



VILLAGE OF MAPLE BLUFF

neighborhood news

November 2025



Calendar of Events

November 2025

- 5 Parks & Rec Committee, 12:00pm
- 11 Building Board, 5:15pm
- 11 Village Board, 7:00pm
- 19 Fire/EMS Committee, 4:30pm
- 20 Municipal Court, 5:00pm
- 27-28 Holiday - Office Closed
- 30 Tree Lighting/Santa Meet & Greet, 3:30pm

December 2025

- 9 Building Board, 5:15pm
- 9 Village Board, 7:30pm
- 18 Municipal Court, 5:00pm
- 23 Garbage Collection
- 24-25 Admin Office Closed

Village Board

President Kevin O'Driscoll

kodriscoll@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Jim Schuler

jschuler@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Kristine Jaeger

kjaeger@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Mike Wittenwyler

mwittenwyler@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Greg Engle

gengle@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Lillian Bickers

lbickers@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trustee Laura Peck

lpeck@villageofmaplebluff.com

Trash/Recycling

NOVEMBER '25							DECEMBER '25						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
30													



2025 HOLIDAY PARADE & TREE LIGHTING

The Village of Maple Bluff is excited for our Annual Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting on Sunday, November 30th, 2025. Please join us as Santa tours the Village on a firetruck before greeting everyone at Johnson Park for the tree lighting!

- Parade Begins: 3:30pm
- Santa Arrives @ Johnson Park: 4:15pm
- Santa Greet Children: 4:15pm-5:00pm
- Tree Lighting: 5:00pm (*approx.*)

For those not able to attend in person, we've arranged for a drop box to be placed at the Maple Bluff Firehouse. Children and adults alike can drop off a letter to Santa from November 30th until December 22nd. We'll be sure your letter makes it to the North Pole.

www.villageofmaplebluff.com





Village Board President Report *By Kevin O'Driscoll*

The Village of Maple Bluff is embarking on a process to complete a strategic plan that will guide major Village decisions over the next two to five years. The Board will lead this effort and held a kickoff meeting on October 20. The Board will be supported by a Strategic Plan Core Team consisting of: Mark Roffers – Village Planner, MD Roffers Consulting; George Brown – former Village Trustee and strategic planning consultant; Tanner Nystrom – Village Administrator; Sarah Danz – Deputy Village Administrator; and me, as Village President.

The Strategic Plan is intended to align municipal operations with our shared values, community aspirations, and financial realities. We spent considerable time prioritizing Village services during our last referendum, reaffirming how much our community values the exceptional quality of those services. From public safety and fire protection to public works and recreation, Maple Bluff has long benefited from a level of service that stands apart. Our challenge is to ensure that these high standards remain sustainable in the years ahead.

We are also seeing changes in home renovations, with a notable increase in demolition permit requests as residents and new homeowners choose to reinvest in their

properties. In the past few weeks alone, we've received more demolition permit requests than in the last several years combined. Whether this represents a natural evolution of the Village or a shift in how we define neighborhood character is an important question to explore together.

These potentially transformative issues underscore the need for a new strategic plan. Our goal is to understand and reflect residents' vision, values, desired identity, assets, opportunities, challenges, and overall governance and expenditure priorities for the community's future. Resident input will be essential throughout this process. At the same time, we'll be conducting a Current Conditions and Trends Report to better understand where we are today.

We expect to complete the Strategic Plan in spring 2026 and look forward to your participation as we move forward. A special thanks to George Brown, who is exceptionally well-suited to help guide our efforts. As a former Village Trustee and a strategic planning professional, we're fortunate to have his expertise and perspective on the team.

Our Path Forward *By Tanner A. Nystrom*

As we head into the late-fall stretch, I want to share a few timely updates and set the stage for the months ahead. First, our Strategic Plan is officially underway. The Board held its kickoff meeting in October, and over the coming months we'll be listening—through surveys, small-group discussions, and public meetings—to better understand what residents value most and where we should focus in the next two to five years. We'll share participation opportunities on the Village website and through regular notices; if you're curious about how priorities translate into day-to-day work, this is a great time to lean in.

