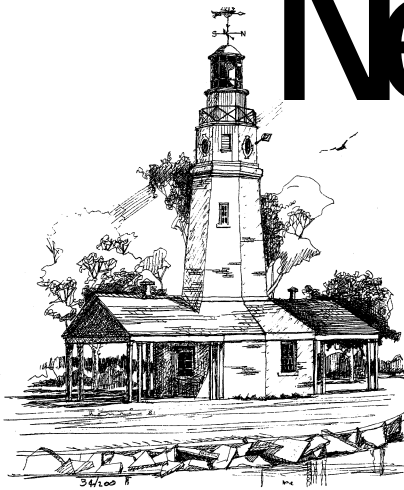


# Neenah Notes

The City of Neenah Newsletter

VOL. 4, NO. 1

Winter 2003



## Message from Mayor George Scherck

I hope your family had a blessed Christmas season and that the New Year will be full of security for our nation, fiscal responsibility for our state, and well being for all Neenah citizens. In this time of uncertainty and economic downturn, we worked very hard to provide you with a "good news budget" that reduced taxes while continuing to make investments that increase the tax base. The Operating Budget I proposed to the council, reflected an 8.10% equalized tax rate reduction and a 3.93% reduction in the tax levy. I also proposed removing \$3,277,000 in capital projects from the requested spending plan, a reduction of \$2.5 million compared to 2002.

The costs of government continues to rise, but that cannot be used as an excuse to simply increase taxes. Business as usual has to give way to creative searches for cost-effective methods of providing quality services to you. Consolidation efforts, reorganizing of city departments, use of technology, and increased efficiencies in operation are essential to accomplish this goal.

The owner of the average assessed home (\$125,000) will see a storm water charge of \$56 on their water bill for 2003, but will save \$104 dollars in taxes based on the creation of a Storm Water Utility District, which more equitably distributes the costs of storm water management. By charging the costs to every property that is served, the residential property owner benefits from this change.

I want to thank all of you who have become more involved and interested in our local community and encourage everyone to make your views and concerns known. I hold office hours the first Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm, but my office door is always open to you. If you can't get to city hall, don't hesitate to call me (751-4604) or e-mail me at [gscherck@ci.neenah.wi.us](mailto:gscherck@ci.neenah.wi.us). I work for all of you and your views can make a difference.

Happy New Year and best wishes,

<b>Mayor</b>	
George Scherck	751-4604
<b>City Assessor</b>	
Jack Ophoven	751-4610
<b>City Attorney</b>	
Jim Godlewski	751-4606
<b>City Clerk</b>	
Jean Moxon	751-4602
<b>Community Development Director</b>	
Bob Buckingham	751-4660
<b>Finance Director</b>	
Mike Easker	751-4642
<b>Fire Chief</b>	
Len Vander Wyst	751-4700
<b>Health Department Director</b>	
Judy Crouch-Smolarek	751-4650
<b>Information Systems Director</b>	
Joe Wenninger	751-4714
<b>Library Director</b>	
Steve Proce	751-4722 ext. 100
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Director</b>	
Eileen McCoy	751-4614
<b>Police Chief</b>	
D.J. Forcey	751-4677
<b>Public Works Director</b>	
Tim Hamblin	751-4625
<b>Water Works Director</b>	
Larry Wettering	751-4620
<b>Aldermanic District 1</b>	
Jim Hemes	729-1289
Mark Lange	729-0831
Nick Piergrossi	751-0842
<b>Aldermanic District 2</b>	
John Ahles	727-1306
Don Winter	725-1520
Judy Zaretzke	722-1291
<b>Aldermanic District 3</b>	
Darlene Hengels	729-9230
Bruce Rhoades	727-0243
Todd Stevenson (Pres.)	722-5440

### INSIDE

Storm Water Utility Projected Savings.....	2
Band Concerts.....	2
Neenah Library Presents.....	2
Snow Removal.....	3
Water Billing Survey Results.....	3
Part-time Job Openings.....	3
Immunization Clinic Schedule.....	3
City Hall remodeling.....	4
Riverside Players Summer Director Positions.....	4



## Refuse & Recycling Guide Inside

## Storm Water Utility District Projected Homeowners' Savings

The Storm Water Utility will result in local property tax savings for residential property owners—approximately \$1.050 million will be removed from the tax levy. This equates to a reduction of \$.83 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Costs associated with storm water management and operations will be paid on the quarterly water utility bill. Property owners with small homes (2% of residential properties) will pay \$7 per quarter. The typical homeowner (94% of the homes) is projected to pay \$14 per quarter. The 4% of homes which are classified as large will pay \$28 per quarter.

