

Phone: (608) 526-3354 Fax: (608) 526-6564 Email: clerk@townofhollandwi.gov Web page: <u>www.townofhollandwi.gov</u> Facebook: www.facebook.com/TownofHollandWI

Special Charges

REFUSE/RECYCLING

Due to increasing disposal costs of refuse and recycling materials, the yearly special charge for the service has increased from the current \$138 to \$144 (from \$11.50 to \$12 a month).

For an abundance of recyclables, Hilltopper Refuse & Recycling does offer a drop-off option at their Recycle Center at W6836 Industrial Blvd, Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. This option is helpful for residents who occasionally have excess cardboard or other curbside recyclables. Or, for a fee, Hilltopper offers a Wednesday pick-up service.

For those needing additional refuse or recycling carts on a regular basis, contact Hilltopper at 608-783-6727. They can provide extra carts for a minimal fee (paid directly to Hilltopper).

STORMWATER UTILITY

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

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

For more information, check out the Town website.

BRUSH CHIPPING TO BE DISCONTINUED... if the rules are not adhered to by



residents! Abuse of the system has become a strain on our Town Crew. The rules are established to protect our workers and to control misuse of this <u>taxpayer service</u>. Such rules include a limit to the amount of brush (no more than 3 feet tall and no wider than 15 feet along the curb), a requirement that cut ends face the road (messy piles take more time and

can prove dangerous to our crew) and a request to call the Town office at 608-526-3354 to be placed on the pick-up list (no later than 1 pm the day before the service; *leave a message 24/7*).

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

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





What's Happening in the Town?

New Ballfield—Holland Estates Park

Mike Flury Ballfield

In 2004, Mike Flury and his family along with local businesses, donated time to build a house on McWain Drive in Holland Estates. The profits from the sale were originally donated to the Holmen Area Foundation to be used for a wrestling and gymnastics room. However, fifteen years later, a school referendum passed and an addition onto the high school included a room for wrestling/gymnastics.



This past spring, Mike approached the Town Board about a partnership in developing a baseball/softball/soccer field on the north area of the Holland Estates Park. The Board voted to match the donation with funds from the Badger Coulee Line transmission account.

Late this summer, ground work began and we anticipate the work will be completed early next summer. Mike is excited to see the donation used in the neighborhood where the house was built.

We look forward to seeing this new field used for generations to come!

Looking for help with the Holland Estates ballfield project. Especially helpful if someone could assist with a bobcat or tractor! Contact the Town Clerk for details.



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

Compost Bins



One surprising outcome of COVID19 is the increased interest in gardening and backyard composting. To encourage and support our residents, the Town of Holland has partnered with other communities to provide backyard compost bins at a reduced rate (by buying in bulk). To begin composting your grass, leaves and organic matter, we are offering a limited supply of composting bins for \$50. Contact the Town Clerk for more information or to order a bin.

Compost Site Violations

Garden waste, leaves, grass, and other yard waste may be brought to our disposal site, just west of the cell tower by the Town Hall. See our Recycler newsletter for more information.



Residents are asked to help keep the compost site going by self-policing the area! We have had some violators spoiling the service for others-leaving items that are not compost (such as branches or trash). Also, there have been reports of use by nonresidents. If the abuse continues, the service will be discontinued.

Covid-19

As we all know, there were many challenges in 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Town Board monitored and made adjustments as needed to meetings, elections and gatherings. Moving into 2022, the Town Board will continue to monitor and adjust as needed for your safety and the safety of our employees. Watch our website and Facebook page for any updates. At this time, we will offer in-person tax collection and dog licensing but non-contact options are certainly encouraged. Most Town business can be conducted through phone calls or emails and by use of the drop box (to the left of the front door, available 24/7).

We wish you and your family a safe and healthy new year!

Social Media

Stay up-to-date on happenings in the Town by following us on



@townofhollandwisc

Domain change

To improve cyber security, the Town of Holland has obtained a .gov domain. The domain will allow for additional cyber security and will help the public quickly identify our website as a trusted government source. See page 8 for updated email and website addresses.

All about Parks

New Equipment

Ninja Course New fitness equipment was



Site preparation



Also referred to as "ninja" equipment, there are various stations (with signage) that can be used as part of an overall training plan or as a standalone way to spend time outdoors and gain the benefits of increased physical fitness. And, it is fun for everyone!



Multiple stations





Zipline

The zipline is a very popular piece of

equipment installed in 2020. Riders fly

through the air on a suspended cable.

This ride is like nothing else on the playground! With built-in elevation, kids

Tree relocated



STEPHENSON FARMSTEAD PARK

On August 31st, the Town of Holland, in partnership with the Friends of the McGilvray Road, held a park dedication for the newly acquired Stephenson Farmstead Park. The new park is located on Amsterdam Prairie Road, across the road from the McGilvray Road entrance (N8327 Amsterdam Prairie Rd).

