

Please save for future reference!

W7937 County Road MH Holmen, WI 54636 Phone: (608) 526-3354 Fax: (608) 526-6564 Email: clerk@townofhollandwi.gov Web page: <u>www.townofhollandwi.gov</u> Facebook: www.facebook.com/TownofHollandWI

Compost Site Changes

The Town Board has been exploring alternatives for compost disposal for residents because of drastically increased costs and abuse by some town residents and non-town residents. The Board discussed and researched various options.

As an alternative to closing the site, starting in 2023, the compost site will be gated and only Town residents will be allowed use of the site. This will cut down on abuse by non-residents and with the camera system and fob ID, identify any residents illegally dumping material at the site.



The compost site is used for grass clippings or leaves/pine needles or other compostable vegetation. This site is located to the west of the Town hall. No paper/plastic bags or branches/brush are allowed. Garbage cans are provided for you to dispose of bags.



Residents who wish to use the compost drop-off site will be required to obtain an access key-fob from the Town Clerk. The yearly cost for the service will be \$50.

Town Shop Upgrade

After almost 18 years serving as a cold storage building for the Town, the shop at N6836 County Road XX was upgraded this past summer to house the Town working shop. The upgrade included installing a radiant heating system, cement floor, new lighting, restroom and a breakroom.

In addition, the Town added a sand storage shed to adhere to DNR requirements for storing treated sand (salt added for winter maintenance). Both projects were funded using ARPA grant money.

A big thank you to **Strupp Trucking** for allowing the Town to store equipment during the construction project!





The Town received a grant to assist in developing a plan for a bicycle and pedestrian network that is safe and accessible for people of all ages and abilities. A citizen ad-hoc committee was formed last year and has worked with a consultant to survey residents, study current conditions and develop goals and strategies to help the Town become a more bicycle and pedestrian friendly-community. Thank you to all who participated in the survey!

The report should be completed by December 31st and will be made available on our website.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Study

What's Happening in the Town?

Welcome to our newest Town Crew Member



Tim Gappa, joined us in November and has added his 25 years of trucking expertise to our Town crew! Tim is the father

of four and has two grandchildren. He is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys hunting (especially duck), fishing and hiking. Welcome Tim!

Town Referendum

On November 8, 2022, the Town residents voted yes (1352 to 1004) on a referendum to increase the levy to provide for fire services/EMS.

The Town Board appreciates the support given to the fire protection referendum. They will do their best to be good stewards of the additional funding and will strive to enhance the fire services that you receive in the Town.

Stormwater Utility Special Charges

Two years ago, the Town Board began the process of forming a stormwater utility within the Town of Holland by holding multiple public workshops and listing their findings on the Town's web page for input. The Town Board then established a Stormwater Utility Commission, which held its first meeting last May. The Commission has studied the multiple flooding events and discussed infrastructure conditions and damage to private property. The review revealed multiple areas that should be addressed to lessen the severity of the recurring flooding issues.

The estimated cost of improvements was determined to significantly impact the Town's general budget and take away funds from other Town expenditures. Therefore, the Town Board voted to install a "stormwater utility charge" using an Equivalent Runoff Unit (ERU) system. The special charge is noted on your tax bill. The ERU will remain the same this year as last year.

Keep in mind, the Stormwater Utility does not repair/replace culverts under private driveways or cover routine ditch maintenance. That is still the responsibility of the property owner.

For more information, check out the Town website.



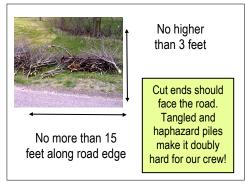
Brush Chipping Service

We continue to remind residents that if the rules are not adhered to, this service may be discontinued! Abuse of the system has become a strain on our Town Crew. The rules are established to protect our workers and to control misuse of this <u>taxpayer service</u>. Such rules include a limit to the amount of brush (no more than 3 feet tall and no wider than

15 feet along the curb), a requirement that cut ends face the road (messy piles take more time and can prove dangerous to our crew) and a request to **call the Town office at 608-526-3354 to be placed on the pick-up list** (no later than 1 pm the day before the service; *leave a message 24/7*).

