# WINTER 2023

#### Happy Holidays, Wausau!



As days are starting to get longer, it is time to get excited for the 2024 election year that will kick off next month. Between the new elections, poll site changes, and the new way to check in on election day, there is a lot to look forward to!

Every elected position in the City of Wausau is up for election in 2024: the mayor, all 11 alderpersons, and the Wausau municipal judge. These nonpartisan positions are elected for 2-year (alderperson) or 4-year terms (mayor and judge) that will take office on either April 16th or on May 1st (judge). Local school districts will also have Board of Education members up for election this spring. If more than 2 people run for any of these positions, we will have a primary election on **Tuesday**, February 20 to narrow down the ballot to 2 candidates for the April 2 Spring Election. Also, on the Spring Election ballot will be the Presidential Preference vote, where electors can vote for a presidential nominee for their preferred party.

The City of Wausau has 6 polling sites spread across the city. Two poll sites will change as of 2024. The Southeast side will now vote at the Lakeview Conference Center, 1000 Lakeview Drive. Electors in District 6 who used to vote at Sylvan Hill Park, will now vote at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 930 Edgewood Rd. A special thanks to Pilgrim Lutheran Church and the Parks Department for letting us use their facilities for elections previously. Registered voters in District 1, 2, and 6 received postcards notifying them of the poll site change. All our polling places are ADA accessible with curbside voting, touchscreen ballot marking, and assisted voting options.

An exciting development for 2024 is that all six polling locations and Central Count will be using Badger Books. A Badger Book is an electronic poll book that is used for checking in voters, registering voters on Election Day, and processing absentee ballots. Badger Books were created by the State of Wisconsin for Wisconsin elections. Voters will still be assigned a voter number and must vote on a paper ballot. Wausau has been rolling out Badger Books across the city since April 2022 and experienced shorter wait times for voters and quicker, accurate data entry for City staff.

To find more information on election dates, poll site locations, and Badger Books visit **wausauwi.gov** and search Elections. To see what is on your ballot, your voter participation, if you are registered to vote, or to request an absentee ballot visit **myvote.wi.gov**. As always, please reach out to the Clerk's Office with any questions or concerns you have at either 715-261-6620 or email clerk@ci.wausau.wi.us.

Thank you for participating in the voting process, Wausau. Have a safe and healthy winter.

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#### Save the Date for these additional elections in 2024:

Partisan Primary: August 13 General Presidential Election: November 5

#### Wausau Election Statistics (April 2023 Spring Election)

Highest poll site turnout: Districts 1 & 2 (1,483 votes)

# of votes cast citywide: 10,239 % of voters who voted absentee: 36%

# of in person votes cast per minute: 9

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#### **City Hall** 407 Grant St. Wausau, WI 54403 715-261-6500 General Hours: M-F, 8-4:30

#### **City Clerk**

# IMPORTANT 2024 ELECTION DATES

#### JANUARY 31, 2024

Last day for electors to register to vote by mail or online in the Spring Primary (if scheduled) After this date, electors must register in person.

#### **FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

Spring Primary Election , if needed.

This primary would be held to narrow down the list of candidates before the nonpartisan Spring Election.

#### APRIL 2, 2024

Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary. This include alder, mayor, judge, local school boards, county board, and U.S. president.

## POLLING LOCATIONS FOR 2024 District Location

1& 2*	Lakeview Conference Center, 1000 Lakeview Dr
3 & 10	Marathon Park East Gate Hall, 801 Garfield Ave Thrive Church, 400 Grand Ave Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 930 Edgewood Rd
4 & 5	Thrive Church, 400 Grand Ave
6*	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 930 Edgewood Rd
7 & 8	St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 600 Stevens Dr
9 & 11	National Guard Armory I, 833 S 17th Ave

\*New Poll Site in 2024! Visit myvote.wi.gov to see which district you live in.

## **ABSENTEE VOTING BY MAIL**

If a primary is required, absentee ballots will be mailed to voters starting January 30th. Electors can request a ballot be mailed to them until February 15 at 5:00pm :

- Online at myvote.wi.gov
- By mail, email, or fax

Ballots need to be returned to City Hall by 8:00pm on Election Day!

