

Burlington City Hall
300 N. Pine Street
Burlington, WI 53105
262.342.1161
www.burlington-wi.gov



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
COMMON COUNCIL**

Robert Miller, Mayor
(262) 342-1161

First District Aldermen
Bob Prailes
(262) 763-5194

Ed Johnson
(262) 763-8321

Second District Aldermen
Peter Hintz
(262) 763-7063

Jim Prailes
(262) 763-7322

Third District Aldermen
Tom Vos
Council President
(262) 763-2213
Steve Rauch
(262) 767-1910

Fourth District Aldermen
Katie Simenson
(262) 767-0409
Jeff Fischer
(262) 763-8341

Questions and concerns regarding this newsletter can be directed to Megan Johnson at (262) 342-1161 or to mjohanson@burlington-wi.gov

Announcements

October 15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Medicine Collection Day, Western Racine Co. Health Department, 156 E. State Street. Call 763-4930 for more information.

October 27, 3 to 7 p.m.: Last day of the 2011 outdoor Farmers Market in Wehmhoff Square.

October 30, 3 to 5 p.m.: City-wide Halloween Trick or Treat.

November 3, TBA: 3rd Annual Harvest of the Market Buffet, Veterans Terrace, 589 Milwaukee Avenue. Call (262) 210-6360 or (262) 716-3476 for more information.

November 18 & 19: Old Fashioned Christmas Open House. Enjoy shopping in Downtown Burlington with two days of old-fashioned fun activities, holiday specials, drawings, demonstrations and refreshments. Call the Chamber of Commerce for more information at 763-6044.

November 24 & 25: City offices closed for Thanksgiving.

December 2, 6:30 p.m.: Annual Christmas Parade beginning on Kane Street.

CITY STAFF DIRECTORY

City Hall - 300 N. Pine St. - 342-1161
Robert Miller Mayor
Kevin Lahner City Administrator
Steve DeQuaker Treasurer
Beverly R. Gill City Clerk
Megan Johnson Asst. to the City Administrator
Patrick Scherrer Building Inspector

Fire Department - 165 E. Washington St. - 763-7842
Richard Lodle Fire Chief
Richard Peterson Deputy Chief
Daniel Rueter Assistant Chief
William McCourt Assistant Chief
John Niederer Fire Inspector

Public Library - 166 E. Jefferson St. - 342-1130
Gayle Falk Library Director
Joy Schnupp Youth Services Director
Judy Rockwell Reference Librarian
Carole Rybarczyk Circulation Supervisor

Police Department - 224 E. Jefferson St. - 342-1100
Peter Nimmer Police Chief
Mark Anderson Assistant Chief / Lieutenant
David A. Krupp Detective Sergeant
Rodney Thurin Detective
Michael J. Madsen Sergeant
John Fisher Sergeant
Amy Rendall Sergeant
Brian Zmudzinski Sergeant

DPW—Streets/Parks/Water - 2200 S. Pine St. - 539-3770
Dan Jensen Supervisor - Streets & Parks
Tom Koch Street Department Foreman
Aaron DeGrave Park Department Foreman
Judy Gerulat Engineering Technician

DPW—Wastewater - 2100 S. Pine St. - 539-3646
Connie Wilson Public Works Director
Glenn Harjes Foreman

Municipal Court - 300 N. Pine St. - 342-1129
Debra Dillon Municipal Court Clerk

Recycling Collection Schedule

- Week of September 5 - 9
- Week of September 19 - 23
- Week of October 3 - 7
- Week of October 17 - 21
- Week of Oct. 31 - Nov. 4
- Week of November 14 - 18
- Week of Nov. 28 - Dec. 2
- Week of December 12 - 16

