

**Ad-Hoc Sustainability
Committee**

Thursday, August 12, 2021

6:00 PM

McFarland Municipal Center
Community Room

AGENDA

You are invited to this meeting through a Zoom webinar. The Public is strongly encouraged to watch and participate in these meetings remotely through either the webinar or telephone options listed below.

PLEASE CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO JOIN THE ZOOM WEBINAR:

Or by Telephone: +1 (312) 626-6799
Webinar ID:

1. CALL TO ORDER.
2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. Discussion and possible action to approve the July 8, 2021 meeting minutes.
4. BUSINESS.
 - a. Discussion regarding joining the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC).
 - b. Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances to add a standing Sustainability Committee.
 - c. Discussion regarding potential sustainability articles for the fall/winter Outlook community newsletter.
5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING
 - a. To be determined.
6. ADJOURNMENT.

This meeting notice constitutes an official meeting of the above referenced group and was posted in accordance with all applicable laws related to Open Meetings Law. It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals. For additional information or to request this service, contact the McFarland Municipal Center at (608) 838-3153 or cassandra.suettinger@mcfarland.wi.us

Working draft - MINUTES
Ad-Hoc Sustainability Committee Meeting

July 8, 2021

Members Present: Angela Freedman, Michael Tiboris, Amber Meyer-Smith, Bruce Fischer, Mary Robb, Isabella Gletty-Syoen (joining at 6:20 p.m.)

Members Absent: Judy Taber (excused)

Staff Present: Andrew Bremer, Kong Thao

1. CALL TO ORDER – Angela Freedman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES – New Staff Kong, gave introduction of himself to committee

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Review and possible approval of the June 10, 2021, Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee meeting minutes.

Fischer motioned to approve last meeting's minutes, seconded by Freedman, Motion passes 5-0.

4. BUSINESS.

a. Discussion and potential action to make a recommendation to the Village board to accept the Sustainability Plan for the Village of McFarland.

Ria Hull, staff from MSA Professional Services, was present to give presentation on the sustainability plan. Ria stated the plan will have pictures and photos added later after edits are complete. Staff provided their notes to be added in the sections following their own review. The committee provided feedback on various parts of the document regarding formatting, headings, tables, and clarity.

Revision statements to the executive summary, edits to the focus sections, formatting of the summary sections prior to the appendix, metrics table to be updated and be more visually appealing, clarity on definition of dollar signs used and its relative amount, methods and sources to be moved to appendix.

Meyer-Smith motioned to recommend the Village Board accept the Sustainability Plan for the Village of McFarland, with the discussed revisions be added to the draft plan as desired by the Committee. Seconded by Tiboris. The motion passes 6-0.

The next Village Board meeting is on July 26th at 7:00 PM. All sustainability committee members are recommended to attend.

b. Discussion and potential action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the formation of a standing Sustainability Committee for the Village of McFarland.

The committee went into discussion on the responsibilities, schedule of future meeting dates and duties of a standing committee. Staff provided feedback from research of similar committees of neighboring communities and Green Tier communities. The committee asked Ria about her past experiences working on a similar committee and their committee's past actions taken within the community. Fischer motioned to recommend the Ad-Hoc Sustainability Committee be a standing committee to the Village Board. The motion was seconded by Gletty-Syoen. The motion passes 6-0.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE

- a. Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 6:00pm.
- b. Village of McFarland's approach to meetings.

Staff provided the group an updated on the Village's hybrid approach to meeting moving forward. The decision was passed by the Village Board on June 14th, 2021 to transition to a more in-person meeting, with online attendees still allowed. Those wishing to attend in-person are required to always wear a mask during the meeting and while in common areas of the Municipal Building. Angela, Ella, and Amber expressed interest to attend in-person meetings. Bruce and Mary were unsure of their decisions. Michael will not be at the next meeting in-person since he is out of town can make the virtual appearance.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

A motion by Robb to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Freedman. Motion passes 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

**VILLAGE OF
McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: Thursday, August 12, 2021

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Community Development

CONTACT: Andrew Bremer, Comm & Eco Dev Director

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion regarding joining the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC).

PREVIOUS ACTION:

ISSUE SUMMARY:

Kathy Kuntz, Director of Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change, has invited the Village to join the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC). Kathy will be attending the meeting to provide a brief overview of the WLGCC and answer questions from committee members. As a precursor, the Mission of the WLGCC:

The Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition coordinates the efforts of local governments that are pursuing clean energy and climate change solutions in the state. The Coalition provides a platform for members to collaborate on overcoming barriers to decarbonization, accelerating local climate change solutions and ensuring the benefits of the clean energy economy are distributed to everyone throughout the state. Local governments and elected officials – as both large electricity users and policy making entities -- have a unique perspective on the threats and challenges that climate change poses, a perspective that is often overlooked in the policy debates. Our members have come to understand that climate change poses severe risks to our communities and that we cannot avoid the worst effects of climate change without effective state policy. As we engage collectively in this effort, we will prioritize solutions that recognize the myriad of economic, health and equity benefits associated with climate action in our communities and that meet the needs of our disproportionately affected minority and low-income citizens in our cities and towns.

Current members include: City of Eau Claire, City of Green Bay, City of La Crosse, City of Madison, City of Middleton, City of Milwaukee, City of Racine, Dane County, Eau Claire County, Milwaukee County.

An example resolution to join WLGCC is provided in the packet.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

Currently, the Department lacks the personnel resources to actively participate in a meaningful way in the WLGCC. Almost all of the existing WLGCC members have dedicated sustainability staff that work in this arena on a full-time basis. More active participation by the Village could likely be achieved with the conversion of the recent part-time Department position to a full-time



position. Once a determination on future personnel decisions has been made through the 2022 budget cycle, staff recommends consideration of joining WLGCC through formal adoption of the sample resolution provided in the packet by the Village Board if there is interest among the Sustainability Committee.

