



TOWN OF WILSON

... a love story.

FALL 2021
Newsletter

Update from the Town Chairman

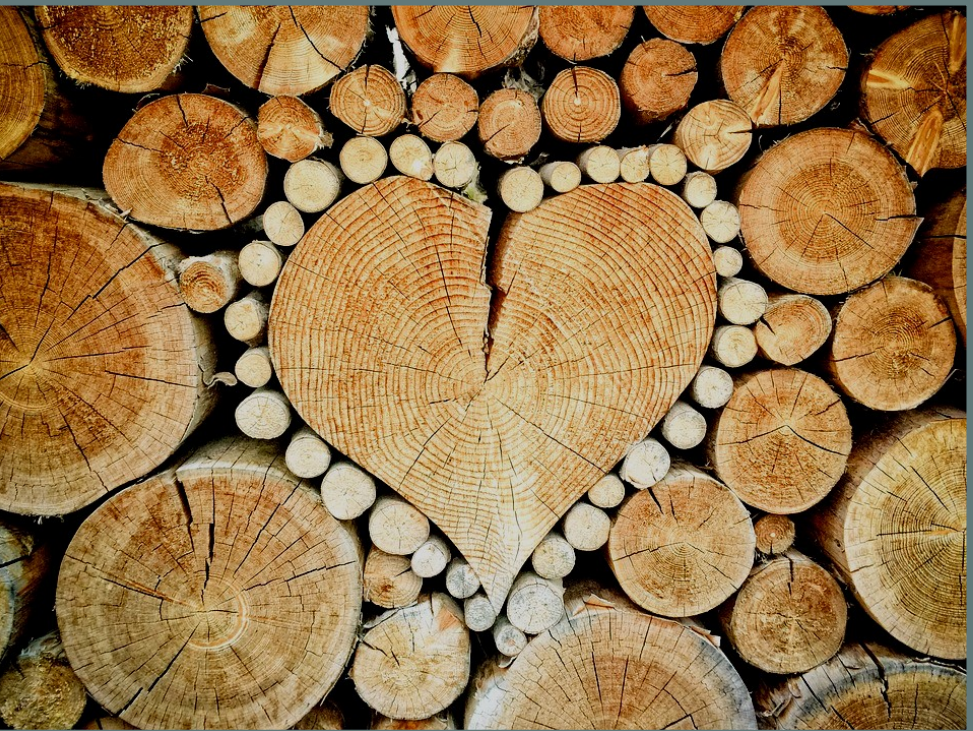
Greetings. I hope you are all doing well and enjoyed the beautiful summer. With the change in seasons comes another newsletter to update you on what's going on in the town.

Volunteers get it done! – Thank you so much to all of you who contribute your time and talents to our community. Town governments simply cannot work without you. To our firefighters, fire advisory committee, first responders, plan commission members, parks and forestry team, and many other committee members and volunteers, your dedication and commitment is so greatly appreciated.

Staff & Volunteer Updates

It is bittersweet for me to announce that our Maintenance Supervisor, Rick Meyer, will be retiring in the spring. Rick has been an invaluable member of our team for the past 22 years and will leave behind some very big shoes to fill. I greatly admire the way Rick goes about his business. His passion, integrity, and the pride he takes in helping others, is unmatched. He will be greatly missed. We will be seeking to hire Rick's replacement later this year.

We are excited to announce the hiring of Todd DeBruin as one of our two ordinance enforcement officers. Todd is currently the principal at Farnsworth Middle School. His primary role will be to investigate resident complaints and enforce town ordinances. His contact information



can be found on the town website at <https://www.townwilson.com/contact-town-of-wilson/>.

Rich Ternes has decided to step down from the Plan Commission after more than 13 years of service. I want to thank Rich for the knowledge and experience he has contributed to that team. In his place, Erik Thelen has stepped in. Erik retired from Marquette University as the Executive Director of Research and Sponsored Programs.

Pandemic Emergency Plan – Now more than 1.5 years into this pandemic, we just can't seem to shake it. And with the onset of variants, the start of school, and the coming winter migration to the indoors, it looks to be with us for a while. As such, the town board continues to operate under an emergency plan that prioritizes public safety. The town office remains closed to the public and is only available in certain situations by appointment. We ask that you continue to conduct your town business remotely by email or

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phone or by using the town office drop box. Town board and sanitary commission meetings continue to be held remotely via Zoom. Plan commission meetings are being conducted in-person at the larger town hall and require attendees to social distance and wear masks.