This is a reminder that the Town is not in the <u>business</u> of chipping brush. We offer the <u>service</u> as a courtesy to assist with light pruning and trimming. Our service is NOT for tree removal or clearing building sites. There are many businesses willing to assist with larger volumes.

Brush chipping service is offered the 2nd Tuesday—April through October. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to the rules as listed above! We thank you for your cooperation.



All about Parks

Progress on Flury Field—Holland Estates Park

The Flury Field should be ready for use for the 2023 season. The field is located on Ducke Drive in Holland Estates. The project is a combination of funds from the Badger Coulee Line Transmission account, a \$25,000 donation from a home that was built in 2004 by the Flury family and local businesses who donated time and materials to build a house a short distance from the new ball field. Use of the softball/baseball and soccer field will start in early April by the Viking Youth Soccer Association, Holmen Fastpitch, and Holmen Youth Baseball Parents Association for ages 12 and under.

Holmen Area Foundation, Town of Holland, Mike and his family would like to thank the many volunteers and donors:

- River City Redimix for the donation of the dugout concrete
- Town of Holland town crew John and Norm for donation of the concrete labor
- Andy Palmer for setting the bases
- Oeltjen family, Holmen Youth Baseball for donating bases, and the multiple volunteers to finish the infield
- Holmen Fastpitch for donating the bases
- Strupp Trucking for the black dirt and donation to level off the soccer and outfield
- Century Fencing, Reinder Seed, and Beaver Builders for the material donations for the dugouts
- Fletcher Construction for building the dugout roofs
- VYSA volunteers for their efforts and equipment to fix the soccer field and to build the soccer goals
- Dax Connely for leveling the baseball field
- Milestone Materials for the donation of the infield mix
- Sandbox Trucking for delivery of the infield, and
- Simmons Construction for the donation of the outfield fence. In early May, 2023, there will be a field dedication. Stay tuned to

our web page for details. All are welcome to come check out the new field!

Little Free Sled Library

Thanks to a donation from the Holmen Area Foundation, the Town Hall park now sports a "sled library." Little Free Sled Libraries were created so that if your sled is broken or is lost, you can take one at no cost.



For winter fun, the Town has two sledding hills:

- (1) Town Hall Park—use gravel parking lot to the west of the Town Hall and the hill is to the southwest (facing County Road XX).
- (2) Hammes Park—use the parking lot south of the park equipment (turn onto Vermeer Street and left into the parking lot).



Town Beautification

Thank you Mike and MC Hoffman and Alice Dresen for all your work in keeping the Town Hall landscaping trimmed, weeded and watered. The Town appreciates the extra effort to enhance our appearance.



Always looking for volunteers to "adopt" a park or garden. Making our Town beautiful is a community effort! Contact the Town Clerk for details.

DONATED BY HOLMEN AREA FOUNDATION

More Town Happenings...

Fire Department News

Hello residents of the Town of Holland. It has been a pleasure and an honor serving your community for the last year and a half. The last couple of years have been challenging due to COVID-19 but in 2022 things are starting to get back to normal. It was a breath of fresh air to be able to personally engage with people in our communities again.

There were a few exciting things that happened this year. In March, the Holmen Area Fire Department transitioned our EMS Service License level from First Responder to Emergency Medical Technician. This allows all of our members to be able to provide a higher level of emergency medical care to all of the citizens in our community. We will be able to administer some medications and perform some skills that we were not allowed to do under the First Responder level. Secondly, The Holmen Area Fire Department members along with the La Crosse Fire Department's Community Risk Management Division were excited as we were able to go back to all of the Holmen School District's elementary schools for Fire Prevention Week during the week of October 3rd. It was great to engage again with the public. Lastly, our new fire engine is scheduled to be delivered in February of 2023 which will replace our current engine. The new engine will be an engine/tender 2,000 gallons of water where our current engine only has 750 gallons of water. This will be a great benefit in rural areas with no hydrants.

There still continues to be challenges moving into the future. 2022 was our first full year of having 24/7 staffing. This provides all of our citizens a quick response time but call volume continues to go up in the fire district response area and we continue to keep getting overlapping calls that

ends in a delayed response or having to ask other departments to take the calls. Either one of those options still ends in a delayed response. The Holmen Area Fire Department and the Fire Board are working together to try and get more full-time staffing to better meet and improve the safety of our community and the safety of your firefighters. Also, starting January 1st of 2023, the Town of Onalaska has opted to contract with the City of Onalaska for emergency services and will no longer be a part of the Holmen Area Fire Department's fire district. The fire department and the Fire Board will continue to work together to move forward and provide the best professional emergency services that it can to both communities.

