

The Current

Winter 2025 - 2026

VILLAGE OF
Menomonee Falls



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Menomonee Falls**
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VILLAGE HALL

W156 N8480 Pilgrim Road
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-3140

262-532-4200

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

Offices Closed

Christmas
12/24/25 & 12/25/25

New Years Day
1/1/2026

VILLAGE BOARD

President Jeremy Walz

trusteewalz@menomonee-falls.org

Trustee Katie Kress

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Trustee Brad Jubber

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Trustee Matthew Hayes

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Trustee Paul Tadda

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QUICK CONTACTS

Village Manager.....	532-4240
Public Works.....	532-4700
Police Business Office.....	532-8700
Fire & EMS Business Office.....	532-8800
Non-Emergency Dispatch.....	446-5070
Clerk Services.....	532-4201
Engineering & Development.....	532-4400
Building Inspector.....	532-4282



Explore Menomonee Falls

With two new hotels and one major hotel renovation in the last decade, the Village is becoming a regional hub for overnight stays! Our robust calendar of events is also drawing more visitors from neighboring communities who are frequenting our local businesses and checking out our parks and trails. In response to our growing number of visitors, the Village's website was updated in 2025 to highlight some of Menomonee Falls' unique destinations and encourage more visits to our community.

The new (tourism) portion of the website includes information on places to visit, stay, shop, dine, and play. It also highlights our standing as the largest village in Wisconsin and the mix of features that make Menomonee Falls such a great community for visitors and residents alike. The purpose of the website update is to support Menomonee Falls' standing as a regional destination and as a center for incredible community events and programs.

Check out the *Explore Menomonee Falls* page at

www.menomonee-falls.org/explore



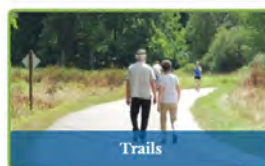
Parks



BID Downtown District



Sports & Fitness



Trails



Arts & Entertainment



Shop & Dining

As we head into 2026, this edition of *The Current* newsletter provides important information about Village winter operations, an overview of our Operating Budget, construction updates, and an update from the Police Department. It also highlights winter events and programs, partner organizations, and volunteer opportunities for you to consider during the coldest time of the year. Thank you for taking time to read about some of the many things happening in Menomonee Falls. Stay warm, and be well!

Events & Activities for Winter 2025 - 2026

Keep active and engaged this winter season by participating in some of these local events and activities!

- **Christmas in the Falls**

Join us at Centennial Plaza and Mill Pond Park on Saturday, December 13th from 10 am to 5 pm for the 4th annual Christkindl Market. The event will feature festive food and drinks, horse-drawn carriage rides, and real-life reindeer! For more event details visit christmasinthefalls.com

- **Menomonee Falls Symphony Holiday Concert**

Join the Menomonee Falls Symphony on Saturday, December 20th at Germantown Performing Arts Center for a memorable holiday concert with all the trimmings – holiday classics, sing-along and selections from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker with ballet performance by members of the Nancy Dianne Studio of Dance. To learn more visit mfso.net/holiday-2025/

- **Chocolate Walk**

Indulge your sweet tooth and support downtown businesses with the 4th annual Chocolate Walk event on February 6th and 7th! Each participating business will delight you with a scrumptious chocolate item for your box. Treat yourself or surprise your special someone with these heavenly chocolates on Valentine's Day! For more information visit menomoneefallsdowntown.com/events

- **Explore Parks & Trails Across Menomonee Falls**

As the snow falls, local parks are transformed into winter playgrounds! Winter is a great time to check out some of the dozens of [public parks and trails in Menomonee Falls](#). Get around by hiking, biking (fat tires help), and sledding. An ice skating rink will be available at Riverside Park as conditions allow. Need a race to jump start your 2025 fitness routine? The [Flannel 5k / 10k](#) will be held on February 14th in Menomonee Park.

- **Volunteer for Neighbors in Need**

Winter weather creates extra challenges for seniors and people with disabilities. Consider signing up with [Eras Senior Network](#) to help reduce social isolation and provide transportation for medical appointments, food pantries, and other essential services. The Village also encourages all residents to support older neighbors this winter by checking in and shoveling snow following storm events.



Take in the Christmas Spirit in Downtown

Main Street and Appleton Avenue are adorned with wreaths, lights, garland, and tons of holiday decor. Stroll the sidewalks, window shop, and stop by the Centennial Plaza Christmas tree! Visit local businesses to buy gifts and warm up with food, drinks, and hospitality.



Holiday decorations
at Centennial Plaza

As winter approaches, we know residents might have some questions about how the Village responds to snow and ice events. If you have any additional questions, please reach out to our Public Works Department at pw@menomonee-falls.org or 262-532-4700.



Report a missed snow removal or damage at
menomonee-falls.org/report

Winter Operations - Public Works Snow & Ice Response

When does Public Works come out to plow?

We have over 30 Public Works and Utilities operators that work long hours throughout the winter to ensure that our streets are plowed and treated as efficiently as possible.

Snow and ice operations begin when any of the following conditions are met:

- Snow accumulation of 2" and more snow is expected
- Drifting snow is causing hazardous travel conditions
- Icy conditions are adversely affecting travel
- Time of snowfall is affecting peak travel times

What is the goal of snow and ice operations?

The immediate objective of snow and ice control operations is to maintain reasonably safe driving conditions during and following storm events. This does not, however, mean that bare pavement should be expected by motorists, nor does this mean that all streets will be free of snow and ice. Motorists and pedestrians are expected to take necessary precautions and to observe safe winter driving habits. Keep in mind that our snow and ice operations focus on the heavily-traveled roadways in Menomonee Falls, such as Main Street, Appleton Avenue, and Menomonee Avenue. All subdivisions will be plowed, but will only be salted on hills, curves, and intersections due to lower speed limits and less travel on these streets. The Village is responsible for plowing 500+ lane miles of streets, so we appreciate your patience while we respond to all storm events.

