



I am honored to serve our residents in the Town of Washington as we continue to work together to move our town forward.

Some accomplishments for 2021 include the following:

We enacted an Adult Entertainment Ordinance

We have relaxed some of the rules at our Transfer station. We are allowing 2 vehicles at a time to enter inside and outside. We are sorry for the inconvenience at times, but we will always put the safety and health of our residents first during this pandemic.

As part of the CWPP, our brush site remains extremely popular with Town residents. With the storms this year we had large amounts of brush brought to the site.

Our town roads are notably some of the finest in the county. To keep them that way, we've repaved a number of them this year including South Military Rd.

The new Fire Station located on Rangeline Rd. is now OPEN and staffed. The Eagle River Fire Department is looking for additional personnel to staff both stations. Please consider reaching out to the Fire Department to offer your services to help protect our community.

We welcomed Nancy Sobraliski who is our new Deputy Clerk, to the Town. Michele Sanborn is retiring next April 2022 and Nancy will be appointed Town Clerk. Michele has done an outstanding job for the Town over the years.

We had several storms this year and I want to compliment our town crew on their amazing work ethic to get the roads cleaned up quickly so we may all travel safely. Please thank them when you see them.

We have partnered with Northwoods Connect, SonicNet and Spectrum to expand internet in the Town. These will be 2022 projects and beyond.

Please remember to check on your neighbors, especially the elderly and disabled during storms and winter. Remember to also make sure your pets are safe.

Your input is valued and we look forward to hearing from you. Please try and attend our town board meetings or let us know if you would like something added to our meeting agenda. You can reach out to any board member. Their contact info can be found on our website at town-of-washington.org

On behalf of your Town Board, Carole, Art, Katie, Michele, Nancy and myself along your your Town Crew, Paul, Kevin, Terry, and Davey we hope you embrace 2022 with an open heart and go forward with faith, hope, and courage.

Jim Egan
Town Chairperson

Did you know we send a monthly electronic newsletter?

Sign up on the Home page of our website

town-of-washington.org



NEW FACES ON THE TOWN BOARD

Art Granat was elected Town Supervisor at the April 2021 election.

Art moved from Illinois to the Town of Washington in 2007. He is married and has five adult children.

He began his working career as a volunteer firefighter for 8 years. He further developed his career as a full time firefighter for the Orland Fire Protection District in Illinois for 30 years, achieving the rank of Deputy Chief.



Art has been an asset to our community through his service as a volunteer firefighter for the Eagle River Area Fire Department for the past 14 years. He continues in that position, bringing an abundance of skill and proficiency.

Art's hobbies include woodworking and fishing.

At the July 2021 meeting of the town board, Nancy Sobraliski was appointed Deputy Town Clerk.

Nancy is a new resident in the Town of Washington.

Nancy brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the town. She has a strong background in business and management. She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and Master of Science, Quality and Leadership Development degree from Marian University. Nancy has worked in the corporate world and in governmental services.



Nancy has been training with our town clerk Michele Sanborn. Michele will be retiring at the end of April 2022. At that time, Nancy will be appointed to fill the elected position of Town Clerk for the remainder of the term ending in April 2023. Nancy intends to seek election as Town Clerk in 2023.

TRANSFER STATION UPDATE

Overall, things have been running smoothly at the transfer station. Davey is our only transfer station attendant. During the busy summer months, there was a second attendant. This will continue next year.

Since we began checking transfer station permits upon entry, there has been a significant decrease in garbage tonnage. In 2020, tonnage was down approximately 77 tons. It is similar in 2021.

People without a permit continue to try and use the transfer station. In order to ensure only town residents are using the facility, we will continue to check permits EACH TIME you visit. You'll be turned away without your permit. Photos of your permit are not acceptable.

No permit, no admittance, no exceptions. Please take care not to lose your permit. Replacement permits are subject to a \$40 replacement fee. Contact Katie Hayes, Town Treasurer, at katie.townofwashington@gmail.com for a replacement permit.