This park was the result of a generous donation of land by the Arneson Family. The farmstead history ties in with the McGilvray Road and was part of the Stephenson/Arneson family for many generations. The new park offers walking trails and interpretative signage. In addition, the donated land provided a great opportunity for the Town to install a parking lot for visitor parking to access the McGilvray Road land.

The Town thanks the Arneson family for this legacy park!

New—Little Free Sled Library

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

For winter fun, the Town has two sledding hills:

- Return all sleds when done (SLED AT YOUR OWN RISK) (1) Town Hall Park—use gravel parking lot to the west of the Town Hall and the hill is to the southwest (facing County Road XX).
- (2) Hammes Park—use the parking lot south of the park equipment (turn onto Vermeer Street and left into parking lot).

Once again, the Town would like to thank Mike and MC Hoffman and Alice Dresen. who continue to help keep the Town Hall landscaping trimmed, weeded and watered. The Town appreciates the extra effort to enhance our appearance. Thank you

Mike, MC and Alice!

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Early Wind Powe



LITTLE FREE

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LIBRARY

DONATED BY HOLMEN AREA FOUNDATION

3

Town Beautification

The last remaining improvement on the Stephenson Farmstead, this windmill predates the remaining historic Seven Bridges of the McGilvray Road Trail to the

Henry Stephenson erected the windmill in 1898, at the age of 16. After 60 years

of faithful service, it was retired in 1958 in favor of a well and electric put



Tax Payment—Questions 608-526-3354

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

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

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

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

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

include the bottom 1/3 of the tax bill.

WANT a receipt:

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

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

In 2021:	Monday, Dec 20	8 am to 1 pm		
	Wednesday, Dec 22	3 pm to 6 pm		
	Thursday, Dec 23	8 am to 1 pm		
	Wednesday, Dec 29	3 pm to 6 pm		
	Thursday, Dec 30	8 am to 1 pm		
	Friday, Dec 31	8 am to 1 pm		
In 2022:	Monday, Jan 17	8 am to 1 pm		
	Wednesday, Jan 19	3 pm to 6 pm		
	Thursday, Jan 20	8 am to 1 pm		
	Monday, Jan 24	8 am to 1 pm		
	Wednesday, Jan 26	3 pm to 6 pm		
	Thursday, Jan 27	8 am to 1 pm		
	Monday, Jan 31	8 am to 1 pm		
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All payments (1st half or full) are due by January 31.
Payment by check or money order payable to <u>Town of Holland</u>
For security reasons, please no cash payments over \$100.
Correct change is appreciated!

Credit Card Payments

The Town offers a credit card service through allpaid (previously known as GovPayNet) to allow the payment of taxes, rentals, dog licenses, building permits, etc. by credit card. While there is no cost to the Town for this service, **please note there is a "convenience" charge to those who use it** ranging from **3.75% to 5.25%** depending on which method of payment is used (paid to allpaid). Through allpaid, a cardholder can choose from multiple payment options: paying onsite, online, or by phone 24 hours a day, all by secure electronic means. For more information: <u>www.townofhollandwi.gov</u>

- 55% = Holmen School District—pays for building upkeep, utilities, salaries, furniture, technology, and other supplies needed to run our schools.
- 26% = La Crosse County—pays for plowing and repairing county highways, human services, circuit court, county jail expenses, veteran's services, and more.
- 10% = Wisconsin Technical College—to make education accessible to more students in our community.
- 8% = Town of Holland—pays for fire services, road work, parks, elections, hall and shop maintenance, snow plowing, utilities, and more.
- 1% = Town of Holland—loan payment (2 year levy adjustment).

Second Half Tax Payment

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

How do I know if my taxes are paid?

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

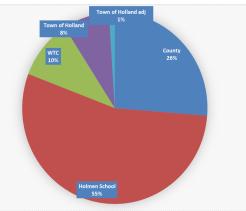
- ► Enter your information
- ► Select the "Search" tab
- Click on the record you wish to view
- ► Select the "Taxes" category (menu option on the right)

Tax Information

	Та	ax Levies	
	L	ast Year	This year
County	\$1	,715,911	1,674,700
Holmen School	\$3	3,865,126	3,397,580
Wisc. Tech College	\$	668,901	642,545
Town of Holland	\$	518,320	518,320
TofH Levy Adjustment	\$	0	<u>88,518</u>
Totals	\$6	6,768,258	6,321,733

2020 Mill rate (paid in 2021): 0.01387705 2021 Mill rate (paid in 2022): 0.012677825

What does your property tax payment support?



More Town Happenings...

Fire Department News from Chief Gilliam

I would like to thank the residents of the Town of Holland for the opportunity to expand our partnership between the Holmen Area Fire Department and the La Crosse Fire Department. I am humbled by the opportunity to serve as your Fire Chief, and I look forward to our continued consolidation efforts to provide stronger Fire, Emergency Medical, and Community Risk Reduction services to our neighboring communities.

