



FALL 2019

works for you!

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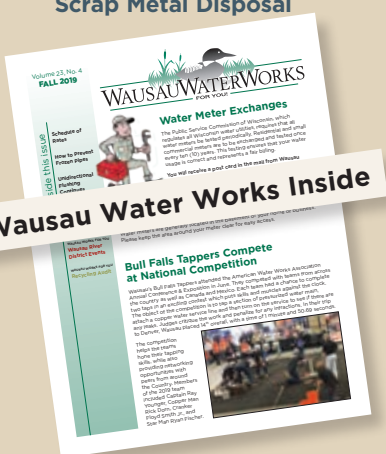
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Mayor's Message

Greetings to the Residents of Wausau!



WOW! Did this year go by fast! Please save this newsletter as it has a lot of useful city information for the upcoming late fall-early winter seasons.

The fall season is upon us and that means it is budget time for the city. We started the budget process back in late June, with Department Heads submitting their initial 2020 operational budgets and goals. Both myself and our city Finance Committee members have met with department heads numerous times to prioritize their needs and expenses. As always, I have stressed the importance of keeping expenses in check, while still providing the quality and reliable city services that taxpayers want and expect. As of this writing, we are still waiting to hear back from the state as to the financial aids that the city will be receiving through the state shared-revenue process. As I have stated before, the budget is always a challenge due to different factors, some of which is beyond our control...but we always get through it in a positive way and will continue to do so. The 2020 budget will be available for public review on the city website in late October then be presented for both public review and City Council approval in November.

Enclosed within this newsletter is a message from me (with information given by our Finance Director, MaryAnne Groat), addressing our current and future city debt, debt levels and borrowing capacity. Even with the many economic development and numerous needed city infrastructure projects, according to our outside financial planners and advisors, the city is headed in a positive direction. We have been aggressively keeping ahead of debt issues, as well as preparing for our long-term future needs. It also shows where we are in comparison to similar cities in Wisconsin. This message is an accurate and honest assessment of how things are going in regards to our debt.

Fall Leaf season is upon us and the city is implementing a 2-phase approach to the leaf collection this year. Phase 1 with the leaf vacuum trucks and sweepers will comb the city from the north to the south starting the end of September (Phase 1 and 2 maps are enclosed). Phase 2 will start the week of October 21 and will continue as needed into November. This Phase 2 will consist of the leaf baling system and the leaf vacuum trucks/sweepers with the entire public works crew on the roads. This is a service for our residents that very few cities in Wisconsin offer.

Also, folks please remember, we live in Wisconsin and experience ever-changing and unpredictable weather during this time of year....because of possible weather-related days, the dates shown for the leaf pick-up are subject to change. If they do change, we will get the message out quickly so you are able to plan and prepare accordingly.

During the fall season, get out and enjoy all of the natural beauty that we have in our region. We are truly blessed to live here, to value and appreciate all of the many good and positive things happening in our community, both natural and man-made!

Though somewhat early, since this is the last newsletter of the year, I want to wish each of and your families (in whatever way it is celebrated) a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza and for everyone, a very Happy and safe, New Year 2020! The future and vision of Wausau is moving forward in a very transformational and exciting way! In many ways, things have never been better and in the New Year, Wausau is just going to continue to get better!

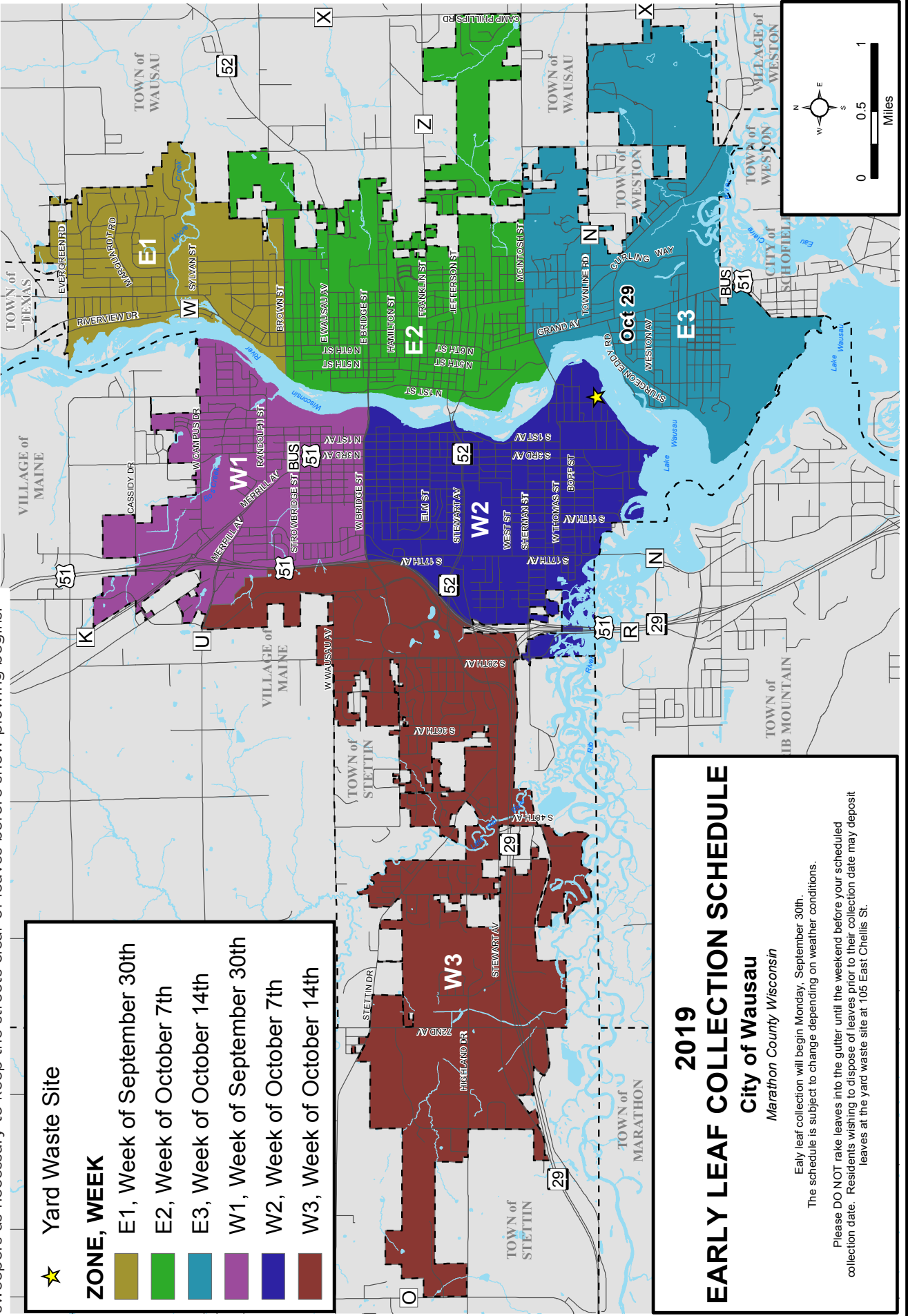
Always remember, that I am very accessible and welcome hearing from all residents about their issues and concerns at any time. Thanks and take care!