Will winter weather affect waste and recycling collection?

Please be aware that snow or ice storms and freezing temperatures may delay waste and recycling pickup services from Waste Management. Severe winter weather or temperatures can cause equipment issues which can lead to delays. Please note that waste and recycling receptacles should be placed at least 3 feet away from each other and other objects. **During the winter, please use your driveway or clear an area along the side of your driveway to place your carts. Do not place any containers in the roadway.**

Do I have to clear the sidewalk in front of my house?

It is the owner's responsibility to clear the concrete sidewalk in front of the property and treat with salt or sand if ice has formed. The Village clears sidewalks in front of Village property, as well as some parts of the downtown area. Asphalt trails are not considered sidewalks, so snow clearance is not required.

What else do I need to know about Winter Operations?

- Snow should not be shoveled or blown into the street.
- Do not pull up behind snow plows when they are equipped and engaged for snow removal.
- Snow plows may cause damage to turf adjacent to streets and sidewalks. Turf that has been damaged and reported will be repaired in the spring. The Village will not be responsible for damage as a result of the use of sand or de-icing chemicals or for damage to landscaping, sprinkler systems, or any other private items located in the public right-of-way.
- The Village encourages residents to clear the snow from any fire hydrants near your house.
- Residents are asked to check the condition of their mailbox and post – in most cases, a strong post and secure mailbox will withstand the impact of snow coming off of the snowplow.
- Refer to our [As the Snow Falls flyer](#) for more information about snow events.

Seasonal Information & Service Reminders for 2026

Winter Park System Updates

- Park bathrooms are closed for the season due to freezing conditions.
- All tennis/pickleball/volleyball nets have been removed from the parks until next spring.
- **Park shelter reservations** for 2026 can be made after January 1st at Village Hall. As a reminder, reservations are only available to Menomonee Falls residents. Reservable dates are between April 15th and October 31st.
- As of Thursday, November 6th, the new footbridges at Lime Kiln Park and Rotary Park have been installed and are open to the public.



Rotary Park Pedestrian Bridge

Waste Management 2025-2026 Holiday Schedule

Waste Management staff work all holidays except: Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving Day. When one of these holidays falls on a weekday, residential collection will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week. If a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, there will be no scheduled delays. Delays due to freezing conditions or poor winter weather will be noted on [the Village's website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Christmas Tree Disposal

The deadline for all natural Christmas trees to be set out by the road is **Sunday, January 11th**. Trees will automatically be picked up as time permits – no appointments are necessary. Discarded natural Christmas trees must be clean of all decorations, lights, stands, tinsel, garland, wire, plastic bags, flock (powdered color), etc. Discarded Christmas wreaths must be disposed of in the garbage along with regular trash.

Public Works Resident Guide

View our Public Works Resident Guide online at www.menomonee-falls.org/residentguide for helpful information regarding garbage & recycling services, disposal of various household items and bulk items, yard waste, parks, winter operations, and more. Our Resident Guide is a great resource for both new residents and current residents of the Village.



CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

MUST BE PLACED CURBSIDE BY
SUNDAY, JAN. 11

» ONLY NATURAL CHRISTMAS TREES ARE ACCEPTED «

» TREES MUST BE CLEAN OF DECORATIONS, LIGHTS, STANDS, GARLAND, WIRE, ETC «

» CHRISTMAS WREATHS WILL NOT BE COLLECTED «

Happy Holidays from the Village of Menomonee Falls!

Election Information & New Year Reminders

Voting Information

2026 Election Schedule

- February 17, 2026 - Spring Primary Election (if needed)
- April 7, 2026 - Spring Election
- August 11, 2026 - Partisan Primary
- November 3, 2026 - General Election

For all of your voting needs, visit
myvote.wi.gov



- Register to vote
- Request an absentee ballot
- Track your ballot
- Find your polling location
- See what is on your ballot & much more!

Become a Poll Worker

We are always looking for dependable individuals to serve at the polls! The poll worker website and application process have been refreshed and can now be completed online. Please take a look if you are interested, and share this opportunity with friends and family.

Please visit governmentjobs.com/careers/menomonee or scan the QR Code at right for more information

Contact Clerk Services for more information!
Phone: 262-532-4201
Email vote@menomonee-falls.org

Property Tax Information

To view, print, pay, or verify payment of a tax bill, please visit
tax.waukeshacounty.gov

For additional tax bill information, view
[the 2026 tax bill insert](#)

2026 Dog Licenses

ALL 2025 dog licenses expire December 31, 2025.

The 2026 Dog license applications look a little different this year. Please make sure to read the application carefully as a few things have changed.

Only the 2026 form will be accepted — applications from previous years cannot be used.

If you are mailing in your application, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

If you do not provide an envelope, your license(s) will be held at Village Hall until you are able to pick them up.

2026 Dog License Fees

Before March 31, 2026:

Spayed/Neutered: \$12
Intact: \$17

After March 31, 2026:

A \$5 late fee will be applied in addition to the regular licensing fee for each animal

Poll Worker Job Posting

SCAN ME!



Winter 2025-2026

Construction & Development Projects

Village Park parking area and Optimist Way street reconstruction in October 2025



Public Projects

Capital projects which improved parks, streets, and infrastructure in 2025 included the reconstruction of Menomonee Avenue, the Village Park parking area project, pedestrian bridges at Lime Kiln and Rotary Park, and several utility projects.

Overview of 2025 Infrastructure Projects

- 1.2 miles of new streets in five residential subdivisions
- 1.8 miles of reconstructed streets and 3.5 miles of asphalt repaving
- 2.2 miles of water main and 1.1 miles of sanitary sewer
- 0.1 miles of asphalt trails installed near new Quietwood subdivision



The Grand Avenue street reconstruction, water main, and multi-use trail improvement was completed this fall

Menomonee Avenue Update

The Village has replaced the water main and reconstructed Menomonee Avenue between Town Hall Road and Appleton Avenue. Both sides of the road are now open to traffic and paved with a base asphalt surface. The project has experienced delays (due to circumstances beyond the Village's control), and construction will be winding down due to asphalt plants closing for winter. Construction will continue in the spring, and the project is scheduled to be completed next year.

