



# BLACK EARTH NEWS

Newsletter

February 2021

Village Municipal Office

OPEN 8:00 AM—4:30 PM • PHONE: 608.767.2563 • 1210 MILLS ST / PO BOX 347 • WWW.BLACKEARTHWISCONSIN.COM

## SNOW REMINDERS

Heavy snowstorms may create emergency conditions making it difficult for police, fire, and medical vehicles to safely respond to emergencies. During a snow emergency, no person shall park any vehicle on a street, alley or public parking lot during the period of the snow emergency, or immediately thereafter, until streets, alley or public parking can be cleared of snow.

The Village of Black Earth ordinance 236-6 regarding snow and ice removal states that it *shall be the duty of each owner or occupant of any building or ground in the Village of Black Earth to remove from the sidewalk adjacent to the premises, within 24 hours after the end of any snow, sleet, rain or hail storm, all snow and ice which may have fallen or accumulated thereon during said storm.*

Ordinance 236-7 states that property owners are *prohibited from allowing any snow, ice, slush or combination thereof to be shoveled, plowed, dumped, pushed or in any manner on a public street, alley sidewalk or thoroughfare in the Village at any time.* Be sure to keep fire hydrants and paths to them clear of snow, sleet or ice throughout the winter. Firefighters can't use hydrants if they can't find them under the snow!

Vehicles need to be off the street within 72 hours of a snow fall end. Please help us keep our streets free and clear of snow by helping our Public Works crew.

## DOG AND CAT TAGS

Dog and cat tags are ready for the 2021 calendar year. Applications need to be filled out annually and must be accompanied by proof of rabies vaccination and a check to the Village of Black Earth. Spayed/Neutered pets are \$17 per pet and Not spayed/Not neutered are \$22 per pet. Applications can be found on the Village website at [www.blackearthwisconsin.com](http://www.blackearthwisconsin.com) or by stopping in to the Village Hall during our regular business hours.



## PREPARE AN EMERGENCY CAR KIT FOR WINTER DRIVING

A winter storm survival kit is extremely helpful should you become stranded. Consider keeping it in the back seat of your vehicle (in case your trunk jams or is frozen shut). Items to consider:

- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Extra stocking caps, warm socks, gloves/mittens
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First-aid kit
- Booster cables and windshield brush/scraper
- Drinking water and high-calorie, non-perishable food (trail mix, energy/protein bars)
- Sand or cat litter for traction
- Cell phone adapter/charger

Visit the WI DoT Winter Driving page for additional safety tips: <https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/safety/education/winter-driv/default.aspx>

## WANTED: ELECTION WORKERS FOR 2021

Have you ever wondered how elections are conducted or what all goes on to make an election work? Consider being an election worker! You will learn all about elections and you will be giving back to your community at the same time. Training is provided and you will be paid for your time on Election Day. Contact the Village Office and we will answer any questions you have. Call us 608-767-2563 or email us at [beclerk@blackearthwisconsin.com](mailto:beclerk@blackearthwisconsin.com).

Upcoming elections:

- **February 16th** Spring Primary
- **April 6th** Spring Election

## COMING SOON: WEBSITE REDESIGN

The Village's website is getting a full redesign! This update will give a facelift to the website making it easier to navigate so you can quickly access the things you need and have local pictures!

## VILLAGE SURVEY

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Economic Development Committee's Village Survey! We had a 26% return rate and the results will be shared in the newsletter in the upcoming months.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Village Board meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm. Upcoming Village Board Meetings will be on February 2nd and March 2nd. Meeting agendas are posted on our website, post office, bank, sent to the Star News and posted at the front of Village Hall. You can optionally attend the meeting via phone call or Zoom.

# Black Earth Public Library & Community Events

## Library

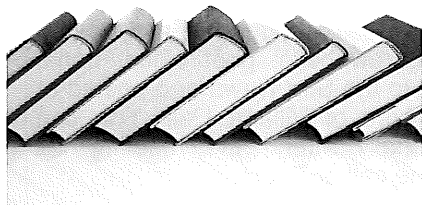
### Black Earth Public Library Hours

The library has returned to no-contact walk-up pickup only for reserved books. When notified that a reserved book has come in, patrons will need to call the library at 608-767-4905 to schedule a pick-up appointment. Access to the library will be allowed by appointment only for browsing, using library computers/Wi-Fi, printing, photocopying/scanning. Visit [blackearthlibrary.org](http://blackearthlibrary.org), and find us on Facebook and Instagram for more updates.

Appointments will be available most of our regular hours (BUT HOURS MAY VARY):  
Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Friday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Inclement Weather Policy

For the safety of both patrons and library staff, the library may close due to severe winter weather. Evening and Saturday closings will be at the discretion of the librarian on duty. Call the library at 608-767-4905 or visit our website/social media before venturing out into bad weather.



### Monthly Activity Grab Bags for Kids

We now have Monthly Activity Grab Bags for Kids! Packed with stickers, a stamper, crayons, an activity book, and 4 bonus activity sheets, these grab bags will hopefully fill your month with fun. Give us a call at 608-767-4905 to have your February bag set aside for no-contact pick-up.

### Build Your Own Storytime

Kirsten will be reading a new picture book every Monday. Visit our YouTube channel anytime for videos of your favorite songs, rhymes and stories to enjoy at home. Go to [blackearthlibrary.org](http://blackearthlibrary.org) and click on our YouTube link.

### Build Your Own Twist & Shout

Dance and sing with Kirsten to songs by The Learning Groove! Just visit our YouTube channel to find your favorite tunes, and get those wiggles out whenever you want.

### 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Club on Beanstack

Go to [blackearthlibrary.beanstack.org](http://blackearthlibrary.beanstack.org) to get signed up for our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Club. All children from birth until the start of Kindergarten are welcome to join. When you've finished the program, your child will earn a free book and book bag!

## Community

### HEIGHTS UNLIMITED

Providing food, personal essentials, and clothing to those in need who reside in the following ZIP codes: 53503, 53515, 53517, 53528, and 53560. For more information contact them on Facebook, via email [info@HeightsUnlimited.net](mailto:info@HeightsUnlimited.net), or by calling 767-3663.

### BLACK EARTH HISTORY CENTER

The Black Earth Historical Society headquarters and archives, located at 1022 Blue Mounds Street, is now called The Black Earth History Center. The History Center is proud to display its large collection of artifacts and historic photographs. Visit their website at [www.blackearthwihistory.org](http://www.blackearthwihistory.org) for more information.

### Meeting Calendar

Village Board:  
February 2, 6 pm  
March 2, 6 pm  
Economic Development:  
February 24, 6 pm  
Library Board:  
February 16, 7 pm  
Parks Committee:  
February 17, 6 pm  
Police Committee:  
February 10, 6 pm  
Public Works:  
February 17, 1 pm