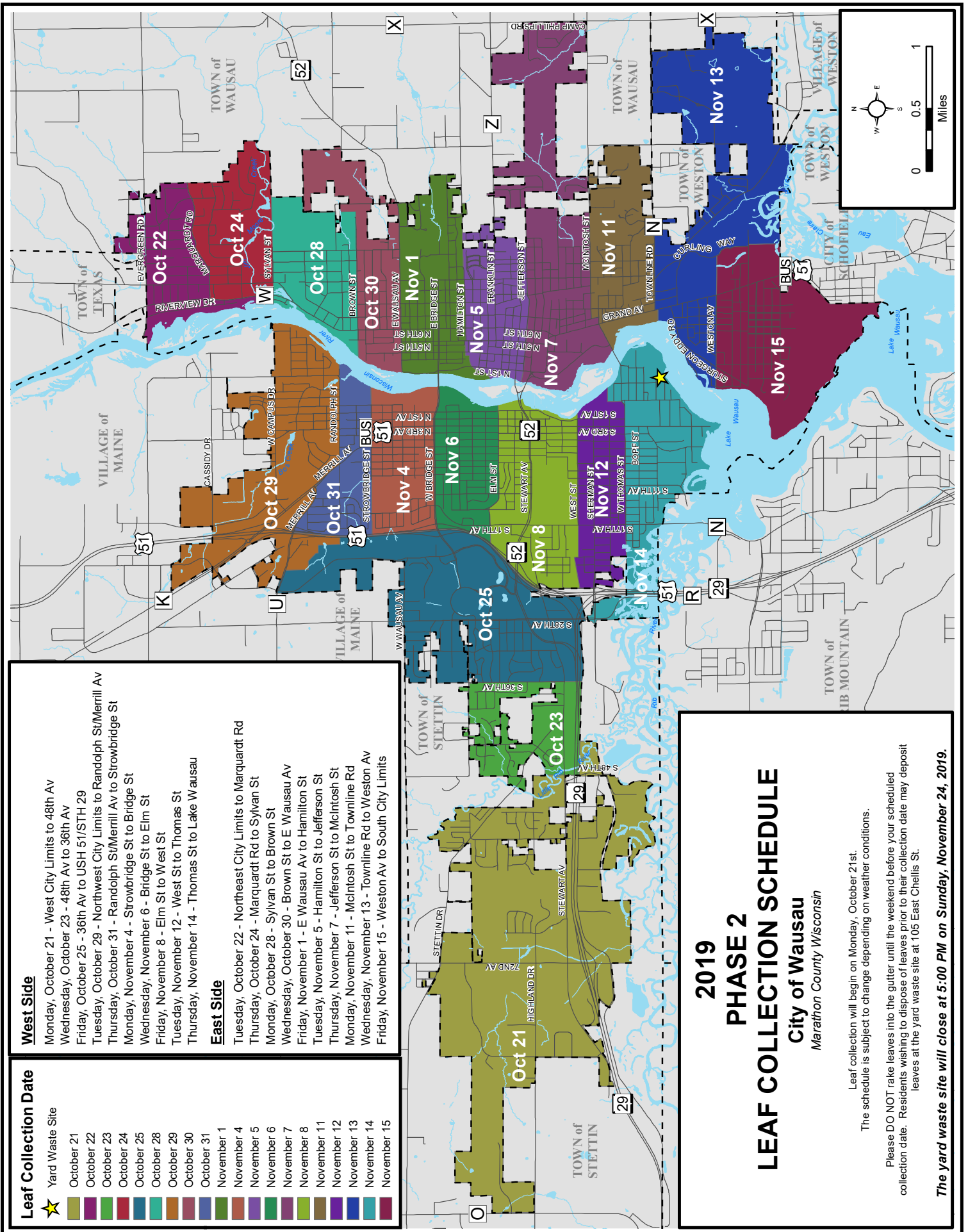
Robert B. Mielke

Robert B. Mielke-Mayor of the GREAT City of Wausau!

2019 Leaf Collection - NEW TWO-PHASE PROCEDURE

The City of Wausau is implementing an early leaf pick up this fall and it will begin starting on Monday, September 30, 2019. The Phase 1 early pick up will consist of leaf vacuum trucks and sweepers (Phase 1 map attached). The Phase 2 leaf pick up will begin the week of October 21, 2019 and will consist of the entire public works crews (Phase 2 map attached). Leaf pick up will continue through freeze up or snow fall. We will continue with the leaf vacuum trucks and sweepers as necessary to keep the streets clear of leaves before snow plowing begins.





West Side

Monday, October 21 - West City Limits to 48th Av
 Wednesday, October 23 - 48th Av to 36th Av
 Friday, October 25 - 36th Av to USH 51/STH 29
 Tuesday, October 29 - Northwest City Limits to Randolph St/Merrill Av
 Thursday, October 31 - Randolph St/Merrill Av to Strowbridge St
 Monday, November 4 - Strowbridge St to Bridge St
 Wednesday, November 6 - Bridge St to Elm St
 Friday, November 8 - Elm St to West St
 Tuesday, November 12 - West St to Thomas St
 Thursday, November 14 - Thomas St to Lake Wausau

East Side

Tuesday, October 22 - Northeast City Limits to Marquardt Rd
 Thursday, October 24 - Marquardt Rd to Sylvan St
 Monday, October 28 - Sylvan St to Brown St
 Wednesday, October 30 - Brown St to E Wausau Av
 Friday, November 1 - E Wausau Av to Hamilton St
 Tuesday, November 5 - Hamilton St to Jefferson St
 Thursday, November 7 - Jefferson St to McIntosh St
 Monday, November 11 - McIntosh St to Townline Rd
 Wednesday, November 13 - Townline Rd to Weston Av
 Friday, November 15 - Weston Av to South City Limits

Leaf Collection Date

- ★ Yard Waste Site
- October 21
- October 22
- October 23
- October 24
- October 25
- October 28
- October 29
- October 30
- October 31
- November 1
- November 4
- November 5
- November 6
- November 7
- November 8
- November 11
- November 12
- November 13
- November 14
- November 15

**2019
 PHASE 2
 LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE**
 City of Wausau
 Marathon County Wisconsin

Leaf collection will begin on Monday, October 21st.
 The schedule is subject to change depending on weather conditions.
 Please **DO NOT** rake leaves into the gutter until the weekend before your scheduled collection date. Residents wishing to dispose of leaves prior to their collection date may deposit leaves at the yard waste site at 105 East Chellis St.
The yard waste site will close at 5:00 PM on Sunday, November 24, 2019.

