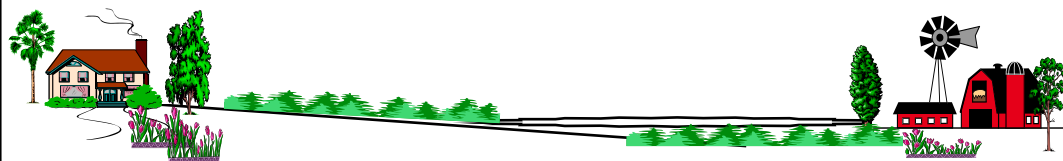


# Town of Sun Prairie Newsletter

5556 Twin Lane Road, Marshall, WI 53559, 608-837-6688



Volume 17, Issue 1

May 2009

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## Home Safety/Security Tips

By Town of Sun Prairie Community Deputy John Nelson



Over the last year Dane County has seen an increase in home burglaries and property crimes. Because of this, it has become increasingly important for citizens to take steps in protecting their home and property. The majority of burglaries occur during daylight

hours when most people are at work and kids are in school. Here are some good tips to follow:

### Exterior of Residence:

\*Make sure your home is well lit by using adequate lighting, especially near any doors or windows. Use timers or motion sensors to automatically go on when you are not at home or for when someone approaches your home.

\*Trim trees, shrubs and bushes around your home and property so as not to allow someone concealment when approaching your home.

(Continued on page 2)

## RECYCLING ELECTRONICS

Dane County TV and Electronics Recycling

Drop Off

Saturday, May 9, 2009

9am to 2pm

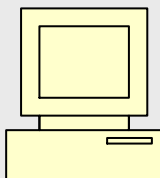
Alliant Energy Center

Olin Street Entrance

1919 Alliant Energy

Center Way, Madison WI

Electronic materials collected at the event will include all brands of television sets (all sizes), computer monitors, personal computers, printers, scanners, fax machines, calculators, cell phones, keyboards, & mice, microwaves, vacuums, toasters, radios, stereos, telephone, DVD and CD players and VCRs. This event is a one time FREE Drop Off.



## COUNTRY ROAD DANGER

Equipment on rural roads can be a dangerous business. Motorists and Machine Operators need to drive defensively and remain alert every second they are on the road. A major reason for farm machinery accidents on rural roads is the difference in speed between cars and tractors. Motorists approach the slow moving farm equipment so quickly that they only have a few seconds to identify the hazard and react appropriately. Travel at a speed that will allow you to maintain full control at all times. Machinery frequently makes left hand turns into field driveways and traffic behind it is not always visible to the driver.



(Continued from page 1) Home Safety/Security Tips

\*Have someone shovel your driveway or mow your grass if you will not be home for an extended period of time. In addition have someone pick up your mail and newspaper so as not to accumulate in front of your home. These are all indicators to potential burglars that no one is at home.

\*Do not set your garbage out by the curb several days before garbage pick-up. Collect it and place it inside your garage or someplace outside where it can be collected by a neighbor or friend to place by the curb on garbage day. Again this is an indicator to potential burglars that someone may not be home for several days.

\*Make sure to properly break down boxes so the inside of the box faces outwards prior to placing them by the curb for pick-up. Markings on boxes for high-end electronics are key indicators to thieves as to what they might be able to steal from inside a residence.

### Doors and Windows:

\*Make sure all doors and windows are in good working order and have a proper latch or locking device.

\*Exterior doors should be at least 1 ¾ inches thick and made up of solid wood or metal.

\*Each exterior door should be equipped with a dead bolt at least 1 ½ inches in length.

\*Use an eyehole or have an area near your front door where you can see who is knocking on your door.

### Interior of Residence:

\*If utilizing an alarm system make

sure to keep up with proper use and maintenance.

\*Make sure to designate a key holder easily assessable and in close proximity to your residence when you are not available to assist law enforcement if the alarm is activated.

\*When not at home during the evening hours leave one or two lights on so as to give the appearance that someone is home.

\*Never leave valuable items such as cash or jewelry in plain view where someone might see them by passing by a window or door.

