



VILLAGE OF MAPLE BLUFF

neighborhood news

February 2026



Calendar of Events

February 2026

- 3 Police Committee Meeting, 4:30pm
- 4 Parks & Rec Committee, Noon
- 10 Building Board, 5:15pm
- 10 Village Board, 7:30pm
- 15 Municipal Court, 5:00pm
- 17 Elections, 7:00am-8:00pm
- 19 Municipal Court, 5:00pm

March 2026

- 4 Parks & Rec Committee, Noon
- 10 Building Board, 5:15pm
- 10 Village Board, 7:30pm
- 26 Municipal Court, 5:00pm

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

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



We are proud to share that Village will be participating in **The River Food Pantry's "Pack the Pantry on Packers Ave"** campaign to help support local families facing food insecurity. As part of this effort, we are collecting food and essential household donations to help stock their new facility.

The River Food Pantry will move into a new facility at 3301 Packers Ave in Madison, just across the street from their current location. This new building will allow them to expand services and better meet the growing needs of Dane County residents. Before opening their doors, however, the pantry is looking to stock the new space with food and everyday essentials—and that's where our community can make a meaningful impact.

How You Can Participate Through Our Collection Effort

The **Village Center** will have a collection barrel located in the main entry hallway.

We invite you to join us in supporting this campaign:

- Nonperishable food
- Essential household goods
- Focus items include shelf-stable foods, diapers, hygiene products, and cleaning supplies

More information about The River Food Pantry can be found here:

www.riverfoodpantry.org/pack-the-pantry

Village Trustee Election Update

By Village President Kevin O'Driscoll

Thank you to everyone who stepped forward as a candidate in this April's trustee election. Maple Bluff benefits from residents who are willing to serve, and I appreciate the time and commitment it takes to run for office.

Incumbent trustees Greg Engle and Kristine Jaeger are seeking reelection for an additional two-year term. Eric McLeod, Scott Robinson, and Mitch Cooper are also running.

Serving as a Village Trustee is important work. Trustees are responsible for setting policy, approving budgets, and helping guide major decisions that affect Village services, finances, and long-term planning. I sincerely appreciate each candidate's willingness to volunteer their time and expertise on behalf of our community.

Lastly, thank you to Trustee Mike Wittenwyler, who has chosen not to run for reelection. Mike's good judgment, clarity of thought, and service to the Village will be missed.

Please look for a Q&A with each candidate in our next newsletter. I encourage residents to stay engaged and informed as we approach the spring election.



Election Day February 17th

On Tuesday, February 17th, a primary election will be held for the office of Circuit Court Judge Branch 1. A primary means that the number of candidates will be narrowed to two and those two candidates will advance to the April 7th ballot.

Sample Ballot - Can be viewed by entering your address into myvote.wi.gov

Absentee Voting (in person) Tuesday (2/3) - Thursday (2/5) 8am-4pm. Monday (2/9) - Thursday (2/12) 8am - 4pm and Friday (2/13) 8am - 5pm at the Village Center. Bring your photo ID.

Absentee Voting (by mail/email) - The deadline to request a mailed ballot is Thursday (2/12) at 5pm. Visit myvote.wi.gov to request an absentee ballot. Be sure to allow sufficient time for mail delivery as ballots must be returned by 8pm on Election Day. Voted ballots may also be dropped off, by the voter, at the Village Center - 18 Oxford Place. The payment box in the entryway can be used if you are returning your ballot outside regular business hours.

Voter Registration - To check your registration status visit myvote.wi.gov. Election Day registration is available.

Election Day - Vote at the Village Center from 7:00am - 8:00pm on February 17th!

Steady Focus, Clear Priorities *By Tanner A. Nystrom*

February is often when the pace of Village work becomes more visible. Planning moves from ideas to next steps, winter operations remain active, and we begin looking toward spring with clear priorities in mind. Through it all, our focus is simple: keep Maple Bluff steady, well-served, and prepared.

Over the past several months, residents helped launch Maple Bluff's 2026 Strategic Planning Process by providing thoughtful feedback through the Community Survey. The results reinforced what many of us value most: Maple Bluff is safe, beautiful, and welcoming; the community's long-standing vision still fits who we are today; and there is strong support for preserving high-quality, independent Village services while keeping tax increases at or below inflation whenever possible. Residents also emphasized the importance of protecting Maple Bluff's identity as growth continues around us. In the weeks ahead, the Village will move into the next phase of the process—additional community conversations, current conditions and trends analysis, and Board work sessions—so the final plan is both ambitious and practical.