#### Scan the code to discover:

- If a primary election will be held
- In person absentee voting dates and times
- How to register to vote
- Badger Book e-pollbooks



## IN PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING

In person absentee voting allows electors to vote in person before election day. It will be held at City Hall:

- February 6-9, 12-17, if needed
- March 19-22, 25-30

#### REMINDERS FOR VOTERS

- All poll sites are open
  - from 7:00am 8:00pm

All voters will need to show a valid photo ID to receive a ballot

## **City Clerk**

**Permits Expire** MARCH 31 OF THE 5TH YEAR

Permits are required in the City of Wausau for any recreational fires including a below-ground pit or a portable device intended to contain and control outdoor wood fires (W.M.C. 17.24.020). There are three ways you can apply for, or renew your permit:

ecreational Bur

- 1. Online at wausauwi.gov
- 2. Download an application at wausauwi.gov, complete and return
- 3. In the Clerk's Office at City Hall



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION: 715-261-6620

PET LICENSING

Every dog or cat more than five months of age shall be licensed annually. Pet Licenses expire December 31. Late fees will be assessed if not paid by March 31, 2023. Proof of rabies vaccination is required to receive a license.

#### Dog Parks

wausauwi.gov

- Two Hearts Dog Park
  - Off Leash Dog Areas:

#### WAYS TO LICENSE YOUR PET(S)

Online: tinyurl.com/City-of-Wausau-Pets

- By Mail: Please include updated **Rabies Information** 407 Grant Street, Wausau WI 54403 In Person: Monday-Friday between 8:00am-4:30pm
  - 407 Grant Street, Wausau WI 54403

# Pet

FANCIER PERMIT Any person owning, keeping or possessing on their property, up to and not to exceed five (5) dogs or cats <u>combined</u>. No more than 4 of Pet Fancier Permit: \$3

questioning if you need this permit.

#### **Inspections Department**

## City of Wausau Street Lighting Questions

**Contact Information:** 

#### For ALL Wood Pole Issues:

#### Locate pole number, then contact:

Wisconsin Public Services https://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/ secure/ssl/acct/street\_light

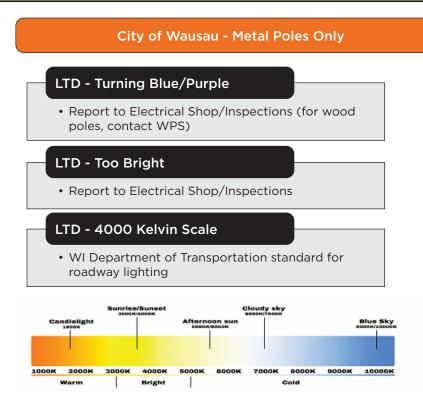
#### 800-450-7280

Metal Poles: City of Wausau

Determine street address, then contact:

inspections@ci.Wausau.wi.us

715.261.6780



## Sump Pump Drainage Requirements:

Winter maintenance is a property owner responsibility, including maintaining sidewalks. To prevent ice build- ups, NO flowage from sump pumps is allowed onto sidewalks or streets. Please refer to the code requirements below.

#### WMC 19.44.080 - Sump Pumps.

All sump pumps installed for the purpose of discharging clear waters from foundation drains and ground infiltration and where the building is not serviced by gravity shall either discharge into an underground conduit leading to a drainage ditch, gutter, dry well, or shall discharge onto the ground at least one foot or more out from the building and above permanent grade in such manner as not to create a nuisance. No sump discharge shall be allowed to flow on or across a public sidewalk.



## **Winter Projects**

Permits are required not only to ensure your project meets City zoning regulations and complies with City and State codes, but also to let us assist you in achieving a project that is safe and structurally sound.

- Newconstruction 
  · Roofing/Siding
- Additions/ Remodeling
- FencesDemolition
- Garages/ Accessory buildings
  - Plumbing • Electrical

## Permits are Required Prior to Work Beginning

A complete list of permit requirements is available on-line at: <u>https://www.wausauwi.gov/your-</u> <u>government/inspections</u>

Also check out our Online Permit Portal to set up an account! <u>https://evolveportal.ci.wausau.</u> <u>wi.us/?portal=inspections</u>

Where you can apply and pay online, request an inspection, or upload photographs for E-inspections.

#### Christmas Tree Pick Up

Harter's will be picking up Christmas trees the first three weeks of January. Trees must be cut into 4 foot sections and have no décor on them. In addition, they should not have the truck stuck in the snowbanks.

If you miss pick up, the yard waste site will be open for tree drop of until the end of January.



