



# The Claytonite

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## The SOUNDS of SPRING

2012:

CHIRP! CHIRP!



2013:

CHiP! CHiP!



## Town Offices

We have finally moved to our new office attached to the fire station!

8348 County Rd T  
Larsen, WI 54947

PH: 920-836-2007

## Greetings From the Town Chairman!

According to the calendar Spring is officially here; although, you wouldn't know it by the weather we have been experiencing. As I was typing this article on my laptop, in the dark because the power had gone out from the ice storm we had last night, it reminded me of all the challenges and delays our town's staff has worked through these past months due to circumstances beyond their control. Due to staffing and extended weather issues we have had what many would call a difficult and frustrating snow season. Due to unexpected issues and construction schedules we have also experienced difficulties with the move into our newly renovated Town Hall and Fire complex.

I want to personally thank our staff for their determination and hard work, as well as all of our residents for their understanding and patience as we have addressed these issues the past few months. Rest assured we will continue to re-evaluate our processes and procedures and use what we've learned to hopefully avoid

similar issues in the future.

The Town complex is nearly complete. We are planning a grand opening of the facility in conjunction with our 2013 Clayton Fest. This year the Drifters Snowmobile Club has agreed to coordinate the

planning of the event, which is going to be held on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. To facilitate the grand opening, to include tours of our remodeled facility along with a dinner/social that is being planned by the Drifters around lunch time, we will not be having a parade this year as in the past. As in previous years, family events are being planned throughout the day, concluding the evening with everyone's favorite fireworks display along with, and back by popular demand, live music by Haze/Southern Gypsy. I hope we again have great weather and a large turnout for the festival.

Planning and work has already begun for road projects in the coming months, including a portion of Ridgeway Heights. In addition, The Public Works Department will be completing work on the

grounds around the Town complex as we are addressing drainage issues in Sunburst Estates, Oak Openings, and Oakcrest Manner. I apologize in advance for any inconvenience these projects may cause and I want to thank everyone for their understanding and patience as our staff works on completion of each project.

As I begin my next two years of service to the residents of the Town of Clayton, I want to thank each of you for your support in the past and your continued support as we move forward.

Have a safe and enjoyable Spring (if it ever gets here) and upcoming Summer.

Mark E. Luebke  
(Town Chairman)

"Planning and work has already begun for road projects in the coming months"



## Town of Clayton Dog Licensing



In mid-March we issued postcards to all residents in our computer database with an expired dog license. Thank you to everyone who has called to notify us if you no longer have your K-9 companion, and thank you to those who came and renewed their licenses as requested. We apologize for sending the cards out without contact information for the Town Hall. For dog owners who overlooked this, your 2012 dog licenses are now expired as of March 31, 2013. A \$10 late fee (per dog) will now be charged in addition to the license fee for anyone renewing a license.

As a reminder, dog licensing fees are as follows:

Spayed/Neutered: \$5 per dog

Unfixed: \$10 per dog

Multi-Dog/Kennel: \$40

Late Fee: \$10 per dog

License renewals are accepted by mail when accompanied with payment and proof of rabies vaccination. Your tag/s and paperwork will be mailed back to you promptly. Licenses can also be purchased at the Town Hall between the hours of 8 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Monday thru Friday (except holidays).



## *A Message from The Clayton/Winchester Joint Fire Department:*

With spring now in bloom, it's an ideal time to get your lawn in top shape, but before you begin, take time to remember a few important safety tips:

- \*Before mowing, put on goggles and hearing protection.
- \*Make sure that children are far away from the area.
- \*Check for sticks, stones or any other objects that could shoot out from under the mower or damage the blade.
- \*Never reach under the mower unless it's turned off and the blade has completely stopped turning.
- \*If you run out of gas, stop and let the engine cool down before you add more.
- \*When cutting down greenery or branches, use a chain saw only if it's equipped with a well sharpened anti-kickback chain.

After your lawn is taken care of you might want to make time to clean out and organize your garage. When doing so always keep the following tips in mind:

- \*Keep dangerous products in their original containers, and do not mix substances together.
- \*Products whose labels include —Caution!, —Warning!, —Danger! or —Poison! should be locked in cabinets out of reach of children and pets, and away from heat.
- \*To avoid tip-over's, make sure garage shelves are anchored to the wall and are not overloaded.
- \*Organize and store sharp or electrical tools in a locked cabinet, or up high where children cannot reach.
- \*Keep the garage floor, steps and entries clear of clutter and clean up grease and other spills.
- \*Move gasoline — which is extremely flammable — out of your home. Keep it in a container made for gasoline and store it in a locked outdoor shed if possible.





## Planning for the Town's Future

Over the past year, the Town of Clayton Plan Commission was asked to undertake one of the largest projects it has had in the past decade. With Winnebago County updating its zoning ordinance, all towns in the county had the opportunity to determine whether it wanted to remain under county zoning or create its own zoning ordinance.