\*Valuables should be kept in a safe/secure place. Dresser drawers are some of the first places thieves look to find valuables.

\*If using a safe, make sure it is secured in a wall or by some other means. Smaller safes can be picked up and taken from the residence by thieves and opened at a later date.

\*Make sure to copy down serial numbers for electronics and take pictures of valuables to be used for identification if stolen. Many items go unclaimed if recovered in other jurisdictions due to the inability of law enforcement to identify where an item was stolen from.

\*Make sure that guns are always stored unloaded and with an approved gunlock secured to it. The Dane County Sheriff's Office has a limited supply of gunlocks that can be picked up by calling 266-3456.

### Other Tips:

\*Become part of a neighborhood watch or similar program in your area to help deter and prevent

crime from occurring.

\*Make sure you have at least one working phone in your home in case you need to call 911. If using a cell phone make sure to give your location first before anything else in case your call gets cut off.

\*Always be suspicious of unusual persons or vehicles driving around your neighborhood. Write down license plates along with physical descriptions of persons and vehicles including the date and time seen in case this information needs to be passed on to law enforcement.

\*Work with neighbors to help keep an eye on your home and property.

\*When on vacation make sure to stop mail and newspaper delivery or have someone pick-up these items on a daily basis. Also have someone stop by your house daily or every other day to check on it as well as to give the impression that someone is home.

\*Contact your local law enforcement agency to see if they conduct vacation checks on your residence while you are gone.

If you have any questions about this article or anything else related to home safety and security please contact me:

Deputy John Nelson

Dane County Sheriff's Office  
115 W. Doty St.  
Madison, WI. 53703  
283-3952



## TOWN BOARD UPDATE

The Town Board has amended several ordinances and adopted a few new ordinances during the past year. Currently we are working on a ordinance entitled "Regulating the Sale of Alcohol Beverages in the Town". This ordinance adopts State Statute 125 relating to the sale of alcohol and describes the process for granting of Class A & B licenses, operator licenses, provisional license, restrictions and conditions. The ordinance also outlines a point system to provide an objective guideline for the Town Board to consider in determining whether to suspend or revoke an alcohol license. Adoption of this ordinance will allow us to repeal a number of older, outdated ordinances. We are also working with the Fire Department on the adoption of a Fire Prevention Code Ordinance. This ordinance allows for citations and local enforcement of commercial owners who are in violation. The fire department reviewed the codes with the commercial owners. There were also amendments to the Land Division Ordinance. Most of those changes were updates and technical in nature.

The Board has spent time on an EMS District Arbitration issue brought by the Village of Marshall against the three member Towns. The issue has been resolved with the aid of an arbitrator. The Board has also been working on a revision to the EMS Joint Agreement between Village of Marshall and Towns of Medina, York and Sun Prairie.

## PLAN COMMISSION

The Plan Commission has worked on amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and the Land Division Ordinance. Both of these have been completed, although the County needs to adopt the Land Use Plan amendments. There have not been any residential land divisions, activity is down compared to several years ago.

### ***Remember!***

it is **ILLEGAL** to ride ATVs or dirt bikes in the road right-of-way areas.

Road right-of-ways are 33 feet from the center of the roadway into the ditch area. Citations can be issued for these violations.



## OPEN BOOK PROCESS

The property assessing firm, Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc. will hold an Open Book Session on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at the Town Hall. Assessors will be available to talk with property owners concerning their assessment. We encourage anyone who has questions about their assessment to make an appointment. Property owners may review the assessment roll, check for errors and compare assessments. Taking the time to meet with the assessor can be very helpful and informative. The hours of Open Book are from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. June 23. Call the assessor at 1-800-721-4157 to schedule an appointment.

## BOARD OF REVIEW

We encourage those who think they may want to appear before the Board of Review to first meet with the assessor during the Open Book session. Board of Review is set for Tuesday, July 28, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

The main function of the Board of Review is to hear objections to valuations that have not been resolved with the assessor during Open Book.

The evidence presented by the property owner must be factual in nature, not just a matter of opinion.