Community Center Addition

A new gymnasium, multipurpose rooms, and renovations of the existing Community Center were completed over the summer. The new addition is scheduled to be open in early 2026.



Menomonee Avenue in December



Riverbank stabilization and storm water project in Rotary Park

Private Sector Projects

Both the residential and commercial development sectors remained strong in Menomonee Falls in 2025 with hundreds of major projects adding homes, value, and new jobs to the Village.

Dickson Hollow Phase Two 55+ housing project



Ford Pro addition



Great Harvest Bakery + Cafe



Applebee's / IHOP project



A recently constructed single family home in the Sanctuary at Good Hope East subdivision



2025 Year in Review



Menomonee Falls was a regional leader for single family home construction in 2025. Through the fall, the Village had issued permits for **9 percent** of the new single family housing units constructed in the greater Milwaukee area (CBSA)

- **2 new commercial buildings** and 5 building additions are under construction in Menomonee Falls
- Projects by Ford Pro, Hetzel Tile, Kohl's, Planet Fitness, and Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin will add dozens of jobs to the Village
- **144 single family homes**, 10 duplex units, and 45 age-restricted apartment units have been approved through November of 2025
- **New construction value to exceed \$140 million** which is the **4th highest total on record**

The Clubhouse beer garden structure at Village Park



For more information on these and other development projects, see menomonee-falls.org/development

2026 General Operating Budget Overview

Key Budget Details

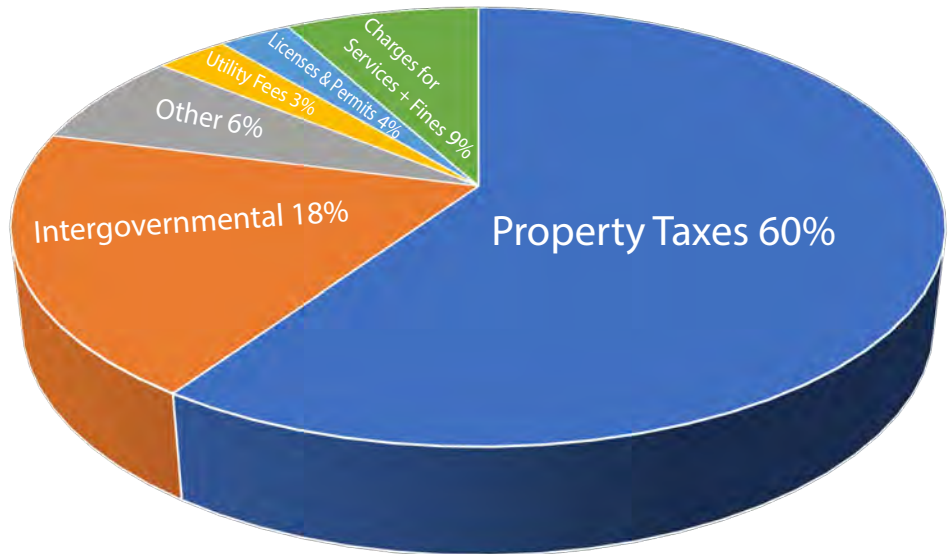
- 2.3% General Operating Budget increase
- 5.8% Village tax levy increase
- Mill rate increased to \$4.05 per \$1,000 assessed value
- \$1 million added to the levy for street resurfacing
- Health insurance is flat, moving to self-insured plan
- Garbage & Recycling fee increase of \$5.22
- No change in Sewer, Water, or Storm Water rate in 2026

Summary

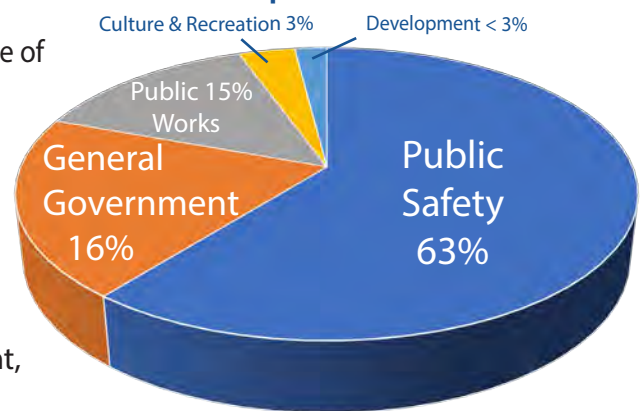
The 2026 General Operating Budget was adopted on November 17th, 2025 with total revenues and expenditures of \$38,904,600, which is a 2.3% increase from 2025. The budget reflects the Village's mission to provide the highest quality municipal services consistent with the changing needs and desires of the community and a realistic assessment of resources

available. The primary source of financing for the General Operating Budget (60.2%) comes from property taxes. Village spending for operations includes general government, police, fire, public works, development, and parks operations.

Revenue Sources



Expenditures



2026 Village Tax Levy

The Village Board adopted a mill rate of \$4.05 and a tax levy of \$ 28,983,900. The mill rate increased by \$0.18, and the levy increased by 5.8 percent (\$0.14 of the \$0.18 mill rate increase will pay for the additional \$1 million for street resurfacing). For a typical Menomonee Falls home valued at \$400,000, the owner will pay \$1,620 in Village property taxes in 2026. At a monthly cost of around \$135 for Village services, a typical property owner receives a good value compared to other common household monthly costs.



How is My Property Tax Dollar Spent?





Menomonee Falls Events Summer 2025 Recap

What a summer in the Falls! The season kicked off with [Falls Memorial Fest](#), a lively one-day celebration that filled Main Street with music, food, and community spirit. Families then enjoyed three magical [Falls Family Movie Nights](#), gathering under the stars at Village Park for fun and flicks.

