



Village of Chenequa

NEWS

June 2010

www.chenequa.org

VILLAGE NEWS

Board of Review

The Village of Chenequa will be conducting their annual Board of Review on July 1st from 8am to 10 am. The open book session that is held before the Board of Review was held June 15th at the Village Hall. The open book session allows property owners to discuss their assessments with the Village assessor. In the event the owner and the assessor cannot reach an agreement on a fair assessment value, the property owner has the option to file a request to appear before the Board of Review, who will then make a determination.

Village Website - www.chenequa.org

We hope you're enjoying the Village of Chenequa website. We have revised and enhanced the website which now includes our police department. Don't forget, our weather station has up to the minute information such as the cloud base, heat index, temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, dew point, barometer and precipitation readings (annually, monthly & daily), even when the sun rises/sets and moon rises/sets. We have received positive feedback and will continue to keep it updated with current, local information.

For e-mail alerts, updates on local issues, and subscription to electronic copies of agendas, newsletters and other publications from the Village, go to the *E-services* section, enter your information and subscribe to those areas you wish to receive electronic correspondence. Should something occur in the Village that is of urgent importance to the community, we will send notice of the issue or event as timely as possible electronically to those who have subscribed to this service.

Internet Options

One topic that was stated in the recent village survey as still an issue of dissatisfaction is the lack of internet or cable in the village. Due to the lack of density and the capital costs to install cable, the providers of such services are not going to be installing these services in the village anytime soon.

The Village has very good reports from residents using the wireless Netwurx Internet provider which has tower sites both here in the village on our cell tower as well as Holy Hill. Other residents wanted to share that the Sprint Wireless cards, Verizon Wireless cards, and US Cellular Wireless cards are also working very well for them and that may also be an option to consider. The cost is roughly \$60.00 per month for these wireless cards and they are available at your local cell phone dealers.

In some areas of the village, AT&T has the new U-Verse in place. Many of you on Hwy 83 or Hwy K west may have received post cards stating it is here. This U-Verse has high speed internet and television through your phone lines. This service, as the listed other options is not available throughout the entire village and you will need to determine which option is best for you at your location.



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

New Police Officer

Orlin Foat of Hartland was hired on as a part-time Officer. Orlin joins the police department with experience working for the Oconomowoc Lake and Summit Police Departments. Orlin has completed his orientation and will be filling in shifts as needed with our other part-time officers. Orlin has advised he has met some of the residents while on patrol please welcome him if you have the opportunity.

Drug Collection

In order to reduce substance abuse, prevent childhood poisonings, and help protect our environment, citizens can bring their prescription or over the counter medications, sprays, inhalers, ointments, creams, vials, herbals, pet medications and illegal drugs/paraphernalia (*No Questions Asked*) to the Hartland Police Department 24 hours every day for disposal. Please DO NOT bring hazardous materials/waste (household cleaners, paint, etc.) or any items containing or exposed to human bodily fluids. During normal business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday), please use the north lobby for drop offs. All other times, use the south lobby. **Remember:** No medications should ever be thrown in the toilet. If there are any questions, please contact the Hartland Police Department at (262) 367-2323.

Summer Boating

With the warm summer weather, many are already enjoying the lakes in our Village. The police water patrol is out and encouraging safe boating and proper equipment. If you or a guest is planning to go out boating please take a few minutes before and check that you have the proper amount of Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's) and a fire extinguisher if required. Knowing where these items are, if needed, is important. Boat registration is valid for three years. The DNR is now offering registration services via the Internet.

Speed violations are the primary source of boating complaints in the summer. New requirement for 2010: It is illegal to operate a motorboat at greater than slow-no-wake speed within 200 feet of the shoreline of all lakes. This change is in addition to the current law which prohibits speed in excess of slow-no-wake within 200 feet of docks, rafts, piers and buoyed restricted areas. Personal watercraft (PWC) cannot operate at a speed greater then slow-no-wake within 200 feet of the shoreline of any lake.

If you need a current booklet of the state boating regulations, stop and talk to our water patrol officers or you can pick one up at the Village Hall.