#### Snow Emergencies

When substantial amounts of snow are predicted or have fallen in a short period of time it may be necessary for the Department of Public Works to declare a snow emergency. The purpose of a snow emergency is to minimize the number of vehicles parked on the streets so the snow plow operators can effectively and safely clear the streets of snow. Parking on City streets during snow emergencies will result in issuance of a parking citation with a fine of \$100 and/or the vehicle being towed. When declared. the City will publish the snow emergency using various local media outlets and an announcement will be placed on the City website and Facebook pages.

#### Get Wausau's Recycling App!

Wonder what goes in your Wausau recycling carts? Want recycling pick-up reminders? Join the 600 Wausau residents using the Betterbin app! With the app you're able to scan a product's UPC barcode or text search for any product to get product-specific recycling instructions for the Wausau recycling program. You even earn points toward gift cards with each scan! Scan the QR code to get the app – no download required. You can also search for Betterbin in the App Store or Google Play.

#### Holiday Recycling Tips:

**1. Wrapping paper:** Wrapping should NOT go in your Wausau recycling cart. Wrapping paper is a really low-grade paper (meaning it has very few reusable fibers in it), which means it can't easily be recycled into new paper products. Plus, there are so many different kinds of wrapping paper these days, we just say no to all of it. Wrapping paper should go in your trash cart.

**2. Candle glass:** Candle glass is NOT acceptable in your Wausau recycle cart. Glass food and beverage containersonly are the only kind of glass that should ever go in your recycle cart. All other glass should be re-used or trashed.

**3. Cookie or popcorn tins:** Cookie or popcorn tins are NOT acceptable in your Wausau recycle cart. You can, however, bring them to a scrap metal recycler such as Alter Metal or Yaegar Auto Salvage for recycling.



**4. Gift bags:** Only gift bags that are easily tearable (meaning we know they are made of paper) are acceptable in your recycle cart. Make sure to remove any handles, gift tags or anything that may be attached to the bag. The bag should also have no foil or glitter on it. Our tip: Try and REUSE your bags!!

**5. Holiday or string lights:** Holiday or string lights of any kind are never acceptable in your recycle cart. You can bring broken or unwanted string lights to Habitat for Humanity in Schofield, or scrap metal recyclers such as Alter Metal Recycling in Wausau. Otherwise, discard string lights in your trash.

Recycle your Christmas

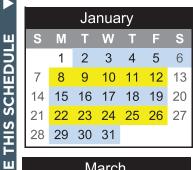


#### **2024 Wausau Recycling Collection**

Please refer to the table and calendar to determine your recycling and garbage pick-up day. If you have any questions as to whether you live in a blue or yellow collection area, call City Hall at 715-261-6500.

Recycling carts should be set out with garbage containers between the hours of 3:00 pm the day prior to collection day and should be removed from the curbside area by 11:00 a.m. the day after pick-up. Recycling containers have a green lid and Garbage containers have a blue lid. Garbage pick-up is every week and Recycling cart pick-up is every other week. Placement of the carts at the curbside need to be placed at least 4 feet from other objects such as other carts, mailboxes and trees to accommodate the mechanical arm as it grips the cart and empties its contents. Thank you! **Keep this schedule for future reference and remember the holiday schedule of a "day delay" pick-up.** 

West Side of Wisconsin River	Garbage P/U	Recycling P/U
North of W. Wausau Avenue	Monday	Monday - BLUE
North of Elm St, South of W. Wausau Ave, & East of USH 51	Monday	Monday - YELLOW
South of Elm St & North of Stewart Ave, including entire area west of USH 51	Tuesday	Tuesday - BLUE
South of Stewart Ave & North of Thomas St.	Tuesday	Tuesday - YELLOW
South of Thomas Street	Wednesday	Wednesday - BLUE
East Side of Wisconsin River		
North of Marquardt Rd & East of railroad tracks	Wednesday	Wednesday - BLUE
North of Nina Ave & South of Marquardt Rd including homes west of the railroad tracks to Evergreen Rd.	Wednesday	Wednesday - YELLOW
South of Nina Ave & North of Hamilton St	Thursday	Thursday - BLUE
South of Hamilton St & North of Kickbusch St.	Thursday	Thursday - YELLOW
South of Kickbusch St. North of McDonald St & East of Northwestern Rd.	Friday	Friday - BLUE
South of McDonald St & entire area west of Northwestern Rd.	Friday	Friday - YELLOW



