

# The Current

Spring 2021

VILLAGE OF  
**Menomonee  
Falls**

Pedestrian bridge over the Menomonee River  
between Falls Parkway and Shady Lane

**Spring Cleaning  
with Public Works**  
page 3

**Farmers Market  
2021 Preview**  
page 8

**Library Corner:  
2020 in the Books!**  
page 9

**Spring & Summer  
CE & Rec Programs**  
page 12

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- p **2** Spring election information & seasonal reminders
- p **5** Construction & development updates including 2020 year in review
- p **7** Bringing downtown to the next level in 2021: Introducing Menomonee Falls Downtown Inc.
- p **11** Secrets of the Saturday Night Depot Beer Garden
- p **15** Meet your new Police Chief: a letter from Mark Waters
- p **16** A spring update from the Fire Department



## VILLAGE HALL

W156 N8480 Pilgrim Road  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-3140

262-532-4200

Monday - Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

**Offices Closed**  
**Memorial Day**

5/31/21

## VILLAGE BOARD

President Dave Glasgow

[trusteeglasgow@menomonee-falls.org](mailto:trusteeglasgow@menomonee-falls.org)

Trustee Katie Kress

[trusteekress@menomonee-falls.org](mailto:trusteekress@menomonee-falls.org)

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Trustee Jeremy Walz

[trusteewalz@menomonee-falls.org](mailto:trusteewalz@menomonee-falls.org)

## QUICK CONTACTS

Village Manager.....532-4240  
Public Works.....532-4700  
Protective Services Business Office....532-8700  
Protective Services Non-Emergency...446-5070  
Clerk Services.....532-4200  
Engineering & Development.....532-4400  
Building Inspector.....532-4282



## Brighter Days Ahead

With 2020 behind us, a vaccine roll out underway, and warm weather on the horizon, there is good reason to be optimistic about the months ahead. Spring of 2021 brings the promise of a fresh start and the opportunity to (comfortably) enjoy outdoor activities and community events. The Village of Menomonee Falls recognizes, however, that residents and businesses across our community are still working through challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, and that dependable public services are more important than ever. We remain committed to ensuring public safety, offering excellent services, promoting high quality economic development, and being responsive to changing community needs.

This edition of *The Current* newsletter provides updates from several Village departments, shares important seasonal reminders, and celebrates the strengths of Menomonee Falls. This issue also shares noteworthy information from organizations across the community, including previews of several 2021 programs and events.

Our Village has so much to offer and, with the longer days, there is more time to visit the parks, trails, business districts, and neighborhoods that contribute to the character of the community. We wish you the best for the spring of 2021, and we hope you will join us in making this a great year in Menomonee Falls!



## Signs of Spring

Trees and tulips in bloom on Main Street, 2020



# 2021 Elections & Other Seasonal Reminders

## Elections

Make sure you are registered and ready to vote by visiting [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov). MyVote is a great tool allowing voters to register online, update a name or address, request absentee ballots, find your polling location, see what is on your ballot, and answer any questions you may have!



## 2021 Election Details

April 6, 2021 Spring Election

Polls are open from 7 am to 8 pm

<u>Ward #</u>	<u>Polling Place</u>
1 & 2	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church W180 N7863 Town Hall Road
3, 4, 5 & 6	Good Shepherd Church N88 W17658 Christman Road
7, 8, 9 & 10	Menomonee Falls Public Library W156 N8436 Pilgrim Road
11, 13 & 14	Holy Cross Church W156 N8131 Pilgrim Road
12, 15 & 16	The Lutheran Church of Prince of Peace W156 N7149 Pilgrim Road
17, 18, 19 & 20	Davian's Banquet and Conf. Center N56 W16300 Silver Spring Drive
21, 22, & 23	St. James Catholic Church W220 N6588 Town Line Road

## Park Shelter Reservations

All park reservations must be made in person at Village Hall. For further information please call 262-532-4200 or visit [menomonee-falls.org/parkreservations](https://menomonee-falls.org/parkreservations)

## Dog Licenses

2020 dog licenses expired December 31, 2020. To license your dog, submit a completed [Application for Dog License](#) and a \$10 fee per dog (\$15 for unneutered/unspayed dogs) to the Clerk Services Department. After March 31, fees increase to \$15 for neutered/spayed dogs and \$20 for unneutered/unspayed dogs.

## Drainage Complaints

Projects large and small, (including backyard projects and changes in landscaping) may alter the way that water moves across residential properties. Drainage problems range in nature from property flooding to home flooding and include such concerns as erosion and problems associated with sump pump discharges. If you are experiencing drainage problems, please complete the Drainage Complaint Form and someone from the Engineering Department will contact you to set up a meeting to investigate the situation. For your convenience, the [Drainage Complaint Form](#) may be submitted online.