Pine Lake Public Launch

If you reside on Pine Lake, you are able to launch a boat and leave without a fee requirement. If you have a need to launch a boat at the public launch during the weekends, please avoid the hours between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. This is peak time for the public to access the lake. Our Community Service Officers report there are boaters waiting in line for hours for an opportunity to launch their boat and this will help them keep matters orderly.



HIGHWAY / FORESTRY NEWS

New State Tool for Combating Invasive Exotic Plants Purple Loosestrife Control Project

One of the greatest threats to our state's natural environments is exotic and invasive pests. The state of Wisconsin has recently enacted NR 40 which is a rule administered by the WI-DNR that classifies invasive species as Prohibited or Restricted and regulates the transportation, possession, transfer and introduction of those species. Its primary purpose is to educate the public, control the spread and reduce the damage caused by invasive species.

The list of invasive plants includes several that we here in the village are all very familiar with such as Garlic Mustard and Common Buckthorn. Another plant to make the list is Purple Loosestrife. Once planted by gardeners for its purple summer flowers it is now restricted due to the damage it causes to wetlands and lakeshores.

Hand pulling and the use of chemicals have had mixed results, but a bio-control using a small insect has proven to be the most effective. The Galerucella beetle feeds almost exclusively on the purple loosestrife leaves and cause no harm to other plant species.

For the last 15 years the WI-DNR has released these beetles with the aid of volunteers and school groups. In the past, several areas here in the Village of Chenequa have received beetles to reduce the loosestrife population.

The Chenequa Forestry Dept. and the WI-DNR are currently partnered in a project to raise the Galerucella beetles in a protective enclosure placed in a marsh here in the village. Inside the tent-like structure, the beetles quickly multiply feeding on the loosestrife plants. Following a six week period the beetles will be released to feed on the purple loosestrife plants in the surrounding wetland.



WI- DNR Brock Woods explains the use of a tent to raise large numbers of the Galerucella beetle.

“Bird City Wisconsin”

The Village of Chenequa has submitted an application to be designated, “Bird City Wisconsin”. There are several criteria for a community to be officially recognized and designated for this honor, and the Village of Chenequa easily meets these requirements. Bird City Wisconsin seeks to encourage communities to implement sound bird conservation practices.

According to the Bird City website: As warmer temperatures begin to arrive and we spend more time outdoors, we hear the many familiar sounds of spring, including the songs of our returning migrant birds. At this time of year, the American Bird Conservancy (ABC) often gets asked how people can help birds. Toward that end, here are a few things that can be done to aid or protect declining birds in their homes and yards:

- ❖ Keep your cat indoors. This is best for your cat as well as the birds, as indoor cats live an average of three to seven times longer. Even well fed cats kill birds, and bells on cats do not effectively warn birds of cat strikes.
- ❖ Prevent birds hitting your windows by using a variety of treatments to the glass on your homes.
- ❖ Eliminate pesticides from your yard – even those pesticides that are not directly toxic to birds can pollute waterways and reduce insects that birds rely on for food.
- ❖ Create a backyard habitat with a diverse landscape by planting native grasses, flowers, and shrubs that attract native birds. You will be rewarded by their beauty and song and will have fewer insect pests as a result.
- ❖ Keep feeders and bird baths clean to avoid disease and prevent mosquitoes from breeding.

To find out more information about this program, please visit the Bird City Wisconsin website at: www.birdcitywisconsin.org

Village Hall	367-2239
Fax	367-3341
Fire & Police	9 - 1 - 1
Emergency	
Non-Emergency	
during office hours only	367-2145
After hours	
Weekends and Holidays	367-2600
Office Hours	
Monday - Thursday	8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Wisconsin's Pier Regulations



Everything you need to know for 2010

In the summer of 2008, new legislation concerning the placement of piers on Wisconsin waterways went into effect. Piers have been a hot topic in the news since 2004 when the Wisconsin Legislature updated the regulations by setting size requirements for piers to be exempt from permitting. The new 2008 legislation expands the configuration options for piers to be exempt, provides greater flexibility in the number of boat slips allowed for commercial and multifamily lots, and creates a registration system to grandfather piers placed before 2004 that no longer meet today's standards. Historically and still today, most piers do not require a permit or a fee from the Department of Natural Resources.

