

2015 Energy Drive
East Troy, WI 53120
262-642-6255

Village Board

1st and 3rd Monday at 6:30

Plan Commission

2nd Monday at 6:30

Important Numbers

Village Hall 642-6255
Building Insp. 642-6260
Library 642-6262
Municipal Court 642-6252
Park & Rec 642-6255
Police Dept. 642-6250
(non-emergency)
Public Works 642-6255

Elected Officials

Village President:

Scott Seager

Trustees:

John Alexander
Mary Hubbard Nugent
Matt Johnson
Fortune Renucci
Jason Smalley
Joe Wisniewski

Judge:

Michael Cotter



Our Thirty First Edition

Welcome to the Thirty First edition of the Village View newsletter! Keep up to date on upcoming events this year by following our Facebook & Instagram pages and sign up to receive e-mails on our [website](#).

COW Meeting Potential Water Utility Rate Increase

The Village of East Troy, along with Ehlers, invite you to attend a Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, March 20, 2023, to discuss a potential water utility rate increase. On February 20, 2023, Ehlers, the Village's financial advisors, reviewed the 2022 Financial Management Plan with the Village Board. They indicated the need to address the financial health of the water utility due to inflation and infrastructure needs. A rate case application will need to be submitted to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) for review. Ehlers projects the PSC will need increase the Village's water portion of the utility bill by 22%, about \$25.00 per quarter if a conventional rate case is pursued. The Board may decide to pursue a simplified rate case, which would be a lower percentage increase but require a series of smaller increases over several years. A rate adjustment for the sanitary sewer is not needed at this time.

The last rate case was in 2019, in which the volumetric water rate was reduced by 12.5% and the flat rate quarterly charges increased by 35.2% for an average quarterly residential bill increase of 10.6%. Prior to that the last water rate increase was in 2016 at 23% for the volumetric water rate and 15% for the quarterly water service charge. If the Village pursues a conventional rate case application, the process is expected to take 6-10 months. A simplified rate case application is expected to take 45 days.



Important Dates:

March

- 15 Water/Sewer Bills Mailed
- 20 COW Meeting

April

- 1 Overnight Parking Restrictions End
- 4 [Spring General Election](#)
- 5 [Utility Bills Due](#)
- 7 Offices Closed
- 17-21 Hydrant Flushing

May

- 15 Yard Waste Collection
- 29 Memorial Day -Offices Closed

See our full event calendar at: eastroywi.gov

Parks & Recreation Department

Submitted by Vickie Muszynski, Parks & Recreation Director

As always, lots of exciting things are happening in the Parks & Recreation Department! Right now, we are in the process of constructing a new pier at the Mill Pond. It will be ready for fishing this spring!

This summer we have a fun family movie scheduled for Movies in the Park. Movies are held at Booth Lake Memorial Park and start at dusk and is FREE! Bring your blanket, chair, and your friends for a great time. Watch the calendar of events on our [website](#) for updates!

The Recreation Department also has discounted tickets to many attractions available after Memorial Day. Pick up your tickets at the Village Clerk Office at the Village Hall for Six Flags, Noah's Ark, Mount Olympus, and the Milwaukee County Zoo! Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8am-4pm.

No Mow May

No Mow May" has become a popular initiative that encourages people to stop mowing or mowing less often, for the month of May. Letting your native flowering grasses and weeds grow during the month of May provides a pollinator-friendly habitat in the early growing season for bees, butterflies, and other insects. Participation is completely voluntary and all property maintenance ordinances must be followed at the end of May. There are also other ways to promote a pollinator friendly habitat such as reducing pesticide usage and planting pollinator friendly plants.

What Residents Can Do

Residents can do many things to help be more friendly to pollinators. Here are a few ways community members can make a difference:

- Reduce the use of pesticides in yards
- Plant native, pollinator-friendly plants
- Remove invasive plants and protect native plant communities
- Plant a pollinator garden
- Leave some areas in yards mulch-free
- Convert portions of lawns into wildflower meadows
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- Plant your zucchini and let it trail - it is a great source of pollen and will keep all the pollinators busy
- Pollinators love those flowering plants such as dandelions and clovers
- Maintain a mowed "buffer" that separates your lawn from your garden. Maintaining a tidy mowed edge also makes a busy natural planting look less overwhelming, and makes these spaces look intentional rather than neglected

No Mow May (continued)

Tips for Mowing Long Grass at the end of no Mow May

- Adjust your mower to the highest setting and make the first pass to reduce the grass height. After you have reduced the grass height to a more manageable length, change the mower setting by reducing the height of the blade before making a second pass.
- Do not cut more than 1/3 of the grass height at a time in a single mowing. For example, if your grass is 6" tall, do not remove more than 2" of length. This helps prevent root stress and promotes turf vigor.
- Do not mow or blow grass clippings into the street! Grass and leaves in the street can travel into stormwater sewers. Many stormwater facilities flow directly into our local waterways and the added nutrients can cause algal blooms and other detrimental effects. Debris in the street can also be dangerous for drivers, especially motorcycles and bicycles.



What can you do during other months to help our lawns, pollinators, and environment?