American Rescue Plan Act

(ARPA) Funds – On March 11, 2021, the President signed into law a \$1.9 trillion relief bill of which \$350 billion is designated for state and local governments. The Town of Wilson received \$175,320 in ARPA funds in 2021 and we expect to receive an additional equivalent amount in 2022. The federal government developed a complex set of very restrictive rules as to how the funds can be spent, which they are still refining. The funds must be spent by December 31, 2026. Funds not spent or used for ineligible purposes must be repaid to the Treasury. The town will

from the electorate at a September 8 special board meeting to purchase a 6.5-acre parcel of land directly to the north of the town hall. The property was acquired as a potential satellite site for the Town Fire Department. This location is closer to the town's population growth and more centrally located within the town. The net purchase price is \$146,579 plus closing costs.

Truck – The town is in the process replacing our 1996 Chevy 3500 dump truck with a 2022 Ford F-450 truck. The estimated cost of \$56,691 will be part of our 2022 budget.

Power Plant Closing – Alliant Energy is still on track to close their Edgewater generating station, one of two remaining coal plants in Wisconsin, by the end of 2022. The move comes as Alliant shifts to cleaner and more cost-effective natural gas, wind and solar. With input from local officials, busi-

ness neighborhood. We have heard from many residents on this subject and appreciate the information, feedback, and ideas we've received. At a recent town board meeting two board members were tasked to work with the DNR to study the issue and develop an action plan.

Kohler Golf Course – There are a few updates with this project. The revocation of Kohler's DNR wetland fill permit by an Administrative Law Judge in 2018 was upheld by the Sheboygan County Circuit Court this past May, affirming that the standards for issuing the permit were not met. Kohler has requested an appeal. A separate lawsuit filed by a private advocacy group contesting the Natural Resource Board's 2018 decision to swap 6.47 acres of state park land for other Kohler owned property, was challenged by Kohler arguing the group did not have legal standing to file suit against a

"The Town of Wilson received \$175,320 in ARPA funds in 2021 and we expect to receive an additional equivalent amount in 2022."

provide a definitive plan as to how we expect to apply these funds in the future.

Road Improvements – Major road projects for 2021 include the following.

Timberlake Road –

Pulverize and pave (completed)

Juniper Drive East –

Pulverize and pave (completed)

Culvert Replacements –

Frontage Road, Ourtown Road, Claver Court (completed)

Claver Court & Ourtown Road –

Paving and betterment (in progress)

We are in the process of evaluating our 2022 road projects as we work through the 2022 budget. However, we expect fewer dollars to be available for 2022 as the Claver Court and Ourtown Road repair was an unexpected but necessary project to begin this year due to their rapid deterioration.

Major Purchases – There are some other notable capital expenditures

Land – The town received approval

business leaders, and residents, Alliant plans to transform the 265-acre site, located in both the City of Sheboygan and Town of Wilson, into a mixed-use development that best meets community needs. The project is in its very early stages so much is still to be determined.

Solar Farm – WE Energies has teamed up with Millipore Sigma to construct a 10.5-acre 2.25-megawatt solar photovoltaic array on the western edge of Millipore Sigma's property off County Hwy A. It will become one of WE Energies' 23 solar projects currently existing or under construction. WE Energies will own and operate the solar array under a 30-year lease agreement with Millipore Sigma, after which the land will be returned to its original condition. Construction is planned to begin yet this year.

Deer Population – The town board is aware of the growing deer population, especially in the Black River

state agency. After both the Circuit Court and Appellate Court ruled against Kohler, the Wisconsin Supreme Court will now hear the case on October 1. Yet a third lawsuit challenging the DNR's Environmental Impact Statement asserting deficiencies in its evaluation of wetland and stormwater impacts will move forward after the Circuit Court dismissed a challenge to the group's legal standing to file suit.

If you have any questions or feedback or would like to discuss any issue in more depth, please do not hesitate to call the town office, me, or any supervisor. Go Badgers!

John Ehmann, Chairman
(920) 254-9362

*"Me and you and you and me
No matter how they toss the dice,
it had to be
The only one for me is you,
and you for me
So happy together" – The Turtles*

INNOVATION FROM NECESSITY

As with almost everything in today's world, the Park & Forestry Commission has had difficulty reaching some of its goals in 2021, but moving the Town Hall flag pole was one of our successes!



