

The Town of Grand Rapids

2410 48th Street South

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

(715) 424-1821 (715) 424-0688-fax

8 – 4:30 p.m. 8 - 4:00 p.m. on Friday

<http://www.tn.grandrapids.wi.gov>

Welcome to!



Town's 150th birthday float

In Case of Emergency
dial **911**

Crime Stoppers
1-877-325-7867

Suggestion:
Save this handbook in
phonebook for reference



State Water Ski tournament at Lake Wazeecha

Wood County Supervisors

Dist. 11...Tom Haferman.....	2020 2 nd St. N.....	423-6439
" 13...Marion Hokamp ...	181 20 th Ave. S.....	423-8233
" 14...Dennis Polach.....	241 14 th St. S.....	424-1749
" 15...Bill Clendenning ...	1811 45 th Street.	423-2469
" 16...Lance Pliml.....	4030 Woodhaven Ct.....	421-4001
" 17...Gary L. Allworden	541 Market Street.....	887-3135

State Legislators

Rep. Marlin Schneider....3820 Southbrook Ln (home) (715)423-1223
P.O. Box 7853, Madison, WI 53708 (608) 266-0215

Sen. Julia M. Lassa.....1900 Clark St., Stevens Point 54481 (608)266-3123
Legislative Hotline.....(800) 362-9472

Airport (South Wood County), partly in the town, 300 acres, jointly financed and managed by Grand Rapids, Wisconsin Rapids, Village of Port Edwards and Nekoosa.

Humane Society, jointly financed by the town, provides services for animals such as pickup of lost dogs.

Ambulance provided by Higgins Ambulance Service under contract with the town and other communities.



Fire Chief
Scott Bernette

Town Road Crew: Three dump trucks, one grader and various other equipment operated by a full-time crew of three. They are responsible for approximately 100 miles of roadway in the Town.

Fire Department: Volunteer department with fulltime chief, nine vehicles, 7,500 sq. ft. station built in 1986. (The department, by contract, also serves parts of the towns of Grant and Saratoga.)

Police Department: Chief plus 4 full-time and 5 part-time officers, dispatched by and provide protection cooperatively with Wood County Sheriff's Dept. The Police Department provides nearly 24 hour coverage for the town residents.

Taxes: Taxes may be paid in person or by mail to the town treasurer at the Municipal Building, with full or ½-payments due Jan. 31. All payments after that date must be paid to the county treasurer at the Courthouse.

ABOUT OUR TOWN

Population--3rd largest community in Wood County (2000 census):

Grand Rapids7998

Marshfield18800

Nekoosa.....2590

Wisconsin Rapids 18435

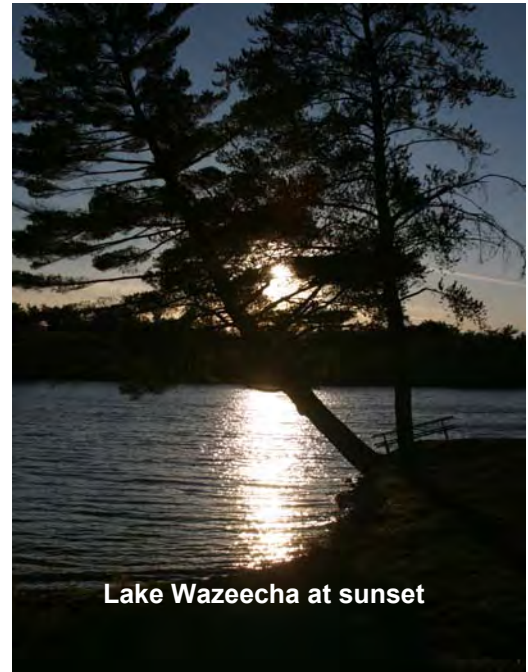
Port Edwards1944

Saratoga.....5383

Biron.....915

SOME EVENTS IN GRAND RAPIDS

- ❖ **Grand Rapids Volunteer Firemen's Picnic**, at Grand Rapids Lions Club, June
- ❖ Aqua Skiers state championship **Water Ski Tournament**, Lake Wazeecha
- ❖ **Fisherees** on Lake Wazeecha
- ❖ **WIAA State Cross Country meet**, Ridges Golf Course
- ❖ **Hot Air Balloon Rally**, South Wood County Airport
- ❖ **Grand Rapids Lions Music Fest**, Grand Rapids Lions Club
- ❖ **Corvettes of the North Car Cruise**



Lake Wazeecha at sunset

Census facts (2000): The town covers 22 square miles. There are approximately 5010 registered voters in the town and an estimated 7,998 population.)

