

JANUARY- MARCH 2024

THE BAY QUARTERLY





250 Williams Street
PO Box 580
Williams Bay, WI 53191
www.williamsbay.org

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Meetings

Meetings monthly, or as noted, at Village Hall.

Meetings may be rescheduled.

Check www.williamsbay.org for the most up-to-date calendar.

Village Board:
1st & 3rd Monday 6:30PM

Joint Meeting of the Village Board
Committee of the Whole & Committees:
1st Monday after the first
Village Board Meeting 6:45PM

Plan Commission:
2nd Tuesday as needed 6:30PM

Zoning Board of Appeals:
3rd Tuesday as needed 6:30PM

Contact Us

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

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30am-5:00pm

Thursday 8:30am-12:00pm

Administrative Staff

David Lothspeich, Administrator

Tina Kolls, Clerk

Jennifer Wiese, Treasurer

Cynthia Stanek, Utility Clerk/Admin Assistant

Building Inspector Office.....ext. 415

Mon & Wed 10:00 am -11:30 am

Bonnie Schaeffer, Zoning Administrator...ext. 407

Tues 2:00pm-5:00pm & Wed 11:00am-1:00pm

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

**Sign up for alerts and see
digital newsletters at
www.williamsbay.org!**

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.

Waste Collection Services

On December 1, 2023 GLF Solid Waste Midwest LLC acquired your account from Nieuwenhuis Bros., Inc. The company name will change but, you can rely on the same safe, high-quality local service you've come to know from Nieuwenhuis Bros. Keep an eye out in the future for the new green trucks and employees new uniforms. More information is available on the Village website.





Police Department

Happy New Year to all of our residents! Winter brings with it some beautiful sites but also dangerous weather. Please be cautious and use discretion when out and about on our snowy days. We only have a few reminders for you this quarter, but they are important ones. Please read carefully, even if you have lived here for some time. We are excited to start another year and anticipate only good things to come!



Winter Parking Reminder

There is **NO overnight parking** between **2:00am** and **6:00am** on any Village Streets from **November 15th - April 15th**. This applies even if there is no snow on the ground.

If there is a Snow Emergency, there is to be **NO PARKING** at **ANY TIME** on Village Streets. Exceptions can only be granted through the PD. If you need to park on the street, you must call the PD in advance and receive permission.

Going out of town?

If you are going out of town, whether short-term or long-term, please take a few moments to fill out our House Check form online. This form can be found on the village website (www.williamsbay.org). From the homepage, hover over "Government," then select "Police Department" from the drop down menu. Once on the PD's page, you will see a green button on the left entitled "Village of Williams Bay House Check." Fill out the prompts the form gives you, hit submit, and we will have immediate access to it.

Officers will do some additional patrols around your home while you are gone and, unless you specify otherwise, officers will check the perimeter of your home, making sure doors and windows have remained closed.

The only time you need to contact the PD directly is if you are extending your stay or coming back earlier than planned. The latter is extremely important as we don't want to surprise you if we show up to check your home and you've come home a couple of days early.



A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated to our Toys for Tots fundraiser. Your generosity is always appreciated and does not go unnoticed.



FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK...

Tax bills were mailed on December 8, 2023. If you have not received yours, please give our office a call at 262-245-2700 so we can verify your mailing information and get you a copy of your bill if necessary.

You can print the bill yourself at:

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

Change of mailing address can be made on the Walworth County website.

If your property is your primary residence as of January 1, 2023, please review your tax bill to make sure you are receiving the lottery credit. If you are not receiving this credit, our office can assist you to get the credit applied before you pay.

What options are available to make payments?

