

THE WIRE

What's going on in the Village of Weston



SPRING 2022

- ▶ Message from Administrator
- ▶ Parks Department
- ▶ SAFER
- ▶ New Fire Chief
- ▶ Electronics Recycling Event
- ▶ PFAS
- ▶ Water Main Flushing
- ▶ 2022 Street Improvements
- ▶ Everest Metro Police Department
- ▶ Spring Yard Materials Pick-up
- ▶ Home Composter Bin Sale
- ▶ Spring Bulk Item Drop Off (**NEW DATE**)

Check out our Facebook page ([facebook.com/WestonWisconsin](https://www.facebook.com/WestonWisconsin)) or our website ([westonwi.gov](https://www.westonwi.gov)) for the most current news and events.

FROM YOUR ADMINISTRATOR

By Keith Donner, Administrator



2022 promises to be a challenging and exciting year for the Village. Here are some higher profile items in front of us this year.

Municipal Facility Project

The construction of the new facility at 4747 Camp Phillips Road is now in its 9th month. In the last newsletter it was mentioned that the general contractor, Miron Construction, was preparing to set precast wall panels, an economical construction technique that saves an estimated 25% compared to built-in place masonry walls. The last precast panels were installed on December 27, 2021.

With the building enclosed Miron was able to begin work on the Administration offices in January.

Window openings were temporarily closed with plastic so the space could be heated allowing concrete and drywall work to proceed. Framing and drywall construction for offices is being coordinated with plumbing, electrical, and HVAC installation. As of the writing of this article the framing is complete inside the Administration offices. Second floor drywall is about 50% complete and electrical wiring is being pulled. Electrical conduits and HVAC work are starting on the 1st floor. Pouring of the concrete for the garage floor is scheduled to begin by the 2nd week of April.



East Building elevation looking south-southeast, March 22, 2022

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The project remains on schedule for an early fall completion. That will be followed by a major move. The projected cost of the new building, exclusive of land remains \$15,640,000, as it was when the Village's contract was signed with Miron Construction in 2021

For background on the project please visit the *Village Website* and click on the "**Building to Serve**" icon or follow this link <https://www.westonwi.gov/752/Building-to-Serve>

Please e-mail comments to buildingtoserve@westonwi.gov

Development Activity

It's always good news to be able to highlight new developments in the Village.

Early this year **Denyon Homes** finalized a subdivision plat for Phase I of Hinner Springs (between Camp Phillips Road and Birch Street and north of Shorey Avenue). Phase 1 is a 49-lot development on the south half of 80 acres of land which is planned for a Phase II on the north half that will extend to south side of the Birchwood Highlands property. Utility construction began last fall but, was halted for the winter. Home demand seems to be high and construction activity has begun even though weather and site conditions are a challenge right now.

Several commercial developments are in the works.

Aldi's just announced their plans to build a new store at the southeast corner of Schofield Avenue and Birch Street. The Village had approved their site plans in February. **Dollar General** obtained approval early in March for a project on the east side of CTH J between Schofield Avenue and STH 29. The Dollar General project is already underway. Aldi's is expected to break ground in April.

The Village has also received site plans for review for a **Caribou Coffee** at Schofield Avenue and Cut-off Road and for **NOVA Truck Wash** to expand their operation at the east end of Transport Way (south of Weston Avenue). The NOVA project will include a drive through semi-truck wash.

Project Plan Amendment Approved for Tax Increment District #2

On March 29, 2022, the Plan Commission conducted a public hearing in consideration of an **amendment to the project plan for Tax Increment District No. 2** (TID #2). Both the Plan Commission and Board of Trustees recommended adoption of the project plan amendment. **TID #2** is made up of all the properties that border Schofield Avenue between the Village boundary on the west and Birch Street on the east. The project plan amendment generally has the following goals:

- Allow funding for redevelopment costs that would not occur "but for" TID assistance. Examples of eligible costs include, Site preparation, Extraordinary project costs, Land purchase, Marketing, Bridging Financing gaps, etc.
- Allow for improvements to the Schofield Avenue corridor which will preserve and improve transportation safety and property access; and preserve and improve the business and living environment through such things as pedestrian crossings, low maintenance streetscape, drainage improvements, and pavement replacement.

