

# Acorn



Golf  
Softball  
Little League

Health Fairs  
Seniors Activities  
Library DVD's  
General Elections

## Spring Countdown

Tennis  
Family Fun  
Block Parties  
Spring Clean-up



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# FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

## GOOD NEWS & SOME NOT SO GOOD NEWS!

Together the events that have taken place within the Milwaukee County Courthouse in regards to compensation packages and the loss of state shared revenues as proposed by the governor have elevated the passion of the taxpayers and other local officials. The time for reform and reinvention of government are upon us. The new county executive will certainly have his hands full with the public's high level of expectation for change. The governor has also raised the bar on expectations for the elimination of the shared revenue aid to local municipalities. The City stands to lose \$3.1 million a year that will be phased in over the next two years. Since the loss of revenue is not a one time shot, but the loss of annual payments, we must be prepared to reduce the amount of services we provide, and not just delay some capital improvement projects, such as road or building construction. I would assume this will certainly create some heartburn for Council and myself in deciding which departments and/or services will be reduced, consolidated, eliminated or privatized. Any suggestions you might have would certainly be welcome in the next couple of months.

In December, Council finally approved our Master Stormwater Management Plan. One of the recommendations of this plan is to solicit the voluntary purchase of some undeveloped properties that are environmentally sensitive and prone to flooding. I am happy to report that we have a number of willing sellers, who have accepted our offer to purchase. We are proceeding to acquire these properties and preserve them in open/green space. State grants and our partnership with Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District are supplementing the cost of this program. Some not so good news, is that the Department of Natural Resources as one of the approval agencies for our plan, is now changing some of their previously accepted practices on the computer simulation methods of modeling stormwater impacts. This unfortunately is a good example of taking one step forward and two steps backward. Hopefully, we can navigate our way through this bureaucracy.

January brought great news concerning bid proposals submitted on the construction of our new courthouse

and police station. The tight economy and timing of this project generated an extremely competitive bid proposal that was awarded to J.P. Cullen & Sons Inc. for \$7.8 million. This bid was several million dollars under estimate and was due in large part to the many hours and meetings attended by the citizens from the Police Station Future Needs Committee. Thank you Marge Kanar, John Monahan, Kevin Theissen, Craig Faucett, Ed Siira and Erv Nowak for your time and dedication. Construction is now in process with completion expected next spring.

My expectation is that Council will have hopefully approved our Comprehensive Plan Update by the time you read this. It is the roadmap for the sustained development and growth of our community in an orderly and controlled fashion.

The City has filed with the Wisconsin Public Service Commission for what is called an "intervenor status", in reference to Wisconsin Energy Corp's proposed major expansion of their power plant along Lake Michigan. This is the technical means by which we can challenge and question the impacts of this development upon our community. Since the proposed project in Oak Creek would be the largest single construction project in our state's history, Council and I have determined that we will need to hire some professional experts in this field for guidance and direction. We felt this was necessary, to assure the continuation of a high quality of life for our community. In addition there is also a major resource and financial drain imposed on any municipality, which hosts a facility such as this under current law. The only taxing entity to benefit from this development under the governor's original budget reform proposal, is the state at our expense. This is clearly not acceptable! This issue will certainly demand a great deal of time and effort for us this year, but I am confident we can work through these issues with our state legislators and Wisconsin Energy.

Remember, think and act AMERICAN!

*Dale*

### Scot Bartels, Park Maintenance Employee, Earns Professional Arborist Certification

Scot Bartels recently demonstrated professional competency by successfully completing the ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) certified arborist exam. The purpose of ISA certification is to improve the knowledge and standard practice within the tree care profession. It is designed to assist the public in identifying those professionals in arboriculture, who have demonstrated a thorough knowledge of tree care practices.

Scot came to the City of Oak Creek in 1998 with experience and an educational background in arboriculture. In the past two years, he has worked to expand his knowledge of tree care. You may have already noticed his abilities as our first accomplished tree climber!

Please join us in congratulating Scot !



# 2002 Hazardous Waste Collection Sites

MMSD will be distributing a list of Mobile Collection Sites for Hazardous Waste sometime soon. Please look for the 2002 schedule in the next issue of The Acorn.

There is a Permanent Collection Facility, which is open to residents of Southeastern Wisconsin year round. Check the Hazardous Waste Chart below for instructions on disposal of different types of waste. The location, hours of operation and telephone number are also listed below:



Onyx Environmental Services  
 Southern Permanent  
 Collection Facility  
 10518 South 124<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Franklin, Wisconsin  
 Phone Number: 1-262-255-6655

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday -  
 11:00 am until 6:00 pm  
 Saturday -  
 8:00 am until 2:00 pm

### Key:

n = Place in Trash

S = Pour down the drain  
 (if connected to sanitary sewer)

