

theVillage

January/February 2024



Free Fitness Classes Delighted Participants

The Village of Pleasant Prairie Recreation Department's free community fitness event welcomed a number of guests to the Pleasant Prairie RecPlex on Sunday, December 3, 2023. The event, which was open to individuals aged 14 and older, welcomed both RecPlex members and non-members to participate in a morning of free fitness classes.

The classes, held in the RecPlex Fieldhouse, commenced at 8:30 a.m. and spanned until 11:15 a.m. Participants enjoyed a diverse lineup, each led by Village Recreational Staff. The morning kicked off with an energizing "Power Pilates Express with Jen" class from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., seamlessly transitioning into a calming "Yoga with Jen" class from 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The grand finale was a lively "Zumba with Lori and Sharon" class from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

The free community fitness day brought the community together through movement and rhythm, offering a mix of strength, flexibility, and dance, which catered to a wide range of fitness preferences.

The event was held in the RecPlex field house on a court cushioned by artificial grass turf. Attendees were not required to register in advance; however, community members were encouraged to bring their own mats for the Pilates and yoga sessions.

The fitness event fostered a welcoming environment that showcased some of the different types of fitness classes and programming offered by the Village Recreation Staff and featured on-site participation from RecPlex business partners.

Local businesses such as X-Golf, @Properties James Mikulecky, DreamMaker Kitchen and Baths, RF Wittmeyer Law Firm, and Elizabeth Goldberg Medicare Consulting Agency were present to connect with the community and share information about their services.

Sandy Wiedmeyer, Village Recreation Operations Superintendent, expressed excitement about the event, stating, "We are thrilled to have showcased some of our wonderful fitness classes while providing an opportunity for the community to connect with outstanding local businesses."

A special thank you was extended through social media to the guests and event sponsors. Their participation contributed to the success of a day filled with community, fitness, and fun at RecPlex. □



*Invested in
Community!*

Reminder: Annual Twelfth Night Holiday Tree Bonfire

Free Community Event on Saturday, January 6 at 5:30 p.m.

As the holiday season comes to a close, the Village of Pleasant Prairie, in collaboration with the Pleasant Prairie Historical Society and Visit Pleasant Prairie, is pleased to invite the public to the annual Twelfth Night Holiday Tree Bonfire. This free, open to the public, community event is a cherished tradition in Pleasant Prairie.

The event is scheduled for **Saturday, January 6, at 5:30 p.m.**, in **Prairie Springs Park**, adjacent to the Lake Andrea Wruck Beach Pavilion, located at 9999 Park Drive. The highlight of the evening will be the ceremonial lighting of the bonfire at approximately 6:00 p.m., which will create a warm and inviting atmosphere for attendees.

Village Administrator Eric Rindfleisch expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming celebration: "Everyone is welcome to attend the Twelfth Night Holiday Tree Bonfire on January 6. I look forward to seeing area guests, community members, and participating in the celebration. Please remember to dress warmly and feel free to bring friends and family to end the holiday season with this unique and joyful community event."



Donate Live Holiday Trees to the Twelfth Night Bonfire

Residents of Pleasant Prairie are encouraged to contribute to the event by donating live holiday trees to the designated tree drop-off locations in the Village. Public Works staff will ensure the trees are included in the bonfire. The tree donations are a great way to contribute to the celebration and repurpose a tree toward a fun community event that celebrates the end of the holiday season. □

2024 Calendars



The 2024 Village calendars have arrived, and copies are available at Village Hall (9915 39th Avenue) and Roger Prange Municipal Building (8600 Green Bay Road) while supplies last.

If you are not already signed up and would like to receive future Village Calendar editions, 2025 and beyond, directly to your mailbox, please register on [PleasantPrairieWi.gov](https://pleasantprairiewi.gov). From the website's home page click on the Calendar icon near the bottom of the webpage or call **262.925.6701**. □

RecPlex Ice: 2023 Holiday Skating Festive Winter Extravaganza Dazzles Audience

On December 15 and 16 the RecPlex Ice Arena hosted the 2023 Winter Extravaganza, offering a festive holiday experience. The event featured a holiday ice show with vibrant costumes, a winter-themed set, and accompanying holiday music. Audience members witnessed a wide array of figure skating techniques and routines with a mix of performances. Katie Luburich, Figure Skating Coordinator for RecPlex Ice Arena, highlighted the enjoyment factor, stating, "The audience experienced another entertaining performance this year, with the colorful costumes and festive stage adding to the holiday spirit." □



The Gratzi Inc. Opens



The Gratzi, Inc. was warmly received by the community on November 14, 2023, as a sizable group gathered to commemorate the grand opening of their recently renovated location at 4721 75th Street. Local business partners and guests toured the facility, appreciating the revitalization of the former Century 21 building.

The Gratzi, Inc. operates as a local digital marketing company, focusing on services such as website development, search engine optimization, and social media management.