The following procedures are in place at the transfer station:

- 2 vehicles are allowed in both the drive-through and side entrance

- Backing up is prohibited for safety reasons
- You may not walk your garbage or recyclables in
- Please be mindful of those waiting in line. Empty your garbage quickly and limit conversation

The metal dumpster, located outside the drive-thru, is for metal only. No water heaters, lawn mowers, lawn tractors, appliances etc. All items must be placed inside the metal dumpster, not left beside or behind the dumpster.

Ashes can be deposited in the ash container located outside the drive-thru area. Please ensure the ashes are completely extinguished and no longer warm before placing them in the container.

No carcasses of any kind are allowed at the transfer station. You may bring carcasses to the Highway G Landfill located at 7001 Hwy G, Eagle River. Please call ahead as carcasses need to be buried. 715-479-2938.

Please consult the attendant or any board member if you are uncertain whether an item can be brought to the transfer station.

KUDOS TO OUR ROAD CREW

With several major storms this year, our road crew went above and beyond in clearing our roads and keeping them in great condition throughout the year.

The two major storms this summer really put the crew to the test. They rose to the challenge. The night of July 26th was especially grueling. EVERY road in our town had tree debris. We have nearly 73 miles of town roads. After the storm passed, they got on the job about 11 PM and worked straight through for 16 hours until the roads were at least passable.

For weeks they continued clearing the brush off the roads and right of way. In fact, they hauled 29 dumptruck loads of storm-caused debris to the brush site!

Special thanks to Paul, Terry, and Kevin for a job well done. Next time you see them, give 'em a big thumbs up!



Storm debris on E. Cranberry Lk Road

HELP WANTED FOR ADOPT A ROAD

Due to unforeseen circumstances, our Adopt-a-Road coordinator was unable to continue in that capacity. Therefore, the program is on hold until we have a volunteer to fill that position.



This is an important, and much-needed, program for our town. We have all the necessary materials and are ready to re-institute Adopt-a-Road as soon as we have someone to coordinate the program.

Please consider volunteering for this important position. We will provide training and ongoing assistance.

If you would like more information about the program, contact Carole at carole.townofwashington@gmail.com or by phone at 715-479-6873.

ER CHAIN BUOYS



Weather permitting, buoys will be placed on the Eagle River Chain the week after fishing opener, which is the first Saturday in May. They will be removed the week after Cranberry Fest, during the week of October 3, 2022.

KEEPING OUR ROADS IN TOP-NOTCH SHAPE

Notably, the Town of Washington roads are some of the finest in the county. We're focused on maintaining and improving them.

This year, South Military Road was completely reconstructed from the Oneida/Vilas County line to Hwy 70. This project was done in cooperation with the United States Forest Service and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

In November, Hazelnut Lane, nearly one-half mile long, was blacktopped.

Shangri La Road, from Rangeline Road east to the end of the road, will receive an overlay in 2022.

One mile of E. Anvil Lake Rd will be reconditioned in 2022.



HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS WERE SPENT IN 2021

ROADS	\$612,000
FIRE COMMISSION	\$110,000
AMBULANCE SERVICE	\$83,000
TRANSFER STATION	\$74,000
OLSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY	\$32,000
AIRPORT COMMISSION	\$28,000
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT	\$3,646
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$147,000



We have just completed the fifth year of our Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Our grant application for 2022 has been written and submitted.

Projects included in the 2022 grant are:

- Brush site - contractor chipping of the brush pile and hauling chips away
- Spring CWPP newsletter
- Smokey Bear fire danger sign updates
- Home ignition zone assessments for Finger Lake residents
- Roadside chipping offered to Finger Lake residents
- Roadside chipping offered to Anvil Lake residents as part of special storm fuels reduction funding

If fully funded, these projects will total \$14,300, the maximum funding possible. In 2022, additional funding for reduction of storm fuels is available for which we have applied.

