

TOWN OF BLOOMING GROVE NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 Issue 8 March 22, 2019

Upcoming Election: Tuesday, April 2

The polls will be open at the Town Hall, 1880 S. Stoughton Road, from 7:00am to 8:00pm on Tuesday, April 2. The ballot includes races for Town Board, local school boards, and the Wisconsin State Supreme Court.

A reminder that **voters must present a valid photo identification in order to vote.** For most folks, a current Wisconsin driver's license or Wisconsin DOT-issued ID is sufficient. For those who don't have either of those, there are other options including but not limited to a current U.S. Passport, military ID, or certificate of naturalization. Refer to www.bringit.wi.gov for additional information.

Contact Information

Town Office (Mike)	223-1104
Public Works (Cory)	575-2369
Advanced Disposal	251-7878
Building Inspector (Ben)	259-6860
Sheriff (non-emergency)	255-2345

Town Website: www.blmgrove.com

The Town's website is updated at least once a week to keep you informed. You are encouraged to bookmark the site, and refer to it when you have a question or concern. Several applications are available on the website, including for dog licenses, voter registration, absentee voting, and building permits.

Town Annual Meeting

The Town's Annual Meeting will take place on **Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30pm at the Town Hall.**

A summary of 2018 will be provided by the Town's auditor, Plan Commission, Public Works staff, Dane County Sheriff's Department, and others.

All residents are welcome to attend!

Town Officials / Staff

Town Board

Ron Bristol (Chair)
Dean Larson
Amy Schroeder
Jeff Teuscher
Dave Young

Plan Commission

Dave Young (Chair)
Liz Johnson
Cheryl Larson
Mike Meyers
Jeff Teuscher

Clerk/Treas/Admin

Mike Wolf

Public Works Dept.

Cory Buske (Supervisor)
Steve Kearney

Property Assessment Revaluation

The Town has not had a full revaluation of its properties since 2009. It's time. The Town's assessment company, Accurate Appraisal, will be conducting a revaluation of all Town properties this spring. This will bring the assessed value of your property more in line with what it's actually worth. It's estimated that the average assessed value will increase between 10 and 15%. Property owners will receive a letter from Accurate Appraisal within the next couple of months.

This does not mean your taxes are increasing by that percentage! Your taxes will depend more on the actual levy of the taxing jurisdictions (the school districts, County, Town, and Madison College) -- and those numbers won't be known until late fall. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact Mike Wolf at the Town Office: 608-223-1104.

Chipping Brush

The Town's Public Works staff chips weekly during the months of April and May. You can do your part to help make the Town's operations more efficient. Please pile your brush all in the same direction, with the butt ends facing the road. Only branches 6" or less will go through the chipper.

If you have a small amount, consider waiting until you have more before putting it out by the road. And please place small twigs in a container of some kind.

The Future of Blooming Grove, and School Districts

The Town of Blooming Grove will cease to exist on November 1, 2027. Between now and then the Town will be able to stay viable thanks to the fact the majority of residents are protected from annexation.

It's important to know that school districts are not the same as municipal boundaries. To illustrate, children in the April Hill neighborhood in Blooming Grove currently attend McFarland schools. That will not change as a result of the Town's dissolution in 2027.

Yard Waste Collection

Spring yard waste collection runs from April 1 through May 15.

Please make sure that yard waste, and only yard waste, is placed in bags that are tied at the top and weigh no more than 40 pounds. Put these bags by the road, and they will be picked up within the week.

You can dispose of your own yard waste any time of year by taking it to the Dane County landfill. For more information about the landfill, call 838-9555.

April Hill Utility Poles

TDS will be installing new fiber optic cable in April Hill this year.

That will require TDS to have some of the utility poles replaced in the neighborhood.

Maintaining Your Stormwater Culvert

Town residents who live north of Milwaukee Street have street/curb outlets and underground pipes to deal with stormwater management. But all other Town residents rely on culverts and ditches to make sure rainfall doesn't create ponding or flooding.

For those folks who have a culvert underneath their driveway, please remember to properly maintain it -- both structurally and in terms of keeping debris from clogging it up. Your property and the property of your neighbors will be well served if you make sure the water properly flows through your culvert... and through the ditches along your property.

Thank you for being a good steward of your property, and a good neighbor!

Town's Annual Clean Sweep

Every spring the Town conducts a Clean Sweep in one of its three parks. This year the Clean Sweep will take place in Severson Park on Cottontail Trail. It will be on Saturday, May 4 from 7:00am to 11:00am... and is for Town residents only.

You can dispose of almost anything. Exceptions include tires on rims, more than 4 tires per person, and hazardous materials including oil and paint. Contact Cory at 575-2369 if you have any questions.

Cemetery Spaces for Sale

There are cemetery spaces for sale in the Blooming Grove Cemetery, located just to the east of LaFollette High School on Pflaum Road. A space costs \$600 for non-residents, and \$400 for Town residents.

Contact the Town Office at 223-1104 for details.