



VILLAGE OF MAPLE BLUFF

neighborhood news

September 2025



Calendar of Events

September 2025

- 1 Labor Day, Village Office Closed
- 2 Planning Commission, 5:00pm
- 4 Park & Recreation Committee, Noon
- 9 Building Board, 5:15pm
- 9 Village Board, 7:30pm
- 18 Municipal Court, 5:00pm

October 2025

- 14 Building Board, 5:15pm
- 14 Village Board, 7:30pm
- 16 Municipal Court, 5:00pm

Trash/Recycling

SEPTEMBER '25	OCTOBER '25	NOVEMBER '25
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 5 6	1 2 3 4	1
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
28 29 30	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Village Board

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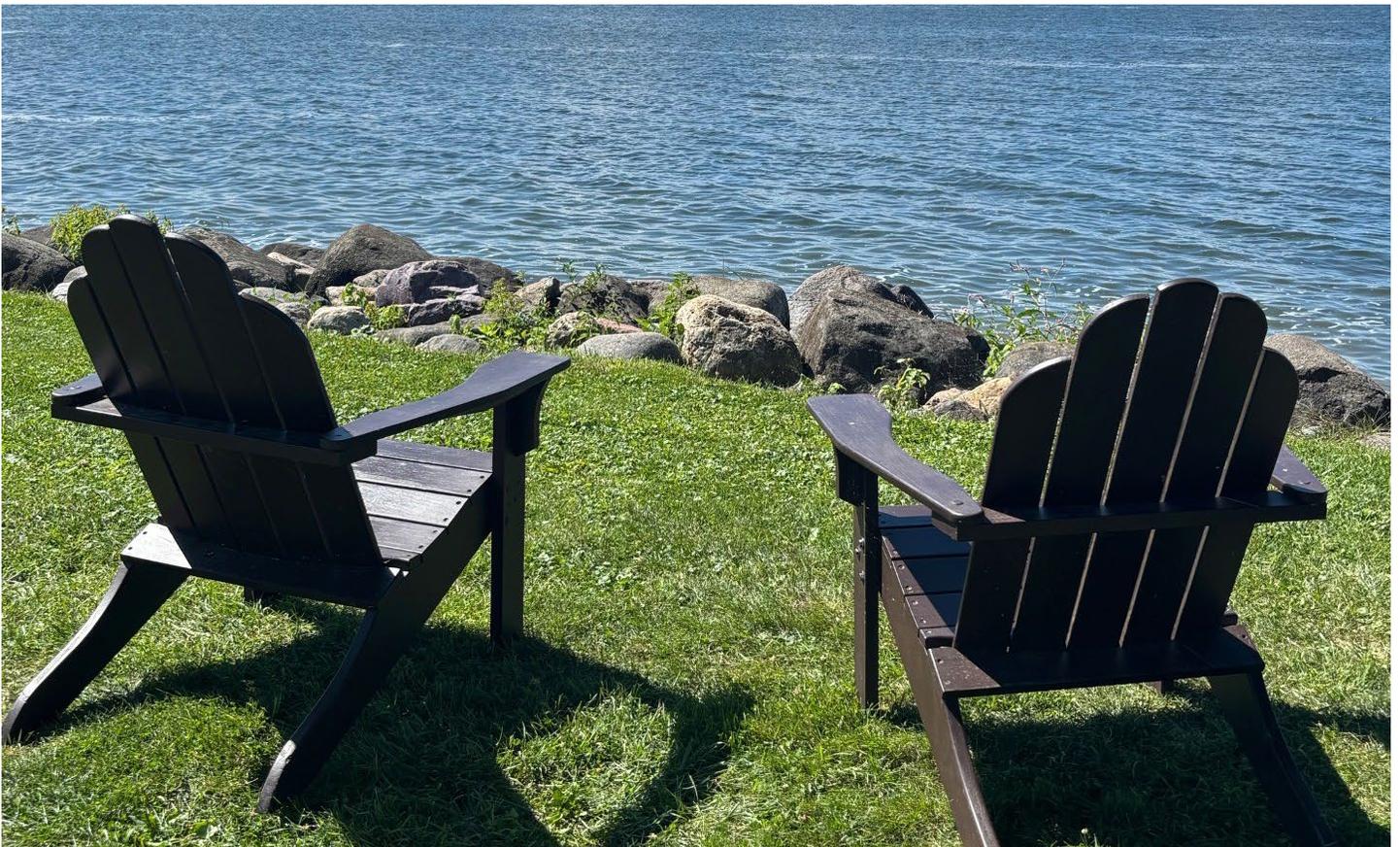
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Village Board President Report *By Kevin O'Driscoll*