All previous CWPP projects have been fully funded by the WDNR. During the first five years of the program we have received \$32,238.90 in funding. There has been NO cost to the town.

The cornerstone of the program is the brush site. It's loved by our residents. If you've been there and have seen the size of the brush pile, you know this year was its busiest ever!

Wood chips are available to take, as is compost from the compost bins.

The brush site is located on the same parcel as the town gravel pit. Sand is present at the gravel pit. Please DO NOT take sand.

The brush site typically opens in May depending on weather conditions and closes November 1st. Opening date will be posted on the town website. Open hours are every Friday at 4PM till Monday at 6AM.

The brush site regulations are found within this newsletter. It is your responsibility to know and follow the regulations.

BROADBAND EXPANSION

Three internet service providers, SonicNet, Spectrum, and Northwoods Connect will be expanding broadband services in our town during 2022.

SonicNet has been awarded a \$350,000 grant to install a fiber network around Bass Lake and off-shooting roads such as E Cranberry Lake Rd and Snowshoe Ln.

SonicNet, in partnership with the Town of Washington, applied for the American Rescue Plan Act broadband grant, which is managed by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.

SonicNet will use a hybrid wireless/fiber solution to provide fiber-to-the-premise service to each home or business along the fiber path.

SonicNet is planning for a spring 2022 start on the project, which will take from six months to one year to complete.

Questions about the project can be directed to Lori Collins at 715-303-3104 or lori@sonicnet.us.

Spectrum will be installing fiberoptic cable in the right of way on numerous roads on the east side of town during 2022. This is part of a 6-year project with probable expansion to other areas within the town.

Northwoods Connect service areas have not been determined yet.



Do You HAVE RENTAL PROPERTY?

Act 59 defines a short-term rental as a residential dwelling that is offered for rent for a fee and offered for fewer than 29 consecutive days. Please see Act 59 for complete information.

If you would like to rent your home under Act 59, there are several steps that must be taken prior to your first rental.

It is recommended you verify permitted use with the Vilas County Zoning Department.

You must contact the Vilas County Health Department to schedule a home visit.

You must register with the State of Wisconsin Department of Revenue to obtain a sellers permit number for remitting state and county sales tax (5.5%).

You must register with the Town of Washington and obtain an Accommodations Tax Permit.

You are required to collect room tax in the amount of 4.5%. The Accommodations Tax Return is remitted to the town Treasurer on a quarterly basis.

If your rental property is handled through Airbnb, VRBO or a similar rental clearing house, you still need to register with the Town of Washington and file a quarterly accommodations return with the town. Failure to do so could result in fines and penalties.

Contact Katie Hayes at katie.townofwashington@gmail.com for more information or visit our website, Community tab, Rental Property.



Stolen

This year we have had a significant uptick in the number of town street signs that have been stolen. Some signs have been stolen multiple times.

If you see suspicious activity, please notify the Vilas County Sheriff.

To report a stolen street sign please contact Paul, town foreman, at 715-891-4833 or leave a message at the town shop, 715-477-2024.

EAGLE RIVER AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Construction of Eagle River Area Fire Department Station #2 is complete and it's open for business. Now that there is a fully operational fire station in our town, you may wish to contact your insurance carrier as it could result in lower homeowners insurance premiums.



The ERAFD is actively recruiting volunteer firefighters. If you are a firefighter, please consider volunteering for this much-needed service.

If you're not a firefighter you can still volunteer as training will be provided!

Contact Michael Anderson, Fire Chief, at manderson@eagleriverareafire.com for more information or to volunteer.

If there are items you would like placed on the agenda for either the annual or the regular monthly meetings, please let any board member know!