Every Wednesday brought great vibes to Village Park with the [Beer Garden Series](#), featuring live music, cold drinks, and plenty of mid-week relaxation. Thursdays kept the rhythm going with the [Falls Sunset Concert Series](#), lighting up the amphitheater stage on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.

August turned up the heat with [Falls Kids Fest](#), a day full of high-energy activities and smiles. And to cap it all off, creativity took center stage on Main Street during the [Falls Festival of the Arts](#), showcasing talented artists and downtown charm.

From music and movies to art and family fun, Menomonee Falls Events made this summer unforgettable!



Winter 2025-2026 Programs

CE&Rec

Community Education & Recreation



2025 Junior Basketball League

The Winter 2026 Activity Guide is Here

Our gift to you this holiday season is the [Winter 2026 Activity Guide](#). You should have received a copy in the mail but if you haven't, additional copies are available at the CE & Rec Office, Village Hall, Menomonee Falls Public Library, and Chamber of Commerce. Resident online registration for winter programs began on Sunday, December 7th at 9 pm. For additional information, visit fallsrec.org

Community Center Addition Opening Soon

Renovations of the existing Community Center were completed over the summer. The new addition is scheduled to be open in early 2026. Project highlights include:

- New gymnasium with daytime and evening access
- The gym will be striped for basketball, volleyball, and pickleball
- New group exercise space
- New multipurpose room with resilient flooring
- New area for SDMF Quest Alternative Education program with dedicated secure entrance and restroom
- Additional restrooms and storage
- Additional parking lot
- Improved accessibility – the Community Center will be all one level with automatic sliding doors at the main entrance
- Security enhancements that will reduce student and community space overlap
- No new debt created, funded through the District's tax levy

Milwaukee Bucks Holiday Basketball Camp

Deck the halls with basketballs, and stay active during the holidays with Milwaukee Bucks Holiday Camps. Camp runs December 26th & 27th from 1 - 4 pm and is designed for youth ages 7 - 14. [Register today!](#)

Jr. Basketball League for Grades 4K

[Space Still Available! League starts January 17th](#)

This introductory basketball league will give your child the foundation needed to excel at future levels. The program will concentrate on skill development, teamwork, basic rule understanding, and game play. Classes will include a 30-minute practice followed by a 30-minute scrimmage game. Scores and standings will not be kept, and everyone will play. For more information, or to register online, visit fallsrec.org



Community Center project in late summer 2025

More Community Ed & Recreation Programs & Updates

Stay Active This Winter – Swim Year-Round at the North Middle School Pool

CE & Rec offers Open Swim and Adult Lap Swim/Water Walking at the North Middle School Pool. The fees are \$3 for children and \$4 for adults (cash and check only). Swim passes and punch cards are also available. Generally, Open Swim is held on Fridays from 5 – 7 pm and Saturdays from 12 – 2:45 pm. Adult Lap Swim / Water Walking is generally held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 4 – 7 pm and Saturdays from 8 am – 2:45 pm. Note: Additional programs may take place in the pool during these times. Visit our [Aquatics Page](#) for additional information.

Party at the Pool

Join us for swimming, music and fun at the North Middle School Pool on select Sundays from 1 – 3 pm. Admission: Non-perishable items for the Falls Area Food Pantry. November 30th, December 28th, January 4th.

Join our Menomonee Falls EGG-CELLENT Egg Hunt

Take part in this year's 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. These eggs will be displayed from March 13th - 30th. Drive around and collect the letters, then use these letters to create a phrase. Once you think you know the phrase, submit your family name and answer to win a prize basket. [Register](#) starting December 7th at 9 pm.

Day Trips – Check Them Out

Fun, creative, local experiences planned just for you! All trips are guided by Lori Oertel and chauffeured by coach bus. Registration starts December 7th. Click on the titles below for additional information, or visit www.fallsrec.org.

[Ho-Chunk Dells Gambling](#)

Thursday, February 19th 8 am – 4:30 pm

[From Illusions to Icons](#)

Tristan Crist Magic Theatre; Belfry Music Theatre; Lunch at Lake City Social
Thursday, February 26th 9 am – 4 pm

[Brew City Trifecta](#)

American Family Field; Milwaukee Pretzel Company; Lunch at the Barrel Yard
Wednesday, March 18th 9 am – 3:30 pm



A senior day trip group enjoying a meal together in 2025

[Madison's History, Nature & Flavor](#)

Native effigy mound landscapes; UW Arboretum; Babcock Dairy; Lunch at Old Fashion Restaurant
Tuesday, April 14th
8:30 am – 5:30 pm

[Heartbreak Hotel at the Marriott](#)

Lunch at Wildfire
Wednesday, May 6th
8:45 am – 6 pm

Library Corner

Program Updates & Initiatives of Menomonee Falls Public Library



Family & Youth Events

Teen Takeover: Five Nights at Freddy's

Friday, December 12th from 5 – 6:30 pm

Come take over the Library at this teen only after-hours event with plenty of games and snacks! The theme for this takeover is Five Nights at Freddy's! Ages 13 – 18, registration required.

Noon Year's Eve Party

Wednesday, December 31st from 11 am – 12:30 pm

Kids of all ages can celebrate the New Year early at our Noon Year's Eve Party! We'll play games, make 2026-themed crafts, and have a special countdown at 12:00 pm (noon).

Tween DIY Time Capsules

Wednesday, January 14th at 6 pm

Kick off 2026 with a special New Year activity! Decorate a time capsule in which you can collect all your special memories of the year to come. Bring your own container to decorate, or we'll have shoe boxes available. Ages 10 – 12.

Winnie-the-Pooh Party

Saturday, January 24th at 10 am

Let's celebrate Winnie-the-Pooh and friends with games, crafts, and play! For families with children of all ages.

Hygge Hangout

Monday, January 26th from 5:30 – 7 pm

Bring your pillows and blankets and join us for a hygge (pronounced hoo-gah) evening at the Library! Hygge is the Danish practice of coziness and warmth and is perfect for the long, cold January nights. We will provide a warm cozy atmosphere and have quiet activities, books, and hot chocolate. For families with children of all ages.



