

# Town of Stockton

7252 6th Street, Custer 54423

Phone: 715-592-4712

Website: [www.TownofStockton.com](http://www.TownofStockton.com)

Email: [Stockton@wi-net.com](mailto:Stockton@wi-net.com)

Chairman Mike Bronk 715-592-4850  
Supervisor Jeanne Dodge 715-592-4153  
Supervisor Jerry Piesik 715-592-4366  
**Stockton Fire Dept. 715-592-3473**

Treasurer Sandra Walters 715-592-4712  
Clerk Lauri Novotny 715-592-4712  
Road Foreman Jeff Herman 715-592-4420  
**EMERGENCY: 911**



## Spring 2016 Newsletter



### Dates to Remember

**April 1<sup>st</sup>** – 2015 dog licenses expired on December 31. The grace period for renewing/obtaining a 2016 dog license expires on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Owners are subject to a \$5 per dog late fee by WI Statute.

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** – Election Day! Ballots include Local School Board Positions, District 21 & 22 County Supervisors as well as Presidential Preference. Town of Stockton residents are encouraged to vote at the Town Hall. Polls are open from 7:00 am – 8:00 pm. Photo ID is required.

**April 6<sup>th</sup>** - Public Informational Meeting regarding the Farmland Preservation Program for Stockton landowners to be held at the Town of Stockton Town Hall at 6:30 pm.

**April 19<sup>th</sup>** - Annual Town Meeting at the Town of Stockton Town Hall beginning at 7:00 pm.

**May 7<sup>th</sup>** - Spring Clean Up for Town of Stockton residents from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm.

**June 16<sup>th</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup>** - 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) Energy Fair



### Town Board Meetings

The Town of Stockton Board meets the second and fourth Mondays of the each month at 6:30 pm.

### Plan Commission Meetings

The Town of Stockton Plan Commission meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

### Fire Department Meetings

The Town of Stockton Fire Department members meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

### Important Meeting regarding the new Farmland Preservation

#### Program

**April 6, 2016**

**6:30 PM**

#### Stockton Town Hall

Portage County Planning and Zoning will be having a Town of Stockton public information meeting regarding the Farmland Preservation Program for Stockton landowners. The following Portage County representatives will be conducting the informational meeting. Steve Bradley, Portage County Conservationist Ken Schroeder, Portage County Agriculture Agent Dan Bowers, Assistant Director of Portage County Planning and Zoning.

Chapter 91 of the Wisconsin State Statutes (FARMLAND PRESERVATION) includes a requirement for all Counties to adopt a "Farmland Preservation Plan" (FPP). As many of you are aware, Portage County adopted its first FPP back in 1985, and has not updated it since. In 2009, the State Legislature revised Chapter 91 under what they called the "Working Lands Initiative" (WLI). As a result of the revisions, each County in the State is required to adopt an updated FPP. The WLI essentially overhauled the Farmland Preservation Program. In simple terms, the State is looking to accomplish several basic things: have Counties identify how and why agriculture is important to them, identify what policies the Counties will adopt to support and promote agricultural development and identify areas of the County (through mapping) that are particularly important to agriculture. This third piece will help identify where landowners could be eligible to be included in the State tax credit program for agriculture.

We look forward to seeing anyone interested in learning more about the Farmland Preservation Program.



## Town of Stockton Park Update

The Grand Opening of the Town of Stockton Park which is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. The nine-hole disk golf course and a one mile walking trail, including park benches to rest along the way, should be ready for your enjoyment. There are two barbecue grills and picnic benches available to allow families to cook out while enjoying the park environment. Playground equipment should be available for the kids plus there are many acres of grass to play outdoor games, too! The parking lot will be paved this spring also.

We're still in need of volunteers to help make the Grand Opening Event occur in the time frame we're anticipating. If you're available to help, please call our Town Clerk, Lauri Novotny, at (715) 592-4712. Please provide your name, phone number and/or email address. We'll contact you once we have a group of volunteers ready to tackle the next project!

