

Fall 2013 Newsletter



The Claytonite



New Year & New Fire Chief



As we near the end of 2013, I thought it was appropriate to inform our residents of an upcoming change beginning in January. If you were not aware, three of your Town Board members also serve on the Clayton/Winchester Joint Fire Board. At the end of August the Joint Fire Board conducted interviews for the position of Fire Chief. On August 29th the Board reached a unanimous decision and appointed Mr. Scott Rieckmann for a 2-year term as Fire Chief, beginning January 1, 2014. Chief Glen Mathison will complete his term on December 31, 2013.

We were fortunate to have two individuals that desired the



opportunity to serve our department as the Chief for the next two years. The candidates have been dedicated fire fighters for our department for many years and both possess positive qualities and traits that are essential in a leadership role.

We commend and thank Chief Mathison for his service over the past four years as our Fire Chief. He is committed to continuing to serve and work together with our newly appointed Chief during the transition period to ensure an orderly and professional change of leadership. We are confident that each and every fire fighter and 1st responder is united as well in

the effort to ensure that our department continues the high quality of service that they provide the residents of Clayton and Winchester.

I, along with the Board of both towns, greatly respect and appreciate each dedicated individual that serves our residents as a fire fighter and 1st responder, and thank them for their service.

This will be the last newsletter this year, so with that I hope each and every one of you has a safe and happy holiday season and continued good wishes for 2014.

Mark Luebke



Tax Information

The 2013 real estate and personal property tax bills are **tentatively** scheduled to be mailed during the second week of December.

Tax Payments will be accepted in the Town Office (8348 County Road T, Larsen) from 10:00am-4:00pm M-F (**except holi-**

days). Payments brought in prior to 10:00am will be mailed a receipt. Payments can also be mailed to our office and a receipt will be sent back to you.

Please make sure all escrow checks are endorsed by each person it is made payable to. We cannot except

them without proper endorsement.

Also a reminder to renew your dog licenses when paying taxes.

Spayed/Neutered-\$5/dog

Not spayed/neutered-\$10/dog

Kennel license/5+dogs-\$40



Thank you to the Sell family for their donation of a park bench in Clayton Cemetery in loving memory of Jennifer Anne Sell



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NOTICE!

- Wednesday November 6th, 7:00 P.M., Town Hall (8348 County Road T, Larsen, WI) — Public Hearing & Presentation of Proposed CY 2014 Town Budget. Immediately following is a Special Town Electors Meeting to approve the CY 2014 Transportation Budget and to adopt the CY 2013 Tax Levy payable in 2014. A regular Town Board meeting will follow the Town Electors Meeting.



Three Elements, One Goal



By Dick Knapinski
*Plan Commission
Chairman*



There are three critical documents that guide the town's plan commission as it does its work: The town's comprehensive plan, the land-use map, and the zoning map. Each has an important role and they are tied together as we create the future of the Town of Clayton.

I admit that when I began on the Plan Commission more than seven years ago, I wasn't aware of what I didn't know about any of those elements. I had never thoroughly read them. It's probably safe to say that at least 90 percent of the town's electors have never read them, either. That's not unusual, as most of us in the town pay little attention to these documents until it directly affects our property or the property immediately around us.

Each of the three documents has its own distinct purpose. Together, they allow us to create zoning codes, site-plan ordinances and other items that move

development forward in the town in a way – and this is important – that we as town residents want to see it.

But what do these documents do, exactly? Here's a quick primer on each:

Comprehensive Plan – This is a thick document and it's not exactly light reading. It has lots of text, charts, and other things that can be a fine cure for insomnia. The Comprehensive Plan, however, details the vision for the town. It explains what Clayton is now, what we want it to be in the future, and some possible ways to get there. The plan takes in nearly everything, from business development and subdivisions to parks and farmland.

Land-use map – The land-use map is the visual element of the Comprehensive Plan. The map takes all of those words and charts and graphs, and depicts them in a way where people can see where things will occur in the town. It shows what land use is occurring there now, such as business, residential, or agricultural, as well as what the town feels will be the best land use in the future. The town board, plan commission and staff spend a great deal of time when updating the map to ensure it parallels the Comprehensive Plan and creates a logical pattern

for development in the town.