Check the WI Department of Revenue website for informative publications <http://www.revenue.wi.gov/pubs/slf/pb060.pdf>. You may also call the Town Clerk at 837-6688 with assessment questions.

### 3RD ANNUAL SAFETY FAIR

AT EMS BUILDING  
MARSHALL, WI

Saturday, May 16, 2009  
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Demonstrations and exhibits by area EMS, Fire Department, Police Department, Red Cross, hospitals, WI National Guard, UW Med-Flight, and more!

Raffle and food available!

Raffle tickets will be sold by local businesses toward end of April.

For more information, please contact: Jon Erdmann or Jerilyn Endrizzi of Marshall Area EMS - 608-655-4655

## TOWN OF SUN PRAIRIE RECEIVED A \$20,041.97 RECYCLING GRANT

This money is turned around and used to reduce the special charge amount on property owner tax bills. The grant requires a continued high level of recycling. If we fall below 82 pounds of recycled material per

person, per year we will not be able to receive the grants. Our amount for 2008 was 139 pounds per person. Keep up the good work and be mindful of recycling all that you can.

## DANE COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS POSTER...

The Cultural Affairs art poster *September Flora* by Dane County artist Lee Weiss is available at the Town of Sun Prairie's Town Hall. The original watercolor painting is an enchanting representation of a flowery green landscape in Madison's Hoyt Park. Weiss, a phenomenal and unflagging artist of 80 years. While living in Madison for the past several decades, she and her artwork have become internationally acclaimed. [www.leeweiss.com](http://www.leeweiss.com).



### Weather radios

are available at the town business office again this year. The radios are programmable, allowing you to choose the county you want to receive weather alerts for. The model is slightly different than the past two years. The cost is \$25.00 including tax.

## RURAL ADDRESS NUMBER SIGN

Is your sign visible from the road day or night and at all times of the year? Remember that the drivers of the emergency vehicles need to be able to see the numbers to respond to your call for help.

## HOME COMPOSTING

We have free DNR pamphlets describing the basic composting setup. The publication is very helpful. If "these times" have you thinking about raising some of your own food, the compost you can make, is a wonderful addition to the soil.

## USED CELL PHONES

Used cell phones are being collected for the Dane County Sheriff to redistribute to victims of trauma. This will be an on-going program and the Town Hall is a collection site. No cell phone ever ends up in a land fill.

## INTERSTATE PROJECT

Portions of Ridge and Baxter roads will be closed this summer due to the raising of the bridges. Construction is expected to last eight to 10 weeks.

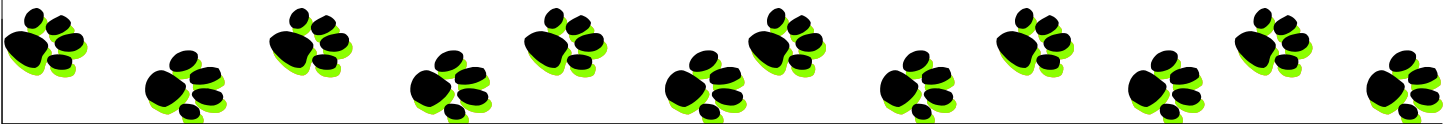


**Building Inspector:** The office hours for the building inspector have been changed. Chris Butschke's regular hours are now Monday from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. He no longer has regular Friday hours. He is available to meet you at other times if you contact him. Inspections are still available 5 days a week. Call the Town office for more information.

**Dog Licenses and Fee Increase:** Dog licenses are available at the Town Hall, please bring the rabies vaccination certificate with you, or mail to the office. Remember that the town ordinance prohibits dogs from running at large. You must keep them leashed or kenneled. Excessive barking is also prohibited.

**Fees:** Neutered/Spayed—\$11.00; Males/Females—\$16.00; Kennel Fee (1-12 dogs) - \$50.00 (ea. additional dog over 12) - \$10.00 ea.

**Rabies Certificates:** Please help us keep our records current. If you have new rabies vaccination information since receiving your license please have the vet fax our office a copy of the new rabies certificate. Town business office Fax number is 825-4864.