- Payments may be made by check, cash, or credit/debit. A fee will apply when using a credit/debit card.
- Pay full amount or first installment during regular business hours. Checks should be made payable to "Village of Williams Bay Treasurer".
- Drop off after hours using the depository box located in the foyer at the Village Hall.
- Mail payments to P.O. Box 580, Williams Bay, WI 53191. Please include remittance stubs with all payments.
- Online payments can also be made through Walworth County's Ascent Land Records. Directions can be found on our website at www.williamsbay.org. under the Village Treasurer tab. Please note that there is a fee for all online payments.
- We do not accept advanced dated checks.
- Please remember that payments are due by January 31, 2024. Payments made outside of regular business hours will be receipted the following business day.

Please remember to endorse any escrow checks that are made out to you and the Village of Williams Bay.

Receipts will only be mailed if a self-addressed postage paid envelope is included with payment. Receipts can also be printed from

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

BARRETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Some of
our
favorite
moments
from
2023



Barrett Library in partnership with the Williams Bay Historical Society received a \$10,000 Gage Grant



Truck-A-Palooza was a BLAST! We can't wait to do it again in 2024



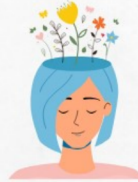
Our Storytime Crew Marched in the Williams Bay Homecoming Parade

Programs and Events



Storytime With Miss Emily Wednesdays | 10:00AM | Ages 0-4

Storytimes are lively interactive gatherings filled with stories, songs, rhymes, movement, and social time.



Healthy Brain Objective(HBO)Club First Thursday of the Month

A fun interactive club to promote brain health through interactive games. For teens and adults.



Bilingual Spanish Storytime Last Wednesday of the month Ages 0-4

at Williams Bay Elementary School

Join us for a special dual language story time with the Williams Bay High School Spanish Club! Songs and stories in both English and Spanish.



Adult Craft Classes

Register to reserve your spot for another one of Nancy's creative craft classes!

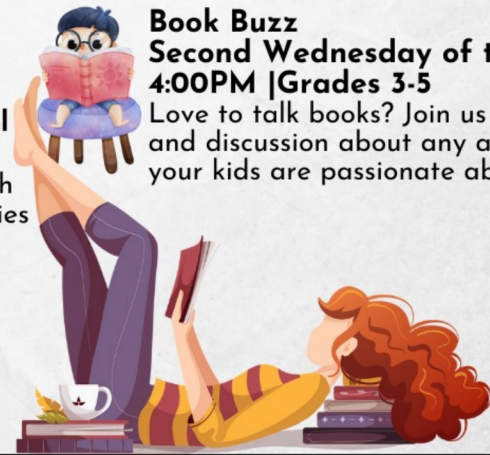
January 12th, 10AM

February 9th, 10AM

March 15th, 10AM

April 12th, 10AM

May 17th, 10AM



Book Buzz Second Wednesday of the month 4:00PM | Grades 3-5

Love to talk books? Join us for snacks and discussion about any and all books your kids are passionate about!

“The Public library is where possibility and place meet”
-Stuart Dybeck

Library Services



Did you know the library has a delivery service? We will pick up your books or drop off your hold free of charge. Give us a call at 262-245-2709 to schedule a delivery!



MasterClass, the popular streaming platform that offers online classes taught by world class instructors, is come to Prairie Lakes Library System in 2024. Keep an eye out for this exciting resource at BML!



THINGS TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR:



In 2024 Barrett Library will be updating our website and Prairie Lakes Library System will be launching a new App!

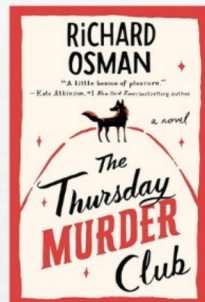


65 W. Geneva St. Williams Bay, WI 53191
262-245-2709/wmsbay@williamsbay.lib.wi.us
<https://www.williamsbay.lib.wi.us>



BARRETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

OUR FAVORITE READS OF 2023

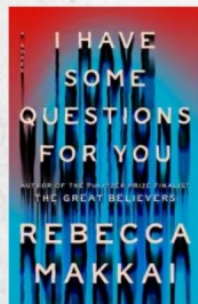


Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

Set in the Coopers Chase retirement village, the story revolves around a group of four residents who meet every Thursday to discuss unsolved murder cases. Led by the charismatic Elizabeth, the club members use their diverse skills and life experiences to investigate a real murder that occurs within the confines of their retirement community.