Assessment Department News

The City of Wausau will be conducting a “Revaluation” of all taxable property for the 2020 Assessment Roll. For the 2020 Revaluation the Assessment Department will

estimate the market value of all assessable property in the City of Wausau and produce an assessment roll listing all taxable property as it exists on January 1, 2020.

The assessment roll describes the property, states the assessed value as of January 1st and lists the owner’s name and address. These new values will be used to compute property tax statements delivered in December 2020.

The goal of a revaluation is to create uniform, equitable and fair assessments so that each property bears its fair share of the property tax burden. The last revaluation in Wausau was conducted in 2015. The Assessment Department is well aware that the current dynamics of the real estate market are significantly different than the conditions we were experiencing in 2015. By tracking and analyzing sales, foreclosures, and other market information throughout the City we see varying degrees of market influences that need to be reflected in the assessed values.

There are many forces in the marketplace that affect a property’s value. The Assessor is tasked with determining the assessed value based on sale prices of what knowledgeable buyers have paid for property. As defined by Wisconsin State Statute, assessors must value property at “full value.” “Full Value” has been defined by the courts as synonymous with market value. Market value is, “the most probable price, in cash or its equivalent, which a property would bring in a competitive and open market under all conditions requisite to a fair sale: the buyer and seller each acting prudently, knowledgeably, and without compulsion”. Note that market value is neither the highest nor the lowest price paid, but the ‘most probable price’. Buyers and sellers, through their market transactions, tell Assessors important factors and trends taking place in the market. It is the consummated sales between buyers and sellers that meet market value conditions that ultimately are used in determining assessed values.

Many property owners equate new assessed values with corresponding changes to their property tax bill.

That is not necessarily the result nor is it the reason for the revaluation. The revaluation ensures that the distribution of property taxes is fair, impartial and uniform based on the market value standard.

Many factors affect values and cause assessment changes to differ among properties. As all real estate professionals will agree, location is the single most important consideration. However, type of property, design, condition, age, quality and many other factors also play a role in determining value. Property taxes, on the other hand are determined by various taxing bodies including, the City of Wausau, the State of Wisconsin, either the Wausau or Everest Public Schools, Marathon County, and the North Central Technical College – it is not the Assessment Department. The amount that each property owner will pay in taxes based on the revaluation will not be determined until December 2020 when all the taxing bodies have approved their budgets.

Once the revaluation is completed, property owners will receive a notice in the mail stating the new assessed value of their property. A public service announcement will also be made when the revaluation is complete. If the property owner feels the new assessed value is not reflective

of the current market value of their property, they will be invited to discuss the valuation with the assessor and may be asked to offer evidence of an alternative value. Property owners can assist the revaluation process by: 1) allowing interior home inspections if asked; 2) responding to requests for information; 3) verifying the physical attributes of your property are correct by reviewing online assessment data: <http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Assessment/Assessment/AssessmentSearch.aspx>. If you have questions about the revaluation process or would like to speak with an assessor, please call 715-261-6600.



Veterans Day

The City of Wausau Veterans Committee will again be putting on the Veterans Day Program.

The Program will be held on November 11 at Bunkers (formally The American Legion).

The program will start at 10:30 AM, all participants are asked to be there by 10:15.

Please join us.

Roger Sydow, Secretary

2019 Recycling Collection Calendar

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 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. 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	Garbage P/U	Recycling P/U
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	Wed-YELLOW
South of Nina Ave & North of Hamilton St	Thursday	Thursday-BLUE
South of Hamilton St & North of Kickbusch St.	Thursday	Thurs-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

JANUARY						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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Clerk Office News

HELP WANTED



ELECTION POLL WORKERS

Hiring Poll Workers to provide services on Election Day two-four times per year. Job Duties include: registering new voters, poll list check in, ballot issuance, counting ballots, etc. Job Requirements: good with people, detail orientated, good penmanship, ability to sit or stand for long periods of time, willing to work in any one of six polling sites located throughout the City. Polls are open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. We offer full day and half day shifts. Training is provided. Applications are available on the City's website at <http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Portals/0/Departments/Clerk/Documents/PollworkerApplication.pdf>. You may also pick up an application at City Hall. Contact the Clerk's office at 715-261-6620 for further information.

CLOSED DURING THE HOLIDAYS



CITY HALL

The City of Wausau administrative offices will be closed on **Thursday and Friday, November 28 and 29, 2019 for the Thanksgiving** holiday. Offices will also be closed on **Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24 and 25, 2019 for the Christmas** holiday and **Wednesday, January 1, 2020 for the New Year's** holiday.

If you have an Animal Control/Traffic or Crime issues, you may call the non-emergency police department at 715-849-7796 (or the Sheriff's department at 715-261-1200). For garbage or recycling information during the holidays, please call Harter's Disposal at 715-253-2619 or 1-888-804-8556.

ARE YOU INTERESTED...



IN RUNNING FOR AN ELECTED OFFICE

The following City of Wausau elected office positions will be open during the Spring 2020 Election. Candidates may begin circulation of their nomination papers on or after December 1, 2019. The deadline to file candidacy papers with the City Clerk is by 5:00 pm, on Tuesday, January 7, 2020. To request a candidacy informational packet, email Wausau City Clerk at toni.rayala@ci.wausau.wi.us with your name and mailing address, or you can pick up a candidate packet at City Hall.

Elected Office	Min. # of Signatures	Max. # of Signatures	Term
Alderspersons 11 Districts	20	40	2 year
Mayor	200	400	4 year
Circuit Court Judge	200	400	4 year

Pet Licenses Expire December 31st Each Year

Pet licenses are required for all dogs and cats more than four months of age on January 1st of any year, or four months of age within the license year, regardless of whether or not your pet goes outside.