Many of you have asked about nearby development and what it could mean for Maple Bluff. I recently met on-site with the Madison Police Department, the developer, and management team for Huxley Yards—three large apartment buildings taking shape east of the Village between Commercial and Ruskin. The first two buildings are scheduled to begin occupancy in early 2026. While this project is outside our jurisdiction, it sits next door, so it will influence traffic patterns, pedestrian activity, and use of public spaces. To the south, The Duncan on Sherman Ave. is also moving toward initial occupancy. As these sites open, we'll continue coordinating with partners and share practical updates with residents.

With the season changing, a few quick reminders help our operations run smoothly. Please place leaves on the terrace (not in the street) to prevent clogged storm drains and to allow our Public Works crews to collect efficiently. As days get shorter, consider turning on exterior entry lights in the evening, and if you're walking or biking at dusk or after dark, use a white front light and a red rear light or reflector. This simple habit meaningfully improves visibility for drivers and neighbors. As winter approaches,

keep an eye on overnight parking rules and snow-event communications—we'll continue our efforts to share pertinent information with you in a timely manner.

I also want to highlight a new effort that directly supports our police officers. The We Support Local Officers (WSLO) Foundation has launched its 2026 campaign to raise \$50,000 for safety, training, and wellness initiatives that sit beyond the Village's operating budget. Their programs fund items like ballistic-vest replacements, officer safety services, department phones, advanced professional training, leadership development, wellness visits, and in-service meals—practical investments that strengthen readiness and resilience for a small department like ours. If you're interested, you can learn more about the campaign focus at <https://www.wslomaplebluff.com/>.



Finally, thank you for the steady stream of thoughtful questions and constructive ideas you've been sending our way. Whether it's a note about traffic, a heads-up on a maintenance issue, or feedback on how we communicate, it helps us calibrate services and anticipate needs. Please keep it coming. I'm grateful for the way this community engages—pragmatic, neighborly, and focused on solutions—and I look forward to working with you as we shape the Strategic Plan together.

Sincerely,
Tanner A. Nystrom





Maple Bluff Fire Rescue

By Jeff Drager, Assistant Fire Chief

Response Information

Total Responses year to date: 130 as of October 24th, 2025. In October our average response time for emergency incidents in the village was 3 minutes and 37 seconds. This time span is from the initial alarm to the first unit arriving on scene to both fire and EMS incidents.

Personnel

Our department also took on an 2 additional paid-oncall members in October. Mallory and Adi both come to our department with previous experience and certifications. They have been assigned to shift and operate as firefighters and EMT's for our village. We are happy to have them all joining our team.

Training

In October, our department hosted a driver/operator class through Madison College. This class is required for personnel to drive fire engines. Seven personnel from our department are currently taking this class. You will see them driving around the village over the next two months.

Over the month of October, our personnel completed training on a variety of topics. This month our personnel focused on vehicle extrication and EMS documentation.

Over the next couple of months our personnel will be doing training in a couple of acquired structures in the village. These homes are slated to be torn down, with new homes being constructed. Our crews use these opportunities to practice hose movement, ladders, search, and a variety of other topics. If you see our personnel doing training, feel free to stop by and watch.

Public Outreach

Our department hosted our annual open house on October 18th. We were happy to welcome the residents into our station. Thank you to everyone that came by and visited with our personnel. Any residents that wish to come by and tour the facility and meet our staff, please come by any time you desire. Our on-shift personnel would be happy to walk you through the station and apparatus.





Shop with a Cop – Dane County, Inc.

PO Box 1442
Madison, WI 53701

For the past 24 years, a group of law enforcement agencies have collaborated on an event called "Shop With a Cop". In 2014, we joined together to form an incorporated, 501c3 non-profit organization, called "Shop With A Cop – Dane County, Inc." Participating Police departments include; Dane County Sheriff's Office, City of Fitchburg, City of Madison, City of Middleton, City of Verona, Village of Blue Mounds, Village of Cross Plains, Village of DeForest, Village of Maple Bluff, Village of Marshall, Village of Mt. Horeb, Village of Oregon, Village of Shorewood Hills, Village of Waunakee, University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin State Capitol Police and Wisconsin State Patrol. This charitable event assists economically disadvantaged families within Dane County during the Holiday Season.

We work with school districts and other local human service agencies to identify children of families in need. We look for children that are working to full capacity in school and have no discipline issues. This event gives the children the opportunity to interact with law enforcement in a positive environment. It also allows law enforcement to give back to their communities, and it gives the children a sense of satisfaction to be able to provide gifts for their families.