Adoption of the plan does not authorize any monies to be spent. Any requests for funding must be approved through the Village Board. Only the activities listed in the plan are eligible for funding but, only if they demonstrate a need for assistance that would not otherwise be obtained. A list of **Frequently Anticipated Questions** was developed by the Plan Commission as this amendment was discussed at multiple meetings over the past 3 months. The adoption of this amendment and possibility of implementing eligible activities opens up exciting development opportunities along the Schofield Avenue corridor.

VILLAGE-WIDE RUMMAGE SALE MAY 6-8, 2022

Keeping with tradition the Village encourages residents to hold Rummage Sales the first weekend in May, which is **May 6-8, 2022**.

Whether you plan to hold your rummage sale the weekend of May 6, or any other time in the 2022 season, remember the Village has developed a Rummage Sale Application to showcase sales throughout the Village. Go to the Village's Rummage Sale webpage at the below link to display your location and date on the Village's mapping application.



PARKS DEPARTMENT

EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) CONFIRMED

The Village of Weston has confirmed the presence of EAB at Kennedy Park. EAB is an invasive beetle that was first detected in Wisconsin in 2008 and attacks all species of ash trees. The Village has 111 ash trees in parks, right of ways and Village owned properties that were inventoried in 2017. This does not include ash trees on private property or in wooded areas of Village properties. Since EAB infestations naturally spread 1 to 2 miles annually the Village has already removed all 19 ash trees at Kennedy Park. The Village will continue to monitor and remove approximately 1/3 of the inventoried ash trees each year for the next 3 years based on the Village's EAB Plan within the Urban Forestry Management Plan.

Property owners who are concerned about trees on private property are encouraged to take the following measures:

- Visit www.datcp.wi.gov/pages/programs_services/eab.aspx for more information regarding EAB.
- Monitor the ash trees in your yards.
- Consult a certified arborist or tree care company for advice.

Residents can also contact the Park Department at Parks@westonwi.gov with questions or concerns.

WESTON AQUATIC CENTER TO OPEN SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH

2022 Aquatic Center family season passes are now on sale at a reduced price through Friday, May 20th. Season passes can be purchased online at www.westonwi.gov/poolpass.

SWIM LESSONS

The Weston Aquatic Center will again be offering swim lessons in 2022. Registration for Village of Weston residents begins April 18th and non-resident registration begins May 2nd. Sessions will be June 13-24, July 11-22, and August 1-12. Fees are \$35 for residents and \$40 for non-residents.

PARK RESERVATIONS

The Village of Weston is currently accepting park reservations for 2022. There are 7 outdoor park shelters available. Kennedy Hall, the Village's indoor facility will remain closed for the 2022 season. Reservation information regarding all parks is available at www.westonwi.gov/poolpass.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a fun summer job in 2022? The **Weston Aquatic Center** and its partners, the YMCA and Weston Aquatic Snacks, are now hiring desk/slide attendants, Red Cross Certified Lifeguards, and concession stand staff. If you are interested in the desk/slide attendant or lifeguard positions, contact Abby Tesch at the YMCA at atesch@woodsonymca.com or 715-841-1850 or contact Janessa and Steve at westonaquaticsnacks@gmail.com if interested in one of the concession stand positions.

TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENTS IN PARKS

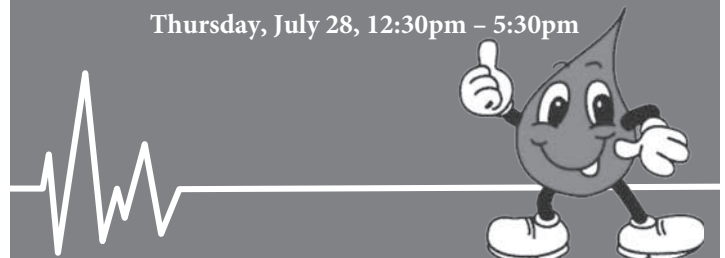
New for 2022, the Village has brought on a new software package to assist in managing our parks department and aquatic center. To purchase a membership for the pool, you will need to create a new family account using our new portal. Using this account, you will also be able to reserve parks spaces and register for swim lessons and other potential activities. Instead of lugging around key cards with your membership, you will be able to store a QR code on your phone. We will also be requiring photos of each member of your pass. You can load facial photos of each individual. Alternatively you can load a picture of the whole family and the software will detect faces which you can assign to each person. If you have any issues with the new system, please email westonpool@westonwi.gov and we will respond as soon as possible. As with any new technology, we expect some issues to arise and we are eager to get feedback to improve the customer experience. Go to www.westonwi.gov/poolpass to check it out.

Upcoming Summer Weston Community Blood Drives

Weston Lanes, 5902 Schofield Avenue

Thursday, June 2, 12:00pm – 5:00pm
and

Thursday, July 28, 12:30pm – 5:30pm





SAFER DISTRICT SOUTH AREA FIRE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE

By Eric A. Lang, Battalion Chief - SAFER District

Spring is in the air and the snow is off the ground! With the start of warmer weather, the wild land fire season begins. By utilizing fire properly, you will assure that it won't catch the highly flammable die off and debris from last fall. Municipal Code 34.209 https://weston.municipalcodeonline.com/book?type=ordinances#name=Sec_34.209_Burning,_Heating_And_Lighting outlines the dos and don'ts for recreational fires. Recreational fires are defined in the code as; a small fire intended for recreation or cooking. The highlights of the Municipal code include;

1. Fire must be contained in a fire pit
2. A fire pit must not be larger than 3ft in diameter and no fire should extend more than 2ft above the fire pit
3. Portable fire pits may be used, by manufacturer recommendations
4. Only clean dry wood may be burned, nothing treated or painted
5. Fires must be, minimally, 25 ft from any building, structure, shed, garage, combustible material, and at least 10 ft from any lot line
6. No fire may be started when the wind direction and speed may cause smoke and/or embers to be carried toward a building or when wind exceeds 7 miles per hour. Smoke may cause a nuisance and any complaint of smoke will result in the fire being extinguished.
7. Adequate fire suppression equipment shall be immediately available to control or extinguish the fire (i.e., water hose, fire extinguisher)
8. No recreational fire may be started or allowed between 12:00am and 12:00pm.

Please assure that before burning you read and follow the entire municipal code as it has not been included above. The safety of your neighbors relies on you following the code and burning responsibly. So ... get outside with your family, enjoy some grilled brats, and have a great season sitting around the fire pit!



SAFER HIRES NEW FIRE CHIEF

On Wednesday March 16th the SAFER Fire Commission along with an internal hiring committee met to interview 5 final candidates for the position of Fire Chief. Following these interviews, a job offer was made to current Deputy Fire Chief Joshua Finke. Joshua has over 20 years of experience in fire and EMS and holds a bachelors degree in public safety administration from Grand Canyon University. Joshua also has multiple fire certifications from the State of Wisconsin and is a critical care paramedic, as well as a tactical paramedic. During his career Joshua has worked in multiple different roles in the fire service and spent several years as a flight paramedic for Aspirus MedEvac. Joshua has been a speaker at the Paramedic Systems of Wisconsin Conference as well as the Northcentral Regional Trauma Conference. Joshua will begin to fill the role immediately and a new Deputy Fire Chief will be named in the coming weeks.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT



May 4

3:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Weston Municipal Center
(behind the building)

The crew from [RecycleThatStuff.com](https://www.recyclethatstuff.com) will be on site to collect your unwanted electronics, ranging from a small toaster to large TV's. Most small electronics will be free of charge, but some larger electronics (such as TV's) will require you to pay a small fee. Prices for chargeable items is available on www.westonwi.gov/MayElectronicsRecyclingEvent.