Due to high wind damage to the American flag, our flag pole was moved front and center at the Town Hall. A semicircle of boxwood shrubs were planted around the flag and in about 3 years, the plantings will grow into a pretty hedge "embracing" the Town Hall.

INTERESTING FACT: The Town of Wilson Office and Town Hall are actually within the boundaries of Kauffmann Park!

Commission openings—

Two of our longest-serving Commissioners are ready to hang up their garden gloves and have asked that we search for replacements for them.

Any interested citizens can contact Chairperson, Greg Hopkins at 920-744-8532 or via e-mail at greghopk@gmail.com for information about joining the Park & Forestry Commission.

Trailing thoughts-

Debates are taking place regarding the condition of the walking path in Schinker Creek Park.

Some think it should be seeded over while others think it should be upgraded to a crushed limestone path similar to the fit-

ness trail in Fireman's Park - we welcome your input!

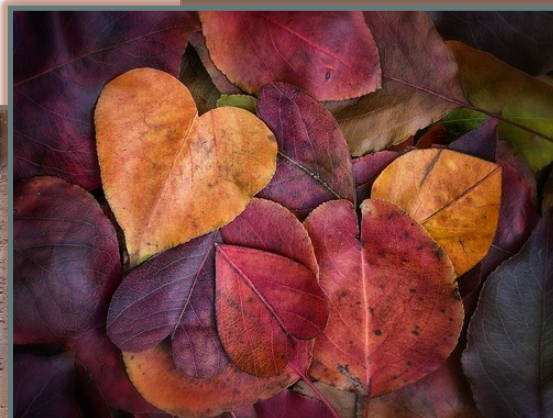
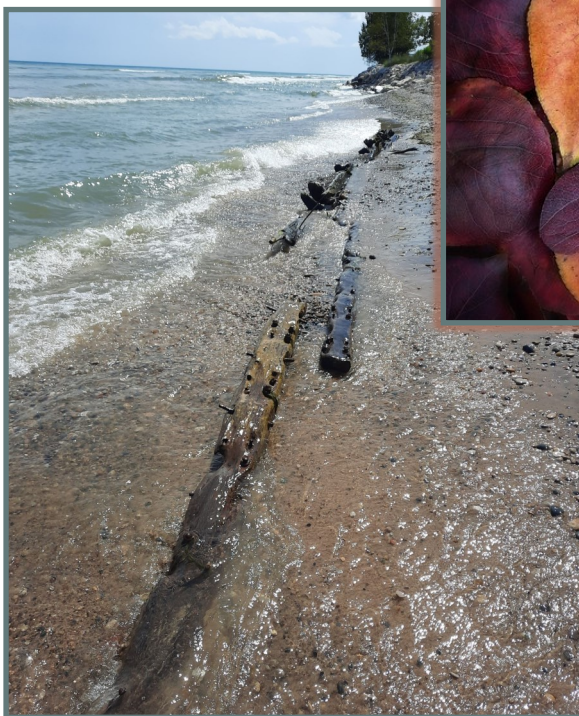
The good fight—

The Commission has been trying to win a difficult battle to bring under control an invasion of Japanese barberry in the Mueller Family Conservancy.

The project turned out to be much more complex than we had imagined, so we are seeking additional funding to clear the nasty invaders from this wonderful conservancy on the Black River.

Your suggestions and comments are always welcome!

*Submitted by Greg Hopkins, Chairman,
Park & Forestry Commission*



*A partial shipwreck spotted on our lakeshore this past August.
- photos courtesy of Dave Bollwahn*

— — — — —
*"... 'Cause love's such an
old fashioned word.
And love dares you to care for
the people on the edge of the
night.*

*And love dares you to change
our way of caring about our-
selves ..."*

Queen with David Bowie





“Love all, trust a few,
do wrong to none.”

– William Shakespeare

SANITARY PAYMENTS

Sanitary District 3rd quarter payments that are not received in our office by November 15th will have the full balance owed tax rolled onto the corresponding property tax bill.

GENTLE REMINDER

Flushing non-biodegradable items down the drains can result in clogs in and around your home.

Please be aware that flushable wipes are not biodegradable and can cause a costly and messy clog.