## Fire Hydrant Flushing

The Village flushes fire hydrants twice each year in spring and fall and throughout the year if necessary.

Hydrant flushing:

- Improves water quality
- Exercises hydrants so they are in good functioning order when needed for an emergency
- Removes sediment that may cause discolored water
- Allows us to inspect each hydrant for defects

If you experience discoloration in your water, we recommend running the cold water for several minutes to help clear the discoloration before using it for drinking or laundry.



# Spring Cleaning

## with the Public Works Department



A Public Works crew clearing a street during our annual brush collection week

Spring is a great time to clean up the yard, organize the garage, and dispose of unwanted items. The Menomonee Falls Public Works Department goes about these activities every spring at a much larger scale than the typical property owner. On top of keeping the centralized Public Works facility in order, the department cares for hundreds of acres of park lands, maintains all Village properties and equipment, and administers disposal initiatives across Menomonee Falls. Read on to learn more about Village initiatives and services that support spring cleaning for property owners and the community at-large.

### Bulk Item Collection

Waste Management will be conducting a bulk trash collection week again in 2021. Bulk trash includes items that don't fit in the garbage cart, exceed four feet in length, or 60 pounds in weight. This collection includes up to two bulk items placed at the curbside for pickup free of charge. This will occur the first full week of May (week of May 3<sup>rd</sup>). Residents looking to utilize this service need to notify Waste Management between April 12<sup>th</sup> and April 26<sup>th</sup> about their items for pick-up by calling 262-251-4000. Bulk items must be placed curbside for collection on your regularly scheduled garbage day. This bulk collection does not include hazardous waste, yard waste, tires, or electronics. A complete list of acceptable items can be found at [menomonee-falls.org/bulkitems](https://menomonee-falls.org/bulkitems)

### Brush Collection Week

The Menomonee Falls Public Works Department will begin picking up brush on Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

- Brush materials acceptable for Village pickup are **branches up to six inches in diameter**, cut to a **maximum length of four feet**.
- Brush must be placed on the terrace area (between the curb and sidewalk). In areas without curb, the brush should be placed on the grass area adjacent to the street pavement or adjacent to driveway entrances. All areas should have brush placed parallel to the road.
- For safety reasons, no brush may be placed on the street pavement.
- Please note: yard waste, including grass clippings, leaves, and garden debris will not be picked up.
- No stumps, roots, or shrubs with intact root balls will be picked up.
- Any yard waste that is mixed in with your branches will not be picked up.
- Brush in containers will not be picked up, as too often there is yard waste in the bottom of the container. We encourage you to use your Yard Waste Permit and take yard waste debris (not picked up) to the Orchard Ridge composting facility. Be aware that the Orchard Ridge composting facility will no longer accept cash and accepts all major credit cards and checks.

**The deadline for residents to put out brush for pickup is Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.**



# Spring Cleaning Continued...

## Yard Waste Permits

New in 2021, Yard Waste Permits were mailed in February to each Menomonee Falls property owner. The permit allows residents to dispose of yard waste 35 times in a season (April – November) for no fee at the Orchard Ridge composting facility (watch for the scale house on the west side of the road). Please note: Village residents must provide identification showing proof of Menomonee Falls residency. Have your ID ready to show the scale house attendant upon arrival. If you do not arrive with a permit, all fees will be charged. All businesses are excluded from this program.

2021 Orchard Ridge Composting Facility Program  
Located at W124N9355 Boundary Road

- Acceptable forms of payment include credit card or check – cash no longer accepted
- Residents will be allowed one free visit per day  
After the free visit, additional yard waste will be charged at a rate of \$0.015 per pound, minimum of \$3.00.
- Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday, 6:30 am – 4 pm & Saturday 7 am – 11:45 am
- No large stumps or logs over 6" will be accepted

## Menomonee River Cleanup

After having to cancel the event in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Spring River Cleanup is back on for 2021! Come join us this spring on April 24<sup>th</sup> to clean up the parks and rivers of Menomonee Falls. Every year since 2008, around Earth Day in April, the community has gathered to clean up the parks and rivers of Menomonee Falls. This event is organized by the Milwaukee Riverkeepers and is sponsored by Waste Management. Social distancing and face masks will be required for this event, and all participants must be preregistered. Please visit [menomoneefalls.org/rivercleanup](https://menomoneefalls.org/rivercleanup) for more information and to reserve your spot for the cleanup!