March						
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30						

City of Wausa

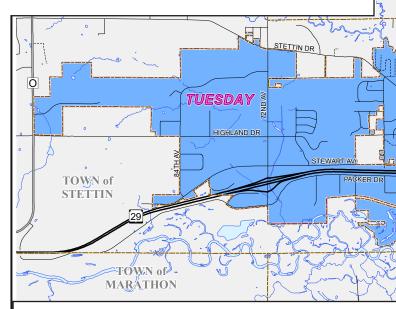
GIS Division 407 Grant Street Wausau, WI 54403

(715)261-6740

gis@ci.wausau.wi.us

Departr

nt of Public Works



## Regular Garbage & Recycling So City of Wausau

Marathon County Wisconsin

\*Garbage Pick-Up is Every Week\*

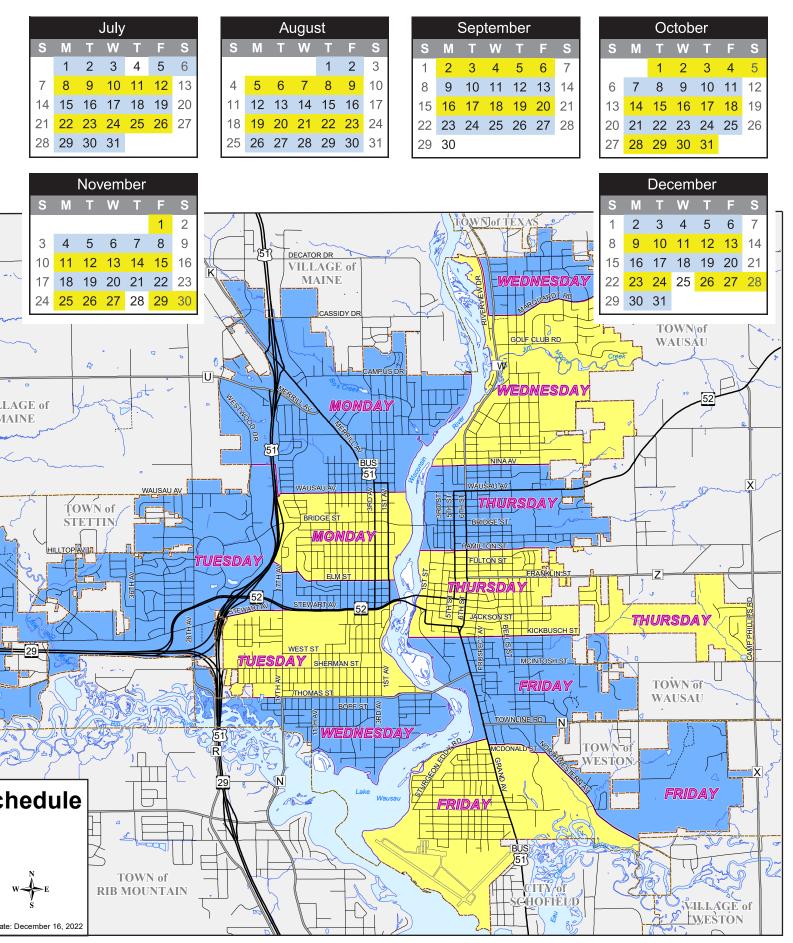
\*Recycling Pick-Up is BiWeekly\* Map D

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SAVE

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#### Finance



WINTER 2023

#### **Parks Department**

# Holiday Tree Thank You!

The Wausau/Marathon County Park, Recreation & Forestry Department thanks the following residents for graciously donating holiday trees:

Mark & Sandra Loos	Blue Spruce at the 400 Block
Mary Fisher	Balsam Fir at City Hall
Gerald Dennison	Blue Spruce at the County Courthouse
Gerald Dennison	Balsam Fir at the corner of Stewart Ave & 1st Ave

The trees look amazing and we all look forward to enjoying them through the holiday season!

We are always looking for holiday tree donations! Anyone interested in donating tree(s) for 2024 is encouraged to contact the Parks Department at (715) 261-1550 or parkforestry@co.marathon.wi.us



#### Wausau and Marathon County are the place to be in the Winter...

#### looking for something to do?

Check out <u>https://www.marathon</u> <u>county.gov/recreation/things-to-do</u>!

#### Some upcoming events are

- Get ready for next summer with swim lessons at NCHCF.
- Valentine's Ski Date Night on February 14 at Nine Mile Rec Area.
- Sylvan Hill Tubing opened mid-December and is a great option, as well as our sledding hills and ice skating rinks!



