



# VILLAGE OF MAPLE BLUFF

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

*December 2021*



## Calendar of Events

### December

- 9 Municipal Court
- 14 Village/Building Board Meeting
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's Eve

### January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 11 Village/Building Board Meeting
- 20 Municipal Court

### February

- 8 Village/Building Board Meeting
- 10 Municipal Court

The Village Office & Public Works Department  
will be closed Dec 24

## Trash/Recycling

Trash pick up is shaded, recycling dates are circled

December							January							February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28					
							30	31												

## Village Board

- President** Carl Vieth.....249-4647
- Trustee** George Brown.....246-8422
- Trustee** Patrick Grant.....217-1815
- Trustee** Kristine Jaeger.....217-1919
- Trustee** Kevin O'Driscoll.....298-7102
- Trustee** Ellen Reyerson.....(651) 890-6093
- Trustee** Jim Schuler.....249-1696

## Village Departments

- Administrator/Police Chief** Tanner Nystrom.....244-3048
- Clerk/Treasurer** Sarah Danz.....244-3048
- Deputy Clerk/Clerk of Court** Rene Dopkins.....244-3069
- Rec. Dir./Deputy Treasurer** Curt Erickson.....230-7655
- Police** .....244-1430
- Public Works**.....244-3048
- Fire & Rescue**.....244-3390



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### Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 7:30am-5:30pm  
Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30am-7pm  
Saturday: 8am-12pm  
Closed Sunday

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northsideanimalhospital.vetsuite.com  
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## Holiday Greetings! By: Carl Vieth, Village President

Holiday greetings to all in the Maple Bluff family. Over the next month there are more than 15 religious and secular holidays that will be celebrated by our residents. Christians, Jews, Buddhists, and many others celebrate their faith and community this time of year. Homes are decorated, presents are shared, and meals with family and friends abound.

Unfortunately, during this time, there are many in our community who are in need. Food and housing insecurity are growing problems, magnified by the pandemic. Many are experiencing mental health challenges, some of which are exacerbated by social isolation. For many, the holiday season is not a cause for celebration, but another stressor in an already stressful life.

Though these are significant challenges, they are not insurmountable. There is much we as individuals and as a community can do to make a real impact. You can consider contributing to community food, clothing, and toy drives. The "Toys for Tots" drive is in full swing – with a donation site at the Village Center. New, unwrapped toys can be dropped off during business hours. Our local food banks and pantries are accepting food or cash donations. The same is true for the agencies providing services to those who are without housing.

In addition to these measures, I am asking that you take time to check in on your neighbors; especially seniors. Given the nature of our community, we tend to take for granted that someone is looking out for them, when that may not be the case. Social isolation is a significant and growing mental health problem in our senior population. A visit and plate of cookies, a dinner invitation, or sharing a holiday movie can make all the difference. As a bonus, you and your family are the recipients of the benefit of learning from neighbors with tremendous stories to tell.

Finally, I ask that we extend the hand of kindness in what has been a stressful time. The holiday season is meant to celebrate the good in all of us – regardless of religious or community tradition. My hope is that we can carry that throughout the new year. Peace, love, and happiness to you all.

Stay safe  
Drive / ride / run-walk carefully  
Take care of one another

Carl

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## **We Wish You All Happy Holidays!** By: Tanner Nystrom, Village Administrator/Police Chief

We once again find ourselves welcoming a unique Holiday Season! However, as we learned last year, online shopping and modified family rituals do not prevent us from enjoying this special time of year. Despite our necessary response to ongoing health and safety protocols, we have been fortunate to host several events in the village, continue community programming, and ensure government services remain operational – we remain committed to improving the experience and value of our community. As always, staff and I are pleased to serve this beautiful village for another wonderful winter season and wish you all Happy Holidays!