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

McFarland Sustainability Plan

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for discussion.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Sample McFarland WLGCC Authorizing Resolution

DRAFT

**A RESOLUTION JOINING THE WISCONSIN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT CLIMATE COALITION (WLGCC)**

WHEREAS, The Village of McFarland has cause for concern regarding the negative impacts of climate change on greater society and within the local community insofar as climate change increases the risk of flooding, extreme weather, public infrastructure damage, and economic loss; and

WHEREAS, Addressing and mitigating the major contributing factors, such as the burning of fossil fuels, is imperative to slow climate change and protect the public welfare; and

WHEREAS, on July 26th, 2021 the Village Board accepted the completion of the McFarland Sustainability Plan establishing various Village sustainability goals including generating 100% of municipal energy from renewable resources by 2040, and community-wide by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 Dane County adopted a Climate Action Plan establishing a goal of 100% reduction in greenhouse gas emission by 2050; and

WHEREAS, The State of Wisconsin has a goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050, and local governments are important actors to help implement the State's goal and Clean Energy Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC) is comprised of local governments that work together to seek low-carbon and clean energy solutions, and members recognize that climate change poses severe risks to communities and that the worst effects of climate change cannot be avoided without effective State policy; and

WHEREAS, WLGCC supports the following:

1. Increased State and Federal funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy, electrification of transportation and buildings, and advanced technology and research development solutions.
 2. State policies and laws that enable local governments and others to implement such actions to grow the clean energy workforce.
 3. A State plan to retire coal plants no later than 2040.
 4. Choices and universal access to clean energy to reduce cost and participation barriers.
 5. Smart growth development policies and funding to reduce vehicle miles traveled and to preserve natural resources, including agricultural, forestry, and recreational lands.
- ; and

WHEREAS, There is no cost to becoming a WLGCC member; and

WHEREAS, The Village of McFarland shares the goals of the WLGCC.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Village Board that the Village of McFarland, WI officially joins the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition and will

contribute to sustaining its advocacy efforts through filing joint public comments that relate to the Village's greenhouse gas reduction goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Community & Economic Development Department is authorized to comment or intervene on behalf of the Village of McFarland in contested rate cases, dockets, investigations, and other proceedings before the Wisconsin Public Service Commission that relate to the Village of McFarland's carbon reduction goals.

The above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the McFarland Board of Trustees at a regular meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2021.

**VILLAGE OF
McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: Thursday, August 12, 2021

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Community Development

CONTACT: Andrew Bremer, Comm & Eco Dev Director

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances to add a standing Sustainability Committee.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

July 8th, 2021 Ad-Hoc Committee unanimously recommended the Village Board establish a standing Sustainability Committee.

ISSUE SUMMARY:

On July 8th, 2021 the Ad-Hoc Committee unanimously recommended the Village Board establish a standing Sustainability Committee. The packet includes a draft ordinance to revise the Municipal Code to create a standing Sustainability Committee. Similar to other standing committees under Chapter 2, Article III, the ordinance specifies the Jurisdiction and Powers and Duties of the proposed standing Sustainability Committee. Staff reviewed similar ordinances from other Green Tier Communities (refer to second attachment) to create the language in the draft ordinance.

Currently, the Village Board is discussing how various existing Village committees could be restructured. One item under consideration is to modify the existing Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee into two committees 1) Parks and Recreation Committee and 2) Sustainability and Natural Resources Committee. A final determination on this matter, and other committee restructuring, has not been made and is still under discussion. As such, it is likely that the final ordinance to amend the Municipal Code of Ordinances may also include changes to other portions of Chapter 2. Therefore, the purpose of the discussion is to recommend to the Village Board the general content related to the Jurisdiction and Powers and Duties of a standing Sustainability Committee, recognizing that these may be further modified by the Village Board as part of the final ordinance to restructure Village committees.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to recommend to the Village Board amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances



to add a standing Sustainability Committee.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Standing Sustainability Committee Ordinance
2. Adopted Code Examples From Other Green Tier Communities

ORDINANCE 2021-XX

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CREATE A STANDING SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE.

Purpose: To establish a standing Sustainability Committee for the Village of McFarland

Sponsor: Community & Economic Development Director Bremer

Recommended Referral: N/A

Public Hearing: N/A

WHEREAS, the Village Board found that the need for a standing Sustainability Committee was necessary to uphold and meet the efforts of sustainability envisioned in the Village's Sustainability Plan, Strategic Plan, Comprehensive Plan, and the Community Vision and Mission Statement.

WHEREAS, Article III, of Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code provides for General Procedures Applying to Statutorily Authorized Village Authorities, Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Standing Committees which shall apply to the Sustainability Committee as so specified relating to matters of composition, residency, appointments, designation of chair persons, committee membership, attendance, powers and duties, quorum, meetings and public notice, minutes and reports, and cooperation of Village officers.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Village Board of the Village of McFarland, does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Section 2-463 of the McFarland Municipal Code is created to read as follows:

1. Sec. 2-463. – Jurisdiction.

The Sustainability Committee advises the Village Board on policies and practices relative to sustainability including energy, transportation, solid waste, water, land use & development, and community health.

Section 2. Section 2-464 of the McFarland Municipal Code is created to read as follows:

2. Sec. 2-464. – Powers and duties.

The Sustainability Committee is hereby charged with researching and developing recommendations, guidelines and policies for consideration and approval of the Village Board to take advantage of sustainability opportunities for the Village of McFarland. The Committee shall have the following powers and duties, which shall be advisory except as otherwise provided:

- a. Work with Public, Village Staff, consultants, and others to draft, develop, and update, as may be needed from time to time, a Sustainability Plan for implementation in McFarland, including incorporating elements of energy, transportation, solid waste, water, land use & development, and community health.
- b. Review and submit annually to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources the Village's Green Tier Legacy Community Annual Report.
- c. To review and recommend to the Village Board policies, programs, and municipal purchases relating to sustainability.
- d. Consult with private entities, agencies, groups, clubs, higher education institutions, and the community regarding sustainability opportunities and initiatives.
- e. Coordinate and support efforts to unite, focus, and educate Village residents and businesses regarding municipal programs and services as they relate to sustainable opportunities and initiatives.
- f. Provide a forum for addressing public concerns related to sustainable policies and practices.
- g. To perform such duties and have such responsibilities as the Village Board shall from time to time direct related to sustainability opportunities and initiatives.

Section 3. Section 2-465-480 of the McFarland Municipal Code is created to read as follows:

3. Sec. 2-465-480 Reserved.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the McFarland Village Board on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

APPROVED:

Carolyn A. Clow, Village President

ATTEST:

Cassandra Suettinger, Village Clerk-Treasurer

ORDINANCE 2021 –XX	
MOTION	SECOND
ACTION	
DATE	
Adopted	
Referred	
Tabled	
Withdrawn	
Defeated	
Published	
INDIVIDUAL VOTING RECORD	
Brassington -	Rupert -
Clow -	St. Clair -
Flaherty -	Wreh -
Nelson -	
VOTING RESULTS	
Motion Carried:	
Motion Defeated:	

Adopted Code Example From Other Green Tier Communities

City of Middleton Sec. 2.30 Code ([Link](#))

2.30 SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

(1) How Constituted

The Committee shall consist of ten members as follows:

- (a) Eight (8) citizen members.
- (b) One (1) Alderperson.
- (c) One high school age student.

