

# City of Wauwatosa

## Newsletter

Volume 34, Issue 1

<http://www.wauwatosa.net>

Spring 2013

### 2013 Revaluation

Wisconsin Law requires market value assessments of all property. Market influences and changes require reassessments to be periodically performed as all properties do not necessarily change at the same rate. Our last revaluation was done for the 2006 assessment year. The 2013 revaluation will provide an opportunity to adjust assessments to market value.

What is the timeline for the important events related to the revaluation?

- Installation of new valuation software – Nov. 2012 – March 2013
- Valuation of all real estate parcels – Spring and Summer 2013
- Notices to be mailed out at end of summer - August or September 2013
- Open Book review period (informal review process) – September 2013
- Board of Review – (formal review process) - October 2013

The Assessor's Office staff reviews sold properties and performs inspections of properties where new permits have been issued. This new data enables us to make data corrections and value changes as needed. This updated property data will be the basis for valuing all parcels for the 2013 revaluation.

The 2013 revaluation will be conducted by city staff utilizing recent sales of all property types and existing property information. New values will be mailed to all owners and stated at 100% of fair market value. At the time notices are mailed, property owners will be given ample opportunity to discuss their new values with the City appraisal staff.

If you would like a City appraiser to make a presentation to your business or civic organization, call City Assessor Steve Miner at 479-8969.

### Mayor's Corner

I love Wauwatosa, as I know you do. I have lived here for over 40 years. As residents we know why Wauwatosa is one of Wisconsin's most desirable places to live, work and play.

As a community we are facing an exciting and challenging time. The City is striving to improve our aging infrastructure, reevaluate properties and prudently maintain City services while reducing costs. We are investing in our City to maintain the quality of life we have here. That means finding a balance between growth and keeping our neighborhoods strong and maintaining our abundance of recreational space.

To keep you informed of what's happening in Wauwatosa this year and the impact it has on you, I'm holding a series of Town Hall meetings in each district.

Please come and find out more about your neighborhood and your City.

As of this printing, these are the next Town Hall Meetings scheduled.

### District Town Hall Meetings

- March 20, 2013, District 5, Roosevelt Elementary School, 2535 N. 73<sup>rd</sup> Street, 7-9 pm
- April 10, 2013, District 6, McKinley Elementary School, 2435 N. 89<sup>th</sup> Street, 7-9 pm
- April 24, 2013, District 3, Underwood Elementary School, 11132 W. Potter Road, 7-9 pm
- May 15, 2013, District 7, to be determined, 7-9 pm

Please visit our website for more information at [www.wauwatosa.net](http://www.wauwatosa.net).

*Mayor Kathy Ehley*

ELECTED OFFICIALS DIRECTORY

FAX: 471-8989

TTY: 471-8484

Mayor Kathy Ehley Phone: 479-8915  
 Richard Baker, Municipal Judge Phone: 471-8488

<b>First District</b> Peter Donegan 259-8973 James Moldenhauer 453-8821	<b>Second District</b> John Dubinski 708-9978 Kathleen Causier 771-0123	<b>Third District</b> Tim Hanson 617-2950 Gregory Walz-Chojnacki 475-0260	<b>Fourth District</b> Dennis McBride 258-4574 Jill Organ 302-9098
<b>Fifth District</b> Joel Tilleson 226-2139 Bobby Pantuso 736-5700	<b>Sixth District</b> Brian Ewerdt 915-7379 Jeffrey Roznowski 258-0633	<b>Seventh District</b> Cheryl Berdan 550-0184 Donald F. Birschel 476-5971	<b>Eighth District</b> Jason G. Wilke 527-1146 Craig Wilson 745-5188

**Library Hours**



Monday through Thursday, 9 AM-9 PM  
 Friday and Saturday, 9 AM-5 PM  
 Sunday, 1 PM—4 PM through May 5  
 except as noted below.

Closed on May 25—27.