Fourth Wing by Rebecca Yarros

Twenty-year-old Violet Sorrengail was supposed to enter the Scribe Quadrant, living a quiet life among books and history. Now, the commanding general—also known as her tough-as-talons mother—has ordered Violet to join the hundreds of candidates striving to become the elite of Navarre: dragon riders. But when you're smaller than everyone else a



I Have Some Questions For You by Rebecca Makkai

Bodie Kane is a successful podcaster and film professor who's coming back to Granby School, a New Hampshire boarding school where she spent some awkward, mostly depressing years, to teach a couple of courses for two weeks.

Things We Never Got Over by Lucy Score

Naomi wasn't just running away from her wedding. She was riding to the rescue of her estranged twin to Knockemout, Virginia. Too bad for Naomi her evil twin hasn't changed at all. After helping herself to Naomi's car and cash, Tina leaves her with something unexpected. The niece Naomi didn't know she had.



Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir

The story follows Ryland Grace, an astronaut who wakes up alone on a spaceship called the Hail Mary with no memory of who he is or how he got there. As he uncovers his past, Grace learns that he is on a crucial mission to save humanity from an impending catastrophe by extracting a substance from a distant star.

Some of
our
favorite
moments
from
2023



We made a splash
with Books at the
Beach



Teen Advisory Board
members continue to
work on their Podcast
in partnership with the
Williams Bay School
District



The O'Neill family
generously donated a
bench in memory of
their parents Dave
and Janet O'Neill.
Pictured, Nancy Ward



Monday - Friday 9AM-6PM

Saturday 10AM-2PM

Sunday closed



Bulldog Buzz



Miss Warrenburg plays Gaga Ball with elementary students during her apprenticeship work.

Youth Apprenticeship: Bridging Futures, Shaping Careers By: Mr. Will Welch, Associate Principal

Youth Apprenticeship (YA) is a state-wide initiative aimed at helping high school students explore and determine their future career paths. Through partnerships with local employers across diverse industries, the program provides students with paid work experience, mentorship, and industry-specific skills. By integrating classroom learning with practical training, YA empowers students to make informed decisions about their future careers. This focused approach ensures that YA participants graduate with a clear understanding of their interests and a solid foundation for future success in the workforce.

There are, as of the 2023-2024 school, 13 occupational program areas with over 70 different occupational pathways students can pursue for a YA. A new occupational program this

school year is education; one of our seniors, Lorelei Warrenburg, is participating as a YA in this program area, specifically in the school age education pathway, working in our very own elementary school! Lorelei's mentors during her YA are Mrs. Maggie Bailey and Mrs. Gabe Olson.

Lorelei became interested in education as a possible career choice during her time in Ms. Durkin's Junior Seminar class. To pursue this path further, she signed up for two education related courses through Gateway Technical College for the first semester of her senior year: Foundations of Early Childhood Education and Infant/Child Development. As she was already enrolled in these related classes and volunteering in the elementary school, officially working as a youth apprentice was a no-brainer choice for Lorelei. She works hard with the 5th on math, specifically multiplication and with the second graders, she has spent a lot of time working on their spelling. When asked about some of the biggest things she has learned, Lorelei said, "I think one of the biggest things is just the planning and prep that goes into teaching. Watching Mrs. Bailey set her classroom up, writing things on the board, so she's ready to go for her kids has been important for me to see." Lorelei expressed how much she has enjoyed working with our elementary schoolers. "I just really enjoy my time with the kids, this experience has definitely allowed me to see that I do want to become a teacher someday." Lorelei plans to attend UW-Whitewater upon graduating from Williams Bay.