Safety Tips

•Give yourself extra time when driving in snow and icy weather.

•We recommend changing your smoke and CO (carbon monoxide) detector batteries when you change you clocks during daylight savings. You can find the DSPS 328 code here: <u>https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/</u> admin_code/sps/

safety and buildings and environment/326 360/328.pdf.

•Have a chimney sweep inspect your chimney and fireplace before starting up your fireplace during the cold weather.

Please feel free to contact us anytime at the Holmen Area Fire Department at (608) 526-9363 with any questions or concerns that you may have. We will be happy to answer all questions or concerns.

Stay Safe,

Battalion Chief Bee Xiong

Winter Safety	Ped/Bike Safety	Compost Bins
Safe play areas: For safety's sake, do not allow children to build and/or play in the banks at road's edge! Our plow drivers have a lot to watch when plowing and may not see children hiding in the snow bank! Do not plow or blow snow across roads! Keep in mind that it is unlawful for any person, firm, or other agency, to throw, plow or otherwise discharge snow and/or ice from private property onto any roadway. State Statute 346.94(5)	 We have had multiple close calls with walkers/ bikers along Town roads. Keep in mind that over 6,000 pedestrians were killed last year! Do not become a statistic. Here are some safety tips. Walk against traffic Bike with traffic 1. Be seen! Wear reflective clothing, especially at night. 2. Use a flash light. 3. Keep your earbud volume down. 4. Avoid distracted walking/biking—hands off the phone! 	We have seen an increased interest in gardening and backyard composting. To encourage and support our residents, the Town of Holland has partnered with other communities to provide backyard compost bins at a reduced rate (by buying in bulk). To begin composting your grass, leaves and organic matter, we are offering a limited supply of composting bins for \$50. Contact the Town Clerk for more information or to order a bin.

Important Information!

<u>Emergency notices</u>. It is an unfortunate phenomenon, but we seem to get 100-year storms every year! While the Town cannot prevent these disasters, we will work hard to address them as quickly as possible. In cases of localized flooding or other weather events, residents can check the Town web site at <u>www.townofhollandwi.gov</u> for road closures, storm clean-up actions and other information. It's always good to see neighbors helping neighbors.

<u>Well water testing.</u> Even if your drinking water looks, tastes, or smells good, it may still contain harmful bacteria and the only way to know is by testing. Pick up water testing bottles in the Clerk's office or at the County Health Dept, 300 4th Street No, La Crosse, 608-785-9872 from 8 am-4:30 pm.

Speeding is one of the biggest complaints in the Town! Please keep in mind when you are traveling that the speed limits are set to protect the residents as well as the driver. *Please* be aware and **SLOW DOWN!**

<u>Road right-of-way.</u> Due to necessary maintenance of Town roads, decorative mail posts, flower boxes, or other items placed on the road right-of-way may be damaged. The Town is not liable for damages done to these items, nor to the grass edge along the road which may occasionally get peeled back by the snow plow blades. The right-of-way on most roads is 66 feet wide (33 feet from the centerline).

Drainage ditches cannot be filled in with dirt and/or sod. **Sprinkler heads should NOT be within the right-of-way**. The Town is not responsible for damaged sprinkler heads due to snow plowing or other road work. Downspouts should be placed to allow for infiltration throughout the yard (not placed directly in ditches).

Parking on cul-de-sacs and on Town roads is prohibited.

<u>Mailboxes</u> cannot be constructed with *concrete, brick or any other hazardous materials* that will not "break away" if hit by a vehicle. On the other hand, the Town will not be responsible for mailboxes that are so old/weak that they break due to snow pressure.

<u>Other obstacles.</u> No other obstacle should be constructed within the right-ofway, **including brick pillars, large landscape rocks, or anything sticking up along the road edge**.