At least three of the citizen members shall possess expertise in one or more areas of sustainability.

(2) Powers and Duties

The Sustainability Committee is hereby charged with researching and developing recommendations, guidelines and policies for consideration and approval of the Common Council to take advantage of sustainability opportunities for the City of Middleton. The Committee is further tasked to identify and/or offer educational opportunities and community events which further City of Middleton residents' knowledge and practice of sustainable actions. For these purposes, sustainability is defined as the use and development of the resources of the City of Middleton to meet community needs and aspirations and best optimize the unique nature of the community without compromising the well-being of future generations.

City of Monona

§ 18-17 Committee on Sustainability.

[Added 09-20-2010 by Ord. No. 8-10-616]

A. Composition. The Committee on Sustainability shall consist of two Council members and six citizen members. The Mayor and City Administrator or their designees shall be ex officio nonvoting members of the Committee.

[Amended 9-19-2016 by Ord. No. 9-16-682; 11-20-2017 by Ord. No. 11-17-692]

B. Appointments.

[Amended 9-19-2016 by Ord. No. 9-16-682; 10-16-2017 by Ord. No. 9-17-689]

(1) Council members. The Council members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Council. The Council members shall serve for a one-year term commencing the third Tuesday of April of each year or until their successors are appointed and confirmed by the Council. One of the Council members shall be designated by the Mayor to serve as Chairperson of the Committee.

(2) Citizen members. The six citizen members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Council. The terms of the citizen members shall be three years beginning the third Tuesday of April and shall be staggered so that not more than three such appointments are made annually.

[Amended 11-20-2017 by Ord. No. 11-17-692]

C. Duties and responsibilities. The Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities, which shall be advisory except as otherwise provided:

- (1) To review and recommend to the Council policies and programs relating to sustainability.
- (2) To review and recommend to the Finance and Personnel Committee all budgetary, revenue and expenditure proposals relating to such policies and programs.
- (3) To perform such duties and have such responsibilities as the Council shall from time to time, by ordinance, resolution or by law, direct.

City of Ashland (CHAPTER 49: SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE [Link](#))

49.01: Purpose.

The Sustainability Committee was created to advise the City of Ashland's Planning and Development Department, Ashland Common Council and other City of Ashland Departments to provide and improve the sustainability resources (including environmental, economic, and social) of the City for the enhancement of the quality of life for residents, the larger regional community, and visitors. The goals of this ordinance will be accomplished through prioritizing Ashland's sustainability goals, completing annual reviews, organizing sustainability improvement projects pertaining to natural resources, economic efficiency, and social interaction, and enhancing communication within and between the City of Ashland and residents. The Sustainability Committee will study and make recommendations regarding sustainability issues affecting Ashland community members and undertake such projects and requested by the City's governing body. The Committee shall, from time to time as it deems desirable:

- (a) Present or discuss policies and programs affecting all aspects of City sustainability.
- (b) Recommend cooperation with all agencies, groups, clubs, and individuals concerned with environmental conservation, economic efficiency, and social organization in the City.
- (c) Make recommendations to both the Planning and Development Department and Common Council for maintaining and improving overall quality program/service deliveries.

City of De Pere ([Link](#))

Sec. 10-19. - Sustainability commission.

(a) *Purpose.* The protection, stewardship, improvement, and promotion of the environment is a public necessity and is required in the interest of health, prosperity, safety, and welfare of the De Pere community for present and future generations. The sustainability commission is hereby established to explore sustainability initiatives that can be implemented in De Pere, with the ultimate goal of providing a more sustainable, livable, and healthy community.

(b) *Definitions.*

- (1)"Commission" means the sustainability commission.
- (2)"Sustainability" means the avoidance of the depletion of natural resources, in order to maintain an ecological balance.

(c) *Commission composition.* The commission is hereby created, consisting of seven members. Of the membership and if available in the community, one shall be an alderperson, one shall be a city employee, and five shall be individuals who live in or work in De Pere. All members shall have demonstrated interest in environmental stewardship; sustainable business practices, development or technology; green

building and design; renewable energy; energy efficient transportation; and recycling and waste management. To the extent possible, members appointed shall represent a diverse range of interest and expertise in sustainability, economic backgrounds and interests, and ethnic and cultural affiliations, including educators and students in the aforementioned fields. The Mayor shall appoint the commissioners, subject to confirmation by the common council. Of the initial members appointed, one shall serve a term of one year, two shall serve a term of two years, and two shall serve a term of three years; the alderperson shall finish his or her term. Thereafter, the term for each member shall be three years, except for the alderperson who shall serve a term of two years. Each member is subject to the Code of Ethics as outlined in De Pere Municipal Code [[§ 10-16](#)].

(d) *Officers, meetings and rules of procedure.* The officers of the commission shall be a chair and vice-chair, elected by majority vote of the commission. The chair shall preside at meetings of the commission and shall have the right to vote. The vice-chair shall, in case of absence or disability of the chair, perform the duties of the chair. Officers shall serve for terms of one year or until their successors are regularly elected and take office. The commission shall hold meetings at such times as it deems necessary and shall also meet upon the call of the chair. The commission shall meet not less than four times each calendar year. Four members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

(e) *Powers and duties of the sustainability commission.* The authority and activities of the commission shall be advisory, and it shall act in a cooperative capacity and rely upon voluntary compliance. The basic function of the commission shall be the promotion of sustainable initiatives. The commission may:

- (1) Advise the mayor and the common council with regard to policies, budgets, and regulations related to sustainable policies and practices relative to the environment, including but not limited to natural resources, energy, food waste, hazardous materials and pollution;
- (2) Create and present an annual work plan to the common council.
- (3) Advise municipal efforts to engage the community in a broad range of sustainable initiatives;
- (4) Consult with private entities, higher education institutions, and the community with regard to the city's sustainable initiatives;
- (5) Coordinate and support efforts to unite and focus municipal programs and services as they relate to sustainable initiatives;
- (6) Work on sustainability related projects as directed by the common council and city administrator;
- (7) Provide a forum for addressing public concerns related to sustainable policies and practices.

