



The Bay Quarterly

January-March 2023





250 Williams Street
PO Box 580
Williams Bay, WI 53191

www.vi.williamsbay.wi.gov

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Meetings

Meetings monthly, or as noted, at Village Hall. Meetings may be rescheduled. Check www.vi.williamsbay.wi.gov for the most up-to-date calendar.

Village Board:

1st & 3rd Monday 6:30PM

Committee Meetings:

Following Wednesday after the first Board Meeting 6:30PM

Plan Commission:

2nd Tuesday as needed 6:30PM

3rd Tuesday as needed 6:30PM

Contact Us

Village Hall Offices.....(262) 245-2700

Administrator

Tina Kolls, Clerk

Lori Peternell, Treasurer

Cynthia Stanek, Utility Clerk/Admin Assistant

Building Inspector.....ext. 415

Bonnie Schaeffer, Zoning Administrator....ext 407

Water Department.....(262) 245-2707

Street Department.....(262) 245-2706

EMERGENCY.....9-1-1

Police Department.....(262) 245-2710

Fire Department.....(262) 245-2712

Recreation Department.....(262) 686-8001

Barrett Memorial Library.....(262) 245-2709

Court Clerk.....(262) 245-2634



William Duncan
Village President

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...

I hope you all had a happy and blessed 2022 holiday season. I am looking forward to an even better 2023 New Year as the long pandemic slowly fades.

First, I want to thank all of you who voted yes on our EMS referendum. We know it was a big ask and the Board didn't take this lightly. All imaginable alternatives were explored before settling on the joint plan with the Village of Fontana. We believe this partnership will save both Villages money. I am especially grateful to our existing EMS volunteers who will continue to supplement the paid paramedics. They have served the Village well for many years. To those who voted no, please continue to ask questions and offer your thoughts.

As you may know, our excellent Village Administrator, Becky Tobin, has taken the County Administrator position for Boone County Illinois. She has brought numerous positive improvements to Village operations in her time with us. She will be missed, and we wish her well in her new position. We have begun a search for her replacement. We will be using a search firm to assist the board with the process. We will have an interim administrator until a new one is hired.

We have a lot on our "to-do" list for 2033. Topping the list will be several infrastructure projects. We will take advantage of the State rebuilding a section of Highway 67 from near Harpoon Willies north to Mercy Clinic to replace very old water and sewer pipes. We also need to make improvements to our water plant to comply with State mandated standards. As we do with each borrowing, we have a list of streets that need repaving. More projects are in the works.

Also, several parks and recreation improvements are underway or will be soon, including new tennis courts at the Theater Road Park, upgrades to three playgrounds, new more attractive fencing for the community gardens including a more convenient water supply. Improvements to the beach house and the public restrooms may already be completed by the time this newsletter is published.

I hope to see you when you can at our Village Board meetings. We have two public comment periods at each regular Board meeting. We welcome your input.

Best wishes for the coming New Year,

Bill Duncan, Village President

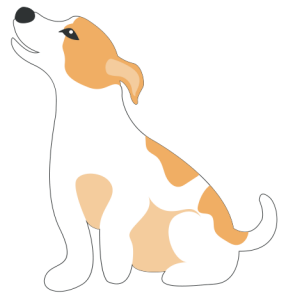
ANNOUNCEMENTS



BRUSH CHIPPING

The Village will chip brush and sticks on Tuesdays (weather permitting) throughout the year. Please arrange for this service online at www.vi.williamsbay.wi.gov, or by calling (262) 245-2700 ext. 9 and leave your name, address and phone number when prompted.

- Calls made by noon on Mondays will be scheduled for chipping on Tuesday.
- Place brush and sticks by the roadside with the cut ends facing the road.
- Sticks with a diameter of 6" or less are an acceptable size for chipping.
- Christmas Trees are accepted at the curb in January. No phone call needed.
- There is no charge if chipping takes 10 minutes or less.
- Brush and sticks left by the road without scheduling will not be chipped.
- For Improved Single Family Residential Properties Only.



DOG LICENSE(S)

Please remit a separate check for your dog license fees.

