



2410 48th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 424-1821
www.tn.grandrapids.wi.gov

Town Board

Don Bohn, Chairman
Arne Nystrom, Supervisor
Jeanne Fehrman, Supervisor
Bill Clendenning, Supervisor
Kathy Alft, Supervisor

Staff

Office

Clerk.....Judy McLellan
Treasurer.....Kris Ginter
Admin. Support Staff.....Jewell Ninneman
Peggy Doughty

Planning and Zoning

Bldg Insp/Zoning Admin....Lorelei Fuehrer

Police / Fire Protection

Fire Chief.....Scott Bernette
Police Chief.....Dave Lewandowski
Police Officers..... Andy Simon
Rusty Roe
Tammy Kubisiak

Public Works

Jim Eichhorn Rick Austin
Mike Smith



MONTHLY MEETINGS

Town Board

2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Fire Department

1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting dates are subject to change... check our web site or call the Municipal Building to confirm dates, time and

2010 SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS
TOWN OF GRAND RAPIDS

JUNE

12TH --KIDS FISHING DERBY
27TH -- FIREFIGHTER'S CELEBRATION

JULY

15TH-18TH -- STATE WATER SKI SHOW
24TH & 25TH -- GRAND RAPIDS LIONS MUSIC
FEST

AUGUST

7ST & 8ND -- CORVETTES OF THE NORTH
CAR CRUISE & SHOW
13th & 14th --RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL
20ND-22TH - CMN BALLOON RALLY & MUSIC
FEST

FROM THE TREASURER:

Remember to pay your **2nd installment of taxes** by **July 31, 2010!** Taxes must be made payable to the **Wood County Treasurer** and paid at the **Wood County Courthouse**, or sent by mail to PO Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8095. Payments will not be receipted at the Grand Rapids Municipal Building.

Wildfire Danger in the Town of Grand Rapids

Did you know that the Town of Grand Rapids is rated as being a “very high” Community At Risk when it comes to the potential for having destructive wildfires? There is a high risk of wildfires occurring because of the sandy soil and the type of vegetation that grows in sandy soils. Fires have historically occurred here and will continue to do so. It is important to understand that as a homeowner you can do many things to reduce your risk of damage or home loss as the result of a wildfire. It’s all about being Firewise – being smart about home construction and landscaping and realizing the important role you play in protecting your home. The Town of Grand Rapids and DNR officials have implemented a Firewise information program. We hope and encourage Grand Rapids residents to get involved with the program and learn how and what to do to aid in protecting your home should a wildfire break out in Grand Rapids. To find out more, contact Chief Scott Bernette at 424-1815, fire.chief@grandrapidswi.org or check out the DNR website on-line at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire/prevention/firewise/>.

RECYCLING FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS

A program to facilitate the take back and recycling of fluorescents has been set up by Focus on Energy. Two area businesses will accept the used compact fluorescent bulbs, **from residential use** and recycle them free of charge. Compact fluorescent bulbs can be taken to Ace Hardware and Home Depot. Express Recycling, 480 Strodman Ave will also recycle fluorescent bulbs for a slight charge. The cost at Express Recycling is: Compact bulbs, .50 per bulb, 4 foot bulbs, .50 per bulb and 8 foot bulbs, \$1.00 per bulb. Wood County Clean Sweep (see article later in newsletter) will also be accepting fluorescent bulbs for a fee. Please help to eliminate mercury released to the environment and unneeded landfill waste,

RECYCLE YOUR USED FLUORESCENT BULBS.

YARD WASTE DISPOSAL

Town of Grand Rapids residents may again purchase a season long, annual pass for the compost site. Passes may be purchased at the Municipal Building, The Store, 4010 80th St. S. and by mail. The cost at the Municipal Building will be \$35, at The Store will be \$37 and by mail \$36. If you wish to have a pass mailed to you, please submit the \$36, your name, address and the license number of the vehicle that will be hauling the compost. We cannot mail you a pass without all of this information.

Yard wastes shall include grass clippings, leaves, pine needles, garden wastes, and brush. Town residents can also contact ADEAL Wood Recycling or Wolosek Landscaping for disposal of individual loads (a fee is charged per load) if you do not have a need for a season pass.

TOWN ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAYS, DITCHES.....SHOULDERS

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, driveway marker posts, (with the exception of reflective winter markers purchased through the Town), or other structures within the right-of-way require Town Board approval. Most right-of-ways in the Town extend 33 feet from the road centerline to the lot line.