Proof of rabies vaccination, expiration date and proof of spay or neuter is required at the time of licensing. There is an \$8.00 discount on each license if your pet is microchipped, proof is required.

The license can be obtained in a variety of ways:

- In person at Customer Service at City Hall. Please bring the necessary proof of spaying or neutering, microchipping and rabies vaccination.

- Or mail a payment along with required documents to City Hall, 407 Grant Street, Wausau, WI 54403

- You can also process the license application online by uploading the required documents at <https://evolveportal.ci.wausau.wi.us/?portal=clerk>.

Licensing fees for the 2020 licensing year are: an unaltered dog or cat is \$60.00 per year; an altered dog or cat is \$18.00 per year. All licenses are given an \$8.00 discount if the pet is microchipped. Proof of microchipping is required for discount.

To avoid a late fee, all dog and cat licenses are due no later than March 31st of every year, within thirty days of

acquiring ownership of a dog or cat, or when the pet reaches four months of age. **A late fee of double the regular license fee, in addition to the required license fee is imposed if the license is obtained after March 31st.** The forfeiture for NOT having a current pet license is \$187.00.



Thank you for being a responsible pet owner.

DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, ZONING, AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

inspections@ci.wausau.wi.us

715.261.6780

SIGNS



- The City of Wausau has received inquiries in regard to the allowance of signs with political messages. At this time, the City of Wausau is in the process of reviewing the current zoning ordinance codes in comparison to recent case law. The requirements for sign placement are being restructured and enforcement of the current code is not being regulated during this process other than insuring that signs are not placed in the public right-of-ways or causing any hindrance to traffic site lines.
- Rummage sale, garage sale, real estate, advertising or other such signs cannot be placed on boulevards, other public right-of-ways, or attached to public utility poles

Stay Tuned!

Zoning Code updates coming soon!

A Public Hearing will be held later this Fall. Watch for updates at www.ci.wausau.wi.us

VEHICLES



- Must be parked on established driveway/parking areas that are hard-surfaced.
- Parking on the grass is not allowed.
- Vehicles that are unregistered/unlicensed, inoperable, abandoned, or in any state of major disassembly, disrepair, or undergoing overhaul are not allowed to be parked on residential properties
- Motor vehicle repair is not allowed on residential properties

FAQ - Permits

Required for:

- Siding
- Roofing
- Window & Door Replacement
- Decks
- Fences
- Ramps
- Sheds
- Garages

EXTERIOR PROPERTY AREAS



- Shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, free from any accumulation of items, garbage, debris, yard waste
- Dog/animal excreta must be picked up in a timely manner, so as to minimize health hazards
- Furniture, not intended for outdoor use, is not allowed on yards or open porches

TRASH AND RECYCLABLE CARTS



- Can be set out for collection after 3:00 PM on the day before pickup
- Do not overfill carts. Harter's will not collect bins that are not closed
- All carts must be removed from the curb-side/boulevard area by 11:00 AM the day after pickup
- Between pickups, trash and recyclable carts should be stored in a garage or shed, or kept behind the front of the house

RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT



- Motor homes, camping and travel trailers, boats, boat trailers, snowmobiles, ATV's, utility trailers, etc. cannot be parked or stored in any required front yard or corner side yard, except for on a designated driveway which meets the City's hard-surfacing requirements
- Equipment or trailers that are longer than 30' (measured from back bumper to tongue) must be parked within enclosed structures

When Choosing a Contractor:

Always ask for:

- **Credentials**
- **Insurance**
- **References**

Get to know your contractor before you hire them.

Contact the Department of Inspections at 715.261.6780 or inspections@ci.wausau.wi.us to verify information

Parking

Just a reminder, the even/odd overnight parking rules apply year round. On odd calendar days, overnight parking is permitted on the side of the street with odd house numbers. On even calendar days, overnight parking is permitted on the even side of the street.

If you intend on parking overnight on a city street, please remember that the calendar day changes at midnight. For example, if you park your car on the street on May 1st at 9:00 PM and intend to leave it overnight, you must park on the even side of the road. At 2:30 AM, the date is actually May 2nd and the overnight parking ordinance is in effect between the hours of 2:30 AM and 6:00 AM.

Overnight parking will not be allowed during snow emergencies. Residents should keep in mind that even if a snow emergency has not been declared, vehicles which are parked overnight on City streets during snowfalls may hinder snow plowing operations.

The forfeiture for violating the overnight parking ordinance is \$25.00, and is \$100.00 during snow emergencies.

Also, please be courteous when parking in your own driveway by NOT parking over/on the sidewalk.



VIBRANT
DOWNTOWN



GREAT
BUSINESSES &
RESTAURANTS



EASY PARKING



PARKING IN DOWNTOWN WAUSAU

Park your ride using 3 convenient options:

STREET

Enjoy 2 hours free parking on any downtown street. No registration required. No re-parking in the same block face for the day.

LOT

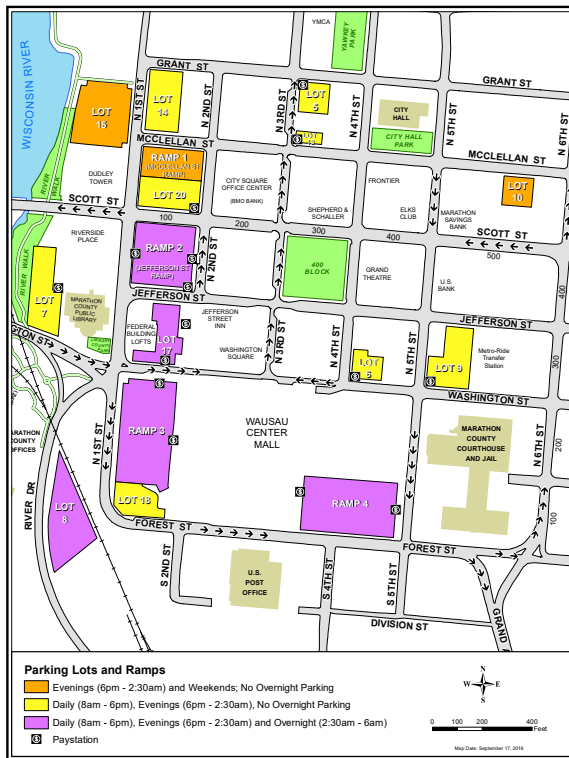
Park and register your license plate using the lot's pay station or Passport Parking phone app. **First 2 hours are free** per day.

RAMP

Park and register your license plate using the ramp's pay station or Passport Parking phone app. **First 2 hours are free** per day.