## ELECTRONICS RECYCLING LEGISLATION

Wisconsin's proposed electronics recycling bill was introduced to the 2007-08 Wisconsin legislature as SB 397 by Senator Mark Miller in January 2008. Senator Miller will re-introduce a similar bill in the 2009-10 legislative session. SB397 establishes a **collection and recycling system** in Wisconsin for certain consumer electronic devices discarded by households, and **bans landfilling or incineration** of these devices in Wisconsin. This electronics recycling legislation ensures that discarded electronic equipment such as televisions and computers do not end up in our landfills and makes it easier for Wisconsinites to recycle their old electronic equipment.

The FCC-mandated transition to a new digital television standard in June 2009 will dramatically increase the amount of E-Waste requiring disposal. The disposal of electronic equipment at the end of its service life poses significant health hazards if not done carefully. Electronics recycling will capture material for reuse in manufacturing. This bill requires manufacturers of video display devices sold in Wisconsin to assume responsibility for the collection and proper disposal of electronic devices. It establishes e-recycling goals based on market share and allows for the sale or banking of e-recycling credits that exceed these goals. The bill provides an additional incentive to recover electronic devices from rural counties.

*For additional bill information & fact sheets, visit:*

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen16/news/Issues/ElectronicsRecycling.asp>

*For a listing of electronics recycling options in Dane County, please visit:*

<http://www.countyofdane.com/pwht/recycle/computers.aspx>







## 2009 SEASON CLEAN SWEEP: SITE OPENS FRIDAY, MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>

The Clean Sweep Program for recycling household hazardous waste will open its 2009 season on **Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**. Normal hours of operation are on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The collection site is located on 2302 Fish Hatchery Road in Madison, north of the intersection of Fish Hatchery and Badger Roads. The last day of the season will be Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> 2009.

**Please remember that leaving materials at the site when it is closed is illegal and can lead to a \$2000 forfeiture.**

The Clean Sweep Program provides an opportunity for residents of Dane County to safely dispose of household hazardous materials, free of charge. The program includes a Product Exchange store, where many high quality and usable products brought into Clean Sweep each season are made available to the public, free of charge.

## WOOD MULCH NO LONGER FREE!



For the last several years, the Town has been able to get free wood chips from the City of Madison. The mulch has been available to residents at the Town Hall site. Last year there was a \$100.00 charge for each semi-load. This covered the trucking costs to the outlying areas. During the summer three loads were delivered over a period of two months. The material disappears quickly, sometimes within a week's time. At that time the delivery charge was paid out of the general fund. The mulch has been available free to town residents. In order to continue to offer this service, we are asking that people pay **\$10 per pickup load or portion thereof**. The money collected will be used to pay for the additional loads. Residents picking up a load during office hours can stop at the office to pay. After business hours people can deposit the fee in the drop box at the town hall.

## *DANE COUNTY YOUTH & CONSERVATION PARK*

Plan some time to stop to visit the large county park that is located in the Town of Sun Prairie? The park is located just east of the Highway N and TT intersection. This park began with Russ and Ella McCarthy donating their 180 farm to Dane County Parks Department. They stipulated that the park be used for youth and conservation activities. The "Friends of McCarthy Park" is a group of neighbors, business and interested individuals who want to help develop the park and support the park and its function. Plans include horse trails, rustic campgrounds, picnic area, play fields, hiking trails and native plant restorations.

Take some time to visit the park and to get involved with the Friends of McCarthy Park call Kent Heinz at (608) 825-2016.

## VSQG PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT

Businesses which qualify as Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQG'S) can utilize the City of Madison/Dane County Clean Sweep program for a fee. Because the Clean Sweep VSQG program is an add-on to the Household Hazardous Waste Program, economies of scale can provide significant waste disposal cost savings to the VSQG customer. Schools, governmental units, farms, institutions and agencies are also typically eligible to participate in the VSQG program. All VSQG's must pre-register and schedule an appointment before bringing waste materials to the collection facility.