Zoning map – This is the “real world” snapshot of how land is being or can be used in the town right now. Each parcel of land in the town has a zoning designation, which outlines the permissible use of that land. This ensures that, to use a wild-eyed example, an auto salvage yard won't show up in a residential subdivision.

These three documents can quickly give a developer or landowner (sometimes that's the same person) an idea of how a particular land parcel can be used. It eliminates confusion locally and shows outside interests how we envision our town in the future. That includes the county and state, which review all of these documents at some level.

There's no expectation this quick description will spark residents to run to the town office and study these documents. That's OK – there's no test coming with your next newsletter. It is important to know, however, that these documents exist, they have been carefully considered in numerous public meetings, and they are available if you have a question about what's happening in your town or if you have an idea for your own property.



Are You Safe From Radon?



You can't see radon. And you can't smell it or taste it. But it may be a problem in your home.

Radon is estimated to cause many thousands of deaths each year. That's because when you breathe air containing radon, you can get lung cancer. In fact, the Surgeon General has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States today. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. **If you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is**

especially high. Radon comes from the natural (radioactive) breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water and gets into the air you breathe. Radon can be found all over the U.S. It can get into any type of building — homes, offices, and schools — and result in a high indoor radon level.

Nearly 1 out of every 15 homes in the U.S. is estimated to have elevated radon

“Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk from radon.”

levels. Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk from radon. EPA and the Surgeon General recommend testing all homes below the third floor.

Radon test kits are available for \$10 at the

Town Hall during normal business hours. For more information on radon, please visit www.epa.gov/radon.



Notice

The Yard Waste Site will be closed as of November 30th





2013 Firearm Restrictions



NOTE : Starting on Nov. 1, 2013, hunting with rifles will be allowed statewide. Local municipalities may have local ordinances in place that prohibit the use of certain weapons. Hunters need to check with the local municipality where they will be hunting to determine any local weapon restrictions.

The Town of Clayton will be allowing rifles to hunt

A few reminders from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

It is illegal to:

- possess or use any firearm for hunting if you are a felon or have been prohibited from possessing a firearm under Wisconsin law. In Wisconsin, a firearm is any weapon that uses gun powder, including black powder or black powder substitute for muzzleloaders. A hunting license does not authorize the purchaser to possess a firearm for hunting. Unless otherwise prohibited, a felon can generally hunt legally with an air rifle for small game mammals (see *2013 Small Game Regulations*) or with a bow and arrow or crossbow for small game, turkey, bear, and deer. Appropriate licenses are required.
- hunt with a fully automatic firearm.
- possess or use while hunting any tracer or incendiary shells, cartridges, or ammunition.
- hunt with any means other than a gun discharged from the shoulder or a bow and arrow.
- shoot a firearm within 100 yards of a building devoted to human occupancy while on lands you do not own, including public lands and public waters, without the permission of the owner or occupant of that building.
- hunt deer with ammunition loaded with non-expanding type bullets.
- possess or control any shotshell loaded with a single slug or ball while hunting game birds except during the gun deer season.
- possess any firearm from 12:00 midnight–11:59 P.M. on Nov. 22, 2013 unless the firearm is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case. **Exceptions:** Target shooting at established target ranges, target shooting on private lands by landowners and immediate family members, waterfowl hunting during open season, hunting game birds on licensed bird hunting preserves, hunting small game in CWD units, and handguns possessed by persons authorized to carry a concealed weapon. **Note:** An established target range means an existing location that is set up for target shooting with firearms as its major purpose.
- possess while hunting, shot or shotshells loaded with shot larger than No. BB from June 1–Dec. 15 (unless legally engaged in waterfowl, bobcat, or wolf hunting). See *Waterfowl Regulations* for maximum shot sizes for waterfowl hunting.
- hunt deer with any ammunition loaded with shot other than a single slug or projectile.

Rifles

- Rifles must have an overall minimum length of 26 inches with a 16 inch minimum barrel length unless you possess a federal license to possess a 'short-barreled' rifle.
- Rifles are legal for hunting deer in areas not restricted to shotguns, muzzleloaders, and handguns only
- It is illegal to possess any rimfire rifle larger than .22 caliber or any center-fire rifle .22 caliber or larger during the Oct. 5-6 youth firearm deer hunt in shotgun-only areas unless it is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case. **Note:** Rifle-barreled shotguns and muzzleloaders are not considered rifles for purpose of hunting deer.
- It is illegal to hunt deer with any center-fire rifle less than .22 caliber, any air gun, or any rimfire rifle.

