

TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Quarterly Newsletter

www.townofrockland.org

Summer 2015

Rockland Town Hall

1712 Bob-Bea-Jan Road

Phone: 336-2814

Website: www.TownofRockland.org

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Alan Lasee, 366-3859

Vicky Van Vonderen, 609-7724

Clerk

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jcharette@townofrockland.org

Treasurer/Dog Licenses

Mary Van Dyck, 336-5968

Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector

Bob Gerbers, 655-8602

Assessor

Robert Taicher, 863-6454

Planning Commission Secretary

Jann Charette, 336-2814

Board of Appeals

Frank Hutjens, 336-9359

Town Hall Rentals

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kwinkler@townofrockland.org

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A Note from the Chairman:

Scott Construction has started seal coating roads in our township. This year's road projects consist of Alcor Trail and Mizar Trace, Ryan Road, Pouwels Court, Meadow Ledge Court, Neinhaus Drive and Vander Wegen Drive. We are also doing parts of Big Valley Road, Lasee Road, Shirley Road and Wrightstown Road. All of the roads listed will have wedging and seal coating done to them. We also added gravel to the shoulders on a three mile stretch of Shirley Road.

There are two projects that will go out for bid this month. First project, a cul-de-sac added to Cashman Drive. This project also will bring the road up to Rockland Town Road standards. Second project will correct the drainage issues on Stonewall Drive, Seven Oaks and part of Hickory Ridge Drive and Old Military Road.

Greenleaf Greenscapes has started cutting grass on our town road ditches. They will be cut again in fall. As a reminder, please do not dump stones or other debris in the town ditches.

On Sunday, July 19th, 2015, the Greenleaf Volunteer Fire Department Annual Picnic will take place. It is held at the Park in Greenleaf on Hwy 57 and it's the only fundraiser they have, so please help support your volunteer Fire Department.

Enjoy the summer weather and hope to see you at the next Town Board Meeting.

Thank you,

Dennis J. Cashman

Hello Rockland Residents, I hope your summer is going well.

Here is a brief update on our Comprehensive Plan Open House scheduled for later this month.

Comprehensive Plan Open House
Monday, July 27, 2015 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm
Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m..
Rockland Town Hall



This public hearing is intended to receive public comment on the proposed amendments to the comprehensive plan which include new data, maps, projections, goals, and objectives.

The draft plan was developed by the Town of Rockland in cooperation with the Brown County Planning Commission to meet the requirements of Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law.

The plan addresses all nine elements that the comprehensive planning law requires and includes broad-based goals, as well as specific policies and programs for the Town. The Town of Rockland is nearing the final steps to adopting its comprehensive plan and would appreciate any comments that you may have.

A draft of the Town of Rockland Comprehensive Plan, as recommended by the Rockland Planning Commission, is available for review from the Brown County Planning Commission website at: www.co.brown.wi.us/planning and clicking on the "Local Assistance" link on the left. A draft is also included on our Town of Rockland website, TownofRockland.org. Paper copies are also available in the Clerk's Office.

Please attend our open house. This is a good opportunity to discuss our plans for the Town of Rockland with you.

I hope to see you at our Open House, if not there, please attend our regularly scheduled Town Board meetings on the first and third Mondays of the month. All information pertaining to any of our meetings can be found at the Town Hall or on our website: TownofRockland.org.

Take care and as always, thank you for your support.

Vicky Van Vonderen, Supervisor

ROAD CLOSURE:

Please note that the intersection of State Highway 32/57 and County Highway X (Heritage Road) will be closed starting July 13, 2015 in order to construct a round-a-bout at that location. These roads are scheduled to reopen the week of October 5, 2015. Please make sure to locate an alternative route during this period of construction!



A Note From Supervisor Alan Lasee.....

It was nearly 45 years ago when I was first elected to serve on our Rockland town board. I was privileged to serve 30 years as chairman. So this letter will be somewhat different for our newsletter. Remembering and comparing. The cost of government at all levels grows at an alarming rate. We have a national government out of control spending with over \$18 trillion in debt. That ought to scare everyone, a state government that's prepared to spend \$70 billion for the next 2 years. (Wis population is less than 4 million people). Likewise our township is preparing to go into debt as well by borrowing upwards of \$350,000 for a small road drainage project. (\$65,000 has been spent on engineering study to tell us water runs downhill.) My preference would have been, hire a contractor, take a transit, shoot the grades and clean the ditches and drain the water. Things are just done differently today. Forty years ago building permits for a home were \$40.00. Today, they are \$750 to start with and a \$1,000 deposit just for starters. If you own land, you will pay \$200 to Rockland to sell a piece of it. Rockland also charges \$400 for a permit to tear down a building and clean up your property. We justify all of the above by saying, **OTHER TOWNS DO IT.** The people who serve our township are good people, all of them, it's just that I am older and have a different opinion and appreciate the really good old days. I was asked to write an article for this newsletter and I did.

