

# Lanark News

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*Government by and for the People*

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## New Fire Number Signs Coming to Lanark

Over the next two years, the Town Board is planning to update all fire number signs within the Town. The signs will be reflective blue and white, can be read from either side, and will be posted perpendicular to your road. First responders, law enforcement, ambulance, and fire department personnel have told us that the new signs will save time (when seconds count) because they are much easier to see than the current numbers we are using.

The cost of the signs will be charged back to each owner of affected properties in the year following installation

and will appear on your tax bill for the year in which they are replaced. That cost is not yet finalized but is expected to be less than \$24 including sign, post, and installation.

Properties on and south of Highway 54 will have new signs installed in 2009; those north of State Highway 54 should have new signs installed in 2010.

Property owners should not place any object on or near fire number signs or posts. Posts will be installed according to set guidelines and should not be re-positioned.

## Refuse Fee Increase for 2009

The annual fee for garbage/recycling collection and disposal will increase for 2009 to \$114 per residence.

This increase reflects the amount the Town paid for refuse collection and disposal in 2008.

Additionally there will no longer be reduced fees for seasonal or occasional occupants; all residences will be charged uniformly.

## Going Digital

by Meleesa Johnson, Administrator, Portage Co. Solid Waste Department

It seems we cannot escape the advertisements telling us to be prepared for the February 17 transition to digital transmission for televisions. The government has offered coupons to reduce the cost of required analog-to-digital converter boxes and retailers are promoting new high-definition televisions. What does all this mean for you and your household?

If you have either cable or satellite service for your TV, then you already are receiving a digital signal. You are all set and can relax to watch your favorite shows!

However if you have an antenna for TV reception you will need a converter box. For the most part you will not

need a new television. Converter boxes will work with many older models of TVs. Check out your old set to see if it has connections for the converter...it might save you some money!

If you do buy a new TV the Portage County Solid Waste Dept. has an electronic recycling program. The Transfer Facility in Plover is open for e-cycling 7:30-3:30 Monday-Friday and Saturday mornings from 7:30-11:00. The costs are \$10 for portable sets and \$20 for big screen or console TVs. For more information on the Transfer Facility and television recycling call 715-345-5972 or log-on at: [co.portage.wi.us/mrfb/index.htm](http://co.portage.wi.us/mrfb/index.htm).

*\*\*\*Town Board Meetings are on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.\*\*\**

## Dog licenses due March 31

All dogs 5 months of age or older require a license. The fee is \$7.00 for neutered or spayed dogs, \$18.00 if not spayed or neutered. You **must show proof** of rabies vaccination for a license to be issued.

Please send a copy of your dog's rabies certificate, the appropriate fee, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Jean Eddy, Treasurer, 5630 Morgan Road, Amherst, WI 54406. Your dog license, tag, and the information sent in will be returned to you in the envelope you provided. If you prefer to purchase

your dog license in person, Jean Eddy will have hours at the Town Hall Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Remember to bring your rabies certificate with you.

A late fee of \$5.00 shall be assessed the owner for each dog not licensed by March 31, 2009.

The fine for failure to obtain a dog license or failure to have your dog vaccinated against rabies is \$150.00.

## Recycling Waste Oil

The DNR rules have become more stringent on waste haulers transporting used motor oil and anti-freeze. The Portage County Solid Waste Department has asked that residents bring in their used motor oil and antifreeze free of charge to the Plover Transfer Facility during regular hours of operation.

Waupaca County has also agreed to accept the Town of Lanark residents' oil for recycling.

The Waupaca Regional Recycling & Composting Center is located at 601 S. Hwy K, just off of Hwy 10 going towards Waupaca and is open: Monday noon – 6; Friday 7am – 4 pm, and Saturday 7 am – 5 pm. Residents must empty their container into the tank provided on site and then take their container home with them.

At either facility nothing can be mixed with the oil, and there is no charge for this service.

## Election News

A special Thank You to our poll workers for their hard work on last year's elections. They were at the Hall at 6:15 a.m. getting ready and some were up until 2:00 a.m. after the November 4th election diligently counting ballots!

The Town of Lanark had 835 electors vote at the General Election; approximately an

85% turnout!

In 2009 we will have two elections; a Spring Primary (February 17) and a Spring Election (April 7).

Visit <https://vpa.wi.gov> to check your voter registration status, to see a listing of voting districts and current office holders, and more.