## Why are Village Streets Swept?

Street sweeping is done to clear debris left by winter snowplowing, to keep storm drains free of obstruction, and to help prevent pollutants from entering the drainage system. The sweeping is not intended to remove leaves placed in the street by property owners. Leaves from private properties should be mulched and left on the lawn, or bagged and taken to the Orchard Ridge Landfill with a Yard Waste Permit.



Street Sweeper at the centralized Public Works facility



Menomonee River Cleanup, 2017

## WATER QUALITY

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires water utilities provide their customers a Consumer Confidence Report annually. This information is designed to educate our customers about the source of the water supply, the water treatment process, and the extensive testing conducted to ensure water quality before the water enters a property in Menomonee Falls. The report can be read at [menomonee-falls.org/consumerconfidence](https://menomonee-falls.org/consumerconfidence)



Spring 2021

# Construction & Development Projects

Milwaukee Tool broke ground on their Technology Center (pictured) in late 2020

VILLAGE OF  
**Menomonee Falls**

## 2020 Year in Review

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 was a strong year for new development and redevelopment projects across all sectors. The Village issued a total of 934 building permits, and the total estimated construction value of projects in Menomonee Falls was over \$123 million. Single family home construction/remodeling (\$52 million) and industrial projects (\$29 million) contributed the most to overall value.

Menomonee Falls led all communities in southeastern Wisconsin with 106 new single family homes constructed in 2020. The Village also issued the highest number of residential building permits on record (825) in 2020 and construction moved forward on major job centers with projects at Milwaukee Tool, Leonardo DRS, Ascension hospital, and Glenroy incorporated.

### Residential

- 110 new single family home and duplex units
- 98 new apartment units
- 16 senior apartments
- 715 residential renovations/additions



### Commercial

- 3 new buildings
- 41 commercial renovations/additions
- Estimated construction value of **\$8.9 million**



### Institutional

- 3 new buildings
- 20 institutional renovations/additions
- Estimated construction value of **\$13.9 million**



### Industrial

- 1 new building
- 25 industrial renovations/additions
- Estimated construction value of **\$28.8 million**



- **New construction value of nearly \$123.5 million**
- **Most residential building permits ever issued (including renovations) 825 permits**
- **106** single family homes and 4 duplex units were approved
- **59** lots for single family homes were approved in Final Plats
- **Industrial projects totaling nearly \$28.8 million** (the highest value in the last decade)
- Creation of a **community event space** at **Village Park**

The Village of Menomonee Falls issued more building permits for single and two family homes in 2020 than Brookfield, Lannon, and Sussex combined

To view the 2020 Development & Community Status Report visit [menomonee-falls.org/106](https://menomonee-falls.org/106)



## Ongoing Projects

(selected projects as viewed in early 2021)

Ascension Hospital is on track to start operating in summer of 2021



12 building permits have been issued for new homes in Weyerhaven subdivision in 2021



Glenroy Incorporated's addition project is almost complete



Aquinas Academy is adding 32,950 square feet of educational, gymnasium, and chapel space



Senior townhomes at Highlands at Aeropark



Duplex condominiums are under construction at Silver Spring Estates



For more information on these and other development projects, see [menomonee-falls.org/development](https://menomonee-falls.org/development)



# Bringing Downtown to the Next Level in 2021



Pictured: Falls Memorial Fest main stage, 2019  
A return to crowded gatherings is not likely in the next few months, but a full schedule of outdoor events is planned for 2021

# mfdi

menomonee falls downtown inc



MFDI is coordinating Village Park programming in 2021

## Introducing MFDI

In early 2021, a new 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization was established with the aim of growing downtown Menomonee Falls as a vibrant, exciting, and safe destination for everyone to enjoy. The Menomonee Falls Downtown Inc. (MFDI) Board includes representatives from downtown businesses, community organizations, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Village of Menomonee Falls. MFDI is taking the lead in coordinating programs at Village Park and throughout downtown. MFDI's nonprofit status gives the organization the ability to fundraise, establish sponsorships, and run vendor operations for downtown events.

The first major task for MFDI is the coordination of safe downtown events in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. MFDI has established several committees and has been planning for downtown events, marketing, and sponsorships. With the Village Park areas available for the first time, MFDI has been busy working with the Village and community organizations to schedule and establish events in the new space. 2021 programming at Village Park and throughout downtown will include a summer concert series, festivals, the farmers market, a beer garden, shopping promotions, and holiday events.

