



TOWN OF BROOKLYN

Annual Newsletter - December 2025

Drinking Water Testing: March 2, 2026



Municipalities (public water suppliers) are required by State regulations to test the water they provide to citizens. Rural residents own their own well so they only know if their water is safe if they have had it tested.

Reserve a test kit TODAY by signing up: <https://forms.gle/ZtsEsgftmLpMLipg6> or use the QR code to the left. (To use the QR code: Turn on your smart phone's camera app and hover over the "picture" — a link will pop up; click on it.)

You must register with this form by February 6, 2026, to get reminders of the program. The Town will coordinate sample bottle pick up and payment the last week of February. On Monday, March 2nd, 2026, all participants will sample their water and return the bottles to the Town Hall. At the end of April there will be a free educational program where participants can learn about groundwater and how to interpret their test results. Any questions? Contact Tonya Gratz, Green County LWCD at 608-325-4195 ext. 121.

Town Chair Report

Green County was preliminarily awarded funding to support the expansion of fixed wireless and low-earth orbit (LEO) satellite internet services for underserved and unserved areas — including the Town of Brooklyn. The award is subject to final review and approval by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Once approved, additional details will be shared. Check out the Town's website for current internet options available to you.

A huge shout-out to everyone who contributed to the update of our Comprehensive Plan — our blueprint for guiding the future growth and development of our community. Special thanks to the Southwest Regional Planning Commission, Carolyn Peckham, Phil Molina, the Planning Committee, and the focus groups for invaluable support and feedback. This effort took months of hard work, with countless hours reviewing, reading, and discussing the plan to ensure it reflects our shared vision for the future. Your commitment in shaping a better tomorrow for our community is much appreciated! The plan is available on the Town's website under "News & Notices" > 2025 Town of Brooklyn Comprehensive Plan.

— *Kathy Pennington, Town Chair*

ATTENTION: New Email Addresses for all Town Board Members

All Town Board members now have a .gov email address as listed below.

Previous gmail addresses will no longer be used after Feb 1, 2026. The clerk's email address has been .gov for awhile, and is listed below for convenience:



- Kathy Pennington: chair@townofbrooklynwi.gov
- Jeff McNeely: supervisor1@townofbrooklynwi.gov
- Joel Schriever: supervisor2@townofbrooklynwi.gov
- Patty Binger: treasurer@townofbrooklynwi.gov
- Chris Gallagher: clerk@townofbrooklynwi.gov

Recycling Center: Far Less than a Waste Management Company

The Town of Brooklyn's Recycling Center continues to be a cost-effective and environmentally-friendly alternative for residents to recycle paper, glass, plastic, and metal (this is a free service), while allowing for trash disposal at a cost of \$4.00/bag. This price has not increased in three years despite inflation and rising costs in the recycling and waste disposal sector. In addition, disposal of larger items (used appliances, mattresses, carpet, and other items) can be arranged at a reasonable cost, likely less than other disposal alternatives. All of these services are available to Town of Brooklyn residents. The cost is far less than contracting with a waste management company. Support your Recycling Center, located at N8790 Benson Road. Visit the website for details: www.townofbrooklyn.org/recycling-rules-costs-and-best-practices/

— *Dan Reid, Recycling Committee Chair*

Road Report: Maintenance Update

Each year the Town sets a goal of resurfacing roughly one mile of roadway. In 2024, the entire length of Trow Road between CTYC and Brooklyn-Albany Road was completely replaced. The project involved grinding the existing pavement, re-grading the base, and laying fresh asphalt. A small grant from the State of Wisconsin helped fund the work. The Board and Highway Committee continue to pursue grant opportunities whenever they arise. Sealcoating was performed on Elmer Road and the Town Hall parking lot, extending the life of those surfaces.

Two large box culverts — one on King Road and another on Legler Road — were replaced. Both structures were in poor shape and replacement was indicated. The Town plans to resurface King Road (between CTYE and Smith Road) and Legler Road in the next few years. Final decisions on the 2026 road work will be made after the annual road tour inspection in April 2026.

— Hans Herweijer, Highway Committee Chair



Planning Commission: The Future is Bright in the Town of Brooklyn!

Throughout 2025, your Plan Commission has been working on updating Brooklyn's Comprehensive Plan. This document provides guidance to all governing bodies (including Green County) for decision making that impacts our town. After a lot of hard work, we are pleased to report that the proposed plan has been adopted. Thank you to the Plan Commission members and to all of you who provided input!

For 2026, the Plan Commission will be reviewing Brooklyn's ordinance related to land divisions, among other important topics. Additionally, our long-time chair, Jim Kramer, will be retiring in April from his role after 35 years at the helm. Jim has been instrumental in the Town staying true to our vision from both his leadership as well as through his administration. If you haven't seen it, you should see his truly infallible index card system!

You are always welcome to attend any Plan Commission meeting, which occur the second Monday of each month at 7pm at the Town Hall.

— Phil Molina, Plan Commission Vice Chair

Brooklyn Fire & EMS Update

In 2025, advanced-level emergency medical technicians have staffed 92% of the Brooklyn Fire and EMS ambulance runs. The EMS service received state approval to operate at that level whenever staff with AEMT training are on duty. More staff have completed the 180 hours of additional training, allowing more patients to be cared for with the additional medical protocols available.

The district replaced the ambulance this year. The new ambulance is slightly larger than the old one and is red rather than the blue one you are used to seeing. The new unit was funded in part by a grant. The balance was paid for by savings gradually gained from budget savings. No additional tax dollars were needed.

The EMS service is primarily funded by property taxes. The Town of Brooklyn's share for the EMS budget for 2026 will be \$6.18 per month per town resident. The Fire Division costs approximately \$6.39 per month per person. These figures are after receipts from ambulance transport fees and some state training grants. Small portions of the town are also served by agencies from Evansville, Albany, and Belleville. Brooklyn Fire and EMS serves about 3,500 people in the village and four surrounding towns. Volunteers are always welcome. Contact Chief Mason Barber at 608-455-3812.

— John Marx, Town Representative to the Brooklyn Fire District Commission

Did you know... ?

- WI Stat. 174.05 requires owners to annually license a dog older than 5 months. More details: www.townofbrooklyn.org/forms-permits/
- The Green County Treasurer's office collects Real Estate taxes for the Town of Brooklyn. You may mail your payment or stop by the Green County Courthouse during business hours.
- Do not push snow across the road and make sure to keep the right-of-way clear of any items.
- Ensure your mailbox is properly secure. If your mailbox gets hit by the Town's snowplow, the Town has a policy in place to pay a one-time \$25 reimbursement for a new mailbox. Your box must be physically damaged by the plow, not merely by snow wash. If this happens, please take a photo of the hit box and email it to: clerk@townofbrooklynwi.gov
- Rent the Town Hall for indoor events. There is a full kitchen, two bathrooms, tables, and chairs for your use. The maximum capacity is 100. Residents get a discount on rental fee. Application and costs: www.townofbrooklyn.org/forms-permits/

— Kathy Pennington, Town Chair