



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

October 2021



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Our community is in great need of EMTs. Do you know someone who might be interested in joining the District One EMS service? All equipment and training is provided at no cost to you. Your desire to help and commitment to others is the trade-off.

Visit www.district1ems.com to learn more. You can also call 608-795-9860 or email mzems1@gmail.com. Please spread the word!

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 be watering them regularly.

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

FLUORIDE UPDATE

There will be a referendum on the ballot in April’s election for Village of Black Earth residents to decide if fluoride should still be added to the Village’s water supply.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The Village Board meets the first Tuesday of the month starting at 6 p.m. at the Village hall located at 1210 Mills St.

All meetings are open to the public for attendance.

Listen to previous Board meetings on our YouTube Channel! Search by username “Village of Black Earth, Wisconsin” or <https://bit.ly/3kpsKCX>

COFFEE WITH A COP POSTPONED

With Public Health Officials reinstating the mask mandate, along with Dane County being listed as having a HIGH level of Community Transmission, Coffee with a Cop has been postponed until further notice.

DANE COUNTY CURRENT EMERGENCY ORDER

The current Public Health Madison & Dane County emergency order can be found at <https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus/current-order>



PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES

LEAF COLLECTION

Daily leaf collection runs from September 20 through November 30, weather dependent. Please make a pile near your curb but do not place your leaves in the street.

BRUSH COLLECTION

The final brush collection dates of the year are as follows: October 6th & 20th, November 3rd & 17th. The Public Works crew will spend a maximum of 20 minutes per property per collection date.

METER CLEARING

We ask for your cooperation in keeping a clear path open to your water/electric meters so that our public works crew can more easily access them during meter reading time. This includes clearing brush, grasses, etc. The crew will be reading meters next on October 11-15.



Black Earth Public Library & Community

The Library is Open!

Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Saturday:** 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Emergency Broadband Benefit

The Federal Communications Commission has launched a temporary program to help families and households struggling to afford Internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Benefit provides up to \$50 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal Lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers. For more information on how to enroll please visit www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit or call 833-511-0311.

October Activity Grab Bags

Beginning October 1, we will have Activity Grab Bags filled with activity sheets, a foam sticker craft, a pencil, and a sticker sheet available! Stop in to get one, or give us a call at 608-767-4905 to reserve your bag.

Trick or Treat at the Library

The library will be handing out Halloween goody bags from Monday, October 25 through Saturday, October 30. Come by to show off your costume, and grab a bag to enjoy on Halloween night.

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.

Community Art Project

We're making a chain of flowers with the help of the whole community! Craft kits are available at the library's Grab n' Go station. Make your own flower with our kit, bring it back to the library to add to our flower chain, and watch our chain grow! Craft kits are available for all ages of community members and there's no limit on the number of kits you can take!

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, feel free to continue on paper or transfer to Beanstack.)

Village Survey Updates

The Village has been actively working on several items over the summer in response to the survey conducted earlier this year. Communications and marketing, flood prevention, and redevelopment have been the focus.

Communications and marketing: The Village is happy to announce the three *Welcome to Black Earth* signs will be freshened up, possibly with a new design. The Village is working with Polliwog Studios out of Prairie du Sac on design and construction. There may be some updates to the signage that could include some redesign and additions. Stay tuned as designs are in a draft state at this time.

Flood prevention: The Village is actively working with Dane County Emergency Management on updating the Hazard Mitigation Plans for the Village that will be incorporated into the County Plan as well. This is critical for the Village to have in place as FEMA funding for mitigation efforts depends on it. Village staff and board members have attended several webinars on how to get this done, what is needed, and done the homework necessary for the plan. It is expected this update will be completed shortly after the first of the New Year. The public will have time to view the Village's plan before the end of the year and provide input and feedback as part of the process.

Redevelopment: As many of our residents are aware, the Black Earth Elementary School will be moving after the construction of the new addition out at the Wisconsin Heights School campus. The expectation of this move has the school district actively seeking RFPs for the site here in Black Earth and Mazomanie. While we do not know who or what will happen with the location as of yet, the Village continues to monitor and work with the school district to find a good fit for the community.

