



THE BAY QUARTERLY

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2022



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 7:00PM

Committee Meetings:

Following Wednesday after the first Board Meeting 6:30PM

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

Becky Tobin, Administrator

Jackie Pankau-Daniels, Clerk

Lori Peternell, Treasurer

Cynthia Stanek, Utility Clerk/Admin Assistant

Building Inspector Office.....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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2022 PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION



Tax bills are anticipated to be mailed sometime between December 5th – 9th. However, your bill may be available sooner at the Walworth County website at <https://ascent.co.walworth.wi.us/LandRecords/PropertyListing/RealEstateTaxParcel#/Search>. If the mailing address is incorrect, you can send a request to change the mailing address through the Walworth County website. If your property is your primary residence as of January 1, 2021, 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 to your property tax bill.

We are also excited to announce that online credit card processing will be available this year!!

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

Online payments for 2022 property taxes payments will be processed through the Walworth County website. Instructions on how to use this feature will be available on our website once tax bills are available.

Fees for Online Payments

You can pay your taxes online via E-check for .50¢ (you will need to provide your checking routing & account number), via debit card or credit card (2.35% convenience fee on the amount you are paying).

➤ WATER BILL CORRECTION

As you may have noticed on your 2nd Quarter water bill the Fire Protection charge was not updated to the new rate. The rate increase information was provided with your 1st Quarter bill. As a result of this, there will be an additional line item with a charge for the difference of the old charge and the new charge. We apologize for any confusion this may cause. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (262) 245-2700 option 1.

➤ LEAF COLLECTION

The Village will collect leaves via a vacuuming process in April and November. The Village will routinely collect leaves at weekly intervals, therefore, calls to schedule this service are not needed.

- Place leaves by the roadside in a long row rather than a big pile.
- No bags.
- No ashes (burned leaves will not be vacuumed).
- **Absolutely no branches.** To get rid of branches and sticks, please use the Brush Chipping program which can be found at www.williamsbay.org, or by calling 262-245-2700 and selecting option 9.
- Leaves on private driveways or alleys will not be collected.
- This service is provided for Improved Single Family Residential Properties only.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Williams Bay Residents,

There will be an important question on the ballot in the November election. On August 24, 2022, the Williams Bay Village Board approved including a referendum question that would fund the cost of providing 24-hour emergency medical services to the Village.

The residents of Williams Bay have long relied on EMS volunteers to respond to emergency medical calls. Like many other communities throughout the state, the number of EMS volunteers are drastically declining while the volume of calls continues to rise. The additional funding will allow the Village to be serviced by full-time, paid, professional personnel which will ensure a high quality of care and a quick response to calls.

Over the next two months residents will have multiple opportunities to ask questions of the Village board and staff at different public and organizational meetings. Residents will also receive numerous mailings that will help to explain the need for the additional funds and why it is so important.

The referendum question will appear on the Tuesday November 8, 2022, ballot as follows:

Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Village of Williams Bay for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2023, is limited to 1.67%, which results in a levy of \$2,982,296. Shall the Village of Williams Bay be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2023, for the purpose of providing the Village with 24-hour emergency medical services, by a total of 31.120% which results in a levy of \$3,910,373, and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$928,077 for each fiscal year going forward?

YES_____

NO_____

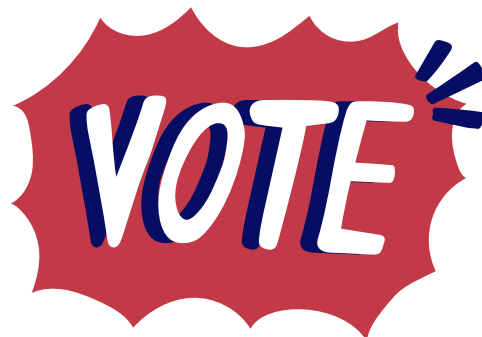
*This proposed increase would only affect the Village portion of your property taxes.

I urge all residents to attend public meetings and educate themselves on how important this issue is to our community. Emergency Medical Services is something that can affect each one of us some point in our lives.

Sincerely,



William B. Duncan,
Village President



ELECTION NEWS

**NEXT ELECTION:
November 8, 2022**



Polling Place

Lion's Field House
310 Elkhorn Road, Williams Bay, WI 53191

Polling Place Hours

Tuesday, November 8, 2022 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM

What's On My Ballot?