N = Take to a hazardous waste  
 collection site

-- Latex paint needs to be dried before  
 disposal in municipal trash --

## GARAGE AND WORKSHOP

Acetone N  
 Artists' paints & media N  
 Auto body repair products N  
 Battery acid N  
 Brake fluid N  
 Car wax, solvent-based N  
 Contact cement N  
 Driveway sealer N  
 Fiberglass epoxy N  
 Gasoline & other fuels N  
 Glue, solvent/water-based N  
 Joint compound N  
 Kerosene N  
 Latex paint (dry)n  
 Lighter fluid N  
 Non-automotive oils N  
 Paint, oil-based N  
 Paint thinner N  
 Paint stripper N  
 Parts cleaner N  
 Photographic chemicals N  
 Rust remover N  
 Shellac or Stain N  
 Transmission fluid N  
 Turpentine N  
 Varnish N  
 Windshield washer solution S  
 Wood filler or Preservative N

## KITCHEN & BATHROOM

Alcohol-based lotions  
 (perfume, aftershave) S  
 Bleach S  
 Cleaners, ammonia-based S  
 Cleaners, solvent-based N  
 Cosmetics n  
 Disinfectants N  
 Drain cleaner S  
 Floor care products N  
 Hair remover N  
 Medicine S  
 Nail polish N  
 Nail polish remover N  
 Oven cleaner N  
 Permanent wave solution S  
 Skin cream n  
 Toilet bowl cleaner S  
 Tub and tile cleaner S  
 Window cleaner S

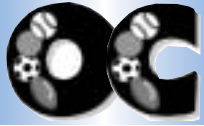
## HOME AND GARDEN

Aerosol cans, empty n  
 Aerosol cans, full N  
 Batteries, alkaline n  
 Batteries, button N  
 Dry cleaning solvent N  
 Fertilizer (without pesticides) n  
 Fertilizer (with pesticides) N  
 Fungicide N  
 Furniture polish N  
 Insect spray N  
 Light ballasts N  
 Metal polish, solvent-based N  
 Mothballs N  
 Pesticides N  
 Pool chemicals N  
 Rat poison N  
 Rechargeable batteries N  
 Shoe polish N  
 Spot remover N  
 Stump remover N  
 Weed killer N

# Hazardous Waste Chart



# Parks and Recreation



Our 2002 summer program guide will be delivered beginning approximately May 6th. Booklets will be available in the office, Library and Community Center beginning May 13th if you didn't get yours. Call us at 768-6515 for information on classes.

## Forever Young Club

Members of the Oak Creek Parks & Recreation Forever Young Club are looking forward to the arrival of spring. Travel opportunities include: Drury Lane Theatre, Milk Pail Theatre and Oneida Casino. Weekly card socials, parties, craft classes and numerous other activities are offered for your enjoyment.



Program Coordinator Georgene Gabelbauer would welcome the opportunity to explain the countless benefits of membership. She can be reached by calling 768-5850 or visit her at the Oak Creek Community Center Tuesday through Thursday.

## Other Activities



This spring and summer, golf lessons will be available to youths (11-16) and adults; also tennis instruction will be available to youths (8 & up) and adults. We also offer exercise classes, drama, playgrounds, and more. Be sure to see our summer program booklet for all this summer's program offerings.



## Youth Baseball/Softball Programs

Registration flyers for youth baseball and softball will be distributed in April through the school offices. Each program offers instructional clinics before summer practices and league games.

Tee Ball:

*boys & girls - age 4-1/2 (on April 1, 2002) through grade 1 (grade 2 may participate)*

Rookie Ball:

*boys & girls - grades 1, 2 & 3*

Girls' Elementary Softball:  
*grades 3, 4, 5 & 6*

Elementary Baseball:

*boys & girls - grades 3, 4, 5 & 6*

7th & 8th Grade:

*Students who are interested in playing baseball or softball should call the Recreation Department. We will organize a league as soon as we have enough participants.*



## Softball Leagues

Adult Softball Leagues – both inseam and outseam – are being offered on weekday evenings. Co-rec, Men's, Women's and Men's 40+ leagues are scheduled to begin the week of April 23rd. Team entry fee for 14-week leagues is \$160 for inseam and \$140 for outseam leagues, plus a \$19 non-resident player fee and \$8 resident player fee.



New 7-week leagues begin May 28th. Entry fees are \$90 inseam and \$70 outseam plus \$13 non-resident player fee and \$5 resident fee.

Senior High Softball Leagues are scheduled to begin the second week in June. Team entry fee is \$80 with a \$7 non-resident fee for those students attending the Oak Creek High School, but living outside the City of Oak Creek.