A NOTE FROM THE GREENLEAF FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Greenleaf Fire Department would like to remind everyone that on average 35% of all fires are caused by heating – second only to cooking. This includes 400 deaths, 1,700 injuries and over \$900 million in property damage each year. By taking a few simple steps, you can avoid becoming one of these statistics.

Never heat your home with your oven. Have heating equipment such as furnaces, fireplaces, indoor stoves/wood/pellet burners and water heaters installed and checked annually by qualified professionals, including the venting system. If the heating equipment produces ash, be sure ashes have cooled before disposing of them in a metal container placed outside a safe distance from the building. Fireplaces should have doors or a protective screen on them to keep embers in check.

Space heaters are becoming popular. Before purchasing one be sure it contains a UL label and that the circuit you are going to connect it to is heavy enough to handle the load. Never use an extension cord, be sure they are turned off before going to bed or when leaving the home or room. Also, watch so animals don't tip them over. If your space heater is fuel fired, only use the manufacturers recommended fuel type and observe proper venting techniques. If the outside of any space heater becomes hot, you will need some type of nonflammable screen to protect pets and children from burns.

Keep at least 3 feet of clearance around all sealed heating equipment such as furnaces, water heaters and electric space heaters. All other devices that have an active flame such as fireplaces, fuel fired space heaters and wood/pellet stoves require a minimum of 10 feet.

And, most importantly, be sure you have working smoke and CO detectors in your home. Test them monthly and change detectors/batteries per manufacturer recommendations.

In closing, over this past year we have reached a new milestone of running more than 1 call per week. We would like to remind citizens to always remain fire conscious throughout the year and hope to see you at our annual fund raiser; the Greenleaf Fireman's Picnic on Sunday, July 19.



SUMMER IS HERE From Your Treasurer Mary Van Dyck

Hello to all of you and welcome to all of the new residents of the Town of Rockland. I know summer is busy but please keep up the good work of recycling. Just a reminder that plastic containers, tubs, and bottles as well as soup and juice cartons are now accepted for recycling. No plastic bags of any kind are accepted for recycling. The plastic bags must be taken to the stores for recycling. Please do not put in your recycling bin.

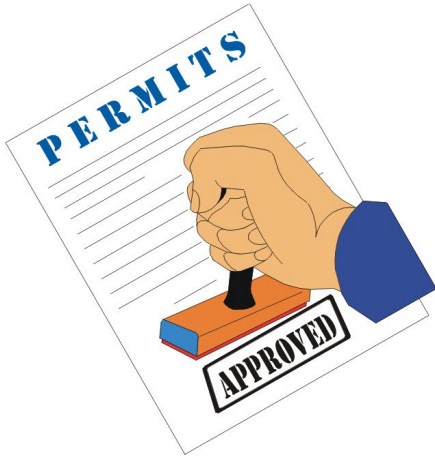
Also do not put tires, wood, appliances, electronics, garden hoses, or any plastic furniture in the recycling. These items are not accepted in our recycling bins. If you have questions about what can be recycled go to the Brown County website for the guide. This is the website www.BrownCountyRecycling.org



Remember that if you pay your taxes in two installments, the second installment is due on July 31. You can mail your taxes to Brown County Treasurer at P.O. Box 23600, Green Bay, WI 54301-23600.

Have a great summer and keep recycling for the Town of Rockland.

BUILDING PERMIT PROCESS: Whether it is for a new home, a remodel, pool, fence, pond, accessory building, demolition of an old building, installation of a culvert, or many other projects, a permit is required. So please make sure to plan for these prior to beginning your project by contacting Bob Gerbers, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator, at (920) 655-8602, to arrange for a review of your proposed project. Starting your project without the correct permit can result in after the fact fees that are doubled and possibly even fines and forfeitures. For more information, please visit the Town's website at www.townofrockland.org and click on Town Officials/Building Inspector. Forms can be located under the License, Permits & Forms link as well.



* **CALLING ALL CRAFTERS:** It's time to get registered for the annual Rockland Craft Sale, Saturday, October 10, 2015, at the town hall. All money raised goes back towards the cost of the Town's newsletter. Reserve your spot now: \$12.50 (non-refundable) plus \$5.00 for each 8' table, gets you a 10' x 10' space. Accepting registrations from only Rockland residents until August 1st. Open registration: August 2nd until filled. Send your check, payable to the Town of Rockland, to Judy Schwalbach, 1090 Moonriver Drive, De Pere, WI 54115 or call her at (920) 532-6330 or e-mail her at judyschwalbach@netzero.com.



A note from Bob Gerbers, Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector....