The newly renovated building along 75th Street introduces an investment that brings a contemporary aesthetic to the local business landscape. Transforming the familiar brick structure into a renovated building facade. The Gratzi, Inc. revitalized the physical space within the building, and provides services to enhance the digital presence of area businesses. □



2024 Water Utility and Sewer Utility Budgets

The Pleasant Prairie Village Board approved the 2024 Water and Sewer Utility budgets on December 11. Pleasant Prairie Water Utility is a wholesale customer and purchases all water from the Kenosha Water Utility. Pleasant Prairie's water and sewer rates are based on meter size and water volume used. Water rates are based on the number of gallons consumed, measured by the water meter. Sewer rates are calculated with a winter-based average to account for any water used on lawns or yards that might infiltrate and pass through the sanitary sewer system during the summer months.

The Kenosha Water Utility has implemented a 5-year rate increase. Rates are anticipated to increase Village costs by \$375,000. A Village Board-approved rate study will take place in the first quarter of 2024 to update the information collected in 2018. The updated information will help staff determine how best to divide and implement the increased cost among the Pleasant Prairie customer base.

2024 Sewer Utility projects include \$700,000 for replacing a sewer main on Cooper Road that has flooding failures due to undersized pipes and a sag in the sewer line. Also, a Lift Station improvement project that has gone on for several years is nearing completion, with the last Lift Station rebuilds planned for 2024. The Lift Stations move wastewater from lower to higher elevations to aid gravity conveyance and water flow.

The Water Utility is completing the water meter upgrade project, replacing industrial and residential water meters, and installing MXU radio communication devices. This project replaces outdated equipment that required staff to manually read water meters by driving around the Village. The upgraded system enables remote meter reading and centralized monitoring of water meters. It can identify irregularities in water usage to aid in detecting potential water usage issues.

In addition, the Water Utility will conduct other projects, including water main replacements and abandonments in conjunction with the Kenosha County project that will resurface portions of County Trunk Highway H. □



2024 General Government Budgets Approved

On November 27, the Pleasant Prairie Village Board considered and approved the 2024 General Government Budgets. The budgets included general government operating, capital, debt service, incremental tax districts, special revenue, and reserve funds. The approved tax levy is budgeted to increase from \$17,912,503 in 2023 to \$21,048,868 in 2024.

The \$3,136,365 levy increase is related to the growth of the Village and debt payments for the new Fire Station No. 3 at 10165 Terwall Terrace and the new Police Station at 10111 39th Avenue. These new facilities will allow for future expansion and support the additional public safety staff that voters approved through the public safety referendum in April 2022, enabling Pleasant Prairie to hire the necessary staff to maintain quality public safety services.

The Village has a tax rate of \$4.29 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. A home with a median value of \$322,500 will result in a \$1,382 payment for the Village portion of the property tax bill. This is approximately \$186 more than the previous year's Village property tax payment. While the Village portion of the tax bill has increased, the other taxing entities have reduced their levies and mill rates. As a result, the median homeowner will see a decrease in their overall 2023 property tax payment from the previous year.



Village general operating expenses for 2024 will be approximately \$23.2 million. The budget includes \$130,703 for recurring items like the nearly \$90,000 in new building expenses supporting the new Fire Station #3 and police building. There were also \$387,324 in one-time costs to fund items such as replacing the roof at Fire Station #2, hiring a new Community Development Director to work with the retiring director through mid-2024, and developing a master plan for Prairie Springs Park.

The Village Board approval also covered the Capital Budget of \$4.5 million, including \$2.8 million in funds to support road improvements and \$477,135 for new or replacement vehicles for the Fire & Rescue and Police departments. It also consists of funds to support Prairie Springs Park with \$300,000 to replace playground equipment on the park's south side. □

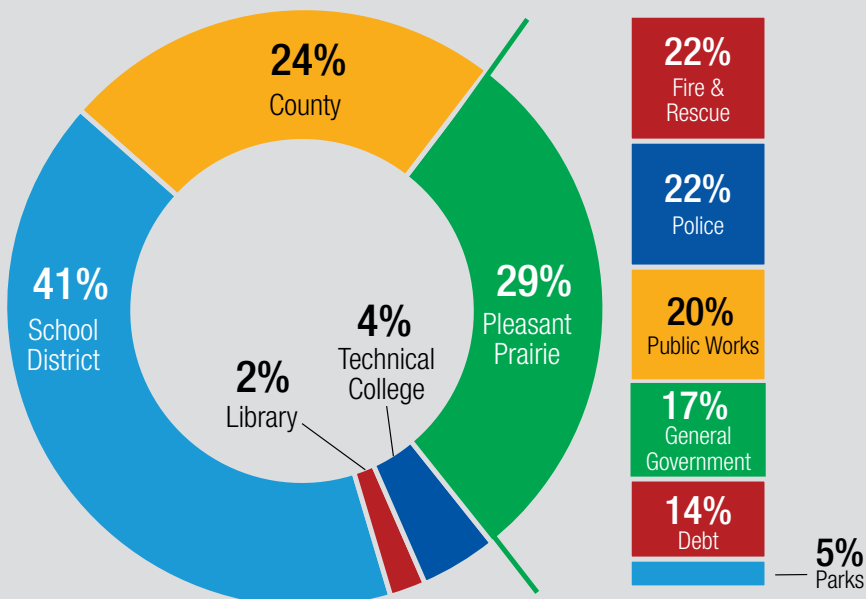
How is Your Property Tax Payment Distributed?