EQUIVALENT RUNOFF UNIT	ASSESSED VALUE	TAX SAVINGS @ \$.83 PER \$1,000	PROPERTY SIZE DESIGNATION	ANNUAL UTILITY BILL INCREASE	ANNUAL SAVINGS
½	\$ 75,000	\$ 62	SMALL	\$ 28	\$ 34
½	\$ 80,000	\$ 66	SMALL	\$ 28	\$ 38
½	\$ 90,000	\$ 75	SMALL	\$ 28	\$ 47
½ - 1	\$ 100,000	\$ 83	SMALL	\$28 - \$56	\$27 - \$55
1	\$ 125,000	\$ 104	MEDIUM	\$ 56	\$ 48
1	\$ 150,000	\$ 125	MEDIUM	\$ 56	\$ 69
1	\$ 175,000	\$ 145	MEDIUM	\$ 56	\$ 89
1	\$ 200,000	\$ 166	MEDIUM	\$ 56	\$ 110
1 - 2	\$ 225,000	\$ 187	MEDIUM	\$56 - \$112	\$75 - \$131
2	\$ 300,000	\$ 249	LARGE	\$ 112	\$ 137
2	\$ 400,000	\$ 332	LARGE	\$ 112	\$ 220

**Equivalent Runoff Unit (ERU)** - Indicates how many units of impervious hard surfaces, such as roof and driveway areas, are contained on the property. One ERU equals \$56/year (\$14/quarter) in storm water utility fees.

### Property Size Designation:

**Small Properties**—Less than 1,700 square feet of hard surface (2% of residential properties).

**Medium Properties**—1,700 to 4,600 square feet of hard surface (94% of residential properties).

**Large Properties**—Greater than 4,600 square feet of hard surface (4% of residential properties).

## Band Concerts

Neenah Community Band's **Ambassador Dance Band**  
Sun., Feb. 23, 2003—2:30 p.m.—Pickard Auditorium

**Neenah Community Band**  
Sun., Mar. 16, 2003—2:30 p.m.—Pickard Auditorium

Admission is **FREE**. Donations accepted. The Neenah Community Band is a program of the Neenah Park & Recreation Department.

## 2003 Dial-A-Ride Changes

The Northern Winnebago Dial-A-Ride program, which provides lower cost transportation to residents aged 60 and over, will have Kobussen Buses Ltd. as its service provider in 2003. The fare for a one-way trip to most areas of the Fox Cities will be \$2.75.

To obtain information and ride tickets for 2003, please call the Department of Community Development at 751-4660.

## Neenah Library Presents

### Tim Dorsey in Concert

Singer Tim Dorsey is a perennial favorite.  
Sun., Feb. 16, 2003 — 2:00 p.m. (Adults)

### Creating a Sacred Space

Paula Hayford teaches us how to create a sacred space of peace and serenity...without having to leave home.  
Mon., Mar. 3, 2003 — 2:00 p.m. (Adults)

### The Once & Future Woman

Singer/Songwriter Kristen Lems celebrates women.  
Sun., Mar. 9, 2003 — 2:00 p.m. (Ages 8 to Adult)

### Celtic Harpist

Jeff Pockat weaves his magic on his Celtic harp.  
Sun., Mar. 16, 2003 — 2:00 p.m. (All ages)

### Musical Romp through Women's History

Musician/Educator/Historian Gerri Gribi.  
Sun., Mar. 30, 2003 — 2:00 p.m. (Ages 8 to Adult)

Admission is **FREE**. Call the library, 751-4722 ext. 250, for more information.

## Snow Removal

The winter season is upon us and soon we will be faced with the task of removing snow from our sidewalks and driveways. We would like to remind all residents of the snow removal regulations in our City.

According to Municipal Code Section 6.04(2) all snow must be removed from the public sidewalk within 24 hours following the cessation of any snow storm. If sidewalks are not shoveled in a timely manner the City may do the work and charge the property owner. The minimum charge is \$68 for each time the City has to remove snow from the sidewalk. The Public Works Department will attempt to contact the owner of the property where the sidewalk needs to be shoveled, but according to Municipal Code the City does not need to contact the property owner prior to cleaning the sidewalk.

Shoveling or blowing snow into the City streets is also a violation of Municipal Code Section 6.04(1) as it may result in unsafe and icy streets. Depositing snow in the street could result in being fined up to \$500 for each violation.

The Public Works Department will make every effort to plow the streets at night or when traffic is at a minimum. During heavy snow falls we may need to plow your street more than once to clean it completely. Hopefully, we will have a mild winter!

## Water Billing Survey Results

The results of the recent Water Utility billing survey have been tallied. The options presented in the survey included credit card payment via the Internet, credit card payment over a touchtone phone, automatic deduction from a bank account, monthly budget billing, and additional payment locations.

There was little support for any of these options, although additional payment locations did receive the most votes. A few responders wrote in additional options including on-line bill payment, credit card by mail, credit card at City Hall, and thirty days to pay.

The Water Commission has reviewed the results and decided to take no action at this time because there was no strong support for any of the alternatives. Most of the alternatives have an added fee associated with them, and this may be the reason that there was little support for changes.

