

Town of Scott, Brown County, Wisconsin

NEWSLETTER *Fall 2023*

Leave Your Leaves

Fall leaves provide beautiful color on trees, but in local waters they contribute to algae blooms. Leaves are leading contributor of phosphorus in our waters.

Properly cleaning up your yard in the fall will help keep our local waters clean too! Working together to keep leaves out of the storm drain and out of local waters will help keep green on the land and out of the water.

Keep your leaves on your property

A great way to make sure leaves do not end up in local waters is to keep them on your property.

Mulch leaves in place by making several passes over the leaves with a mulching mower. This will keep leaves on your lawn and provide it with nutrients it needs for healthy grass next spring.

Collect mulched leaves and spread them in garden beds or under shrubs. Leaves provide valuable protection for plants through the winter and provide nutrients for spring growth.



Composting

Composting is a way to recycle residential “greens” (grass clippings, landscape pruning’s, plant residues, etc.) and turn them into a rich soil, known as compost – a valuable resource for your garden or houseplant.

Cold Composting:

Requires little maintenance but can take up to 2 years to complete. To create a cold compost: pile and mix non-woody yard wastes and let them sit.

Hot Composting:

Requires regular maintenance such as turning and watering, but can create compost in typically 1-3 months’ time. To create a hot compost pile: mix equal amounts of high

nitrogen “greens” and high-carbon “browns” (dry and woody materials such as dead leaves) with 10% bulky materials such as wood chips. The mix should remain moist but not wet and should be turned often.

Raking & Collection

Remember: The Town does not provide curb side pick-up for leaves or yard waste.

All leaves and yard waste should have been taken to the Town’s Yard Waste Facility already. The yard has closed for the season.

Yard waste Facility Hours

The Facility will be available for Christmas Tree drop off
December 26 – January 7.

Plan Ahead for Winter & Spring

Leaves do not belong in the ditch

Leaving leaves in the ditch causes ditches to plug up in the spring. Make sure to clear your ditch of leaves and grass clippings before it snows.

The Town does not provide curb side pickup, so DO NOT rake your leaves across the street into the ditch either, all ditches and drainage ways are serving an important purpose for the Town.

Clear the catch basins.

If you have a catch basin in front of your house keep it cleaned off. As winter wares on many catch basins and stormwater inlets are covered in snow or frozen over, prohibiting the stormwater

from getting to them and draining away.

Never fill in a ditch.

Whether a road ditch or a ditch along your lot line. It serves an important purpose. It allows surface water to drain away from streets, homes, and allows fields to dry. Filling of ditches often leads to flooding issues up stream. If your ditch has already been filled, consider re-opening and re-establishing the drainage way.

Never plow your snow across the street.

Plowing across the street can cause obstructions for the snow plow drivers, it often

plugs the drainage courses and its illegal! Your snow stays in your yard.

Stakes and Markers in the Right-of-Way

The side of the road needs to stay clear of obstructions so the snow plows drivers can do their jobs. They do their best to clear all roads of snow, which means the snow needs to go off the shoulders of the road, or over the curbs.

Please keep all stakes and markers out of the right-of-way; the area next to the pavement needs to stay clear for snow storage and to allow the roads to dry and allow for safe travel.



~ Town Updates ~

Trash Collection

The Town has recently let out bids for trash and recycling services. GFL once again won the bid and will continue to be providing service to the Town. Garbage and recycling pick-up will continue town-wide on Fridays; except if there is a holiday during the week; then pick up will occur on Saturday. Due to inflation and the rising cost of providing this service

the new rate for pick-up will be \$215 annually. This charge will continue to be collected with the real estate taxes.

Road Projects

Road repairs and improvements are often determined after winter; depending on how hard the winter was on the roads. Major road projects are planned in advance; depending on condition and budget constraints.

For 2024 the major road project planned will be the repaving of Caledonia Drive. Other repairs will be determined at a later date.

Attention Dog Owners

The Town has been receiving numerous complaints about dog owners not picking up after their pets. If you are a dog owner it is your responsibility to pick-up after them; whether on public or private land, parks, or town ditches.

~ SMU Updates ~

Sewer Rates.

Sewage treatment by the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District (GBMSD), also known as NEW Water, accounts for 50% of SMU's operating costs in 2023. GBMSD has embarked on a capital replacement program that will likely increase their costs to us by 5-7% per year for each of the next ten years. Our local operating costs are also rising due to inflation and system upgrades. SMU will be able to use reserves to cover the increased costs for 2024. Future SMU rates will depend upon operating conditions and future GBMSD rate increases.

Water Rates.

SMU must replace two Pressure Reducing Valves (PRV's), one in 2024 and one in 2025. Each PRV will cost approximately \$250,000. These valves are the major components in maintaining constant pressure in the water delivery system, including to your home and business. In addition, significant progress has been made in locating and eliminating system leaks.

All the water distributed by SMU comes from the Green Bay Water Utility (GBWU). GBWU has informed SMU that they are filing a 5-6% wholesale rate increase for 2024 request with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW). SMU has filed a rate increase request with

the PSCW to cover the above costs. We anticipate that rates may increase 18-23% for 2024. Any approved increase will appear on the March 2024 billing statement.

Stormwater Rates.

SMU replaced a significant number of culverts during 2023 to prepare for expected road improvements in the Town of Scott. SMU also undertook significant ditch cleaning and maintenance work to keep stormwater, including rain and snow melt runoff, moving freely. The ditch cleaning also helped reduce the amount of debris reaching the bay of Green Bay. Again, existing funds will cover these costs for 2024. No rate change will be made in 2024.

Utility Billing

When paying your Utility Bill, SMU can take payments by check, cash, and No Fee Automatic Payment (ACH).

SMU also accepts debit & credit cards (with a 2.65% service fee).

In-person drop off.

The Town of Scott has a locked drop off box for your convenience, if you wish to pay a bill during the day or after hours. The drop box is located to the right of the front door to the Town Hall.

(it's a red, round-topped mail box with a Town of Scott Logo).

Automatic Electronic Bill Payments

If you are interested in Automatic Payment (ACH) please contact the Town Hall for an authorization form or see the Town's website for a form.

With Automatic Payments the utility bill payments will be taken directly out of a checking or savings account on approximately the 25th day of each quarter (January, April, July and October).

Other Electronic Bill Payments

Credit/Debit card can be used to make payments for:

- ~ Water/Sewer bills
- ~ Building Permits
- ~ Bartender/Operator License
- ~ Dog Licenses.

Go to:

www.townofscottbrownwi.gov

~ Under "Services": select:

"Bill Pay/Night Drop off"

~ For Utility Payments Use 'Pay Location Code' (PLC): **a002ht**

For all other payments use 'Pay Location Code' (PLC): **a002hs**

The Town will also e-mail utility bills, upon request. Please call the Town Hall if you need assistance.

~ SMU Call Numbers ~

Billing questions call the
Town Hall: (920) 406-9380

Sewer or Water problems call:
(920) 660-5030 or (920) 615-7171



Town of Scott
2621 Jody Drive
New Franken, WI
54229

Don't be a TURKEY!



Learn how you can #LoveYourPipes during the holidays:
www.newwater.us/FOG



NEW Water
The brand of the Green Bay
Metropolitan Sewerage District

*Don't pour **Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG)** down the drain!*
These materials can harden and can cause clogged pipes and backups in your home.

Don't let a clog ruin your Thanksgiving!