Property Tax Payments

The 2023 property tax payment, collected in 2024, is distributed to Kenosha Unified School District, Kenosha County, Village of Pleasant Prairie, Gateway Technical College, and Kenosha Public Library. Pleasant Prairie receives approximately 29% of the property taxes.

What Happens to the 29%?

The majority of the 2024 property tax (approximately 64%) will be used to provide public safety services, such as police, Fire & Rescue, and public works services, including snow plowing, road maintenance, and similar work.



Pleasant Prairie uses the remaining amount (roughly 36%) to pay down existing debt, fund General Government day-to-day operations, and maintain the Village parks. A breakdown of percentages for the property tax payment distribution is displayed in the chart on the left.

The Village's portion of property tax, collected yearly from individual taxpayers, small businesses, and corporations, supports approximately 64% of the yearly General Government budget. The remaining 36% of revenue is generated from state aids and through services provided by Village Departments, like building permits and rescue squad earnings. □

Clean Water and Solid Waste Utility Bills

On December 11, the Pleasant Prairie Village Board unanimously approved the Solid Waste Utility and Clean Water Utility budgets.



What is the Clean Water Utility?

The Clean Water Utility, operating since 2006, was created to protect lakes, streams, rivers, and groundwater from contaminated storm water. The Utility manages the improvement and collection of storm water to meet Federal mandates and reduce pollutants. Storm water comes from rain or melting snow that collects contaminants and transports them through the storm sewer and into local waterways.

All properties contribute to storm water runoff in varying degrees based on soil type, surface, and property use. Funds collected by the storm water fee fund daily operations, maintain and replace existing Village-owned storm water infrastructures, and preserve natural drainage systems like streams and buffers. New storm water projects that improve drainage in specific areas are funded by the affected property owners. The Village collects a storm water fee from property owners based on how a property generates storm water.

The 2024 Clean Water Utility budget includes operating, capital, and debt service. The Utility budget does not require increasing the current \$6 per month Equivalent Runoff Unit (ERU) charge. The utility will maintain community services, performing street sweeping, outfall inspections, and catch basin cleaning. The approved budget includes approximately \$2.3 million in revenue and \$2.5 million in expenses.

The Utility has budgeted \$400,000 to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Village's storm water system. The storm water study will evaluate capacity, maintenance schedules, billing rates, and best practices for rivers, canals, and lakes. The study aims to improve water management efficiency, optimize maintenance costs, and enhance system resilience to create a strategic plan for a more efficient, cost-effective, and resilient storm water system that will benefit the entire community.



What Is Solid Waste Utility?

The Solid Waste Utility provides curbside garbage, recycling, and leaf collection for approximately 7,776 homes. The utility also operates the Residential Recycling Center, which offers hazardous waste collection on the first Saturday of each month except for January through March and May. In addition, the center provides free compost, mulch, shred events, and holiday tree drop-off sites.

In 2023, the Village experienced rising costs in leaf, garbage, and recycling services, combined with increased labor expenses. Responding to these heightened operational costs, the Village has decided to reassess the current waste fee structure and transition away from the existing limited and unlimited collection types in 2024.

The new fee system will adopt a pay-per-cart approach, incorporating a monthly fee corresponding to the size and quantity of household garbage carts. A large cart, 95 gallons, will incur a monthly charge of \$23.50, while a small cart, 65 gallons, will be subject to a \$21.50 monthly fee. Households can purchase extra carts directly from the Public Works Department. The extra carts will be charged monthly at \$12 per additional large cart and \$11 per additional small cart. Should a household possess surplus carts that are no longer needed, those can be returned to the Public Works Department by contacting 262.694.1403.

The new fee structure is specific to garbage collection. There is no monthly charges for recycling carts, only a \$70 up front cost for cart delivery. **Residents should refrain from placing garbage or recycling outside the designated collection carts because those items will not be collected.** Keeping garbage within the designated carts contributes to a cleaner and more visually appealing neighborhood, it also minimizes the chances of littering, creates a more sanitary living space, and helps mitigate the risk of attracting rodents.



For items or garbage that will not fit in the cart, residents can schedule curbside bulk pickups through the Public Works Department for a \$20 pick-up fee or items can be dropped off at the Residential Recycling Center at 8000 128th Street. □

2024 Fleet Budget

The Fleet Internal Service Fund manages vehicle services for Village departments, excluding Police and Fire & Rescue. It covers acquisition, maintenance, and repair costs for vehicles and equipment. The fund, including a replacement fund, oversees in-house maintenance, allowing the Village to sustain equipment for essential services.

The Fleet Internal Service Fund is poised for a year of strategic financial planning, as reflected in the 2024 budget. Operating revenue remains stable at \$2.1 million, matching the 2023 budget. The fund intends to increase revenue in 2024 by aligning rates with Wisconsin State standards. This strategic move is projected to generate an estimated \$189,935 from general government departments and enterprise funds. Operating expenses are set to increase by nearly \$53,000, reaching a total budget of \$2,164,505 that covers costs for personnel, supplies, maintenance, insurance, and other contractual services.