#### Engineering

## **Major Road Construction Projects**

The following city streets are scheduled to be reconstructed in the Summer of 2024:

- Eau Claire Blvd
- Emerson Street
- Mount View Blvd
- Pied Piper Lane
- Short Street
- Stewart Avenue

#### **Description:** The street

reconstructions will include removing the existing street surface, installing new sanitary sewer, water main, storm sewer, curb and gutter and pavement. Sanitary sewer and water laterals will also be replaced where required.

(Grand Ave - West Termini)

- (Eau Claire Kent Street)
- (Eau Claire Kent Street)
- (Eau Claire Kent Street)
- (N. 1st Street-N. 3rd Street)
- enue (48th Avenue 72nd Avenue)

**Traffic Impacts:** Most streets will be closed to thru traffic during construction. Residents should have access to their driveways for a majority of the project. Stewart Avenue will be built in phases to allow access to local businesses and residents.

#### Schedule: April - October

The 5-Year Street reconstruction schedule can be viewed on the City of Wausau Website under the Engineering Department.

If you have any questions regarding the reconstruction of the streets listed above please contact the Engineering Department at 715-261-6740.

WINTER 2023

#### Wausau Water Works

#### Water Main Breaks

Vausau

Cold winter temperatures bring water main breaks. We are asking for your help in spotting water main breaks. If you see any running water any time of day, please call Wausau WaterWorks, at 715-261-7265 to let us know. Reporting main breaks when you see them helps us keep repair costs down and limit property damage.

Our crews respond as fast as they can. While crews are working, please avoid the area and give them room to work. Our equipment is big and needs room to operate and ensure a safe work site for our employees.



ELP YOUR FIRE FIGHTERS

**3 FEET** 

## eaks Keep the Cold Outside

WORKS

Winters can be challenging due to cold temperatures and deep frost levels. There are a number of tips to help avoid problems with frozen or broken pipes in your home.

• Keep all doors and windows to your basement closed and keep the basement heated to a minimum of 50 degrees.

• Homeowners with finished basements are encouraged to allow air to circulate around the water meter; this is especially true if the meter is encased behind a wall.

• Leave cabinet doors open under sinks that are located on exterior walls.

• Vacant properties – make sure to have someone check the property on a regular basis to make sure the furnace doesn't go out. This is especially important as temps start to drop or during extended periods of cold weather. Better yet, contact Wausau Water Works to turn off the water service at the street and remove the water meter; the property can then be winterized. There is a fee to turn the service back on, but it is minimal compared to the damage one broken pipe can cause.

• Never thaw a frozen pipe with an open flame. Thawing should only be done using a hair dryer or heat tape. Before starting to thaw make sure you know where the main water shut off valve is located in your home and that it works. If you were to discover a crack in the pipe you will want to be able to immediately shut off the water supply.

• Use of space heaters in the living spaces of homes may help keep you feeling more comfortable, but it may also limit the amount that your furnace runs, which could cause basement temperatures to drop and cause pipe or water meter freezing or breakage.

# In an emergency, every second counts.

- Remove any snow and ice from the hydrant
- > Clear a wide enough perimeter to walk around it (about 3 feet)
- > Clear a path from the hydrant to the street

**3 FEET** 



## Long-Term Power Outage Preparedness

#### Kelly Bremer, Marathon County Emergency Management Coordinator

Various things, including tornadoes, high winds, ice storms, damage to power plants, and others, can cause extended power outages. Due to the possible impacts of long-term power outages, such as disruption in communications, food spoilage, closed businesses, and inability to use at-home medical devices, it is imperative to prepare for this possibility. There are steps you can take to help lessen these impacts.

Preparing before a disaster happens is key to your success.

- Determine what items you NEED that rely on electricity.
- Work with your medical provider to develop a power outage plan for healthcare devices that are powered by electricity or for medications that must be refrigerated.
- Gather batteries and power banks.
- Sign up for local alerts and warning systems.
- Gather flashlights with extra batteries for each household member.
- Keep enough nonperishable food and water on hand for each household member to last up to 72 hours.
- Keep mobile phones charged and gas tanks full.

Even when the best preparations are in place, emergencies can happen; here are some tips for during a long-term power outage.

- Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.
- Do not use a gas stove to heat your home.
- Unplug appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.
- If temperature extremes occur (heat or cold), check with local officials to determine whether warming or cooling shelters are available.
- Check in with loved ones to let them know you are ok.
- Check on your neighbors and see if they need any assistance.
- Keep away from any downed power lines and flooded areas to avoid electrical shock.
- If using a generator, it should be outside and at least 20 feet from windows, doors, and attached garages. Ensure a working carbon monoxide detector is on each level of your house to protect your family and pets.