Any clog of the sewers in a residents home and in the lateral (pipe that runs to main line at the street) is the responsibility of the home owner.

HOME SWEET HOME

If someone were to ask me to name one favorite thing about living in the Town of Wilson, I don't think I could do it. There are just too many things I love.

As a child, I walked these blacktop roads; I played in the parks and meadows with my friends. Some of you may remember how things were back then.

My favorite travel route was a path at the end of 8th street that led to the Boy Scout Bridge. It connected my neighborhood to my best friends neighborhood.

My favorite lunch spot was Indian Mound Park. There was always a downed tree we could find to sit on, and if we were lucky it crossed the river, expanding our playground without us having to get wet.

On Indian Mound Road we would sit under the bridge and watch the fish make their way up stream.

If it was late in the day we would listen to the frogs sing their nighttime song.

I wouldn't have been surprised to find Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn having an adventure.

My parents raised me here, and we raised our kids here.

When I was off at college, I missed here.

While I lived my big life in a big city, I yearned for here.

This is our home.
OUR Town.

These wonderful childhood memories are things that still exist here in the Town of Wilson. As I walk my dog I see children taking in the same experiences I had and it fills my heart with joy.

What is your favorite thing?

Have you seen a doe cross the street mid-afternoon, or watch a falcon take flight from a neighboring pine?

When you step outside at night, have you heard the coyotes howl in the distance, or seen the fireflies dance in July?

We are so lucky to have the sights and sounds of nature all around us.

I want it to stay this way. No sidewalks, no city lights. Just a bunch of really good people living the simple life. Living their best life. Living in the greatest place in the world.

Whether you've lived here less than a year or a hundred years, my hope is that you all have found your special love for the Town of Wilson.

A place we all call HOME.

“Now I look at my front porch and this panoramic view; I can sit and watch the fields fill up with rays of glowing sun or watch the moon lay on the fences like that's where it was hung. My blessings are in front of me.” - Lonestar

NEW FACES

The Southside Alliance Church building has sold to Crossroads Community Church in Sanitary District 2 territory, and the Wilson Mutual Insurance building is now the new home for the Sheboygan Area School District Administrative Building in Sanitary District 1.

We welcome them both to the Town of Wilson and to the Sanitary Districts!

THAT SATURDAY STROLL

Walking has always been a popular pastime in the Town of Wilson. We invite you all to step outside into the crisp breeze and take a look for yourself at what beauty you can find.

Please remember, if you're bringing a pet along with you it is required to clean up bathroom breaks. Let's keep the roadsides free of pet debris and litter and keep our environment clean for everyone to enjoy.



PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Once again this year, the pandemic is changing the way property taxes will be collected.

Our office will remain closed to the public for the property tax season, however you are encouraged to mail your taxes to our office or use our drop box conveniently located outside of our front door.

If you would like a receipt for your payment please include a self addressed stamped envelope and we will mail it to you as soon as your payment is processed.

At the time of newsletter publication, Wisconsin Bank and Trust has indicated they will be open for accepting payments this year, however as things change so rapidly please watch our website for any changes to these guidelines.

ANNEXATION

When cities claim that annexation isn't about the money, follow the money.

By annexation of a single property, the city now takes control of that properties' tax dollars and will also bill for all municipal services they provide. Imagine how that number exponentially grows when it's a few miles worth of properties.

Due to excellent planning, resourceful and responsible use of tax dollars, the residents of the Town of Wilson have never been charged an assessment when the road their property resides on has been resurfaced or replaced.

Alternatively, when a city owned road is resurfaced, there is potential for an assessment per foot of frontage of property.

In the City of Sheboygan, ordinances are in place requiring residents to clear ice and snow, care for sidewalks and pay for repair and replacement unless the damage is from a City own tree.

Along side that, the property tax mill rate is significantly lower in our Town so annexation would incur a higher property tax bill.



Our bottom line is different. For us, it really isn't about money.

We like it that you are here.

Our sense of community is unshakable and our tranquility can calm the most frenzied of days.

We want to be here for you, and for generations to come.

Hold tight to your peace
in the Town of Wilson.

*You ask me if there'll come a time
When I grow tired of you
Never, my love. Never, my love
You wonder if this heart of mine
Will lose its desire for you
Never, my love, Never, my love
What makes you think love will end?
When you know that my whole life depends
On you. - The Association*

DOG LICENSING

Licensing man's best friend is an annual requirement in the Town of Wilson.

