



BLACK EARTH NEWS

Village Municipal Office

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

Newsletter

APRIL 2022

Winter Moratorium Ends April 15th

The winter moratorium that postpones disconnections for delinquent customers and stops the application of taxes for residents will end on April 15th. If you are past due and have not called the office to arrange a payment plan, you are in jeopardy of being disconnected! Please contact us at 608-767-2563 as soon as possible to discuss payment options.

Budget Plan/ Equal Pay

Black Earth Utilities offers an Equal Pay/ Budget Plan to its customers. This option makes it so you will pay the same amount per month, based on your historical utility usage. The goal of this option is to more evenly spread the cost of your utilities out over the course of a year and to minimize unexpected high bills. This is a free service! Contact the village office for details and see how much your budget amount would be.

Automatic Utility Payments

Do you know about the FREE automatic withdrawal option offered by Black Earth Utilities? Every month on the 21st your account balance is automatically withdrawn from your bank account. No checks to write, no service fees, no postage to buy, and no late fees to worry about! Contact the Village Office to learn more.

Election Day is April 5!

There will be a referendum on the ballot for Village residents.

The ballot text will read
“Should the Village of
Black Earth continue
the use of fluoride
treatment in the water
system?”

You may choose either
YES or NO.

A “Yes” vote will mean
the Village of Black
Earth will continue the
use of fluoride
treatment currently
being conducted.

A “No” vote will mean
the Village of Black
Earth will discontinue
the use of fluoride
treatment in the Village
water system.



April Village Board Meeting Moved to April 12

April's Village Board Meeting will be at 6:00 pm on April 12, 2022 at the Village Hall, 1210 Mills St. The date was moved due to the election falling on the normal Village Board meeting date.

New Program for Homeowners

Wisconsin Help for Homeowners (WHH) is a new statewide program that can help with overdue bills like mortgage payments, property taxes, utilities, and more. The program is open to individuals and families who live in Wisconsin with overdue housing-related bills, both with and without a mortgage, who meet income and other eligibility requirements, and have experienced a qualified economic hardship since January 21, 2020. Up to \$40,000 per household may be available to help with overdue housing bills. call the Village office for more info or visit: <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/LocalGovtsGrants/Homeowner-Assistance.aspx#>

Black Earth Public Library & Community

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9:30 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Friday: 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

The library will still offer contactless service for those who prefer to pick up holds by appointment. Please call 608-767-4905.

Activity Grab Bags for Kids

Starting Friday, April 1, we will have Activity Grab Bags filled with activity sheets, a fun craft, a sticker sheet, and a stamper available! Stop in to get one, or give us a call to reserve your bag.

Teen Advisory Board

Want to help make the library a fun and useful place for teens? Looking to earn some volunteer hours? Well, join our Teen Advisory Board! Our TAB meets monthly and is for students in grades 6-12. New members are always welcome! For more information and to see when our next meeting is, please visit our website, blackearthlibrary.org.

Build Your Own Storytime

Don't forget to visit our YouTube channel anytime for videos of your favorite songs and rhymes to enjoy at home. Plus there will be NEW stories to watch every Monday morning! Go to blackearthlibrary.org and click on our YouTube link, or search for Black Earth Public Library on YouTube.

Spring Reading Challenge

Put some spring in your step and get reading! All ages are welcome to join our Spring Reading Challenge. Log 10 hours of reading to earn colorful badges until April 30. When you have completed our Spring Reading Challenge, stop by the library for a prize. Download the Beanstack app, or visit blackearthlibrary.beanstack.org to get started!

1000 Books Before Kindergarten Club on Beanstack

Go to 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. (Note: If you have already started this program on paper, you may continue on paper or transfer to Beanstack.)

Kanopy

Now available: Stream & enjoy critically-acclaimed movies, inspiring documentaries, award-winning foreign films, and more - right from the comfort of your couch. Get your Black Earth Library card number handy, download the app on your device or navigate to www.kanopy.com to get started!

Hoopla

Hoopla is a groundbreaking digital media service offered by the Black Earth Public Library that allows library card holders to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone – and even your TV! Get your Black Earth Library card number handy, download the app on your device or visit www.hoopladigital.com to get started!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Coffee with a Cop is back!** | Thurs, April 14 9am-11am | Village Hall 1210 Mills Street. (Second Thurs, monthly)
- **2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Lion's Den** | Saturday, April 16 11:am-1pm | Veterans Park
- **Black Earth Historical Society Annual Spring Rummage Sale Fundraiser** | April 22 & 23 | 1022 Blue Mounds St
- **Senior Fitness Class—Free!** | Wednesdays, 9:30am-10am | Village Hall 1210 Mills St

ADOPT A PLANTER!

The Village has beautiful planters along Mills Street/Hwy. 78 that are beautified by Vermont Valley Greenhouse yearly and maintained by the Village Public Works crew.

The Village is looking for businesses or folks who would like to "Adopt a Planter" and keep them maintained throughout the summer. Your "adoption" would simply include regular watering.

Please contact the Village Office to adopt your planter today!
608-767-2563