The fund will allocate resources towards capital orders, securing essential assets like a \$258,319 plow truck scheduled for arrival in 2027, a \$325,000 front-end loader, and a \$121,476 leaf collector. These investments align with the fund's vision to maintain vehicles and equipment that support quality services to Village residents. □



K-9 Support

Police extend sincere thanks to the Starlite Club and Sheridan Lanes for their collaboration in supporting the K-9 program. Through a successful September fundraiser, featuring business sponsorships and raffles, the community rallied to contribute \$5,000 to the K-9 Unit.

The department is genuinely humbled by this generous donation and expresses gratitude to the sponsors and community members for their support. □



Police Acknowledge Citizen Actions

The Pleasant Prairie Police Department recently honored Stephanie Modory and Tyler Bendon with Citizen Awards for their actions during a vehicle accident in late September. As result of that accident the vehicle became engulfed in flames. Tyler's actions were prying the driver's door open and attempting to remove the driver prior to Law Enforcement arrival. Stephanie's actions were removing the driver and carrying him a short distance away while Officer Kopera utilized his fire extinguisher.

Also recognized during this incident was Pleasant Prairie Police Dispatcher Sarah Matson who remained calm and collected and relayed the vital information to Officers provided by 911 callers. Officer Kopera's actions will later be recognized during the Pleasant Prairie Police Awards Ceremony.

With cooperation of Law Enforcement and the community positive outcomes can be achieved. The Pleasant Prairie Police Department thanks Stephanie and Tyler for their actions which ultimately helped the driver of the vehicle only sustain minor injuries. □



The Police Department Celebrates Two Promotions



Sgt. Kelly



Sgt. Lodygowski

Celebrations are in order for Detective Sergeant David Kelly and Sergeant Michael Lodygowski, acknowledged during the Pleasant Prairie Police Department Celebration of Promotions on December 12, 2023, at Village Hall Auditorium (9915 39th Avenue). Both sergeants have demonstrated leadership skills and unwavering dedication in serving and protecting the Pleasant Prairie community. These advancements mark significant milestones in their respective careers.

Both Sergeant Kelly and Sergeant Lodygowski assumed their new roles with the Pleasant Prairie Police Department on June 26, 2023. □

Shop with a Cop/Firefighter Thank You



The Pleasant Prairie Professional Police Association and the Pleasant Prairie Police and Fire & Rescue Departments would like to express their gratitude to those who supported the 18th annual Shop with a Cop and Firefighter charity event that took place on December 9, 2023. The event is a way for members of the public safety departments to help struggling families during the holiday season and foster positive relations between local youth and officers.

This year's event helped 23 kids that local school staff, police officers, and firefighters selected to pair with officers and firefighters. The event at Meijer provided the opportunity for the kids to pick out holiday gifts for their loved ones. Each year Meijer provides a generous donation; additionally, a majority of the program is funded through donations from the community. The Police Association also provided families with a \$50 gift card to Woodman's to ensure they could share a family meal over the holidays. □



Fire & Rescue Welcomes Two New Graduates



The Pleasant Prairie Fire & Rescue Fall 2023 Recruitment Academy Graduation Ceremony marked a significant milestone for Tyler Cook and Kristopher Peters. Following an intensive eight-week fire training academy, these individuals are now prepared to contribute to the well-being of the Pleasant Prairie community.

The rigorous training program equipped the recruits with essential skills and knowledge, ensuring their readiness to serve on the Fire & Rescue team. As they graduated, the Village welcomed the motivated individuals and recognized their commitment to the safety of the Pleasant Prairie community.

The ceremony celebrated the successful completion of the training and emphasized the dedication of Tyler Cook and Kristopher Peters. The Village acknowledges their achievements and looks forward to their valuable contributions to the Pleasant Prairie Fire & Rescue team.

"Congratulations to the Fall 2023 Recruitment Academy graduates, Tyler Cook and Kristopher Peters," stated Fire & Rescue Chief Craig Roepke. "The Village anticipates your hard work and the positive impact you have in safeguarding the community's well-being." □



Winter Roadside Pruning for Tree Health and Safety

Public Works crews will prune trees within the Right of Way (ROW) and conduct roadside brushing as part of the Village's ongoing winter maintenance efforts. This routine service enhances the health of vegetation in the ROW and improves roadside safety.

Scheduled pruning is crucial for the sustained life of trees within the ROW. By carefully trimming branches and foliage, street crews promote proper growth patterns and mitigate potential risks associated with overgrown vegetation.

Simultaneously, roadside brushing helps maintain clear sight lines, ensuring optimal visibility for drivers and pedestrians, reducing potential hazards and enhancing overall safety on the roads.

If you observe Public Works crews actively working in the ROW, please exercise caution, reduce speed, and provide proper clearance when passing. The Village appreciates your understanding and cooperation as crews work to sustain a safe and aesthetically pleasing environment for all residents. □



Revised Schedule: Meetings Commence at 6:00 p.m.