Williams Bay Elementary Students Demonstrate Character Traits

As part of the Continuous Improvement Classroom Learning Community, each homeroom teacher collaborated with students to develop a class mission. These class mission statements and a photo of each homeroom are displayed on our Pawsome Bulletin Board. We are focusing on Character Traits as part of our PBIS revisions this year. In September we learned, practiced, and demonstrated RESPECT. Three students from each

homeroom and one student for each grade level in the essentials classes were identified as those who demonstrated the highest level of respect in September. Students received a certificate and also have a PAW on the Pawsome Bulletin Board. We will continue to celebrate students each month.



Dr. William White
District Administrator

Williams Bay School District Faces Financial Cliff: Protecting Our Future Together **By: Dr. Williams White, District Administrator**

The Williams Bay Board of Education will be discussing the financial forecast, how to continue to be excellent financial stewards, and if a referendum question should be presented to the community on the April 2024 ballot. The Administration and the Board of Education invite your feedback prior to these discussions at the December and January regular monthly board meetings.

In Wisconsin, all school districts operate under a revenue limit that caps the amount of money they can receive through state aid and local property taxes. Districts are turning to referendums for a confluence of reasons, including inflation trends and declining state funding. In fact, the state anticipates that an extremely high number of school referendums will be on the ballot this April in Wisconsin and 82% of Wisconsin school districts have pursued an operating referendum since 1992.

Declining enrollment, inflation, and years of stagnant or declining state funding per pupil, have placed the Williams Bay School District's exceptional student programs in jeopardy. The bottom line is that Wisconsin's school funding revenue limit will not allow the District to maintain its current level of funding which will not allow us to protect the quality of education that our children currently experience.

This funding is critical to support our students, our staff, our community services, and our financial position for future years. Our schools are at the heart of our community and our tradition of excellence depends on an operating referendum to preserve the programs and services that define Williams Bay.

The District reduced expenditures to constrain increase costs due to inflation in the 2023–2024 budget and is already planning to reduce expenditures by \$200,000 for the 2024-2025 budget. Although District leaders and the Williams Bay School Board have controlled spending, the budget gap is widening.

An estimated \$2 million in reductions will be needed to balance the budget over the next three years if the referendum does not pass.

What's at stake?

- ~ Maintaining small class sizes
- ~ Maintaining our high-quality student experience
- ~ Retaining and attracting top-notch staff

Please feel free to email me at wwhite@williamsbayschool.org or any of the Board Members with questions or feedback. During the upcoming months, we will provide information via our district website, social media, and newsletters to keep the public informed.



S.T.E.A.M Community Showcase **Monday, January 22, 2024**

The Williams Bay Agricultural Science Club is hosting a S.T.E.A.M. night in January! The Club would like to invite the community in to enjoy engineering projects, science experiments, art showcases, and other projects and activities the students have put together at school. All ages are welcome, there will be some interactive activities, some small stalls where students will sell items toward our fundraising, and displays. This will be held January 22nd, from 5:30 - 7:30 at Williams Bay High School. Tickets are \$3 at the door and will go toward funding the school and community Greenspace Project. We look forward to seeing you there!



Elementary Student Council Food Drive

Each year the Williams Bay Elementary Student Council sponsors a food drive for the Elkhorn Food Pantry. This year each grade level was asked to bring a particular item of need for the school wide collection. This two week food drive included a friendly competition between grade levels. The grade level who collected the most items won an ice cream party. This year the total collection was 1362 items with 3rd grade winning with a total of 370 items. Several members of the student council helped unload these items at the food

pantry, then received a tour of the pantry with information about its purpose and function. The students stayed to sort and mark items with the expiration date.