Sizes for an Exempt Pier

Width – Maximum 6 feet wide for the pier.

If the pier is not located in an Area of Special Natural Resource Interest an 8 feet long by 8 feet wide loading platform or deck is allowed at the waterward end of the pier

Length – The length needed to moor your boat, use a boat lift, or to reach a 3-foot water depth, whichever is greater

Location – Does not interfere with the rights of other riparian owners

Number of Boats – 2 for the first 50 feet of frontage, 1 for every additional full 50 feet.

Even more piers are “exempt”, meaning no permit, registration, or fee is required. Most piers do not trigger the need for any action, registration or application for a permit. An existing or new pier can be placed without a DNR permit or fee, if it meets the standard dimensions (see inset), and a few other requirements. All the exemption requirements are described in DNR's brochure “Pier Planner” (DNR publication #FH-017), available at dnr.wi.gov. A DNR study showed that more than 85% of all existing piers already meet these requirements, so most waterfront owners have exempt piers and don't need to do anything differently!

If your pier is not exempt, but you had the pier before 2004... go ahead and enjoy your pier again this summer. Keep doing what you've been doing – just don't expand or modify the pier you had before 2004. Most piers that are not exempt (see inset) are eligible to be grandfathered through a one-time free registration process. To be eligible for registration piers must:

- Have been placed before Feb. 6th, 2004.
- Have a main stem that is a maximum 8 feet wide.
- Have a loading platform at the end of the pier that is a maximum of 200 square feet or a maximum of 300 square feet if it's 10 feet wide or less
- Not interfere with the rights of other riparian owners.

All existing piers that meet these criteria must be registered with the DNR by April 1, 2011. A DNR study showed that around 10% of all existing piers that are not exempt already meet the grandfather (registration) requirements, so most waterfront owners that do not have exempt piers will need to register.

Of course if you want to be sure you won't need to register your pier, you can also choose to modify your pier so that it is exempt.

If you have an **EXISTING pier with a large deck on it . . .** your deck is likely causing harm to habitat, navigation or your neighbor. None of the recent law changes grandfather piers that are over 8 feet wide or piers with loading platforms or decks that are over 300 sq feet. If your pier falls into one or both of those categories you should downsize your pier to meet the new basic exemption standards (which would require you to do nothing with the Department) or downsize your pier to meet the grandfather standards and register. You may also apply for an individual permit to keep your pier. Please be aware that applying for a permit is not a guarantee that you will be able to keep your pier in its current configuration. Some of the very large “party platforms” will need to be downsized to reduce their harmful impacts.

For NEW piers . . . follow the requirements described in the “Pier Planner” to be sure your pier is exempt. New piers can be installed without a permit if they meet the exemption standards. Grandfathering will not apply to piers first installed after Feb, 6th, 2004, so these new piers should not have large decks or extra boats. Its important to follow today’s requirements for new piers in order to be exempt. Permits are required for piers that are larger than the dimensional standards or have more boats.

If you already have a DNR permit for your pier . . . it’s still good. Just continue to follow the terms and conditions of that original permit.

If you are selling your waterfront property . . . and your pier is exempt, the new owner can place the same pier and they won’t need a permit either. If you received a permit or registered your pier, the permit and registration automatically transfers with the property, so the new owner can simply follow the conditions of the original permit or registration. If the new owner wants to install a different pier, they can design it to be exempt, or obtain a permit if they need something different.

If you are thinking about replacing your pier . . . and you’re going to follow the new basic exemption requirements, go ahead. If your existing pier doesn’t meet these requirements, it’s a good time to consider a different pier design that meets the dimensions to be exempt and minimizes impacts on the lake or river.

FLAGS, FLOWERPOTS AND BENCHES are all fine to have on a pier.

The DNR may never require a waterfront owner to remove their pier . . . and we don’t intend to start now! We’ll continue to provide information about the requirements, investigate complaints, and work cooperatively with owners to come up with reasonable solutions so every waterfront can enjoy access to the water and be in compliance with state laws. Once additional law changes are complete, clear definitions, procedures and standards will make it easy for everyone to follow the rules, and maintain the quality of our state’s water resources for all to enjoy.