Pleasant Prairie has adjusted Village Board and Plan Commission meeting times from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to give the public more time to attend meetings.

The primary motive behind this shift is to make public meeting engagements more convenient for Pleasant Prairie residents. This change reflects the Village Board's dedication to making Village meetings more accessible to enhance community involvement and interaction. The change aims to accommodate the needs of the community, particularly those who work until 5:00 p.m., providing a later start time for guests to attend and participate.

Public meetings can also be listened to virtually through a live feed of the presentation slides. Additionally, for those that are not able to attend in-person or watch the live broadcast, a recording of the meeting is posted for viewing 24-hours after the meeting. Note, those that would like to make public comments must attend in-person, as there is not an option to make public comments virtually.



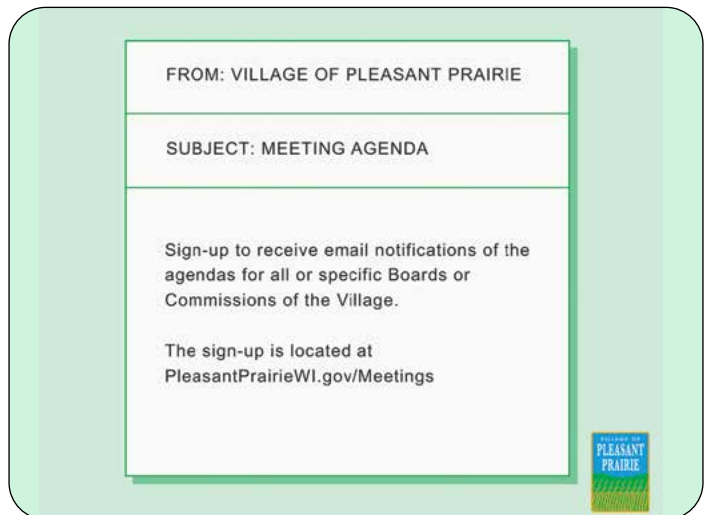
To find the live meeting link, visit pleasantprairiewi.gov/meeting or navigate from the Village home page to Government > Meeting and Notices. Scroll down to Upcoming Events, and you will see a list of meetings. Once the meeting begins, there will be an option to view/watch the meeting live. □

Stay Informed: Subscribe to the Meeting Agenda Email

The Village has rolled out a new agenda feature to streamline access to Pleasant Prairie meeting information. The new feature provides easier access to Pleasant Prairie meeting details. The effort intends to help residents stay informed and engaged in local governance. Residents should enter their email addresses on the send agenda distribution list to begin receiving email agendas. The optional subscription includes submitted email addresses on the distribution list and sends the meeting agendas to all subscribers when new agendas are published.

Citizens can conveniently subscribe to meeting agendas and updates by following these steps:

- Visit PleasantPrairieWi.gov/Meeting and find the subscriber box titled "Email Updates" near the page top.
- Enter an email address into the subscriber box and proceed to confirm the email while accepting the privacy policy.
- Select any specific meetings of interest for the subscription on the subsequent page.
- Optionally, provide details such as First Name, Last Name, and Zip Code on the next page. Completion of these fields is voluntary.
- Following the optional information submission, the subsequent page allows users to subscribe to additional government updates categorized by geographic location. Subscribing to the available other networks is also optional.
- A successful confirmation message will appear on the next page and an email confirmation will be sent to first-time subscribers.



Subscribers will begin receiving emails containing the relevant agendas once they are released from the chosen subscription topics or meeting bodies.

This subscription process ensures a seamless and customized experience for citizens seeking timely updates on Pleasant Prairie meetings and agendas.

Village Administrator Eric Rindfleisch stated, "I hope residents will utilize this new agenda feature, it facilitates easy access to meeting details. By subscribing to the email distribution list, residents will receive timely alerts on meeting agendas, enhancing their ability to stay informed and engage in local governance." □

2024 Election Cycle

Election Dates

- Spring Primary: February 20, 2024
- Spring Election: April 2, 2024
- Partisan Primary: August 13, 2024
- General Election: November 5, 2024

Voter Registration

- You must be a citizen of the United States.
- You must be a Wisconsin resident that has resided at the registered address for at least 28 consecutive days before Election Day.
- You must be 18-years-old.
- You must not have been convicted of treason, felony, or bribery, and if you have, your civil rights are restored after completing your sentence or receiving a pardon.
- You must not have been found by a court to be incapable of understanding the objective of the electoral process.
- You must not have voted at any other location if registering on Election Day.

To register

- Online at myvote.wi.gov up to 20 days before Election Day. After 20 days, complete, print, and bring the printed application to the Clerk's office or your polling place on Election Day.
- In-person at the Clerk's office up to 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before Election Day at Village Hall.
- Acceptable proof of residency is required.

Absentee Voting by Mail

Absentee ballot requests must be made in writing and received by the Village Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. the Thursday before Election Day. You can **request an absentee ballot online, by mail, by fax, or by email**. Online requests can be made at myvote.wi.gov. Absentee Ballot Request forms can be found on the Village's Website under the [Election/Voting tab](#). The voter will need to download, complete the application, and return it to the Village Clerk's office (9915 39th Avenue) with acceptable Photo ID.