Private wells and **septic systems** serve all properties in the town. Septic systems are regulated and inspected by the Wood County Zoning Office (421-8466). Septic tanks are required to be pumped at least every three years. Wells are regulated by the DNR (421-7804).

Homes: The average resident owns a single-family home heated by natural gas, with the house being less than 25 years old and worth between \$50,000 and \$150,000. Of the 2,700 dwelling units (including 34 duplexes), about 89% are owner-occupied.

Schools: The entire town is in the Wisconsin Rapids School District. Mid-State Technical College District is in the town, at 500 32nd St. N. Children's Choice Elementary School at 2390 48th St. S. was closed June 2006 and re-opened as River City High School in 2007.

Churches

- ❖ Jehovah's Witnesses..... 1430 32nd St. S 423-8272
- ❖ Liberty Bible Church 4020 Washington St. 423-2240
- ❖ Abundant Life Tabernacle..... 3320 Griffith Ave..... 423-1333

Parks

- ❖ Domtar (employees only).....5410 8th St. S.
- ❖ South Wood County Park
(Lake Wazeecha - Public) bicycling, boat landing, canoeing, camping (with electricity and showers), fishing, hiking, jogging, kids' play area, picnicking, swimming, water skiing, disc golfing, shelter house rentals.



Golf Courses

- ❖ Bull's Eye Country Club... 1 Airport Avenue. 423-2230
- ❖ The Ridges 2311 Griffith Ave..... .424-1111
- ❖ Tri-City Golf Course 3010 Golf Course Rd . 423-1380

Cemetery

- ❖ Restlawn Memorial Park.....6411 Plover Rd 423-0409

Griffith State Nursery-DNR, 711 Nepco Lake Rd..... 424-3700

Girl Scout Camp Sacajawea, 3910 Chestnut St. 423-6360
(Ahdawagam District offices and camp, located along a pond on 60 acres)

Social & Service organizations & clubs:

Central Wis. Beagle Club 500 64th St. S. 424-1664
Central Wis. Model A Ford Club 3330 72nd St. N. 423-9748
Grand Rapids Lions Club 3610 CTH W. 421-1888
Wood County Rifle & Pistol Club 910 Griffith Ave. 424-1011
Kellner Knights Snowmobile Club

Building Permits are required to build, enlarge, alter, move or demolish any structure and for electrical, plumbing, air conditioning, heating installations or remodeling (e.g. Permit is required for vinyl storage shed, fence, deck, swim pool, shed, sign, woodburner). Fees are automatically doubled when work begins before applying for a permit. If in doubt whether a permit is required, call the Building Inspector at the Grand Rapids Municipal Building 424-1821 or at 213-0416 (cell). Permits are **not**



required for residing, re-shingling, lawn sprinklers, wells, landscaping, maintenance or repairs.

Licenses permanent, as you own the



Bicycle Licenses

required (one-time \$5 fee)-not-transferable, for as long bicycle; available at

Municipal Building.

Dog licenses

All dogs 5 months or older must be licensed by March 31. (Late fee of \$10 after that date.) Licenses, available at the Municipal Building, are \$8 per dog (\$3 if neutered or spayed.) Proof of rabies vaccination must be provided when applying for license, along with name, sex, breed and color. Persons may be fined for allowing a dog to defecate on public property or property owned by others. Zoning permit required for more than 2 dogs.

Driveways, driveways, ditches, lawns

Private use of road right-of-way is limited to lawns. Trees, shrubs or other plantings, decorative structures such as split-rail fences, basketball backstops, underground sprinklers, marker posts or other structures require Town Board approval. (Most r-o-w in the town extends 33 feet from the road centerline to the lotline.)