## Keep our roads clear

Section 346.94(5) of the Wisconsin Statutes states "no person may place or cause to be placed upon any highway any substance that is or may be injurious to any vehicle." This includes snow removed by residents from their private driveways across roadways.



*Newsletter Editor: Cheryl Leatherman. This Town publication is intended for public information on local issues and does not express opinions of the Town Board or Editor.*

**\*\*\*Plan Commission Meetings are the first Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. as needed \*\*\***

# Lanark homeowners test water

Lanark homeowners submitted a total of 69 well water samples to the UW-Stevens Point Water and Environmental Analysis Lab for water quality testing. Most of these samples were submitted through recent programs supported by the Town. In general most of the samples showed good water quality based on the analyses that were run.

All of the samples showed hard water. The hardness (calcium) is natural and comes from the local geology below ground. Hardness can be a nuisance to some but is actually good for health and reduces the leaching of lead and copper from household pipes. Only six samples were analyzed for lead and copper; all were in the safe range for drinking water.

Forty-nine samples were analyzed for nitrate. Thirty-four of the samples (70%) had concentrations below 5 ppm. Eight samples (16%) had concentrations between 5 and 10 ppm. Although these samples are below the drinking water standard of 10 ppm, they indicate that nitrate is leaching into the groundwater from septic systems, animal waste, and/or fertilizer. Seven samples (14%) had nitrate concentrations above the drinking water standard. This water should not be consumed by pregnant women and babies. Depending upon the source of nitrate other

chemicals (such as pesticides) may also be present in the water but would require additional testing.

Eight samples were analyzed for triazine (the agricultural pesticide atrazine); all samples were below the drinking water standard. A newer and better testing method (DACT) is now being used for atrazine. Forty-one samples were analyzed using the DACT method. DACT was not detected in twenty-six samples (63%), the other fifteen samples had concentrations below the drinking water standards, but three of these were at levels that indicated additional testing should be done. The use of atrazine has been banned in part of the Town because it was found above the drinking water standard in wells in this part of the Town.

Forty-three samples were analyzed for bacteria. Four of these samples (9%) showed bacteria was present, indicating additional testing and/or treatment was necessary.

Groundwater quality changes with time and season. Therefore, to be sure that you and your family are drinking healthy water it is recommended that private drinking water should be analyzed annually and during different times of the year.

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## Notable News

- Please do not overload your garbage dumpster with heavy materials; this prevents the garbage trucks' hydraulics from being able to lift them.
- Anticipated 2009 road projects include wedging most of Morgan Road and the entire length of Durant Road. More information to come!

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## Register for Code Red

Portage County has instituted the CodeRED Emergency Notification System - an ultra high-speed telephone communications service for emergency notifications. This system will telephone all or targeted areas of the County in case of an emergency situation that requires immediate action. It delivers a re-

corded message to a live person or an answering machine, making three attempts to connect to any number.

For more information or to register go to <http://www.co.portage.wi.us/Emer%20Govt/911%20Website/index.htm>.

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Town of Lanark  
7174 County Road TT  
Amherst WI 54406

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
AMHERST WI  
PERMIT NO. 15

## OFFICIALS DIRECTORY

**Chairman: Theodore Marquardt**  
8965 Boelter Lake Dr.  
Almond WI 54909  
366-2283

**Supervisor: Michael Pagel**  
10408 Otto Rd.  
Amherst WI 54406  
824-5231

**Supervisor: William McKee**  
6167 County Rd. A  
Amherst WI 54406  
824-3725

**Clerk: Cheryl Leatherman**  
9819 County Rd. D  
Amherst WI 54406  
824-3842

**Treasurer: Jean Eddy**  
5630 Morgan Road  
Amherst WI 54406  
824-3953

**Assessor: Jeremy Kurtzweil**  
1501 N. Hume Ave.  
Marshfield WI 54449  
715/486-9019

**Portage County  
District 20 Supervisor  
Lonnie Krogwold**  
824-5600

**Planning & Zoning  
346-1334  
County Treasurer  
346-1348**

**Lanark Town Hall  
256-9801  
Lanark Town Garage  
256-1376**

**Humane Society  
344-6012  
Building Inspector  
715/254-0886**

**We're on the Web!**

**[www.townoflanark.org](http://www.townoflanark.org)**