Library Programs Continued...

Imagine Arts Academy: Creativity Lab

Saturday, January 31st from 10 am – 12 pm

Drop by to create inspiring art featuring projects from the Imagine Arts Academy! Kids and caregivers will tour multiple art booths and get to bring home their creations. The Imagine Arts Academy will be filming and taking photographs for promotional purposes. All attendees will be asked to sign a photo release to participate in this event. Best suited for families with children ages 5 – 12.



Adult Events

Jigsaw Puzzle Tournament: Happy Holidays

Monday, December 15th, at 6 pm

Compete as a team in a Holiday puzzle tournament to become the puzzle champion of them all! Please check the Library website for details about this event. Refreshments provided by the Menomonee Falls Library Friends.



Georgia O'Keeffe: Matron of the Brush

Monday, January 12th, at 6 pm

Called the "Southwest's Matron Saint of the Brush", Georgia O'Keeffe devoted her life and her art to "distilling in form and color the essence of the world she saw". During this lecture, you'll hear about her roots in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, and how her paintings captured the spirit of pure Americana. Presented by Professor Karri Fritz-Klaus.



Staying Connected: Building Strong Bonds in Aging Families

Monday, January 26th, at 2 pm

As we grow older, staying connected with the people we care about becomes more important than ever. Join us for this one-hour class where we'll talk about the ways relationships and communication can boost well-being for older adults and their families. Presented by Carrie Leber, LCSW-Clinical Psychologist and De Anna Lynk, Behavioral Health Clinic Manager.



For up-to-date event information and registration, visit the Library's event calendar at menomoneefallslibrary.org/events. These events are made possible by the Menomonee Falls Library Friends.



About Eras Senior Network

Eras Senior Network is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to engage and support seniors, adults with disabilities, and family caregivers in leading meaningful lives. Our clients are supported by volunteers of all ages to help them maintain their independence. Eras helps individuals 55 and older stay engaged in their community through a variety of meaningful volunteer opportunities. One of the biggest ways we engage older adult volunteers is through a variety of programs in the School District of Menomonee Falls and Waukesha.

School Volunteer Programs

Eras' older adult volunteers engage with and support local students in reading, writing, math, social skills, and more through a variety of programming. Here are our most popular programs:

Classroom Tutors: Older adult volunteers are matched up with a classroom to work one-on-one or in small groups with students who need extra help. Volunteers are typically scheduled for at least one day a week for about one hour, some choose to do much more!

Readers Cafe: This is a unique opportunity for students to read with older adult volunteers during their lunch and recess time for an 8 week session. It is designed to encourage an interest in reading, while developing an intergenerational connection and strengthening the students' skills.

Pen Pals: This program is a wonderful way to bring generations together through exchanging letters. Older adult volunteers and students are able to learn from another generation; while helping students practice their reading and writing skills.



Interested?

Waukesha School District
Jon Shelenske: (262) 201-0093
Jon.Shelenske@Eras.org

Menomonee Falls School District
Dawn Hinton: (262) 617-8061
Dawn.Hinton@Eras.org

Visit Eras.org for more information about our services, volunteering, or to make a donation.





CHRISTMAS IN THE FALLS

Small Business
SATURDAY
Last Saturday in
November

Elfie
SCAVENGER HUNT
December 1-21

Cookie
CRAWL
First Friday & Saturday
in December

Christmas in the Falls
CHRISTKINDL
MARKET
Second Saturday
in December



[Christmas in the Falls](#) is back for 2025, and it's not too late to participate in the festivities! The Falls Christkindl Market will be held on Saturday, December 13th and the Elfie Scavenger Hunt bingo game continues through Sunday, December 21st.



Play "Where's Elfie?" and find the names for our sneaky little elves hidden in participating downtown businesses. Kids enter their playing card to win a make and take with local stores.

Friends of Old Falls Village: A Year of Community Spirit

Oktoberfest
Biergarten



This summer, Old Falls Village Park came alive thanks to the tireless efforts of the Friends of Old Falls Village Park. From organizing events to maintaining the grounds, their dedication ensured that the park remained a vibrant gathering place for residents and visitors alike.

- **Event Support:** The Friends of Old Falls Village Park coordinated volunteers for summer festivals, historic reenactments, and family-friendly programs. Their presence helped everything run smoothly, from parking assistance to welcoming guests.
- **Beautification Projects:** Members worked on flower beds, landscaping, and upkeep of grounds, ensuring the park looked its best for every event.
- **Fundraising Success:** Through concessions, beer garden sales, silent auctions and donations, the Friends of Old Falls Village Park raised funds to support the ongoing preservation and educational programming at the park.

Thanks to their contributions, Old Falls Village Park continues to be a cherished destination where history and community meet.

Historic Spaces for Today's Celebrations

Looking for a unique venue for your next gathering or event? Old Falls Village Park now has a dedicated rentals page (www.oldfallsvillagepark.org/rent-the-park) to make planning easier than ever. Whether it's a family reunion, birthday party, or community meeting, the park's historic charm provides the perfect backdrop. The Historic Caretakers space is perfect for a small gathering such as a class, meeting space or even a small party. Visit our [rentals page](#) to explore options and book your event today.

Explore Old Falls Village Park with a New Scavenger Hunt Adventure

Discover history and explore the park in a whole new way with the Old Falls Village Scavenger Hunt. Children and adults alike can enjoy exploring the grounds, finding objects, and uncovering hidden treasures of the park's past. The scavenger hunt will continue to be available for visitors—so bring your curiosity and see what you can find! Pick up your copy of the scavenger hunt at the park by the Information Kiosk.



The fire pit during the Spooky Walk event

Park Scavenger Hunt

How many of these items can you find on your trip to the park?



