TOWN OF CALEDONIA

WAUPACA COUNTY, WISCONSIN SPRING 2025

Upcoming Dates

- March 31: Dog licenses due
- April 1: Election
- April 8: Annual Meeting & Presentation of Gruetzmacher Park Plan
- April 19: Electronic Recycling Event
- June 15: MDR Lions Chicken BBQ



March 2025 Key Highlights

Town of Caledonia property taxes amongst the lowest in Waupaca County!
After the recent revaluation in 2024 and resulting property tax bills were sent, the Waupaca County Treasurer published the tax rates for all twenty two townships in Waupaca County. The Town of Caledonia property taxes are the third lowest of all twenty two townships in the County! Only the Towns of Dayton and Farmington had slightly lower tax rates. This was accomplished while making significant improvements to town roads, recreational opportunities and park improvements, and the town hall facilities. The Town Board has a strategy to make improvements to the town without increasing property taxes by seeking grants, donations, and applying for various State and Federal aids. The Town Board strives to improve our township while keeping taxes as low as possible.

More exciting broadband expansion news for Caledonia!
As we have announced in the past year, Charter Spectrum has installed high speed broadband fiber optic internet service in about one third of our township. This project should be completed in May of 2025, and many residents have already been hooked up. In February, Brightspeed approached the Town asking for our support to apply for a grant to install high speed fiber optic cable for those residents who are located in the Brightspeed service area. This will impact 282 residences in the southeast portion of the town and includes all three subdivisions and the area around Readfield. If we are successful in receiving this grant and adding it to the nearly completed Charter Spectrum project, nearly all Town of Caledonia residents will have high speed fiber optic internet service available! Brightspeed will offer speeds of 200 to 2000 mbps at a cost of $39 to $99 per month. The Town Board has worked hard over the past decade to get high speed internet service to every resident in the township and finally these efforts are paying off. (See page 3 for details)

Gruetzmacher Park development has begun!
A Town Board team has begun the process of creating the final design and engineering for Gruetzmacher Park. These plans will be presented to the DNR the first week of April, 2025, to obtain the final approvals before starting construction in May this year. This park will be an incredible asset for the residents of Caledonia and will be constructed with grant funding and donations and not tax dollars! A grant of $433,000 was received from the Knowles Stewardship Fund and the Ivan and Jeanette Gruetzmacher Family donated the land, a huge financial donation to build the park, and are creating a fund to pay for maintenance and future improvements forever. Construction will take two years. (See page 5 for details)

- Written by Chairperson Abba

www.TOWNOFCALEDONIA.com

Watch the town website for meetings and other important town news!

TOWN STAFF

Bill Abba
Chairperson
caledoniachairperson@gmail.com
(920) 667-4953

Pete Bosquez
Supervisor 1
caledoniasupervisor@gmail.com
(920) 538-2645

Vance Knuth
Supervisor 2
caledoniasupervisor2@gmail.com
(920) 205-9696

Natalie Snyder
Clerk | Treasurer
caledoniatownclerk@gmail.com
(920) 667-4773

Lee Robbert
Building Inspector
mlrobbert@centurytel.net
(920) 836-3681

Town Board Meetings
3rd Monday
of every month

Caledonia Community Center
E9181 State Road 96
Readfield, WI 54969

APRIL 1, 2025 ELECTION INFORMATION

The spring election will be held on Tuesday, April 1 at the Caledonia Community Center located at E9181 State Road 96, Readfield. Polls will be open from 7 am - 8 pm. Photo ID is required to vote.

Register online, request an absentee ballot, find your polling place, and see a sample ballot at:

myvote.wi.gov

Any qualified voter who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day is eligible to vote an absentee ballot. Request an absentee ballot or see a sample ballot at **myvote.wi.gov** or vote in-person absentee by contacting Clerk Snyder at caledoniatownclerk@gmail.com or (920) 667-4773. Requests for mailed ballots must be received by 5pm March 27.