The Village Clerk's office will mail absentee ballots once printed ballots are received from the Kenosha County Clerk's Office, approximately four weeks before an Election. When returning your ballot, seal the voted ballot in the Absentee Ballot Certificate Envelope. The voter must complete step 2 with their voter signature. Step 3 must be completed by the witness with their witness signature, witness printed name, and witness address.

If any of the required information above is missing, your ballot will not be counted. The deadline to return a completed ballot is no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. The ballot can be returned by United States Postal Service, personally delivered to the Clerk's office by 4:30 p.m., or Village Hall by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.



In-Person Absentee Voting

In-Person absentee voting will be held at Pleasant Prairie Village Hall, 9915 39th Avenue.

In-Person Absentee Voting Dates and Times

- **February 20, 2024 - Spring Primary (if necessary)**
February 6 - February 15 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
February 16 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *
- **April 2, 2024 - Spring Election / Presidential Preference**
March 19 - March 28 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
March 29 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *
- **August 13, 2024 - Partisan Primary**
July 30 - August 8 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
August 9 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *
- **November 5, 2024 - General Election / Presidential**
October 22 - October 31 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
November 1 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *

* No Saturday or Sunday hours

There is no registering to vote or voting conducted on the Monday before Election Day. If you have any questions, please contact the Village Clerk's office at [262.948.8935](tel:262.948.8935) or by email at elections@pleasantprairiewi.gov. □

2024 Election Cycle continued on page 11

2024 Election Cycle Cont.

From page 10

Sample ballots will be available approximately four weeks before an election and can be viewed on the Village's website or at myvote.wi.gov "What's on My Ballot".

Village Polling Places



- **Wards 1, 2, 3**
Village Hall – Auditorium (South entrance)
9915 39th Avenue, Pleasant Prairie
- **Wards 4, 5**
Village Hall – Courtroom (North entrance)
9915 39th Avenue, Pleasant Prairie
- **Wards 6, 7**
Caterpillar College Preschool
8411 Old Green Bay Road, Pleasant Prairie
- **Wards 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16**
RecPlex (South entrance)
9900 Terwall Terrace, Pleasant Prairie
- **Ward 11**
Pleasant Prairie History Museum (West Entrance)
3875 116th Street, Pleasant Prairie

During the 2024 Election Cycle, the Village will have all polling places open for voting. To confirm your correct polling place on Election Day, use one of the following methods:

- Visit myvote.wi.gov and select "Find My Polling Place"
- Use the QR code below to confirm your polling place.
- Contact the Village Clerk's office at [262.948.8935](tel:262.948.8935). ☐

Scan this QR code with your smartphone's camera app to access MyVote.Wi.gov.



Grocery Giveaway Turnout

The Pleasant Prairie Police and Fire & Rescue Departments collaborated on a successful grocery giveaway event held on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at Pleasant Prairie Village Hall, 9915 39th Avenue, from noon to 2:00 p.m.

This marked the third community grocery giveaway hosted by the Village this year, aiming to provide the community with a diverse selection of healthy grocery items and essential personal care products. The event facilitated access to much-needed food before the Thanksgiving holiday. The Fire & Rescue Department utilized Fire Station No. 1, opening its bay doors to create a drive-through loading area, ensuring a smooth and weather-protected experience for guests and volunteers as food was loaded into vehicles.

The event garnered support from sponsors Kroger, Meijer, and the Journey Disaster Response Team, whose contributions played a crucial role in making the event possible.

Key Highlights:

- The event provided food to 344 vehicles, some carrying two families.
- The grocery giveaway served 1,472 individuals from the Pleasant Prairie community, assisting 379 families.
- Kroger contributed 9,324 pounds of food, Meijer provided 1,837 pounds, and the Journey Disaster Response Team contributed 6,893 pounds, including cleaning, laundry, and personal care items.
- A total of 18,054 pounds of essential items were distributed to the Pleasant Prairie community throughout the event.

The Pleasant Prairie Police and Fire & Rescue Departments thank all sponsors, volunteers, and contributors for their commitment to supporting the local community. Collaborators like the Journey Disaster Response Team, Kroger, and Meijer play a crucial role in the success of these community grocery giveaway event events. ☐



