



Village of Black Earth Municipal Office: 1210 Mills St, PO Box 347  
www.blackearthwisconsin.com | 608-767-2563

## Electric and Water Meter Reads Will be Estimated on the February Bill

The February utility bills will have estimated electric and water usage readings. The Village does not have automated meters or a drive-by meter reading system; our crew must walk up to each meter and write down each read for the Village and surrounding rural electric service area. Those reads are then keyed into the system by hand in the Village Office. This process takes dozens of hours of labor each month. Due to the extremely cold temperatures during the designated meter reading week, plus back-to-back snow systems that same week, it was not safe to send our Public Works crew out to read meters in January. This billing period covers mid-December through mid-January. Your bill will be based on the average usage of your electric and water meters. Next month's bill will have the true-up for actual usage from mid-December through mid-February and will be reflected on the bill that will be mailed March 1st. If you have any questions please contact the Black Earth Village office at 608-767-2563. Thank you for understanding!

### How This Works

The chart below is an example of how estimated billing works. There was no physical read in January and an estimate was done. The February meter read is 51895, usage of 1001 kWh. 1001 is calculated by subtracting the December read of 50894 from the February read of 51895, which results in 1001 kWh in usage from December through February. This customer will be billed only the difference between the February read and the January estimated read since they were already billed for 632 kWh during that estimated month. 1001 (Dec-Feb read) - 632 (estimated) =369 kWh billed on the March bill. Additionally, our bill this month will show "Current" of 0. This is because the meter was not physically read in January and the usage was estimated. You will see the 0 appear in the "Previous" column from the meter not being read the month prior on the bill mailed March 1.

| Month     | Meter Read | Meter Usage |                 |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-----------------|
| July      | 48466      | 1427        |                 |
| August    | 49101      | 635         |                 |
| September | 49511      | 410         |                 |
| October   | 49962      | 451         |                 |
| November  | 50422      | 460         |                 |
| December  | 50894      | 472         |                 |
| January   | 0          | 632         | Estimated Usage |
| February  | 51895      | 1001        |                 |

| Meter Readings |          |           |
|----------------|----------|-----------|
| Current        | Previous | Mtr Usage |
| 0              | 50,894   | 632       |

| Meter Readings |          |           |
|----------------|----------|-----------|
| Current        | Previous | Mtr Usage |
| 51,895         | 0        | 1,001     |

## Are you Ready to Vote?

### Is Your Voter Registration Current? Are You Planning to Vote Absentee?

The Tuesday, April 2, 2024 election is right around the corner. You must update your registration each time you move to a new address or have a name change. Verify your registration and make any necessary updates online at [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov) . Taking a couple of minutes to check NOW can save you a lot of time on election day!

You can request your absentee ballots online at [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov) . You can choose to submit your request for an absentee ballot for a single election or the whole calendar year right online. You must be registered to vote before requesting an absentee ballot.

## **Blood Pressure Monitoring with Mount Horeb Family Pharmacy**

**Thursday, February 1st | 2-3pm.**

Village Meeting Room

Meet with a pharmacist from Mount Horeb Family Pharmacy and get a free blood pressure reading from a professional! Learn about the risks and the Libraries with Heart program offered by Black Earth Public Library, sponsored by the Wisconsin chapter of the American Heart Association. Free - No registration required.

## **February Activity Grab Bags for Kids**

A new bag containing activity sheets, stickers, and a craft will be available starting Thursday, February 1. Stop by the library or call 608-767-4905 to have a bag set aside.

### **Tuesday Storytime**

**February 6, 13, 27 | 11:30am-12pm**

Join us for stories, songs, and fun activities with friends! Best for babies and toddlers, but the whole family is always welcome.

### **Tuesday Toddler Art**

**February 6, 13, 27 | 12pm-12:30pm**

Come create, explore, and play at the library! Our art experiments for little hands are designed to encourage curiosity and build motor skills. Enjoy the process and come dressed for a mess.

### **Lego Club**

**Friday, February 23 | 1pm-3pm**

Come to the library and build with LEGO on your day off of school. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Great for all ages!

### **UnBook Club**

**Saturday, February 24 | 2:30pm**

This book club has no required reading - just come hang out and talk about what you've been reading lately! Join the Facebook group to keep the conversation going between meetings, to get updates, and to get a list of books discussed at each meeting.

### **Book Discussion**

**Wednesday, March 6, 10:30am**

Join us for a discussion of the novel News of the World by Paulette Jiles. Copies of the book, including large print and audio copies, are available at the library.

## **2024 Dog and Cat Tags**

**You must present a valid certificate of rabies vaccination with your application.** If you do not have the record, call your vet and they can email or fax the record to us directly. The license fee is \$22 for unspayed/unneutered, and \$17 for spayed/neutered.

## **Spice of the Month Club**

The library is now offering the "Spice of the Month Club." Each month we will be providing "take-and-make" kits featuring a different spice, herb, or blend. Each kit will include information about the featured spice, two simple recipe suggestions, and enough spice to make both of the recipes included. The kits are free, but supplies are limited. Please, only one kit per household. February's spice of the month is chili powder.

## **Adult Winter Reading Challenge**

Join our Adult Winter Reading Challenge from January 2 - February 29. Explore your library, foster connections, and read all winter while collecting virtual badges and earning prizes! Paper logs are available in the library, or join us digitally on Beanstack.

### **Leap Day Party**

**Thursday, February 29 | 6pm-8pm**

To celebrate the end of the Adult Winter Reading Challenge, and to celebrate Leap Day, join us to pick up Winter Reading Challenge Prizes, have snacks, and watch the movie Leap Year (rated PG). No registration required.

## **Trivia Night! Friends of the Black Earth and Mazomanie Libraries**

**Saturday, February 3 | 7pm - 9pm**

**Base Camp, 18 Brodhead St, Mazo**

Start forming your teams for the Trivia Night fundraiser with the Friends of the Black Earth and Mazomanie Libraries! Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and trivia starts at 7:00 p.m. Registration is available at the Black Earth or Mazomanie libraries and costs \$15/person in advance, or you can register at the door for \$20/person. The cost of registration includes a light supper. Beverages will be available for purchase. Maximum team size is 10 people, and individuals can be assigned to teams. PAGE 2