

The Town Crier

The Trenton Township Newsletter

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AUGUST 2006



LESSONS LEARNED FROM KATRINA By John Norman, Editor

The disaster that resulted from the effects of Hurricane Katrina now has every level of government investigating their own emergency plans and for good reason. Back in 2003, the Federal government established a nationwide approach for Federal, State, local and tribal governments to work together effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents regardless of cause, size or complexity. A series of requirements were established under the designation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The State of Wisconsin adopted NIMS as its standard for incident management back in December of 2004, recommending that all local governments accept the established guidelines for compliance. With the "fallout" from Katrina and every level of government attempting to shift blame for

their lack of preparedness, NIMS has taken on a new level of acceptance, since in order to apply for Federal grant funds the branch of State and local government affected must comply with the NIMS requirements.

It is not an easy task as there is a great deal of preparation and study required to pass the numerous courses that are required by the various units of government. Basically, NIMS is a program that establishes the chain of command to regulate manpower, equipment, shelter, transportation and other needs for a disaster of any type, whether acts of nature such as tornadoes, ice and snowstorms or some form of terrorism. One of the responsibilities I have with the Town

is the position of Emergency Management Director, where I developed the Town's emergency plan with input from the Town Board. So in order to be in compliance with NIMS our Public Works supervisor, Police Chief and Fire Department as well as myself, must complete a series of incident command courses through FEMA. The first level of response to a disaster will be assessed and handled locally; however, we will also rely on mutual assistance programs with other municipalities as well as the County to insure an adequate level of protection.

Fortunately, Washington County is well advanced in its preparation for most types of incidents that could occur from the more common forms of weather-related problems as well as the specter of terrorism and pandemic health problems. Recently the Town Board and

Plan Commission met with members of the County Health Department and Emergency Management and we were amazed at the depth of the planning. Every contingency appeared to be covered from shelter, collection points for residents, for transportation to locations for mass inoculations and other medical needs. Even the flow of people through the inoculation facility was outlined with graphs and diagrams. Hopefully these well-developed plans will never be needed, but it is reassuring to know such measures have been developed for the benefit and safety of our residents. So through the tragedy of Katrina, communities across this Nation have had a well-needed "wakeup call" toward preparedness for that unforeseen disaster that may be lurking in the future. We have enclosed in this issue important safety information. Please take time to read it.

Emergency!

TOWN PLANNING DAY

Mark your calendars! The Town of Trenton Board welcomes the public to the Town Planning Day. Your input and opinions on the future of Trenton – its growth, development and Town priorities are very important to us. Please stop in between 4:00 and 8:00 P.M. Thursday, September 21st to work with your Town Supervisors, Planning Board members, representatives from the Washington County Planning and Parks

Mark Your Calendars!

Department, and the SE Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission as we start to update our current Land Use Plan.

These teams will be facilitating interactive work stations that include Comprehensive Planning-Inventory and Survey Results, Mapping Future Land Use, Community Goals, with a Development

Preference Slideshow and Building a Vision for the Future of Trenton. Your contribution is extremely important to the future of the Town of Trenton. We need and would appreciate your participation. Please join us at the Town Hall on Highway 33 for this unique opportunity, September 21 from 4:00-8:00 P.M. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

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SHELTER IN PLACE—ARE YOU PREPARED?

Devastating events such as industrial accidents, motor vehicle accidents, or railroad car derailments can release dangerous chemicals into the air so quickly that there is insufficient time for evacuation. In some cases an evacuation would actually place more people in danger. During such events it is necessary to understand how to "Shelter in Place."

If you are told to "Shelter in Place," immediately go inside your home (if you are away from your home, go inside the nearest structure) and do the following:

- ➔ Do not attempt to get your children from their school or day care center. Trained teachers and caregivers will protect your children by instituting shelter in place procedures.
- ➔ Close windows and doors. Shut off all air conditioners, window fans or other equipment with air

For more information, go to:

www.co.washington.wi.us








Click on All County Depts., Health Department, Disaster/Terrorism Preparedness

- intakes. If you have a fire-place, close the damper.
- ➔ Protect food and utensils by covering or placing inside the refrigerator.
- ➔ Keep water and emergency supplies with you.
- ➔ Keep all pets indoors with you.
- ➔ Go to an above ground room with few doors and windows. A bathroom or a bedroom with an attached bathroom is a good choice so that you have water and toilet facilities available. Avoid the basement because chemical fumes often settle into low places.
- ➔ Seal all doors, windows, and vent covers with plastic sheeting and tape if available. Cover cracks under doors with damp towels.