WAUSAU WORKS FOR YOU

#### How does snowplowing work?

The City's 266 miles of streets are divided into 24 plow routes, two of which are grader routes in the hills. Not every snow event is the same, and therefore, not every snow plowing job is the same. Every effort is made to complete snow plowing operations as quickly and safely as possible. We do not have sufficient staff or equipment to provide round-the-clock snow plowing operations. Snow plow operators can work a maximum of 16 to 18 hours before an 8-hour break must be given, so when there is going to be a lengthy snow event, the response is also going to be different.

Snow plowing generally commences on main streets or on hills when one inch or more of snow has accumulated from a single snowstorm or successive snowfalls. Plowing will generally commence on all residential streets when two or more inches of snow have accumulated from a single snowfall or successive snowfalls.

When plowing operations have to begin early in the morning during the week, streets designated as the Priority Snowplow Route will be plowed first. The Priority Snowplow Route consists of a network of arterial and collector streets which penetrate residential areas so most residents will only have to travel a maximum of three blocks to a plowed street. Once on a plowed street, access should be possible to all other arterial streets within the City. After the Priority Snowplow Route is completed, snowplow operators will return to the remainder of their regular snowplow route. Other streets will be plowed after the Priority Snowplow Route has been completed.

The Priority Snowplow Route can be viewed at <u>www.wausauwi.gov/your-government/public-works/snow-removal</u>

After an accumulation of snow has developed, snow removal operations are initiated. Snow removal consists of loading snow into trucks and hauling it to a site where it is pushed into piles and left to thaw in the spring.



## Sand Barrels

To help property owners keep their sidewalks safe during the winter, the Department of Public Works has over 100 sand barrels placed throughout the city. The barrels are filled with a sand and salt mixture that is effective for helping to melt icy spots as well as adding grit to slippery sidewalks. If you notice that a sand barrel is getting low in your area please contact DPW at 715-261-6790 and let them know the location so it can get refilled. A map of sand barrel locations can be found on The City of Wausau website here: <u>https://</u> www.wausauwi.gov/ your-government/publicworks/snow-removal Sand is also available by stopping in the office at the Department of Public Works, 400 Myron Street, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



#### Mayor

Katie Rosenberg 407 Grant St katie.rosenberg@ci.wausau.wi.us



**City Council Representatives** All mail for Alderpersons

can be sent to: City Hall 407 Grant Street Wausau, WI 54403

**District 1** Carol Lukens 715-261-6831 carol.lukens@ci.wausau.wi.us



District 2 Michael Martens michael.martens@ci.wausau.wi.us

District 3 Tom Kilian 715-571-8108 tom.kilian@ci.wausau.wi.us

District 4 Doug Diny 715-803-5040 doug.diny@ci.wausau.wi.us



District 5 Gary Gisselman 715-848-5160 gary.gisselman3@ci.wausau.wi.us



**District 6** Rebecca McElhaney 715-261-6830 becky.mcelhaney@ci.wausau.wi.us

**District 7** Lisa Rasmussen 715-261-6832 lisa.rasmussen2@ci.wausau.wi.us

**District 8** 



Sarah Watson sarah.watson@ci.wausau.wi.us

**District 9** Dawn Herbst 715-261-6834 dawn.herbst@ci.wausau.wi.u



**District 10** Louis Larson 715-261-6840 lou.larson@ci.wausau.wi.us



**District 11** Chad Henke 715-261-6841 chad.henke@ci.wausau.wi.us

#### CITY OF WAUSAU

407 Grant Street Wausau, WI 54403



## Wausau Area Events WAUSAU'S WINTER WEEKEND: ISAU WWW.WAUSAUEVENTS.ORG Winter brew 7 **JANUARY 26TH** 7 PM TO 9 PM - JEFFERSON ST. INN TICKETED EVENT FOR ATTENDEES 21+ OVER TICKETS ARE \$35 AND INCLUDE:

er es

**JANUARY 27TH** 11 AM TO 1 PM - DOWNTOWN WAUSAU

FREE EVENT FOR FAMILIES

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: Sled Dog Demonstrations, Ice Skating, Snow Castle Building, Crafts, Live Music, Cookies, Pizza and much more!

Beer Samples, Commemorative Glass Mug, Live Music and a full Brat Bar!