Your Village Board is busy on many fronts. In this article, I will highlight five topics: personnel matters, a proposed change to our fire and EMS services, concerns about nearby housing developments, recent police activity, and a new Strategic Plan initiative.

First, on the personnel side, we have two immediate hiring opportunities. First, we have posted the position of Residential Service Specialist/Clerk of Courts as a permanent position. This position is currently occupied by Rachel Danz, who was hired on a temporary basis in 2024. The Board voted to make this a permanent position and to open it up to all qualified applicants; applications are due by September 3, 2025. Please see our website for the job posting. Second, we have initiated the hiring process for a new Fire Chief to replace Chief Brass. Thank you to Assistant Chief Drager for filling in (again) as interim Fire Chief. Chief Drager's leadership is invaluable and I am thankful for his work and the Fire/EMS staff in keeping us safe.

Second, speaking of Fire and EMS, the City of Madison Fire Department has offered to replace the Village's Fire and EMS services via City of Madison Station 3 on Williamson Street and Station 10 on Northport. The City of Madison signed a services agreement with the Village of Shorewood in 2014 and is proposing a similar agreement with the Village of Maple Bluff. Fire and EMS Committee Chairman Greg Engle and Village Medical Director Dr. Patrick McKenna are leading our efforts to consider this opportunity. Any change to our existing service will require community-wide input and we propose a series of community listening sessions to be scheduled at a later date. We are in the information-gathering stage for now and will share our findings and recommendation with Village residents. I want to be clear that I am supportive and an advocate of our current Fire and EMS services. Our team keeps us safe and provide an unmatched service to our Village. We have considered the option of giving up our Fire and EMS services in the past and have always chosen to remain independent. However, with a recent referendum focused on cost and services, we will honestly and exhaustively evaluate the option of continuing our independence or entering a service agreement with the City of Madison.

Third, I have been contacted by many residents asking "what is the Board doing about all these new affordable housing projects being constructed at Hartmeyer and Oscar Mayer"? These concerns are reasonable: increasing density and additional households will lead to more traffic, more use of our parks, and more calls for service, whether Fire and EMS or police. In my meeting with Madison Mayor Rhoades-Conway, I indicated my support for affordable housing, but expressed that we have enough on the east side. I specifically asked for the Nakoma and Monroe Street neighborhoods to share in the development of new affordable housing. But the reality is that the Board as a body cannot prevent construction of new units in our surrounding neighborhoods. I encourage all our Village residents to keep apprised of neighborhood meetings regarding new City of Madison projects and to voice your concerns at those meetings.

Fourth, on the police front, we had two recent resident "ride-alongs" with Officer Stec. I encourage you to consider a ride-along to understand a "day in the life" of our officers. Police work is the most challenging aspect of Village services. We recently had two nearby incidents involving our officers that were firsts in my time on the Board. In the first incident, our officer was first to arrive on the scene at a shooting and death in the 2100 block of Schlimgen. The second incident was a gun threat at Tenney Park during a Sunday afternoon birthday party. There is no question that these are exceptional events, but exceptional activities are at our doorstep. Due to proximity, our officers are often first on the scene of surrounding neighborhood issues. I am both supportive and thankful for the professionalism and expertise of our police staff.

Fifth, and finally, former Trustee George Brown has offered to help lead the Village Board on an initiative to update the Village Comprehensive Plan and to create a Strategic Plan. Both initiatives will be led by Planner Mark Roffers, who is an expert in this activity. The Village is required to update its Comprehensive Plan every 10 years, but the Strategic Plan is a new initiative. On the heels of our last referendum, the intent is to develop a document that provides guidance for our long-term future. The Board will be looking for significant community involvement and input in developing this plan. More to follow as we look to the future of our village.