- If you typically mow your lawn every week (or more frequently), consider mowing every other week. Research has shown this to increase the number of individuals and species variety of pollinators. An added bonus of a less-is-more approach to lawn care is that more mowing can be associated with increased pests and allergy-causing plants like ragweed.
- Consider practicing grass cycling - the natural recycling of grass by leaving clippings on the lawn when mowing.
- Skip watering your lawn. EPA estimates that 30% of residential water usage is devoted to outdoor use including watering lawns and gardens. Experts estimate that as much as 50% of water used for irrigation is wasted due to evaporation, wind, or runoff caused by inefficient irrigation methods and systems. When watering is needed, use a sprinkler that shoots low to the ground and sprinkle your lawn, not sidewalks, driveways, or streets.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides and pesticides. Besides being potentially harmful to our pollinators, chemical and weed killers are not needed for a healthy lawn and they are one of the main reasons we have green algae in our lakes and streams. You can test your soil to know if your lawn needs more nutrients. Mulch to keep the lawn healthy, so it can out-compete weeds for light, nutrients, and water. If you must fertilize, do it in the fall. Sweep up fertilizer that falls on the street and sidewalk and dispose of it properly – water and fertilizer that go into the street go directly into rivers, streams or lakes.

New Badger Books & 2023 Elections

There is a change coming! The Village of East Troy will begin using Badger Book Electronic Poll Books in 2023. The Badger Book is an electronic version of the paper poll book and performs only those functions - to check in voters, process Election Day Registrations, and record absentee participation.

You, as a voter, will notice several changes as this will streamline your check-in process and eliminate the need for separate check-in lines based on your last name, you will be able to sign the poll book using your finger or a stylus, and your voter participation will be viewable sooner in [MyVote](#).

What will **NOT** change is that you will continue to state your name and address out loud, show your photo ID, sign the poll book, vote your ballot and place it in the tabulator. These electronic poll books are secure and are never connected to the internet. They are password protected, voter and participation data is encrypted and secure, the system uses a wireless router within the polling place to communicate between stations and only the information that is normally in the poll book is used. We are excited to offer this service to our voters to simplify their election experience.

Next Election in 2023:
April 4 = Spring Election

What's on my ballot?

- Justice Of The Supreme Court
- East Troy Village President
- East Troy Village Trustee (3)
- East Troy Community School District School Board Member (1)
- State of Wisconsin Conditions of Release Before Conviction Referendum
- State of Wisconsin Cash Bail Before Conviction Referendum
- State of Wisconsin Welfare Benefits Referendum
- East Troy Community School District Exceed Revenue Limit Referendum - [More in formation about the referendum can be found on their website.](#)

Department of Public Works



Yard Waste

The Spring yard waste collection is scheduled for May 15, 2023. All materials must be curbside by 6 AM. Brush and branches must be bundled, less than 4' in length, less than 6" in diameter, less than 50 pounds. No full trees. Clippings, leaves and garden debris must be in PAPER BIODEGRADABLE bags or in 32 gallon garbage cans (NOT the garbage or recycling totes). All yard waste must be free of glass, plastic, metal, stones & other non-degradable materials. Weeds are included but invasive species including garlic mustard should not be mixed with yard waste. Invasive species may be bagged and placed in the brown cart for the garbage collection. ** PLASTIC BAGS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

The TOWN of East Troy maintains a compost site that is available to VILLAGE residents for a FEE for leaves, grass and garden debris only. Stickers are available from the Village Hall for \$1.50/each and are required for EACH 30 gallon bag of materials taken to the site. The site is located off of County Hwy L, 1.3 miles north of State Hwy 20 and is open every other Saturday from 9am to 2pm.

[§270-8\(C\)](#) Burning of yard waste shall be allowed between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Burning of yard waste can be contained in a fire pit or fireplace or be open air burning.



Hydrant Flushing

Hydrant flushing is scheduled for the week of April 17, 2023. All areas within the Village may be affected during this time. You may notice your water pressure varying and potential sediment causing water discoloration. Residents are urged to observe clarity of their water prior to use. If discoloration appears, run cold tap water until it clears. Flushing is done as part of routine maintenance and to maintain the integrity of the water system.



Reporting a Streetlight Outage

To report a streetlight that is out, please contact We Energies 800-662-4797 or go to We Energies website, we-energies.com. Please supply the number that is located on the light pole.

Dog License

ALL dogs in the Village of East Troy are required to be licensed under Wisconsin State Statute, chapter 174. There is no form to fill out but you must provide a **current rabies certificate which includes the date, vaccine mfg. and serial number to obtain a license** and evidence that the dog is neutered or spayed. **Fees:** \$13.00 Neutered or Spayed Dog; \$32.00 Non-Altered Dog. A late fee of \$5.00 will be collected for dog owners who fail to obtain a license **prior to April 1**. For licenses obtained after July 1st for dogs that are 5 months old or older a fee of \$6.50 for altered and \$16.00 for unaltered apply.

New Online Payment System

The Village has a new online payment provider! The Village integrated with MSB in late February for Park & Rec, permits, and water/sewer utility payments. With this new payment provider, residents now have the option to pay with a banking account (eCheck) for a fee of \$1.00.

Open Book/Board of Review

Open Book: Wednesday, May 10, 2023, from 1pm-3pm, by phone with the [assessor](#) but there will be a roll at Village Hall for inspection. To schedule an appointment with the assessor call 1-800-721-4157.

Board of Review: Wednesday, May 31, 2023, from 5pm-7pm at Village Hall



2015 Energy Drive
 East Troy, WI 53120
 Phone: 262-642-6255
 E-mail: voet@easttroywi.gov
 Web: www.easttroywi.gov

Administrator:	Eileen Suhm
Chief of Police:	Jeremy Swendrowski
Director of Public Works:	Jason Equitz