Handguns

- To be legal for deer hunting, handguns must use center-fire cartridges of .22 caliber or larger and have a 5½ inch minimum barrel length measured from the firing pin to the muzzle with the action closed.
- You may not possess a concealed handgun unless you are authorized by law to possess a concealed handgun in Wisconsin.
- For muzzleloading handguns, see 'Muzzleloaders' on page 22.
- It is illegal to hunt with a handgun, including muzzleloading handguns, if under age 18.

*****To all hunters*****

Good Luck this season and please practice hunter safety at all times!





Smoke From Outdoor Wood-fired Boilers Can Be A Health Hazard



As the heating season approaches, wood smoke from outdoor wood-fired boilers (OWBs) and other wood heaters will lead to health and nuisance complaints across the state.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) reports that homeowners who are chronically exposed to smoke often complain of adverse health effects such as asthma, respiratory irritation, sinus issues or headaches. People with lung or heart conditions, children and the elderly are even more at risk from smoke exposure.

Wisconsin is a leader in the number of operating OWBs, and in the absence of regulation this trend is expected to continue. Several features make OWBs a popular alternative heating source: the fire hazard is outside of the building being heated; wood storage and handling takes place outside; and wood is a renewable fuel source that may be less expensive than gas, oil or electricity. However, there are significant disadvantages to using an OWB for home heating. "When OWBs are improperly located or operated, or a large number are located in a small area, conflicts with neighbors can occur due to excessive wood smoke and related health effects", says David S. Liebl of UW-Extension's Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center.



Strong smoke odors combined with a visible plume indicate the presence of fine particulates and chemicals such as carbon monoxide and formaldehyde found in wood smoke. When smoke envelops a neighboring house or property, air quality degrades to conditions similar to what would trigger a DNR air quality advisory for fine particles, according to Liebl. A study of wood smoke in Grand Rapids, Wisconsin found high levels of fine particle pollution from wood smoke in neighborhoods where OWBs were being used. What causes excessive OWB smoke? "Installing a stove with a stack that is too short, or at a distance too close to a neighboring building is probably the foremost reason for exposure to OWB smoke," says Scott Sanford, rural energy program specialist with UW-Extension. "Poor design, faulty operation or inappropriate fueling practices also can lead to excessive smoke." For example, operators should only add wood when there is a demand for heat, and only add enough fuel for heating the next 8 to 12 hours (or less) to help reduce smoke emissions.

Poor location, or weather conditions that prevent smoke from dispersing, can also lead to excessive wood smoke. "Neighbors downwind of an OWB may find themselves in the path of frequent smoke plumes from an OWB," Liebl says. "As a public health concern, a visible plume, odors and health or nuisance complaints are sufficient to establish an individual's exposure to OWB emissions." While Wisconsin lacks statewide regulation of residential wood smoke, about 200 local municipalities have some type of ordinance regulating wood smoke, making it easier to resolve smoke-related conflicts. If your community does not have an ordinance, Liebl and Sanford recommend that you work with your local village, township, city or county officials to develop an OWB/Open Burning Ordinance. Adopting such an ordinance will reduce the likelihood of exposure to OWB emissions, and provide a way to resolve conflicts.

If you are an individual dealing with a health or nuisance issue related to OWBs, you can take these steps:

- Meet with the OWB owner/operator to discuss the exposure problem.
- Check for proper stack height and property line setbacks.
- Review OWB fueling practices with the operator.
- Make sure nothing but clean dry wood is used as fuel (no trash or other materials).

If you are unable to resolve the OWB emission exposure issue, your local health department may be able to provide assistance. Here is a list of resources on OWBs and wood smoke:

Wisconsin Department of Health Services:

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/eh/air/fs/waterstoves.htm>

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/eh/air/fs/WoodBrn.htm>

If you have questions about the health effects of OWB smoke emissions, contact DHS Rob Thiboldeaux at 608-267-6844