- ➔ Keep your TV or radio on and tuned into a local station broadcasting emergency information.
- ➔ Do not use the telephone except for an extreme emergency as this will tie up the phone lines needed for emergencies.
- ➔ Do not leave your home (or the structure) until you are told it is safe to do so.
- ➔ If you are in an automobile, roll the windows up, close all vents, turn off the fan, and drive away from the area immediately.

Shelter in Place Kit

A simple kit can be assembled relatively inexpensively with the following items:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roll of plastic sheeting | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Battery-operated radio, with extra batteries  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blankets or sleeping bags | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First-aid supplies  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bottled water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Windup or battery-powered clock  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duct tape  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bath towels to seal door openings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flashlights, with extra batteries  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanitary hand wipes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snack food | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infant care items  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scissors  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other special care items |

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chief Peter J. Waldkirch

Another Newburg Picnic has come and gone. I want












to thank each and every one of you that volunteered to help the firemen out to make this one of the best picnics ever. From the parade to the good food and the refreshments, everything was great. All the up-beat comments I received, it couldn't have been better. A heart-filled "THANK YOU" to everyone that helped us out or supported us in any way.

I'd like to touch on another subject. On June 15, 2006, at 5:00 P.M. the Fire Department received a call of a house fire on Salisbury Street in the village of Newburg. As

we left the fire station, we lay down a large diameter hose from Main Street to the house that was on fire, thus blocking Division Street. Before we could get a police officer there or park one of our Fire trucks to block off the road, about six cars and trucks drove over the fire hose. Driving over any fire hose can weaken the hose, causing the hose to burst at a critical time when it is needed, possibly putting the firemen in harm's way. Another reason not to drive over a fire hose: it is AGAINST THE LAW. According to State Statute 346.91 the fine would be \$168.00 and two points. Is it worth it???

WEB ADDRESS CHANGE

Have you seen the Town's website lately? Visit www.townoftrenton.info for:

-  Contact information
-  Meeting Minutes
-  Past Newsletters
-  Police Department Info
-  Wallace Lake Sanitary District Information
-  Building & Zoning forms
-  Dog license forms
-  Athletics information
-  Town Ordinances (coming soon!)

Please contact our webmaster, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Komro with any comments or suggestions.

Reminder: Town Planning

Thurs, Sept 21
4:00-8:00 P.M.
Trenton Town Hall

Refreshments Provided
Come help build a vision for the Town's future!

(see details on page 1)

ELECTION NEWS

Fall 2006 will bring a busy election season for voters. We have been working hard to comply with the new requirements of the State Voter Registration System – SVRS – implemented by the state following the federal government’s adoption of the “Help America Vote Act” (HAVA).



The Fall Primary Election date is scheduled for September 12, 2006. The General Election is November 7, 2006. All Town residents vote at the Town Hall,

1071 STH 33 East, West Bend, WI 53095.

Voter registration is required. If you are currently registered to vote, you do not need to re-register. Not registered? You can register in person on the day of an election. You will need to bring identification showing a Town of Trenton street address. A Wisconsin driver’s license is preferred, but a current utility bill in your name plus a second form of ID is also allowed.

As the election draws nearer, additional information will be available at www.townoftrenton.info.

TREASURER TIDBITS

It’s almost that time of year again – property tax payments will be due. Town of Trenton property owners will now have the option to pay online using a credit card or an electronic check. Payments are processed through Official Payments Corp. Official Payments Corp. charges a convenience fee of 2.75% of the credit card payment and a flat fee of \$2.75 for an electronic check. These fees are paid directly to Official Payments Corp. – the Town of Trenton does not receive any portion of

these fees. More information on these options will be on the instruction page that is mailed with your property taxes in December.

All property tax information is now available on the Washington County website. Go to www.townoftrenton.info and click on “Resources” for the county link. If you have any questions concerning your property taxes please contact



Monica Diaz – Treasurer at 262-675-6721.

Slow Down!