2024 Triathlons/Runs at Pleasant Prairie RecPlex

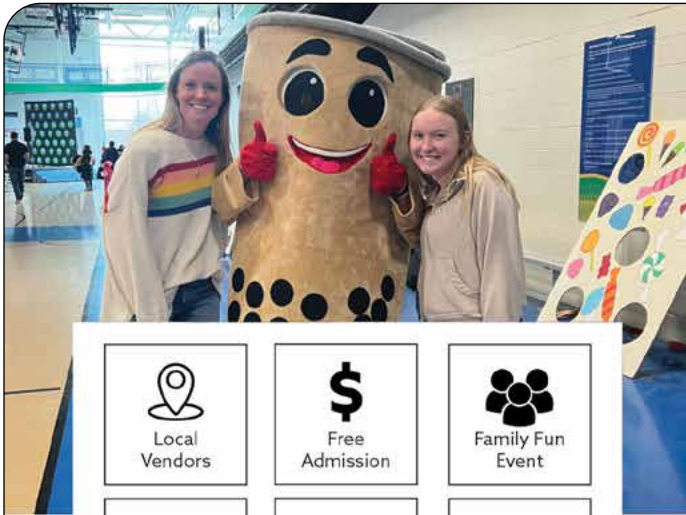
Date	2024 Event
Jan. 28	Indoor Triathlon
April 14	Indoor/Outdoor Triathlon
May 4	Cinco De Mayo 5K (Run / Walk)
June 2	Pleasant Prairie Cup Jr. Triathlon
June 23	Pleasant Prairie Triathlon
Aug. 11	WI Women's Triathlon
Sept. 21	Discovery 5K (Walk / Roll / Run)
Oct. 19	Scary in the Prairie 5K/10K (Run / Walk)
Nov. 16	Run with the Turkeys 5K/10K (Run / Walk)
Nov. 17	Indoor Turkey Triathlon

Prairie Springs Park and Lake Andrea plan to host the Pleasant Prairie Cup Jr. Triathlon on Sunday, June 2, and the Pleasant Prairie Triathlon on Sunday, June 23. In addition, RecPlex will be the host site for the WI Women's Triathlon event on Sunday, August 11, 2024.

The dates for this year's events are tentative, but the RecPlex staff is looking forward to cheering on these amazing athletes as they push to meet their goals. Each year, sporting events in Pleasant Prairie draw thousands of visitors to the community. These are great opportunities for the community and visitors to get involved in challenging and rewarding athletic events.

Seasonal sporting events at RecPlex positively affect the local economy by bringing tourism dollars into the community, which benefits local businesses, including retail establishments, restaurants, and hotels.

Commuters near Prairie Springs Park should expect limited road closures on Sunday, June 23, and Sunday, August 11. More information will be available closer to the event dates; when racecourses and logistics are finalized. To learn more about the Pleasant Prairie Triathlon, go to PleasantPrairieTri.com and for a complete list of triathlons and special events, visit RecPlexOnline.com/Events. □



 Local Vendors	 Free Admission	 Family Fun Event
 Raffle Prizes	 Photo Booth	 and More!

Interested in a booth?

Contact Nick:
nadams@pleasantprairiewi.gov

RecPLEX
PLEASANT PRAIRIE

**KIDS & FAMILY
EXPO**

Saturday, March 16

10:00a-3:00p

RecPlex Fieldhouse
FREE Admission

Snow Removal Reminders



Snow and Ice Removal Ordinance

The Village's Snow and Ice Removal Ordinance language specifies who is responsible for removing snow from sidewalks and removal timing. There is also information about depositing snow onto streets, public property, and how the Village approaches compliance with the ordinance.

The owner and occupant of a property are responsible for snow removal from adjacent sidewalks; anyone in charge of a property is also responsible for snow removal. Prompt removal of snow or ice each day from sidewalks is required within 24 hours from when the snow or ice ceases to accumulate. If property owners fail to follow the Village ordinance, Village crews will clear the snow or ice, and the property owners will be billed. The ordinance also requires abutting sidewalks to be sprinkled with de-icing material if ice has formed on a sidewalk.

It is not permissible for people to shovel or blow snow into streets or onto public property. Language in the ordinance relates to how the Village will remedy snow placed into the street or onto public property and how the Village will recover the related expense. The Village of Pleasant Prairie's Snow and Ice Removal Ordinance can be found at: pleasantprairiewi.gov/government/laws_and_policies/local_ordinances.



Keep Fire Hydrants Clear

Pleasant Prairie Fire & Rescue Department reminds those shoveling to also clear snow from around fire hydrants. Fires can spread quickly. Having hydrants clear and easily accessible improves efficiency and helps Fire & Rescue put out fires.

Maintaining road access and keeping a three-foot radius around fire hydrants, clear of snow and ice debris, is essential. The time it takes a firefighter to dig out hydrants is time that could be spent fighting flames and helping get people out of a building safely.

"Shoveling out a fire hydrant might seem like a small task, but seconds matter in a house fire," said Craig Roepke, Fire & Rescue Chief. "Having a clear hydrant can help keep area homeowners safe and saves valuable time during an emergency fire response."



Outdoor Furnaces

An Outdoor Wood Burning Furnace (OWBF) is prohibited in the Village unless the unit is an existing nonconforming OWBF in full compliance with Village Ordinance 180-25.

An existing OWBF requires a yearly operating permit. It is the owner's responsibility to acquire the \$20 permit annually. A permitted OWBF is not authorized to be operated in a manner that is hazardous, harmful, or offensive to the surrounding neighborhood as determined by the Village Building Inspector or Village Fire & Rescue Chief. Under the ordinance, the Fire & Rescue Chief can revoke a permit for a nonconforming OWBF.