Governor/Lieutenant Governor
Attorney General
Secretary of State
State Treasurer
United States Senator
Representative in Congress District 1
State Senator District 11
Representative to the Assembly District 31
Walworth County Sheriff
Walworth County Clerk of Circuit Court
Local Referendum for Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

NO VOTING OR REGISTERING AFTER NOVEMBER 4TH!

If you need to Register to Vote, please do so before November 4th if possible. You may register at the Polling Place on Election Day if needed. You can register to vote online at myvote.wi.gov, or in-person at Village Hall. There is to be no In-Person Absentee voting after November 4th.

Have Your ID Ready!

When you come to vote, please have your Photo ID ready to help expedite the line. Typically, your Driver's License or U.S. Passport will be your Photo ID, but if you have questions as to what other Photo ID options are available, please visit myvote.wi.gov/en-us/PhotoIDRequired.

Other Ways to Vote

- Receive your ballot by mail: Wisconsin voters can receive an absentee ballot by mail. If you would like to vote in the 2022 General Election, submit your request for an absentee ballot online at myvote.wi.gov or by filling out the form at Village Hall by November 3, 2022.
- Vote absentee in-person at Village Hall: You can vote an absentee ballot in-person at Village Hall October 25th - November 4th. The hours are Mondays-Wednesdays and Fridays 9:00am-4:30pm and Thursdays 9:00am-11:30am during these dates only.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Police Department is excited to participate in Boo in the Bay on Saturday, October 29th. The Rec Department will provide more information on the details of this event. This event continues to be a favorite among our officers. We look forward to seeing the kids and their families there again this year.



Kishwauketoe bow hunting takes place November 1st to December 31st. To be eligible to bow hunt, you must provide a valid Hunter's Safety Certificate and a current state of Wisconsin Bow Deer Hunt license. If you are born before 1974, a hunting license is not required. To register, bring a copy of your Hunter's Safety Certificate, Wisconsin Bow Deer Hunting License, and Driver's License to the Williams Bay Police Department BEFORE entering KNC for the purpose of deer bow hunting.



Winter parking restrictions are enforced November 15th to April 15th. Between the hours of 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m., you are restricted from parking or leaving a standing vehicle on any Village street. This restriction is active with or without snow. If you or a guest needs to temporarily park on the street overnight, you must call the Police Department to receive permission.



As a reminder, if you are leaving town for an extended period of time, the police department is happy to keep an eye on your home. To request frequent house checks, please fill out our online request form. You will find it at williamsbay.org on the left side of the Police Department page under "House Check Form." We no longer take hard copy forms, so please utilize our electronic form.



We have been trying to reach you about your cars extended warranty... just kidding but we have been receiving calls from residents pertaining to scam calls and emails. Unfortunately, these scam artists have gotten very advanced over the years. You may have noticed that phone numbers appear to be coming from a local number, and then they turn out to be scammers. Sadly, there is little we can do to catch these individuals. This is a national problem and far beyond our reach. Just because the number appears to be a local caller does not mean it is so. We encourage all residents to take caution, and if it seems suspicious, simply hang-up or delete the email.



Last but certainly not least, Maddison Raabe, our newest officer will be hitting the road with our Field Training Officers in October. We are excited to get her out and within the community! Officer Raabe will be working multiple different shifts throughout her 12-week Field Training Program, so please say hi to her once you see her!



As the School year opens back up, we welcome all of the wonderful students back to Williams Bay! Please be very cautious when driving near the school, as there will be an increase in foot traffic. We also have two crossing guards who work diligently to make sure the children are safe, so please make sure you are abiding by their traffic signs.

As always, please have a safe and enjoyable Fall and Winter. Go Bulldogs!

Chief Timm



TRICK OR TREAT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31 4:00PM-7:00PM

To indicate that you are accepting trick-or-treaters, turn on your outdoor lights!
Trick-or-Treaters, please do not visit houses if the outside lights are not on.

Fall and Winter Programs

ADULT FITNESS

Zumba - Saturdays from 9-10 am starting Sept 24. Lions Field House, \$10 per class

Strong Nation - Wednesdays from 5:45-6:45 pm starting Sept. 7. Lions Field House, \$10 per class

Flow with Lauren - Sundays from 5-6 pm starting Sept. 11. WBay Elementary School, \$10 per class

Tai Chi - Mondays from 5:30-6:45 & Tuesdays 10-11 am starting Sept. 6. Lions Field House, \$30 a month for one class or \$40 a month for both classes.