September Meetings

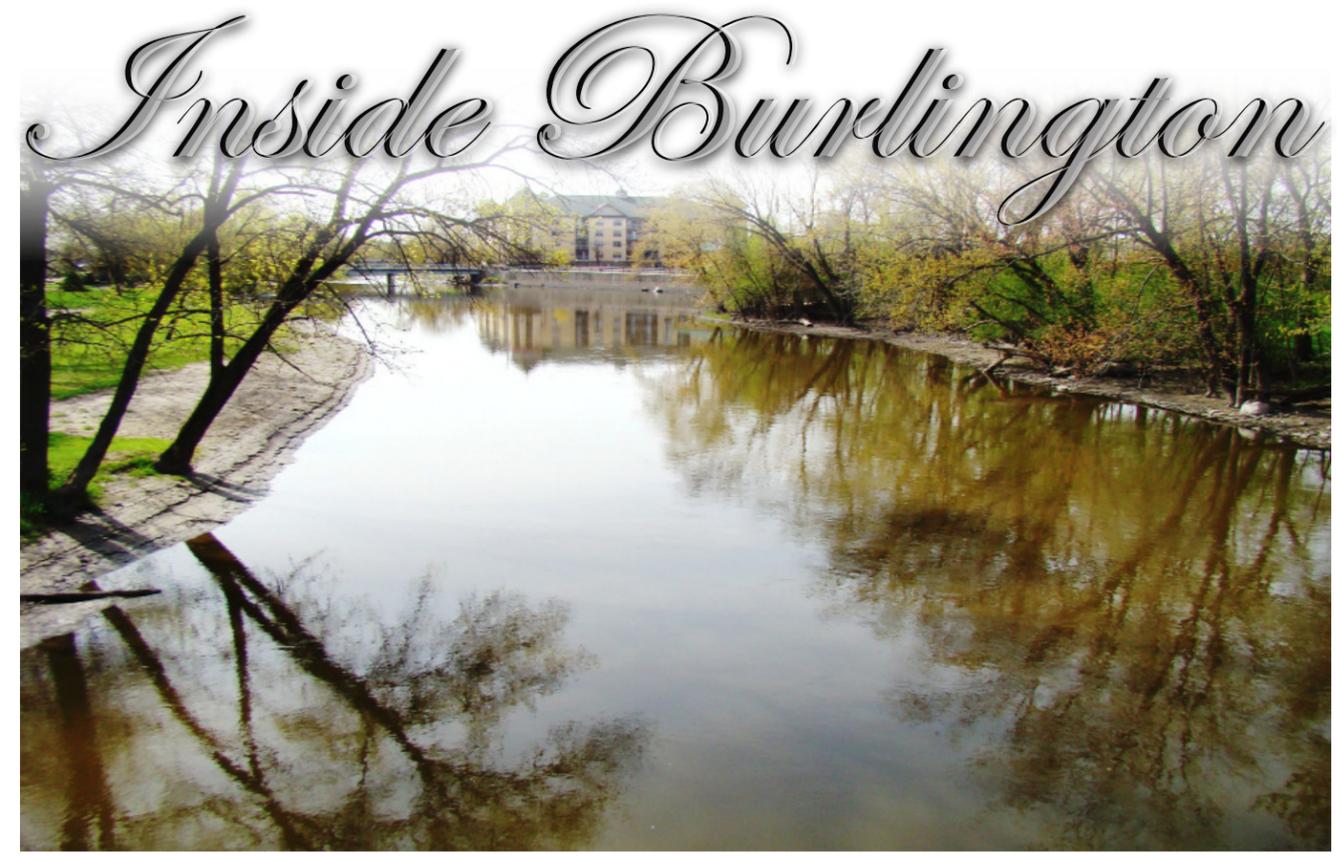
- 9/6 5:30 p.m. - CDA
- 9/6 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
- 9/7 6:30 p.m. - Police & Fire Comm.
- 9/13 6:30 p.m. - Plan Commission
- 9/15 6:30 p.m. - Park Board
- 9/20 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
- 9/22 6:00 p.m. - Airport Committee
- 9/22 6:30 p.m. - HPC
- 9/27 4:00 p.m. - Library Board

October Meetings

- 10/4 5:30 p.m. - CDA
- 10/4 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
- 10/5 6:30 p.m. - Police & Fire Comm.
- 10/11 6:30 p.m. - Plan Commission
- 10/18 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
- 10/20 6:30 p.m. - Park Board
- 10/25 4:00 p.m. - Library Board
- 10/27 6:00 p.m. - Airport Committee
- 10/27 6:30 p.m. - HPC

November Meetings

- 11/1 5:30 p.m. - CDA
- 11/1 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
- 11/2 6:30 p.m. - Police & Fire Comm.
- 11/8 6:30 p.m. - Plan Commission
- 11/15 6:30 p.m. - Common Council
- 11/15 4:00 p.m. - Library Board
- 11/17 6:30 p.m. - Park Board
- TBD 6:00 p.m. - Airport Committee
- TBD 6:30 p.m. - HPC



Volume 14 / Autumn 2011

The City's Official Newsletter

PRE SORT
STANDARD U.S.
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BURLINGTON, WI
PERMIT NO. 2

City of Burlington
300 N. Pine Street
Burlington, WI 53105

Citizen Budget Partners a Success!