Places like Yaeger Auto Salvage, here in Weston, or Good News Project, in Wausau take electronics year round.

THE VILLAGE OF WESTON WATER UTILITY RESULTS OF VOLUNTARY PFAS TESTING

The news has recently been filled with reports from area water utilities with the presence of PFAS (**Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances**). An emerging contaminant that EPA and DNR do not currently regulate.

On March 24 the Village held a press conference to inform customers of the results of the voluntary sampling conducted on March 3, 2022. As well as the steps that the Utility is taking for the short- and long-term reduction of PFAs levels in the water delivered to our customers.

Village of Weston Voluntary PFAS Sampling, Collected March 2, 2022								
Well No.	1	2	3 (b)	4 (b)	Treatment Plant (b, c)	5	6	Health Advisory
Combined PFAS (PFOA and PFOS) (a)	7.16	4.72	38.73	17.79	25.91	9.41	0	20
Hazard Index (d)	0.61	0.31	2.75	1.36	1.88	0.62	0.00	1.0

Notes:

- a) Combined PFAS is reported in parts per trillion
- b) Wells 3 & 4 pump to the Treatment Plant, not directly to the distribution system
- c) Treatment Plant discharge is the entry point to the distribution system. PFAS result shown is as tested, not estimated.
- d) The hazard index is a way of assessing the potential health impacts associated with mixtures of PFAS compounds.

Upon learning these sample results the Village of Weston Water Utility shut down the Treatment Plant, taking wells 3 and 4 off-line, on Thursday March 17, 2022. This action was taken after consultation with the Wisconsin DNR and DHS.

As a result of these actions there is no reason for customers to modify their normal routine of water use, including drinking tap water. However, if you have concerns about PFAS exposure, you can look into alternative water sources.

The Village of Weston Water Utility takes it's role in protecting public health by providing safe drinking water to our community very seriously. Our drinking water is closely regulated by both the **EPA (U.S Environmental Protection Agency)** and **DNR (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources)** and it meets strict Federal and State drinking water standards.

If you have questions about PFAS, please contact the Village of Weston at 715-359-2876 or visit of PFAS webpage www.westonwi.gov/PFAS

In response to the situation the Village's Utility staff has discussed short and long-term solutions with its consultant, WDNR, DHS, and Marathon County Health Department.

Short-Term Solutions

- Keep wells 3 and 4 off-line as much as possible.
- Modify piping to blend well 4 with distribution system water prior to well 4 pumping to the distribution system through the treatment plant. This concept has been discussed with DNR and the Village's engineering consultant.

Long-Term Solutions

- Complete proposed Wells 7 and 8 for additional supply of drinking water to meet all drinking water standards. This project is a long-term need of the Village that was being addressed and, coincidentally, is nearing construction stage as PFAS has become a common topic. The well construction component of this project is currently advertised for bids.
- Add granular activated carbon (GAC) removal at the treatment plant. The treatment plant is designed and pre-piped for adding GAC.

WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The Village of Weston water main flushing program has started in mid to late April in recent years. The purpose of the program is to maintain water quality in the distribution system. Please be aware our flushing program could be delayed this year due to our ongoing work to address PFAS levels in Wells 3 and 4.

We want to make sure you are aware of this program and what you can expect. As flushing occurs in your neighborhood your water may be discolored for a short period of time and could stain laundry. Water pressure may also be reduced.

Village of Weston water customers will receive a notice when our our flushing program will begin. For more information on our flushing program and updates for current flushing locations visit www.westonwi.gov/Flushing or follow us on Facebook or Nextdoor.