Socktember - Spanish Club

By: Marianna Garcia, Student

Every year, the Spanish Club hosts a fundraising event during Homecoming Week. The purpose of this fundraiser is to collect sock donations for people in homeless shelters. This event also gives each high school grade level the opportunity to win spirit points for the spirit stick-- the class with the most donations wins the majority of the points. This year's fundraiser for Homecoming Week had a stiff competition between the Juniors and Seniors. The intense match led to a new Socktember record where 7,700 pairs were collected. Students then helped pack the socks in Mrs. Soley-Johnson's truck. These donations were taken to the Circle of Friends in Elkhorn by Spanish Club advisor, Mrs. Kavanagh, and school principal, Mrs. Soley-Johnson. The donations were distributed along with coats to local families in need.



Students Attend Fall FBLA Leadership Conference

By: Denise Durkin, Business Education Teacher / FBLA Advisor

On a Monday morning in late October, ten members of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) attended the Wisconsin FBLA Fall Leadership Conference in Middleton. Pat Cavanaugh, from the Green Bay Packers, highlighted networking's importance, advocating for handwritten thank you notes and name remembrance. Workshops covered event operations at UW Madison, competitive FBLA events, and presentation skills. Members gained insights into game logistics, marketing strategies, and competitive FBLA events. This conference provided a glimpse into FBLA's essence, empowering the Williams Bay FBLA chapter's growth through newfound knowledge and skills.



The 8th Grade went to Gateway Technical College in Elkhorn on Thursday, November 30 to attend the Middle School Expo. Students were able to learn about the various programs Gateway has to offer like Cosmetology, IT Computer Support, Vet Tech and more. Students enjoyed learning about all the programs.

WILLIAMS BAY REC DEPARTMENT

Winter

OPEN HOUSE

9:00 A.M - 1:00 P.M.

**SAT. FEBRUARY 3RD AT OUR
LAKEFRONT OFFICE**

WINTER ACTIVITIES TO ENJOY

**HOT COCOA, COFFEE, DONUTS
1 HR FREE SNOWSHOE RENTALS
2024 YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SIGN-UP
AND MORE!**



**WILLIAMS BAY
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: 262 686-8001
EMAIL: REC@WILLIAMSBAIY.ORG
WWW.WILLIAMSBAIY.ORG/RECREATION-DEPARTMENT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WBRECDEPT**

New Tennis/Pickleball and Basketball Courts at Theater Road Park To Be Ready for Spring 2024 Play

Construction of the new Tennis/Pickleball and Basketball Courts at Theatre Road Park is currently underway. The new courts should be ready for play when the weather clears in Spring 2024.

The new courts are on the south end of the park just east of the current storage building. There will be two half-court basketball courts that also have the potential to host a hockey/ice rink in the winter, and two tennis courts also lined for pickleball.

Thanks to everyone who made these much needed improvements possible!



Williams Bay Recreation Presents: Pickleball Saturday Open Gym

- Four-week sessions beginning Jan 6, 2024
(gym closed on 1/13 and 2/10)
- Two Available Times:
1:45 - 3:15pm 3:30 - 5:00pm
- Williams Bay Elementary School Gym
- Four courts, max of 16 people per time slot
- Cost: \$35 WB Resident/\$45 Non-Resident
per 4-week session (1/6-2/3, 2/17-3/9, 3/16-4/6)

Pre-registered drop-ins if space available:
\$10 WB Resident/\$15 Non-Resident

Beginners welcome! We will set up nets, provide balls and a limited number of paddles, and supervise the gym. This is not an organized league, players manage their own games.



WILLIAMS BAY
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Register at our Lakefront Office (15 E. Geneva St) Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm (tentative winter hours) or download the registration form and use the 24/7 drop box at Lions Fieldhouse (310 Elkhorn Rd).

For more info, call: (262) 686-8001



2024 Quad County Baseball



WILLIAMS BAY
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Registration Day: Saturday, February 10, 2024
from 9am-2pm at our Lakefront Office**

Early registration will open to Williams Bay Residents on January 2 and to Non-Residents on January 15. Registration will close after 15 players are registered per team. A Waiting list will be started until a second team can form and a head coach can be found.