LIVE OR WORK DOWNTOWN?

Purchase and manage your tagless parking permit online through the city website, wausauparking.com.



NEW DOWNTOWN PARKING GUIDE

- Enjoy 2 hours free parking downtown!
- Evenings and weekends free! Park after 6 pm on weekday evenings and all day on Saturday and Sunday for free.
- No overnight parking on city streets from 2:30 am - 6:00 am and as noted within the parking map.
- Parking on the street? Enjoy 2 hours free. No registration required. Please no re-parking in the same block face for the day.
- Parking in a lot or ramp? Please register at the beginning of your stay for 2 hours free parking using the ramp or lot's registration kiosk or the Passport Parking app on your smartphone. Need more than 2 hours? Simply purchase additional time. Please no backing into parking stalls in lots or ramps.

QUESTIONS?

715-261-6765
wausauparking.com



Mission Statement... In response to our citizens, we will provide services in the most effective manner in order to promote and enhance our living environment. Plan and encourage positive growth. Promote a positive community image by encouraging citizen involvement and civic pride.

MCDEVCO's Fall Programing

DREAM BIG as we start our unique fall educational programing for entrepreneurs and small business owners at MCDEVCO!

General entrepreneurs and business no charge programs that teach skills for your long-term success:

September 26, 2019, Melissa Klade will be presenting *Human Resources - How to Hire, Train, and Retain Employees* from 6:00pm - 7:30pm at MCDEVCO. Melissa is the director of Total Rewards and HR Systems as she oversees Wipfli's compensation and benefit, and HR systems plus more!

October 3, 2019 Tim McKeough's program at MCDEVCO will be on *Personality Types - How do we all Work Together*, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Tim is the president/owner of Q Up Success, LLC along with being a certified trainer for the Myers-Briggs Personality Type Indicator and a Certified Coach for the Canfield Success Principles.

November 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th Workshop Series at MCDEVCO from 6:00pm - 8:00pm - *Lean Business - The 9 Building Blocks*. Amy Plier workshop series will lead you through the steps to create your effective business model for your company.

October we will celebrate **National Women's Small Business Month** with two programs. Robert B. Mielke, Mayor, City of Wausau will proclaim October National Women's Small Business Month.



Celebrate Fall & Winter With Wausau Events!

Don't let the colder weather keep you inside! Join us as we celebrate the remaining months of 2019 and start of 2020 with pumpkins, horse-drawn wagon rides, crafts, Santa, beer, snow slides, mac 'n' cheese, hot cocoa, and endless fun!

Upcoming Events

Harvest Fest

Saturday, October 5, 2019
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The 400 Block

Holiday Parade

Friday, December 6, 2019
starting at 6:30 p.m.
Marathon Park to
The 400 Block

Wausau Brew Fest

Friday, January 24, 2020
7-10 p.m.
The Elks Lodge

Winter Fest

Saturday, January 25, 2020
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
The 400 Block

For additional event information, including full schedules, visit www.wausauevents.org.

1 October 17, 2019 Jennifer Tryba from Thrivent Financial will moderate a round table/panel discussion for Women Entrepreneurs from 6:00pm - 7:30pm at MCDEVCO. Panelist for the event will be Sue Larson, Megan Korpela, Amy Plier, and Jen Nieuwenhuls Hardel. The topic will be *Women's Small Business Owners - the Pros and the Cons*. No Charge program.

2 October 22, 2019 will be Inspiring *Art to Aspire Women at Timekeepers Distillery* located in the historic Hiawatha Line train station at 720 Grant Street, Wausau from 6:00pm-7:30pm. What keeps you motivated and aspires you to aim for the stars? You will be painting a 10x10 personal motivation to take home. Cost for one cocktail, appetizers, and all painting supplies is **\$25.00**. Preregistration is required as space is limited.

All programs unless noted are held at MCDEVCO. Preregistration is required. To get up-to-date information on our programs check out our website: www.mcdevco.org or to pre-register for a program email us at info@mcdevco.org, or call us at 715.298.0084.

We hope to see YOU at one of our programs!



Halloween Trick or Treat Hours Thursday, October 31st from 4-7 pm

2020 Census at a Glance

The census is much more than just a head count. It provides a picture of our nation that helps determine where to build new schools, hospitals, and businesses; how federal funding is distributed; and how congressional seats are apportioned. It also helps us see how our communities have changed over time. That's why an accurate count is so important.

UNDERSTANDING THE CENSUS

Once every decade, the federal government conducts a census of the entire population to count everyone in the United States and record basic information about them. Our nation's founders believed this data was so important that they mandated the decennial census in the Constitution.



Easy and Convenient

In 2020, for the first time ever, the U.S. Census Bureau will accept responses online, but you can still respond by phone or mail if you prefer.



Confidential and Secure

Strict federal law protects your census responses. It is against the law for any Census Bureau employee to disclose or publish any census information that identifies an individual or business. Census Bureau employees take a lifelong pledge of confidentiality to handle data responsibly and keep respondents' information private. The penalty for wrongful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both. No law enforcement agency (not the DHS, ICE, FBI, or CIA) can access or use your personal information at any time. Data collected can only be used for statistical purposes that help inform important decisions, including how much federal funding your community receives.

The Census Bureau will never ask for your Social Security number, bank or credit card account numbers, money or donations, or anything on behalf of a political party.

The Census Bureau has a robust cybersecurity program that incorporates industry best practices and federal security standards for encrypting data.

To make sure you and your community are counted, learn more about the 2020 Census by visiting 2020census.gov.



KEY MILESTONES FOR THE 2020 CENSUS

- September 2018**—The Census Bureau's recruitment Web site went live: 2020census.gov/jobs. For each decennial census, the Census Bureau begins recruiting thousands of paid census takers to help ensure a complete and accurate count. Interested applicants can visit the Web site to apply for a variety of jobs beginning in 2019 and through summer 2020.
- April 2019**—The 2020 Census Web site goes live: 2020census.gov. This site will be available in multiple languages and will provide downloadable materials, answers to frequently asked questions, and more information about how individuals and organizations can help spread the word about the 2020 Census.
- August 2019**—New Statistics in Schools classroom activities are available online: census.gov/schools. The Statistics in Schools program provides resources for teaching and learning with real-life data.
- January 2020**—The first enumeration of the 2020 Census takes place in Toksook Bay, Alaska. Local census takers must get a head start while the frozen ground allows easier access to remote areas with unique accessibility challenges.
- March 2020**—The public can begin responding to the 2020 Census online at 2020census.gov. Replying by mail or phone will also be an option.
- April 2020**—Every 10 years, we observe Census Day on April 1.
- June 2020 through July 2020**—Census takers go door to door to count people who have not responded to the 2020 Census. Census takers are Census Bureau employees and will provide proof that they are official government personnel.
- December 31, 2020**—By this date, as required by law, the Census Bureau reports to the President of the United States the population count and the apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives to each state.
- 2021**—Initial 2020 Census data are made available to the public on census.gov.