That growth around us is becoming more visible. New housing developments near our borders will begin filling with residents in the months ahead, and that change will naturally bring increased activity in the surrounding area—more traffic, more daily movement through our corridors, and greater use of shared public spaces. This does not change who Maple Bluff is, but it does reinforce the importance of steady planning and maintaining the service

levels residents expect. Our goal is to remain proactive and coordinated in how we respond to changing conditions, while preserving the character, safety, and responsiveness that define this community.

January also marked an important civic milestone with the Village Caucus. Thank you to everyone who participated. As we move toward the spring election, I encourage residents to stay engaged in a way that reflects the best of Maple Bluff—curious, respectful, and focused on the community's long-term interests. Candidate information and responses will be published in the March Village newsletter to help residents make informed decisions.

This season also brings a steady operational workload across Village departments. Public Works crews continue winter maintenance and remain ready for changing conditions, and Fire/EMS and Police personnel remain prepared to respond around the clock. Residents can help by keeping streets clear during snow events, following winter parking rules, and checking in on neighbors when conditions are severe. These simple steps make a real difference in safety and service delivery.

Thank you for the trust you place in Village staff and elected officials. Maple Bluff works because residents are engaged and expectations are high. Our job is to meet those expectations with professionalism—and we are grateful to do that work on behalf of this community.

Sincerely, Tanner A. Nystrom





Maple Bluff Fire Rescue

By Jeff Drager, Assistant Fire Chief

Response Information

In December our average response time for emergency incidents in the village was 3 minutes and 51 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 has scheduled interviews for 5 paid-on-call personnel. Most of these applicants already have fire and EMS certifications. We have also taken on an additional duty officer that comes to us with over 20 years of experience in the fire service.

Training

In December our personnel continued training on ice rescue equipment and operations. This training is critical during the winter months. The training not only covers rescuing patients that have fallen into the water, but also patient care once they have been removed from the water.

Our January training consisted of hazardous materials training. This training prepares our personnel for responding to calls involving a variety of hazards. This is an opportunity to discuss specific potential hazards within the community and the methods to mitigate those hazards.

Public Outreach

On Wednesday March 18th, UW Health Kids will be conducting another car seat check and installation. The event our department hosted in 2025 was completely booked and the demand was high. Please see the attached information and schedule your appointment early as we anticipate them to fill fast.

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, March 18, 2026

2:40 pm – 6:00 pm

Maple Bluff Fire Station

18 Oxford Pl, Madison WI 53704



UWHealthKids

**SAFE
KIDS**
MADISON AREA

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



MAPLE BLUFF
EST. 1947

MAPLE BLUFF

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PROTECTION TECHNICIAN

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

www.villageofmaplebluff.com

- Tuition Assistance
- Compensation Starting at \$600+/month
- Paid Certifications & Testing
FFI, FFII, MPO, EMT-B, AEMT, & More
- Free Housing @ Fire Station
- Firefighting & Emergency Medical Technician
- Protective Gear
- Uniform Allowance

APPLY NOW

**START A REWARDING CAREER
IN THE FIRE SERVICE!**

Department of Public Works

By Tom Schroeder

Over the years it seemed that the winter weather of one month would mimic another month to the point that looking at the calendar and looking at the weather, you didn't know if we skipped a month or what. For this January, it gave us all the cold and a little more, the little more was the wind chill. Much as you remember January being like years ago. February can be full of mischief, so have your guard up.

The snow volumes have been measurable on the modest side. There are still a few operations that are pushing snow onto a neighboring terrace or the street, a few snow blowers of driveways and sidewalks too. Please keep snow on the property of origin, thank you. There have been some terrace scrapes during plowing, we will make good when weather allows. As a crew/team we discuss the merits of thoughtful, effective and efficient snow plowing every chance we can. I have talked about it at length recently.

Madison Gas & Electric will be working on phase 2 of their

Electric Facilities Improvements this year. MG&E along with their sub-contractors will be noticeable this year as they initiate this year's improvements. We will be working with them to minimize disruptions and make it a smooth project. When we get more information, we will share.