As a friendly reminder, please don't forget to be mindful of security around your home and throughout the neighborhood. Please report suspicious activity and safety concerns to Dane County Dispatch at (608) 255-2345 and continue to dial 911 for emergent situations. We also encourage you to notify us if you travel out of town or have overnight visitors by filling out a vacation request and submitting overnight parking requests. Our request forms can be found on the Police Department page of our Village website (<https://villageofmaplebluff.com/home/departments/police-department/>). Effective and timely communication can make a significant difference in our ability to respond quickly and deliver public services. I sincerely appreciate everyone's assistance in keeping our village safe.

With safety in mind, I also want to take this opportunity to revisit pedestrian safety. Our Police Officers are

keenly aware of traffic safety importance, especially when roads get slippery and dark comes early. To help improve safety of our community, please consider wearing reflective clothing or carrying a light while walking/biking through the village at night. Drivers can find it hard to see and as a pedestrian focused community, we want everyone to stay safe during the holidays – “out at night, wear a light”.

Although we have had a relatively mild introduction to winter thus far, you can rest assured that our Public Works crew is prepared to address the snowfall that will inevitably come. They stand ready – as they do every year – to ensure the streets are safe for you to travel, as well as clear for our other department service vehicles. We all rely on them to do our jobs and I am extremely appreciative for the hard work they do. Although I point out the value of Public Works, I would be remiss not to say that I am extremely grateful for our entire Maple Bluff team! Our administration, recreation, police, and fire departments continue to exceed expectations and I want to publicly thank them for their hard work and dedications to the Village throughout 2021! I look forward to another year working alongside them and continuing a tradition of exemplary services.

Lastly, let me say that we all appreciate the support we receive from you, our residents – thank you once again and have a Happy Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

Tanner A. Nystrom

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## **PROPERTY TAX BILL INFORMATION**

December 21st, 2021 is the statutory deadline for property tax bills to be mailed. If you have not received your property tax bill by December 23rd, please call the village center at 608-244-3048.

Payments can be mailed to 18 Oxford Place, Madison, WI 53704 or dropped off at the Village Center by utilizing the payment box in the front entry. If you would like a receipt, please include an email address or self-addressed envelope. If you need to make an in-person payment, please call 608-244-3048 during our modified office hours of 9:00am-3:00pm Monday-Friday, to schedule an appointment. The office will be closed on December 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>.

First installment payments are due by January 31, 2022 to the Village of Maple Bluff to avoid interest and penalties. Second installments are due to Dane County by July 31, 2022. If you want to include your property tax payment on your 2021 income taxes, that payment needs to be made on or before December 31, 2021. Please include the bottom portion of your tax bill when making payment.

## **EMPLOYEE GIFT GIVING POLICY**

The Village of Maple Bluff has an established policy regarding the acceptance of gifts by village employees. Over the years, village residents have been generous during the holidays in expressing their thanks for the hard work of our employees throughout the year. In light of potential liabilities stemming from the acceptance of certain types of gifts, restrictions are placed on what gifts employees may accept. The policy directly prohibits any village employee from individually accepting alcoholic beverages and/or receiving monetary gifts from village residents.

After the holiday season, a party is held for all village employees in appreciation of their hard work. Residents who wish to contribute to the village employee holiday party are asked to direct their gifts to the Clerk/Treasurer to ensure that the gifts can be shared equally by all employees. All gift money collected will be used to pay for the holiday party. A sincere Thank You to those who have contributed to date. The employees of the Village of Maple Bluff take pride in their work and thank residents for their cooperation and support throughout the year.



## Final Month! By: Tom Schroeder, Director Public Works

Here we are looking at our final month of the year! December is upon us, encouraging us to make peace with 2021 before the new model year arrives. This pandemic has turned into low pressure cell the likes of a hurricane that keeps finding warm water to feed the engine that it is, spawning tornadoes over land and sea. It's hard to tell if that light ahead is the end of the tunnel or a flash of lightening to keep us covering under cover. No more skirting the issues. With eyes wide open take the path thru the obstacle and we will see you on the other side.

With Thanksgiving behind us and the balance of the Holiday Season at our doorstep, there is still much to be thankful for. Myself? I rejoice that I could continue my career here in Maple Bluff...for a couple more years...at least at this time! I am a fortunate man to work in this fine community...it is the people...the residents...and most assuredly the co-workers that has kept me punching the time clock.