VSQG registration is available on the website at

[www.danecountycleansweep.com](http://www.danecountycleansweep.com) or by calling Dave Radisewitz at (608) 243-0347.



## 2008 MEDDROP COLLECTION CAPTURES 3000 POUNDS OF DRUGS

In 2008, Clean Sweep facility operations continued to support Dane County's pharmaceutical collection program, known as MedDrop. The program is sponsored by the Madison Patient Safety Collaborative and from numerous other governmental agencies and organizations.

Two pharmaceutical collection events were held, the first on June 7, and on October 18, 2008. On June 7, 811 participants dropped off over 1,600 pounds of mixed uncontrolled and controlled substances. On October 18, 761 participants dropped off over 1,300 pounds of uncontrolled substances and 160 pounds of controlled substances. Ultimately, these medications were taken to a hazardous waste facility that specializes in environmentally safe pharmaceutical waste disposal.

**The next MedDrop event has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 2009.** Bring your unneeded medicine to Dane County's MedDrop. This **free** service is available to all residents of Dane County. For additional information, visit the MedDrop website at [www.meddropdane.org](http://www.meddropdane.org).

## 2008 Clean Sweep Season Sets New Record

The 2008 season was a again highly productive season for the City of Madison / Dane County Clean Sweep program. More waste materials were collected during 2008 than in any previous year in the history of the program. During 2008, program staff:

- Received and managed a grand total of **944,575** lbs. of waste materials, a slight increase over 2007 totals;
- Recycled **500,634** lbs. of latex paint;
- Returned a total of **23,756** useable products (having an estimated weight of **87,778** lbs.) to **2,339** customers through Clean Sweep's product exchange;
- Serviced a grand total of **11,294** customers, including **7,304** household drop-offs, and **74** businesses;
- Provided service to **5** HHW customers under agreement with Columbia County
- Collected and recycled **250** auto batteries and approximately **250** lbs. of other rechargeable batteries.

## Town of Sun Prairie

5556 Twin Lane Road  
Marshall, WI 53559

Phone: 608-837-6688  
Fax: 608-825-4864  
Email: [tspclerk@spwl.net](mailto:tspclerk@spwl.net)

May 2009  
Volume 17 No. 1



The Town of Sun Prairie Newsletter is a communication service of the Town Board for the residents of the Town of Sun Prairie.

TIME SENSITIVE  
INFORMATION INSIDE

### Contacts

Fire, EMS and Sheriff Emergency	911
Sheriff NE Precinct non-emergency #	266-3456
Lyle Updike, Board Chairperson	837-0069
Vernon Pogue, Board Supervisor	837-6749
Doug Yelk, Board Supervisor	333-3974
Claudia Quick, Clerk	837-6688
Cindy Yelk, Treasurer	837-6688
Jerry Hahn, Constable	837-9860
Waste Management, trash & recy.	273-2500
Burn Permit (answering machine)	837-5066
Dane County Planning & Development	266-4266
Building Inspector	1-800-422-5220

### BOARD & PLAN COMMISSION MTGS.

The Town Board's regular monthly meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m., at the Town Hall, 5556 Twin Lane Road.

The Plan Commission meets on the 3rd Monday of the month. Periodically it has been necessary to change the dates and times because of conflicts. You can confirm the meeting date and time by checking the posted meeting notices or the official publication in the weekly

Sun Prairie newspaper, The Star. You can also check the town website or call the office.

Meeting notices, ordinance adoptions and other information are posted on the website and three town bulletin boards. The bulletin boards are located at the Town Hall, the north-west corner of CTH TT and N and west side of Lonely Lane near the intersection with CTH N.

**Building Permits & Ag Site Permits** are issued by the building inspector, Chris Butschke. He has office hours at the town hall on Monday 9-10 a.m., 837-6688. He can also be reached by calling 1-800-422-5220. **Dane County** requires a zoning permit for all new structures and additions. The phone number is 266-4266, Rm 116, City County Building, 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Madison.

We're on the Web  
[www.townofsunprairie.info](http://www.townofsunprairie.info)