Ping Pong - Fridays from 10am-Noon starting Sept. 9. Lions Field House, Free Program

Walking Club - M/W/F from 6-7 am starting Sept. 12. WBay High School, Free Program
Rec Dept & School District Program

PROGRAMS

Parents Night Out - Grades 4-8 Saturday Sept 17, Oct 15, Nov 12, Dec 10 6-8 pm Elementary School Gym, Cost: \$5

Kayak & Paddleboard Rentals - Weather Permitting rentals will be available until the middle of Oct. Open seven days a week, 8am-4 pm

Williams Bay Resident:
Single Kayak or Paddleboard:
1 hr - \$15, 2 hrs - \$25, 4 hrs - \$45
Tandem Kayak:
1 hr - \$20, 2 hrs - \$40, 4 hrs - \$55

Non Resident:
Single Kayak or Paddleboard:
1 hr - \$25, 2 hrs - \$40, 4 hrs - \$55
Tandem Kayak:
1 hr - \$30, 2 hrs - \$55, 4 hrs - \$80

For more information:

wbrecdept.com
rec@williamsbay.org
262-686-8001



WILLIAMS BAY
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

55 & Over Potluck Dinners



SEPTEMBER 22ND

...



OCTOBER 27TH

...

Breakfast
FOR DINNER
55 AND OLDER POTLUCK

NOVEMBER 17TH

Join us for recipe swapping,
great conversations, and fun
door prizes!



Cost: \$5 per person

Time: 6- 8 pm

Location: Lion's Field house

The Rec Dept provides the main
entree and drinks. You provide
the sides and desserts!

For more info or to register:

Call: 262-686-8001

Email:

recspecialist@williamsbay.org



WILLIAMS BAY
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

BOO In the BAY

- OCT 24/25: ESCAPE ROOM (WBAY SCHOOL 6-9 PM) 6TH GRADE -ADULTS
- OCT 26: CHARLIE BROWN MOVIE (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 6 PM)
- OCT 26: PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST (WBAY SCHOOL 7 PM)
- OCT 27: 55 & OVER HALLOWEEN POTLUCK (LION'S FIELDHOUSE 6-8 PM)
- OCT 29: WBAY LIONESS BOO IN THE BAY CRAFT FAIR (WBAY HIGH SCHOOL GYM 9AM-3PM)
- OCT 29: PUMPKINS RACES (BARRETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY 9-11 AM)
- OCT 29: ENCHANTED WALK (WBAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WALKING PATH 5-7 PM)

JOIN US FOR A WEEK OF FREE SPOOKS, FRIGHTS AND SWEET DELIGHTS!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE WBAY REC DEPT AT 262-686-8001



Williams Bay Recreation Department Outdoor Winter Activities



Snowshoe Rentals



Snowshoe rentals are back! We will be renting snowshoes at our lakefront office 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 8am-3pm!



Ice Rink



Our ice rink will be located at the Williams Bay Boat Launch parking lot next to our lakefront office. Ice skating is free! Hours are 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.



We enjoy collaborating with Barrett Memorial Library and Kishwaukee for bonfires & night hikes. Please email

rec@williamsbay.org or call 262-686-8001 for more information

BARRETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Have fun at the library? Ask us how we're FUNded!

Special Events

Dementia Basics: The need to know and Q&A

October 7th

In partnership with

Aging and Disability Resource Center
of Walworth County



Frankenstuffies

October 8th @ 1:00 p.m..

Gather up your old toys and learn how
to create your own mixed-up
Frankentoy with scissors and glue!

Beer Barons of Lake Geneva and their Milwaukee Neighbors

October 15th @ 11 a.m.

In partnership with
Williams Bay Historical Society



Visiting The Beyond with Curt Strutz

October 19th at 6:30

Have you ever wondered what the inside
of a REAL haunted house looks like?



October 24th-29th

In partnership with WB Rec,
WB PD, and the WB School District

Escape Rooms, Pumpkin
races, enchanted and more
at Boo in the Bay 2022!



Barrett Book Clubs

Page Turners- Grades 5-8

October 24th @ 5:00 p.m.

November 21st @ 5:00 p.m.

December 19th @ 5:00 p.m.