(Ord. No. 18-13, § 1, 7-17-2018)

City of Eau Claire

2.06.060 Staffing. ([Link](#))

2.06.010 Declaration of public policy. The City Council finds that the needs of the present should be met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To that end, the protection, stewardship, improvement, and promotion of the environment is a public necessity and is required in the interest of the health, prosperity, safety, and welfare of the Eau Claire community for present and future generations.

2.06.015 Definitions. In this chapter:

- A. "City manager" means the city manager or the designee of the manager.

- B. "Committee" means the Sustainability Advisory Committee.
- C. "Sustainability Chapter" means the Sustainability Chapter of the City of Eau Claire's Comprehensive Plan, as adopted and amended from time to time.
- D. "Sustainable" means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (Ord. 7215, 2017)

2.06.020 Creation and purpose. A sustainability advisory committee is hereby created to provide advice to the city council on sustainability related issues to help achieve the objectives of the city council's Strategic Plan, the Comprehensive Plan or the city manager's work plan. (Ord. 7215, 2017)

2.06.030 Committee governance.

- A. The committee shall consist of nine members, all of whom shall be appointed pursuant to subsection 2.04.050 A. for staggered 3-year terms.
- B. The members of the committee shall be selected from among community members having a demonstrated interest in environmental stewardship; sustainable business practices, development or technology; green building and design; renewable energy; energy efficient transportation; and recycling and waste management. To the extent possible, members appointed shall represent a diverse range of interest and expertise in sustainability, economic backgrounds and interests, and ethnic and cultural affiliations, including educators and students in the aforementioned fields.
- C. Appointments of all members shall continue until their successors are appointed and qualified.
- D. Any vacancy on the committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the residue of the unexpired term.
- E. Unless otherwise provided by city ordinance, the committee may adopt bylaws covering rules and procedure. In the absence thereof, the committee shall abide by such rules of order and procedure customarily used by other city committees and commissions. (Ord. 7215, 2017; Ord. 7084, 2014)

2.06.035 Officers. At the first meeting of the committee after initial appointments have been made, the committee shall elect from its membership a chairperson, vice-chairperson and such other officers as may be designated by the committee for one year terms. (Ord. 7215, 2017; Ord. 7084, 2014)

2.06.040 Duties and responsibilities. The committee shall be accountable to the city council. The committee shall provide advice to the city council that reflects community values on sustainable policy and practices relative to the community's sustainable environment, including natural resources, energy, food, waste, hazardous materials and pollution. Annually, a designated staff liaison shall develop a draft work plan for the committee, which shall be based on the city council's Strategic Plan, the Comprehensive Plan or the city manager's work plan. The staff liaison may work with the committee until a mutually agreeable work plan is complete. The work plan may include new ideas or projects not specifically enumerated in the city council's Strategic Plan, the Comprehensive Plan or the city manager's work plan. Staff shall evaluate new ideas or projects for their efficacy and the expenditure of city resources, including staff time. Annually, the staff liaison shall present the committee's work plan to the city council at a regularly scheduled city council meeting for approval. Progress on the work plan may be reviewed midyear with the city council or the city manager. (Ord. 7215, 2017)

2.06.050 Meetings and agendas.

- A. The committee shall hold regular meetings not less than quarterly each year and may hold special meetings at the call of the chair, any three committee members, or the city council. All such meetings are subject to the provisions of ss. 19.83 through 19.85, Wis. Stats., the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.
- B. Pursuant to s. 19.84 (1), Wis. Stats., the committee chairperson or the designee of the chairperson shall prepare an agenda for all meetings of the committee in consultation with the city manager. An item may be placed on the agenda by the chair, the city manager, or any two members of the committee. (Ord. 7215, 2017)

2.06.065 Staffing. The city manager shall appoint a staff designee and such other staff deemed

necessary to assist the committee. (Ord. 7215, 2017 Ord. 7077, 2013)

City of Green Bay

Sec. 2-186. - Sustainability Commission.

(a) Purpose. The protection, stewardship, improvement, and promotion of the environment is a public necessity and is required in the interest of health, prosperity, safety, and welfare of the Green Bay community for present and future generations. The Sustainability Commission is hereby established to explore sustainability initiatives that can be implemented in Green Bay, with the ultimate goal of providing a more sustainable, livable, and healthy community.

(b) Definitions. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Commission means the Sustainability Commission.

Sustainability means the quality of not being harmful to the environment or depleting natural resources, and thereby supporting long-term ecological balance.

(c) Sustainability Commission composition. The Commission is hereby created, consisting of nine members. Of the membership and if available in the community, one shall be an alderperson, one shall be a City employee, and seven shall be citizens. All members shall have demonstrated interest in environmental stewardship; sustainable business practices, development or technology; green building and design; renewable energy; energy efficient transportation; and recycling and waste management. To the extent possible, members appointed shall represent a diverse range of interest and expertise in sustainability, economic backgrounds and interests, and ethnic and cultural affiliations, including educators and students in the aforementioned fields. The Mayor shall appoint the commissioners, subject to confirmation by the Common Council. Of the initial members appointed, two shall serve a term of one year, three shall serve a term of two years, and three shall serve a term of three years; the alderperson shall finish their term. Thereafter, the term for each member shall be three years, except for the alderperson who shall serve a term of two years. Each member is subject to the Code of Ethics as outlined in Article IX of this chapter.

(d) Powers and duties of the Sustainability Commission. The authority and activities of the Commission shall be advisory, and it shall act in a cooperative capacity and rely upon voluntary compliance. The basic function of the Commission shall be the promotion of sustainable initiatives. The duties of the Commission shall be to:

- (1) Advise the Mayor and the Common Council with regard to policies, budgets, and regulations related to sustainable policies and practices relative to the environment, including, but not limited to, natural resources, energy, food waste, hazardous materials and pollution;
- (2) Advise municipal efforts to engage the community in a broad range of sustainable initiatives;
- (3) Consult with private entities, higher education institutions, and the community with regard to the City's sustainable initiatives;
- (4) Coordinate and support efforts to unite and focus municipal programs and services as they relate to sustainable initiatives.

McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: Thursday, August 12, 2021

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Community Development

CONTACT: Andrew Bremer, Comm & Eco Dev Director

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion regarding potential sustainability articles for the fall/winter Outlook community newsletter.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

ISSUE SUMMARY:

Articles for the Fall/Winter Outlook newsletter are due August 25th. These articles cover the period from September 23rd to February 1, 2022. One of the important themes/actions steps that emerged from the Sustainability Plan was the importance of community education and awareness regarding various ways residents can do their part. Within the packet are portions of the last three Outlook newsletters that have addressed sustainability in its many forms. This agenda item is presented as an opportunity to provide article suggestions for the next Fall/Winter newsletter.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This agenda item is presented for discussion.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Pages from McF Outlook May21_Final
2. Pages from McF_Outlook_Spr21_FINAL
3. Pages from The Outlook - Fall-Winter 2020 (PDF)

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN UNDERWAY – TAKE THE COMMUNITY SURVEY

It is becoming increasingly clear that sustainability and climate change is a defining issue of our time and it is one that has an enormous impact on future generations. The Village of McFarland is committed to creating a vibrant future for our community by taking responsible and effective action to positively impact our environment.

Last year, the Village Board formed an Ad-Hoc Sustainability Committee consisting of six residents who volunteered to serve our community. One of the responsibilities of the

committee is to develop a Sustainability Plan for McFarland. The creation of this plan is meant to contain a guiding vision, measurable objectives, and targeted strategies (plans of action) intended to help the Village practically implement ideas for operating more efficiently and sustainably. The committee previously held a Public Visioning Meeting on February 11, 2021 to gather resident input regarding ideas on how we can become a more sustainable community.

The committee is now conducting

an online survey to gather additional public input related to the creation of the Sustainability Plan. All members of the community are encouraged to take the survey which will be available at the link below until May 27th. If you do not have access to a computer, tablet, or smart phone to complete the survey online, please call the Community & Economic Development Department at 608-838-3154 to obtain a paper copy. Take the survey by visiting: www.surveymonkey.com/r/McFarlandSustainability

WHAT IS A TOURIST ROOMING HOUSE?

A tourist rooming house, also known as a short-term rental, is any dwelling unit where sleeping accommodations are offered for pay on a short-term rental based to tourists or transients (this does not include bed and breakfasts, hotels, or private boarding or rooming houses). These are also referred to as short-term rentals and commonly advertised through Airbnb.com and VRBO.com.

All tourist rooming houses are required to obtain property licensing and permitting from the Village of McFarland and Dane County Public Health.

For more information on licensing and permitting, please contact Dane County Public Health at 608-242-6515 and the Village Clerk/Treasurer at 608-838-3153.

NET ZERO PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER PLANNED

A net zero building, or zero energy building, combine energy efficiency and renewable energy generation to consume only as much energy as can be produced onsite through renewable resources over a specified time, usually one year. The Village is currently working on designing a new Public Safety Center for Police, Municipal Court, Fire & Rescue services. The project site is located at the southeast corner of Holscher Road and Broadhead Street adjacent to the ball diamonds. Following the public information meeting that was held on February 18th,

the Village Board approved the design and authorizing to move into bidding on March 8th. In addition to general sustainable building design features, the Village will be including installation of a geothermal energy system and solar photovoltaic rooftop and ground systems to achieve a net zero building. A lot of work is yet to do but the project remains on track to proceed as planned this year so that it can be occupied next year. More information regarding this project can be found at www.mcfarland.wi.us/capitalprojects.



Did you know the homepage of the new village website has a **community calendar**? Unfortunately, it's looking a little bare these days. Please **consider submitting an event** so we can help inform the community about what's going on around McFarland and the surrounding areas!

www.mcfarland.wi.us/communitycalendar

SCREEN YOUR WATER SOFTENER; FIND YOUR REBATE ELIGIBILITY

Every bag of salt you put in your water softener ends up in local freshwater bodies. To prevent our freshwater resources from impacts of salt pollution, the Village of McFarland is currently offering rebates to residents to have their softeners optimized or replaced to reduce their salt use.

You can now use an online screening tool to assess your softener and soft water use at home and get recommendations for salt reduction actions. This screening tool was developed by Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, which is partnering with McFarland on the Salt Savers rebate program. Depending on the information you enter in the screening form, you may get recommendations to have your softener optimized or to replace it if it's inefficient. If you do not have enough information about your softener to get a recommendation, that is okay – the rebate program also provides reimbursement for softener evaluations by a service provider participating in the program.

After you take the screen, you will receive an emailed report that you can use as a basis for contacting a participating service provider in the program to request recommended services to your softener or plumbing. Take the first step to protect freshwater, take the softener screen!

Evaluate your softener at www.madsewer.org/SoftenerScreen

PUBLIC WORKS SOLAR PANELS



The McFarland Public Works Building had solar panels installed in late November 2020. About 80-90% of their electricity needs will come through these panels. In colder months with shorter days, there

will be some reliance on the electrical utility. Track the solar panels' performance by visiting the Village website: www.mcfarland.wi.us/publicworks-solarpanels.

SOLAR GROUP BUY OPPORTUNITIES AWAIT

Interested in adding solar panels to your home but unsure of where to start? Research shows that some households are overwhelmed by the process of getting solar — verifying that their home is a good solar site, finding solar contractors, getting bids for the installation, and understanding the financial case for action. Households can overcome those barriers through a Solar Group Buy. The Group Buy process makes solar easy — helping homeowners through every step of the process and even providing bargain solar rates, negotiated in advance with local solar contractors. Participating in a Solar Group Buy is like having a free project manager for the whole process — it makes everything much easier!

The awesome news for 2021 is that McFarland and Dane County residents have access to TWO solar group buy efforts:

- Legacy Solar Coop is building on their successful 2020 group buy in Western Dane County. Legacy's 2021 Group Buy is now available across Dane County, including the Village of McFarland. Visit www.legacysolarcoop.org or call 608-571-4992 to learn more.
- MadiSUN, the program that has served City of Madison residents since 2016 is expanding its services countywide, including the Village of McFarland. Visit www.madisunsolar.com or call 608-255-4044 to learn more.

McFarland and Dane County residents can contact either entity to participate in a Solar Group Buy program.



HELPFUL HABITS TO REDUCE STORMWATER

Information provided by the
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Reduce the rate and volume of runoff by:

- Divert roof runoff to the lawn instead of a driveway, sidewalk or directly to the street
- Install rain barrels
- Aerate your lawn to increase rate of infiltration
- Maintain a healthy lawn

Reduce pollutants in storm water runoff by:

- Clean up pet waste
- Properly maintain vehicles to avoid leaks
- Keep leaves and yard waste out of the street
 - Do not blow grass clippings into the street, sidewalk or driveway
- Avoid overuse of pesticides and fertilizers
- Limit the use of salt on the sidewalk and driveway
- Store and dispose of chemical properly

As a reminder, **never** dump anything into a storm drain!