Leaf collection is nearing the end. It has been a good year with plenty of dry days to maximize production during the season. Alas, this season is giving way to the next! Be prepared for the cold, ice and snow. Prep the car/snow blower/furnace...did you bring in the garden

hoses? Shut off or winterized pipes/spigots that are susceptible to freezing.

Just like keeping your yard waste out of the street when placed for collection, do not place sidewalk and driveway snow into the road or upon your neighbors' terrace. I still say that for residential driveways and sidewalk, that nothing matches a good snow blower for placing the snow in an area that can store it for the winter. Shovels work well for cleanup and or small skirmishes. Small plows can struggle when the snowbanks build up. Several snow removal companies have given into temptation to use the street or the curb across the street; let them know not to do that.

We are working on information sharing regarding trash container size/volume/weight. The recycle collector will be changing the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. Please place your trash and recycle carts in the apron of your drive approach or clear an area near the street for placement.

2022 is on its way! If we all work on developing better habits, we will find ourselves with a better normal in no time. Call with your questions and concerns.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Find Nifty Gifties at Willy Street Co-op!

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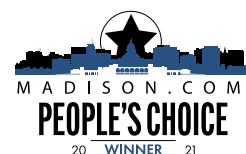
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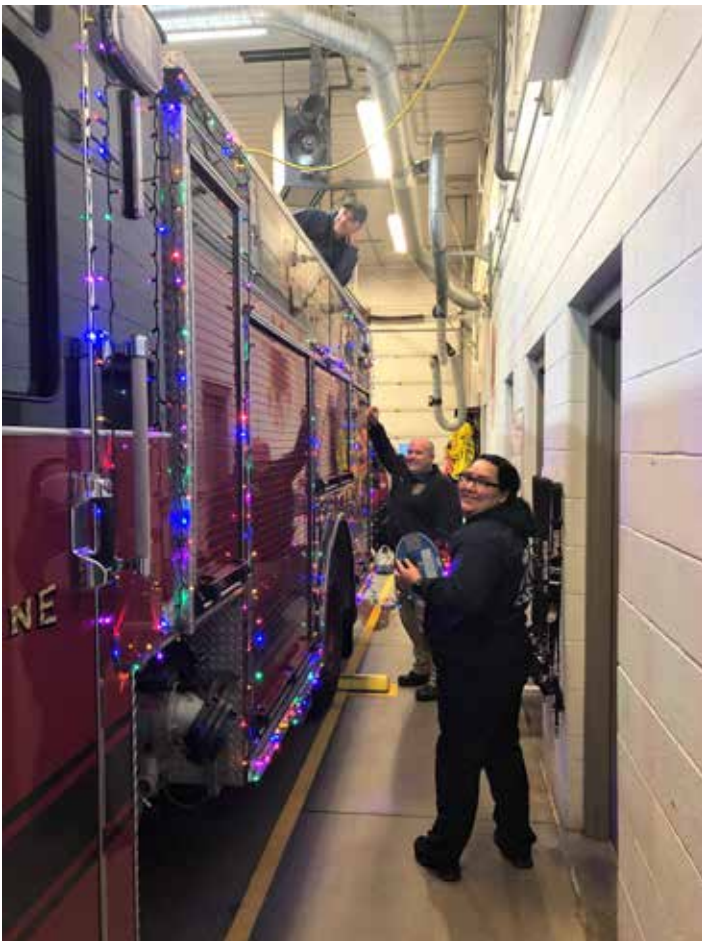
## Holiday Parade of Lights. By: Kristopher Loy, Fire Chief

**Holiday Parade of Lights:** On Sunday, November 28, 2021, the Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department held the second annual Holiday Parade of Lights. We hope everyone enjoyed seeing Santa Claus riding in the fire engine and we wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season.



**Heating Safety:** There is something special about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. However, did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fires and home fire related deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions, you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.







Governor & First Lady Evers'

*Holiday Tree Lighting*  
at the  
Executive Residence

Sunday, December 5, 2021  
5:00 p.m.