## 2021 Downtown Event Calendar

3.10.2021	Ladies Night – Celebrate the Shamrock
5.29.2021	Falls Memorial Fest
6.9.2021	Farmer's Market starts (every Wednesday)
6.9.2021	Beer Garden starts (every Wednesday)
6.9.2021	Ladies Night
6.17.2021	Chamber of Commerce Village Park Event
6.24.2021	<b>Sunset Concert Series #1</b>
7.1.2021	Milwaukee Philharmonic Concert
7.2.2021	Falls Patio Players
7.11.2021	Farmer's Market starts (every Sunday)
7.15.2021	<b>Sunset Concert Series #2</b>
7.22.2021	Community Band Concert
7.24.2021	Christmas in July
7.28.2021	Accompany of Kids
8.5.2021	Hit Men Concert
8.19.2021	<b>Sunset Concert Series #3</b>
8.22.2021	Art in the Park
8.28.2021	Ice Cream Social
9.09.2021	Ladies Night
9.16.2021	<b>Sunset Concert Series #4</b>
9.26.2021	Cherry Cherry Fall Fair
10.28.2021	Downtown Trick or Treat
11.27.2021	Christmas Market

\*Note this is a partial event list and dates are subject to change



# What Everybody Ought to Know about Our Farmers Market



While the snow piled up this winter, the farmers market was making plans to continue supporting small, local farms and vendors by providing a viable, vibrant marketplace for them to sell their farm-fresh produce and hand-made products directly to the consumer. Unlike your grocery store, a farmers market supports farmers selling locally-grown and seasonal produce, while providing a wholesome event for residents that nourishes and fosters community. And this year—they are excited to do all of this in a beautiful, new location.

“There are a lot of logistics to setting up a Farmers Market so we can provide the best visitor and vendor experience possible,” said Ann Wanke, Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation Farmers Market manager. “And with the opening of the new plaza at Village Park, the Menomonee Falls farmers market will have more capacity, more flexibility, and a gorgeous location for it to take place.”

Village Park, at Appleton Avenue and Garfield Drive in the heart of Downtown Menomonee Falls, was redeveloped in 2020 as a community destination to include space for outdoor markets and events. The drawing shown below proposes opportunities for placing vendor tents and food trucks in a charming outdoor environment which features a walkway, gathering space with tables and umbrellas, restroom area with a covered gathering area, and convenient parking.

**The market season will begin on June 2** with Wednesday hours from 2 pm – 6 pm. **Newly added for 2021 is the Sunday market.** The Sunday market will be open on 10 am – 1 pm during the height of the growing season, from July 11 – September 12.

For more information about the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation Farmers Market and the 2021 vendors, visit our website at [fallsfarmersmarket.org](https://fallsfarmersmarket.org) and follow our Facebook page [@gmff.farmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/gmff.farmersmarket)





# Library Corner

## Seasonal Updates & Initiatives of Menomonee Falls Public Library



### BIG READ in the Falls

Stop in the Library to get your free copy of this year's NEA Big Read book, *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea. Dozens of programs for all ages are going on now. The Library will be hosting the author virtually via Zoom on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm. Call the Library or go online to register today! An initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book.

### Book Sale

Save the date! The semi-annual book sale will be the week of April 21<sup>st</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup> during open hours. Prices will be by donation.

### Wisconsin Author

Join Wisconsin author Amy Reichert on Zoom on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm via Zoom as we celebrate the release of her new book *The Kindred Spirits Supper Club*. Registered attendees will have an opportunity to order an autographed copy of Amy's new book through Books & Company in Oconomowoc for a special discount.

### Summer Reading Program

Celebrate "Tails and Tales" by participating in the Menomonee Falls Public Library's Summer Library Program. Join us for new reading challenges on the Library's Beanstack site ([menomoneefallslibrary.beanstack.org](http://menomoneefallslibrary.beanstack.org)), along with other events and activities for all ages.

The Summer Library Program will run from June 14 – August 7. Check [menomoneefallslibrary.org](http://menomoneefallslibrary.org) for additional program details after mid-May. For more information, please call:  
262-532-8915 (Children's & Teen Services)  
262-532-8920 (Adult Services)

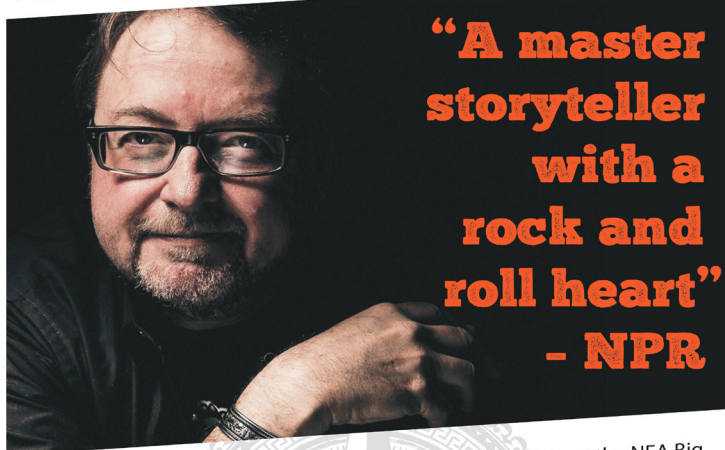
### Hoopla

Stream movies, TV shows, ebooks, and more on Hoopla! All you need is a library card. Each library user is limited to four downloads per month. Start streaming at [www.hoopladigital.com/](http://www.hoopladigital.com/). No more waiting for your hold to come in on Overdrive—get your content today!