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS FOR 2022: CAPITAL STREET IMPROVEMENT

Street Projects:

- **Ross Avenue Repaving** from Mesker St to the Eau Claire River Bridge is planned for repaving.
- **Birch St Reconstruction** between Shorey Ave and Cross Pointe Blvd. The Village of Weston received a \$450,000 grant from the State of Wisconsin Local Road Improvement Program to aid in the reconstruction of the street and upgrades to the storm water drainage system. This project will also close a 1/4 mile gap in the water main system providing better circulation and reliability to the water system in this area. This project was designed in 2021 with construction set to take place in 2022.
- **Community Center Drive** from Birch St to Camp Phillips Road is planned to have concrete curb repairs, storm sewer inlet repairs and repaving in 2022.
- **Stone Ridge Drive** from Westview Blvd to Ministry Parkway is planned to have concrete curb and gutter repairs, storm inlet repairs and repaving in 2022.

STREET PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE PROJECTS FOR 2022:

A portion of the 2022 Street Pavement Maintenance work includes:

Schofield Ave from Mesker St to Ryan St is scheduled to have **concrete joint repairs** completed in various locations.

Kramer Lane from Trotzer Lane to Gusman St will have the asphalt pavement pulverized full depth and the asphalt surface will be replaced.

The following Village streets are scheduled to have **Asphalt Overlays applied** in 2022:

- East Raybelle Dr and West Raybelle Dr
- Winding Ridge Way – Camp Phillips Rd to west termini
- Shorey Ave – from Alderson St to Birch St

2022 Chipseal and Fog Seal contract involves the placement of oil and rock aggregate on the asphalt pavement surface to extend the life of the pavement and then a Fog Seal oil application is applied to bind the chip seal aggregate together and extend the life of the wearing surface.

The following streets are scheduled to be chip sealed/fog sealed in 2022:

- Canoe St from Tappe Dr to the eastern termini (Cul de Sac)
- Kayak Dr from Tappe Dr to Canoe St
- Quentin St from Tappe Dr to Canoe St
- Portage St from Quentin St to Canoe St
- Isaiah St from Caleb Dr to Muskie St

2022 SPRING YARD MATERIALS PICK UP

By Dan Raczowski, Deputy Director of Public Works

Spring pick-up is **tentatively scheduled to begin in the first week of May** and is dependent **on the lifting of Spring seasonal weight limits**. Please watch the Village Website (www.westonwi.gov) for the 2022 Spring Zone Pick Up map which will have the dates and Zone locations on it. Currently yard materials (Grass Clippings, Leaves, Brush) can be dropped off at the Weston Yard Materials Site (located at 8200 Ryan Street), at a time that is convenient to you.

As temperatures warm up during March and April, **PLEASE DO NOT** place materials in the street.

When **materials are placed in the street**, they:

- Clog up drainage ways and plug storm sewers
- Create a hazard in the roadway

When materials are **placed out too early**, they:

- Make the materials harder for Village Staff to pick up
- Become an environment for rodents to live in
- Create a place for mold to grow

EVEREST METRO POLICE DEPT. FROM THE CHIEF...

We are all looking forward to spring, after another seemingly long winter. After a very short-staffed 2021, Everest Metro Police Department (EMPD) will be fully staffed for the first time since 2016. We hired five new officers in 2021, which meant running short on our patrol staff for the majority of the year. We pride ourselves in great community response to a variety of calls for service, but being more reactive than proactive does lead to frustrations for officers and some complainants. Our sworn staff will be at 30 officers in 2022, but still far behind our comparable agencies and neighboring communities. As all municipal governments struggle to keep up with service demands, growing communities find themselves a few steps behind, and law enforcement is no exception.

We are very fortunate locally to have such great community support. A stark reminder of the sacrifices officers are willing to make for their community is very real, as we just surpassed March 22nd. This year marks five years since Detective Jason Weiland gave the ultimate sacrifice for his community, after being senselessly shot while responding to an active shooter here in Weston. We ask everyone to keep his family and the law enforcement community in your thoughts this spring. EMPD thanks you for your support as we continue to protect and serve the three great communities we serve, with twenty-nine years of community partnership between the Village of Weston, City of Schofield and the Town of Weston!



GET WESTON'S BETTERBIN RECYCLING APP!