					
10 5 10 10 10	Butterfly	Coboose	Rabbit	Umbrella	Hopscotch
Bin	Dog	Seed/Seed Pod	Duck	Lincoln Logs	Flower
Ants	Snail	Pond	Tree	Squirrel	Sign
Lampost	Creek	Bench	Grass	Stumps	Spider
Rock	Lady bug	Tire	Railings	Bridge	Picnic Table
Sand Box					

Reflecting on Fall 2025 Events at Old Falls Village

With autumn's charm and community spirit, Friends of Old Falls Village Park hosted five signature events in just two months—thanks to our incredible volunteers, dedicated reenactors, and the generous support of the community.

Old Falls Renaissance Faire & Jousting Debut

oldfallsvillagepark.org/renaissance-faire

The Old Falls Renaissance Faire brought knights, jousters, and merriment to Old Falls Village Park the first weekend in September. A highlight of this year's event was the new jousting tournament, which thrilled audiences with authentic medieval competition. Thanks to the Friends of Old Falls Village support, the Faire continues to grow as one of the park's most popular attractions.



Pirate Fest

oldfallsvillagepark.org/renaissance-faire-pirate-days

Ahoy, mateys! Pirate Fest transformed Old Falls Village into a seaside adventure, complete with treasure hunts, pirate music, and swashbuckling fun on the second weekend in September. Families enjoyed games, food, and entertainment that made everyone feel like part of the crew.



WWI Reenactment & School Day

oldfallsvillagepark.org/wwi-reenactment

History came alive at the World War I Reenactment and School Day the first weekend in October. Students and visitors experienced life during the Great War through demonstrations, exhibits, and interactive learning. The Friends group coordinated volunteers and logistics, ensuring that this educational event honored the past while inspiring future generations.

Old Falls Oktoberfest Biergarten - Alte Kameraden Band

oldfallsvillagepark.org/oktoberfest

The sounds of German heritage filled the park during Oktoberfest, featuring the lively Die Freistadt Alte Kameraden Band. Guests enjoyed traditional food, drink, and music, celebrating community spirit in true Bavarian style. This cultural celebration is a highlight of the season, and it includes the much-adored Dachshund Races.

Halloween Spooky Walk

oldfallsvillagepark.org/little-park-of-horrors

Ghosts, goblins, and glowing lanterns lit the way during the Old Falls Halloween Spooky Walk. Families explored the park after dark, encountering fun frights and festive decorations. Friends of Old Falls Village Park created a safe, family-friendly atmosphere that delighted children and adults alike while exploring parts of the park never seen before. Keep watch for this event to become bigger, better, and even more family-friendly as we build an unforgettable Spooky Walk 2026!



Friends of Old Falls Village Continued...

Looking Ahead to 2026

While 2025 is still in full swing, we're already excited to share a preview of the incredible events coming to Old Falls Village Park in 2026. We'll kick off the year with a very special historical themed fundraiser: The Titanic Dinner & Fundraiser, held at North Hills Country Club on Saturday March 28th. [Purchase your ticket today](#) for this memorable evening!

Stay tuned—more details and additional event announcements are on the way. It's shaping up to be a memorable year!

Volunteers: The Heart of Old Falls Village

None of these events would be possible without the dedication of our volunteers. From setting up tents to guiding guests, volunteers gave countless hours to make each program a success. The Friends of Old Falls Village extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed their time and energy.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Old Falls Village Park—whether you can help for a few hours or an entire season, your support keeps history alive at Old Falls Village Park. Join us and be part of the story! To become a volunteer, contact us at www.oldfallsvillagepark.org/volunteer

Become a Foundation Member of Friends of Old Falls Village Park

Foundation Member – \$50

Join us in preserving, supporting, and celebrating the rich history of Old Falls Village Park. As a Foundation Member, you will receive:

- Foundation Supporter Acknowledgment
- Newsletter delivered by email
- Two event tickets to use at any Friends of Old Falls Village Park event

Your membership helps us continue hosting community events, enhancing the park, and keeping history alive for future generations. To become a Foundation Member go to www.oldfallsvillagepark.org/sponsors



World War I Reenactment

A logo for the play 'Til Beth Do Us Part. It features a large red heart shape. Inside the heart, there are silhouettes of a man and a woman running towards each other. The text 'Til Beth' is in large yellow letters, and 'Do Us Part' is in purple letters.

PRESENTED BY THE

The logo for Falls Patio Players, featuring two stylized masks (one smiling, one frowning) with the word 'Falls' above them and 'Patio Players' below them.

**Falls
Patio
Players**

Entertaining Audiences Since 1966!

PERFORMANCES AT
North Middle School
N88W16750 Garfield Drive
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

FEBRUARY
6-8, 13-15

FRIDAYS 7:30pm
SATURDAY the 7th 7:30pm
SATURDAY the 14th 4:00pm
SUNDAYS 2:00pm

ADMISSION
Adults: \$18 Seniors/Students: \$15

@fallspatio

INFORMATION
262-437-7336
fallspatioplayers.com



In 2026, the Menomonee Falls Historical Society will celebrate its 60th anniversary of dedicated efforts to preserve the rich history of the Village of Menomonee Falls. This milestone pays tribute to the passionate individuals who, driven by a commitment to safeguarding the community's heritage, devoted countless hours to research and restoration, ensuring that future generations have tangible connections to the past. We remember the founding members, including Gertrude Jacoby, Emma Davidson, Robert Davidson, Harvey and Margaret Triller, Frederick Gottlieb, and the members of the 1964-1966 Village Board and the General Federated Menomonee Falls Women's Club, whose contributions were vital to the establishment of the Society. The mission articulated in 1966—to preserve, advance, and disseminate knowledge of the history of Menomonee Falls, Waukesha County, Wisconsin—remains steadfast and continues to guide the Society's work six decades later.