Ditches and swails along roads should not be filled in or altered without Board approval. When adding topsoil for lawns, the ditch or swail should be at least 9" below the top of the edge of the pavement. Failure to retain this ditch/swail may result in snow plows damaging lawns or sprinklers and ice buildup damaging roads.

Driveway approaches in the r-o-w are to be lower than the road. A \$50 driveway permit is required to put in or pave a driveway approach.

Shoulders should be gravel, at least 3 feet wide, but may be grass if kept lower than the road.

Vision triangles at intersections: For safety, corner lots must have trees, brush and shrubs removed or trimmed to the point where vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians can be seen from one road to another.

Pushing snow onto or across roads from private driveways can cause accidents and is prohibited.



Firearms

Ordinance limits hunting in some areas, (shown on map at municipal building).

House Numbers

Must be displayed, clearly visible and readable from the road, even at night, so emergency vehicles can quickly find homes.

Junk Vehicles

Unlicensed or inoperable vehicles or parts may not be stored outside over 30 days. A permit can be obtained at the Grand Rapids Municipal Building if needed.

Zoning Permits

Zoning Permits are required and uses are restricted by the various zoning districts to promote public safety and protect property values. E.g. Permit is required for any change of use of a property or to dig a pond.

A comprehensive Master Plan (land use plan) has been adopted. The Official Map protects corridors of future roads. Minimum residential lot size since 1973 has been 20,000 sq. ft. (just under ½-acre).



Foggy sunrise
along Townline Rd.

Burning Permits - Leaves, pine needles and grass clippings may NOT BE BURNED.

Composting and mulching are encouraged. For a \$35 annual fee a **compost pass** is available at the Municipal Building to use the Wisconsin Rapids compost site located by the water tower behind Lincoln High School

Brush may be burned between 6 p.m. and midnight, but not on Sundays and holidays.

Permits are required to burn brush anywhere in the town. (Free and available at Municipal Building, The Store on 80th St., or from Jeremiah

Murphy at 4720 Airport Ave.

When snow completely covers the ground, burning is allowed with no permit required.)

Burn barrel: Permits may be obtained to burn lumber and brush in a covered barrel. (Household garbage, cardboard, paper, treated wood, leaves, pine needles, asphalt-based substances or plastics may **not** be burned.)

Garbage & Recycling Pickup

The town is contracted for **garbage and recyclable pickup**, at one and two-family homes only. Each dwelling is charged \$101 per year, payable with property tax bills. For information about these services and pickup schedules, **call Municipal Building, 424-1821.**

Grand Rapids has an active recycling program. Recycling materials are picked up every week on garbage pickup days by Veolia Environmental Services, 421-3939.

- ❖ Aluminum, glass containers, plastics (#1 & #2 only), steel containers, and tin cans should be rinsed with warm water and can be put together in a clear garbage bag for pickup. Labels do not have to be removed, but caps should be.
- ❖ Paper products such as magazines, high gloss paper, envelopes, cereal boxes, and shoeboxes, may all be mixed and placed in paper bags. Can include paper clips and staples, but should not included soiled paper products.
- ❖ Newspapers and advertisement inserts shall be placed in paper grocery bags.
- ❖ Corrugated cardboard must be flattened and bound into bundles no larger in size that 12" high, 24" wide and 36" long.

TIPS FOR REDUCING SOLID WASTE

Reduce

1. Reduce the amount of unnecessary packaging
2. Adopt practices that reduce waste toxicity

Reuse

3. Consider reusable products
4. Maintain and repair durable products
5. Reuse bags, containers, and other items
6. Borrow, rent, or share items used frequently
7. Sell or donate goods instead of throwing them out

Recycle

8. Choose recyclable products and containers and recycle them
9. Select products made from recycled materials
10. Compost yard trimmings

Respond

11. Educate others on source reduction and recycling practices
12. Be Creative – find new ways to reduce waste quantity and toxicity