No open burning. Burning leaves, refuse, or brush in yards or burn barrel(s) is illegal in the Town. Of course, grilling or cooking outdoors, campfires, fire rings/pits (with a 3-foot size limit) and outdoor wood stoves are allowed. Contact the Holmen Fire Department for allowable exceptions: 608-526-9363.

<u>Fire numbers.</u> It is Town code that each house display a double-sided green fire number. If your fire number is missing or has been damaged, contact the Town Clerk immediately. If a fire number is not present, you are in violation of Town code, which could result in a fine.

<u>Sand/salt.</u> The Town is not legally able to sell the winter sand/salt mixture nor are citizens allowed to take it. The materials need to be used for Town business and a driveway is not a Town road, and, therefore, not a Town use.

Garbage/Recycling Carts. Carts should not be put out before 5 pm the day before pick up and should be retrieved from the Town right-of-way as close as possible to 5 pm the day of pick up. Keep the containers at least 3 feet apart and 3 feet from any other obstruction.

Noise. Ordinance #6-2007 establishes a quiet time between 9 pm and 7 am.

Winter Information

The Town of Holland endeavors to maintain safe driving surfaces for vehicles properly equipped for winter driving conditions. This does not mean bare, dry pavement should be expected after each snowfall or ice storm event. Furthermore, this does not mean that the roads will be completely free of ice and snow during the season. Motorists are expected to modify their driving practices in accordance with the road conditions. In an effort to adhere to stormwater regulations, the Town will use discretion when applying sand/salt while keeping the roads in passable condition. *Keep in mind that we generally do not plow if we have received less than 2 inches of snow.*

Items installed or kept on any Town right-of-way (generally the area 33' from the centerline of the road) may be damaged by snowplows. Subsequently, any item other than a mailbox will not be replaced or repaired by the Town if struck by a plow. This includes underground sprinklers. Homeowners may also be liable for damage to Town equipment that results from striking objects in the right-of-way.

Road Maintenance

Each year the Town budgets for maintenance on the 45 miles of town roads. The Town contracts for the roads to be cleaned, crack filled and then seal coated on a 7-year cycle. This is not a fast process and does require driving a little more cautiously for about 6 weeks. Once the roads are cured, the contractor will sweep up the extra chips. While this may be inconvenient for a few weeks, it goes a long way to preserve the roads, rather than waiting for roads to fail. At that point, the road would have to be torn out and replaced. That process would take a few months and is also much more expensive. So, a little maintenance now will avoid major expense and inconvenience later.

Permits Required

Pools. Any pool with a depth greater than 12 inches or more than 150 square feet (about a 14-foot round pool), requires a permit. See Ordinance #5-2013 for details (Town website).

Fireworks. Ordinance #3-2016 allows for the use of fireworks in the Town of Holland. An application must be filed and approved before the purchase of fireworks. There are two types of permits: personal use (free) and public display (\$50 fee).



Tax Payment—Questions 608-526-3354

•24/7 using the Town Hall drop box.
•By mail to the Treasurer Town of Holland W7937 Co. Rd. MH Holmen, WI 54636

Drop box available 24 hours a day (just to the left of the front door). Secure and easy!

•By credit card online (there is a fee for this option, see below).

Use of the drop box or U.S. Mail is highly encouraged!

Please keep in mind that if you: **DO NOT WANT a receipt**:

include the bottom 1/3 of the tax bill.

WANT a receipt:

include the full tax bill along with a self-addressed stamped envelope. We will return the top 2/3 portion for your records.

•In person at the **Town Hall** during these Treasurer's hours:

In 2022:	Monday, Dec 19	8 am to 1 pm
	Wednesday, Dec 21	3 pm to 6 pm
	Thursday, Dec 22	8 am to 1 pm
	Wednesday, Dec 28	3 pm to 6 pm
	Thursday, Dec 29	8 am to 1 pm
In 2023:	Thursday, Jan 19	8 am to 1 pm
	Monday, Jan 23	8 am to 1 pm
	Wednesday, Jan 25	3 pm to 6 pm
	Thursday, Jan 26	8 am to 1 pm
	Monday, Jan 30	8 am to 1 pm
	Tuesday, Jan 31	8 am to 1 pm
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•All payments (1st half or full) are due by January 31.

Payment by check or money order payable to <u>Town of Holland</u>
For security reasons, please no cash payments over \$100.