In early December 2025, approximately 100 children will be brought to a local Target store where they will be paired with a law enforcement officer. They will shop together for gifts for the child's family. Each child will be provided with \$250 to spend. After shopping, the children are treated to a Little Caesars Pizza party at the VFW, and they will also spend time with their officer wrapping gifts.

In order to continue the success of this program, we need the ongoing support and monetary contributions from area businesses, along with personal donations. Our goal is to increase the number of families we can help, however we can only do so through generous public donations. If you would like to make a contribution to Shop With A Cop – Dane County, Inc., donations may be mailed to the above address, or Maple Bluff Police Department!!! Maple Bluff Police Department, ATTN: Shop With A Cop (Abbi Linde), 18 Oxford Pl Madison, WI 53704. **Please make checks payable to: Shop With A Cop – Dane County, Inc.**

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Abbi Linde at 608-230-7664. All donations to the program are tax deductible.

Thank you for your generosity,

Abigail Linde

Maple Bluff Police Department
Shop with a Cop – Dane County, Inc.

Shop with a Cop – Dane County, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization

<http://www.shopwithacopdaneconomy.org/>

Like us on Facebook



We Support Local Officers Foundation

2026 Campaign –
Protect. Train. Support.

Goal: Raise **\$50,000** to fund programs that go beyond what municipal budgets can provide.



Why We Exist

The WSLO Foundation strengthens the Maple Bluff Police Department by funding programs that **protect, train, and support officers**. Village budgets sustain core operations—your donations create excellence, ensuring Maple Bluff remains one of the safest, most professional communities in Wisconsin.

Our Keystone Programs



Protect: Provide officers with essential safeguards not covered by normal budgets:

- Ballistic vest replacements
- Identity and data-protection services
- Department cell phones for secure communication



Train: Fund advanced professional development and leadership education beyond required training:

- Specialized instruction from national experts
- Accredited leadership and command schools



Support: Enhance morale, wellness, and resilience through:

- Annual wellness visits & retreats
- Compassionate support grants
- In-service meals during training days



Why It Matters

- 100% of donations go directly to officer safety, training, or wellness.
- These programs boost morale, retention, and professionalism.
- Your contribution is tax deductible and sustains Maple Bluff's high standard of public safety.

How to Donate

1. Visit our website: <https://www.wslomaplebluff.com/>
2. Learn more about us and how we support our officers.
3. Join us in accomplishing our goal this year and beyond!



* We accept stock donations! Email us directly at wslomaplebluff@gmail.com



Department of Public Works

By Tom Schroeder

We all enjoyed an extension of summer as October provided us with spectacular days of sun and great temperatures. That being said, I for one will prepare for a fast decline in temperatures as fall gives way to winter. In the meantime, we will have a condensed leaf collection season. Please do not wait, be proactive in bringing leaves to the terrace for collection and keeping them away from obstructions and out of the street.

The holiday season will keep all of us busy, please give time to bring out the leaves early. Waiting till Thanksgiving week to clear the yard of leaves is not the best approach if you want them to be collected prior to the Holiday. It is a short week, and we make no promises that we can collect the entire village in 3 days. We will likely be collecting into December, however, weather/snow can and has determined when we stop collecting.

Fall activities continue for us as we have a pier to remove; gardens to clean up; maintenance on equipment; sharpening our snowplow blades; meter end points

installation. We even have a couple of trees that need planting.

If you haven't selected an appointment on the Village web page for meter end point installation, please do so. If there are questions or concerns, please contact us.

When the snow flies, and it will, please keep your snow on your terrace and or property. Please do not have a contractor push snow across the street, in the street or onto the neighbor's terrace and or property. I still say that the best way to remove snow from the sidewalk or driveway is with a snow blower, you can place the snow a good distance from the edge of sidewalk or driveway for storage. We will move snow from edge to edge placing snow on terraces, everyone will see the snow on your driveway approach.

Enjoy the colors that fall provides for us, and have a great November.



Parks & Recreation

By: Mark Benishek, Director of Municipal Services
& Recreation



2025 Halloween Parade

What an incredible turnout for the Village Halloween Parade! Thank you to everyone who joined us for a fun-filled morning of costumes, candy, and community spirit. Your enthusiasm and participation made this event truly special. We'd like to extend a sincere thank you to the Maple Bluff Fire Department and Police Department for their continued support and for helping ensure everyone's safety.