Licenses are to be renewed every year. All dogs five (5) months of age by the first of the year are required to have a dog license. Licenses must be obtained by March 31st. After that date, a \$5.00 penalty will be charged. You must provide a current proof of rabies vaccination certificate (not the tag) for each dog to be licensed. Check should be made payable to the Village of Williams Bay. Fees are \$15.00 for an altered male or female and \$30.00 for an unaltered male or female. Dog Licenses are required by State Statute, and they help us reconnect you with your dog if your dog is lost. They also ensure that dogs in the community have been properly vaccinated.

FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK.....

Property tax bills were mailed on December 8, 2022. If you have not received yours, please give our office a call so we can verify your mailing information to update if necessary and get you another copy of your bill.

What options are available to make payments?

Payments can be made the following ways:

- Pay **full amount or first installment** during regular business hours. Checks should be made payable to "Village of Williams Bay Treasurer"
- **PLEASE REMEMBER TO ENDORSE ANY ESCROW CHECKS.**
- Drop off after hours using the depository box located in the foyer at the Village Hall.
- Mail payments to PO Box 580, Williams Bay, WI 53191. Please include remittance stubs with all payments.
- We do not accept advance dated checks.
- **Receipts will only be mailed if a self-addressed postage paid envelope is included with payment.**

The Village of Williams Bay has a proposed total budget of \$7,574,995. At the November 8, 2022, election, the voters of Williams Bay approved the referendum to partner with the Village of Fontana for 24-hour Emergency Medical Services. The approved referendum increased the tax levy by \$928,077 or an estimated increase of \$82/\$100K of assessed property value.

The annual budget is supported by several sources of revenue including taxes, charges for services, intergovernmental funding, licenses, permits, fines & forfeitures, investment income, and miscellaneous revenue. Total revenues are used to fund Village operations, capital purchases, library operations, recycling services and debt services.

The mill rate is calculated by using the Village's assessed value. The Village's 2022 assessed value increased \$364,659,400 resulting in total assessed value of \$1,130,222,000. In 2022, the Village mill rate is projected to be \$3.46; a decrease of \$0.14 from 2021.

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT ONLINE CREDIT CARD PROCESSING WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR!!

Online payments for 2022 property taxes payments are processed through Walworth County's Ascent Land Records:

<https://ascent.co.walworth.wi.us/LandRecords/PropertyListing/RealEstateTaxParcel#/Search>

The online payment processing of property taxes would be available during the first installment collection period only. The system will only accept payments for current year taxes and will not accept overpayments.

Fees for Online Payments

E-check	.50¢ (you will need to provide your checking routing & account number)
NSF Fee	\$15.00
Debit/credit card	2.35% convenience fee on the amount you are paying
Chargebacks	\$15.00

Visa debit/credit, Mastercard debit/credit, American Express and Discover accepted

Online tax payment instructions can be found on our website at www.vi.williamsbay.wi.gov



It's a Re-New Year here at the library! Give us a call to push back those due dates at this busy time of year. We have so much to share with you in 2023. Our Teen Advisory Board has been hard at work with WBHS on a new podcast, which you can find on our website. We have a busy year planned for kids and teens with everything from dance parties to tea parties. Adult programming is off and running with new Adult Craft Classes on the schedule and the return of our popular Nature Series with Kishwauketoe. It's going to be a great year! We can't wait to see you at the library!

- Take & Make Play Date-2nd&4th Fridays, 11:00AM-12:00PM (babies & toddlers)
- Craft in a Bag-monthly



SPECIAL EVENTS

JANUARY

- Jan.13-Adult Craft Class 10-11:30 Snowman Pizza Pan Door Hanger
- Jan.19-T-Rex Tea Party 1PM-2PM
- Jan. 20 Teen Lock-In 7PM-10PM



FEBRUARY

- Feb.21-Nature Series with Kishwauketoe, 6-7:30PM 
- Feb.16 Cookies and Bookies 1PM-2PM (school-age children)
- Feb.17 Valentine's Escape Room 2PM-6PM, a new room starts on the hour(teens) 



RECURRING PROGRAMS

- Move-It Mondays Dance Party First 3 Mondays of the Month 11AM-11:30AM(babies & toddlers)
- Storytime-First 3 Wednesdays of the Month, 10AM-11AM (babies & toddlers)
- Spanish Storytime with the WBHS Spanish Club- Last Monday of each Month at WB Elementary School Library, 10AM(babies & toddlers)