To learn more about piers and other issues important to waterfront owners, and to find brochures and application forms, visit DNR’s website at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov>
TOPICS: Piers

Piers can cause “Side Effects”

Navigation – Piers that are too long or have many boats can block other users’ enjoyment of the waterway.

Habitat – DNR research shows that large decks on piers block growth of aquatic plants. These plants are an important food source for fish and wildlife, and prevent algae growth.



C Lake Country Fire & Rescue



Can we find and get to you?

Is your house easy to find and accessible for emergency responders?

Proper address identification:

Addresses are vital to emergency services. A fire engine, ambulance, or police car can be delayed several minutes trying to locate a correct address. Such time delays can mean the difference between life and death. Residents are responsible for two items that largely determine the ability of an emergency vehicle to find an address: (1) Correct address from the person reporting the emergency. Your address should be written on every phone in your house so that in an emergency, anyone calling knows the address. (2) Large, legible address numbers visible from three sides of mailbox and front of house.

Driveway access from road up to residence:

Fire apparatus are much larger than your family car, but still need to make it down your driveway. In order to make it down a driveway a fire engine needs a driveway to be clear of obstructions such as tree limbs and boulders. The minimum clearance should be 11 feet high and 10 feet wide. If there are bends or angles the width may need to be adjusted as fire engines are almost 40 feet long. Please help us get to you by trimming trees annually and keeping decorative stones/boulders clear.



Safety Matters

With warm weather and family events, summer can be a fun time with great memories. Lake Country Fire & Rescue wants to help this be a summer to remember with your family and friends, below are a few safety tips to help make that happen.



Fireworks Safety

- Always use outside and have a bucket of water and hose nearby
- Fireworks have been known to backfire and shoot off in the wrong direction
- Light one firework at a time and never relight a dud.
- Don't hold fireworks in your hand and keep away from face, hair, and clothing.
- Follow local fireworks ordinance



Water Safety

- Children need constant supervision around water – don't assume, however, that a child who knows how to swim isn't at risk.
- Young children are especially vulnerable – they can drown in less than 2 inches of water.
- Inflatable vests and arm devices are not effective protection against drowning.



Community CPR Classes

Lake Country Fire & Rescue has been providing CPR training to businesses throughout the community for years, and would like to offer a similar service to residents. Lake Country Fire & Rescue wants you to be able to provide life saving measures to your family or friends until we arrive. There are many variations of CPR available depending on what level of training you need. Every month the Fire Department will host a Community Heartsaver CPR course for families in our communities. This course is not a certification but goes over the measures needed to provide CPR to Adults/Children/Infants until EMS arrives. This is a valuable course as seconds count when CPR is needed. We look forward to helping the residents we serve become better prepared for an emergency.

Community CPR Classes

Time: 3rd Saturday of Each Month 8am – Noon (Subject to cancellation if minimum class size not met)

Location: 115 Main Street, Delafield, WI 53018

Cost: \$20 per person or two for \$30 (cash or check payable to: Lake Country Fire & Rescue)

Registration: Forms are located on website (www.lakecountryfire.com)

Please return registration and payment to Lake Country Fire Station 1, Attention: Sandy Rosch.

Healthcare Provider Courses or Private courses

If you require an American Heart Association certification course or are interested in scheduling a private course Lake Country Fire & Rescue is able to provide initial certification and re-certification for BLS Healthcare Provider and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), and provide courses that meet your schedule. These courses are taught upon request and you can find further information on our website; www.lakecountryfire.com

Contact Captain Brad Bowen for further information on classes or to schedule a private class at; bbowen@lakecountryfire.com

Lake Spraying

On Wednesday, June 9, 2010, Pine Lake and Cornell Lake were treated to control the invasive and exotic plant – Eurasian milfoil. The spraying previously scheduled for June 8th was cancelled due to the rain. Precautions: NO swimming for one day following treatment and NO garden watering for fourteen days following treatment.