Our new garbage truck is soon to be in service after a thorough inspection at the dealership and an introduction to this department. Once that takes place, we will be able to turn the retired garbage truck into the new leaf hauler. Exactly what we did with the prior garbage truck in 2006. It worked then, and I expect it will work again.

When we get into the milder winter weather, we will get back to tree maintenance.

While it is still winter, keep some warmer boots/gloves/coat/blanket in the car/truck. All season tires are good in the spring/summer/fall and are marginal in the winter. Real winter tires in the winter are really good tires in the winter, and I have heard they are great in the summer too. I use winter tires in the winter, and I will try the same in the summer. Thinking about Spring.

Village of Maple Bluff - EyeOnWater Account

The Village of Maple Bluff is committed to providing reliable services and maintaining modern infrastructure for our residents. In 2024, the Village launched a community-wide water meter head replacement project to improve meter accuracy, operational efficiency, and resident access to water-use data. Once your meter has been replaced, we encourage residents to create an EyeOnWater account to manage their water account.

Why create an EyeOnWater account?

EyeOnWater helps you: <https://help.eyeonwater.com/2018/05/23/using-eyeonwater/>

- View daily water usage to understand your household's habits better
- Detect potential leaks early by spotting unusual water activity
- Track usage trends over time to support conservation efforts
- Set automated alerts for usage
- Stay informed between billing cycles, helping you avoid surprises

Benefits for the entire community

When residents actively monitor their water use, it supports water conservation, system efficiency, and long-term sustainability. Better information empowers smarter choices—for individual households and for Maple Bluff as a whole.

Take Control of Your Water Use with EyeOnWater

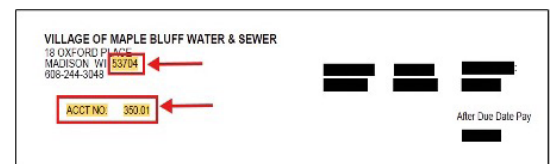
With your new meter head in place, residents can take full advantage of EyeOnWater, a free online and mobile tool that allows you to monitor your household's water usage in near real time. Creating an EyeOnWater account gives you greater visibility into how and when water is being used in your home. Have your water account information ready and follow the simple sign-up instructions. <https://eyeonwater.com/signup>

- Reference **your water bill for the account information**
- **Account Number:** Make sure to include the whole account number.
- **Zip Code:** 53704

How cellular water meter heads transmit

Cellular or "smart" water meters send usage data via low-power radio-frequency (RF) signals, similar to Wi-Fi or a cordless phone. The ORION meter heads installed in the Village comply with Part 15, Part 22, Part 24, and Part 27 of the FCC Rules.

In accordance with FCC Regulations, "Code of Federal Regulations" Title 47, Part 2, Subpart J, Section 1091, transmitters pass the requirements pertaining to radiation exposure. However, to avoid public exposure in excess of limits for the general population (uncontrolled exposure), a 20-centimeter (approximately 8 inches) distance between the transmitter and the body of the user must be maintained during operation. Reference Links: <https://www.fcc.gov/engineering-technology/electromagnetic-compatibility-division/radio-frequency-safety/faq/rf-safety>



Parks & Recreation

By: Mark Benishek, Director of Municipal Services
& Recreation

As winter settles in, our parks and recreation spaces take on a whole new kind of beauty. With cold temperatures, fresh snowfall, and crisp winter air, this season offers unique opportunities to enjoy our community's parks and programs in a different way. Whether you're bundling up for outdoor activities or staying active through our indoor programs, the Parks and Recreation Department is here to help you make the most of the winter months while staying safe, warm, and connected.

2026 Event Calendar

- February 7: Skate the Bluff, Beach Park, 12-4pm
- April 25: Arbor Day & Bird City Celebration, 9am
- June 5: Bocce Bash
- June 7: Graduate Party
- June 22 – Aug 3: Concerts in the Park (Mondays)
- June 21: Father's Day Parade
- July 4: Fest on the Fourth
- October 25: Halloween Parade
- November 29: Holiday Parade & Tree Lighting

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: Monday – Sunday when the space is not scheduled. 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.



Time to Renew Your 2026 Key Fob & Pet License

Keep your household up to date for the new year. If you need to purchase or renew your Key Fob membership or Pet License, please visit the links below or stop by the Village Center front desk during office business hours.