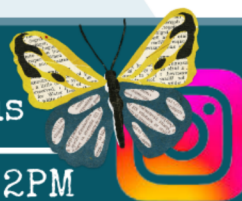


MARCH

- March 3rd-Family Fort Night 7PM-8PM (school-age children)
- March 16th-Teen Trivia Night 6PM-7PM (teens)
- March 3rd- Adult Craft Class 10AM-11:30AM Easter Bunny Sign

65 W. Geneva St. Williams Bay, WI 53191
262-245-2709 wmsbay@williamsbay.lib.wi.us

Monday - Friday 9AM- 6PM , Saturday 10AM - 2PM





Bulldog Buzz

Fiscal Constraints Pushing Williams Bay School District To Referendum

Dr. William White

District Administrator

The number of operational referenda on the fall 2022 set a record for Wisconsin this year. 92 school districts statewide are asking voters to exceed the revenue cap for operational expenses. After a biennial budget that included no increase in per-pupil spending, school districts across the state are turning to taxpayers for funding in what has become an ongoing trend statewide. Districts in our area seeking operational funding on the November ballot include Woods, Whitewater, and . Based on conversations with district leaders in our area, other districts in our area will be turning to an operational referendum on the Spring 2023 ballot or the Spring of 2024.

School referendums ask taxpayers to fund new facilities or exceed the revenue cap for several reasons. Capital referendums seek funds for projects such as new school construction, adding onto or remodeling existing building. But operational referendums ask voters to fund additional operating costs associated with new facilities or maintaining exiting programs.

The number of operational referendum questions reflects a significant shift in the state's commitment to funding schools. Over the years, more of the responsibility of funding schools has moved from the state level to local property taxpayers, via referendums. In a conversation with one legislative leader, the legislature would like to see districts turn to their local taxpayers for more funding, rather than increase school funding at the state level.

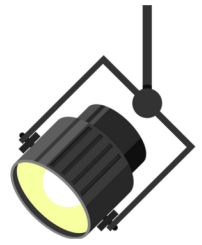
The Wisconsin School Policy Forum analysis of per-pupil spending data in Wisconsin found that Wisconsin spent \$12,740 per pupil, which is 56% below the national average. School spending in Wisconsin ranked 25th highest in the nation in 2020, as compared to 11th in 2002 according to the same study.

High inflation rates and challenges recruiting and retaining educators is further escalating the financial issues as Wisconsin school districts enter the second year of \$0 increases to per pupil funding from the state. Based on budget projections, the Williams Bay School District is being pushed towards a referendum.

The district has worked to remain fiscally responsible and push off the need to ask our taxpayers for additional taxing authority. We have reduced teaching positions and we did not utilize federal ESSER funds to add programming. We have not used any ESSER III funds at this point, and plan to utilize these funds to offset budget shortfalls in the 2023-2024 fiscal budget. Facing increased operational expenses due to inflation, compensating employees in a manner that attracts and retains them, and facing decrease revenues will force the district to ask our voters to exceed the revenue cap for operation expenses. Moving forward, the Williams Bay School District will be faced with the choice of cutting staff, increasing class size, eliminating programs, or asking the voters to approve an operational referendum.



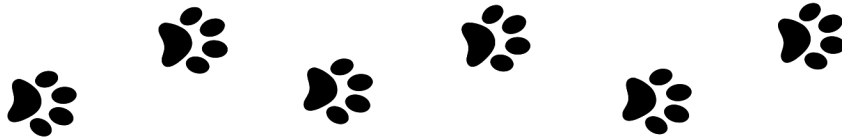
Alumni Spotlight



Adam Jaramillo, Class of 2006



I grew up in the Bay, attending WBSD from K-12. After high school, I studied nuclear engineering and economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I wanted to help fight climate disaster by studying carbon free energy generation. I quickly learned that reducing carbon emissions was not an engineering problem, but a political one. I moved from Boston to Chicago to San Diego to Seattle while following my wife's school and career. When the pandemic hit and my wife's job went full remote, I was able to decide where I wanted to live and raise my kids. We moved our family to the Bay and I began pursuing politics, realizing that WI has above average opportunities due to its near even political divide and swing state status. Growing up without a father, I always knew that I wanted to be an awesome dad. Being a full-time dad has been bliss.



I am thrilled to say I married my college sweetheart. My wife and I have been together for 14 wonderful years and have two amazing children. My son Atlas is in 4k at WBSD and my daughter Seneca will be in 3k next year. I was elected a Trustee to the Williams Bay Village board in 2022.