Overdue fines, renewals (414) 471-8484  
 Reference and adult services (414) 471-8485  
 Children’s services (414) 471-8486  
 Administration (414) 471-8487

Email: [library@wauwatosalibrary.org](mailto:library@wauwatosalibrary.org)

Website: [wauwatosalibrary.org](http://wauwatosalibrary.org)

**For Children**

**COUNTING COLORS**, recommended for 3, 4 and 5 year olds with an adult, Wednesday, April 3 from 9:30 – 10:15 p.m. in the Children’s Story Room. Space in this program for children learning their numbers, colors and shapes is limited. *Register in person or by phone with a valid library card beginning Saturday, March 16, 2013.*

**LITTLE RED’S MOST UNUSUAL DAY** presented by the Florentine Opera Company for students in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grades, Thursday April 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 7:15pm in the Firefly Room. *Registration is required.*

**PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART SHOW** on display in the Children’s Library from Wednesday, April 9 – Wednesday, May 1.

**RHYME TIME** for newborns through 3 year-olds with adults and siblings begins on Wed/Thurs, April 10/11 through April 24/25; 3 week-series, 20 minute sessions. This early literacy program for babies and pre-kindergarten children features rhymes, stories, songs, finger plays and dramatic movement. *No registration required.*

**MAD HOT BALLROOM & TAP DANCING** will be presented by Roosevelt Elementary School in the Civic Center Auditorium on Thursday, May 2 from 4:00 – 4:30pm. For all ages -- everyone welcome.

**LIBRARY STORY TIME** for 3, 4, 5 and 6 year olds who are able to attend story time independently begins Wed/Thurs, May 8/9<sup>th</sup> through May 29/30<sup>th</sup>; 4 week series, 30 minute sessions. Programs include stories, songs, crafts, dramatic movement, and fun with literacy. *No registration required.*

**DIG INTO READING SUMMER LIBRARY READING PROGRAM** begins Monday, June 3, 2013. Pick up your reader or listener logs at the Children’s Library Reference Desk. First day to turn in reader/listener logs is Monday, June 24, 2013.

**SUMMER KICK-OFF DAY with MAGICIAN/COMEDIAN, GLEN GERARD**, 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2013 in the Civic Center Auditorium -- Everyone welcome.

**For Adults**

**FLORENTINE OPERA INSIGHT** Join us for excerpts from Mozart’s *Marriage of Figaro* and information about the opera, with performances by members of the Florentine Opera on Saturday, April 20th at noon.

**SPRING BOOK SALE** Thousands of books, CDs, DVDs, etc. at remarkably low prices! Saturday, April 27th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday April 28th, from 1 to 4 p.m.



## Health Department News



### Remodeling? Beware of Lead!

Since most Wauwatosa homes contain lead-based paint, it is important to check for the presence of lead in paint before starting. Lead poisoning can cause reduced intelligence, hearing, kidney function and motor control. Children under age six are especially susceptible to being lead poisoned by small amounts of lead paint dust or debris. Annually, approximately 30 lead-poisoned Wauwatosa children are followed by the health department. It is important to practice safe methods to contain lead paint dust and debris when disturbing old paint and remodeling. A Wauwatosa survey found that the majority of area contractors surveyed were NOT lead certified; upon creation of a lead hazard, most contractors would only notify the homeowners, leaving you responsible for the clean-up. It is up to you as a homeowner to be aware of who is remodeling your home and what their knowledge is about lead hazards.

Call the Wauwatosa Health Department at 479-8939 for more information, and a free copy of the Environmental Protection Agency's *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*.

### Critter Control

With warmer weather on its way we will soon see the return of our furry little friends. And like most friends, if they overstay their welcome they can become downright annoying. Wildlife need food, water and shelter in close proximity to consider a place a good home.

To prevent wildlife from taking over your backyard, you'll need to eliminate one of these three items:

- Remove food sources: Make sure that garbage cans are in good condition and properly secured, pet food is stored in rodent proof containers and that birdfeeders are at least 2 feet off the ground.
- Remove water sources: Make sure there are no standing puddles, upturned cans, or other water sources in your yard.
- Remove shelter sources: Keep landscaping well maintained and away from building foundations to that unruly shrubs do not become perfect hiding places.

### Your Thoughts on the Be a Responsible Pet Owner

City ordinance requires pet owners to periodically clean up animal excrement on their property. A pet walker is responsible for the animal's acts on public and private property. Pets must be on a leash that does not exceed 10 feet while being walked. A feces scoop or dog waste bags must be carried and used. It is illegal to discard feces in the street, sewer, or on property other than your own. Wrap the animal waste and place it in with your garbage.

### Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Rates Increase Starting in 2013

Beginning in 2012 and continuing for the next 10 years, Wauwatosa will strategically undertake multiple large sewer rebuilding projects to replace pipes at the end of their useful life as most of the sewer infrastructure was installed 75-100 years ago. The rebuilding projects are intended to provide Wauwatosa residents and businesses with a greatly improved sewer system that will begin to address basement backups, surface flooding and failing pipe problems experienced over the past several years.

#### How does this affect you, the ratepayer?

#### Sanitary Sewer Rates

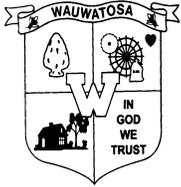
The sanitary sewer portion of your water utility bill will increase by about 10% in 2013. Based on average residential water consumption, the sanitary sewer charge will increase from \$25.50 to \$28.10 per month.

#### Storm Sewer Rates

The storm sewer portion of your water utility bill will increase by about 21% in 2013. For a typical single family residence, the storm sewer charge will increase from \$4.60 to \$5.60 per month.

The impact on your quarterly City of Wauwatosa water utility bill, which includes your sanitary sewer and storm sewer charges, will vary depending on your water usage.

For more information, please see the insert in your water utility bill, visit our website at [www.wauwatosa.net/utilityrates](http://www.wauwatosa.net/utilityrates) or contact the Wauwatosa Water Utility at 414-479-8963.



# City of Wauwatosa Newsletter

City Hall, 7725 W. North Avenue, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53213-0068



## Wauwatosa Zoning Code Adopted February 19, 2013

The last comprehensive update of the City's zoning ordinance was prepared in 1972. Although the previous ordinance was amended many times over the years, its piece-meal approach contributed to an occasionally awkward organizational structure and a document that was often difficult for professionals, and the public alike, to interpret and use.

The decision to overhaul the zoning ordinance stemmed from City leaders' recognition that the existing ordinance had not kept pace with planning and zoning best practices and that it required an extensive tune-up to address organizational, streamlining and substantive issues. The new zoning ordinance will help maintain and enhance livability for existing and future residents and:

- Provide development regulations (substantive standards and procedures) that are illustrated and as easy to use, administer and enforce, as possible;
- Address relevant policies from the comprehensive plan and from adopted small area plans;
- Ensure a better "fit" between zoning ordinance regulations and on-the-ground conditions in Wauwatosa's traditional neighborhood areas, thereby helping eliminate zoning nonconformities;
- Encourage high-quality, connected, walkable, mixed-use environments in the historic village and neighborhood centers;
- Help promote multi-modal transportation options;
- Accommodate high-quality rehabilitation, reuse and reinvestment throughout the City;
- Help ensure consistency with City policies related to land use, development and sustainability;
- Identify and eliminate inconsistencies and redundancies among existing City regulations and procedures; and

- Ensure that the zoning ordinance is consistent with state and federal law.

The new code can be found on the City's website at [www.wauwatosa.net](http://www.wauwatosa.net).

## Holiday Collections

Garbage will be picked up on Good Friday, March 29, 2013, unlike years past. Recycling collection will be also stay on schedule on March 29, 2013. There will be no garbage or recycling collection on Memorial Day, May 27. That Monday's collection will be done on Tuesday, May 28. Tuesday collection will be done on Wednesday, etc. and Friday's collection will be done on Saturday, June 1, 2013.

## Yard Material Pick-up Begins

Yard Material collection at the curb and alley begins Monday, April 15 for the "B" week – which is opposite the "A" week of recycling pick-up. The "A" week of Yard Material collection begins Monday, April 24, opposite the "B" week of recycling pick-up. This year City crews are doing the Yard Material collection.

The *2013 Guide for Recycling, Yard Materials, and Garbage* is available on line at [www.wauwatosa.net](http://www.wauwatosa.net). If you are not connected to the internet please call 471-8422 and ask for a paper copy to be sent out. Limited copies are available at the Library and City Clerk's Office.

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