This year marked the City's first ever Citizen Budget Partners (CBP) meetings. The 10 member CBP met the last two weeks of July and the first two weeks of August. During these meetings, the City Budget process was presented to the CBP by the Mayor, City Administrator and the City Treasurer. An overall review of the budget process was presented along with line item budget detail by department to the CBP during the first three meetings. CBP members had the opportunity to meet City department heads and hear about the function of each department along with key issues in each departmental budget.

The last meeting was devoted to city policy issues that affect the annual budget, such as street/sidewalk improvements, water/sewer issues, parks maintenance, equipment replacement funding and other issues. These issues, as well as the overall budget process, were presented and discussed with the CBP in an effort to gain some feedback on how the city creates its budget, how the city determines priorities and discovery of issues that are important to the citizens of the City of Burlington. Feedback has been positive on the process so far and the City is looking to keep this program running each year as part of the annual budget process.

City Wards & Aldermanic Districts to Change in 2012

Redistricting is the process of redrawing the City's wards and aldermanic districts. Municipalities in Wisconsin are required to adjust their municipal ward boundaries following the decennial federal census. The boundary changes are based on population changes that have occurred over the last decade. Through redistricting, the population within each aldermanic district is equalized so that residents across the City have equal representation on the Common Council. A similar process was done at the county (Supervisors), state (Representatives and Senators) and federal (Representatives) levels.

One notable change to the boundaries is that instead of having sixteen wards as currently in place, there will only be nine. Four Aldermanic Districts will remain, however some of the boundaries will change. Residents will receive notification of the changes once all the plans are finalized with the County.

Please remember this change will not take place until January 1, 2012. A map of the new Wards and Districts can be viewed at City Hall, 300 N. Pine Street during the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Clean Sweep Offered to City Residents



Through an agreement with Walworth County, city residents can participate in a Clean Sweep Program October 7th and 8th. This is an opportunity to dispose of hazardous materials you may have around the house. Items include products that can harm the environment and public health if not disposed of properly, that should not be dumped down the drain or thrown in the garbage. Oil paints, solvents, fuels, pesticides, automotive fluids, photo chemicals, rechargeable batteries, fluorescent bulbs, mercury products and pool chemicals are just a few examples and are generally marked "caustic", "acid", "danger", "flammable" or "poison". Items not accepted include oxygen tanks, ammunition, computer equipment, drain/toilet/oven/window cleaners, radioactive materials or nebulizers.

Times and Locations are as Follows:

Friday, October 7th (3 to 6 p.m.)
Whitewater Public Works Complex,
150 East Starin Road, Whitewater

Saturday, October 8th (8 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
Walworth Co. Public Works Department,
W4097 County Rd. NN, Elkhorn

Each participant that takes part in the Clean Sweep program will be asked some brief questions as part of a survey Walworth County will be conducting to evaluate the program. For more information visit the Walworth County Website (Public Works - Solid Waste Page) at www.co.walworth.wi.us.

This program is free to City of Burlington residents.

Snow Removal Policy

Snow & Ice Removal

The winter weather will soon be upon us, and along with this Wisconsin weather comes snow. Keeping the sidewalks clear of snow and ice is something that is a courtesy to other citizens and keeps our residents safe. Keeping sidewalks clear is also required by City Ordinance.

Duty of the Owner or Occupant

The owner, occupant or person in charge of each city are required to remove all snow and ice in front of the premises within 18 hours after the snow has stopped falling. When ice cannot be removed, the sidewalk should be sprinkled with salt or sand so as to prevent the sidewalk from being dangerous.



Sidewalk Snow Removal by the City

Upon notification by the Police Department, the Department of Public Works will clean or sprinkle the sidewalks not cleared with 18 hours after a snowfall.

The amount charged for snow removal shall be at an hourly rate, per man, plus equipment. Any damage to equipment will also be charged to the property owner.