RAIN BARRELS CAN HELP REDUCE OUR STORMWATER

Rain barrels help to slow the flow of runoff from roofs and other impervious surfaces. The water collected could be used for watering your garden, washing a vehicle, or be released when the ground is not saturated. Rain barrels come in all shapes, sizes and varying price points. Utilizing a rain barrel can be a great way to conserve water and its free water for you to use!

Some recommended safety features with rain barrels include a clamped or friction fit cover to avoid animals or children from climbing into the barrel as well as a screen cover to prevent insects, dirt and debris. Other components of a barrel include a garden hose connected to the barrel's shutoff valve and an overflow connector with a drain hose for after your barrel fills. Rain barrels are typically placed under downspouts for easy collection.

Did you know that during a one-inch rain event 54 gallons of water will fall on 90 square feet of roof? That is enough water to fill a 55-gallon rain barrel! Rainwater has been shown to improve the health of your gardens, lawn and trees as the water is "soft" and devoid of minerals, chlorine and other chemicals that can be found in city water. By utilizing rainwater, you can help reduce erosion and pollution to our rivers, lakes, and streams and ultimately reducing the amount of storm water run off.

Help to Minimize Excess Nutrients or Pollutants Entering the Storm Drain Leading to Our Lakes and Streams!

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), stormwater runoff can be worsened by human activities such as pollutants from fertilizers, pet, and yard waste. The EPA provides recommendations on what you can do in your yard at: www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution/what-you-can-do-your-yard. Examples of their recommendations include:

Lawn Care



- Apply fertilizers only when necessary & at the recommended amount.
- Consider testing your soil to find the right fertilizer for your lawn.
- Avoid applying fertilizer close to waterways.
- Do not overwater lawns and gardens.



Garden Care

- Plant a rain garden of native plants, shrubs & trees.
- Install a rain barrel to collect rainwater.
- Use yard waste, such as grass clippings and leaves, in mulch or compost for your garden.



If any lawn chemicals or yard debris gets on the sidewalk or driveway, sweep it back into the lawn to avoid these items entering our storm drains and possibly our waterways.

SUSTAINABILITY

Village Joins Wisconsin Green Tier Legacy Communities Program and Sustain Dane

On September 14, 2020, the Village Board adopted Resolution #2020-16 approving participation in the Wisconsin



GREEN TIER



Department of Natural Resources Green Tier Legacy Community Program. The mission of the Green Tier program is to help communities across the state of Wisconsin move continuously toward a sustainable future through initiatives that promote environmental stewardship, economic growth, public health, and social equity. Also, in September, the Village joined Sustain Dane. Sustain Dane's mission is to inspire, connect, and support people to accelerate sustainable actions for community wellbeing. The missions of these organizations align with the purpose of the Sustainability Committee.

Participation in these organizations provide motivation, structure, support, and educational resources to aid the committee's efforts to study ways to improve sustainability within the Village and to take on actions that may not otherwise happen without the support gained through these agencies. The Green Tier program also provides additional benefits to the Village including receiving prioritization in applying for certain DNR grants and streamlining in certain DNR permitting processes through gaining access to a DNR staff liaison.

Sustainability Plan Underway – Join the Discussion

It is becoming increasingly clear that sustainability and climate change is a defining issue of our time and it is one that has an enormous impact on future generations. The Village of McFarland is committed to creating a vibrant future for our community by taking responsible and effective action to positively impact our environment.

Last year, the Village Board formed an Ad-Hoc Sustainability Committee consisting of six residents who volunteered to serve our Community. One of the responsibilities of the committee is to develop a Sustainability Plan for McFarland. The creation of this plan is meant to contain a guiding vision, measurable objectives, and targeted strategies (plans of action) intended to help the Village practically implement ideas for operating more efficiently and sustainably. The Committee now needs your help.

On Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 6:00pm, the Village will host a virtual Public Visioning Meeting to gather resident input regarding ideas on how we can become a more sustainable community. This includes conversations around the topics of energy, community health, land use and development, transportation, and waste and water. The meeting will be facilitated by the Village's planning consultant, MSA Professional Services, using Zoom. You can join the meeting using the following link: tinyurl.com/McFarlandSPVS

In the coming months, the committee will also be conducting an online survey to gather additional public input related to the creation of the Sustainability Plan. If you would like to receive further notifications about the upcoming Public Visioning Meeting and Community Survey, you can visit the website below to register your email. You will then receive a reminder email the day of the public visioning session and another email when the community survey is live. www.surveymonkey.com/r/McFarlandSP.

Interested in Adding Solar for Your Home or Business?

Check out a few resources to get you started:

MG&E and Alliant Energy

- Contact your energy provider to learn more about rooftop solar resources and current incentive programs they offer.

Google.com/get/sunroof

- This site uses Google Earth imagery to analyze your roof shape, property shade, local weather patterns, and electric use to estimate recommended solar installation size, 20-year cost savings, and estimated years until payback.



SUSTAINABILITY

Focus on Energy

- Focus on Energy offers cash incentives for qualified solar electric installations and maintains a list and contact information for trade ally contractors that can assist in your solar installation project. In addition, Focus on Energy also offers rebates on smart thermostats and a variety of free products such as LED lightbulbs and high-efficiency showerheads.

MadiSUN Solar Energy Program

- The MadiSUN Solar Group Purchase Program brings together households across the Madison area, including McFarland, and uses their collective buying power to get a great deal on rooftop solar at home. Their team of community members reviews competing offers from solar companies across the region and selects a trusted partner to install your system, saving you time and money. More information can be found at madisunsolar.com.

Pictured: McFarland Public Works Building solar panels that



were installed in late November of 2020. About 80-90% of the electricity needs will come through these panels. In colder months with shorter days, there would be some reliance on the electrical utility.

Salt Saver Pilot Project NOW ACTIVE!

What it is: The McFarland Utility in partnership with Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) now has their pilot program active for Village of McFarland residents. This pilot program hopes to improve water softener efficiency, with an end goal of reducing chloride to the sewer system. In this project, the district and the McFarland Utility are testing out a project structure in which residents can get discounted improvements made to their water softener by trained service providers. These discounts are reimbursed by MMSD in the form of rebates issued by the Village of McFarland.