The Town of Clayton has actually had experience with both types of zoning control over the past 30 years. The town maintained its own zoning into the 1980s, then moved under county jurisdiction. There were strengths and weaknesses in both methods that today's town plan commission considered when the town board asked it to study the possibilities.

Remaining under county zoning allowed the town to

minimize its involvement in zoning policy; all rules and regulations were determined by the county and the town simply provided recommendations to the county board and its committees on its preferences.

The downside to that, of course, is a lack of local control. The town lives under the county's rules, whether or not they fit. That ultimately led to the town's plan commission recommending to the town board that Clayton move toward owning its own zoning process. Some of the reasons included:

- Local control. By creating its own zoning ordinance, Clayton maintained the flexibility to move in directions that are best for the town's future. The zoning ordinance is also directly linked to the town's comprehensive plan and other important elements such as farmland preservation.

- Lower "hassle factor." While Winnebago County has been an outstanding partner and resource in zoning issues, every zoning decision first had to go through town approval, then the county. That added hurdles for those asking for zoning decisions and had them running between town and county offices to get all the necessary approvals.

- Capability within town resources. As the town has moved toward full-time professional staff, it provided knowledge and talent within our own boundaries.

- One-way options. If Clayton opted to remain with county zoning, it would be locked into county control until the next rewrite of the zoning ordinance, which could be up to 20 years

away. With local zoning, there is always the option to return to county zoning if circumstances demand.

The county's new zoning code is a state-of-the-art model for the town to base its own zoning ordinance, but the town also shaped it to fit the town's own location and vision. It provided the opportunity to bring together other town ordinances, such as those governing commercial site plans, signs, and parking, into one comprehensive package that will make it easier to understand.

This new Town of Clayton zoning ordinance will provide the flexibility to lead town growth, while preserving areas that residents want to maintain as unique and important to the town.

-Dick Knapinski (Plan Commission Chair)

## Yard Waste Drop-Off Site

The Town of Clayton has a yard waste drop-off site located near the corner of Hickory and County Rd II. This location is open April 1 thru November 30. Hours are as follows:

Thursdays: 3-7 P.M.  
Saturdays: 8-4 P.M.  
Sundays: 12-4 P.M.  
(Except Holidays)

No hazardous waste or appliances will be accepted at the site.



## CONTROLLED BURN

### **BEFORE YOU BURN...CALL 920-727-2890**

By doing this, you have alerted Emergency Services that you have a planned burn.

#### Make Sure You Have the Following:

Someone attending the fire at all times.

Enough water to put the fire out.

Someone attending the fire UNTIL the fire is OUT!



## 2013 Clean Sweep Information

**DO NOT MIX** materials together.

- Household containers should be 5 gallons or less in size.
- Agricultural containers larger than 5 gallons should be identified when setting up your appointment.
- Bring materials in a cardboard box. Your containers must be left at the collection site.
- **Schedule an appointment by calling 920-832-5277 option # 3.**
- Identify if the material is from your home or from an active or abandoned farm.
- **Cash only** payment required for electronics recycling.



## ***Larsen-Winchester Sanitary District Note:*** **Warning! Flushing These Items Can Ruin Your Sewer System**



Many people don't realize how fragile a septic or sewer system can be. If you are a new owner of a business or a residence it's important to take good care of your septic or sewer system. A system that isn't working properly or needs to be replaced is more than just an irritation. It can end up costing you thousands of dollars in repairs!

You can also end up with more serious problems than a clogged drain or tub. Back-ups from the toilet can cause sewage odors and even force the raw sewage back into your home or building which can be a health hazard.

Save yourself the trouble with a couple of easy tips. You should always be careful about what goes into your toilet as it affects your septic system. Here are a couple of things that should never be flushed down the toilet.

**Do NOT FLUSH**  
**Do Not Flush**  
**DO NOT FLUSH**  
**Do Not Flush**

1. Wipes and heavy toilet paper. Many people don't realize that not all toilet paper is safe to be flushed down the toilet. A particularly old or over used septic tank can be more sensitive than others. Something like dyed, heavier toilet paper can even cause problems! To save you the headache use single ply white toilet paper at all times. Also, you should never toss any wipes down the toilet, not matter how they

are advertised these are not able to break down enough in your septic tank or sewer system.

2. Sanitary napkins and tampons. No matter if you are dealing with a residence or a business you should never allow people to throw their sanitary napkins or tampons down the toilet. They simply aren't able to break down and will cause major back-ups and clogs.

3. Hazardous chemicals. The toilet is never a place to get rid of hazardous chemicals. Those should be disposed of properly and that is not in your home. You can end up killing off the good bacteria you need to help break down waste and you will also be contaminating your soil and water.



## ***Clayton Park Rentals***

Are you in need of a venue to host your family reunion, wedding reception, birthday party, or otherwise? What better place than your friendly neighborhood park! Rental price includes use of the pavilion and kitchen, ball diamonds, playground area, and picnic tables. Dates in 2013 are filling up fast, so hurry in to make your reservation today! Fees are as follows:

Daily Park Rental: \$80 (required to secure your date)

Refundable Security Deposit: \$100 (required when you pick up keys prior to your reservation date)

Park Hours: 7 A.M. - 10 P.M.