NEA Big Read in the Falls Presents

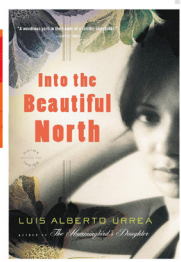
Thursday, April 15, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

An Evening with Luis Alberto Urrea



*Into the Beautiful North* author Luis Alberto Urrea will deliver the NEA Big Read in the Falls keynote presentation followed by a Q&A. Urrea is a prolific and award-winning author who draws inspirations for his novels from his binational life experiences.

Registration required to receive the Zoom link: [tinyurl.com/BigReadUrrea](https://tinyurl.com/BigReadUrrea)



Pick up your free copy of the book while supplies last!

Menomonee Falls Public Library  
262-532-8900 | [MenomoneeFallsLibrary.org](http://MenomoneeFallsLibrary.org)

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.





# 2020

# IMPACT REPORT

## SERVICES ADDED IN RESPONSE TO COVID

- Curbside Pickup
- Virtual Programming
- Take 'n' Make Craft Kits
- Book Bundles
- Hoopla & HelpNow
- Home Delivery for the At-Risk
- 5 new Hotspots, 21 total
- 153 Library of Things, Puzzle Exchange



**985**



New Cardholders

**236**

Home Delivery Trips



**6,375**

Curbside Pick-Up  
Appointments

**275**

Programs  
Offered

**3,106**

Virtual Program  
Attendance



**230,812**

Physical Items Checked Out  
(books, movies, games, equipment,  
Hotspots, etc.)

## DIGITAL MATERIAL USE

Wisconsin's Digital  
Library & Hoopla

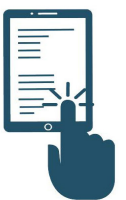
**58,659**

New Overdrive  
Users

**729**

Website Visits

**97,791**



In a challenging year, Menomonee Falls Public Library adopted a variety of innovative service models to keep books/other items circulating and meet the demand for library programs and resources.

For more information on library programs, services or resources, please call 262-532-8900, stop in, or visit the library website at [menomoneefallslibrary.org](https://menomoneefallslibrary.org)





# Secrets of the Saturday Night Depot Beer Garden



Free. Outdoor. Held Saturday Nights. Live Music. Activities for Kids. Scrumptious Food. Beer. And all proceeds go to support the work of the Menomonee Falls Historical Society. This family-focused event may be one of our Village's best kept secrets!

The Depot Beer Garden welcomed many visitors the last two summers and is planning more of the same for 2021. COVID precautions will be taken, with plenty of space for social distancing at this beautiful Old Falls Village Historical Park on the corner of Pilgrim Road and Highway Q.

The Depot Beer Garden will be open every Saturday from May 29 through October 2 from 3 pm – 9 pm, weather permitting. More information, and the list of other Old Falls Village events, can be found at [OldFallsVillage.com](https://www.oldfallsvillage.com)



Saturdays are also a great time to check out the Menomonee Falls Depot, the caboose, and all the history on display at the Old Falls Village grounds.



## Ladies' Night

**"CELEBRATE THE SHAMROCK"**  
MARCH 10TH 4-8 PM



**MENOMONEE FALLS  
DOWNTOWN**  
wheremain&appletonmeet



# CE&Rec

Community Education & Recreation

## Spring & Summer Program Preview



Community Education & Recreation (CE & Rec) staff are busy planning for great spring and summer programs and activities for children and adults of all ages.

Register for summer programs online at [www.fallsrec.org](http://www.fallsrec.org), or in person at the CE & Rec office which is located in the Menomonee Falls Community Center. The CE & Rec Summer Activity Guide will be available online towards the end of March, with guides being mailed to homes in early April.

- Online resident registration begins at 9 pm on Sunday, April 18
- In-person resident registration begins at 8 am on Monday, April 19
- Online non-resident registration begins at 9 pm on Thursday, April 22
- In-person non-resident registration begins at 8 am on Friday, April 23

### Egg-Cellent Egg Hunt

Hop on down to Menomonee Falls businesses this March and join the first ever EGG-CELLENT Egg Hunt! You will be emailed a list of all the participating Falls businesses that will display a colorful egg in their front window with a letter on it. Between March 15-28, hunt around Menomonee Falls and decode the hidden phrase. Email your family name and answer to [cerd@sdmfschools.org](mailto:cerd@sdmfschools.org) by March 31. All correct answers will be put in a drawing to win a basket filled with fabulous prizes from participating businesses. Winners will be announced on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Prizes can be picked up from the CE&Rec Office. FREE but [registration](#) is required.