Robert.Thiboldeaux@wi.gov

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

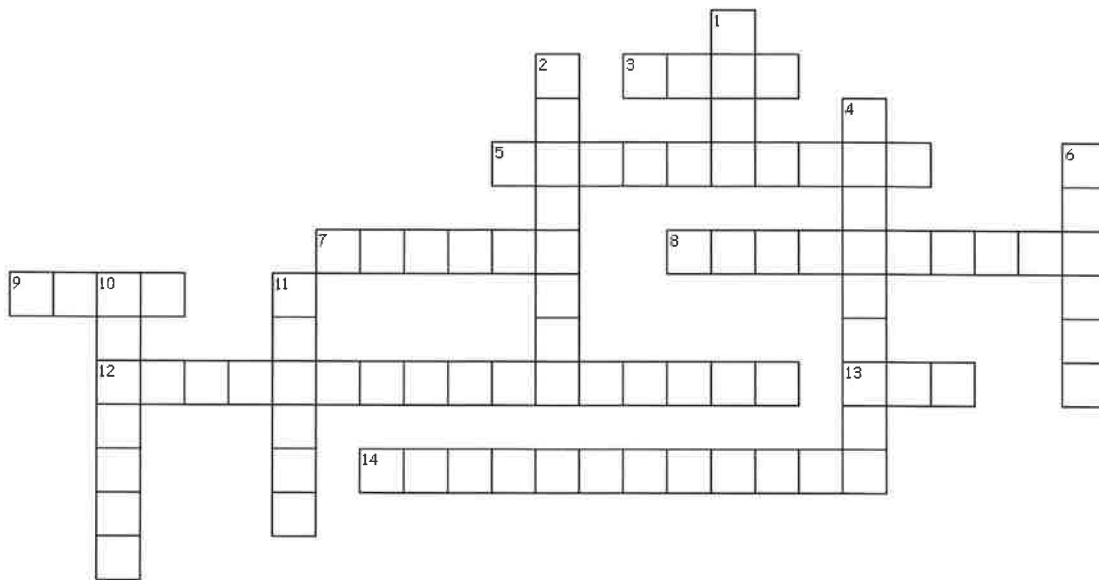
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/openburning/boilers.html>

Posted by [extension.news](#) on 01. Nov, 2013





Fall Newsletter Crossword -Town of Clayton Trivia-



Across

3. Clayton Fire Department is Station Thirty.....
5. Clayton has a joint fire department with this town
7. This gets approved every October or November
8. Committee in charge of park & trail development
9. Plan Commission Chairman's First Name
12. Name of our garbage & recycling company
13. These licenses need to be renewed annually by residents
14. What type of governing body are we?

Down

1. ClaytonFest is held the 2nd weekend of what month?
2. Name of local snowmobile club
4. Town Board meetings are held the 1st and 3rd ____ of every month
6. Town Chairman's Last Name
10. Park on Larsen Road
11. Town of Clayton adopted it's own ____ Code of Ordinances this year



Answer Key to Summer Newsletter Puzzle



First name	Last Name	Street Name	# of Houses	Amount Earned
Bill	Grant	Apple Lane	4 homes	\$25
Craig	Miller	Forest Road	7 homes	\$45
Greg	Smith	Spring Street	5 homes	\$35
Larry	Jones	Marsh Street	3 homes	\$30
Peter	West	Prescott Street	6 homes	\$55



TOWN OF CLAYTON

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Meet Your Town Representatives! - Green Space Committee -



Meet Lana Prusik! Lana has been a resident in the Town of Clayton for 8 years and has served on the Green Space Committee for a little over 2 years. She works as a Sales Account Manager for a local company which supports S.C. Johnson.

Personal Hobbies: Gardening, exercise, motorcycle riding and cooking

Personal Topics of Interest pertaining to the Green Space Committee: Very interested in the outdoors and enjoys assessing the needs of the Town while coordinating with community organizations to promote and better the recreational opportunities for the public.

What has the committee done that you are most proud of? "The designs and plans of our Parks, recreation and trails have upgraded. Exercise, personal health and assessment are a focus today more than ever before. Having our trails has made a difference in many people's lives."

Future Goals for the Green Space Committee: Discussion of a Town of Clayton Mission Statement

What should the Town residents know about the Green Space Committee?: "They should be more informed of the Green Space Committee topics of interest and discussions."

If you have any interest in/questions about committees in the Town of Clayton, please don't hesitate to call the Town Office for more information. Thank you to all of our current committee members for the time and effort you put into making the Town of Clayton a better community.