In-person absentee voting hours will be held:
By appointment Monday - Friday, March 18 - March 28
Thursday, March 27 10am - noon

In person absentee voting is is available by appointment until Friday, March 28. Proof of identification must be provided before a ballot may be issued.

Hold for sample ballot

SIGNING UP FOR SPECTRUM INTERNET

Residents living in the new Spectrum broadband expansion area:

Cable installation should be completed by mid-April. Once installation is complete, all of the addresses included in their expansion area will be provided to the Sales Team. The Sales Team will follow up with each residence to see if hook up is desired. If you haven't received a call by the end of April, contact (833) 803-4242 or www.spectrum.com/cp/build.

Dale Fire and Rescue is looking for Fire and EMS volunteers to serve our community. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Deputy Chief/EMS Service Lead Bob Wilkins (920) 850-2691 or Fire Chief Chad Degal at (920) 213-5324

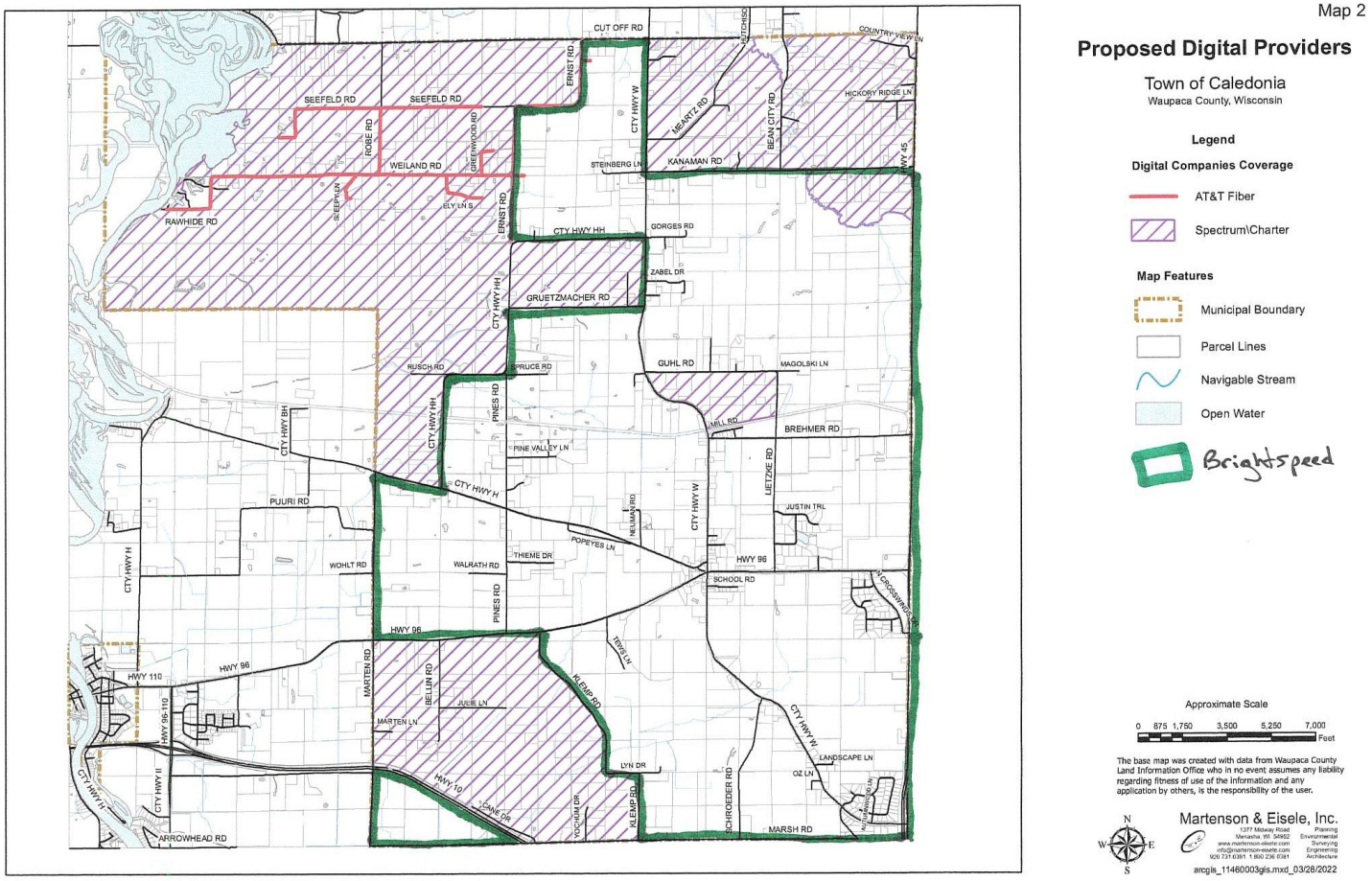
CURRENT BROADBAND EXPANSION PLAN

The Town of Caledonia Town Board has focused on expanding fiber optic broadband service to every residence and business in the township and this remains a top priority for 2025. In 2024, Charter/ Spectrum began expansion of broadband service in about one third of the township and plans to begin hooking up residences by April of 2025. This was a great start but much more needs to be done to provide this service to every residence in the township. We had worked hard to get Charter/ Spectrum to expand throughout the rest of the town and they had expressed interest in doing so. Unfortunately, recently they notified the Waupaca County Broadband Expansion Committee that they now do not plan to expand further in the County at this time. This was a great disappointment and has caused us to once again change plans to get this work done.

Recently, Brightspeed approached the Town and asked for our support to expand fiber optic cable service in their service area in Caledonia and the Town of Fremont. They plan to apply for a federal grant in February, 2025, and the work would be started in late 2025 but more likely early 2026, if the grant is approved. This development is very encouraging and the Town does plan to support Brightspeed in any way possible. Waupaca County