

VILLAGE OF WHITING

This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

3600 Water Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481

(715) 341-2742

www.villageofwhiting.org

OFFICE HOURS: M-F 9:00-3:30

SPRING 2025



WELCOME SPRING

Your Village of Whiting is Coming to Facebook Soon

The Village of Whiting will be establishing its official Facebook page in just a matter of days. This useful page will bring you trusted news and accurate information direct from the Whiting Village Hall. Your Village President, Clerk-Treasurer, and Director of Public Works will all contribute to this page, with additional postings coming periodically from other members of your elected Whiting government.

If you're a Facebook user, our upcoming page will bring you the latest news about Village happenings, as well as convenient links to Whiting meeting agendas and the official minutes from those sessions. We also intend to use the page to update our residents about any isolated inconvenience they might experience due to either planned or emergency road, sewer, or water main work. In general, we plan to make the new Facebook page a factual, helpful tool for Village residents.

Whiting's new Facebook page should be available approximately April 9. Please check it out and plan to follow your Village. The name of the official Whiting page will be: **The Village of Whiting, Wisconsin**. The page can be found and tagged @thevillageofwhiting or at facebook.com/thevillageofwhiting. Thanks for looking.

Whiting Offers Hands-On Internship to UWSP Student

Your Village of Whiting is proud to partnership with the UW-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources to offer a summer internship to one of the college's Waste Management and Environmental Protection students. This three-month, paid internship will provide the student with a variety of experiences about life in the public works department of a small municipality.

"This internship will give the student hands-on, entry level experience in both the Village's water and wastewater facilities," said Jake Wilcox, Whiting Director of Public Works. "He'll also be handling a variety of other basic Village maintenance needs, including spending some time with a lawn mower, just like the rest of us in the department."

Whiting's UWSP student intern has just completed the application and hiring process. He'll begin his Village learning experience in May.

NEIGHBORHOOD RUMMAGE SALE SATURDAY MAY 17

Once again, the neighborhood East of Post Road including School, Acorn, Verrill, Julie, Linda, April, Karen, Skips Trl and Manor Dr. will have a rummage sale. They've always had successful sales in the past. If you are interested in joining in the fun, **please submit \$3.00 to Traci or Paula before April 15** to help cover advertising costs. On the day of the sale, large signs will be posted on HH and you are encouraged to put a sign near your driveway. Traci and Paula's contact information:

Traci Judziewicz: tjudzi02@yahoo.com, 408 Verrill St. Paula Perron: paulaperron123@gmail.com, 2025 School St.

MISC NEWS

- **PLEASE NOTE THAT GARBAGE AND RECYCLING WILL BE PICKED UP ON FRIDAY JULY 4 INSTEAD OF JULY 5.** The original schedule has July 5 as the pick-up date. The haulers are choosing to work on July instead of having it as a holiday.
- Assembly District 71 Representative Vincent Miresse will be holding a meet and greet/listening session at the Village of Whiting on Tuesday April 8 from 5-6 pm.
- The **Compost Site** opens Wednesday, April 9. Please bring the enclosed orange card with you each time you go. Monday and Wednesday hours remain the same. Saturday hours have changed since last year: **Monday 8-3, Wednesday 8-6 and Saturday 8-12.**
- **RESIDENTS WHO NEED TO RENEW WELL PERMITS WILL BE RECEIVING A LETTER SOON.** If you receive a letter in the mail, please follow the instructions and contact village staff to begin the process of acquiring your well permit. Permits are due every 5 years.

The **2024 Consumer Confidence Report** is available on the home page of the village website. Paper copies are available at the office or you can view a copy online: <https://villageofwhiting.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2024-CCR-Final.pdf>

Open Book and Board of Review with Assessor Jeremy Kurtzweil

- **Open Book session is Friday May 2 from 1-3 pm** with assessor Jeremy Kurtzweil. Stop in to see him in the Board/Voting room anytime during these 2 hours.
- **Board of Review will be held Thursday May 22 from 5-7 pm** in the Board room, again with assessor Jeremy Kurtzweil.

SEWER MAINTENANCE NOTICE

Every year, Whiting Utilities staff clean and inspect a portion of our village's sewer pipes. This year we will be cleaning pipes on the east side of the village. While underground sewer pipes are being cleaned you may experience a gurgling, bubbling or hissing sound from floor drains or other fixtures and this is normal. Work will likely begin in May and will continue into early summer. If you have questions, concerns or notice other problems with the drains or fixtures in your home or business please call (715) 572-9434.

Thank you – Whiting Utilities Staff

To our Village of Whiting Residents – From your elected Village President, and your elected Village Board

It was great to see the nice turnout by residents for the December 3rd Public Hearing on the 2025 Village Budget. Those that stayed for the whole meeting heard about the challenges of managing the financial aspects of a village in these times when base levies are capped by the State, and the Village lost a major source of revenue when the mill closed down. Since that double whammy hit, inflation has not waned, and if anything, elevated somewhat. In addition, the State transferred ownership for Post Road to the Village, and several Village roads received needed repairs, along with the Whiting Avenue Bridge. Most of this maintenance was done before things got so bad that expensive restorations were required – which makes good fiscal sense. Residents in attendance also heard about the many ways which the elected representatives and the Village Employees are frugal with your tax dollars.