## SUMMER FUN W.P.R.A. DISCOUNT TICKET PROGRAM

The Oak Creek Parks and Recreation Department will be selling **discount tickets** (cash only) starting the first week of May through August 30th for:



Our discounted  
selling price (in  
blue)

How much you  
save off the gate  
price (underlined)

Familyland: (includes indoor & outdoor waterparks)  
\$16.50 (2 & under free) Save \$8.89

Great America:

\$33.50 (adult 54" & taller) Save \$7.69  
July 7-13th only! \$24.75 adult Save \$16.44  
(We do not sell children's tickets)

House on the Rock:

\$16.00 (adult) Save \$3.50  
\$ 9.50 (7-12) Save \$2.00  
\$ 4.50 (4-6) Save \$1.00 (3 & under Free)

Milwaukee County Zoo:

\$ 6.50 (adult) Save \$2.50  
\$ 4.50 (3-12) Save \$1.50 (2 & under Free)

Noah's Ark:

\$22.50 - (2 & under free) Save \$6.11

Pirate's Cove Adventure Golf: (18 holes)

\$5.00 - (5 & under free) Save \$1.99

Tommy Bartlett Thrill Show:

\$11.50 (youth & adult) Save \$3.80  
(5 & under free if held on adult's lap)

Tommy Bartlett Robot World:

\$6.50 - (5 & under free) Save \$3.50

Upper Dells Boats:

\$13.50 (adult) Save \$4.25  
\$8.00 (6-11) Save \$1.00 (5 & under free)

Original Wisconsin Ducks:

\$14.25 (adult) Save \$2.50  
\$8.50 (6-11) Save \$0.50 (5 & under free)

Riverview Park & Waterworld:

\$11.25 (5 & under free) Save \$6.75

Shipwreck Lagoon:

\$4.25 (2 & under free) Save \$2.50

Cash only - **No Credit Cards or Checks Accepted.**



## Playground Program

A summer playground program will be offered for youth in Grades K-6. Playgrounds are tentatively scheduled to start Monday, June 10th, at various locations. Please see the playground flyer and our summer program book (available in May) for the schedule of dates, times and locations.

For more information, contact the Recreation office at 768-6515.

## Employment



The Oak Creek Parks & Recreation Department is accepting applications for part-time personnel for the following programs:

- Cheerleading Instructor
- Youth Baseball/Softball Coaches & Umpires
- Golf Instructor
- Adult Softball League Umpires/Field Supervisors
- Tennis Instructor (mornings)
- Teen Adventure Supervisor
- Youth Arts & Crafts Instructor

Stop in the office (east wing of City Hall) Monday through Friday and fill out an application.

## Miller Park Pavilion Rental

Residents may obtain a use permit for Miller Park & Pavilion for family picnics, small weddings, meetings, etc., from the Parks & Recreation office. The current facility rental fee is \$60 (\$30 refund if cancelled prior to 30 days of the event) Friday through Sunday including Holidays, in addition to a \$30 security deposit (refundable after inspection of facility and surrounding area). Monday through Thursday rental fee is \$30 plus deposit. A written request and Department approval are required.

# Health Department



## Development and Safety Fairs



Matthew playing the jumping game.

Development and Safety Fairs are being held this spring for children 2 yrs.-9 months to 4 years old. They will be held Monday, April 8th and Wednesday, May 15th from 8:30-10:30 am at the Oak Creek City Hall. They include developmental screening and information on nutrition and home safety. A gift will be given to each child that participates. Call 768-6525 to reserve your child's place in this program.

## Immunization Update

As you plan to have your child immunized this spring, you should be aware that there is currently a shortage of certain vaccines. MMR, Varicella, Prevnar and Td are currently in short or delayed supply. Before arriving at the immunization clinics, please call 768-6525 to be sure the vaccine you need is available.

Web Resources – Do you need more information about immunizations? Try these websites approved by the Centers for Disease Control:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nip>  
<http://www.immunize.org>

## Want to Quit Smoking?

Need help quitting? The Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line can help you. Call them at 1-877-270-STOP (toll free) for free information on quitting smoking or stop in at the Health Department for a free brochure for a list of resources.



The Quit Line offers:

- One-on-one, practical telephone counseling on how to boost your chances for successfully quitting.
- Self-help materials.
- Helpful support information for friends and family.
- Referrals to local programs and services.

## Parenting Tidbits on Tantrums



Tantrums are a normal part of your child's development. Find creative ways to teach your child how to handle frustration and anger.

Also, use praise to reinforce positive behavior while setting reasonable limits and expectations. Spending quality time with your child every day will build confidence to handle future challenges.

## Parenting Classes

Parenting classes will be held this summer for parents of pre-schoolers. The first one is scheduled for Monday, June 17th from 7:00-8:00pm. Please call 768-6525 if you are interested.



# Oak Creek Public Library

## Library Circulation Skyrockets



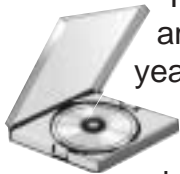
Have you noticed how much busier the library is? For the year 2001, our library has broken circulation records and had its busiest year ever.

Total circulation for 2001 was 243,160 (that's an increase of 16,243 items from 2000). If you look at the increase from 1999 to 2000 (which was 5,437), you can understand why you might have had to wait in line to check items out lately. In fact, this past January we had a circulation increase of 3,351 over January of last year. That is the biggest monthly increase in circulation since the library opened in 1972.



A big reason why our circulation has been increasing at such a dramatic rate has been the amount of media items being checked out. In 2001, circulation for all audiovisual items was 78,474 (almost one-third of the year's total circulation). By far the vast majority of A-V items circulated was for videotapes at 52,797. Compact discs were checked out 15,578 times in 2001.