plans to support them as well**. When the expansion area for Brightspeed is overlaid with the Charter/Spectrum coverage area, the entire Town of Caledonia will be covered with high speed fiber optic cable**. (see attached map). Brightspeed plans to offer speeds of 200 to 2000 mbps at a cost of $39 to $99 per month. This is a huge opportunity and the Town Board will do everything possible to make it happen.

- Written by Chairperson Abba

On the map below, the purple hashed areas show the areas in Caledonia covered by Spectrum. The area outlined in green is included in Brightspeed's proposed grant.





ANR PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION:
Minimizing Impact & Protecting Roads

ANR Pipeline construction will begin as soon as spring weight limits are lifted. This massive project will have significant impacts on our town, but the Town of Caledonia Town Board has been working closely with ANR since 2022 to ensure everything goes as smoothly as possible.

The project involves hundreds of trucks per day carrying oversized pipeline materials through our town. The roads most impacted are: US 96, Cty Hwy W, Cty Hwy HH, Brehmer, Ernst, Weiland, and Rawhide. Additionally, ANR Pipeline will be drilling under the river for an anticipated 37 days.

Though the Town Board has no direct control over pipeline projects, the board has been negotiating with ANR since 2022 with a primary focus on safeguarding our town's most valuable asset - our roads - and minimizing disruption as much as possible. The Town of Caledonia successfully negotiated with ANR to select specific haul routes, helping to protect our local infrastructure. Additionally, the board secured a commitment from ANR to compensate the town for any damage caused during the construction process.

To ensure our roads are restored as quickly as possible, road crews are already lined up to start repairs immediately after the pipeline work is completed in the Town of Caledonia. County Hwy W will also undergo road work following the completion of the project.

The Town Board's proactive leadership and collaboration with ANR are helping to protect our community, reduce disruptions, and maintain our infrastructure. If you have any concerns, please contact Supervisor Bosquez.

PROPOSED PAVILION AND FLOOR PLAN

GRUETZMACHER PARK CONSTRUCTION BEGINS SOON!