Teens Choose- Grades 9-12

October 12th @ 3:30 p.m.

November 16th @ 3:30 p.m.

December 14th @ 3:30 p.m.

Sat. Morning Book Club- Adults

October 8th @ 10:00 a.m.

November 12th @ 10:00 a.m.

December 10th @ 10:00 a.m.

What Are Teens Reading- Adults

October 26th @ 7:00 p.m.

November 30th @ 7:00 p.m.

December 28th @ 7:00 p.m.

Books are available at
the front desk!

Rock, Paper, Scissors

Craft Club



Teens & Tweens

October 17th @ 4:30 p.m.

November 14th @ 4:30 p.m.

December 12th @ 4:30 p.m.

Kids

October 27th @ 4:30 p.m.

November 17th @ 4:30 p.m.

December 15th @ 4:30 p.m.



Visit the new Friends Story Garden at the Library!

KISHWAUKETOE NATURE CONSERVANCY (KNC)

"Our love affair with this amazing park started 2 1/2 years ago..."
Testimonial from Donald Tomaska



Lynn and I are recent retirees who bought our second home in Williams Bay during March 2020. Shortly afterwards, we walked down the hill on Route 67 toward the bay and first noticed the entrance to Kishwaukee. We decided to try one of the many trails and quickly realized what many others already know – there's nothing quite like it!

During the next 2+ years we found Kishwaukee to be a special place where we could leave any troubles behind and get in touch with ourselves thru nature. Lynn and I now walk the park several times a week and usually take a different route each time. We particularly like early morning or sunset walks and always see exciting new things. We've met a wide range of people, from serious bird watchers and plant lovers to individuals like us who just want to take a walk in a pretty place with no noise, music or cell phones.

For the first time this summer, we have participated in some of the unique activities offered by KNC. This includes the famous "Friday morning walk with Harold Friestad" (visionary founder of KNC), Saturday morning botanical tour with Josh (KNC expert) and a recent presentation by the two local authors of the exciting new book - Kishwaukee – A Nature Conservancy for the Children of Tomorrow. We soon hope to join a Friday night moonlight walk followed by a campfire and s'mores (just like my boy scout days).

As we've learned more about KNC, we wanted to tell more people about it! We're sometimes surprised when we exit the park and meet people who say they have never walked thru Kishwaukee (or know anything about it.) They don't realize what they're missing!



DID YOU KNOW?

As residents of Williams Bay, we are all aware of the existence of the **Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy (KNC)**. *For some*, it may only be a lovely view when driving or walking by. *For many*, it is a wonderful sanctuary to take a year-round hike, join Harold Friestad on his early morning informative walks, join others for a moon hike and bonfire, compete in the annual 5K run or walk, or snow shoe and cross-country ski in the winter. *For most*, there are many interesting facts that may not be known.

The name “Kishwauketoe” (Kish-wau-ke-toe): Is derived from the name given to Geneva Lake by the Potawatomi Native-American people. It means “clear or sparkling water”. The name of **Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy** was the winning entry in a 1990 Name the Park contest by local residents George Johnson and Sharon Kolbasuk, selected from 189 entries.

Rescued: In April of 1990 the Village of Williams Bay purchased 231 acres of land now known as **Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy** to prevent proposed residential and commercial development of the land. In July of 1990 **KNC** became a protected conservancy. In November of 2011 a Land Protection Agreement was created to ensure **KNC** will remain permanently undeveloped and unspoiled for future generations.

Tax Dollars: No tax dollars fund the **Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy**. It is maintained solely through donations and volunteer time. The first public donation was for \$75 in 1990 from the Concerned Citizen’s Committee.

Wetland Tributary: **Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy** contains the largest wetland tributary feeding Geneva Lake and is a prime source of clean water that feeds our pristine lake.

Want to learn more? These are only a few of the things Williams Bay residents may not know. Williams Bay resident and Kishwauketoe Board Member, James Killian, has written and coauthored a book “Kishwauketoe – A Nature Conservancy for the Children of Tomorrow” with Lake Geneva resident Jen Schildgen that is currently for sale at local businesses and online at www.friendsofknc.org. 100% of the proceeds from the sale of this book are designated to support the ongoing work of “Friends of Kishwauketoe” and continued restoration and maintenance of the **KNC** property.