Wonder what goes in your Weston recycling carts? Want recycling pick-up reminders? Join the 250 Weston residents using our Betterbin app! With the app you're able to scan a product's UPC barcode or text search for any product to get product-specific recycling instructions for the Weston recycling program. You even earn points toward gift cards with each scan! Find Betterbin in the App Store or Google Play.

HOME COMPOSTER BIN SALE

Marathon County Solid Waste Department and the Village of Weston are proud to offer a convenient pre-purchase / pick-up compost bin sale. The sale features a highly-rated compost bin, The Home Composter. Recommended by expert composters, the Home Composter is easy to assemble, long-lasting, made from 100% recycled materials, and is NOT available in stores. Each purchase comes with a Backyard Composting book. Also available for purchase is a stainless steel Kitchen Katcher for collecting food scraps in your kitchen.

The Home Composter, valued at \$100 is on sale for \$55.00, and the Kitchen Katcher is available for just \$25.

The sale is on now through May 12th, by visiting: <https://www.recyclingconnections.org/marathon>

Online orders can be picked up on May 14th, between 10am – Noon, at the Village of Weston Municipal Center, 5500 Schofield Avenue, Weston, or at Oak Island Park, 500 River Drive, Wausau.

Orders not picked up on May 14th, between 10am – Noon, will be held at Marathon County Solid Waste Department, 172900 State Highway 29, Ringle.

Questions?? Contact Susan Schuller, at Susan@RecyclingConnections.org or call 877-270-3989.



VILLAGE OF WESTON
 5500 SCHOFIELD AVENUE
 WESTON, WI 54476

WESTON FARMERS MARKET
TUESDAYS
 &
SATURDAYS
APRIL 30-OCTOBER 29
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(or until sold out)
 Weston Marketplace -
 On the corner of Camp Phillips Road
 next to Dunkin' Donuts

New Date!
Spring Bulk-Item Drop-Off
May 19-21
 Waste Management
 5509 Fuller Street, Weston

Thursday, May 19 & Friday, May 20 Saturday, May 21
 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- ▶ Items that will be accepted include: Non-Metal Items, Furniture, Carpeting, Scrap Lumber, Mattresses, and Glass Windows.
- ▶ Proof of address will be required, and we may limit residents to 2 or 3 trips.

2ND ANNUAL 5K GLOW FUN RUN/WALK

GiGi's Playhouse Wausau will be hosting its 2nd Annual 5K Glow Fun Run/Walk to be held at Aspirus YMCA in Weston on **June 4th!**

We hope this will continue to be the biggest social and physical MOVEMENT for acceptance!

Watch the GiGi's website <https://gigisplayhouse.org/wausau/> for more details!



VILLAGE OF WESTON MUNICIPAL CENTER

Address: 5500 Schofield Avenue, Weston, WI 54476
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Monday – Friday)
General Information: 715-359-6114 **Website:** www.westonwi.gov

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Aquatic Center (Seasonal)	715-241-7946
Assessor	877-687-3445
Building Inspections	715-241-2613
Fire EMS (Non-emergency)	715-355-6763
Municipal Court	715-359-3333
Parks, Forestry, Grounds	715-359-9988
Planning & Development	715-241-2613
Police (Non-emergency)	715-359-4202
Public Works	715-359-6114
Waste Management	715-359-6637
Water & Sewer	715-359-2876

VILLAGE OF WESTON MEETING SCHEDULE

Board of Trustees	6:00 p.m . .	3rd Monday of the month
Community Development Authority	Meet as needed	
Finance Committee	4:30 p.m . .	3rd Monday of the month
Human Resource Committee	Meet as needed	
Parks & Recreation Committee	4:30 p.m . .	4th Monday of the month
Plan Commission	6:00 p.m . .	2nd Monday of the month
Public Works & Utility Committee	4:30 p.m . .	2nd Monday of the month

Meeting dates are subject to change; call the Village of Weston offices to confirm dates and times. Committees and Commissions associated with police and fire meet on an as-needed basis.