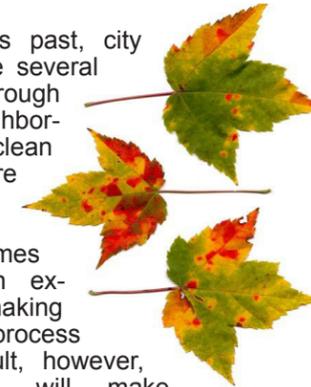
Concerns/Complaints regarding snow removal from sidewalks may be directed to the Department of Public Works at 539-3770.

Leaf & Brush Pick Up

Leaf Pick Up

Leaf pick up will begin in October and continue through mid-November (weather permitting). Leaves should be placed in the street next to the gutter, while leaving the flow line of the curb clear for stormwater to pass.

As in years past, city crews make several passes through each neighborhood for clean up. There have been times where snow comes earlier than expected making the pick up process more difficult, however, the crews will make every attempt to clean up the leaves in a timely manner.



Brush Pick Up

Brush pick up continues on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Please call the Department of Public Works at 539-3770 to have your address placed on the Brush Pick Up List. You must call no later than the Tuesday before the second or fourth Wednesday. The Public Works crews only pick up brush from addresses that have been called in.

You may also bring your brush to the Compost Site during operational hours at 764 Maryland Avenue. The City Compost Site is open from April 1 through November 30. The site is free of charge to City residents. There is an attendant on site at all times when the site is open.

Maintenance of Sewer Laterals

Your home's sewer is connected to the City's sewer "main", a large pipe running under the street, via a pipe known as a "lateral". This lateral extends from your home, across your property and into the sewer main. Responsibility for maintenance of this lateral is the homeowner's. Blockages in the lateral are always bad news for the homeowner, as they can lead to slow downs or complete stoppages of the flow of waste from the home and into the City's sewer main.

The City makes every effort to be responsive to a citizen's needs and concerns when a sewer backup occurs. The City has a crew whose duty it is to inspect, clean and maintain sewers on a daily basis. Unfortunately, because a sewer is not a closed system, many things put into the sewer can clog the system. Large amounts of grease and disposable diapers are two common items that cause problems.

Other factors can cause backups as well, such as tree roots which can grow into and obstruct the system. Shrubs and trees seeking moisture and nutrients will make their way into lateral cracks. These roots can cause extensive damage. They may start out small, getting into a small crack in the pipe, but as the tree or shrub continues to grow, so does the root. After time, this causes your sewer lateral to break which in turn allows debris to hang up in the line, thus causing a blockage or backup. One way to prevent roots from entering your line is to replace your line and tap with new plastic pipe. If you have continuing problems with tree roots in your lateral, you may have to have them cut periodically. If it becomes necessary for you to have a plumber clean roots out of your lateral, please contact us at 539-3646 so we can clean the City's sewer main.

If you have a sewer backup at any time, call us at 539-3646 during normal working hours. After hours, on weekends or holidays, please call (262)209-1936 (Connie Wilson, Director of Public Works) and leave a message. A crew will be dispatched to your address to determine if the stoppage is in the "sewer main" or in your "sewer lateral". If the sewer main is found to be clear, it is the responsibility of the property owner to call a plumber to correct the problem.

Avoid Past Due Utility Bills on Your Tax Bill

Third quarter utility bills will be sent to customers the first week in October for the period of mid-June to mid-September. Utility customers will need to make payment of the full "balance due" amount by October 31, 2011 to avoid a 1% late penalty charge.

For customers with past due amounts indicated on the October bill, the balance must be paid by October 31, 2011 or it will be transferred to the 2011 property tax bill with an additional 10% service fee added to the past due amount (per Wisconsin Statute 66.0809).

What Does It Cost for Average Household Water Uses?



One Load of Laundry
\$0.31



One 8 oz. Glass of Water
\$0.0002



One Flush of the Toilet
\$0.012



One 10 min. Shower
\$0.18

Meet Dan Jensen, DPW Supervisor!



August 1st, the City of Burlington welcomed a new DPW Supervisor, Daniel P. Jensen, P.E. Dan comes to Burlington with a very diversified background and is looking forward to working with City of Burlington residents. Please feel free to contact Dan if you have any questions or concerns at 539-3770.

Autumn Fun at the Library!

Programs For All Ages

Introduction to Chinese Medicine
Saturday, September 17 at 1:30 p.m.