•Correct change is appreciated!

Second Half Tax Payment

SECOND HALF TAX PAYMENT: Due July 31 Payable to: LaCrosse County Treasurer Mail or pay at: County Treasurer's Office 212 6th Street No., Suite 1900 La Crosse, WI 54601 608-785-9711

How do I know if my taxes are paid?

To verify that your payment has been received, visit: https://apps.lacrossecounty.org/LandRecordsPortal/ search.aspx?type=Parcel

- ► Enter your information
- Select the "Search" tab
- Click on the record you wish to view
- ► Select the "Taxes" category (menu option on the right)

Tax Information

	Tax Levies	
	Last Year	This year
County	\$1,674,700	\$1,722,252
Holmen School	\$3,397,580	\$3,754,131
Wisc. Tech College	\$ 642,545	\$ 641,712
Town of Holland	\$ 518,320	\$ 524,256
TofH Levy Adjustment	<u>\$ 88,518</u>	<u>\$ 797,559</u>
Totals	\$6,321,733	\$7,439,910

2021 Mill rate (paid in 2022): 0.012677825 2022 Mill rate (paid in 2023): 0.014666214

Credit Card Payments What does your property tax payment support? 50% = Holmen School District—pays for building The Town offers a credit card service upkeep, utilities, salaries, furniture, through allpaid (previously known as technology, and other supplies needed to GovPayNet) to allow the payment of run our schools. taxes, rentals, dog licenses, building 23% = La Crosse County-pays for plowing and permits, etc. by credit card. While there repairing county highways, human is no cost to the Town for this service. services, circuit court, county jail please note there is a "convenience" expenses, veteran's services, and more. charge to those who use it ranging 9% = Wisconsin Technical College—to make from 3.75% to 5.25% depending on education accessible to more students in which method of payment is used (paid our community. to allpaid). Through allpaid, a 7% = Town of Holland—pays for road work, cardholder can choose from multiple parks, elections, hall and shop payment options: paying onsite, online, maintenance, snow plowing, utilities, etc. or by phone 24 hours a day, all by 11% = Town of Holland adj — debt service (2 secure electronic means. For more year payment) and fire service (indefinite) information: www.townofhollandwi.gov



Dog license renewals are due January 1st.

There is a misconception that dog licenses are due at the end of March. NOT true!

The license period starts January 1st and ends December 31st. So, in fact, licenses are due by <u>January 1st each year</u>. The misconception occurs because there is a <u>grace period to avoid a late fee</u> until March 31st.

Dog Licenses

All puppies must be licensed within 5 months of birth. Renewal is due by January 1 with a grace period no later than March 31. (Limit of 2 dogs per household.)

We have a computer printout on dogs previously licensed in the Town of Holland. If the rabies vaccination is current, just send the correct fee. If the rabies shot expired since you purchased last year's tag, we will need to see proof of the current rabies vaccination.

It is the dog owner's responsibility to provide the rabies information (not the vet clinic).

Dog licenses can be purchased from the treasurer, Marla Wagner. This can be done via mail, Town Hall drop box, or during clerk hours at the Town Hall.

Address: W7937 County Road MH Holmen, WI 54636

If by mail or drop box, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope so we can send you the tag. Any rabies information will be returned as well.

For new dogs, you need to furnish proof of rabies vaccination, dog's name, breed, color, age/birthdate, and sex (indicate whether it is neutered or spayed). If the dog has been neutered or spayed, we will need written documentation.

For new residents or newly acquired adult dogs, all tags are to be purchased from the Town treasurer within <u>30 days</u> or the late fee will apply. A new puppy must be licensed within <u>5 months</u> of birth or the late fee will apply.

All nuisance dog calls are handled by the Coulee Region Humane Society (608-781-4014).