### Falls Summer Academy

The SDMF team is also planning another great summer of Falls Summer Academy classes. Falls Summer Academy is the summer school program for the School District of Menomonee Falls. The purpose of the program will be for enrichment, academic support, and credit recovery. Look for more information in the Summer Activity Guide.

### Summer Camps

CE & Rec has a number of summer camps for children entering preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Registration for camps begins April 18 at 9 pm. For more information visit [fallsrec.org](http://fallsrec.org)

### Little Explorers – Age 3

Little Explorers is the perfect introduction to camp for boys and girls that will be entering preschool in the fall. Children will be participating in age appropriate activities, including arts and crafts, music, story time, dramatic play and games based on the weekly theme. Little Explorers will spend much of their class time outside, and will move indoors to the preschool room when needed. With fun, new themes each week, you can sign up for one week or all four weeks. Your Little Explorer will not want to miss this fun adventure! Available June 21 – July 23 (no program week of 7/5).

### Kids INC Jr. – Grades 4k & 5k

Kids INC Jr. provides group activities for children in a safe and supervised environment, and encourages physical, emotional and social growth through play and recreation. Rain or shine activities include indoor and outdoor group sports, arts and crafts, board games, special events, quiet time, field trips and socializing. Available June 14 – August 27.



### Kids INC – Grades 1 - 6

Kids INC provides group activities for children in a safe and supervised environment, and encourages physical, emotional and social growth through play and recreation. Rain or shine activities include indoor and outdoor group sports, arts and crafts, games, field trips, socializing, and much more. Available June 14 – August 27.



# More Community Ed & Recreation Programs & Updates

## Fit in the Parks

Fit in the Parks is a health and wellness series brought to you by the Village of Menomonee Falls community partners as a part of the Live Well Waukesha County initiative. This summer there are 35+ FREE programs planned to help you stay active, and explore the wonderful parks within Menomonee Falls. Several of the programs will take place at the new Village Park performance amphitheater!

Help us kick off this year's Fit in the Park series at our Sunset/Candlelight Hike on Friday, May 7, at Menomonee Park. Staggered start times will allow for appropriate social distancing. Register for a start time of 7 pm, 7:30 pm, 8 pm or 8:30 pm. Candles will be available to light the way after dusk or come early and enjoy the park's natural beauty at sunset. Free admission to the park for all participants.

[Register now](#)



## Community Bike Challenge

Compete against your friends, family, and neighbors as CE & Rec and Germantown Park & Recreation team up to challenge everyone to get out and ride this spring! Registered participants will submit a mileage log each week, and weekly standings will be posted. Tracking is completed on an honor system, using a mileage sheet that will be emailed to participants. Registration fee of \$15/ person includes a t-shirt. Registration will be open until April 26. [Register now](#)



## Community Fitness Challenge

The "Be Active Wisconsin" Community Challenge invites all community members to participate in a virtual challenge to promote active lifestyles. Help Menomonee Falls be the fittest community in Wisconsin! Track your physical activity from March 1 – March 31. All participants will have access to a Google Form to enter their minutes from each week. Registration fee of \$10/person includes a t-shirt. Registration will be open until March 14. [Register now](#)





# Introducing **The Village** Video Series

*The Village* is a new series of short videos that provide an inside look at Village of Menomonee Falls' departments and services. Check out each of *The Village* videos to learn more about the people, facilities, equipment, and best practices that help make the Village of Menomonee Falls a great place to live and do business.

*The Village* series is produced by Falls Cable Access. These videos (and lots of other local content) are available on demand at [fallscableaccess.com](http://fallscableaccess.com) and are shared on the [Village of Menomonee Falls Facebook page](#). The videos feature aerial footage, visits to a variety of places around the Village, and interviews with Village staff and community leaders. View the latest episode by the following link below:

**[Episode 1: Menomonee Falls Fire Department](#)**



Links to all episodes of *The Village* video series will be available at [menomonee-falls.org/thevillage](http://menomonee-falls.org/thevillage)

## Waukesha County Parks Spring Programs & Events

Waukesha County is offering opportunities to protect and care for natural areas in honor of Earth Week 2021.

### **Mission: Possible**

#### **Volunteer Workday for the Earth**

An elite mission...should you choose to accept it.