HELPFUL TAX INFORMATION

- When paying taxes by mail indicate your telephone number on the check. This will ensure payment is properly applied. It also ensures we have a way to contact you if necessary.
- Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your payment if you would like a receipt. Receipts cannot be mailed without the self-addressed, stamped envelope.
- Postmark governs the payment date.
- Mail payments to 2145 Pinewood Dr, Eagle River, WI 54521
- Payment by credit card is available (for a fee) for the 2021-2022 tax season. Details are available on our town website Taxes page.
- Tax payments for the *exact amount only* may be made in person at the Nicolet National Bank located at 400 E Wall St.
- Visit the Vilas County website at webtax.vilascountywi.gov for payment amount, tax receipt, or copy of your tax bill.
- 2021 tax payments are posted on the Vilas County Treasurer's website and updated weekly.
- Pay taxes with a personal check, cashier's check or money order payable to the Town of Washington.
- Personal property taxes are due in full by January 31, 2022.
- Real estate taxes are due as follows:
 - Full payment or first installment by January 31, 2022 to the Town of Washington Treasurer.
 - Second installment due by July 31, 2022 to the Vilas County Treasurer
- Each year we receive escrow checks in excess of tax due. The town policy regarding these payments is we will refund checks at our next regularly scheduled meeting. The Treasurer cannot endorse an escrow check and return it to the taxpayer. Escrow checks must be used for the payment of taxes only.
- If your mailing address is incorrect, send a signed address change request along with your tax payment.

ARE YOU A DOG OWNER?

Without a current dog license, it would be difficult to identify the owner of a lost dog. As a result, your pet may end up at the Vilas County Animal Shelter.

Licensing your dog is the LAW. Wisconsin State Law requires dogs five (5) months of age or older to be licensed annually. The license year is January 1 through December 31. The license fee is \$5.00 for a neutered or spayed dog, and \$10 for an unneutered or unspayed dog. A late fee of \$5.00 is due after April 1.

A copy of your dog's current rabies vaccination MUST be included with a separate check made payable to the Town of Washington for the Dog License fee. A stamped, self-addressed envelope is required for receipt and tags. Mail to Katie Hayes, 2145 Pinewood Dr., Eagle River, WI 54521.



For questions please contact Katie Hayes, Town of Washington Treasurer at 715-477-2745.

DRIVEWAY AND FIRE NUMBERS

Prior to construction of any new driveway you MUST complete a driveway permit application.



To obtain a fire number complete a fire number application.

Both the fire number application and driveway permit application can be found on the Forms and Permits page of our website.

For more info contact Nancy Sobraliski, Deputy Town Clerk, at 715-479-8886.

PLACING SNOW ON ROADS IS A No-No

Snow blowing or shoveling snow back into the road is not legal per Wisconsin statute 346.94(5) which states "No person shall place or cause to be placed upon a highway any foreign substance which is or may be injurious to any vehicle or part thereof."

You may not plow snow onto roads, right of way, or your neighbor's property!



TOWN CONTACT INFO

Jim Egan	Town Chairperson	715-479-2074
Art Granat	Town Supervisor	715-891-2683
Carole Linn	Town Supervisor	715-479-6873
Michele Sanborn	Town Clerk	715-479-8886
Nancy Sobraliski	Deputy Town Clerk	715-479-8886

Katie Hayes	Treasurer	715-477-2745
Town Shop		715-477-2024
Paul Chlapecka	Town Foreman	715-891-4833
Hoffman Appraisal	Town Assessor	715-536-6236
Melissa McDonald	Animal Control	715-617-1979



2022 Transfer Station & Brush Site Regulations

Transfer Station Summer Schedule

May 1 thru October 3
Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday
8 AM till 12 Noon