LATE TAGS MUST BE PURCHASED FROM THE COUNTY CLERK. Late fee is \$25.00

Dog License Questions? Call 608-526-3354



Dog Fee: \$23 or \$12 if spayed/neutered

Leash Law

The Town of Holland does have a leash law. Unfortunately, we often receive complaints regarding dogs running in the neighborhood. <u>And, while you may think your dog is well-</u> <u>behaved, those walking/jogging or biking might</u> <u>not feel safe with dogs running at them</u>. Section 3.01 of the Dog Control Ordinance #5-2007 has several sections that apply to the care of dogs:

- A. All dogs shall be cared for, maintained, and handled in a sanitary manner and in such a way as to prevent noises, barking, fighting or howling, or other disturbances of the peace and quiet of the neighborhood.
- B. Dogs <u>shall not be permitted to run at</u> <u>large</u>, with the exception of dogs confined and controlled within an electric dog fence.

Penalties may be assessed if a dog is running loose or disturbing the peace. Penalties for violations are established by La Crosse County Code and enforced by the La Crosse County Animal Control officers. If you have any questions on the penalties or violations, please call the La Crosse County Health Department at 608-785-9872.

Quick Notes

Puppies: license before puppy is 5 months old Newly acquired dogs: license within 30 days Renewals: renew by January 1st each year (grace period until March 31st)

Town Information

BOARD MEMBERS	Contact Us	
Chair Bob Stupi608-397-1191chair@townofhollandwi.govKathy Warzynski608-526-6474supervisor1@townofhollandwi.govJeff Herlitzke608-769-0578supervisor2@townofhollandwi.govNikole Hauser608-397-9891supervisor3@townofhollandwi.govDavid Weber608-792-7621supervisor4@townofhollandwi.govClerk Marilyn Pedretti608-317-9698clerk@townofhollandwi.gov	Phone: 608-526-3354 Email: <u>clerk@townofhollandwi.gov</u> <u>treasurer@townofhollandwi.gov</u> Web page: <u>www.townofhollandwi.gov</u>	
Treasurer Marla Wagner 608-526-3354 treasurer@townofhollandwi.gov	CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS Mondays 8 am to 1 pm	
Building Inspector: Jim Webb 608-780-4672 Assessor: Associated Appraisal 920-749-1995	Wednesdays 3 pm to 6 pm	
MEETING INFORMATION Town Board meets at 6:30 pm the second Wednesday	Thursdays 8 am to 1 pm and other times as needed	
 The annual meeting is at 6:30 pm, Wednesday, April 19, 2023 Plan Commission meets at 6:30 pm the first Wednesday Stormwater Commission meets (as needed) 6:30 pm the first Wednesday Monthly meeting notices will be posted at the Town Hall, the Holmen Post Office and Holmen Library as well as the Town website: <u>www.townofhollandwi.gov</u> Special meeting notices will be posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at the three locations and the Town website as listed above. 	RENTAL INFORMATIONAll rentals of the hall, shelters, and ball diamonds are handled by the Town Clerk at 608-526-3354The following rates are subject to change:Park Shelters (located by the Town Hall):#1 = \$80.00(kitchen/open air seating)#2 = \$65.00(electrical outlets/enclosed)	
MUNICIPAL SERVICESBrush chipping	Town Hall (W7937 County Road MH): Day rental = 8 am to 6 pm \$175 with \$50 deposit Evening rental = 8 am to 10 pm \$275 with \$50 deposit Reception rental = 8 am to midnight \$350 with \$75 deposit For pictures and further information, check out the Town website.	
Recycling/Refuse	2023 Election Schedule	
 The "Recycler" newsletter was sent separately. Please call the Town Hall if you have not received one by the end of December. You can also view the newsletter on the Town website. For quick reference, a postcard recycler calendar is included in this mailing. Carts may not be placed within the right-of-way (33 feet from the center line) other than from 5 pm the day before service to 5 pm the day of service Place carts <u>2 feet</u> from road edge and at least <u>3 feet away</u> from obstacles including but not limited to: other carts, recycling bins, mailboxes, power poles, etc. Remove the carts from the right-of-way by the end of the collection day. If a vehicle or plow hits a cart, the homeowner must pay to replace it!!! Call 608-783-6727 if your trash or recycling was missed! 	 2/21/23– Spring Primary (if needed) 4/4/23–Spring Election REGISTER TO VOTE: Option 1: www.myvote.wi.gov Register online up to 20 days before an election. Option 2: Register in the Clerk's office. Option 3: Register at the polls. Options 2 & 3: You will need current proof of residency. See www.myvote.wi.gov for details. Social Media 	