



# BLACK EARTH NEWS

Newsletter

May 2020

## Village Municipal Office

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

### Memorial Day Info

In observance of Memorial Day, the Village Office will be closed on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am.

### Digger's Hotline

With warmer weather, outside projects are going to be on top of many lists. If you have any projects that require digging, DO NOT forget to call Digger's Hotline before you start at Wisconsin's One-Call Center 811 or (800) 242-8511

### Public Works Department

would like to welcome spring, finally!

With spring arriving, there are a few topics that the village would like to remind residents of. Brush

pick-up has started and will continue throughout the year until snow season begins. Brush will be chipped on the first, third, and fifth (if it occurs) Wednesday's of the month. Please realize that this will be weather dependent due to safety issues. Stack your brush in one direction and with the butt ends facing the street. The chipper can handle up to 6" diameter material. Also, it is greatly appreciated if small twigs are put in a container or on a tarp of some sort, as it eliminates the need of raking each pile after chipping. Any brush with dirt or root balls, nails or wire will not be chipped, as these materials dull the chipper blades. A twenty minute time limit per residence has been in effect for many years.

Remaining brush will be chipped at the next chipping date, or the homeowner may call the village office prior to the scheduled date of brush chipping to make arrangements to have the entire brush pile chipped. Leaves and lawn clippings are not collected during the summer months. They can be deposited in the compost bin north of the Public Works building during these times.

Manual meter reading continues to occur. Please try to keep the path to your meters free of obstacles and the meter itself in clear vision. Please remember if you have pets in the yard, to call your meter read in.



## THE MORE YOU KNOW

**K**nowing what spring weather likely holds for many Wisconsin communities, here are some helpful tips that you can utilize to combat the early season water damage exposure from Mother Nature:

- Have all roof drains, downspouts and gutters professionally checked and cleaned.
- Conduct regular inspections of all roofs and drain systems throughout the year, and especially after every adverse weather event to inspect for damages.
- If you have battery backup sump pumps, make sure to check the battery.
- Implement redundant drain and pump systems in all locations where you may have groundwater concerns
- Make sure your water shut off valves are in good working order and are easily accessible.
- If surface water has been an issue in the past, it is a good idea to have sand bags ready for use.
- When you're expecting flooding move mobile equipment to higher ground.
- Plan, prepare, and implement all emergency plans for your facilities and community

# Black Earth Public Library & Community Programs & Events (608) 767-4905

## Library Closure Update

Staff at the Black Earth Public Library and the Mazomanie Free Library are excited to hear that libraries can begin curbside services after April 24th. Please be patient as we work with our partner libraries in the South Central Library System to develop plans to offer this service while keeping library staff and the public safe. Additional information will be announced on our website and on Facebook/Instagram when curbside service is officially available at Mazomanie Free Library and Black Earth Public Library. We look forward to serving you again!

Please note that all holds currently waiting for you will remain on the hold shelf. All due dates for items currently checked out have been extended. However, our book drop is still open if you would like to return materials.

## Online Resources

Don't forget that with your Black Earth Library card you have access to many online resources such as:

- OverDrive/Libby for e-books and audiobooks
- Ancestry.com
- Consumer Reports
- NovelList Plus
- Transparent Language

If you do not have a library card, then **you may now sign up for a virtual library card!** This temporary card will allow you to access our online resources and gives you the ability to check out e-books and audiobooks. Once the library building reopens, then you can come in and get a permanent card for access to many other materials including items from throughout our library system. Please visit our website [www.blackearthlibrary.org](http://www.blackearthlibrary.org) for links to sign up for your virtual library card and/or to access our online resources.

If you have any concerns or questions before the library reopens, please contact Carolyn Shaffer, Library Director, at [crshaffer@blackearthlibrary.org](mailto:crshaffer@blackearthlibrary.org) or 608-767-4905. (Email will be responded to more quickly than voicemail.) You may also visit us on Facebook and Instagram for other updates.

## Black Earth Chamber:

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m., Monthly Meeting that are being held at the Black Earth Library will be cancelled

Tai Chi, Wednesday Mornings, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., Weekly Gathering, State Bank of Cross Plains Bank Basement Cancelled Until Further Notice

## Black Earth Historical Society:

Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Monthly Meeting, Cancelled

Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., Depot Museum Opens (Maybe ... depends on the CoVid19 Restrictions

## Heights Unlimited Community Resource Center:

Pantry & Clothes Closet Hours:  
Tuesdays 4:00 – 6:30 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. – Curbside Pick-Up until Further Notice.

Volunteer Opportunities: Contact, Rita Miller ([ritajane622@gmail.com](mailto:ritajane622@gmail.com)) or Joyce Evers ([joyceevers@centurylink.net](mailto:joyceevers@centurylink.net))  
*Feel free to contact Heights Unlimited Community Resource Center at (608) 767-3663, if assistance is needed other than the scheduled days.*

## PLANT DONATIONS

The Village of Black Earth would like to spruce up the three Welcome to Black Earth signs in the Village. If you have plants that need to be split this spring were asking for plant donations. Below is our wish list. Please call the Village Office at 608-767-4900 to arrange pick up. Thank you!

### SPRING FLOWERS

Tulips • Daffodils • Iris • Bleeding Hearts

### SUMMER PLANTS

- Purple cone flowers
- Black-eyed Susans
- Wine and roses weigela
- Coral bells
- Daylily (many different varieties, colors, heights)
- Dwarf burning bush (all season changing color)

### FALL PLANTS

- Sedum (butterfly bush)
- Dwarf Diablo ninebark
- May night salvia (late summer)