

TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Quarterly Newsletter

www.townofrockland.org

Fall 2014

Rockland Town Hall

1712 Bob-Bea-Jan Road

Phone: 336-2814

Website: www.TownofRockland.org

Chairman

Dennis Cashman, 336-7814

Supervisors

Glen Schwalbach, 532-6330

Vicky Van Vonderen, 609-7724

Clerk

Jann Charette, 336-2814

jcharette@townofrockland.org

Treasurer/Recycling Bins/Dog Licenses

Mary Van Dyck, 336-5968

Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector

Bob Gerbers, 655-8602

Assessor

Robert Taicher, 863-6454

Planning Commission Board

Vicky Van Vonderen, 609-7724

Board of Appeals

Frank Hutjens, 336-9359

Town Hall Rentals

Joan Zillges, 360-5789

jzillges@townofrockland.org

Harter Fox Valley Disposal

Garbage and Recycling Service

1-888-804-8556

A Note from the Chairman:

This past summer we upgraded many of our regulatory and warning signs on our town roads. The old signs were replaced because of fading from sun light. The new signs are highly reflective and much easier to see at night. We also added some warning signs on a few roads. All of the new signs and posts were installed by the Brown County Highway Department.

We will be cutting the grass to the backside of the ditches on all town roads later this fall. Please do not dump rocks or stones in the ditches; this is unsafe and hard on the contractor's equipment.

With fall harvesting approaching for farmers, there will be more tractors and trucks using the roads. This is a busy time of the year for farmers, so please be patient and drive safely around farm equipment.

Enjoy this beautiful fall season and hope to see you at the next town board meeting.

Thank you,

Dennis J. Cashman



Halloween Trick or Treat Hours: Friday, October 31st from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating, please leave your porch lights on; this is the universal "open for trick or treating" sign that candy seekers look for.

Hello Rockland Residents,

Almost every day, there is something in the news regarding our upcoming election. So I thought I would write this article to help provide you with the facts. But before I do that, please note that you can obtain much of the election information you need under the quick reference section at the Government Accountability Board website at gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/photo-id. This includes information on how to obtain a **free Photo ID from the Department of Transportation**. Please take a look when you have time.

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, as of April 4, 2014, Wisconsin law requires all voters to provide a document establishing their proof of residence as part of the voter registration application. Therefore, if you are new to Rockland or are a first time elector (who is not a military elector or a permanent overseas elector) you will need to provide a valid proof of residency regardless of how and when you register. To view the list of acceptable forms for proof of residency, please go to http://gab.wi.gov/sites/default/files/publication/154/proof_of_residence_pdf_15105.pdf.

More recently, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago stayed the injunction against the voter photo ID provisions of 2011 Wisconsin Act 23. Consequently, electors, are now required to provide a valid proof of identification prior to receiving a ballot (either absentee or in person) for the November election. This requirement does not apply to active military electors, permanent overseas electors, confidential electors, or an indefinitely confined electors. **I am enclosing an insert in this newsletter explaining what serves as an acceptable Photo ID and what is required for absentee voting.**

What does this mean for the Tuesday, November 4, 2014 General Election?

- 1) If you wish to vote **absentee by mail**, please make your request in writing and send your request to me by mail: 1712 Bob-Bea-Jan Road, De Pere, WI 54115; or by fax to: 920-336-5565; or by e-mail to: jcharette@townofrockland.org. The absentee ballot request form is available at <http://gab.wi.gov/forms/gab-121-english>. Please note that this form is not required but merely recommended. Please submit your written request **along with a copy of your PHOTO ID** to me no later than Thursday, October 30, 2014.
- 2) If you wish to vote **absentee in person** in the Clerk's office during in person absentee voting hours, starting Monday, October 20, 2014, you can do so by bringing in a **valid proof of identification** when you come to vote. Hours for voting in person absentee are Monday-Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The last day to vote in person absentee is Friday, October 31, 2014. Office hours for October 31, 2014 will be 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. I will also be available evenings on Monday, October 20th, Tuesday, October 21st, and Wednesday, October 29th prior to meetings scheduled on those nights. Please call me at 336-2814 if you would like to meet at the town hall on those evenings to vote absentee in person. Voting must be done prior to 7 p.m. and cannot be done on weekends.
- 3) If you wish to vote on Election Day and have not registered in Rockland, you can go to www.myvote.wi.gov and complete a registration application online. You will still need to provide a **valid proof of residency** whether you register by mail or in person on Election Day.
- 4) If you wish to vote on Election Day and are already registered, you will need to provide a **valid proof of identification** on Election Day. **Please see the insert in this newsletter.**

The polls will be open on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that the Project Vote Challenge (www.project-vote.org) will take place for this election. The municipality in Brown County with the highest voter turnout is eligible to receive a trophy and public recognition! I hope to see you on Election Day, if not before- Jann Charette, Clerk

Hello, everyone.