Saturday, April 24, 2021

Time slots between 9 am – noon

Calling all agents – we have to help take care of the planet and Waukesha County! Join us to hand pull and bag Garlic Mustard in Waukesha County Parks.

Learn more and accept your mission at

[waukeshacounty.gov/missionpossible](http://waukeshacounty.gov/missionpossible)

Open to volunteers of various ages, skills, and abilities. Recommended for ages 13+.



### **Arbor Day Volunteer Tree Planting Event Menomonee Park**

Friday, April 30, 2021

Time slots between 9 am – noon

Celebrate Arbor Day and make a difference in your community by planting native trees to enhance and preserve our natural areas. Together our actions go further.

Learn more and register at [waukeshacounty.gov/arborday](http://waukeshacounty.gov/arborday)



We also have these other "Earth Week" activities listed here:

[waukeshacounty.gov/earthweek](http://waukeshacounty.gov/earthweek)



# Meet Your New Police Chief

A Letter from  
Chief Mark Waters



Chief Waters was sworn in as Menomonee Falls' seventh Police Chief on February 11, 2021

I was born and raised in Milwaukee attending and subsequently graduating from the Milwaukee Public School system. As a result of my father being a Milwaukee Police Officer, I had an interest in the criminal justice system from a very early age. As a result, my undergraduate education endeavor took me to the University Wisconsin at Milwaukee (UWM).

In order to finance my own education, while a student at UWM, I enlisted in the United States Army Reserve (USAR). When I first enlisted in the USAR, I envisioned this as only a means to earn income for a brief period while going to school, but my motivation transitioned from financial to that of service and patriotism. I found myself 20 years later retiring from the USAR as a major.

While an undergraduate student, I pursued employment as a law enforcement officer. Prior to graduating from UWM, I was hired as a deputy sheriff at the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office. While working at the Sheriff's Office, I continued my studies at UWM and eventually earned my bachelor's degree in criminal justice. After a few years at the sheriff's department, I recognized that a municipal police department would be a better fit for me as my desire was to serve as traditional police officer in a community. After four years at the sheriff's department, I had opportunities to work for either the City of Brookfield or the Village of Menomonee Falls. Between the two, I chose the Village of Menomonee Falls Police Department (MFPD), where I have now worked for the past 28+ years.

While at the MFPD, I have served in virtually every area of the department. However, my most rewarding time was that of a late shift (11:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.) patrol officer in the 1990's. For it was there and then that I was able to be what I always strived to be, a local neighborhood police officer working side by side with some of the finest officers ever to wear the badge. This is not to say that other aspects of my career were not rewarding as well. Other than my fondness for late shift patrol, I very much enjoyed my time as the Department Training Officer. I relished the opportunity to increase both the quantity and quality of training at the department.

As a life-long learner, I have pursued advanced training and education throughout my career. The highlight of my police training career was the FBI National Academy in 2009. Educationally, I am an alumnus of both UWM and Marquette universities. Upon graduation, from Marquette I was fortunate to be offered a position as an adjunct instructor at Marquette where I have been teaching criminal justice for the past thirteen years.

I look forward to continuing to serve the residents of Menomonee Falls as your Chief. I am committed to continuing to promote the concepts of community policing and community engagement by the department. We will remain a professional department that provides a high level of service treating everybody with dignity and respect.



# A Spring Update from the Menomonee Falls Fire Department



Check out videos including an interview with Chief Washington and a tour of the new aerial platform truck at [menomonee-falls.org/thevillage](http://menomonee-falls.org/thevillage)

## Personnel Changes

Chief Gerard Washington has been busy since he was hired as Menomonee Falls Fire Department's newest Fire Chief. He has revamped the organizational chart for the command staff. The Assistant Chief and Division Chief positions have been changed to Deputy Chief level positions that report directly to Chief Washington.

Deputy Chief Don Umhoefer is in charge of Administration and Inspections, Deputy Chief Kevin Rokenbrodt is in charge of Operations, and Deputy Chief Nicholas Boehlke is in charge of Training and EMS. Other newly promoted members are Battalion Chief Rae Ann Schone, Battalion Chief Jared Klug, Battalion Chief Brent Biedenbender, Lieutenant Edward Burg, Lieutenant Kevin Myers, Lieutenant Cody Porter, and Lieutenant Dale Rome.

## New Equipment

Menomonee Falls Fire Department placed a new ladder truck, designated as 2772, in service on January 1<sup>st</sup>. It is technically called a quint, as it has a pump, hose, and a tank for water in addition to ground ladders and the aerial device. It was designed with water in mind as it has the ability to flow up to 3,000 gallons of water per minute through the dual monitors mounted on the bucket. It was built in Appleton by Pierce Manufacturing.