## Spotlight on your Elected Officials

**Mike Bronk** has been on the Stockton Town Board since 2005, and Town Chairman since 2007. Mike grew up on a dairy farm in Stockton, and is proud to live where he was raised. He is a small business owner in Stevens Point. He and his wife, Toni, have three children – Amanda, Keith and Kyle. Mike's interests outside of local politics include spending time with his family and working on antique cars as well as farm equipment.

**Jeanne Dodge** was born and raised in the Town of Stockton. After attending numerous Town Board Meetings throughout the 1980's and early 90's and serving on the Portage County Solid Waste Board, she was appointed to the Town Board in 1996. In 1997, she was duly elected Supervisor and has served nine terms since then. She is proud to have had a role in design and construction of our new buildings, establishment of the Stockton Fire Department, building an efficient and well-equipped Road Department and now expanding our park facility. Jeanne is married to Jim and has two grown children.

**Jerry Piesik** was also born and raised in the Town of Stockton. He married a local girl, Darlene Singer, and together they've raised three boys. Jerry and Darlene are the owners of Jerry's Small Engine Supply Co which has been in business for 42 years. Jerry's been on the Town Board since 2007 and is always willing to have constituents stop by Jerry's to talk to him about Town issues. Jerry feels the most important job as one of the Town Supervisors is to look out for the Town as a whole, not for his own benefit or the benefit of one individual.

**Sandra Walters** has been a Town of Stockton resident for 18 years; originally from the north side of Stevens Point. She is married to Pat and has a dog and a cat. Sandra has an Associate's Degree in Accounting from Mid-State Technical College as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Lakeland College. In addition to being Town Treasurer since 2008, she works full time as a Staff Accountant for Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Concierge where she is responsible for doing payroll for close to 600 employees in 20 different states. In her spare time, she likes to socialize with friends, cook, fish and walk for exercise.

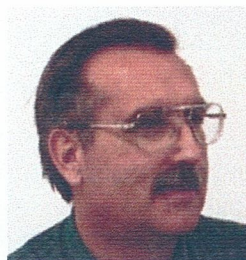
**Lauri Novotny** has lived in the Town of Stockton for 17 years; originally growing up in Plover. She and her husband, Keith, have been foster parents for a number of years and have worked with many children and families. Lauri has an Associate's Degree in Business Management from Mid-State Technical College. She enjoys spending time with family and friends as well as her two dogs, baking, traveling and participating in recreational activities such as four wheeling and snowmobiling. She joined the Town of Stockton "family" last summer as the Town Clerk.



Mike Bronk, Chairman



Jeanne Dodge, Supervisor



Jerry Piesik, Supervisor



Sandra Walters, Treasurer



Lauri Novotny, Clerk





**CHRISTOPHER P. KLUCK  
FIRE CHIEF**

March 8, 2016

Spring Fire Season

It's that time of year again in the Township of Stockton, warm temperatures, snow melting and that urge to go and attack your spring yard work.

Many homeowners find that they have the urge to complete clean up around their homes and take care of the long awaited spring projects. Many also feel that this is the time to "burn" away many of their long awaited tasks. The spring fire season for the fire service becomes one of the busiest times of the year in fighting wildland fires within the communities.

Some questions you need to consider before you light that match:

1. Do you know what you can burn?
2. Do you have a burning permit?
3. Have you check what the burning conditions are for the day?
4. Do you have adequate water supply to stop a fire if it gets away from you?
5. Do you know that you will be charged for all of the responding fire equipment if your fire "gets away" from you?
6. Do you know that you can be fined for unauthorized burning?

Our friends at the Wisconsin DNR have instituted a number of new programs to help homeowners get the right information in regards to the questions above. Everything from what can be burned to securing a yearlong burning permit (yes, even getting a permit on-line) and provide the ability to check on weather conditions or fire danger for each day of burning within your county. These helpful items can be found at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/permits.html> and <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/restrictions.html>. Play it safe and get a permit and know what to burn and the weather conditions before you decide to burn.