## YOU'RE INVITED TO THE EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE TREE LIGHTING WITH GOVERNOR AND FIRST LADY EVERS

Sunday, December 5, 2021 – 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

You're invited to join in the holiday festivities at the Executive Residence with Governor Tony Evers and First Lady Kathy Evers as they celebrate the season and the 100th Anniversary of the Executive Residence. Enjoy musical performances, a sing-along, merriment by Santa Claus, hot chocolate and cookies, and the lighting of the 40 ft. tree donated to the people of Wisconsin by Menominee Tribal Enterprises.

This event will be held outdoors, and attendees must follow all local public health and updated CDC guidance to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including, as appropriate, mask wearing and social distancing.

Please register to attend using the link below. **Space is limited and guests must register in advance.** General admission seats and general admission standing. Street parking will be on Cambridge Rd. as well as Lakewood Blvd. North gate opens at 4:30 p.m. Thank you.

Register Using this Link

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wisconsin-executive-residence-tree-lighting-tickets-214183728297>

Sunday, December 5, 2021 – 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

North Gate Opens at 4:30 p.m. for admission.

The Wisconsin Executive Residence

99 Cambridge Rd.

Madison, WI 53704

## RECYCLING UPDATES

Waste Management will be performing their final recycling collection on December 29th. Our new contractor, Pellitteri Waste Systems, will take over on January 12th. Initially, Pellitteri will utilize existing recycling carts but you should anticipate the delivery of new receptacles sometime in the spring/summer of 2022. Pellitteri has created an informative website specifically for the Village of Maple Bluff. This site will provide information on all things recycling to include collection dates, what is accepted, hazardous materials and items that won't fit in the cart. Check out the site in late December by visiting [www.pellitteri.com/pages/village-of-maple-bluff.com](http://www.pellitteri.com/pages/village-of-maple-bluff.com)



## DOG AND CAT LICENSING

The Village of Maple Bluff requires licensing of all dogs and cats kept within the village. Licenses will be available for purchase beginning December 21st and are valid for the 2022 calendar year. The cost for dogs is \$20.00 whether spayed/neutered or not. The costs for cats is \$12.50. You will also need to provide a copy of your pet's current rabies vaccination, with expiration date, when obtaining a license. Licenses can be obtained at the Village Center, 18 Oxford Place.



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### Greetings! By: Ellen Reyerson, Parks & Recreation Chair, Village Trustee

Holidays Greetings, Villagers! I hope you all enjoyed our Parade of Lights after Thanksgiving weekend; special thanks to our Fire and Police Department for helping Santa on his merry way around the neighborhood! It was the last of many wonderful events our village put together during 2021. We were so glad to be able to bring back most of our beloved seasonal events in Spring, Summer and Fall. Some highlights include our Arbor Day Festivities, Village Senior Graduation, and Father's Day Parade! While our Fest on the 4th looked different than in years past, we enjoyed new festivities as well as old traditions. We had great participation in CYGW and A&A with more than 80 children enrolled! We also brought the Bocce Bash back this past fall, and raised \$52,000 for our Parks & Recreation Department -- a very special thank you goes out to Trish Grant and Sarah Shah, who put together the entire auction and made our event a success. What a great year!

I hope you'll look forward to winter activities as much as I do -- snow shoeing, cross country skiing, sledding -- even some ice skating if the weather cooperates and Chatterton Pond stays smooth! As the Parks & Rec committee has fielded several requests for a village rink over the last several years, committee members intend to look into the feasibility of some kind of skating rink. Any rink would be dependent on volunteer support to set up and maintain the ice; if you have

special interest in skating and would be willing to help spearhead this effort, please reach out to me. For this coming winter, I encourage you to skate on the ponds on/adjacent to the golf course and even Lake Mendota -- if we get lucky, the lake will freeze like glass and we can skate up and down the shoreline! Be sure to check the ice before venturing out to make sure it's thick enough to support skaters. Generally, ice should be at least 4 inches thick for skating.