Excitement is building as final preparations are underway for the construction of Gruetzmacher Park in the Town of Caledonia. This 47-acre park will be situated on land generously donated by the Ivan and Jeanette Gruetzmacher Family, located along Bean City Road. Construction is slated to begin in late May 2025, with the initial phase of the project expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

The park will focus on "silent sports," such as walking, biking, playground activities, and other low-noise pursuits. In addition to recreational space, it will feature nature-based and environmental education opportunities. To ensure the project moves forward smoothly, the Town Board has formed a committee to finalize the designs, layouts, and engineering plans. These plans will be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for final approval in the first week of April.

The development of Gruetzmacher Park is a tremendous opportunity for the Town of Caledonia, as few townships boast facilities of this caliber. What makes this project truly remarkable is that Gruetzmacher Park will be built without any cost to local taxpayers. All funding for the park will come from grants and donations. The State of Wisconsin's Knowles Stewardship Fund has provided a grant of $433,000 to help bring the park to life. Additionally, the Ivan and Jeanette Gruetzmacher Family has not only donated the land but is also establishing a multi-million-dollar trust fund to provide between $50,000 and $100,000 annually for park maintenance and future improvements.

Thanks to these generous contributions, there will be no cost to Town residents for the land, the development of the park, or its ongoing upkeep. This project has truly exceeded all expectations!

We've included a few pictures showcasing some of the **proposed** park components to give you a glimpse of what's in store! These are conceptual plans and the plans will continue to evolve through the planning process. The proposed site plan below is the long-range plan for the park. Not all of the components will be completed in the next two years.

PROPOSED SITE PLAN:

DONATIONS & MEMORIALS

The success of this park project relies on donations as no tax dollars will be used. Contributions from businesses, groups, and individuals are greatly appreciated. You can donate or create a memorial using this form or by visiting the town website at

townofcaledonia.com/donations-memorials

DONOR INFORMATION:

Donated by:

_____

Address:

_____

_____

Phone & Email:

_____

DONATION DETAILS:

Donation Amount: $_____

Acknowledgement Preference:

___ In memory of ___ In Honor of ___ From

___ No acknowledgement

Name to Acknowledge:

_____

Direct your funds:

____ General Park Fund ____Disc Golf

____ Adult Fitness Equipment ____ Splash Pad

PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

Make checks payable to **Town of Caledonia**
Mail this form to:

PO Box 190, Readfield WI 54969

or drop it in the secure drop box in the front door of the Caledonia Community Center.

Thank you for your support!

GRUETZMACHER PARK

Thanks to generous donations, grants, and countless volunteer hours, Gruetzmacher Park is becoming a reality!

UPCOMING PROJECTS (2025-2026)

- Sledding Hill
- Playground
- Pavilion & Restrooms
- Pedestrian Trails
- Pickleball Courts
- Parking Areas
- Maintenance Garage

FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

- Adult Fitness Equipment
- Splash Pad
- Disc Golf Course
- Pump Track
- Half-Court Basketball
- Tennis Courts
- Park-Wide Landscaping Improvements

COMPLETED

- Wetland Restoration
- Prairie Planting

Thank you to the Gruetzmacher Family and everyone who has contributed towards making this park a valuable asset to our community!

The Caledonia Community Center and Readfield Park Shelter are great places to host family reunions, graduation parties, and other events!

The Community Center will comfortably fit 70 and features a full kitchen.

Readfield Park's shelter has electricity, serving tables, and picnic tables.

Rent them together or separately depending on your party needs!

Rental Process:

1. Use the event calendar on the town website to determine the availability of your date.
2. Review the rental rules and cost of facilities to determine what option you'd like for your event.
3. Print, fill out, and return the Rental Agreement along with required fees to the Town of Caledonia.
4. Your reservation is confirmed once the town website is updated with your rental information.





Fees:

Community Center Only - $100 & $50 security deposit

Park Shelter Only - $75 & $50 security deposit

Community Center AND Park Shelter:

$150 & $50 security deposit

NEW PIER IN THE TOWN OF CALEDONIA!