Allowed items to burn:

- Brush
- Leaves
- Needles
- Grass
- Clean wood (unpainted/untreated)
- Unrecyclable paper
- Unrecyclable cardboard

Prohibited items to burn:

- Garbage
- Plastics
- Shingles
- Foam
- Furniture
- Wire
- Metal
- Aluminum
- Vinyl products
- Rubber products
- Oil-based products



CHRISTOPHER P. KLUCK  
FIRE CHIEF

Homeowners are not alone with their "burning" desire to take care of those spring projects. Many businesses and business owners also get that desire when spring arrives, but I want to inform all businesses that the rules are very different when it comes to burning on your business properties, and if you are considering to burn that old shed or rubbish pile the consequences and cost to your company can reach into the thousands of dollars to resolve.

Before you consider burning at your business, please visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/openburning/facts.html> and learn from the Wisconsin DNR about the burning restrictions on business.

Wisconsin businesses, industry and municipalities generally need an approved incinerator to burn waste materials (and it must be for energy recovery), are prohibited from doing any open burning - with one exception:

business, industry or municipality may burn clean wood waste or brush after obtaining a license from the Waste and Materials Management Program to operate as a "wood burning facility" according to NR 502.11, Wis. Adm. Code.

The administrative rules of the Air Management and Waste & Materials Management Programs prohibit **anyone** from burning any of the following materials under any conditions:

- garbage;
- carpet;
- electronics;
- foam;
- furniture;
- metal;
- oily substances, such as oily or greasy rags, oil filters, etc.;
- painted/stained/treated wood;
- plastics of any kind, including plastic bottles and plastic bags;
- shingles and tar paper;
- tires and other rubber products;
- vinyl (i.e., siding);
- wire;
- structures of any kind (homes, barns, sheds, etc.); and
- agricultural plastics/plastic film.

With the requirements to pay for the DNR and local firefighting costs, fines and the possibility of paying to dig up and haul away contaminated media from your burn site to a licensed waste disposal facility, why would you risk burning at your business property in the first place?

If anyone has any questions about the burning laws or how to find out more information, please contact your local DNR fire warden or visit the Wisconsin DNR website.

Have a safe and happy spring!

Sincerely Your Fire Chief,

Chris Kluck



## **\*Town of Stockton Road Maintenance & Safety\***

During the course of the year, our Stockton Road Crew works to maintain trees and brush in the road right-of-way. We are proud of our rural character but also need to keep the safety of Emergency & other vehicles as well as others enjoying the road way in mind, too.

In addition, the Town Board would like to remind you that it is unlawful to plow, cultivate or otherwise work any land within the road right-of-way. We also recommend that farmers do not enter onto the road to turn equipment on the blacktop as this action damages the road surface. Violation can result in fines and cost of restoring the ditch or highway (or both) to their former condition. Refer to WI Statute 86.021.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**How can I join the EMS or Stockton Fire Department?** The Stockton EMS and Fire Departments would love to hear from you if you're interested in joining their team! For inquiries about joining the Fire Dept., please contact them directly by calling 715-592-3473. For EMS inquiries, please contact the Town Clerk for more information.

**When do I need a Building Permit?** A Building Permit is required for any additions, alterations or remodeling of a dwelling or any part attached to, or less than 5 feet from a dwelling. Exempt: Minor repairs, door & window replacement of the same size units or reroofing where no structural alterations are involved, replacement of furnace or water heater provided the venting and fuel type remain the same and detached accessory structures more than 5 feet from the dwelling. Call our Building Inspector, Mike Bembenek, at (715) 570-8378 if you have additional questions. A Portage County Zoning Permit, (715) 346-1334, is required for all new structures and all additions that increase the footprint or volume of the structure.