These signs, markers, objects and other private structures within the road right-of-way are a safety hazard to motorized vehicles and their occupants; and prohibited as stated in Grand Rapids Ordinance No. 19. The Town Board shall have the right to order the removal of any object, or structure which lies within the bounds of the road right-of-way.

Ditches and swails along roads should not be filled in or altered without Board approval.

If you have specific questions, please call the Municipal Building before beginning any projects that involve the road right-of-way.



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LETTER FROM THE POLICE CHIEF'S DESK:

Citizens of Grand Rapids,

Winter has past and Spring is upon us. That means another busy summer is approaching. The Neighborhood Watch has been a major asset to the Police Department in the last year. They will also play a big role in the months to come. They keep a watchful eye and call in suspicious activities. We are always looking for more residents to join us. Call for more information.

The Police Department has expanded their office within the Town Hall, giving them more space and the availability to conduct private conversations. It also allows for better security.

The Police Department is dedicated to serve you, the citizen, in all aspects of law enforcement. If you have a concern or a complaint, feel free to call or stop in. We are here to help you.

I have an open door policy. Stop in anytime.
Thank you for allowing me to serve you as your Police Chief.

Chief of Dave Lewandowski



FROM OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Grand Rapids Police Department is proud to announce their new addition, canine REX. Officer Andy Simon is the handler for Rex. Rex came to us in December of 2009 and has been very beneficial to the Police Department and the Community.

The Police Department has been in communication via e-mail with almost 1800 people in the town. The number continues to grow. If you are interested in signing up, stop at the Police Department to get the details. This is a good way for citizens to find out what is happening in their neighborhood.

The Grand Rapids Auxiliary Police is doing very well since it was implemented over 1 ½ years ago. If you see them in the community please thank them for their hard work and the time they donate.

Remember, with the nice weather, more people are out and about. Please be watchful of people walking and biking. Obey the speed limit and be watchful of your surroundings. Let's keep it safe out there.

From all of us that the Grand Rapids Police Department, we hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Chief Dave Lewandowski
Officer Andy Simon & Rex
Officer Rusty Roe
Officer Tammy Kubisiak

Administrative Assistants
Jewell Ninneman
Peggy Doughty

Part-Time Officers: Mike Wiberg
Mike Bessette
Brian Turner
Steve Spath
Derek Iverson
Brandon Christianson



FIRE DEPARTMENT

LETTER FROM THE FIRE CHIEF'S DESK:

The Grand Rapids Fire Department is currently staffed with a full-time fire chief, nine officers, thirty members, fifteen associate members, and seven associate EMS members. Some members serve as both firefighters and first responders. If you are interested in joining the fire department and serving your community as a firefighter, a first responder, or both; stop by the fire station or visit our web site at www.grandrapidsfd.com for more information.

It has now been one year since we started our medical first responder group. We responded to 176 calls for medical service within this first year. Our medical responders work as a two person volunteer response team that is paged out at the same time the ambulance or fire department is. Our goal was to get medical trained responders to your location to provide treatment in that window from when "911" is called and the ambulance arrives on scene. I feel we have achieved our goal and we will continue to train to always strive to provide the best level of care we can to our residents. We do have several openings on the department for medical first responders only. For more information about becoming a medical first responder, give us a call or stop by the fire station.

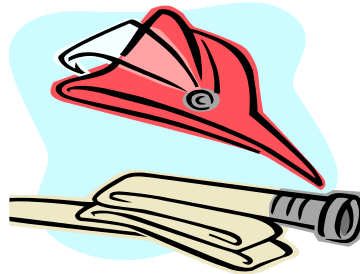
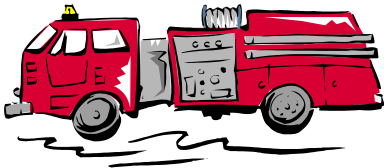
With Spring/Summer upon us, burning permits are now required. Please review the Town's Ordinance #2 regulating controlled burning in any part of the Town of Grand Rapids. Your "FREE" annual permit for controlled burning can be obtained from the Municipal Building, approved authorized Fire Wardens for the Town of Grand Rapids, or the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Service Center. See DNR website: www.dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire/fire_danger/Wis_Burn/StateCounties.asp for more information on annual permits.