A Message Regarding Current & Future Wausau City Debt

by Mayor Robert B. Mielke

Wausau’s debt is well-managed comparable to our peers, and continues to be a wise investment in our future. Over the past 3 years, which has been a time of historic record development and growth for our City, low interest rates and favorable borrowing, we have been clear in sharing the message with our residents about our need to invest in needed city infrastructure and to get long-delayed projects completed. Yes, we have increased our debt, as we have had at various times in our history....but it means getting all of our public pools renovated, finishing Thomas Street, completing our award-winning Riverlife Park, expanding the Wausau Business Campus and rebuilding Fire Station #2, as well as planning for long needed future infrastructure projects. As a taxpayer, it is of utmost importance to see the results of your investment. As I have noted before on numerous occasions, our debt borrowing is funding needed infrastructure and amenity projects we see ongoing in our community. The reality is that like most other communities across America, much of our infrastructure is aging and needs to be, not only updated, but replaced....and now is the time to do that. As these projects are completed, I have been and am committed to reducing our debt, but right now I am proud that we are investing in the long term needs of our future....at this time, it really is the right and responsible thing to do.

If you are concerned about Wausau’s debt- I’d encourage you to take a couple minutes to listen to the public presentation from our outside financial planner/ advisor-Mr. Philip Cosson of Ehlers and Associates. His presentation regarding our overall finances and debt was given at the September 10th Council meeting (since we now broadcast and record every city committee and Council meeting online at <https://waam.viebit.com/>) please watch his presentation at the 53:00 minute mark. Mr. Cosson shared with the city council, local media partners (and now with you) our city’s overall current and future debt picture. Ehlers and Associates and city staff are pleased to share some observations:

- The municipal bond market remains highly favorable- we recently borrowed Series A 10 year debt issue at an effective rate of 1.7%, in which the City makes a higher return on cash in our accounts!
- Debt has increased but the City’s debt level remains competitive with our peer communities.
- Debt is paid off quickly with 84.5% retired in 10 years.
- With low interest rates and record new development growth, now has been the time to issue new debt and to move long needed projects forward that require municipal debt.

- All of our debt is being invested in projects we all see happening-major roadway projects, updates and rebuilds of long needed infrastructure projects, expansion of the new west side business campus, our new Riverlife Park, renovated pools and our new Fire Station #2 now under construction.
- The amount of land and taxable value in our tax increment financing (TIF) districts remains below State recommended levels-many of our neighboring and peer cities in the state can’t say that.
- The City has one of the strongest net new construction rates in the State-higher than La Crosse, Eau Claire, Green Bay, Appleton, Fond du Lac, Oshkosh, Milwaukee-even higher than Madison. Our investments continue to translate directly into historic growth and development across the City.

Over the last two and half years, the city has had record development and economic growth. Recent numbers and indicators have shown that Wausau continues to progress in a productive, sustainable way. Things have been and are going in a very positive direction and as it has been shown, the city will continue to be transformed. This has been part of our long-term “vision” in making Wausau a strong viable community! The debt that we have taken on was needed and it should be considered a short-term investment for a long-term pay-off in our future!

RATING FACTORS OF COMPARABLE COMMUNITIES



Municipality	Current Rating	Overall Debt Burden	Direct Debt Burden	Payout, 10-Years	Direct Debt Per Capita	Overall Debt Per Capita	Average Annual Growth FV	Undesignated Gen. Fund % of Total Op. Rev.	% of Exp. for Debt Service	Adj Gross Inc Per Return (2017)	Adj Gross Inc as % of State (2017)	Per Capita Eq. Value (2018)	Eq. Value TID - IN (2018)	Population (2018)
Wausau	Aa3	3.86%	1.98%	84.50%	\$1,466	\$2,864	4.11%	25.03%	16.88%	\$40,260	69.83%	\$78,820	3,075,863,100	39,024
Eau Claire	Aa1	4.27%	2.56%	75.56%	\$2,058	\$3,428	4.31%	26.66%	20.25%	\$47,660	82.67%	\$80,270	5,453,961,400	67,945
Sheboygan	Aa2	3.42%	1.75%	80.50%	\$1,005	\$1,966	2.60%	25.00%	22.80%	\$46,094	79.95%	\$58,141	2,809,902,500	48,329
Stevens Point	Aa2	2.45%	1.46%	86.00%	\$1,053	\$1,762	4.80%	33.00%	24.00%	\$41,944	72.75%	\$72,011	1,926,218,900	26,749
Oshkosh	Aa3	3.95%	3.26%	82.64%	\$2,122	\$2,924	1.63%	23.00%	36.85%	\$51,887	90.00%	\$60,851	4,073,682,600	66,945
Weston	Aa3	4.65%	0.90%	96.00%	\$696	\$3,589	3.69%	16.40%	5.02%	\$59,958	104.00%	\$77,259	1,193,258,600	15,445

Source: Moody's Investor's Service Most Recent Credit Reports & Village or City Audits, State of Wisconsin (DOB)



CITY OF WAUSAU

407 Grant Street
Wausau, WI 54403

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 600
Wausau, WI

ECRWSS

POSTAL PATRON

Mayor

Robert B. Mielke
261-6800
315 S. 8th Avenue
Robert.mielke@ci.wausau.wi.us



City Council Representatives

District 1

Patrick Peckham
1618 Emerson St
715-845-1396
Patrick.peckham@ci.wausau.wi.us



District 2

Michael Martens
1228 Arthur Street
715-845-4218
Michael.Martens@ci.wausau.wi.us



District 3

David Nutting
534 S. 1st Avenue
715-842-2589
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District 4

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916 Hamilton Street
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District 5

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District 6

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715-581-3762
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District 7

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715-675-4872
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District 8

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District 9

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District 10

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506 Sherman Street
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Mary.thao@ci.wausau.wi.us



District 11

Dennis Smith
3516 Polzer Drive
715-573-7994
Dennis.smith@ci.wausau.wi.us



Come out to **The Mint Café** and join the Mayor over coffee on **Wednesday, October 2, 2019 from 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.** "Meeting with constituents and following up with concerns our residents have is a priority I take very seriously", said the Mayor.