Tell us about you life, school, work or family accomplishments.

What fond memories do you have of Williams Bay School District?

Laughing at the OutdoorEd skitshow, doing battle in Mrs. Soplanda's wall game, playing trombone while marching in a silly outfit, exploring DC with my classmates, playing two-way football because the team was small. There were no strange faces at WBHS. You knew all the teachers and you knew the names and faces of all the students in your class--plus two classes above and beneath you.

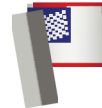
Alcohol is possibly the most life-impacting drug there is. Even at MIT, multiple people from my class DIED YOUNG from alcohol. I know many people my age (mid 30s) that have serious health problems from alcoholism. Liquor stores were deemed essential businesses during the pandemic in order to prevent the over 18 million Americans with alcohol use disorder from further crowding hospitals by going through withdrawal. Don't be a statistic, just don't ever start.

What piece of advice would you give to current WBSD students about achieving their dreams and expanding their horizons?

Interested in being featured in our Alumni Spotlight? Email DSkelton@williamsbayschool.org



Elementary Students Honor Our Veterans



We celebrated and honored our family and community veterans this year with an invitation to enjoy lunch with students and then an opportunity to stay and read or tell stories to students after lunch. 34 veterans joined us for lunch and 19 of those stayed to join the classrooms after lunch. There was a display of hands cut out of red, white, and blue paper to create the American Flag flanked by stars that represent veterans in our families and in the Williams Bay Community. Kindergarten classrooms also made Veterans Day crafts for the local Sherwood Lodge Assisted Living Home in Williams Bay for the 20 Veterans that live there to help honor them and show our gratitude. 3rd grade collected information from Veterans to create a "Thank You" honor display.





POLICE DEPARTMENT

While we all hope to have a white Christmas, please remember that snow means winter parking restrictions are in full swing regardless of whether there is snow on the ground. Williams Bay Ordinance 345-4(c)(7) states that no vehicles shall park on the public roadway during the hours of 2:00AM – 6:00AM. These regulations remain in effect until April 15th.

On the topic of parking, it has been brought to our attention that there has been an excess of individuals violating parking regulations on Walworth Avenue. If you are parking on Walworth Avenue, you'll want to direct your attention to the signs that list these restrictions. If it states one hour parking only, please be mindful of your time as we will be heavily monitoring the parking in that area going forward. We understand that an hour may not be enough time to take in all that Williams Bay has to offer. In those cases, you will find parking on other streets more suitable.

We are excited to report that our newest officer, Officer Raabe, has finished her initial police academy and is currently participating in our field training program. The Field Training Program consists of 16 weeks of training by a local police officer to get Officer Raabe familiar with the area, local laws, and our policies. If you see her out and about, please say hi!

Our house check forms have been updated and can be accessed on our village website. Whereas in the past, residents had to come to the police department to fill out the form, we now ask that you fill it out online. Not only does this make it more easily accessible to residents but to officers as well. You will find it by selecting "Forms" on the Village's homepage, scrolling to the Police Department section on the Forms page, and selecting "Village of Williams Bay House Check."

Also on the website, you will find all municipal codes. We often get calls from residents inquiring about codes regarding parking, open burns, parking recreational vehicles on personal property, and more. While we are always happy to help answer questions, we don't always have someone at the office available to take these calls. Therefore, we encourage you to go to the Village homepage and select "Municipal Code." Once on the Muni Code page, you'll see a search bar at the top. If, for example, you entered "burning," it brings up ordinances that discuss the various open burning restrictions. This is an efficient way to get immediate answers to questions and is extremely user-friendly.

Lastly, we have received questions about how to contact the police department for non-emergencies outside of standard business hours. If at anytime you call the police department and no one answers, your call is automatically rerouted to Walworth County. You then select the option that connects you with Walworth County Dispatch, option number 3. Dispatch will then connect you with the officer on duty. This allows you to contact an officer any time of day, any day of the week.

As 2022 comes to a close, our team at the Williams Bay Police Department wants to thank all of you for a wonderful and safe year. Let's keep it up!