Perhaps the most astounding figure is the amount of DVD's our library circulated last year. We started our collection in early November and at the end of the year we had a total of 122 DVD's. Total circulation for DVD's in 2001 was 777! We are continuing to add to this new and very popular collection on a regular basis.



Jonathan Bloy, Assistant City Librarian

## English as a Second Language



Oak Creek Public Library has been very fortunate to receive two monetary grants totaling over \$2,000.00.

Late in 2001, we received an LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) grant through the Milwaukee County Federated Library System. This grant was presented in order to provide materials for children whose first language is not English. Seventy-five bilingual books have been purchased in the following languages: Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, Gugarti, Hmong, Korean, Punjabi, Polish, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese. All of these books have matching text in English as well and are nicely illustrated. Many are classic children's titles.

This January, we received a grant from the Wisconsin Energy Corporation. This grant will be used to purchase audiocassettes and compact discs for adults for whom English is a second language. These media items will be for speakers of Hindi, Korean, Japanese and Spanish and will have supplemental printed booklets.

Oak Creek continues to be one of the fastest growing communities in Milwaukee County and along with continued growth is the increasing diversity of new residents. Our intention is to promote the learning of and increased proficiency in the English language for users whose first language is not English.

Ross M. Talis, City Librarian

## Home Improvement Loans are Still Available

Low or no interest loans are available to income eligible households for various improvements to their homes. Based on the numbers in the table on the right, a household would be eligible if its total annual income is less than the maximum amount shown per family size.

If you feel your household is eligible, please contact [Paul Milewski](#) with the Department of Community Development at [768-6527](#) or stop in at the City Hall for an application.

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Total Annual Family Income</u>
1 .....	\$35,550
2 .....	\$40,650
3 .....	\$45,700
4 .....	\$50,800
5 .....	\$54,850
6 .....	\$58,950
7 .....	\$63,000
8+ .....	\$67,050

# Spring Clean-Up

The Street Department will conduct a Spring Clean-up program starting May 15th.

Items that will be picked up are as follows:

- Yard Waste; excluding leaves and grass
- Furniture
- Wood
- Appliances
- Construction Materials; not resulting from a contractor
- Metal
- Mattresses
- Televisions
- Carpeting/Rugs

Items that will not be picked up are as follows:

- Paints
- Tires
- Batteries
- Hazardous Materials - See page 3
- Grass Clippings
- Leaves



Residents are required to have their items at the curb or roadside prior to May 15th in order to be guaranteed a pick up.

## Would You Help Us with the Recycling Yard?

Corrugated cardboard is the most popular item brought to the City of Oak Creek drop off site, especially on Saturdays. As some of you may have experienced, by 1:00 pm, the cardboard dumpsters are usually full and residents are told to place their cardboard in the garbage truck. For those residents who take the time to correctly handle their cardboard, this can be very aggravating.

One of the ways residents can help us with this problem is to utilize the recycling service offered to all homeowners in the City of Oak Creek. Corrugated cardboard will be picked up curbside, along with your other recyclables, if the cardboard is broken down to 4 foot by 4 foot squares, no thicker than 8 inches and placed on top of your recycling cart.

If you must bring your cardboard to the drop off site, PLEASE FOLD IT DOWN! Styrofoam and/or wood should be removed from the cardboard before it is placed into the cardboard/paper recycling dumpsters. Please note that these dumpsters are exclusively for the recycling of CARDBOARD AND PAPER! Packing peanuts, styrofoam, bubble wrap, wood or other miscellaneous packing items should not be placed in these dumpsters. If you are not sure where something should go, ask the yard attendant on duty.

Questions? You may call 570-5682 Monday through Friday from 6:30 am until 3:15 pm.

We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.





# Cleaning Up Storm Water Runoff

Storm water runoff is the water that flows off our lawns, streets, rooftops, and open space. As the water runs over these surfaces, it picks up various pollutants, such as fertilizer, pesticides, oil, and sediment. Storm water, along with any pollution it picks up, goes directly to our streams and lakes and is not treated by the wastewater treatment plant.

You wouldn't think that a little extra fertilizer from a single lawn, or a small amount of oil leaking from one car would pose much of a problem. However, when you add up these small pollutants the total pollution can be substantial. As part of the requirements of its DNR storm water permit, the City of Oak Creek is required to reduce pollution in the storm water runoff. There are several ways the City is working to improve storm water quality, and there are some simple, straightforward things that you can do to help.

K Minimize the use of fertilizer and pesticides on your lawn or garden. A soil test can help you determine the proper amount and type of fertilizer that your lawn actually needs, and can save you money by reducing the amount of waste and excess fertilizer used.

K When using fertilizer and pesticides, read and follow label directions such as "do not apply if rain is forecast". This helps protect our water quality and assures that your fertilizer or pesticide will be as effective as possible, rather than being washed away before it can do its job.

K When planting a new lawn or garden, cover the bare soil with mulch to prevent erosion and encourage growth, and sweep (don't rinse) soil off paved areas

K Never dump oil or other materials into a storm drain. These drains carry water directly to the rivers and lakes.