2026 renewals or first-time purchases are now open for both the **Key Fob Program** and **Pet Licenses**.

Purchase/Renew Your Key Fob – <https://maplebluff.recdesk.com/Community/Membership/Detail?membershipId=166>

Deadline: February 27, 2026

Renew Your Pet License – <https://villageofmaplebluff.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2026-Pet-License-Application-Fillable-PDF.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact the Village Office at: 608-244-3048.



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, Pickleball Open Gym, and regular 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 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.

VILLAGE CENTER GYM LIGHTING COMPLETED

We completed the gym relighting project last month, and the space has really brightened up. This project included replacing the gym lighting with energy-efficient LED fixtures, improving lighting quality, and achieving long-term energy savings.



Youth Programs

Enrichment

Music Together - Mixed-Age

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

Dates: Tuesday, 3/24 – 6/2

Cost: \$185

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

Dates & Time: Tuesday, 3/24 -6/2, 5-5:45pm

Cost: \$185

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 musictogetherwithsusana.com for more information. Adult participation in class is encouraged but not required.

Sports

Junior Basketball

Dates & Time: Tuesdays, 3/17 – 5/5, 4:15 – 5:15pm

Fee & Grades: \$87.00, K-3rd

Location: VH Gym

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!

Track & Field Decathlon

Dates & Time: Thursday, 4/16 – 5/21, 4:15 – 5:15pm

Fee & Grades: \$87.00, 1st – 4th

Location: VH Gym

Fast-paced and inclusive (everyone participates). YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class practices those skills and then use them in safe track and field events (javelin, discus, shot put, long jump, relay race and more). SAFETY is our first rule. We use foam padded javelins and safety hurdles, as well as lightweight safety shot put and discus materials. Get set... GO! Sign up today!



Adult Programs

NEW - GYROKINESIS

Time: 9:30-10:30am

Dates: Thursdays

Session 2: March 19 – May 21

Fee: \$90 per session

Location: Dailey Cabin

About the class: Gyrokinesis classes focus on whole-body movements for functional use and breathwork to address the whole human system and restore balance. By taking this class, individuals will learn how to decompress all their joints while performing the exercises so that the body can expand and increase the range of motion in a safe and healthy manner. Gyrokinesis is performed on chairs, mats, or standing. Gyrokinesis is designed for any age or ability and allows each student to move within their comfort range.

Instructor: Lillian Wilner

Gyrokinesis benefits:

- Stimulates the nervous system
- Increased range of motion
- Improved functional strength & flexibility
- Improved spinal & joint health
- Improved balance & posture



2026 MAPLE BLUFF EVENT VOLUNTEERS

To keep the beloved Village events alive and build on these wonderful traditions, it is essential to have the support and involvement of our Village Residents. We are so grateful to the people who have donated their time, money, and enthusiasm to these events! We need fresh energy and continued participation to keep these fun things going! Please consider volunteering for an event during 2026.

Sign up to volunteer here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/>

[go/9040B4BADA2DAB9-58506995-2026#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B4BADA2DAB9-58506995-2026#/)



4TH ANNUAL MAPLE BLUFF

SPRINKMAN REAL ESTATE



EGG HUNT

**Saturday, March 21st | 10am
at Johnson Park**

All ages ensured a chance for goodies with our staggered start times. While the kids hunt for eggs, enjoy Greenbush Bakery donuts and a complimentary coffee courtesy of Ancora Cafe!

Sponsored by Sprinkman Real Estate.

CALL ONE OF OUR EXPERTS TO TURN YOUR REAL ESTATE GOALS INTO REALITY!



Shelly Sprinkman
(608) 220.1453



Trey Sprinkman
(608) 354.4000



Lori Murphy
(608) 347.2281



Kristine Jaeger
(608) 217.1919



VIEW ALL
MAPLE BLUFF
LISTINGS



18 OXFORD PLACE MADISON, WI 53704



Go GREEN: Pay Utility Bills Online

Pay ONLINE

Go to www.villageofmaplebluff.com/payments

1. Click "Utilities"
2. You will go to our payment processor's website where you should register and make your payment

Or CALL

1-877-885-7968 (have your bill handy to provide your account number)

We accept...



WHY?

Help save natural resources by paying online or calling.

- Easy, fast and secure
- Pay immediately, schedule a payment or set up Auto-Pay
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