The 1st Wednesday of the month the Mayor holds Coffee sessions throughout the city at various local restaurants or coffee shops. Check the City's website or facebook page for future places and times.



Downtown Hanging Decorations & Holiday Decoration Schedule

As the City gets ready to move into the fall season and then holiday season we have set the following schedule for hanging decorations over North 3rd Street and in the downtown area.

October 1-11 - Umbrellas will be taken down and the string lights will be put up in their place.

November 18-29 - Holiday decorations will be put up and in place.

January 6-17 - Holiday decorations will be taken down. The string lights over N. 3rd St will remain up until spring of 2019.

May 2020 - Weather permitting, the string lights over N. 3rd St will be taken down and the umbrellas will be hung to kick off the spring/summer events.

CORRECTION - Scrap Metal Disposal

It was brought to the City's attention that the Summer "Wausau Works For You" newsletter reported an inaccuracy with regard to the disposal of scrap metal. If you have any scrap metal that you would like to properly dispose of you may call Alter Metal Recycling (formerly Wausau Scrap or Wausau Steel) located at 2900 Sherman Street, 715-298-9330. Their hours are 7:30am - 4:00pm Monday - Friday.



WAUSAU WATERWORKS

FOR YOU!

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WAUSAU WORKS FOR YOU
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Water Meter Exchanges

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, which regulates all Wisconsin water utilities, requires that all water meters be tested periodically. Residential and small commercial meters are to be exchanged and tested once every ten (10) years. This testing ensures that your water usage is correct and represents a fair billing.

You will receive a post card in the mail from Wausau Water Works when it is time to change your water meter with instructions on how to schedule an appointment.

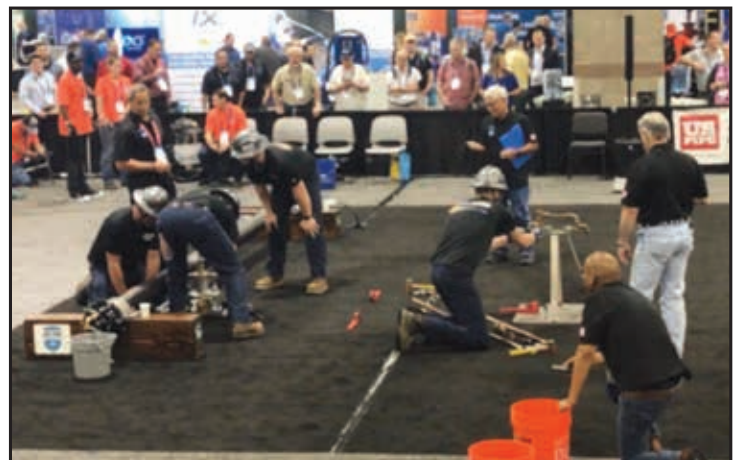
Generally, the meter exchange can be completed within a half hour. Please note that our meter technicians will need to turn off your water to exchange the meter, so it is important that everyone in your family is aware of this temporary outage.

Water meters are generally located in the basement of your home or business. Please keep the area around your meter clear for easy access.

Bull Falls Tappers Compete at National Competition

Wausau's Bull Falls Tappers attended the American Water Works Association Annual Conference & Exposition in June. They competed with teams from across the country as well as Canada and Mexico. Each team had a chance to complete two taps in an exciting contest which puts skills and muscles against the clock. The object of the competition is to tap a section of pressurized water main, attach a copper water service line and then turn on the service to see if there are any leaks. Judges critique the work and penalize for any infractions. In their trip to Denver, Wausau placed 14th overall, with a time of 1 minute and 50.69 seconds.

The competition helps the teams hone their tapping skills, while also providing networking opportunities with peers from around the Country. Members of the 2019 team included Captain Ray Younger, Copper Man Rick Dorn, Cranker Floyd Smith Jr., and Star Man Ryan Fischer.





Schedule of Rates

WAUSAU WATER WORKS

407 Grant Street - City Hall
 Wausau, WI 54403-4783

Phone: 715 261-6530 • Fax: 715 261-6535

E-mail: waterworks@ci.wausau.wi.us

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm

WATER RATES

EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2019

Quarterly Service Charge (based on meter size)

5/8 Inch Meter	\$17.07
3/4 Inch Meter	17.07
1 Inch Meter	27.87
1-1/4 Inch Meter	40.62
1-1/2 Inch Meter	49.17
2 Inch Meter	72.12
3 Inch Meter	129.51
4 Inch Meter	186.84
6 Inch Meter	347.49
8 Inch Meter	531.09
10 Inch Meter	776.91
12 Inch Meter	1022.79

Plus Volume Charge:

Residential Customers

All water used - \$2.29 per 100 cu. ft.

Non-Residential Customers

First 6,000 cu. ft. \$2.29 per 100 cu. ft.

Next 54,000 cu. ft. used - \$2.13 per 100 cu. ft.

Over 60,000 cu. ft. used - \$1.80 per 100 cu. ft.

Irrigation Class - All water used - \$3.28 per 100 cu. ft.

Bills for water and sewer service are issued quarterly and due the 20th of the month. A 1% late payment charge is added to the outstanding balance after the 20th of each month and is applicable to all customers. To avoid late payment charges, all bills must be received in the **office of the City Treasurer** by the due date printed on the front of the bill. Customers who pay at remote collection sites (grocery stores) are recommended to make payments prior to due dates to ensure timely receipt by the City Treasurer.

PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION FEES

EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2019

Quarterly Service Charge (based on meter size)

5/8 Inch Meter	\$10.47
3/4 Inch Meter	10.47
1 Inch Meter	26.16
1-1/4 Inch Meter	38.70
1-1/2 Inch Meter	52.32
2 Inch Meter	83.73

3 Inch Meter	157.35
4 Inch Meter	262.26
6 Inch Meter	524.49
8 Inch Meter	835.95
10 Inch Meter	1,255.53
12 Inch Meter	1,675.14

SEWER RATES

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2019

Quarterly Service Charge (based on water meter size)

5/8 Inch Meter	\$20.40
3/4 Inch Meter	20.40
1 Inch Meter	27.60
1-1/4 Inch Meter	38.40
1-1/2 Inch Meter	44.40
2 Inch Meter	74.40
3 Inch Meter	134.40
4 Inch Meter	219.60
6 Inch Meter	433.20
8 Inch Meter	681.60

Plus Volume Charge

All volume, as recorded by the water meter each quarter shall be charged at the rate of \$3.11 per 100 cubic ft.