The Water Utility has also recently investigated the possibility of electronic billing. This would reduce the costs related to printing and mailing utility bills. However to attract a vendor, a large number of customers are needed. Because Neenah is not large enough, a premium for this service would be charged, making it less economical.

## Summer Part-Time Job Openings

Applications are available at the Park & Recreation Office, 211 Walnut St., Neenah High School Student Services, or at [www.neenahgov.org](http://www.neenahgov.org). *The deadline for accepting applications is Fri., Feb. 7, 2003.*

### **Jobs open to 15-year-olds through adults:**

*Recreation Instructors:* Archery, Baseball, Tot Lot, Crafts, Playgrounds, Drama, Nature Quest, Gymnastics, Tennis, Golf, Soccer, and Tot Sports.

*Swimming Pool Jobs:* Lifeguards, Lesson Instructors, Concessionaires, and Admission Controllers.

*Other:* Softball Scorers, Umpires, & Volleyball Officials.

### **Jobs open to 17-year-olds through adults:**

Park and Cemetery Maintenance Workers.

Competitive wages and excellent working conditions!  
Call 751-4614 for more information.

## Immunization Clinic Schedule

### **Clinic Hours**

Thursday 3:00-4:15 p.m.

Friday 7:45-9:00 a.m. and 10:30-11:00 a.m.

### **Clinic Days**

Jan. 16-17                      Apr. 17-18

Feb. 20-21                      May 15-16

Mar. 20-21                      June 19-20

### **Location**

At the City Health Department, on the second floor of the Neenah City Hall building, 211 Walnut St.

### **By Appointment**

Call 751-4650 for further information and scheduling.

### **Eligibility**

Limited to City of Neenah residents. Those living outside the Neenah City limits should contact the Winnebago County Public Health nurses for immunizations.

## Adult Softball Leagues

Exciting adult softball action Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings May through mid-August. Leagues play twelve games at Memorial or Washington Parks. Tentative starting date is the week of May 5.

### **Leagues Schedule:**

Men's (A, B, or C)—Mondays & Thursdays

Co-ed (A, B, or C)—Wednesdays

Men's Over 35—Thursdays

Registration packets will be mailed to 2002 team managers and will be available at the Park & Recreation City Hall Office (211 Walnut St.) or at [www.neenahgov.org](http://www.neenahgov.org) beginning Jan. 9. Team entry deadline is Feb. 14 for returning teams and Mar. 21 for all other teams.

## Yes, City Hall is continuing to receive a much needed facelift...

...But no, the \$63,000 listed in the *Post Crescent* is not for the mayor's office.

The 25-year-old facility is in the third year of a facelift. The third floor was completed first, then the second floor was worked on last year.

For 2003, the City Council authorized \$63,000 to do the offices of the city clerk, personnel coordinator, city attorney, mayor, deputy clerk, department secretary, records' vault, storage areas, and workroom. Replacement of worn carpets and drapes and installation of ergonomically correct work stations, computer stations, and additional records storage facilities will provide a much needed updating of City Hall.

Expenditures are being cut, but not at the expense of needed investment in facilities, streets, and in opportunities to increase the tax base.

## Neenah Community Band

The NCB needs 2 Clarinet players and 2 percussionists. Call 751-4614 (Park & Rec) or 738-9286 (NCB Director) for more information.

## Riverside Players Theatre in the Park 2003 Summer Director Positions Available



Summer Director theatrical credentials and show proposals must be sent or delivered, **by Jan. 17, 2003**, to the Neenah Park & Recreation Office, 211 Walnut St., P.O. Box 426, Neenah, WI 54957-0426.

Scheduled shows are a Straight Show—June 18-22, and a Musical—July 17-20 & 23-27. Shows will be performed at the Riverside Park Pavilion. Call 751-4614 with questions on salary and responsibilities.

Each show proposal must include: (1) A brief synopsis of the show content, (2) The number of cast members (male & female), (3) The date you believe that the proposed show was last performed in the area, and (4) the Company that holds the royalty rights (if you know).

Anyone interested in other staff positions (Technical Director, Music Director, Costumer, Choreographer, or Orchestra Member) should also call 751-4614.

## Credits

The 'Lighthouse' artwork courtesy of Henri Miles.

# Refuse & Recycling Guide Inside

Postal Customer  
Neenah, WI 54956

**CITY OF NEENAH NEWSLETTER**

Message from Mayor Scherck.....	1
Storm Water Utility Projected Savings.....	2
Band Concerts.....	2
Neenah Library Presents.....	2
Snow Removal.....	3
Water Billing Survey Results.....	3
Part-time Job Openings.....	3
Immunization Clinic Schedule.....	3
City Hall remodeling.....	4
Riverside Players Summer Director Positions.....	4

City of Neenah  
211 Walnut Street  
Neenah, WI 54956



PRSRST STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #2  
54956