Transfer Station Winter Schedule

October 4 thru April 30
Friday, Saturday and Sunday
8 AM till 12 Noon

TRANSFER STATION REGULATIONS

- Permit must be shown each time. Photo of permit is NOT ACCEPTABLE.
- Transfer station permits are numbered. This number is ASSIGNED TO YOU! If you lend or give your permit to others not entitled to use the Town of Washington Transfer Station you risk confiscation of your permit along with loss of your transfer station privileges.
- If your permit is confiscated for misuse, you will not be issued another.
- The issuance of replacement permits will be limited. Contact Town Treasurer for replacement.
- LOST OR MISPLACED PERMITS ARE SUBJECT TO A \$40 REPLACEMENT FEE.
- Open bed trucks and trailers used to haul garbage or recyclables MUST have loads covered in transit.
- 2 vehicles allowed in drive-thru and side entrance, backing up is prohibited, and walking garbage or recyclables in is not allowed
- These rules and regulations may be subject to change at any time.
- **The Transfer Station will be closed on Easter and Christmas Day 2022.**

Some items NOT accepted at the Transfer Station are listed below. If uncertain, check with attendant.

Junk automobiles & trucks	Engine blocks & transmissions	Tires	Rear ends
Computers, printers & monitors	Snowmobiles/PWC's/ATV's	Lawn clippings, leaves	Appliances
Mattresses	Furniture	Pine needles	Concrete
Animal carcasses & hides	Drywall	Demolition materials	Windows
Electronics of any kind	Asbestos	Doors	Waste chemicals
Propane containers & bottles	Toilets	Drain oils	Televisions
Appliance compressors	Carpet	Water heaters	Transformers
Wood	Roof shingles	Cardboard drums	Hazardous waste

BRUSH SITE REGULATIONS

- Brush site opening/closing dates will be posted on the town website at town-of-washington.org
- This is a service to our residents and NO contractor dumping is permitted. If you hire a contractor, they must dispose of brush at their customary disposal site, NOT the town brush site.
- You can bring grass clippings, leaves, pine needles, sawdust, branches, brush, limbs, logs or any type of clean wood. NO STUMPS.
- Tree limbs/trunks/logs can be no larger than 12 inches in diameter and no longer than 8 feet in length.
- NO painted or varnished wood, concrete, stones or brick, plastic, metal, or nails are allowed.
- NO MAN-MADE OBJECTS.
- Please place plastic bags in container provided.
- Wood chips and compost are free to take.
- Sand is not to be taken.
- Abuse will result in reduced hours or closure.



No Permit
No Admittance
No Exceptions

2022 Recycling Guidelines

PAPER, CARDBOARD & CARTONS

Break down all large items to maximize space



Envelopes & Junk Mail



Newspapers



Magazines



Office Paper Products



Phone Books



Flattened Cardboard



Milk & Juice Cartons



Cereal & Food/ Beverage Boxes



Hardcover Books (covers removed)



Wrapping Paper (no foil or ribbon)



Empty Paper Towel/ Toilet Paper Rolls

METAL

Rinse clean

NO E-WASTE, TV'S, COMPUTER ITEMS, BATTERIES



Aluminum & Steel Cans



Aluminum Pie Tins



Empty Aerosol Cans



Clean Aluminum Foil



Small Metal Appliances



Small Plumbing Fixtures & Pipes, Misc. Scrap (limit 2ft x 2ft; 35lbs)



Metal Pots, Pans & Utensils

PLASTIC CONTAINERS

Rinse clean, remove & discard plastic lids & caps

NO PLASTIC BAGS/FILM, STYROFOAM OR SYRINGES



Look for this

#1 Plastic

#2 Plastic



Only plastic bottles & containers marked #1 or #2

Coffee & beverage containers; milk, water, juice bottles; detergent & shampoo bottles

GLASS

Rinse clean, remove & discard plastic lids & caps

NO WINDOWS, MIRRORS, CERAMICS OR LIGHT BULBS



Brown, green, blue & clear glass bottles & jars

Place all recyclables loose in the recycling bin
DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES

Cardboard boxes **MUST** be flattened
and no larger than 2'X2'

Place large metal items and scrap metal
in the metal dumpster
outside the building

Only plastics marked #1 & #2 are recyclable
All other plastics should be placed
in the garbage dumpster



**No Permit
No Admittance
No Exceptions**