PLEASE respect the construction workers: **SLOW DOWN** your vehicle when you see the orange “**WORKERS WORKING**” signs. **BE SAFE!**

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Joseph T. Gabrish, Chief of Police



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency 911
 Police Voice Mail 689-0661
 Washington County Dispatch 335-1141

PARKING

There is no overnight parking on any roadway in the Town of Trenton. Parking during the day should be on the shoulder and for no more than 2 hours. There is no parking on the roadway during any snow event so that the plows and salters can have full access to the roadway. If you’re planning an event and need to park cars on the road please call the police voice mail and let us know.

BURNING

You may not burn any noxious material in the Town of Trenton. Burning should be limited to small camp fire type events. You may have a controlled burn for brush etc that is not toxic. You are responsible for all burn events, including the cost of the fire department response if it becomes necessary. If you are having a controlled burn, please leave us a voice mail message. Be courteous to your neighbors.

NOISE

The Town of Trenton has a new noise ordinance, which is based on a decibel level at a certain distance. Most people desire peace and quiet in their neighborhoods. Please limit the use of loud noise making vehicles, devices etc, and be kind to your neighbors.

DEER SHINING

You may not shine for deer FROM A VEHICLE ON A ROADWAY, in the Town of Trenton. This ordinance has been in effect for a few years now. The reason this was enacted was to stop shining into people’s homes at night.

GARBAGE

On windy days please make sure that your garbage is in a secure bag or can. Place heavy items on top of lighter ones in your recycling bin. Let’s all help keep Trenton BEAUTIFUL!

STAFF CHANGES

Officer David Borgwordt resigned from the department in May of this year after four years of service. Officer Travis Thompson recently joined the police department. Best wishes to both.

WEATHER WATCH



An important piece of safety equipment that should be in every home is a Weather Radio that can be set to the National Weather Bureau’s automatic emergency broadcast frequency. It can be activated when you have concerns of possible adverse weather conditions or left on in standby mode. In the event of a tornado or weather alert, it will emit a signal, then broadcast the warning and basic information concerning the type of threat and its location. The use of tornado alert sirens has been found to be less effective in recent years with better sound-proofing of homes and the noise from air conditioners and other home equipment masking the siren’s sound if the home is any distance from the source of the signal. The current recommendation is for every home to obtain a weather radio for the protection of their families. It is cheap insurance!!

DIRECTORY: TRENTON TOWN OFFICIALS

CHAIRPERSON:

Joseph C. Gonnering 6380 Timber Court 675-2681
West Bend, WI 53095

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING ADMINSTRATOR:

Frank Mayer 8700 Boltonville Road 692-9280
Kewaskum, WI 53040

SUPERVISORS:

John R. Norman 531 Paradise Dr 675-2479
West Bend, WI 53095

WEED CONTROL:

Ed Doerr 303 Washington Drive 675-6925
West Bend, WI 53095

Ed Doerr 303 Washington Dr 675-6925
West Bend, WI 53095

WALLACE LAKE SANITARY DISTRICT:

Judy Mastenbrook P.O. Box 31 338-6934
West Bend, WI 53095

CLERK:

Barbara J. Davies 4926 Birchwood Trail 675-2389
West Bend, WI 53095

Michael Grota N89 W16790 Appleton Ave. 253-1142
Grota Appraisals Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

TREASURER:

Monica Diaz West Bend, WI 53095 675-6721

DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER:

Cindy Komro 6375 Pleasant Hill Dr 675-6518
West Bend, WI 53095

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| Town Hall Phone.....262-675-6009 | Town Hall Yard Hours.....2 nd Saturday of each month |
| Town Website..... www.townoftrenton.info | 8:00 AM to Noon |
| Town Clerk Hours, Barbara Davies.....Friday 9:00 AM-1:00 PM | <u>Accepting: Brush, Waste Oil, Batteries and Metal Goods</u> |
| Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Hours, Frank Mayer..... | <i>Other large items can be taken to Onyx on North River</i> |
| ...Monday 8:00-11:00 AM, Thursday 3:00-6:00 PM, Friday 2:00-5:00 PM | <i>Road in West Bend. The disposal charge is based on the</i> |
| Police Department Non-Emergency Voice Mail Number.....689-0661 | <i>weight of the items dumped, with a \$20.00 minimum.</i> |
| EMERGENCY.....911 | <i>Onyx will not accept building materials such as lumber and</i> |
| | <i>drywall as they do not decompose in a landfill.</i> |

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