I thought I would take a moment to address some of the many questions I have been receiving these past months and inform you of some of the revisions made to our Code of Ordinances.

Permit Requirements:

As noted earlier in this newsletter, a permit is required for many of the projects you will be undertaking on your property. Projects such as re-siding, re-roofing, replacing a furnace/AC unit, installing new windows or new driveways that the Town views as “maintenance” do not require a permit. Please contact me at (920) 655-8602 prior to starting your project to discuss whether your project will need a permit. All building permit inspections for new or remodeling projects are funded through the permit fees.

A word of caution.... If you intend to construct, alter, or finish any structure or part of a structure, choose a reputable contractor who is state certified, insured, and who obtains a permit prior to the start of the project. This will insure that your financial institution and insurance company will cover your project.

Accessory Structures:

Please note that no accessory structure can be erected or moved onto any parcel without a principal structure on that parcel. The size of a non-farm related accessory structure being placed on an approved parcel depends on the size of your parcel. Please see the chart below:

<u>Size of Parcel</u>	<u>Maximum Square Footage of Accessory Building</u>
.99 acre or less	450 square feet
1.0-1.99 acres	1000 square feet
2.0-2.99 acres	1400 square feet
3.0-3.99 acres	1600 square feet
4.0-4.99 acres	2000 square feet
5 or more acres	2500 square feet

Recent Changes:

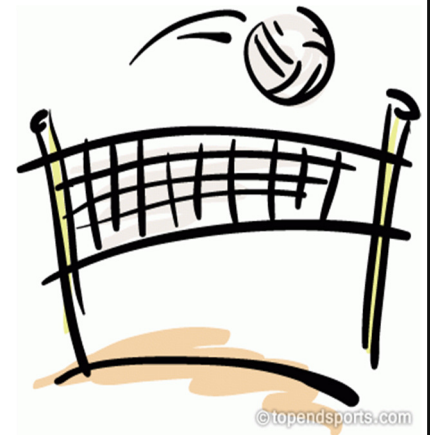
All existing parcels which did not receive prior approval by the Planning Commission and Town Board will require a land use permit prior to any development occurring on that parcel. The Board adopted this new requirement to address parcels that were created or split which do not meet the standards set forth in the Code of Ordinances.

The Town Board also revised the Rockland Town Road Standards. The revisions increased the length of all culverts in the Town Right-of-Way used for entering farms, farm field access points, and businesses. These types of culverts must now be a minimum of 18 inches in diameter and 40 feet in length with endwalls in order to support the larger farm and manure hauling equipment and to protect the edges, shoulders, and overall life of our narrow town roadways. Additionally, please note that a permit is required for all culvert construction or replacement of a culvert in the Town right of way regardless of whether it is on residential, agricultural, or commercial zoned property.

Please note that many of your questions also can be addressed by going to the Town’s Website at www.townofrockland.org.—click on Code of Ordinances. Thank you!

94th Annual Greenleaf Fireman's Picnic- July 19, 2014

Mark your calendars for a fun day at the Greenleaf Volunteer Fireman's Picnic located at Greenleaf Fireman's Park just north of Greenleaf on State Highway 57. The picnic runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. As always, there will be great food such as booyah, burgers, homemade baked goods and plenty of refreshments. Raffle tickets are being sold for a chance to win cash prizes. Tickets costs \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00 and can be picked up at the town hall prior to July 15th or at the park on the day of the picnic. Entertainment includes a DJ, games, amusement rides and a bucket brigade. The picnic will also hold its First Annual Coed Blindman's Volleyball Competition which starts at 11 a.m. Registration fee is \$5.00 for each team. Must be fourteen years or older to participate with authorization/release of parent. Teams will consist of six players (2 of which must be female). This is a double elimination—best of three competition. For rules and to register, e-mail greenleaffire@new.rr.com. Place "volleyball" in the subject line. Please support our Greenleaf Fire Department by joining them on Sunday, July 19th!



2015 Brown County Fair- Wednesday, August 19- Sunday, August 23, 2015.



Congratulations to Rockland's Heather Duquaine who was selected as 2015 Brown County's Fairest of the Fair. Heather is the daughter of David and Deborah Duquaine and a graduate of De Pere High School. She is pursuing a degree in elementary and middle childhood education at UW-Green Bay. As a future teacher, Duquaine would like to teach about agriculture in her classroom, sharing aquaponics and hatching chicks. Her goals are to be a 4-H leader and own a hobby farm. If you would like to see Heather and enjoy the many entertaining events the Brown County Fair has to offer, please attend this year's event. For more information, please call 336-7292 or go to www.browncountyfair.com.

Town Hall Rental: We have many residents who have taken advantage of renting our beautiful town hall for their shower, graduation party, birthday party, wedding reception, and more. If you would like to do the same for your special event, please go to www.townofrockland.org and click on resident information and

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