For more information on these or other ideas to protect and improve storm water quality, please call the City Engineering Department at 768-6541.



## Branch Pick-Up



Branch pick up begins March 1st and continues on the first of each month through November 1st.

To guarantee that your branches are picked up by the Street Division, you must have your branches to the curb or roadside by the 1st of the month. If you do not have your branches placed for pick up by the 1st, your branches will not be picked up until the following month.

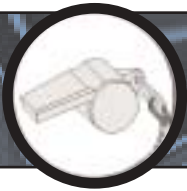
Remember, branches are to be stacked neatly with the cut off ends facing the road.

## Holiday Rubbish/Recycling Collection Days APRIL-MAY-JUNE, 2002

DAY OF PICK UP  
Friday  
May 24th



DATE OF HOLIDAY  
Monday, Memorial  
Day - May 27th



# Police Department

## 9-1-1 EMERGENCY ONLY!



The Police Department would like to remind all citizens that the 9-1-1 emergency telephone number should be used to report emergencies only. Quite often the Department receives calls on the 9-1-1 lines from callers seeking general information.

It is imperative to keep the 9-1-1 lines open and available for actual emergencies. There is an ordinance in the City of Oak Creek for the Misuse of Emergency Telephone Numbers which imposes a fine of \$286.

*The following phone numbers should be used for all non-emergency situations:*

*Oak Creek Police Department  
Non-emergency Numbers*

Non-Emergency Phone 762-8200

Clerical Dept. (incident/accident report  
copies/questions) 768-7423

Clerk of Courts  
(court & citation information) 768-7425



## BLOCK PARTIES

If you are planning to hold a block party, please be aware that City officials require approval. You will need to stop by the [City Clerk's office](#) approximately two weeks (or more) in advance to fill out an application, along with a map detailing where the party is to be held. Approval is required from the Police, Fire and Street Departments, as well as from the Alderperson of your district. No fee is required.

If barricades will be needed to block off a portion of the street, you will be responsible for pickup and delivery from the Street Division, 800 W. Puetz Road., 570-5682, before 3:00 pm Friday.

## "CLICK-IT!—WHY RISK IT?" Seat Belts

The Oak Creek Police Department has received a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for increased enforcement of seatbelt laws. The Department will be joining several other statewide jurisdictions in a cooperative effort to reduce traffic injuries and deaths by increasing public awareness and conducting increased enforcement of safety belt/child safety seat violations. Fines for violation of the seatbelt laws range from \$10 for adults upwards to \$127.90 for children.

A \$10 fine may not cause enough incentive to buckle up, but injuries sustained during an accident without a seatbelt will change your mind.

Please remember to buckle up!

If you have any questions regarding this program or would like more seatbelt information, please contact Officer Winegarden at 762-8200 between 7:00 am and 3:00 pm.



## REPORTING UTILITY PROBLEMS

With spring weather upon us, the likelihood of power outages from storms and strong winds is imminent. Should a power outage occur, citizens are asked to report the problem directly to the Wisconsin Electric Power Company at 1-800-662-4797.

However, any incidents of downed, arcing, or low hanging wires should be reported to the Oak Creek Police Department for notification to the proper utility company for immediate action.



## IDENTITY THEFT PROTECT YOUR GOOD NAME!

Identity theft occurs when someone obtains a person's identifying information - name, address, date of birth, social security number or mother's maiden name - and uses it illegally. No matter how careful you are, you cannot guarantee that a criminal will not obtain your personal information.

### PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT BY FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE STEPS!

- Ask your bank, doctor's office, employer and other businesses how they use and protect your personal information.
- Never carry your Social Security card, Social Security number, birth certificate or passport with you unless necessary.
- Social Security numbers or phone numbers should not be put on checks.
- Identifying information should not be given over the phone or the internet to someone you do not know or on a cellular phone.
- Shred all personal documents before placing in the trash.



## Oak Creek Crime STOPPERS 570-2499

The Oak Creek Police Department is always looking for your help solving crimes. You can remain 100% anonymous and receive a reward for your tip. Call the CrimeStoppers hotline at 570-2499 and help keep our community a safer place to live.

### NEW EMPLOYEE

The Police Department would like to welcome



Amanda Asselin as the newest member of our staff. Amanda was hired to fill a part-time Police Aide position. She graduated from Oak Creek High School and is currently attending M.A.T.C. pursuing a Criminal Justice degree.

### Traffic court meets at City Hall Wednesday Nights ONLY!

after 5:00 pm

At all other times, please pay your fines at the Oak Creek Police Department.



## NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH

The Oak Creek Police Department would like to expand its Neighborhood Block Watch program. The Neighborhood Block Watch program is a proven crime prevention tool which can help keep your neighborhood a safe and pleasant place to live. All that is required is a group of concerned neighbors who are willing to report any suspicious activity to the police.