The ambulance fleet was modernized by the addition of a 2020 Horton modular ambulance on a Ford F Series four wheel drive chassis. This newest ambulance has the added feature of tinted windows in the patient care compartment to protect the patient's privacy.

The Menomonee Falls Fire Department is constantly striving to serve the residents and visitors with outstanding service, answering the call with: "How Can We Help?"

## As the Ice Melts: A Spring Safety Reminder

It is true that April showers bring May flowers, but spring rains also bring areas of open water that were ice covered in the Village. The changes in the weather can make any ice unable to safely be traveled on. Please exercise caution for a number of reasons.



The first reason is hypothermia. Falling through the ice makes a person more vulnerable to hypothermia from heat loss. A person will lose body heat 25-30 times faster if they are wet or submerged in water. It is also reasonable to assume the water temperature could be much lower than the air temperature. This is due to the snow melt adding to the water at just above freezing and the fact that it takes more time for the water to warm up due to its mass.

The second reason is the speed of moving water. Added snow melt will make the moving bodies of water move faster and have greater volume. This increases the force of the moving water acting on an object or person in the moving water adding to the risk.

A cubic foot of water weighs about 62 pounds. Imagine walking in a pond that is six inches deep. Now imagine walking in a pond that is 12 inches deep. It takes more effort. Now take into account the speed you, or the water is traveling at. The force is multiplied by the speed you are running at, or the speed the water is moving at. The increase in force is geometric, meaning at 4 MPH, a brisk walking pace, it has a force of roughly 66 pounds per square foot. If the speed is doubled to 8 MPH, the force increases to 264 pounds per square foot, a four fold increase. If that water is up to a car's door, it is strong enough to move that car!!





Willowood Park

## Opportunities to Give Back

**Menomonee River Cleanup** – Come join us this spring on April 24<sup>th</sup> to clean up the parks and rivers of Menomonee Falls. Every year since 2008 (except 2020), around Earth Day, the community has gathered to clean up the parks and rivers of Menomonee Falls. This event is organized by the Milwaukee Riverkeepers and sponsored by Waste Management. Visit [menomonee-falls.org/rivercleanup](http://menomonee-falls.org/rivercleanup) to learn more and to register for the 2021 Menomonee River Cleanup.

**Weekly Friendly Phone Call Program** – ERAS Senior Network is looking for volunteers to place calls to local seniors and adults with disabilities on a weekly basis to help combat the feelings of loneliness during the pandemic. Currently, nearly 300 seniors are on our waiting list to receive a weekly friendly phone call. Can you help us meet this need? Contact Marisa Strothenke, Volunteer Coordinator, at (262) 522-2402 or [Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org](mailto:Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org)

## Events



*Saturdays from 3 pm to 9 pm starting May 29<sup>th</sup>*

## Points of Pride

[AreaVibes.com](http://AreaVibes.com) ranks Menomonee Falls as the 9<sup>th</sup> Best Place to live in Wisconsin (#1 over 35,000 people)

[Niche.com](http://Niche.com) ranks Hamilton and Menomonee Falls in the top 25 school districts in Wisconsin for 2021

[Backgroundchecks.org](http://Backgroundchecks.org) ranks the Falls as the 2<sup>nd</sup> safest community with over 30,000 residents in the state



*Back for 2021!  
The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of Falls Memorial Fest starts at 11 am on Saturday, May 29, and it continues all day long with vendors, food, and music on Main Street*

## Spring Calendar

### **SATURDAY MARCH 10 @ 4 pm**

Ladies Night - Celebrate the Shamrock Irish themed deals, specials, & giveaways Downtown

### **TUESDAY APRIL 6 @ 7 am to 8pm**

Spring Election  
All polling places throughout the Village

### **SATURDAY APRIL 24 @ 9 am**

Mission Possible Volunteer Work Day Garlic mustard removal event Menomonee Park

### **FRIDAY MAY 7 @ 7 pm**

Fit in the Parks Candlelight Hike Self-guided sunset hike Menomonee Park

### **SATURDAY MAY 8 @ 9 am**

Optimist Kids Fishing Derby  
Fishing instruction & catch/release Mill Pond Park

### **SATURDAY MAY 29 @ 11 am**

Falls Memorial Fest  
Downtown street party with food vendors, shopping, & music  
Main Street between Water & Appleton

### **WEDNESDAY JUNE 2 @ 2 pm**

GMFF Farmers Market  
Fresh produce, hand-made products, and a variety of food/drink vendors  
Village Park

VILLAGE OF  
**Menomonee Falls**

Village of Menomonee Falls  
W156 N8480 Pilgrim Road  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-3140