Maureen McNulty's presentation on the practice of Chinese Medicine will include an overview of the many philosophical, historical, and conceptual differences between Chinese and Western medicine. There will be a short introduction to the different treatment modalities of Chinese Medicine such as acupuncture, herbal medicine, cupping, gwa sha, and food cures. The contrasting approach to maintaining health with Chinese medicine and treating disease with Western Medicine will be discussed.

Maureen McNulty is certified in both acupuncture and Chinese Medicine and is thereby designated as a Diplomate of Oriental Medicine through NCCAOM. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Master of Science in Oriental Medicine from the Midwest College of Oriental Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. She received her Asian Body Therapy certification through Pacific College of Oriental Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. Maureen is a licensed acupuncturist and massage therapist in the State of Wisconsin.

Managing Stress
Saturday, October 8 at 1 p.m.

If you're feeling stressed in these difficult times, join us on October 8 for Dr. Jim Webley's information and techniques for managing that stress.

Dr. Webley has been a board certified chiropractor since 1995 and he became a Certified Chiropractic Sports Physician in 2011. He has been in private practice in the Burlington area since 2003. Dr. Webley is licensed by the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners and the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners and is State of Wisconsin certified in nutritional counseling. He is a member of the Wisconsin Chiropractic Association.

Veterans Day Presentation
Saturday, November 12 at 1 p.m.

World War II veteran LeRoy Amborn will discuss his war experiences and his visit to the WWII Memorial with Honor Flight. An early resident of the Benedict Lake area and a graduate of Burlington High School, Mr. Amborn enlisted at age 18 in

January 1943 and was assigned to Battery "B" 391st AAA Battalion Anti Aircraft, a new unit being formed at Camp Davis, North Carolina. From early 1944 until December 1946 he served in England, France, and at Nuremberg as a Sentinel in Cell Block "C" guarding Nazi war criminals. He has published a book about his WWII service.

Lifewriting
2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month
10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

This informal writing group meets to share stories and practice writing. You don't have to be a great or even a "good" writer to work on your memoirs and family history—you just have to be interested in chronicling these valuable stories for all time. No registration is required and you are not required to attend every meeting. Bring pencil and paper and join the fun. Our goal is to support and inspire your writing.

No registration is required. For more information call 262-342-1130 or email jrockwell@burlington.lib.wi.us.

Programs at the Library

Youth Programs

Wii Gaming
Tweens, come game on Thursdays at the library from 3:30-4:30 p.m. No registration necessary. Play is in a round-robin style.

Story Time
Read, sing, dance and play with Ms. Joy at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, Sept. 6 and 13, Oct. 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. No registration necessary. The goal of Story Time is to encourage children to develop an interest in books and reading. Parents/guardians should be



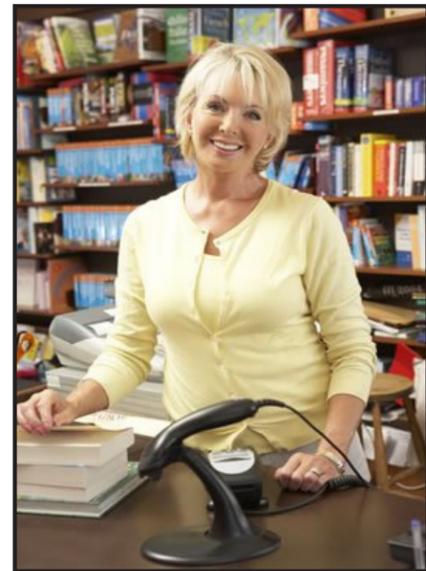
prepared to join their children on the Story Time rug to listen, sing, and learn some rhymes!

Building Blocks
Linda Breuer from Love, Inc. hosts this program which highlights musical activities, books, and social play for children up to 4 years old and their families. This session will run Wednesdays Sept. 14 through October 19 at 9:30 a.m. There is no cost; for more information and to register, contact Linda Breuer, Children's Resources at Love, Inc. at (262)763-6226.

WannaWatchaMovie?
In this full-length feature film set for Friday, Oct. 21, at 3:30 p.m.,

it's Halloween and the mysterious mansion across town is the scene of some very spooky action. With the help of some unexpected new friends, Disney's irresistible talking puppies work together to save the world from Warlock the Magician's dastardly deeds. Rated G. Register at the Circulation Desk.

Volunteering
Do you need credit for high school, 4-H or Scouting? Stop by the library to talk with Linda. You'll need to fill out an application form, and then we can set up a schedule.