Fall brings the Hunting Season. Thought you might like a reminder on some hunting/shooting changes. Last year, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) eliminated the "Shotgun Only" areas which affected our county as well as neighboring counties. Note that, previously, the "Shotgun Only" restrictions were only in effect during deer hunting season.

The DNR allowed rifles statewide for three main reasons. First, the experiences of other states over a number of years. Second, "Shotgun Only" areas were eliminated in southeastern Wisconsin counties with good results a number of years ago. Third, a study from the University of Pennsylvania with a branch of the armed forces threw a new light on the hazards of shotguns vs. rifles.

In the University of Pennsylvania study, the testing showed that shotgun slugs used for deer hunting ricocheted further than rifle bullets when held at an elevation of zero degrees as is generally the case with our terrain and shooting distances. In their tests, the 30.06 rifle bullet had an average initial impact of distance of 1408 feet and an additional ricochet distance of 3427 feet for a total of 4835 feet. The 50-cal shotgun slug did 840 feet and 4365 feet, respectively, for a total of 5205 feet. At five degrees elevation, the shotgun still was a concern because, even though its total distance could be 6900 feet vs. the rifle at 8800 feet when each ricocheted, the shotgun slug was more than twice as likely to ricochet at this elevation than the rifle bullet.

Some have characterized the study as showing that rifles are as safe as shotguns. But the actual conclusion and important lesson is that shotguns are as dangerous as rifles at typical shooting angles.

Based upon discussions with the DNR, other towns, and the Town's attorney and general research, your Town Board has no plans to restrict the use of firearms other than to follow state rules.

There are many changes to the deer hunting regulations this year including changes to the licensing of crossbows. For more information on these changes, please go to www.dnr.wi.gov.

Have a safe fall and hunting season.

Glen R. Schwalbach, cell phone: 920-680-2436, email: glenschwalbach@netzero.com

	<p>ROCKLAND CRAFT SALE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH 9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M. ROCKLAND TOWN HALL</p>
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Hello Rockland Residents,

In April 2014, Wisconsin Act 377 regarding Implement of Husbandry (IoH) was signed into law. Implement of Husbandry is “a self-propelled or towed vehicle manufactured, designed, or reconstructed to be used exclusively in the conduct of agriculture.” Wisconsin State Statute 340.01(24)(a)

This Act was needed to address the following:

- 1) The increasing size and weight of agricultural equipment; 2) the need to maintain roads balancing agriculture’s need and town/county responsibility; and 3) to provide safe roads and bridges for all.

This Act contains:

- 1) The definitions for IoH and Agriculture Commercial Motor Vehicles (Ag CMV); 2) Lighting and marking requirements; 3) Rules of the road; 4) Disclosure in sales; and 5) Local options for enforcement and no fee permits

By January 15, 2015, the Town Board must adopt an acceptable option to govern IoH and AG CMV operation on our town roads. We will be reviewing these options with our surrounding towns and with Brown County. Act 377 will be a future agenda item for us. Our agenda and minutes can be found on our website: TownofRockland.org.

A copy of the definitions in Act 377 presented to the town at the annual fall town workshop follows this article below and on page 3.

Enjoy our fall colors as they start to develop and as always, take care and thank you for your support!

Vicky Van Vonderen, Supervisor (920) 609-7724 ; vvanvonderen@townofrockland.org

Definition of Implement of Husbandry (IoH) 340.01(24)(a)

- (1) A self-propelled or towed vehicle manufactured, designed, or reconstructed to be used and that is exclusively used in the conduct of agriculture. An implement of husbandry may also include any of the following:

A. A farm tractor (referred to as Category A)

B. A self-propelled combine; a self-propelled forage harvester; self-propelled fertilizer or pesticide application equipment but not including manure application equipment, towed tillage, planting, and cultivation equipment and its towing power unit; or another self-propelled vehicle that directly engages in harvesting farm products, directly applies fertilizer, spray, or seeds but not manure, or distributes feed to livestock (referred to as Category B)

C. A farm wagon, farm trailer, manure trailer, or trailer adapted to be towed by or to tow or pull, another implement of husbandry (referred to as Category C)

- (2) A combination of vehicles in which each vehicle in the vehicle combination is an implement of husbandry as described in subd. 1. or in which an implement of husbandry described in subd. 1. c. is towed by a farm truck, farm truck tractor, or motor truck.

(b) “Implement of husbandry” does not include any of the following:

1. An agricultural commercial motor vehicle.

2. A vehicle that, notwithstanding s. 340.01(8), is a commercial motor vehicle under 49 CFR 390.5 (A commercial motor vehicle (CMV) in this definition is based on the federal definition. In this definition, a CMV has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of 10,001 pounds or more, whichever is greater.)