Crime Prevention Officer Ron Piojda can answer any questions you may have about starting a Neighborhood Block Watch program in your neighborhood. He will assist in setting up an initial neighborhood meeting for your group, explain how the program works, and provide all the start-up materials you'll need. Contact Officer Piojda at (414) 768-7435 for an appointment.





After the regular Spring General Election on April 2, 2002, and as of the date this publication was printed,

the potential exists for a special recall election, date unknown. The media will provide regular updated information on this issue.

The Fall Partisan Primary election will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2002 for Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Representative in Congress, State Senator, Representative to the Assembly, District Attorney, County Partisan offices and referenda (if required).

The Fall General election will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2002 for the offices as listed above.

Those registered voters whose voting location has changed (due to redistricting after the 2000 census) received a postcard stating their new district, ward, and voting location. If you have any questions regarding your voting location, absentee ballot information or registration by mail, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 768-6500. You can also check out the redistricting map on the next page of this publication.

## TRANSIENT MERCHANTS

According to the Municipal Code, all persons going door-to-door soliciting must be licensed by the City of Oak Creek and must wear a photo ID badge. Non-profit and charitable organizations are not required to be licensed, but must be registered at the Police Department and wear ID badges as well. If you are aware of someone soliciting without proper identification, please contact the Police Department at 762-8200.



## PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

(a) In addition to the weeds mentioned to be noxious under s. 66.96(1), Wisconsin Statutes, the following weeds are also declared to be noxious weeds within the boundaries of the City of Oak Creek: Bull Thistle, Wild Carrot, Sour Dock, Wild Mustard, Chickory, Poison Oak, Poison Ivy, Sow Thistle, Burdock.

(b) Except as provided in sub. (c), all weeds and grass in platted subdivisions which have buildings on more than 50% of the lots in the subdivision, in multi-family apartments and complexes, planned developments and mobile home districts shall be cut to and maintained at a height not to exceed six (6) inches. All weeds and grass in platted subdivisions which have buildings on 50% or less of the lots or which are not located in platted subdivisions and all weeds and grasses in business and manufacturing zoning districts shall be cut to a height not to exceed one foot (12 inches).

The City Weed Commissioner may cause all weeds, grass and brush to be cut and removed, in accordance with this subsection and the cost thereof shall be charged to the property owner pursuant to Section 66.98(1) Wis. Stats.

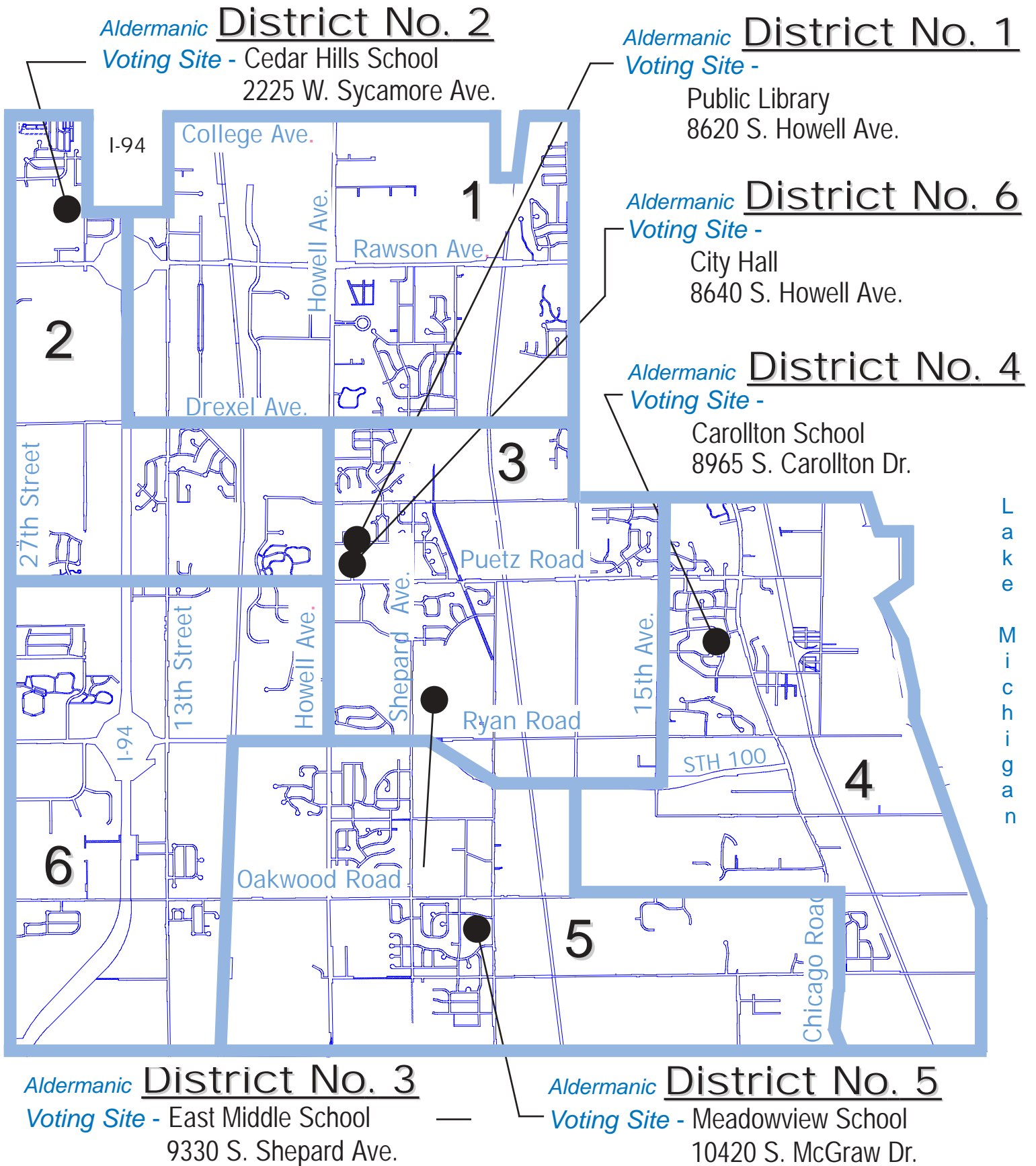
(c) The provisions for destruction of noxious weeds and cutting of all weeds and grass as provided above shall not apply to areas which are designated by the Common Council as nature centers or wildlife preserves.