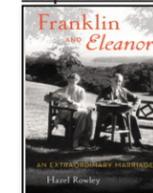


Adult Programs

Burlington Public Library has a new book club! We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. in the library basement. This book club is open to everyone and no registration is necessary. Books are available at the library.

been a small storage room shared with his mother who has been held captive for seven years. Told entirely in the language of the energetic, pragmatic five-year-old Jack, *Room* is a celebration of resilience and the limitless bond between parent and child, a novel about what it means to journey from one world to another.

September 8 at 1 p.m.



Franklin and Eleanor: An Extraordinary Marriage
by Hazel Rowley

This non-fiction book reads like fiction but is as accurate as we can know since a lot of the letters were destroyed. A fascinating couple and a well written book promises a good discussion.

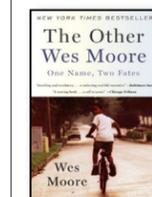
September 19 at 7 p.m.



Room
By Emma Donoghue

This ripped from the headlines book is about 5 year old Jack, whose only home has

October 24 at 1 p.m.



The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates
by Wes Moore

Two kids with the same name were born blocks apart in the same decaying city within a year of each other. One grew up to be a Rhodes Scholar, army officer, White House Fellow, and business leader. The other is serving a life sentence in prison. This is a story of two boys and the journey of a generation.

November 28 at 1 p.m.



One Amazing Thing
by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni

The scene: Late afternoon in a passport and visa office. An earthquake rips through the city, leaving nine desperate people together and no way to escape the slowly flooding office. When the stress becomes too much, a young graduate student suggests that each tell "one amazing thing" from their lives, which they have never told anyone before. The transformation in the group as they unfold their stories against their immediate danger is amazing.

All programs at the Burlington Public Library are free and open to the public.

Take Part in an Immunization Clinic

The Western Racine County Health Department offers monthly immunization clinics for children and adults at a low fee.

Children's vaccines available include Chicken Pox, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Hib Meningitis, HPV, Measles, Meningococcal, Mumps, Pertussis, Pneumococcal, Polio, Rotavirus, Rubella, and Tetanus.

Adult's vaccines available include Tetanus, Hepatitis B (\$40 plus administration fee) and TB Skin Test (\$10 plus administration fee, must call 24 hours in advance to schedule).

The clinics are held at the Health Department located at 156 E. State Street in Burlington on the following days:

- 2nd Wednesday each month, 4-6 p.m.
- 3rd Wednesday each month, 9-10 a.m.
- 4th Thursday each month, 4-6 p.m.

An administration fee will be charged for all immunizations in the following manner:

- Residents = \$10 per visit. Maximum charge of \$30 for a resident family.*
- Non-residents = \$15 per visit. Maximum charge \$45 for a non-resident family.*

*Special circumstances may warrant a waived fee. If you haven't been to us previously, please bring an updated, immunization record.

For questions or concerns please call

the Western Racine County Health Department at 763-4930 or visit the website at www.wrchd.org.



Protect Your Family From Fire

The City of Burlington's Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) October 9-15, to let our community know: "It's Fire Prevention Week - Protect your Family from Fire!" This year's campaign focuses on preventing the leading causes of home fires, cooking, heating and electrical equipment, as well as candles and smoking materials. Additionally, it urges people to protect their homes and families with life-saving technology and planning.

The City of Burlington Fire Department offers the following tips for protecting your home and family from fire:

- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Replace or repair damaged or loose

electrical cords.

- If you smoke, smoke outside. Use deep, wide ashtrays on a sturdy table.
- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.

While preventing home fires in Burlington is always our number one priority, it is not always possible. Home-owners need to provide the best protection to keep their homes and families safe in the event of a fire. This can be achieved by developing an escape plan which you practice regularly and equipping homes with smoke alarms and home fire sprinklers.



The following tips will help keep your family safe if there is a fire in your home:

- Install smoke alarms inside each bed-

room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Interconnect all smoke alarms in the home so when one sounds, they all sound.

- Test smoke alarms at least monthly and replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they do not respond when tested.

- Make sure everyone in your home knows how to respond if the smoke alarm sounds.

- Pull together every one in your household and make a plan. Walk through your home and inspect all possible ways out. Households with children should consider drawing a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors.

- If you are building or remodeling your home, consider installing home fire sprinklers.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs in Burlington, please contact the Fire Department at 763-7842.