In addition, they were able to again hear about how the Public Fire Protection (PFP) costs were transferred to the quarterly Water bills (this was detailed in the summer/fall newsletter), the amount of which is set by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. It pays for the infrastructure needed (beyond what would be required of simple residential service) to fight fires within the Village.

Property Assessed Value	Property Tax Dec-22	Property Tax Dec-23	Property Tax Plus PFP Dec-24	Decrease 22-23	Increase 23-24	Inc/Dec 22-24
\$ 100,000	\$ 506	\$ 414	\$ 656	\$ (92)	\$ 242	\$ 150
\$ 200,000	\$ 1,012	\$ 829	\$ 1,132	\$ (184)	\$ 303	\$ 120
\$ 300,000	\$ 1,518	\$ 1,243	\$ 1,608	\$ (275)	\$ 365	\$ 90
\$ 400,000	\$ 2,024	\$ 1,657	\$ 2,084	\$ (367)	\$ 427	\$ 59
\$ 500,000	\$ 2,531	\$ 2,072	\$ 2,560	\$ (459)	\$ 488	\$ 29
\$ 600,000	\$ 3,037	\$ 2,486	\$ 3,036	\$ (551)	\$ 550	\$ (1)
\$ 700,000	\$ 3,543	\$ 2,900	\$ 3,512	\$ (643)	\$ 612	\$ (31)
\$ 800,000	\$ 4,049	\$ 3,314	\$ 3,988	\$ (734)	\$ 673	\$ (61)
\$ 900,000	\$ 4,555	\$ 3,729	\$ 4,464	\$ (826)	\$ 735	\$ (91)

Looking forward, our Village Auditor pointed out to the attendees that the Village is moving to a stronger financial footing, which should help even out the annual taxes (smooth out the bumps). We also showed (again, trying to be frugal with your tax dollars) that we obtained an over \$400,000 grant for the Polk Street project, planned to take place after many years of delay, in 2025. Besides fixing a bad road, this will help make the area safer for the students of Ben Franklin Junior High. We will also repair Sherman Avenue while a needed sewer utility project occurs (again doing it when it is most cost effective to do so) making a better road down to the care facilities which unfortunately see frequent ambulance runs, not to mention needed bus service.

So yes, it is recognized that the bill you just received, along with the PFP which will be on the water bills, is higher than last year, and that hurts in the pocketbook, but when you look at the comparison to 2 years ago, the story is different.

It was rewarding to hear from at least a dozen residents at the meeting that now they understood, and while nobody likes tax increases, they knew why. Many expressed they felt misled on this issue by postings on Social Media, particularly Facebook. Don't believe the spin you often get there. If you have questions, I recommend that you contact a Village Trustee or President at any time. Most people don't realize this, but the Public Comment period of Village Board meetings are not structured as a question-and-answer period, but as a time for the Board to hear Comments from the Public, so waiting for a Village Board meeting is not best.

We're All Connected

Maintaining the Integrity of Your Public Drinking Water System

Did you know... Your water can become contaminated if connections to your plumbing system are not properly protected! To avoid contamination of your drinking water, backflow preventers are required by state plumbing codes wherever there is an actual or potential hazard of a cross-connection.

What is a cross-connection? A cross-connection is an actual or potential connection between the safe drinking water (potable) supply and a source of contamination or pollution. When you turn on the faucet, you expect the water coming out to be as safe as when it left the treatment plant. However, certain hydraulic conditions, left unprotected within your plumbing system may allow hazardous substances to contaminate your own drinking water or even the public drinking water supply.

Back siphonage and backpressure. Water normally flows in one direction. However, water can sometimes flow backwards, called backflow. Backflow can occur in two situations, back siphonage and backpressure. Back siphonage occurs due to a loss of pressure within the water system like, for example, a fire fighting emergency or a water main break or repair. Backpressure may be created when a source of pressure, like a boiler, creates a pressure greater than the pressure supplied by the potable water system.

In your bathroom and kitchen... Look for the ASSE #1002 standard symbol on the device and packaging in your toilet tank. If your device does not contain this symbol it should be replaced with an approved ASSE #1002 anti-siphon ball cock assembly. Make sure handheld shower heads are compliant by letting them hang freely and confirming that they are one inch above the flood level. In addition, be sure to check to make sure the device has an ASSE #1014 or ASME code 112.18.1 stamped on the handle. In your kitchen make sure all dishwashers are installed with a proper "air gap" and that all faucets and detachable hoses work properly and do not lay in the basin of the sink.

A few more things... Be sure to **not** submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs or sinks and make sure the ends of the hoses are clear of contaminants. Verify or install a simple hose bibb vacuum breaker on all threaded faucets. Never use a spray attachment without a backflow prevention device. Make sure water softeners are installed with an "air gap" and that any waste pipes do not go directly into a floor drain.