**How can I Adopt-A-Road?** Talk it over with your club, friends, family, etc. and pick a leader from your group, then contact to the Town Clerk (715-592-4712) and confirm that the road you would like to adopt is available. Volunteers younger than 18 years need the parent signed consent before participating. The clerk will supply you with an application and a Consent/Release agreement for each volunteer to sign. The Town will supply you with clean-up supplies that include a safety vest, gloves, trash bags and safety signs. The Town will supply a sign with the group name or acronym to be displayed on the assigned area.

**Where do I call if I have questions about my garbage and/or recycling pick-up?** The Town of Stockton contracts with Advanced Disposal to provide weekly garbage and bi-weekly recycling services. You can reach them by calling 1-888-271-7176.

**How and where do I obtain a burning permit?** Burning Permits are required once ground is no longer completely snow covered. Call 1-888-WISBURN or get your annual permit at [www.dnr.wi.gov/wisburn](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/wisburn). The Town of Stockton Clerk, Lauri Novotny, is also able to issue burning permits.

**I've never voted before, what do I need to do in order to vote in an upcoming election?** First, you need to be an established resident for 28 days prior to the election you wish to vote in. Then, you'll need to register to vote. You may do so by going online to <https://MyWisVote.Wi.Gov> or by contacting the Town Clerk. A Wisconsin Voter Registration Application is required. Keep in mind that Wisconsin Statutes require that voters provide a valid document establishing their proof of residence as part of the voter registration application.

**I plan to build a new home and need to obtain a driveway permit. How do I obtain one?** Driveway permits are available for new, altered, or improved driveways which adjoin Stockton roads. Permits are required before any work can be done. Applications can be obtained at the Town Hall Clerk's Office or on our website (<http://www.TownofStockton.com>). Permits for driveways adjoining County or State roads need to be obtained from Portage County Highway Department. Their phone number is (715) 345-5230.

**Where can I find out more information about the Town Meetings or other Town news?** You can visit our Town website anytime by going to: <http://TownofStockton.com> You'll find information regarding Permits & Licenses, previous copies of Town newsletters, Notices & Events, Ordinances, Parks & Recreation as well as information about Property Taxes and Historical Information and more! The website is updated as frequently as possible.

**Town of Stockton**  
7252 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Custer, WI 54423

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
CUSTER WI 54423  
PERMIT NO. 2

## **Annual Spring Clean Up - Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 8 am until 2 pm**

Annual Spring Clean Up will take place at the Town Garage, 7252 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Custer.  
The event is **open to Stockton residents only** (proof of residence required).  
There is a limit of two loads per household.

**Items Accepted:** The Town will accept and dispose of used motor oil, furniture, mattresses, carpets; lawn mowers and small motors (oil & gas drained), electronics, recyclables, flattened cardboard and containers, certain major appliances, and paint dried in the container.

**Items Not Accepted:** Yard waste, concrete, roofing materials, rocks and electronics not listed below. We also will not accept household garbage. This should be placed in your garbage cart for regular curbside pick up.

**Fees (Subject to Change):**

**FREE** - Computers, printers, mice and keyboards, cables, chargers, stereos, VCR and/or DVD players

**\$15 each** - Small TVs 27" & under, computer monitors, and microwaves

**\$30 to \$40 each** – Consoles and TVs over 27"

**\$25 each** - Freezers, refrigerators, air conditioners, and dehumidifiers

**Tires** - \$3 each per car tire, \$10 each per truck, or \$30 each per tractor tire

**Your may also call the Town Garage at (715) 592-4420 to make arrangements to drop off your motor oil ALL YEAR LONG.**

**If you have yard waste to dispose,** call Zblewski Bros. LLC in Plover (715) 341-5350. Fees are \$5 to \$25 per load and are subject to change. There is currently no charge for brush and wood.

**For special disposal needs year round,** call the Portage County Transfer Facility, located in Plover, at (715) 343-6297 or Best Buy (715) 344-0566.