Eligibility:

1. You have an existing water softener in your home.
2. You live in the Village of McFarland and are connected to the MMSD sewer system. If your address is within the Village, your property is connected to the sewer system and is eligible. If you have a McFarland street address but live in the Town of Dunn, you may be eligible for a separate

pilot program in the town.

3. You have trained providers provide service to your softener and the provider submits a report documenting the service to the Village.

Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District



How it works:

1. Gather as much information as possible about the condition of your water softener, including its age and brand. It's okay if you can't find this information but having general information about your softener can help your service provider make a determination about its condition. You can complete the home softener evaluation developed by MMSD to get an idea of whether your softener would qualify for an optimization or replacement.

- Link for home softener evaluation:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DZPFMK6>

2. Call a trained service provider (see below link) and request a service to your softener. If you would prefer not to have an in-person home visit due to COVID-19 precautions, you may be able to have your softener evaluated remotely using photos or a video call. The provider list indicates providers who are providing remote softener evaluations.

- Link for service providers: <https://www.madsewer.org/SaltSavers#Providers>

3. The service provider will make recommendations for you to improve your softener, so it uses less salt.

- If possible, the service provider will optimize your softener to run more efficiently.
- If your softener qualifies as an inefficient "clunker," the provider will recommend replacement with a new, efficient unit.

4. After the service, the Village of McFarland will receive a report from the provider documenting the service. If the report is complete and meets eligibility requirements, you will receive a rebate depending on the type of service:

- \$75 off an evaluation and optional optimization
- \$200 the installation of a new, efficient softener or other water conditioning unit if it is replacing an identified "clunker." So, if a service provider identifies your old softener as a clunker, you will be eligible for this rebate off a new installation. Keep in mind that to receive the rebate, a new softener needs to meet an efficiency of at least 4000 grains per pound.

If there are any questions regarding this pilot program, please contact Aimee with the McFarland Utility by phone at 608-838-7287 or by email at: public.works@mcfarland.wi.us

PUBLIC WORKS

Ever Wonder How You Can Monitor Your Water Usage In Your Home?

All utility customers have a water meter located at their property that records the water coming into the home. The utility gathers information from the water meter during a drive-by meter reading completed every other month.

The water meter is typically located in the basement or near other utility items such as a water heater or water softener. Below is an example of what a water meter looks like. To read your meter, simply lift the “Badger Meter” lid on your water meter (pictured left), and then read the numerals in white on the meter dial (pictured right).

The numerals indicate how many 1,000 gallons of water have gone through the meter. On your billing postcard or billing statement your recent meter reading is included next to the water usage billing amount. To calculate how many gallons of

water you have used since the last meter reading, subtract the billed reading from the current visual reading. For example, using the meter above, if the last billed water usage was 50 then 6,000 gallons of water have gone through the meter since.

Now what can you do with this information?

1. You can monitor water usage on a monthly basis if you wish. The utility records and bills your location on bi-monthly basis.
2. You may be able to detect leaks that can occur at your location. To monitor for potential leaks, reference the RED wheel on your meter. If this wheel is turning, water is being used. If to your knowledge no water is being used, you may have a leak of some kind. We often experience this situation with leaking or running toilets.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the McFarland Public Works office at 608-838-7287 or by email at public.works@mcfarland.wi.us.



Street Light Out?

Is there a neighborhood street light that is burned out, doesn't turn off, or is flickering? You can report a street light problem by visiting the Alliant Energy website at the following link:

<https://www.alliantenergy.com/CustomerService/AlliantEnergyService/OutageCenter/RequestaStreetlightRepair>

Most street lights in the Village are maintained by Alliant Energy. If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Public Works office at 838-7287.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Keep Your Sidewalks Clear

Property owners are required to keep the sidewalks that abut their property free of snow and ice. Sidewalks must be cleared of accumulated snow and ice within 24 hours from the time the snow ceases to accumulate. Sidewalks are to be kept clear of snow and ice to a minimum of four feet in width. Failure to remove the snow and ice can cause a serious hazard for pedestrians. Warnings will be issued for the first violation and citations for any further violations. Additional information

regarding this can be found in Chapter 53, Section VI of the Village Ordinances.

If you have any questions or concerns, the Community and Economic Development Department can be reached at 608-838-3154.



Don't Blow Snow into Street

It is a violation of Village ordinances to plow, blow, or shovel snow into Village streets. This can cause a serious hazard for pedestrians and motorists, especially when it is done after the street has been plowed. Warnings will be issued for the first violation and citations issued for any further violations. If you have any questions or concerns Public Works can be reached at 608-838-7287.





PUBLIC WORKS

Pet Waste: Be Diligent About Winter Pick Up

It's very important to continue to pick up after your pet all year long, especially during winter. If you do not pick up pet waste right away, it can soon be encased in snow and ice, ready to be carried away with melt water when it warms up. Grassy areas that would normally allow water to soak in are frozen during winter, so they are more like a parking lot greatly increasing the surface area from which runoff flows. The bacteria and nutrients found in pet waste are much more likely to make their way to the nearest storm drain. And contrary to common belief, rain and melting snow that goes into storm drains does not go to the sewage treatment plant. Rather, it goes to the nearest lake or stream. So, be sure to continue to scoop the poop this winter and do your part to help keep lakes and streams free of pet waste.

Oak Tree Pruning

Village ordinances prohibit the pruning of oak trees between March 1 and November 1 in order to prevent the possible spread of oak wilt. There have been several confirmed infestations of this disease in the Village, so it is extremely important to prune only during dormant months.

Oak wilt is caused by a fungus and is spread both through underground root grafting from tree to tree and also through open pruning wounds that attract bugs which convey the fungus. The disease causes the water conducting vessels of the tree to become plugged and, as water movement within the tree is slowed or stopped, the leaves wilt and drop off causing the tree to die. If you have any questions about your oak trees or proper pruning practices, contact the Public Works Department at 608-838-7287 for assistance.

**This article applies to McFarland residents only.*

Holiday Tree Collection

The Village does not conduct curbside collection of natural holiday trees. For your convenience, the Village has a tree drop-off site located at 5115 Terminal Drive. It will be open from December 26, 2020 through January 17, 2021. The drop-off site will be open from 7AM – 7PM on those days, and is restricted to Village of McFarland residents only; you may be asked to show a photo ID.

Further and/or additional updates on this program can be found on the Village website at: www.mcfarland.wi.us/yard-wasteandbrush. If you have questions, please call Public Works at 608-838-7287.