Grades 1 & 2 Baseball

Cost: WB Resident \$50, Non-Resident \$70

Practices Start the week of April 8 - Games Start the Second Week in May

Expected Normal Game Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays

No End of Season Tournament

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 3 & 4 Baseball

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

Practices Start the week of April 8 - Games Start the Second Week in May

Expected Normal Game Days: Mondays and Wednesdays

End of Season Tournament: July 8th - July 19th

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 5 & 6 Baseball

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

Practices Start the week of April 8 - Games Start the Second Week in May

Expected Normal Game Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays

End of Season Tournament: July 8th - July 19th

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 7 & 8 Baseball

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

Practices Start the week of April 8 - Games Start the Second Week in May

Expected Normal Game Days: Mondays and Wednesdays

End Of Season Tournament: July 8th - July 19th

Registration Deadline: March 17th





2024 Quad County Softball



WILLIAMS BAY
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Registration Day: Saturday, February 10
from 9am-2pm at our Lakefront Office**

**Early registration will open to Williams Bay Residents on January 2
and to Non-Residents January 16. Registration will close after 15
players are registered per team. Waiting list will be started until a
second team can form and a head coach can be found.**

Grades 1 & 2 Softball

Cost: WB Resident \$50, Non-Resident \$70

Practices Start the week of April 8 - Games Start the Second Week in May

Expected Normal Game Days: Mondays and Wednesdays

No End of Season Tournament

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 3 & 4 Softball

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

Practices Start the week of April 8 - Games Start the Second Week in May

Expected Normal Game Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays

End Of Season Tournament: July 8th - July 19th

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 5 & 6 Softball

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

Practices Start the week of April 8 - Games Start the Second Week in May

Expected Normal Game Days: Mondays and Wednesdays

End Of Season Tournament: July 8th - July 19th

Registration Deadline: March 17th

Grades 7 & 8 Softball

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

Practices Start the week of April 8 - Games Start the Second Week in May

Expected Normal Game Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays

End Of Season Tournament: July 8th - July 19th

Registration Deadline: March 17th





HELLO WINTER

The weather might be chilly, but we will keep warm inside with some **Comfort food** at the fieldhouse!

Join us **Thursday, January 25, 6-8pm**

\$5 for Resident, \$7 for Non-Residents

We will provide **Lasagna and garlic bread**.
Feel free to **bring a side or dessert to share!**

Invite you friends and neighbors!

RSVP:

recspecialist@williamsbay.org
or 262-686-8001



PUBLIC WORKS

Good News for our Water Utility Customers

The Williams Bay Water Softening System which has been out of service for necessary in-depth maintenance and cleaning since Mid-November of 2023, will be up and running soon.

While the system has been down, the water safety has not been impacted. You may have noticed that the harder water contains more dissolved minerals which has caused the water to taste and feel differently as well as it may be leaving spots on your dishes and appliances.

The Village appreciates everyone's patience and are pleased with the progress of this project which will ensure we are able to provide great water for years to come.

Tips on Finding Leaks

- Take the cover off the toilet tank. Add enough food coloring to the tank to give strong color to the tank water. Let it stand or sit overnight. If the toilet bowl has turned the color of the dye, you have a toilet leak.
- Look and listen. Take off the tank cover and see if the water is running into the overflow tube and also carefully listen for leaks. Don't rely completely on this test as only extreme leaks can be seen or heard.
- Watch for meter movement. To test the entire building or house for leaks, try this suggestion. First, find the water meter and place a toothpick over the meter pointer. Don't use any water for 15 minutes. After that time, if the pointer has moved, there is a leak somewhere in the house (most likely a toilet).

AUTO PAY

Never worry about your Water Bill again! Login or create an account at www.xpressbillpay.com to sign up for Auto Pay today!



Benefits to Auto Pay

- Never miss a payment
- It is FREE
- Fast Set-Up
- Multiple Payment Methods
- Regular Notifications
- Real-Time
- Flexible Payment Days
- Secure