A special note of appreciation goes to our dedicated volunteers and coordinators, Kristen and Willow, for all their behind-the-scenes efforts in organizing and coordinating this beloved community tradition. Events like this remind us just how lucky we are to live in such a connected and caring community. Thank you for making the 2025 Halloween Parade a success.



Open Gym

Here are a few reminders about Open Gym:

1. Access to Open Gym time is gained through participation in the Village's Key Fob Program.
2. Key fob members may bring up to 3 guests per use.
3. Key fob members that wish to bring more than 3 guests must reserve the gym online up to 48 hours in advance.
4. **No food or beverages are allowed inside the gym**
5. Put all equipment away and notify Village staff of any problems or broken equipment.
6. Hours: Open Gym time will vary depending on the day of the week, programming, and rentals. The gym will close daily at 9:00pm. To check on availability, visit the Village's website. If there are no programs or rentals, the gym is available for Open Play.



Key Fob Program

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's 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.

Toddler Open Gym

Time: 8:00am – 11:00am, Weekdays

Location: Village Center Gym

Fee: Must be members of the key fob program

Toddler Open Gym is designated for Village toddlers to burn off some energy inside the gym. Open gym provides age-appropriate toys. All toddlers must always be accompanied by an adult. Program participants must be members of the Village's key fob program. In the event Madison Schools, Public or Private, are closed, Toddler Open Gym will be reduced to 8:00am – 10:00am.

Pickleball Open Gym

Time: 11:00am – 1:00pm, Weekdays

Location: Village Center Gym

Fee: Must be members of the key fob program

Open Pickleball Play returns in November. The Village has a limited supply of paddles and pickleballs. This is a drop-in program available to Key Fob Program participants at no additional charge. Non-key fob members are required to pay a drop-in fee. In the event that Madison Schools, Public or Private, are closed, Pickleball will be canceled for the day.

Coffee & Cards Social

Time: 9:00am

Dates: First Wednesday of every month

Location: Beach Park - Beach House

Fee: 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.

Youth Programs

Enrichment

Music Together - Jingle Jam

Time: 9 – 9:45am, 10 – 10:45am, or 4 – 4:45pm

Dates: Tuesday, 12/2 – 2/16

Fee: \$70.00

Ages: 0m-5 yrs.

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.

Sports

Junior Basketball

Time: 4 – 4:45pm or 6 – 7:00pm

Dates: Wednesday, 12/3 – 1/21

Fee: \$81.00

Location: VH Gym

Grades: K-3rd

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 Soccer

Time: 4:00 – 5:00pm

Dates: Thursday, 11/13 – 12/18

Fee: \$81.00

Grades: K-3rd

Location: Village Center Gym

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

COFFEE & CARDS SOCIAL



**FIRST WEDNESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH**

9:00 AM

BEACH PARK-BEACH HOUSE

Sponsored by

Ancora
cafe + bakery



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.

Traveling Youth Basketball

Practices will begin in November in the Village Gym with games beginning in January. Practice dates and times may change, subject to volunteer coach availability. Game locations will be determined by late November. Area communities involved in the league are Monona, Middleton, Waunakee, Verona, Cottage Grove, McFarland, DeForest, and Stoughton. All players will receive a jersey they can keep. *Volunteer coaches are needed for 3rd/4th Grade Girls team.*

3rd & 4th Grade Girls & Boys

Traveling Basketball Teams

Season: Jan. 17- Mar. 7

Practice Dates: TBD

Games: Saturdays

Fee: \$85.00

5th & 6th Grade Girls & Boys

Traveling Basketball Teams

Season: Jan. 10 -Mar. 7

Practice Dates: TBD

Games: Saturdays

Fee: \$85.00

Adult Programs

Yoga with Emily

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Dates: Thursday, 10/23-11/20

Fee: \$65.00 (Open Enrollment, Pro-rated)

Ages: 14+

Location: Dailey Cabin

Emily's passion for yoga began when she was looking for a community in college. She pursued a Yoga Instructor Certification, which included 200 hours of yoga training in 2015, and soon added Yoga Sculpt to her list of certifications. Emily taught at and managed a yoga 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.





SPRINKMAN DESIGN COLLECTIVE

MADISON

FALL IN LOVE WITH YOUR 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)