Due to the pandemic, please mail your request to us or use our drop box located outside our front door.

Licensing is required for all dogs over 5 months old. Fees are \$7 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$14 for intact dogs.

Please include a copy of the current rabies certificate for each dog you are licensing along with your payment and a self addressed stamped envelope.

We will mail you the license and tags.

Mail Any Payments to:
Treasurer
5935 S. Business Drive
Sheboygan, WI 53081

ELECTIONS

The next election in the Town of Wilson will be held in April of 2022.

Please watch our website for upcoming covid measures .

Elections held on the first Tuesday in April are to elect judicial, educational, and municipal officers, and non-partisan county officers, and to express preferences for the person to be the presidential candidate for each party in presidential election years. State Statue 5.02(21)

HERE ARE SOME OF THE BRANDS USING RECYCLED FABRICS

- AEROPOSTALE
- ARAMARK
- BE HIPPIY
- FITBIT
- FORD
- GOLDTOE
- GUESS
- HAGGAR
- HARD ROCK
- IGLOO
- JOCKEY
- LANDS' END
- LANE BRYANT
- MILLIKEN
- PHUNKSHUN WEAR
- SLEET & SOLE
- TOMS
- VOLCOM
- YUKON OUTFITTERS

DEBUNKING THE MYTH

MYTH: Recycling just ends up in the same landfill as the trash

Recycling has a valuable impact on our environment by reducing the amount of manmade materials that end up in the biosphere.

By recycling paper, plastic, aluminum and glass these items are given new life and are reborn into a new products.

Glass is the superstar of recycling. It can be melted down and made into new glass.

Paper is a close second in superstar status by becoming paper with a percentage of the ingredients being recycled paper.

Aluminum is recycled into items such as automobile parts and baseball bats.

Plastics are the most complex in the recycling process, but they too become something different and new.

For example, plastic bottles can be processed into fabric! The bottles are chipped into tiny flakes, reprocessed, and spun into polyester yarn. From there it is woven into fabrics that can be used for clothing, car interiors and even American flags.

One company, RePatriot Flag uses 100% ecofriendly material to manufacture flags made 100% in the United States of America with proceeds going to support U.S. veterans through charitable outreach and community services.

There is a limitation to the process of recycling that we can all help to overcome; food contamination.

In recycling, food contamination is an expensive and time-consuming issue that reduces the quality of the final product making the process lose profitability.

This is particularly important to remember

in single stream recycling centers like ours. Single stream recycling is where all recycled materials are shipped together to a facility where workers sort out the different materials.

Paper is most dramatically affected by contamination and in single stream recycling centers, cross contamination is a threat. The oil bottle laying in the newspapers can make the newspapers unusable.

This particular caveat is something we can all overcome right in our kitchen.

By rinsing our recycling of food residue we assure faster sort times and a higher degree of usable product.

In effect, that increases profitability and productivity for the recyclers. With higher quality raw material the recyclers experience less waste, and the whole process

improves; ultimately keeping more out of the landfill.

The immediate bonus is a cleaner recycling bin with less stink from rancid food. You can bet that the sorting plant employees appreciate that tenfold!

The next time you rinse out a ketchup bottle or a pesto jar, it is a fair question to ask: "My Darling..... I wonder what you will become!"

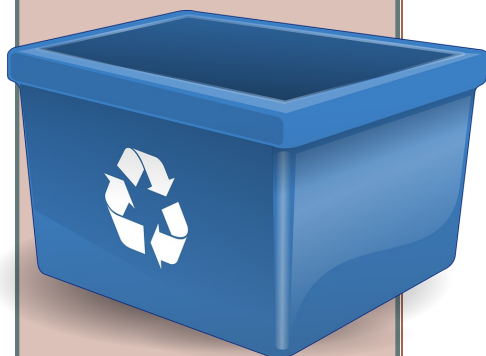
SNOWPLOWING

The Town of Wilson contracts two companies to plow and salt roadways.

Wagner Excavating plows roads East of I-43, and North of CTH- V. Sheboygan County Highway Department plows West of I-43, and South of V.

Please remember, shoveling snow or snow blowing into the roadway is an ordinance violation.

Congratulations Rick Meyer on a job well done! May every day of your retirement be more beautiful than the one before .



A storage tote makes transportation of loose recyclables easy!

