	2450 S. 68th St.	(414) 604-4900		

Village Board of West Milwaukee

John Stalewski Village Presiden
Jane Edgar Village Trustee
Todd Hill Village Trustee
Dominic Greenfield Village Trustee
John Ragonese Village Trustee
Craig Schaefer Village Trustee
Steve Schuettke Village Trustee

Village President
Village Trustee

Email Addresses:

Village: general@westmilwaukeewi.gov Police: police@westmilwaukeewi.gov

These mailboxes are not continuously monitored and should never be used in emergencies.