A Season of Transition and Planning *By Tanner A. Nystrom*

As summer winds down in Maple Bluff, our focus naturally shifts to the work of preparing for the months ahead. The transition from one season to the next is always a reminder of how much behind-the-scenes coordination it takes to keep our community operating smoothly. From equipment maintenance and infrastructure readiness to budget preparations and fall event planning, our staff is already hard at work ensuring the Village remains strong, responsive, and prepared.

For your families, the change of season is also a reminder to stay mindful of safety. Shorter days mean more evening activity in the dark, and we encourage residents to stay alert while driving, walking, or biking. Fire safety checks and routine home maintenance are also simple but important ways we can all contribute to community well-being. As we prepare for colder weather, it is also a good time to test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, review emergency plans with family members, and ensure vehicles are equipped for changing road conditions. These small steps go a long way in helping maintain safety.

This September also marks the beginning of two important recruitment processes. We are seeking candidates for our next Fire Chief / EMS Director, a critical role in leading the department and shaping its future. At the same time, we will be hiring a full-time Resident Services Specialist / Clerk of Courts to further strengthen our administrative capacity and improve resident support. These positions are vital not only for maintaining continuity but also for

ensuring that our services remain aligned with the high standards our residents expect.

While day-to-day operations continue, we are also entering the early stages of strategic planning. This work will be deliberate, transparent, and rooted in community values—helping us prepare for long-term sustainability while preserving the independence and service quality that define Maple Bluff. Just as in past efforts, resident voices will be central to shaping this process.

It is worth noting that these steps forward are possible because of the support our community showed during the 2024 referendum. The funding approval ensured that we can maintain essential staffing and services while making careful adjustments for the future. As we move into this next chapter, I want to express my appreciation for the trust residents have placed in us to steward these resources responsibly.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for making this summer another season to remember. From our events and programs to the simple daily connections that give our Village its unique character, Maple Bluff remains strong because of the people who care deeply about it. I look forward to working together as we enter this next chapter with focus and a shared commitment to the future.

Sincerely,
Tanner A. Nystrom





Maple Bluff Fire Rescue

By Jeff Drager, Assistant Fire Chief

Response Information

Total Responses year to date: 99. In August our average response time for emergency incidents in the village was 5:09. This time span is from the initial alarm to the first unit arriving on scene to both fire and EMS incidents.

Personnel

In July, all three of our 1st year interns not only completed the accelerated EMT program, but they also completed national testing on their first attempt to become licensed EMT's. In August they completed the testing process conducted by our medical director to be credentialed with our department to provide medical care.



Zack Jauquet

Our department also took on an additional paid-on-call member in August. Zack Jauquet comes to our department after serving four years with the military. Zack was raised in Sussex, WI and has now relocated to Madison. He is currently completing both EMT and the fire academy at Madison College.

Training

Over the month of July, our personnel completed training on a variety of topics. This month our personnel focused on ladders. Our personnel receive refresher training on different ladder uses but also care and maintenance. This ensures that our equipment is ready for use during emergency incidents.

Personnel are also receiving training in EMS report writing and documentation. This is crucial training to track patient care and clinical outcomes. All personnel are receiving this training in conjunction with our EMS billing company. In quarter 3 our personnel will be conducting training on car fires. This training will take place at Madison College with the use of a gas fire prop. In addition, our personnel will be taking place in live fire training in an acquired structure. This is done with our mutual aid partners in Dane County. Each of these trainings allow our personnel additional opportunities to sharpen their skills.

Public Outreach

As the Concerts in the Parks has concluded, we wanted to thank everyone in the village that came by and supported the fire department. Our personnel were happy to meet many of residents in the community. We are thankful to everyone that stopped by and made purchases from our table!

On Wednesday September 17th from 3:00pm - 5:45pm, UW Health will be doing a car seat check event at our station. This event is free and conducted by a certified child passenger safety technician. Appointments are required. See the attached information and feel free to contact our station to talk with staff if you have any questions.