In 1966, the Village acquired the Miller-Davidson House from Emma Davidson, marking the establishment of the Menomonee Falls Historical Society. The 1858 house was purchased for \$70,000, with a 30% down payment and the remaining balance to be paid in three equal installments at a 2% interest rate, which the Menomonee Falls Women's Club, later to become the Historical Society, agreed to cover. Along with the property, Emma Davidson also transferred all personal belongings associated with the house. The following year, the Umhoefer Cabin was relocated to the site, followed by [several other historical structures](#), including the School House, Carriage House, Milwaukee Road Depot, Koch House, Brogan Cabin, Steichen House, and Walker-Sparrow Cabin.

As we approach our 60th anniversary, it is essential to reflect on the contributions of those who paved the way for us. We honor the visionaries who acquired our historic buildings and worked tirelessly to preserve our rich heritage, dedicating countless hours as volunteers over the years. We express our gratitude to all past and present members of the Menomonee Falls Historical Society for their unwavering support, as well as to the current volunteers who continue to uphold the mission established in 1966.



The mission of the Menomonee Falls Historical Society continues, with 2026 set to be a year of celebration. We invite you to participate in our events throughout the 2026 season and demonstrate your support for preserving history.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, all contributions are tax-deductible. For more information, please visit our website at www.oldfallsvillage.com or connect with us on Facebook and Instagram, or call us at 262-250-3901.

Seasonal Updates from



**Waukesha County
Park System**



Waukesha County Parks 2026 Membership

An annual membership gets you access to Waukesha County Park System's parks or lake access sites.

A Park membership includes unlimited entrance to nine fee-based parks (including Menomonee Park) for an entire calendar year. It also provides access to countless amenities, from trails, to dog exercise areas, to beaches and ponds, and so much more.

A Lake Access membership grants entry to five Waukesha County boat launch locations. Launch your boat, carry in your canoe, fish from shore, or just park your vehicle and enjoy the water views.

A membership purchased on/after November 28th will be active immediately and extend through December 31st, 2026. Explore the benefits of membership at waukeshacounty.gov/parks

Gift cards are available.

Save the Date:

Waukesha County Parks & Waukesha JanBoree

Waukesha County Parks is a proud participant in Waukesha JanBoree. Explore fun winter events and activities hosted across Waukesha County.

Check out the full schedule and program details on the JanBoree website (janboree.org).

Discover the Magic of Winter at Retzer Nature Center

Winter is on its way, and so are exciting seasonal offerings at Retzer Nature Center! From the enchanting [Wild Winter Night](#) to the fun and adventurous snowshoe rentals, there's something for everyone to enjoy this season.

For full details and updates, visit waukeshacounty.gov/Retzer



Waukesha County Parks Winter Updates Continued...

Glow Skate

What's the coolest activity for a Friday night? One that will have you absolutely glowing? Glow Skate at Eble Ice Arena!

Glow Skate is a fun and affordable option. Just \$12, which includes skate rental. No experience necessary.

View upcoming dates and register at wauk.co/webtrac (click "Ice Arena Activities," then "Glow Skate")

Girls Scouts & Cub Scouts

Join Waukesha County Parks, Retzer Nature Center, and the Horwitz-DeRemer Planetarium for Cub Scout Night (Jan. 13th) or Girl Scout Night (Jan. 15th)! Scouts will enjoy exciting, engaging adventures in nature and space. It's fun, educational, and truly unforgettable.

Visit wauk.co/webtrac (click "Programs & Special Events," then "Scout Programs").

Winter Salt Week 2026: January 26th-30th

You've heard of side effects, but have you heard of SALT effects? Excessive salt use during winter can harm our environment – contaminating water, degrading soil, and threatening plants and wildlife. Just one teaspoon of salt can pollute five gallons of water to a level toxic for freshwater ecosystems.

Winter Salt Week is your chance to explore the double-edged role of salt: essential for clearing snow, but potentially harmful if overused. Learn smarter salting practices, discover alternatives like sanding or manual snow removal, and help protect lakes, streams, and natural habitats.

View tips, resources, and webinars at Winter Salt Week (wintersaltweek.org) or check out Wisconsin Salt Wise (wisaltwise.com) for additional guidance.

January is Radon Action Month

Radon is an odorless, colorless gas that can pose serious health risks, and it's more common than you might think. One out of 10 Wisconsin homes has high radon levels. Now is the best time to test your home for radon, and it's easy!

A testing kit costs about \$10 and is available from the Southeast Wisconsin Radon Information Center (SEWRIC) at 262-896-8300 or online (link below), through your local public health agencies, and home supply stores.

Radon testing information: WaukeshaCounty.gov/RadonTesting
Purchase a test kit online at wauk.co/webtrac (click "Radon & Well Water Test Kits").





Menomonee Falls Police Officers Honored for Daring River Rescue

State Capitol and Menomonee Falls Police Department Celebrate Heroism Amid August Floods

On Tuesday, October 14th, Representative Dan Knodl named Menomonee Falls Police Officer Curran the 24th Assembly District's 2025 First Responder of the Year—one of 99 honorees from every legislative district recognized for “extraordinary service and sacrifice.” Six days later, on October 20th, Officer Curran returned to Menomonee Falls Village Hall, where Police Chief Mark Waters presented him with the department's first-ever John S. Taylor Jr. Valor Award. The medal was presented to Officer Curran by John S. Taylor's widow. John S. Taylor Jr. is the only officer ever killed in the line of duty in Menomonee Falls (1977).

August 11, 2025

Historic rains turned the Menomonee River into an unrelenting force. A 17-year-old and his father, who were trying to save their dog that had fallen in the river, were swept downstream. Menomonee Falls Police Officers and Fire Department personnel quickly responded to rescue the adult male; however, the juvenile was swept away during their efforts. Officer Curran saw the juvenile drifting downstream and jumped in to grab the teenager. Other officers formed a chain to pull Officer Curran and the juvenile to the shore, where rescue personnel were ready to provide immediate aid. Both individuals were transported to nearby hospitals for continued medical treatment.