Another fun winter activity we're bringing back in 2022 is Winterfest! Winterfest will be held the weekend of January 21-22. We'll have the ever popular Euchre Tournament on Friday, January 21, with details and registration forthcoming! On Saturday, January 22, we'll have a family friendly outdoor Winter party and Chili Cookoff at the Beach House -- details to come!

Finally, as you fill up your calendar for next year, please consider saving some time for village volunteer needs. We'll be needing Fest on the 4th cochairs, athletic coaches, CYGW volunteers, and many more! A complete list of volunteer needs will be posted in the January newsletter.

Hope to see you soon around the neighborhood!

Ellen Reyerson, Parks & Recreation Chair, Village Trustee



## Parks & Recreation

### Sponsorship opportunities:

The 2022 Summer Concert series has been booked and we are looking for sponsors to help fund the events. If you are interested in sponsorships, please reach out to Curt Erickson at [cerickson@villageofmaplebluff.com](mailto:cerickson@villageofmaplebluff.com) or call 608-230-7655.

### Gym:

The Village Center gym will be occupied by Rec programming throughout the week. Opportunities for rentals are available Fridays, Saturdays, and limited time frames on Sunday. If interested in reserving the gym, please contact Curt Erickson at least 48-hours in advance so that the gym doors can be programmed to be unlocked. Reservation fees are \$15.00/hour.

## Programs:

### 3D Gingerbread Houses

**Day:** Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 4:00pm – 5:30pm

**Location:** Dailey Cabin

**Fee:** \$55.00

**Ages:** 5+

**Instructor:** Jessica Jacobson

During this class participants will construct a non-edible gingerbread house using cardboard and hot glue. Once the house has been framed, modeling clay will be used to create candy house designs. Finally, fake snow, glitter and paint will complete the gingerbread house.

**Registration Deadline:** Dec 6th

### American Red Cross Babysitter Training

**Day:** Monday

**Date:** December 27

**Time:** 9:00am – 4:00pm

**Location:** Village Center

**Fee:** \$130.00

**Age:** 11 – 15

**Space:** Min. 8 Max. 10

Per the American Red Cross, all participants must have completed their COVID-19 vaccination series prior to taking the course.

Become a capable, confident babysitter that families want to hire. When you enroll in one of our Madison babysitting classes, you'll learn from the experts how to provide care to the kids in your neighborhood. From choosing age-appropriate activities, to keeping kids safe, handling a range of behaviors to building your babysitting business, our courses can help you become an in-demand sitter who can handle virtually any situation.

**Registration deadline:** December 21st

### Milwaukee Bucks vs Phoenix Suns

**Day:** Sunday

**Date:** March 6, 2022

**Time:** 11:30am – 6:00pm

**Location:** drop-off and pick-up at the Village Center

**Fee:** \$85

**Ages:** Anyone under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent

Want to catch the rematch of the 2021 NBA Finals.

Tip-off is at 2:30pm. Trip price includes ticket and bus transportation.





Shelly Sprinkman  
(608) 220.1453

Trey Sprinkman  
(608) 354.4000

Lori Murphy  
(608) 347.2281

Kristine Jaeger  
(608) 217.1919

Brent Quade  
(608) 558.4896



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**Firefighter/EMT Volunteers Needed!**

The Maple Bluff Fire Rescue Department is currently seeking motivated individuals with a strong work ethic to join our team. The MBFD protects the Village of Maple Bluff by providing 24/7 emergency 911 response to a multitude of incidents, including fires, vehicle extrications, water rescues, and emergency medical calls. With department paid certification training, per call/training stipend, and state of the art equipment, the MBFD wants to hear from you. Download an application online and apply today!

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, hold a valid drivers license, high school diploma or GED

Questions? Contact us online or give us a call 608.244.3390

Visit:  
**www.mapleblufffire.com**

18 Oxford Place, Madison, WI 53704



## Bring the Joy of Christmas to Less Fortunate Children

Please drop off a new, unwrapped toy (age 0-12) to the Village Center before December 10th.

Thank you for helping us spread good cheer this holiday season!

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