DID YOU KNOW...

Car crashes are a primary cause of injury and death of kids ages 0 – 14!
& 4 out of 5 car seats are not used correctly?

Is your child's car seat safe?

Schedule a **FREE CAR SEAT CHECK** by a
Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician!

**Car seats available for income qualifying families*



APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

3:00 pm – 5:45 pm

**Maple Bluff Fire Station
18 Oxford Pl, Madison WI 53704**



LWHealthKids

**SAFE
KIDS
MADISON AREA**

Schedule now:
email safekids@uwhealth.org
or Text/Call (608) 333-6087



Department of Public Works

By Tom Schroeder

Another summer season is headed for the finish line. It hardly looks like summer with all of the bright green foliage on the trees, shrubs and plants. Checking the rain fall to date we have had slightly higher than normal...only an inch or two. Seems like it has rained a lot this year, especially with how the trees have grown.

With autumn less than a month away I would like to review the do's and don'ts for placement of leaves and yard waste. While it is Code to not place any form of yard waste on the street, it is especially important not to place yard waste in the street because it can be the reason the storm system backs up as materials are swept away and lands at the neighbors' inlet down the street. It's very simple, do place all material on the terrace in like piles for Public Works to collect.

Do place the piles away from poles; tree trunks; mailboxes; landscaping (mulch will be removed with our equipment; large rocks are hazardous to our health); vehicles and equipment (will delay or prevent collection). We have been able to collect yard waste the entire village every week except Thanksgiving for years.

Ideally (Do) a resident can keep up with the falling leaves as the season goes instead (Don't) of doing it all at the end or worse just before Thanksgiving. We can and do have

winter like weather during the month of November. That is not the best situation for any of us as we try to clean our yards and gardens let alone try to collect wet snow on piles of yard waste with our equipment here in the village.

I know, I know...there is still lots of great weather before we settle into the 5 months of "who knows what kind of winter." If you prepare before the seasons change, you'll do fine.

Do have your sanitary lateral serviced this time of year, waiting until you have a clogg is not the preferred scenario.

Do get your eves and down spouts cleared.

Do have your maturing and young trees assessed by an Arborist every few years.

Do use the cheapest toilet paper you can tolerate for the benefits for your sewer lateral.

Don't flush anything else in your toilets other than your deposits and that cheap toilet paper.

Don't ignore the recommended maintenance for all your appliances; machine tools; cars and trucks...if something looks; sounds; smells different find out why.



Parks & Recreation

By: Mark Benishek, Director of Municipal Services & Recreation

Fall Programming

As the leaves begin to change and the air turns crisp, the Village of Maple Bluff Parks & Recreation Department is excited to share our lineup of fall programs and activities. From sports and fitness opportunities to creative enrichment programs.

Music Together Mixed-Age

Time: 9 - 9:45am or 10-10:45am or 4-4:45pm

Dates: Tuesday, 9/2 - 11/18

Cost: \$180

Location: Dailey Cabin

Each class is an active music making experience designed to teach the way young children learn through play with the ones they love! In this mixed-age class, each child participates at his or her own level through singing, moving, chanting, listening, watching, and exploring musical instruments. Classes offer a variety of engaging and developmentally appropriate activities for adults and children, providing new ways to play musically at home. Families will receive a beautifully illustrated songbook, a CD with the songs, and a code to access the music online for each session.

Music Together Rhythm Kids

Time: 5-5:45pm

Dates: Tuesday, 9/2 - 11/18

Cost: \$230

Location: Dailey Cabin

Music Together Rhythm Kids (ages four to seven) Students learn to create, choreograph, and conduct as they play - and play with! - a variety of musical instruments: West African djembe drums, percussion instruments, and the most important instruments of all, their voices and their bodies. As your big kid learns to think and create like a musician, they'll also build musical connections to the global community. Look to musictogetherwithsusan.com for more information. Adult participation in class is encouraged but not required. There will be a one-time material fee of \$50 included to cover the cost of your child's djembe drum.