A Night of Awards

On October 20th eight Menomonee Falls Officers joined Officer Curran during the Village Board meeting to receive accommodations:

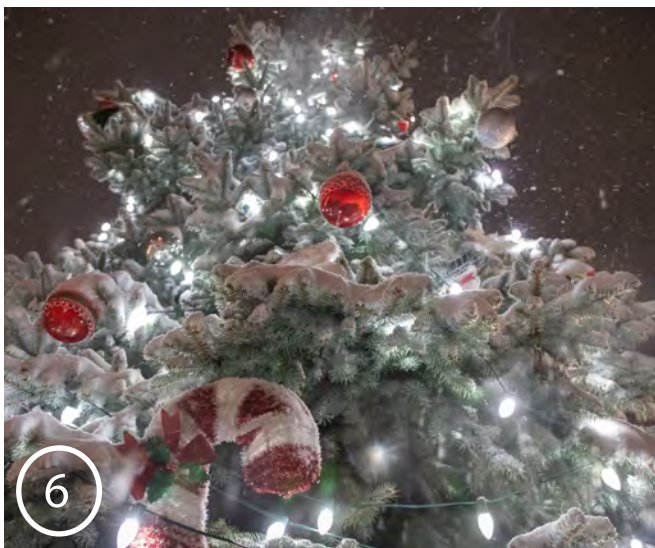
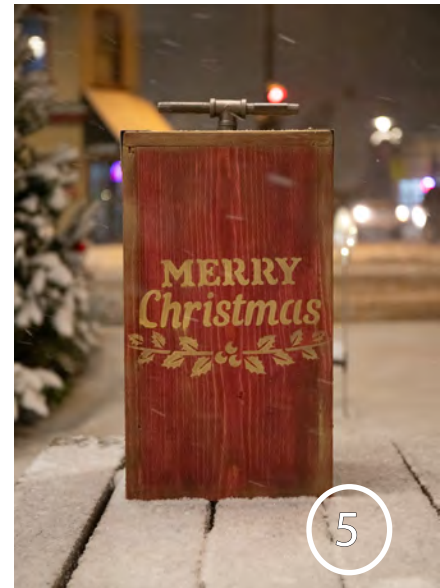
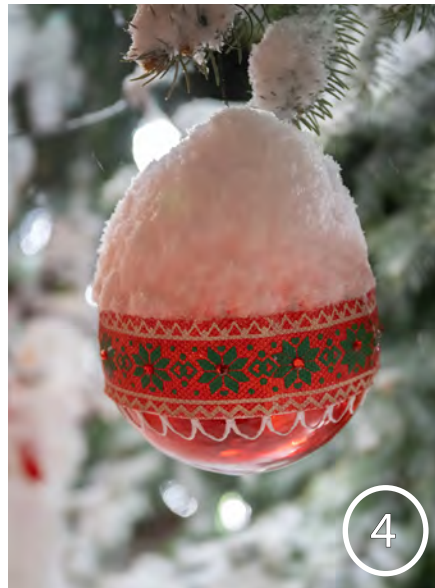
- Lifesaving Awards: Officers Zachary Tank, Jason Cychosz, Brian Zangl
- Letters of Commendation: Officers Jennifer Paulson, Jackson Comerford, Michael Schroeder, Andrew Weber, Matthew Benson

Assistant Chief Eugene Neyhart received the Menomonee Falls Distinguished Service Award for coordinating the Village's \$36 million flood-recovery effort with FEMA and state agencies.

The Menomonee Falls Police Department remains deeply thankful that no lives were lost during the August flood. The Department takes great pride in the teamwork, professionalism, and courage displayed by every officer on scene.

Out and About in the Falls: **Signs of the Season**

Centennial Plaza Christmas Tree Lighting



- 1 Crowd at the 2025 Christmas tree lighting ceremony
- 2 Wreaths on the Centennial Plaza donor wall
- 3 A dog in a top hat contributes to the holiday decor
- 4 Ornament on the Centennial Plaza Christmas tree
- 5 The decorative switch used to light the tree each year
- 6 A significant snowfall on November 29th made for a white Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Small Business Saturday



Mill Pond Park

Winter Calendar

SATURDAY DECEMBER 13 @ 10 am
Christkindl Market
German food & drink, music, dancing,
and indoor / outdoor vendor markets
Menomonee Falls Downtown

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21 @ 9 am
Library Versiti Blood Drive
Mobile blood drive
Menomonee Falls Public Library

FRIDAY & SAT. FEBRUARY 6 & 7
Chocolate Walk
Chocolate related specials & activities
at local shops & restaurants
Menomonee Falls Downtown

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17
Spring Primary Election (if needed)
For the location of your polling place
visit myvote.wi.gov or
menomonee-falls.org/1140

Opportunities to Give Back

The Christmas Clearing Council of Waukesha County (CCC) coordinates giving to thousands of families in need through the collection and distribution of donations. Drop off new unwrapped toys at Village Hall and other CCC toy donation locations throughout the county by December 16th, 2025. Learn more at christmasclearingcouncil.org

Falls Area Food Pantry relies solely on donations and the time and talents of volunteers from the community. Consider getting involved this winter by donating food and/or money, hosting a food drive, adopting a shelf or utility (to cover operating expenses), or volunteering at the pantry. Learn more at fallsfoodpantry.org/volunteer

Points of Pride

Menomonee Falls has been recognized as a [Bird City Wisconsin community](https://www.birdcitywisconsin.com) for the 14th consecutive year in 2025

[Wallethub.com](https://www.wallethub.com) ranks the Falls as one of the top 100 Best Small Cities to Live in America for 2025 – we were in the 94th percentile among cities with populations between 25,000 and 100,000 residents

Both the School District of Menomonee Falls and the Hamilton School District exceeded expectations in their overall accountability score in their [2024-2025 DPI district report card scores](https://www.dpi.wisconsin.gov/data-reports/district-reports)

Stay Active in 2026!

Back for 2025



Saturday, December 13th from
10 am - 5 pm



VILLAGE OF
Menomonee Falls

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