SAFETY FIRST

As we enter the heating season the Town of Wilson Fire Department and First Responders offers a few safety tips to keep you and your loved ones safe.

Sunday, November 7, 2021 is the end of daylight savings.

This is a great time to check your smoke detectors and your Carbon Monoxide detectors and maintain them as needed. With many smoke detectors hard wired in homes now the batteries last much longer but still require changes.

Carbon Monoxide detectors also require maintenance, please check for expiration dates on the sensor packs on detectors as well.

Inspect fireplace chimneys to assure they are cleaned and free of debris.

If you have a high efficiency gas furnace, keep the venting pipe free from snow so that harmful gasses don't build up inside your home. Shoveling the area free of snow eliminates the restriction that snow can cause.

Examine cords on decorative lighting to ensure everything is in safe working condition before installing and be mindful of how many plugs and adapters are being used. Loose connections can make for a dangerous situation both inside and out.

When using space heaters this winter, first and foremost, never leave them unattended. Space heaters that are unattended are very dangerous and can cause fires quickly if the unit gets tipped over or faults out and no one catches it immediately.

Make sure that when using space heaters there is no clutter around the unit.

Updated units are much safer than older units and if you choose to update a unit make certain it is UL Listed and has "Tip Over Protection."

When using ladders for holiday decorating make sure they are stable and on dry ground (no ice!) before stepping onto the ladder.

Keep your walkways free of ice buildup to avoid slips and falls that can quickly lead to broken bones.



*"I feel inclined
to blow my mind.
Get hung up, feed the
ducks with a bun.
They all come out
to groove about,
be nice and have fun
in the sun.
It's all too beautiful..."
- Small Faces*



***Congratulations to Lieutenant Dave Poster
for receiving the Triple Nickle
Firefighter of the year award!!***

*"Love isn't greed it's a need that goes unspoken, Love doesn't leave when you fade away
Pain isn't vain if it means your heart's been broken
Pain is the same as a means to heal"*

- Greta Van Fleet



TOWN OF WILSON STAFF

Clerk Julie Wicker(920) 208-2390 jwicker@townwilson.com

Treasurer Kari Mooney ...(920) 208-2390, Ext. 302
kmooney@townwilson.com

Sanitary District Administrator Karen Bollwahn....(920) 694-0088
kbollwahn@townwilson.com

Maintenance & Road Supervisor Rick Meyer...(920) 980-0198
maintenance@townwilson.com

INSPECTORS

Tom Rogers, Electrical Inspector(920) 377-0074
Grotta Appraisals.....(262) 253-1142
Jack Vander Weele, Building Inspector.....(920) 946-7844
Scott Winter, Plumbing HVAC Inspector(920) 207-2818

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Todd DeBruin(628) 253-0810

TOWN OF WILSON BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman John Ehmann.....(920)254-9362 or chairman@townwilson.com

Supervisor Tom Stoelb..... (920) 627-5647 or supervisors@townwilson.com

Supervisor Brian Hoffmann(920) 918-2010 or supervisorbh@townwilson.com

Supervisor Nancy Des Jardins....(920) 457-1230 or supervisorndj@townwilson.com

Supervisor Matt Fore.....(920) 212-0280 or supervisorfm@townwilson.com

TOWN OF WILSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

firedept@townwilson.com

Todd Hittman, Chief(920) 458-6763

Steve Pautz, Assistant Chief(920) 946-2216

TOWN OF WILSON FIRST RESPONDERS

Dan Murphy, Service Director (920) 838-3214

Shelly Hittman, Co-Director (920) 458-6763

EMERGENCY SANITARY SEWER CONTACTS:

Otis Kiehl: (920) 918-8723

Steve Pautz: (920) 946-2216

Mike Klokow: (920) 457-6727

Tom Sanville: (920) 457-6554

Or Tom Sanville Cell : (920)980-0262

OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM Mon. - Thurs;

Phone (920) 208-2390; Fax (920) 208-2450

SANITARY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday Afternoons *hours vary*

Tues. 10-3:30 PM and Thursday 8:30 - 12:30PM;

Phone: (920)694-0088; Fax: (920) 452-0548

RECYCLE CENTER & TRANSFER STATION

4430 Meyer Court

Tues. 8 AM - 5 PM; Sat. 8 AM- 4 PM

Newsletter by Karen Bollwahn



TOWNWILSON.COM