We're excited to announce that the **new pier in the Town of Caledonia** was completed in November! This project was **funded entirely by generous donations**—no tax dollars were used.

Not only does the pier provide a **great new recreational opportunity** for fishing, kayaking, and enjoying the water, but it also plays a vital role in **protecting the dry hydrant pipes beneath it** from damage.

Looking ahead, the turnaround area will be **striped this summer**. Please remember that **fire truck access to the dry hydrant takes priority over parking** to ensure the safety of our community.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this project a reality!



GARBAGE AND RECYCLING PICKUP SCHEDULE

- **Recycling** is collected **bi-weekly on Thursdays**
- **Garbage** is collected **every Thursday**

To ensure efficient pickup, please place your barrels **at least 4 feet apart**. For most households, positioning one barrel on each side of the driveway works best.

Be sure to **save the calendar on the next page** for a reminder of which Thursdays include both garbage and recycling collection.

NEW YARD WASTE OPPORTUNITY



Town of Caledonia residents now have access to the City of New London's yard waste debris site behind the Wastewater Treatment Plant off of Werner-Allen Road.

In order to access the yard waste debris site, you must purchase a key card and annual waste sticker from the City of New London Public Works Department. There is a one time payment of $5 for the access card and then $5 for the annual sticker. The key card and sticker can be purchased at the Municipal Service Building Public Works Department entrance (west side of the building). You will need to show proof of residency and provide the license plate number of the vehicle you'll use to haul the yard waste.

We're excited to partner with the City of New London to provide a yard waste solution!

BURNING PERMIT PROCESS

When you're planning to have a burn please follow these 2 steps:

1. Check with the DNR to see if you can burn (https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/forestfire/permits)
2. Call or text Fire Chief Degal at (920) 213-5324 when you start a fire and when it's done

Thank you for helping reduce the number of unnecessary fire department runs!

***** UPDATED: REPLACE PRIOR CALENDARS *****

TOWN OF CALEDONIA - 2025 CALENDAR

Jan

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

01 New Year's Day
03 Recycling & Garbage
09 Garbage
13 Plan Commission 5:30
16 Recycling & Garbage
20 Town Board Mtg 6pm
23 Garbage
30 Recycling & Garbage

Feb

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

06 Garbage
10 Plan Commission 5:30
13 Recycling & Garbage
17 Town Board Mtg 6pm
18 Primary, if needed
20 Garbage
27 Recycling & Garbage

Mar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

06 Garbage
10 Plan Commission 5:30
13 Recycling & Garbage
17 Town Board Mtg 6pm
20 Garbage
27 Recycling & Garbage

Apr

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

01 Election
03 Garbage
10 Recycling & Garbage
14 Plan Commission 5:30
17 Garbage
21 Town Board Mtg 6pm
24 Recycling & Garbage

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

01 Garbage
08 Recycling & Garbage
12 Plan Commission 5:30
15 Garbage
19 Town Board Mtg 6pm
22 Recycling & Garbage
26 Memorial Day
30 Garbage

Jun

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

05 Recycling & Garbage
09 Plan Commission 5:30
12 Garbage
15 MDR Lion's Chix BBQ
16 Town Board Mtg 6pm
19 Recycling & Garbage
26 Garbage

Jul

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

03 Recycling & Garbage
04 Independence Day
10 Garbage
14 Plan Commission 5:30
17 Recycling & Garbage
21 Town Board Mtg 6pm
24 Garbage
31 Recycling & Garbage

Aug

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

07 Garbage
11 Plan Commission 5:30
14 Recycling & Garbage
18 Town Board Mtg 6pm
21 Garbage
28 Recycling & Garbage

Sep

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

01 Labor Day
05 Garbage
08 Plan Commission 5:30
11 Recycling & Garbage
13 Caledonia Fest
15 Town Board Mtg 6pm
18 Garbage
25 Recycling & Garbage