Music Together - Jingle Jam

Time: 9-9:45am or 10-10:45am or 4-4:45pm

Dates: Tuesday, 12/2 -2/16

Cost: \$70

Location: Dailey Cabin

Join us for an extra three-week Jingle Jam Session! Celebrate the season by singing and dancing to winter and holiday-themed music. This will be a Mixed-Age experience for old and new Music Together families.

Junior Basketball

Time: Wednesday, 4-4:45pm or 6-7:00pm

Dates: 10/15-11/19 or 12/3 - 1/21

Cost: \$81

Location: VH Gym

Grades K-3. Join this fast-paced, inclusive (everyone plays) class. YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in introductory basketball games. Emphasis is placed on basic skills development of dribbling, shooting, passing, sportsmanship, and teamwork. Sign up soon...the shot-clock is running down!

Junior Coding with Scratch®

Time: Monday, 4:45-5:45pm

Dates: 10/20-11/17

Cost: \$90

Location: Dailey Cabin

For 2nd-5th-grade students. STEM Coding Enrichment for the 21st Century learner. Each {YEL!} Coding class follows four basic components: Teach It! - Students learn different storytelling and coding techniques (movement blocks, animation, dialogue, timing, etc.). Code It! - Students use Scratch®* to code their own animated story lines: i.e., westerns, missions in space, and even dance parties. Explore It! - Students can write their own code, experiment with it, and test new options. We foster a collaborative environment where students learn from each other's creativity.

Robotics: Muscle 'Bots

Time: Monday, 4:45-5:45pm

Dates: 10/14-11/18

Cost: \$93

Location: VH Conference room

For 1st-5th grades. Get ready to flex some robot muscle! We'll build a robot to compete in a tug-o-war competition, a truck pull, and haul heavy loads. Students use these robots to learn basic computer coding and engineering principles.

Bricktopia - Wild Ride

Time: 4:30-5:30pm

Dates: 9/15 - 10/27

Cost: \$87

Location: Beach House

For grades 1-5. In this class, students will build a merry-go-round, design their own wicked ride, and learn about engineering and design basics using LEGO® Bricks. Sign up today to have a blast! LEGO® is a trademark of the LEGO Group of companies, which does not sponsor, authorize, or endorse this site or program.

Junior Fencing

Time: Friday, 4:45-5:45p

Dates: 10/17-11/21

Cost: \$99

Location: VH Gym

For grades 2-5th. Join this fast-paced, inclusive (everyone participates) Olympic Sport. YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches fencers new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly fencing games, and then encourages students to use those skills in fencing bouts (matches). All equipment provided

Fencing Team

Time: Friday, 6-7pm

Dates: 10/17-11/21

Cost: \$99

Location: VH Gym

For grades 6-12 - Join this fast-paced, inclusive (everyone participates) Olympic Sport. YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches fencers new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly fencing games, and then encourages students to use those skills in fencing bouts (matches). All equipment provided

Junior Soccer

Time: Wednesday

Dates: 9/18-10/23

Cost: \$81

Location: Johnson Park Soccer Field

For grades K-3. Get outside and get kickin' with our fast-paced, inclusive (everyone plays) Junior Soccer course! YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in introductory soccer games. SAFETY & SPORTSMANSHIP are emphasized! We focus on the fundamentals of dribbling, passing, trapping, and shooting.

Junior Soccer

Time: Thursday, 4-5pm

Dates: 11/13-12/18

Cost: \$81

Location: VH Gym

For grades K-3. Get kickin' with our fast-paced, inclusive (everyone plays) Junior Soccer course! YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in introductory soccer games. SAFETY & SPORTSMANSHIP are emphasized! We focus on the fundamentals of dribbling, passing, trapping, and shooting.

3rd & 4th Grade Boys & Girls Traveling Basketball Teams

Practice Dates: TBD

Games: TBD

Ages: 8 - 10

Fee: \$85.00

This traveling basketball team will practice inside the Village Center gym one day a week and compete in games against surrounding Madison teams. The league focuses on skill development and provides more opportunities for all players through competitions. Each player will receive a Maple Bluff jersey. Volunteer coaches will be required.

