

BLACK EARTH NEWS

APRIL 2024



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

Village Office Hours to Change Memorial Day - Labor Day

Monday-Thursday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Friday 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Dog and Cat License Deadline

If you live within the Village of Black Earth and have not done so already, please stop by to register your pets. You must also present a valid certificate of rabies vaccination with your application. The license fee is \$32 for unspayed/unneutered, and \$27 for spayed/neutered.

Summer Fun In The Village!

Things to look forward to in the community this spring/summer:

Concerts in the Park: Bring the whole family for a great variety of concerts at Veterans Park on Tuesday evenings. Meals are available for purchase, or bring a picnic for you and your family. Concerts begin mid-June and go through the end of July. Keep your eyes open for more details to come! Free for the whole family; donations are appreciated to keep the music happening.

Field Days: August 9th and 10th. Join us for a parade, entertainment, games, food, cold drinks, and a fantastic fireworks show at Community Park to celebrate Black Earth, our wonderful village, and the great community members that live here!

Black Earth Bombers Baseball: Support our local home talent baseball team and have some summer baseball fun! Home games are played at the Jerry Barsness Field located within Community Park.

BE Historical Society Rummage Sale

Support the local Historical Society's annual rummage sale at 1022 Blue Mounds St, and tour their wonderful Depot Museum. The annual rummage sale is **Thurs & Fri, April 18th-19th.**

Brush Collection

Village brush collection has started and will take place the first, third, and fifth Monday of the month. Calendars are available on the village website or in the municipal building. Call Public Works at 608-767-2063 with questions about brush pickup.

BEFD Annual Pancake Breakfast

The Black Earth Fire Department will be hosting its annual pancake breakfast on Sunday, April 7th. Serving and seating will open at 8:00 AM and end at 11:00 AM. The firemen will be offering firetruck rides around the village. They will also be offering a sign up for anyone interested in a public CPR class that is intended to be held Sunday April 21, 2024.

Utility Disconnections Begin in April

The annual winter moratorium ends on April 15. All past-due amounts must be paid by this date or your service will be disconnected. If you are behind on your utility bills, please contact the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) to see if you qualify for energy assistance before disconnection occurs and additional reconnection fees apply. Call **1-800-506-5596** or visit **www.energybenefit.wi.gov** for more information. You may also be eligible to enter into a payment agreement with the utility to avoid disconnection. Call the office to discuss your options.

Chicken Ordinance Update

As you may know, village residents are allowed to house chickens with the proper approval/permits/etc. The Village Board voted on March 5th to increase the number of chickens permitted from 4 to 6 Chickens. Still no roosters are allowed, and no butchering within the village limits. Contact the village office with any questions regarding the chicken ordinance.

Pool Filling and Lawn Watering

As the warmer days approach, please be aware of an important update for pool filling and lawn watering. Manually recording water used for lawn watering or pool filling will no longer be accepted for any type of sewer adjustment! To qualify for a sewer adjustment, you must rent a meter. The meter is \$25/month and the sewer adjustment will be applied to your utility bill after the meter is returned.

Street Light Out?

Report street light outages online: www.vanguardelectric.org/street-light-repair-request-form or call Vanguard Electric at 608-767-2561.

Blood Pressure Monitoring with Mount**Horeb Family Pharmacy****Monday, April 1, from 9am-11am.****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. This activity is sponsored by the Wisconsin chapter of the American Heart Association. Free - No registration required.

Tuesday Toddler Art**April 9, 16, 30 | 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.

Messy Monday**April 8, 15, 22 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Join us for fun sensory bin activities that are perfect for little ones. Just don't forget to come dressed for a mess!!

Total Eclipse Viewing Party**Monday April 8th - 1:30-3pm | Veterans Park**

Come and watch the April eclipse with us! We will have space themed snacks, a simple craft and a limited supply of solar eclipse glasses to give away, thanks to the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. Bring a lawn chair to enjoy peak viewing at approximately 2:00 pm. We welcome all ages!

Taylor Swift Party**Friday, April 19th from 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

Celebrate the release of Taylor's new album with us! We will have friendship bracelets, a photo booth, music, dancing, and crafts while giving you the perfect excuse to wear your Eras Tour outfit! Great for Teens and Adults.

Earth Day and Black Earth Creek**Watershed Association Celebration****Friday, April 26th from 1:00pm - 3:00pm**

The whole family is invited to this celebration! Come make simple bird feeders, go on a nature scavenger hunt in the library, and eat some snacks to celebrate the wonderful world around us! A perfect way to spend your day off of school!

Coffee with a Cop - Free & Open to All!**Thursday, April 11, 9am-11am | Village Hall**

A new speaker every month. Join your community members for free coffee, snacks, and good conversation.

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. For April, we will be offering ground cardamom.

Tuesday Storytime**April 9, 16, 30 | 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.

Book Discussion**Wednesday, April 17, 10:30am in the Village Meeting Room**

Join us for a discussion of the novel Fellowship Point by Alice Elliot Dark. Copies of the book, including large print and audio copies, are available at the library.

April Activity Grab Bags for Kids

A new bag containing activity sheets, stickers and a craft will be available starting Monday, April 1st. Please stop by the library or call 608-767-4905 to have a bag set aside.

Decorate a Fish to Display in the Library!

For the month of April, please join us in celebrating Earth Day and the Black Earth Creek Watershed Association! Starting April 1st, all ages are invited to pick up a special grab bag containing crafty items to decorate your paper fish and bring it back to the library to see it put on display throughout April. We will have other fun activities all month long as well! Feel free to color a paper wildflower to hang up, go fishing for toy fish, and search the library for a hidden picture of a Brown Trout to earn a piece of candy!

**Volunteers Needed at Heights Unlimited****Located at The Grove - 314 Anne St, Mazomanie**

The Heights Unlimited Food Pantry is looking for volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, call: Tarry Banke at 608-212-1041 or Linda Roberts at 815-721-4631.