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A Wise Man learns  
from someone else's mistakes.

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# Final Aldermanic Redistricting





# Fire Department

## Commanding Performance Leads to Well-Deserved Retirement

After 31 years of service, Commander Charles "Charlie" Liebl has retired from the Oak Creek Fire Department. Charlie began his fire fighting career in 1970. In 1981, he was promoted to Lieutenant and then to Commander in 1990. Charlie loved being a fire fighter and serving the City of Oak Creek. His devotion was observed through his dedication, and his leadership was depicted in his motto: "firm, fair and friendly."

Charlie was loyal to improving the service of the Fire Department as he continually involved himself in department activities. Examples of his participation can be seen in many of the emergency vehicles that serve the City. Most recently, Charlie led the purchase of the department's mobile command and communications unit. He assisted in the purchase of a 100 foot aerial platform truck that has improved the Fire Department's fire fighting and rescue potential.

For the past year, Charlie served as the first station commander of Station #3. He worked diligently to prepare that station for operation and maintain it for emergency response. We congratulate Charlie on a well-deserved retirement and wish him and his family the best of luck in all their future ventures.

## Candle Safety



The increasing popularity of candles has been evident in the increasing number of candle-related fires. The National Fire Protection Agency has compiled some facts about candle fires and reports that a recent, year-long study found over 1,000 injuries and over 150 deaths were directly connected to fires caused by candles. It was further determined that the leading cause of home candle fires was unattended, abandoned or inadequately controlled candles. The study also reported that almost half of candle-related fires start in the bedroom.

### Safety Tips:



- Extinguish all candles when leaving the room or before going to sleep.
- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire (clothing, books, paper, curtains, flammable decorations).
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, won't tip over easily, are made from material that can't burn and are large enough to catch dripping wax.
- Don't place lit candles in windows, where blinds and curtains can close over them.
- Place candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface, and do not use candles in places where they could be knocked over by children or pets.
- Keep candles and all open flames away from flammable liquids
- Keep candle wicks trimmed to one-quarter inch and extinguish taper and pillar candles when they get to within two inches of the holder or decorative material. Votives and containers should be extinguished before the last half-inch of wax starts to melt.
- Avoid candles with combustible items embedded into them.

### Children and Candles

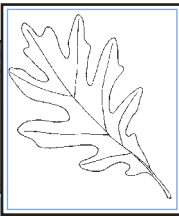
Keep candles out of reach of children. Never leave a child unattended in a room with a candle. A child should not sleep in a room with a lit candle. Store candles, matches and lighters up high and out of children's sight/reach.

### During Power Outages

Try to avoid carrying a lit candle. Don't use a lit candle when searching for items in a confined space (cupboard, closet).

Never use a candle for a light when checking pilot lights or fueling equipment such as a kerosene heater or lantern. The flame may ignite the fumes. During a power outage, it is better to use a flashlight.





# City Forestry

## Dutch Elm Disease is Still Alive and Flourishing in Oak Creek *Calling Residents to the Aid of Their Community*

Many tree diseases are not common knowledge. But nearly everyone has heard of Dutch Elm Disease (DED). It was single-handedly responsible for the deforestation of many urban forests following invasion in the 1930's. News articles featured people weeping as they said goodbye to trees that lined the streets in an elegant display of arching canopies that met in the middle.

In a recent interview with a long-time City of Milwaukee Forester, I asked, "Is there anything that neighboring communities can do that would complement the greater Milwaukee area forestry programs?" The answer was to aid in the control of DED. Until that point I had viewed DED in Oak Creek as so rampant that it was almost senseless to initiate control measures; especially since many of our infected trees are grouped in rural or semi-rural woodlots.