Sue Vandenbroucke, Friends of Kishwauketoe

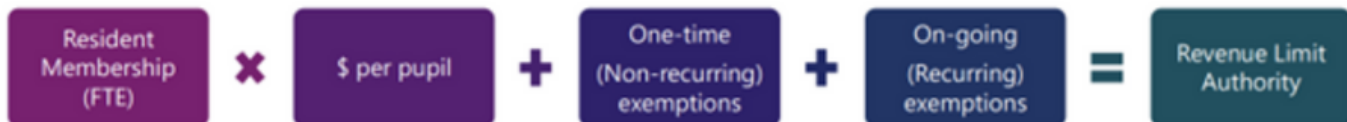
Bulldog Buzz

How Does the State Funding Formula Impact the Williams Bay School District?

By: Jennifer Frederick, Business Manager

As mentioned in our last newsletter article, over 75% of our district's general fund revenue is determined by the state revenue limit formula. This formula includes multiplying the district's membership (on a 3-year average) by a "per-pupil" amount.

In the revenue limit formula, after the 3-year membership average is multiplied by the per-pupil amount, exemptions are added. Some of the exemptions include a declining enrollment exemption, voucher exemptions and operating referendum exemptions that increase the revenue limit authority for districts. After the exemptions are added, a district has their total revenue limit authority. This is the amount the district can generate in spendable revenue.



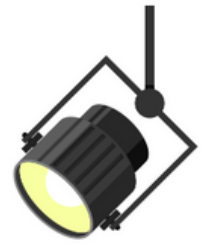
This total revenue limit authority is then divided between state equalization aid (the state's largest aid to districts) and the local tax levy. The amount of state equalization aid a district receives is based on their total equalized property value divided by their membership. The higher this amount is, the less equalization aid a district receives and vice versa. Williams Bay School District has a very high property value per member, which means we receive very little equalization aid from the state. Almost all of our revenue limit authority is paid for with local taxes. Other districts may receive more from equalization aid. It is important to remember that equalization aid from the state does not increase total revenue but offsets the tax levy.

One misconception about school funding is that declining enrollment has immediate impact on a school district's financials. The State of Wisconsin has a declining enrollment exemption that acts like a parachute and assists districts in allowing them to maintain their revenue limit authority despite losing students. It doesn't negatively impact a district until they start increasing enrollment. Further, funding is based on a 3 year average, so it can take 3 years of growth before a district can see the full impact of an upswing in enrollment.

Schools throughout Wisconsin are facing "a fiscal cliff." Simply google "Wisconsin Schools Fiscal Cliff" and you'll find a plethora of news articles from across the state discussing this topic. Williams Bay is no different. Short term COVID-related ESSER funding and high inflation costs are just two reasons why funding is coming to an abrupt drop. Most school districts in the Lake Geneva area are in similar situations, as you have seen several had referendums last year and we will continue to see more local school referendums in the next year or two. We'll continue to discuss Williams Bay School District's funding mechanisms and financial needs in the upcoming newsletters. Please continue to stay tuned in and informed as our long-term financial picture develops.



Alumni Spotlight



Laura (Peterson) Breen, Class of 1987

Tell us a little about yourself & your journey after graduation?

I received my Bachelor's of Science in Education from Carroll University in 1992. I married my high school sweetheart that summer and then was hired by Williams Bay School District to teach first grade. Thirty one years of teaching, thousands of students, three grown sons, a new high school and elementary building, and I'm still wearing orange and black!



I loved being involved in literally every activity. If you wanted to be in choir, sports, student council, all you needed to do was show up. My favorite memories were cheerleading and Homecoming week.

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

I loved being an intrical part of the new elementary school being built and starting the 4K program in 2017.

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

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

Don't let your years at Williams Bay School District pass you by. Find a great friend, participate on silly dress-up days, go to the dances, get involved, you'll never regret having fun.





The Village of Williams Bay

250 Williams Street

PO Box 580

Williams Bay, WI 53191

Story Time

Wed. at 10AM

With Miss Tegan at

Barrett Memorial Library!

Join us for stories, smiles, and silly songs!



Williams Bay Walking Club

The Williams Bay Walking Club is back! We will be offering this FREE program with the Williams Bay School District. Walk the hallways of the High School, Middle School, & Elementary School!

Dates: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays
(When School is in Session)

Time: 6:00-7:00am

Check in: Williams Bay High School
Main Doors

Cost: Free!



Williams Bay School District &
Recreation Department Program