5th & 6th Grade Girls Traveling Basketball Teams

Practice Dates: TBD

Games: TBD

Ages: 8 - 10

Fee: \$85.00

This traveling basketball team will practice inside the Village Center gym one day a week and compete in games against surrounding Madison teams. The league focuses on skill development and provides more opportunities for all players through competitions. Each player will receive a Maple Bluff jersey. Volunteer coaches will be required.

Yoga - Adult

Time: 6:30 - 7:30pm

Dates: Thursday, 9/11-10/9 or 10/23-11/20

Cost: \$65

Location: Dailey Cabin

Emily's passion for yoga began when she was looking for a community in college. She pursued 200-hr yoga training in 2015 and soon added Yoga Sculpt to her certifications. She taught and managed a studio in Minnesota for 7 years. She is excited to move back to Madison and share her passion with the Maple Bluff community. Emily enjoys teaching vinyasa yoga, which allows students to move with their breath and stretch their bodies. She also loves to teach yoga sculpt, a class rooted in yoga with cardio, weights, and upbeat music. Please bring a yoga mat and a water bottle to each class.

Babysitter Training Course

Dates: 10/4/2025

Time: 10am - 4pm

Fee: \$141

Ages: 11-15 yrs.

Gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence to be a safe, responsible, and prepared babysitter. The American Red Cross Babysitter's Training course is designed for youth ages 11-15 who want to care for children of all ages. By the end of the course, participants will have the practical skills and safety training to provide high-quality care and peace of mind for families. Successful students will receive an American Red Cross Babysitter's Training certification.

COFFEE & CARDS SOCIAL

When: First Wednesday of every month at 9:00 AM (Starting October 1)

Location: Beach Park Beach House

Cost: Free - Coffee and playing cards will be provided

Join us for a warm cup of coffee, friendly conversation, and a few rounds of cards at the Beach Park Beach House! This social is the perfect way to start your morning and connect with neighbors. Whether you're a seasoned card player or enjoy casual play, all are welcome. Bring a friend, make a friend, and enjoy a relaxing morning at our beautiful lakeside setting.

Beach Park

The swim area will remain open and accessible for the month of September. If you're planning on swimming or entering the water, know the signs of blue-green algae, and if present, keep yourself and your pets out of the water.

Blue-green algae blooms occur throughout the summer in Lake Mendota. The water can appear green or blue and has a distinct smell. When in doubt, please exercise caution, stay out, and keep your pets from entering the water. For more information and test results, visit: <https://www.publichealthmdc.com/environmental-health/beaches-lakes-pools/blue-green-algae-precautions>

COFFEE & CARDS SOCIAL



STARTING IN OCTOBER

**FIRST WEDNESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH**

9:00 AM

BEACH PARK-BEACH HOUSE



Beach Park Tennis Courts

The courts at Beach Park have been busy this season. If people are waiting to play, try to limit your use to an hour to allow others to enjoy the courts. As a reminder, residents can reserve the courts online. Please check the Village's calendar before playing to make sure they are available for open play and not reserved for exclusive use. Link: [Facility Calendar](#)

Key Fob Program

For those residents who participate in the program, Please do not prop the doors open. We want to ensure the safety and security of our facilities.

The Village Key Fob Program provides access to the Village Center Gym, Beach House, and Dailey Cabin. The program allows access to the Village Gym for Toddler playtime, Open gym time, and access to each facility's restrooms. Please check the facility calendar found on the village website to verify availability.

If you need to purchase or renew your key fob membership, please visit the Village website or stop by the Village Hall front desk during office business hours. If you have misplaced your fob, please notify the Village Center as soon as possible so that it can be deactivated to safeguard our facilities.



SPRINKMAN DESIGN COLLECTIVE

MADISON

A WARM WELCOME HOME

Home. It's the place where you spend time with loved ones, reset from your days and rest your head. It should be a comfortable and beautiful reflection of who you are. That's where we come in. We are your dedicated, full-service design experts, attentively listening to your wishes and transforming them into designs that both impress and inspire. From new construction and renovations to furniture, fixtures, and finishes — we are here to make your space your own.



SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [SPRINKMANDESIGN.COM](https://sprinkmandesign.com)