The Village adopted the ordinance on October 19, 2009. Any OWBFs before this date would be considered an existing unit. OWBFs moving forward and after October 19, 2009, are prohibited and in violation of this ordinance. □

Visit Pleasant Prairie News and Updates

Your Local Guide on Things to Do and More: [VisitPleasantPrairie.com](https://www.VisitPleasantPrairie.com)



Christmas Holiday Lights Tour Success

The 2023 Pleasant Prairie Christmas Holiday Lights Tour featured 28 dazzling home displays for a festive holiday celebration. Thank you to all the residents of Pleasant Prairie who joined in the festive spirit of the 2023 Christmas Holiday Lights Tour! Whether you offered your home as a tour stop or simply enjoyed the enchanting sights and delights of the tour, resident participation makes this holiday tradition truly special. Special thanks to our local businesses who helped enhance the tour with free hospitality, experiences, and photo ops during the 2-week event.

Twelfth Night Holiday Tree Bonfire

Visit Pleasant Prairie is proud to be a co-host of the Twelfth Night Holiday Tree Bonfire, held annually on Lake Andrea Beach on January 6. The first 200 attendees will receive a free signature mug.



Stop by the New Visit Pleasant Prairie Office

Visit Pleasant Prairie recently opened a new office located at 4721 75th Street. Make an appointment to get a sneak peek before they officially open to the public in the coming weeks. Their Welcome Center offers comfortable seating, coffee, water, and treats to make visitors feel welcome. Please contact Executive Director, Sarah Howard, at

Sarah@VisitPleasantPrairie.com to schedule a viewing. □



Correctional Enterprises Assisting Village Park Wayfinding



The Pleasant Prairie Parks Department is engaging with the Bureau of Correctional Enterprises (BCE), a sector under the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. BCE is the state agency responsible for agricultural and manufacturing endeavors, operating across twelve correctional facilities. Notable for its diverse range of industries, BCE offers products and services and provides career preparation that focuses on providing highly technical, hands-on jobs with vocational training and professional development opportunities to help its workforce.



A portion of BCE's service offerings include various signage options, covering road or trail signs, custom signs, and printing and graphic services. For the Pleasant Prairie Parks Department, BCE has been tasked with creating wayfinding signs for the Village's Disc Golf Course and playground areas, with plans to extend this service across the parks and trail system networks.

The mission of the BCE is to bring job skills and training to the individuals in their care. The approach aims to develop marketable skills within financially viable businesses, ultimately contributing to rehabilitating those in the correctional system. BCE emphasizes the significance of its training and work experience, promoting long-term success for inmates during incarceration and upon re-entry into the community. □

Historical Society Events: Road to the Little House



Join the Historical Society for the first program of the 2024 four-part "History Happy Hour" fundraiser series. On

Tuesday, February 27, 2024,

Jessica Michna (Historical First Impressions) will present "Laura Ingalls Wilder: Road to the Little House" at the Pleasant Prairie History Museum (3875 116th Street, Pleasant Prairie). Tickets are \$30 and include a light dinner. Season tickets are also available for \$100, and include tickets to all four events. Doors open at 5:00 pm and the program will begin at 6:00 pm. Seating is limited and RSVP is required. To reserve your ticket, contact Museum Curator Kate Bennett at

262-577-5115 or info@pleasantprairiehistoricalsociety.org.



Program details: Generations of children worldwide have been fascinated by the stories and books of Laura Ingalls Wilder. Her "Little House" series was the basis for a successful television series. But how did her life really evolve? What motivated her to put her experiences to paper? What difficulties were overcome before the first book was published? In this First Impressions presentation by Jessica Michna, you will meet Mrs. Wilder, older, wiser and reflecting back on her life. She will tell you her life story and how she came to produce her literary works.

2024 History Happy Hour events:

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Speaker: Jessica Michna

Program: "Laura Ingalls Wilder: Road to the Little House"

Location: Pleasant Prairie History Museum

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

Speaker: Jim Draeger, Author

Program: "What a Gas! The History and Evolution of the Gas Station in Wisconsin"

Location: The Village Supper Club

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Speaker: Michael Rehberg, Black Pointe Estate Interpreter

Program: "Place Names: Why Do We Call It That?"

Location: Pleasant Prairie History Museum

Thursday, October 3, 2024

Speaker: Steve Ackerman, UW Emeritus Professor

Program: "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: The Ship, the Storm, and the Song"

Location: Iguana Wana Mexican Grill

The Pleasant Prairie History Museum is located at the historic Dublin School, 3875 116th Street. The museum features three galleries exhibiting locally important archeological, historical, and cultural materials and stories. The museum is open Wednesday through Friday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Admission is free. The beautifully renovated lower level of the museum is available to rent for business groups, non-profit organizations, and educational groups. □



E-Newsletter: Interested in receiving an email version of the Village Newsletter? Visit PleasantPrairieWi.gov and click on the newsletter icon near the bottom of the page to sign up for digital delivery. You can opt off of the paper mailing list at any time by emailing newsletter@pleasantprairiewi.gov. Include name, postal address, and subject "email only." □

theVillage

January/February 2024

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