Rental Applications can be found on our website or at the Town Hall.





## Town of Clayton Spring Word Search

K W P G G G O Q J W G K R B H F D M L C X T D V N  
 G C D K V N V Q C S Q N H Z H I K K V I J X S H U  
 Z E W R F S I S F F C E C L R U S Q L R Z K U P W  
 D B S M A F F T V F T Q S F T C J Z A D I E V J M  
 W W T M E I R P E O H R X P J A E X T B O N C T O  
 H D O D U N N V F E K M A L Z Q E B N Q M O Y R T  
 U W R A Y B O A D T M R Q I E G O Z E L S O D C M  
 C Y M D T T J E G S K A Q C L B Z S R V M I Q Z A  
 Q K I I R I R B O E L G T E X H Q H Z L N H W D Z  
 Y Z C A O D P U L E C G A N H V E K M A C K M I W  
 K G I K S Z X S T D R O H S U O F A N S S I H L O  
 S L P L R X V B E Z N H D E Q Q R C D B N O S I E  
 W H Z F O I C K C L A Y T O N F E S T I C P A C H  
 Z S U T T P U R A Q M G V W D L O O S W W A W N I  
 N D N N C Y L P P M R V K T Q S C T P B Y Q U O H  
 P A W E E I K A S O I K Q Z F B R S B H D Q O I F  
 W D E M L S T Y N C A H T I U A Y T B Q Q J I S V  
 G A A S E T A K E G H W M W T P M E U J R A W S U  
 R B T S B G X V E B C X F O N G M N O A H P Y I M  
 N S U E A G E B R J F N R W C I L Z U O E A J M H  
 S G U S R S S O G V Q J O B E I D U R D H C O M L  
 A B N S M U P W G N I T D V S F T X X E M F Q O L  
 G N T A B T R K G G G M U N I C I P A L I T Y C A  
 Z C F B A L L O T H U J L Q C X Z D B G A G N E H  
 N I F I G R D S Y P X Z W S I D Y O H Z Y A W R R

MUNICIPALITY  
 CLAYTONFEST  
 TOWN  
 HALL  
 MEETING  
 PLAN  
 COMMISSION  
 GREENSPACE  
 ELECTORS  
 BALLOT  
 DOG  
 LICENSE  
 ORDINANCE  
 STORM  
 WATER  
 DRAINAGE  
 ADMINISTRATOR  
 CHAIRMAN  
 WIOUWASH  
 TRAIL  
 TRAILHEAD  
 ASSESSMENT  
 TAXES  
 PARK  
 RENTAL

### Election Update

Thank you to all the Election Inspectors of 2012-2013!

The Town of Clayton has 28 dedicated and trained Election Inspectors. Approximately ½ of them had been newly hired last year for the normal 2-year cycle, as well as additional workers hired for the Presidential election.

They worked an unprecedented 5 elections in 2012, with high turnout for the Recall and Presidential elections. Additionally, we had building constraints due to the new construction of the Town office.

For the Presidential election, we had over 80% turnout of eligible voters and 85 new registrations. One young man turned 18 on Election Day and registered on site! We want to thank everyone who voted Absentee for the Presidential election, since space constraints were an issue. We started our beginning shift of Inspectors at 6:00 AM, with a replacement shift of workers arriving at 2:30 PM. We completed the process at 1:30 AM! VERY long day, but all the workers did an exceptional job and most volunteered to work a split shift to handle the Absentee ballots.

Lastly, the new Touchscreen voting machine was used by 25% of all voters in the recent Spring election. Thank you! It makes our job so much easier at the end of the day. We are attempting to add more machines in the next few years, budget permitting.

-Judy Quadracci (*Chief Election Inspector*)





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Fax: 920-836-2026  
E-mail: [tocderk@newrr.com](mailto:tocderk@newrr.com)



## How Can I Get Free Disposal of...

Pesticides   Herbicides   Rodent Baits  
Poisons   Lead & Oil Based Paints  
Solvents   Spray Paints   Dioxin  
Materials   Gasoline   Automotive Fluids  
Mercury   Toxic Cleaners  
Other Chemicals and Hazardous Wastes

**2013 Agriculture & Household Hazardous Waste  
Clean Sweep Program**

**April 19th, 9-11 AM, Clayton Public Works**



See Page 3 for additional information

## Wisconsin Plant Guidelines

- ♣ Do NOT eat any part of a plant you don't recognize as edible
- ♣ Do NOT chew on items made from imported beans or seeds
- ♣ Do NOT make teas or brews from plants you do not know
- ♣ Make sure children understand and follow these rules
- ♣ If a person needs medical care, take along a large sample of the plant in a brown paper bag. To help with identification, include the leaves, fruit, flowers, and any other parts
- ♣ Program the poison center phone number into your cell and home phones
- ♣ Remember that the poison center can be useful to rule out potentially toxic plants before they are purchased or