Holiday Hitchhikers: Keeping Your Home Bed Bug Free

While some parts of the country have experienced outbreaks of bed bugs, there have been no reported cases in the City of Burlington and we would like to keep it that way.

Bed bugs are "hitchhikers" that travel with people, hiding in the seams of clothing, luggage, bedding, or furniture. People who travel frequently or share quarters where other people have slept (hotels, cruise ships, dorm rooms, for example) have an increased risk for "picking up" bed bugs.

Bed bugs are small (1-7mm), flat, wingless insects that live off the blood of people and animals. They are not known to transmit any diseases; however, they can cause a variety of health problems. Bites typically leave a small red mark on the skin, which may itch and swell and can lead to insomnia and anxiety. Rarely, bites can cause allergic reactions. Scratching the bites can potentially cause them to become infected. While bite marks on the

skin are the most common sign of a bed bug infestation, those marks can take up to two weeks to appear. Be alert for other signs of bed bugs. When bed bugs molt, you may see their outer layer, exoskeleton, left behind; you may also see tiny white eggs. Their fecal material can make small red-brown spots on mattresses or furniture, and create a sweet musty odor in the area.



It is easier to prevent bed bugs than to get rid of them. Check furniture for any signs of bugs before bringing the furniture home. As you travel, use luggage racks instead of unpacking onto hotel beds or floors. Check mattresses and headboards for signs before sleeping. When you return home, unpack your belongings directly into a washing machine; and inspect your luggage carefully. Use a protective cover on your mattresses, and reduce clutter in your home to take away

potential bug hiding spots.

Bed bugs can be difficult to manage, as they are resistant to most pesticides. A system known as integrated pest management (IPM) combines a variety of methods to eliminate the pests. These methods include removing clutter where bed bugs can hide, applying heat treatment, vacuuming, sealing cracks and crevices, and appropriately using chemical or non-chemical pesticides. Calling a pest management professional as soon as you become aware of a problem is important. Trying to treat the problem without proper techniques can cause it to become worse.

For tips on bed bug prevention and removal visit the Western Racine County Health Department's website at www.wrchd.org.

There have been no verified cases of bed bugs in the city.

City Snow Plowing

City of Burlington DPW Crews make every effort possible to safely remove snow from all streets in a timely manner as soon as possible after a snowfall.

State Highways are the first streets to be plowed, followed by the main arterial streets, side streets, and then parking lots and alleys. We thank you for your patience until we can get to all streets.

Snow Plow Policy Open Discussion Forum

DPW Supervisor Daniel Jensen will be scheduling a meeting in October inviting the public to attend a discussion on the City's current snow plow policy.

This forum will provide an opportunity for input from the community. If you are interested you can email your comments before the snow flies to debbie@burlington-wi.gov. You may also call the DPW at 539-3770.

The confirmed date and time will be forthcoming on the City's website and local newspaper.

Any concerns/questions regarding snow plowing can be directed to the Department of Public Works at 539-3770.



Distractions While Driving



writing and transmitting of messages while the vehicle is in motion. The fine for this violation can range from \$20 to \$400 and 4 demerit points against your drivers license.

Though texting while driving is a major distraction and has resulted in very serious traffic crashes, there are other forms of distractions which have caused accidents such as eating and drinking while driving, talking to passengers, reading, and the use of a cell phone to talk, text or use the internet. Any person driving while being distracted by any of these listed is in violation of Wisconsin Statute 346.89 Inattentive Driving, and carries the same penalty as texting while driving.

Studies have indicated that the use of a cell phone while driving, whether it is hand-held or hands free, delays a drivers reactions as much as having a blood alcohol concentration at the legal limit of .08 percent. Statistics show that twenty percent of injury crashes involved reports of distracted drivers. The age group with the greatest proportion of distracted drivers was under 20 years old. Sixteen percent

of all drivers younger than 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported to have been distracted while driving.

Driving a motor vehicle requires the driver's undivided attention and doing other things other than completely paying attention to driving can have serious consequences. We encourage everyone to drive safely and do so without any distractions.

Downtown Parking

The City of Burlington's new parking structure is now open and available to the general public. There are 200 parking stalls including five (5) ADA accessible stalls and two (2) ADA van accessible stalls and 33 surface, off-street parking space in the southwest corner of the intersection of N. Dodge Street and E. Chestnut Street. The total parking (structured and outdoor) is 233 spaces.