VEOLIA

Since 1983, Veolia Environmental Services has allowed the public to dump garbage, yard waste, building materials, appliances, etc. at their facility in Hartland for a nominal fee. They now feel the liability is too great. Effective July 1, 2010, Veolia will no longer allow residential and commercial public dumping. Veolia has always rented disposal containers to residents and businesses for general household clean-up and building material disposal and will continue to do so.

Veolia has also advised that the Independence Holiday will be observed on July 5th. Therefore, garbage routes for our community will be one day late.

Fireworks!

The 4th of July fireworks will be celebrated on Beaver, North and Pine Lakes at approximately 9:30 p.m.



OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Survey Results

June 2010

Dear Village Residents,

The Operations Committee of the village government recently mailed a survey to all Chenequa households. The purpose of the questionnaire was to receive feedback on a number of issues associated with the services the Village provides with an eye to evaluating their effectiveness, and residents' perceptions of their quality and value. We are also looking for input on matters of concern that may be new and require our consideration.

Questionnaire responses were received from 165 households, representing 59% of the 282 homes in the village. As surveys go, this was an excellent response rate, and we are grateful to village residents for their participation.

On a top line basis, responding residents are highly satisfied with the services provided by the village. The survey confirms the village has a very stable population base. Nearly half (47%) of respondents have been village residents for 20 years or more – 74% for 11 years or more. Residents are highly satisfied with our waste disposal service (98%). Residents are also overwhelmingly satisfied (99%) with the village's principal communications tool, the newsletter. We continue to encourage residents to visit the village's newly configured website and telephone information update system for the latest news, weather and live webcam views - <http://www.chenequa.org>

The village plows private driveways as a supplement to the plowing of village roads and streets. The village has budget and manpower limitations, and as a result, we may not be able to meet all the possible requirements of all village residents. Despite its limitations, approximately 78% of respondents are highly satisfied with the snow plowing service, and an additional 14% find it adequate; only 6% of respondents expressed dissatisfaction. Many comments expressing dissatisfaction had to do with plow damage to gardens and property, or wanting more thorough cleaning of home driveways and parking areas. Over one third (36%) of respondents hire supplemental snow plowing services. Lastly, most respondents were quite cool to the idea of increasing user fees for snow plowing.

In matters pertaining to highway forestry, 81% of respondents expressed a high degree of satisfaction, and an additional 14% feel it is adequate; only 4% felt dissatisfied. Pine Lake weed treatment efforts, while still meeting with strong approval by a nearly two thirds majority, was an area where our efforts were judged to be worthy of improvement.


The survey also highlighted areas of misunderstanding as to the scope of the services the village provides. These include:

- **Forestry Department**: While the village provides ad hoc consulting assistance to residents, its Forestry Department is **not** tasked with maintaining areas along private driveway and lands. Its main task is to maintain public areas and roadways, removing potential hazards, protecting and ensuring the wellbeing of our local flora, and enhancing the aesthetic beauty of the village. In the winter, they also provide snow plowing, salting and sanding services.
- **Lake Management**: Most comments received asked what could be done about zebra mussels. On the U.S. Geographical Survey website, zebra mussels are compared to roaches because of the almost impossible task of eradicating the two species. Despite scientific efforts to develop a species specific control agent, at present there is no effective way to eradicate zebra mussels once they are established in a body of water. We shall continue to monitor ongoing efforts in the scientific community to develop control mechanisms, and will be open to considering options when and if they become available.

64% of residents are satisfied with the Pine Lake weed treatment program. A number of Beaver and North Lake residents commented that their tax dollars are being used for treating Pine Lake, but the village does not contribute proportionally to similar efforts on their lakes. This view is incorrect. As pertains to funding the Pine Lake weed treatment program, no taxpayer dollars are used for this purpose. The program is solely funded through the fees generated by users of the Pine Lake Public Boat Launch. Other area lakes use alternate financing means for their programs.

The many comments made by residents continue to be evaluated, and some may lead to actionable policies. We hope that residents will remain involved and continue to share their thoughts and concerns with our Operations Committee members, elected Board of Trustees members, and village administrators and staff. We encourage all residents to attend village committee and board meetings as a means of remaining engaged and informed.

Sincerely,


Jo Ann Friend Villavicencio
Village Trustee
Chair, Operations Committee