**This article applies to McFarland residents only.*

Adopt-A-Hydrant

With winter fast approaching, we are encouraging residents to adopt a hydrant. After snowstorms, we would appreciate residents to help remove the snow from around the hydrant. Due to removing snow from the street, staff is unable to take

care of the hydrants immediately. By clearing the snow, it will reduce seconds, and even minutes of fire crews trying to access the hydrant and can save lives.

Coming Soon: Discounted Water Softener Improvement Services

Adding heavy bags of salt to a water softener is nobody's favorite chore. If you find yourself lugging multiple bags of salt to your softener every month, your softener might be inefficient and using more salt than it should. Not only does that mean more trips to refill the softener, it also means that more salt from your softener is ending up in the sewer system.

Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, the local wastewater treatment utility, receives over 100 tons of salt at the wastewater treatment plant each day, mostly from water softeners. The plant isn't designed to remove chloride (a component of salt) dissolved in water, so it passes through to local freshwater bodies. If chloride levels continue to rise, downstream waters could become too salty for fish and other aquatic life, and the District could face expensive upgrades to remove chloride that would increase your sewer bill.

Increasing the efficiency of your water softener, or reducing your soft water use, can minimize your salt use and keep our freshwaters fresh. Many water softeners are not operating at their peak efficiency, meaning they use more salt than necessary. Even new softeners can be configured incorrectly, below their highest efficiency. If your softener is inefficient, you can significantly save on salt by optimizing your water softener to use less salt or by replacing it if it's at the end of its lifespan.

The Village of McFarland is partnering with the sewerage district to offer the Salt Savers pilot program, which encourages improvements to water softeners that reduce their salt use. This new program, which is already being tested in the Town of Dunn, will be available to McFarland residents later in fall 2020.

Steps to take now:

- **Self-screen your home softener.** Is your softener more than 15 years old? Are you using more than one bag of salt per month? There are certain clues that indicate an inefficient softener. For general guidance on the condition of your softener, take a home softener screening found at www.madsewer.org/HomeSaltReduction. Knowing the state of your softener can prepare you to request a visit from a service provider as part of the pilot program.

Sign up for more information from the Village. If you're interested in participating when the program begins later this fall, let Village staff know so they can contact you when the program is launched. Contact Aimee Irwin at the Village of McFarland, public.works@mcfarland.wi.us, to sign up for updates about the program or to ask questions about the program.

Why Are Leaves A Problem For Our Lakes?

Phosphorus



Leaves release phosphorus when they break down, representing one of the largest sources of urban phosphorus pollution.

Direct To Our Lakes



When left in the street, leaves make a phosphorus-rich tea that washes down storm drains and directly into our lakes.

Did You Know?

It only takes **1lb** of phosphorus to produce **500lb** of algae in our lakes! The result is a greenish-tinted lake choked with foul smelling, dying algae that can kill fish and other aquatic critters, generally making water recreation an unpleasant experience.

>50%
of phosphorus
in urban stormwater can come
from leaves in the street.

There Are Many Ways To Help Manage Leaves

---Compost---

Adding leaves to a compost pile creates inexpensive and nutrient-rich fertilizer for your gardens.

-----Till-----

Leaves can be tilled directly into a garden, contributing valuable organic matter.

-----Mulch-----

If you have a mulching mower, you can chop leaves into small pieces that will decompose directly into your lawn.

-----Rake-----

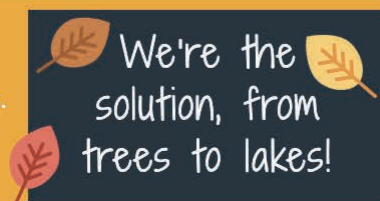
For curbside pickup, bag all leaves and make sure they do not go into the streets or gutters.



Leaves Are A Part Of Nature - Why Are They A Problem?

Leaves are one of the largest sources of urban phosphorus pollution. Without streets, parking lots, and storm sewers, leaves would fall on soil and phosphorus would soak into the soil instead of going straight into our lakes and streams. When left in street gutters, leaves release phosphorus into the stormwater that easily washes down storm drains and directly into our lakes.

A big source of water pollution today actually comes from you and me. Individually, we create little pollution. Collectively, our urban households are damaging Dane County's lakes and streams through neglect and unawareness. Help spread this information to your friends and neighbors to make our community the best it can be!



✂ CLIP & SAVE ✂

2020 BRUSH CHIPPING AND YARD/GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULES

2020 Brush Chipping Schedule:

Zone 1 – Week of October 26th

Zone 2 – Week of November 2nd

Zone 3 – Week of November 9th

Please follow the brush chipping guidelines below:

- Place all material curbside by 6:00 a.m. on the Monday of the collection week. The chipping contractor will only make one pass through each section.
- Brush pieces should be no longer than 10 feet and no shorter than 6 inches.
- Brush should not be greater than 3 inches in diameter.
- Place the cut ends of the brush pieces parallel to the curb and stacked in neat piles with the cut ends pointed in the same direction as traffic.
- Material must be free of waste that may clog chipping equipment.

If you set brush out after the chipping has taken place in your area, your brush will not be picked up until the next collection date. If you have any questions contact the Public Works Department at 838-7287.

2020 Yard/Garden Waste Curbside Pick-Up

The curbside collection of leaves, lawn waste, and garden waste was converted in 2012 from a no cost service to a fee-based service. Residents who desire to have this material conveniently collected at curbside will now have to buy and place a Village-issued sticker on each bag of material to be collected. The non-expiring stickers will cost \$2.00 per bag (up to 50-gallon size) and will be sold in multiples of five. Stickers will be available for purchase at the Municipal Building and addresses will be collected for efficient curbside pickup.

All Zones – Week of November 16th (the whole village)

Please follow the collection guidelines below:

- Place all material curbside in open bags or trash containers by 6:00 a.m. on the Monday of the collection week.
- All bags must have a Village-issued sticker on bags in order to be collected.
- Include leaves, garden waste, thatch, grass clippings, non-woody plant materials and evergreen clippings (less than 6 inches in length.)
- Material must be clean of debris or it will be left on site.
- Do not rake leaves to the edge of the curb or into the street.

The above guidelines will help the contractors do their jobs more efficiently and safely.

Other disposal options available to residents are to mulch and recycle the materials yourselves and to transport the material to the free drop-off site located at the Public Works Facility at 5115 Terminal Drive.

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 608-838-7287.

**This article applies to McFarland residents only.*