Chief Timm



Quad County Baseball



**Registration Day: Friday, February 10 from 9am-5pm and
Saturday, February 11 from 9am-3pm at our Lakefront Office**

**Registration open to Williams Bay Residents January 2,
Non-Residents January 16. Registration will close after 14 players are registered
per team. Waiting list will be start until a second team can form and a head
coach can be found.**

Grades 1 & 2 Baseball

Cost: WB Resident \$45, Non-Resident \$65

Practices: Start the week of April 10 - Games: Tuesday's & Thursday's

Games Start the week of May 8

No End of Season Tournament for U8

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 3 & 4 Baseball

Cost: WB Resident \$75, Non-Resident \$100

Practices: Start the week of April 10 - Games: Monday's & Wednesday's

Games Start the week of May 8

End of Season Tournament: July 10th - July 21st

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 5 & 6 Baseball

Cost: WB Resident \$75, Non-Resident \$100

Practices: Start the week of April 10 - Games: Tuesday's & Thursday's

Games Start the week of May 9

End of Season Tournament: July 10th - July 21st

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 7 & 8 Baseball

Cost: WB Resident \$75, Non-Resident \$100

Practices: Start the week of April 10 - Games: Monday's & Wednesday's

Games Start the week of May 9

End Of Season Tournament: July 10th - July 21st

Registration Deadline: March 17th





Quad County Softball



WILLIAMS BAY
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Registration Day: Friday, February 10 from 9am-5pm and Saturday, February 11 from 9am-3pm at our Lakefront Office.

Registration open to Williams Bay Residents January 2, Non-Residents January 16. Registration will close after 14 players are registered per team. Waiting list will be start until a second team can form and a head coach can be found.

Grades 3 & 4 Softball

Cost: WB Resident \$75, Non-Resident \$100

Practices: Start the week of April 10 - Games: Tuesday's & Thursday's

Games Start the week of May 9

End of Season Tournament: July 10th - July 21st

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 5 & 6 Softball

Cost: WB Resident \$75, Non-Resident \$100

Practices: Start the week of April 10 - Games: Monday's & Wednesday's

Games Start the week of May 9

End of Season Tournament: July 10th - July 21st

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 7 & 8 Softball

Cost: WB Resident \$75, Non-Resident \$100

Practices: Start the week of April 10 - Games: Tuesday's & Thursday's

Games Start the week of May 9 (No Doubleheaders This Year)

End Of Season Tournament: July 10th - July 21st

Registration Deadline: March 17th



Williams Bay Recreation Department Outdoor Winter Activities



Snowshoe Rentals



Snowshoe rentals are back! We will be renting them out of our lakefront office this year located at 15 E. Geneva Street. Rental Rates: \$5 per hour or \$20 for the whole day. We will be open 7 days a week from 9am-3pm!



Ice Rink

Our ice rink this year will be located at the Williams Bay Boat Launch parking lot next to our lakefront office. Ice skating is free! Hours 9am-9pm. Weather permitting ice rink will open around January 1. Green flag = open Red Flag = closed. Concessions will also be available inside our office. Bathrooms will also be open!

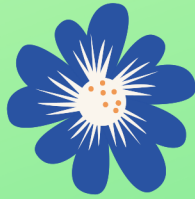


We enjoy collaborating with Barrett Memorial Library and Kishwaukeee for bonfires & night hikes. Please email rec@williamsbay.org or call 262-686-8001 for more information

BIRDHOUSE BINGO

IS BACK!!!

**SATURDAY, MARCH 11TH
10-11 A.M. AT LIONS
FIELDHOUSE**



JOIN US FOR TREATS, BINGO,
BIRDWATCHING TIPS AND MORE

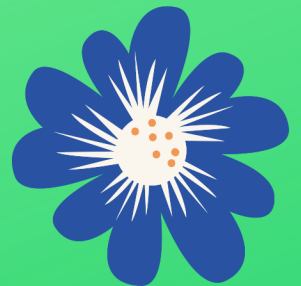


\$5 per player

PRIZES INCLUDE BIRDHOUSES,
SPECIALTY HOUSES SUCH AS THE
SQUIRELBUSTER MINI, BIRD SEED, and
other SPRING ITEMS



Players of all ages are
welcome to join us for this
fun, family friendly event!



Advance registration is appreciated
but not required.



WILLIAMS BAY
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

For more information visit
williamsbay.org
email

recspecialist@vi.williamsbay.wi.gov
or call 262 686 8001