Congratulation Brookhaven Estates on becoming a "Firewise Community"

The department would like to thank Brookhaven Estates on taking a proactive approach to reducing the chance of a wildland fire within their estate. The Firewise Communities/USA program is designed to provide an effective management approach for preserving wildland living aesthetics. Participating in this educational program gives communities like Brookhaven Estates means to balance sustainable ecological lifestyles with effective wildland fire protection. The Firewise Communities/USA program currently is being worked on by the communities of Grand Rapids and Saratoga to help its citizens reduce the threat of wildfires. To find out more, contact Chief Scott Bernette at 424-1815, fire.chief@grandrapidswi.org or check out the DNR website on-line at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire/prevention/firewise/>

Please mark you calendars and plan to join us at this year's Grand Rapids Firefighters' Celebration on Sunday, June 27, 2010. The event will be held at the Grand Rapids Lions Club (CTH. W & 36th St. S) from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. The day will start with a pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., food stand is open all day, Cranberry Blossom Fest Parade at 12:30 p.m., music: Polka Band 1-4:30 p.m., Boogie & the Yo-Yo's 5-9:00 p.m., Rainbow Fun Rides, bingo, and raffle drawing. Hope to see you there.

Fire Chief, Scott Bernette



2010 Wood County Clean Sweep

Mark your calendars for **Friday, May 7th** 2-6 p.m. and **Saturday, May 8th** 8-noon. Wood County will be holding the **Clean Sweep** again. You may dispose of unwanted, unused, damaged, restricted and banned household, agricultural, chemical, and hazardous wastes. Accepted items include: degreasers, fuel, brake fluid, transmission fluid, ether, cleaning solvents, herbicides, insecticides, nail polish remover, mothballs, drain cleaner, metal cleaners, swimming pool chemicals, oil based paint, stripper, lacquer, thinners, gun cleaning fluid, and varnish. Also collected for a fee, based on number and/or weight, that day will be fluorescent bulbs as well as computer components and electronics such as monitors, keyboards, televisions, microwaves and fax machines. Clean Sweep will be held at Veolia Cranberry Creek Landfill, 2510 Engel Road, Wis. Rapids and Marshfield Fairgrounds, 14th St. entrance. For more information visit the Wood County Health Department at www.co.wood.wi.us

UPCOMING RECYCLING EVENTS!!!!

Supervisor Clendenning and area residents are working on putting together some recycling events for this spring. They are working on three different events, a CHOOSE-TO-REUSE, TIRE DAY AND BIG DAY. The Choose-To-Reuse is a day that residents can bring items they no longer use to a specified area to be taken free of charge by another person. Remember, one mans garbage is another mans treasure. Tire Day and Big Day would be a day that residents would be able to dispose of tires and big items usually not picked up by our contracted hauler. There will probably be a disposal fee for the tires and big items charged based on the item. CHOOSE-TO-REUSE is scheduled for May 8, 2010.

Watch the papers and our website (www.tn.grandrapids.wi.gov) for more information on these upcoming recycling events.



A new recycling law was signed into effect by Governor Doyle in October 2009 as Act 50. The law establishes a statewide program, now called E-Cycle Wisconsin program, to collect and recycle certain electronic devices. This is based on a product stewardship approach, which assigns primary responsibility for collection and recycling to the manufacturer. The law also bans certain electronics from Wisconsin landfills and incinerators after September 1, 2010.

Once fully implemented, the law is expected to provide Wisconsinites with more convenient recycling locations across the state, and encourage an expansion of Wisconsin's recycling industry.

With this law in place the manufacturers will be responsible for the cost of recycling the electronics.

Businesses that collect the discarded electronics are still allowed to charge a handling fee for collecting the items and transporting them to recyclers.

Please note that even though September 1, 2010 is the deadline; please recycle any discarded electronics beginning now. As of September 1, 2010 the following electronics will not be allowed in landfills and will not be picked up by our contracted garbage and recycling hauler.

Computers	Desktop printers	Televisions	Laptop computers
Computer Monitors	Fax machines	DVD players	VCR players
Video players	DVR's		

The following area businesses have registered with the DNR as collectors of electronics:

Audio-Video Sales 2900 Plover Rd Wis. Rapids, WI 54494	Midwest Computer Recyclers 480 Strodman Ave. Wis. Rapids, WI 54494	Wood County ODC 1191 Huntington Ave. Wis. Rapids, WI 54494
Best Buy 1145 Commons Circle Stevens Point, WI 54467	Midwest Computer Recyclers 2608 Water St. Stevens Point, WI 54481	Milwaukee PC 5633 Hwy 10E Stevens Point, WI 54482

Please help to conserve valuable resources and prevent pollution. **RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONICS!!**

For more information check out the DNR website at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/ecycle/>