Definition of an Agricultural Commercial Motor Vehicle 340.01(1o)

Agricultural Commercial Motor Vehicle (Ag CMV) means a commercial motor vehicle to which all of the following apply:

A. Substantially designed or equipped, or materially altered from its original construction, for the purpose of agricultural use

B. Designed and manufactured primarily for highway use

C. Manufactured to meet federal motor vehicle safety standard certification label requirements 49 CFR 567, after 1970

D. Used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations

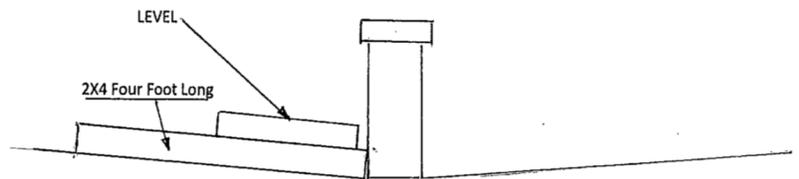
E. Is directly engaged in harvesting farm products, directly applies fertilizer, spray or seeds to a farm field, or distributes feed to livestock

GROUNDWATER WELL MAINTENANCE:

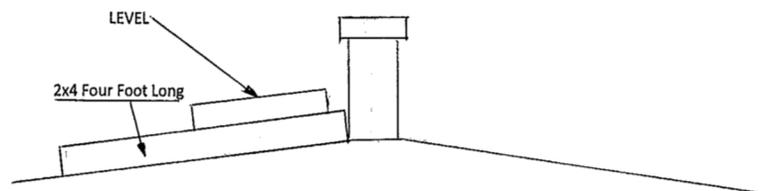
Recently, a lot of news articles have discussed drinking water quality and contaminated wells. A common problem can cause your well to be compromised over time. Settling of the ground around the well casing can allow potential contaminants such as fertilizer or animal waste to enter the ground water via the well casing.

Using a simple test, you can check your well casing using a level and a four foot 2 x 4 board. Lay the 2 x 4 board on the ground with one end against the well casing. Set the level on the board (see sketch on right above).

Look to see if the ground slopes to or away from the well casing. If it slopes away (see sketch to the right), you're okay. However, if it does not, you need place fill around the casing. A good rule is 1" pitch per foot. Usually a few wheel barrows of dirt will do it.



Check to see if ground has settled toward the well casing.



Fill to create slope away from well casing.

Make sure to check your well casing on a yearly basis, because settling may continue.

RECYCLING

In the recent months there has been an increase in things that DO NOT belong in your recycling bin. The Brown County Transfer Station is requiring that drivers take the non-recyclable material with them. This ends up taking time and costs money. Please DO NOT put any tires, wood, appliances, electronics, garden hoses, and plastic furniture in your recycling. DO NOT put plastic bags of any kind in your recycling bin. These may be recycled at stores such as Shopko and Walmart.

The materials that should go in your recycling bin are: aluminum cans, steel and bi-metal cans, glass containers, plastic bottles and jugs that have the plastic code #1 or #2 on the bottom of the container, paper and cardboard.

These are the materials that everyone in the state is required to recycle whether it is from a residential property, business, or an event. Please rinse your cans, bottles, and glass containers before putting them in the recycling bin.

The Brown County Hazardous Waste Facility is open on Thursday from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This facility will take items that do not belong in the landfill and which cannot be recycled. Also, Harter's will pick up larger refuse items on the fourth Wednesday of each month when given prior notice. Their phone number is 888-804-8556.

Please keep recycling and if you have questions, do not hesitate to call me at 336-5968 or email at mvandyck@townofrockland.org.

WANTED: Deputy Treasurer

Also, I am still looking for a deputy treasurer. Some of the responsibilities of the treasurer are to receive and disburse town money, keep an itemized account of all money received and disbursed, present the account books and supporting documents, deposit the town money into the proper accounts at the bank, and perform all duties relating to taxation. Each month, the treasurer reconciles the bank statements and prepares a treasurer report for the town board. The Treasurer works closely with the Clerk and must be available to attend meetings and be bonded.

If you are interested in learning more about the Deputy Treasurer position, please call me at 336-5968 or email me at mvandyck@townofrockland.org. Thank you!

Mary Van Dyck– Treasurer

ROCKLAND 4H: Will be having a bake sale, food booth, and booyah sale at the Rockland Craft Sale on Saturday, October 11th. Come early for the best bakery. Booyah will be available for carry out or eat in. Proceeds from the sale are applied toward the costs of the Rockland Newsletter.

PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES! THANK YOU!

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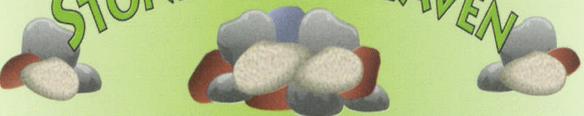
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