Oct

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

02 Garbage
09 Recycling & Garbage
13 Plan Commission 5:30
16 Garbage
20 Town Board Mtg 6pm
23 Recycling & Garbage
30 Garbage

Nov

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

06 Recycling & Garbage
10 Plan Commission 5:30
11 Veterans Day
13 Garbage
17 Town Board Mtg 6pm
20 Recycling & Garbage
27 Thanksgiving Day
28 Garbage

Dec

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

04 Recycling & Garbage
08 Plan Commission 5:30
11 Garbage
15 Town Board Mtg 6pm
18 Recycling & Garbage
25 Christmas
26 Garbage

WWW.TOWNOFCALEDONIA.COM



DOG LICENSES & ANIMAL CONTROL UPDATE

Pet Owners, let's talk about your responsibility to keep your pets safe and secure on your home and property. Wisconsin State law in (Chapter 174) states that in the case of dogs, they must be vaccinated for RABIES after 5 months old and to be kept current on that vaccine. It also states you as a dog owner need to license your dog and keep it current by renewing you dog license every year before March 31st. You might say, well my dog is an inside dog and only goes outside to do his or her thing. Well, that is when most dogs take off. Be it a hole in a fence, chasing deer or what have you, they are gone. I, as your Town Supervisor/Animal Control Officer, have two live traps that we can lend to you. There is a $35 deposit on their use and then if returned to us undamaged you will get that deposit back. We also purchased a microchip reader that can identify the owner of a dog or cat that has a microchip implanted in them. I have been doing this job for close to twenty years and dogs and cats getting away from their owners is increasing to several times a month.

Let me walk you through a typical scenario. I get a call, most of the time it is in the evening and the animal has been gone for many hours or some homeowner has a dog or cat in their garage that is a stray. In that case I would try to identify the animal, be it having a license, a RABIES tag or even a tag with owners' information on it or a microchip. If I can't determine the owner, then I take it to the Waupaca Humane Society and have it impounded there. If some how you find your dog is there (on their Facebook site), it's going to cost you our pickup fee of $50, the Human Society's impound fees and any daily boarding fees and if you can't prove your animal (dogs or cat) is vaccinated for RABIES, you will pay that also before you get your animal back. If it is determined that your dog isn't licensed, you will incur a late fee from us.

Waupaca Humane Society (715-258-2545) offers a monthly microchip clinic, and the cost is $25 and that includes registering it with one of the national registries. Your veterinarian could do this also. You could also put your phone number on the back of the animal's license, rabies tag or other tag. If I can identify your animal I will bring it back to you, you still will owe the Town the $50 pick up fee, but that is a lot cheaper, if dog isn't current on their license you will have to take care of that also.

One last thing, you can't get a license for your dog without prove of up-to-date RABIES vaccine. It is inevitable that your dog or cat gets out and is bitten or scratched by a wild animal that has rabies. Look it up, I think of only one person that has survived late stages of RABIES, and she was from southwestern Wisconsin. I believe she was playing with a bat. In closing, there are 900 residential homes in the Town and yet we only get owners to license about 140 dogs each year and many have multiple dogs. LOVE YOUR DOGS AND CATS, GET THEM VACCINATED AND HAVE THEM HAVE SOME FORM OF IDENIFICATION ATTACHED TO THEM. BE RESPONSIBLE.

- Written by Supervisor, Vance Knuth (920) 205-9696

Dog License Information:

Complete the Caledonia Dog License Application on the website or available in the mailbox outside the Caledonia Community Center and submit completed application, current rabies vaccination certificate, and appropriate fee along with a self addressed stamped envelope to the town treasurer at PO Box 190, Readfield WI 54969 or put it in the drop box on the front door of the community center building. Dog license applications are due by March 31 annually.

Fee: $5 for spayed/neutered dogs or $10 for non-spayed/neutered dogs. A current rabies vaccination certificate must also be submitted.

Kennel licenses ($60) are needed if you have 4 or more dogs.