All customers are billed for sewer based on the amount of water used each quarter. Unmetered sewer rate is \$82.60 per quarter in the City and \$103.00 per quarter outside the City.

PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION CHARGES

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2015

This service is for unmetered connections to the main for the purpose of supplying water to private fire protection systems such as automatic sprinkler systems, standpipes, (where same are connected permanently or continuously to the mains) and private hydrants.

2 Inch or Smaller Connection	\$ 12.00
3 Inch Connection	22.50
4 Inch Connection	37.50
6 Inch Connection	75.00
8 Inch Connection	120.00
10 Inch Connection	180.00
12 Inch Connection	240.00

CHARGES FOR TURNING ON SERVICE

Turn on valve at curb (includes meter installation if needed)

During Normal Business Hours	\$60.00
After Hours	100.00

LATERAL CONNECTIONS

1" Water Lateral Connection . . . Based on Time & Materials
 1-1/2" or Larger Water Lateral . . . Based on Time & Material

MISSED APPOINTMENT FEES

During Normal Business Hours	\$60.00
After Hours	100.00

MISCELLANEOUS

Payments Not Honored by Financial Institution. . . \$40.00

How to Prevent **FROZEN PIPES**



OUTDOOR TIPS

- ✓ Drain excess water from sprinkler systems
- ✓ Disconnect garden hoses from outside faucets, allowing them to drain
- ✓ Insulate outdoor faucets with foam covers

INDOOR TIPS

- ✓ Make sure any pipes that are at risk of freezing are well insulated
- ✓ Keep doors and windows in your basement closed
- ✓ Basements should be heated to 50°F
- ✓ Leave cabinet door open under sinks that are located on exterior walls.
- ✓ Finished basements should allow airflow around meter, especially if meters are encased behind a wall.
- ✓ Space heaters may keep living areas warm, but they prevent the furnace from running, allowing basement temperatures to drop and cause water pipes to freeze.

IF PIPES DO FREEZE, MAKE SURE YOU NEVER THAW THEM WITH AN OPEN FLAME!

- ✓ Turn off your main water supply.
- ✓ Use a hair dryer or heat tape to thaw pipes.
- ✓ Turn on the main water supply and inspect for leaks.

**** IF CRACKS OR LEAKS ARE FOUND, TURN OFF MAIN WATER SUPPLY AND CONTACT A PLUMBER. ****

Unidirectional Flushing Continues

In 2016 Wausau Water Works implemented a unidirectional flushing program to help us continue to provide high-quality water to our customers. This is a high volume flushing where staff will open and close pre-determined valves to isolate specific sections of water main. Fire hydrants are then flushed to pull the water from one direction (hence the term “unidirectional”), the speed and volume of water create a scouring action to remove the built up of sediment from the water mains.

Notification to customers is done in several ways. Post cards are mailed to each customer with a water service that will be affected by each flush, the use of the City of Wausau Public Works and Utilities Facebook page also helps spread information to customers. As crews make progress they place signage ahead of them to help notify customers that we will soon be in that area. Please understand there is no way we can determine an exact time /date that we will be in a location, or the time it will take to flush out the accumulated sediment.

During the flushing process customers in the vicinity will notice some discoloration in the water and temporary drop in water pressure. Your water may be discolored for a short period of time and could stain laundry. If possible, do not use your water while flushing is occurring. To correct any discoloration, run your cold water for a few minutes to remove the discoloration from the internal plumbing.

If this does occur please understand crews are working to minimize any inconvenience to our customers. If you have any questions please contact Wausau Water Works at 715-261-7265.

Wausau Water Works to Issue Delinquent Notices

Notices for delinquent water and sewer bills will be issued in early October to property owners and tenants. These bills are due by November 1, 2019 to avoid an additional 10% penalty. If not paid by November 15, the total owing, including the 10% penalty, will be added to the property taxes.

Recent changes in the law now states that these charges may also show up in the Circuit Court Access Program (CCAP) program under the tenant's name.

This could have a bearing for tenants who are looking at renting other properties and have delinquent water and sewer bills as potential landlords would be able to see that information. Should you have any questions regarding this new law or outstanding balances, please contact Wausau Water Works at 715-261-6530.

Wausau River District *Events*

Phone: 715-218-9457
Email: Blake@WausauRiverDistrict.org
Website: <http://www.wausauriverdistrict.org>

Downtown Wausau Dining Week October 14 - 18, 2019

Location: Throughout downtown's Wausau River District
Description: Downtown Wausau Dining Weeks is Wausau's favorite feast! Participating restaurants will feature a special meal for lunch and dinner, allowing you to experience the many wonderful tastes of our downtown

Holiday Open House Nov. 1-3, 2019

Location: Throughout downtown's Wausau River District
Description: Kick off the holiday season with a festive holiday weekend! The open house will feature elves, carolers, door prizes, refreshments, and a free trolley! A great time to get a jump on your holiday shopping with some unique local finds.

Small Business Saturday Nov. 23, 2019

Location: Throughout downtown's Wausau River District
Description: Shop your favorite local stores for unique finds in clothing, jewelry, gifts, accessories, sporting goods, and so much more! Feel good about shopping when you visit your favorite local stores and keep the holiday goodwill going. Did you know that shopping local puts up to 20% more money back in to the local community than does shopping at a national chain? So when you shop Small Business Saturday, you'll not only find a unique gift, but you'll be giving the gift of a sustainable community.

Recycling Audit

The City of Wausau is excited to step up our game when it comes to residential recycling! We understand it can be difficult to know what is acceptable in your recycling carts. To help us provide you with better how-to-recycle resources, we are conducting a recycling audit.

The purpose of the audit is to understand how effective our recycling program is, and what the city can do to improve awareness and education about how to recycle right. Sponsored by local packaging solutions provider Rocket Industrial, the audit is a collaboration between the city, ERbin (a local startup), Harters, and the Marathon County Solid Waste Department.

The audit will take place during the week of October 7. That week, representatives from the collaborating organizations will audit the recycling and refuse bins of about 125 residents from five randomly selected neighborhoods. There will be no release of any confidential information about the waste audit or any personal items that may be seen during the inspections. The audit was approved by the City Council in August. If you have any questions about this audit, please contact the Marathon County Solid Waste Department information line at 877-270-3989, or email Michelle Goetsch at mgoetsch@erbinusa.com