### *The Basics of DED*

DED is a disease that is caused by a fungus and infects mostly American and slippery (red) elm in our neck of the woods. It is spread by the elm bark beetle or between roots of neighboring elms (closer than 50 feet, as a general rule) that have grafted together. In the growing season, the most common symptom of DED is what is referred to as *flagging*. Flagging is when leaves, typically on one or two non-broken branches, lighten, turn yellow, then brown and finally wilt. The leaves wilt because this fungus invades the water-conductive tissue, or xylem. DED may then spread rapidly throughout the crown or it may take several years to run its course.

Finally, a year will arrive when the tree is leafless. This is when the elm bark beetle finds a place to reproduce. And reproduce it does—elm bark beetles are one insect that is easy to find! One infested log can contain thousands of elm beetles. Usually the bark begins to shed in the following year. Once the bark is gone there is no longer a threat of beetle reproduction. But it isn't over 'till it's over! When the bark is shed the tree becomes prone to failure. And can be a safety hazard if it is close enough to community activity, powerlines or personal property.

### *An Ounce of Prevention*

The following measures can be taken to control the spread of DED:

- b** Run wood through a chipper to prevent reproduction under bark.
- b** De-bark. Remove bark, which will easily part on older, deadwood.
- b** Seal firewood, if bark is still attached, under clear plastic with weight to prevent invasion or escape of beetles (tuck under soil or rocks). The plastic will also cook beetles trapped beneath.
- b** Prune American elm only in the winter prior to April 1st. Then promptly dispose of the branches by chipping or burning.
- b** Don't replace with a new American elm. Reforest with another species at this time.
- b** Finally, for large, valuable, healthy, isolated American elms, consider purchasing a preventative injection. Timing of injection will be critical.

If the street tree in front of your home is an elm and planted since 1996, DED should not be a problem. These elms are hybrids of Asiatic and European elms which are DED resistant.

### *Working Together*

Lately I have pondered this DED epidemic and wondered if we could work together to seriously reduce DED in Oak Creek—before we lose every last beautiful American elm. If you are interested in helping to control DED, I'd like to hear from you. Perhaps you have a wooded area plagued with DED or, maybe you are in need of firewood for a good cause. Surely with the number of dead elms around, no one should want for firewood in Oak Creek.

For more detailed information on DED contact Rebecca Lane @ 768-5861, email: [rlane@oakcreekwi.org](mailto:rlane@oakcreekwi.org) or, visit one of these websites:

[www.ext.nodak.edu/extpubs/plantsci/trees/pp324w.htm](http://www.ext.nodak.edu/extpubs/plantsci/trees/pp324w.htm)  
[www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/howtos/ht\\_ded/ht\\_ded.htm](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/howtos/ht_ded/ht_ded.htm)

# CITY OF OAK CREEK - SPRING CALENDAR

## April 2002

- 1 . . . 7:00 pm . . . COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
(Monday)
- |  |
|--|
| 2 . . . 7:00 am - 8:00 pm<br>SPRING GENERAL ELECTION |
|--|
- 3 . . . 6:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
4 . . . 11:30 am . . . Board of Health  
2:30-5:30pm Immunization Clinic  
9 . . . 4:45 pm . . . Library Board (b)  
7:00 pm . . . PLAN COMMISSION  
10 . . 5:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
7:00 pm . . . Traffic and Safety Commission  
7:30 pm . . . Water & Sewer Utility Commission (a)  
11 . . 6:30 pm . . . Parks and Recreation Commission  
16 . . 7:00 pm . . . COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
17 . . 6:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
18 . . 9-11:00 am Immunization Clinic  
23 . . 7:00 pm . . . PLAN COMMISSION  
24 . . 5:00 pm . . . Municipal Court

## May 2002

- 1 . . . 6:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
2 . . 2:30-5:30pm Immunization Clinic  
7 . . . 7:00 pm . . . COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
8 . . . 5:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
7:00 pm . . . Traffic and Safety Commission  
7:30 pm . . . Water & Sewer Utility Commission(a)  
9 . . . 6:30 pm . . . Parks and Recreation Commission  
14 . . 4:45 pm . . . Library Board (b)  
7:00 pm . . . PLAN COMMISSION  
15 . . 6:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
16 . . 9-11:00 am Immunization Clinic  
21 . . 7:00 pm . . . COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
22 . . 5:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
27 . . CLOSED . . . MEMORIAL DAY  
28 . . 7:00 pm . . . PLAN COMMISSION

## June 2002

- 4 . . . 7:00 pm . . . COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
5 . . . 6:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
6 . . . 2:30-5:30pm Immunization Clinic  
11 . . 7:00 pm . . . PLAN COMMISSION  
12 . . 5:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
7:00 pm . . . Traffic and Safety Commission  
7:30 pm . . . Water and Sewer Utility Commission (a)  
13 . . 6:30 pm . . . Parks and Recreation Commission  
18 . . 7:00 pm . . . COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
19 . . 6:00 pm . . . Municipal Court  
20 . . 9-11:00 am . Immunization Clinic  
25 . . 7:00 pm . . . PLAN COMMISSION  
26 . . 5:00 pm . . . Municipal Court