SUBSCRIBE TO TOWN UPDATES

Stay informed on current town news and events by subscribing on the website!

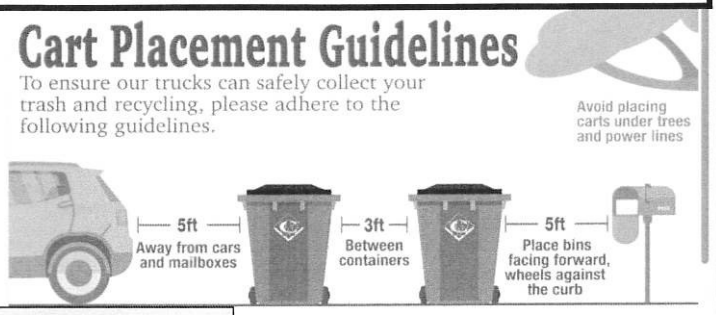
https://townofcaledonia.com/subscribe/

GARBAGE & RECYCLING

Recycling is picked up BI-WEEKLY on Thursdays

Garbage is picked up weekly on Thursdays

* Carts must be 3' apart





Got some old not in use electronics collecting dust? Why not give them a new life!

TOWN OF CALEDONIA
and
COM2 RECYCLING SOLUTIONS

FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

The Town of Caledonia and COM2 Recycling Solutions are hosting a **FREE** Electronic recycling event on **Saturday, April 19th, 2025, from 9AM to 12PM at Caledonia Community Center, E9181 State Road 96, Readfield.**

COM2 will be accepting computers, laptops, printers, keyboards, mice, fax machine, phones, T.Vs, tablets, gaming consoles, DVD players, VCRs, microwaves and much more!

Any Hazardous materials (batteries, paint or medical waste) Freon containing items (refrigerators, air conditions) or, radioactive materials will not be accepted.

9AM- 12PM

Save the date **19** April 2025



Before you Build

Before you start, **call the Waupaca County Planning and Zoning office** at 715-258-6255 to find out if a permit is required.

Building Permits are required in the Town of Caledonia. Call the building inspector at (920) 836-3681.

CHICKEN BBQ

Sponsored by Medina-Dale-Readfield Lions Club

Sunday, June 15

Save the date

CALEDONIA FEST

September 13

Car Show, Craft Booths, Food, and Music!

Sponsored by Medina-Dale-Readfield Lions Club

Town of Caledonia
P.O. Box 190
Readfield, WI 54969

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Local
Postal Customer

2025 TOWN BOARD PRIORITIES

The Town of Caledonia Town Board works hard to ensure the community thrives! In 2025, the Board is focused on delivering key projects that will have a lasting impact on the quality of life for residents. Here's a look at some of the priority initiatives the board is focusing on this year:

- **ANR Pipeline Project & Road Repair.** The ANR Pipeline project will begin soon, bringing significant truck traffic through our town. While this may cause temporary disruptions, the board has worked diligently to minimize the impact. Once the pipeline work is completed, road repairs will begin immediately to address any damage caused. For additional details, see page 4.
- **Gruetzmacher Park Development: A New Community Hub:** Exciting things are happening at Gruetzmacher Park on Bean City Rd! Thanks to the generosity of donors and successful grant efforts, development of this 47-acre park is officially underway! Once completed, the park will be a hub for outdoor recreation in our community featuring an expansive trail system, playground, pickleball courts, a pavilion, and even a sledding hill. The Town Board is proud of our community's partnerships making this dream a reality. Learn more on pages 4-5.
- **Broadband Expansion: Connecting Every Home:** Reliable, high-speed internet access is essential for our community and the Board remains committed to ensuring that broadband is available at every household in Caledonia. Progress on this initiative continues to move forward! Learn more on page 3.
- **Deciding future property assessment strategies:** As part of the board's commitment to effective governance, the Town Board is reviewing the future of the Assessor role and how property revaluations are handled to ensure assessments remain fair, accurate, and equitable.