Since being sworn in as Fire Chief in July, we have completed assessment of facilities, vehicles and staffing and have laid plans to strengthen emergency response strategy. We have set new goals and benchmarks for increased training and professional standards, and have worked with the Fire Board to reorganize the vehicle fleet to better meet the needs of the municipalities served by the HAFD. In September, we transitioned to a 24/7/365 staffing model that ensures we have Firefighter/EMTs on-duty around the clock.

We continue to build off of the Fire and EMS regional opportunities study release by the Wisconsin Policy Forum in December of 2020. <u>https://wispolicyforum.org/research/</u> <u>something-in-common-exploring-fire-and-ems-service-</u> <u>sharing-opportunities-in-the-la-crosse-county-region/</u> There is still much work to do, and we will continue to provide updates to the Fire Board and Town of Holland residents on a regular basis. If you have any questions or are looking for ways to support our efforts, please feel free to call the Fire Station or call me direct if I may personally be of service.

In closing, I offer a reminder that we are entering the cold weather season and every year we typically see an increase in fires due to unsafe heating and electrical accidents, as well as accidents and injuries related to cold and ice. Please check out our La Crosse Fire Department webpage and social media for frequent safety tips. We will be working to update and consolidate the Holmen Area Fire Department media pages as time allows in coming months. https://www.cityoflacrosse.org/your-government/

departments/fire-department

https://www.facebook.com/lacrosseFD

Stay safe.

Chief Gilliam



Winter Safety

Safe play areas: For safety's sake, do not allow children to build and/or play in the banks at road's edge! Our plow drivers have a lot to watch when plowing and may not see children hiding in the snow bank!



Keep in mind that it is unlawful for any person, firm, or other agency, to throw, plow or otherwise discharge snow and/or ice from private property onto any roadway. *State Statute* 346.94(5)

In other words: <u>Do not plow or blow snow across roads!</u>

Ped/Bike Safety

<u>Pedestrian and bike safety</u>: We have had multiple close calls with walkers/bikers along Town roads. Keep in mind that over 6,000 pedestrians were killed last year! Do not become a statistic. Here are some safety tips.



- 1. Be seen! Wear reflective clothing, especially at night.
- 2. Use a flash light.
- 3. Keep your earbud volume down.
- 4. Avoid distracted walking/biking—hands off the phone!

Important Information!

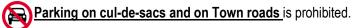
<u>Emergency notices</u>. It is an unfortunate phenomenon, but we seem to get 100year storms every year! While the Town cannot prevent these disasters, we will work hard to address them as quickly as possible. In cases of localized flooding or other weather events, residents can check the Town web site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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Winter Information

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

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

Permits Required

Pools. Any pool with a depth greater than 12 inches or more than 150 square feet (about a 14-foot round pool), requires a permit. Ordinance #5-2013 governs when a permit is needed and when a fence or other safety measures are required. The ordinance is not only for your safety but that of your neighbors and family members.

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







Dog license renewals are due January 1st.

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

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

Dog Licenses

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

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

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

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

Address: W7937 County Road MH Holmen, WI 54636

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

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

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

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

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

Dog License Questions? Call 608-526-3354



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

Leash Law

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

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

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

Quick Notes

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

Town Information

BOARD MEMBERS	Contact Us		
Chair Bob Stupi608-397-1191chair@townofhollandwi.govKathy Warzynski608-526-6474supervisor1@townofhollandwi.govJeff Herlitzke608-769-0578supervisor2@townofhollandwi.govBen Filter608-799-4289supervisor3@townofhollandwi.govSteven Mieden608-799-8146supervisor4@townofhollandwi.govClerk Marilyn Pedretti608-317-9698clerk@townofhollandwi.govTreasurer Marla Wagner608-526-3354treasurer@townofhollandwi.gov	Phone: 608-526-3354 Email: <u>clerk@townofhollandwi.gov</u> <u>treasurer@townofhollandwi.gov</u> Web page: <u>www.townofhollandwi.gov</u> CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS		
Building Inspector: Jim Webb 608-780-4672 Assessor: Associated Appraisal 920-749-1995	Mondays8 am to 1 pmWednesdays3 pm to 6 pmThursdays9 am to 1 pm		
MEETING INFORMATION Town Board meets at 6:30 pm the second Wednesday The ensuel meeting is at 6:20 pm Wednesday. April 20, 2022	Thursdays 8 am to 1 pm and other times as needed		
 The annual meeting is at 6:30 pm, Wednesday, April 20, 2022 Plan Commission meets at 6:30 pm the first Wednesday Stormwater Commission meets (as needed) 6:30 pm the first Wednesday Monthly meeting notices will be posted at the Town Hall, the Holmen Post Office and Holmen Library as well as the Town website: <u>www.townofhollandwi.gov</u> Special meeting notices will be posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at the three locations and the Town website as listed above. 	RENTAL INFORMATION All rentals of the hall, shelters, and ball diamonds are handled by the Town Clerk at 608-526-3354 The following rates are subject to change: Park Shelters (located by the Town Hall): #1 = \$80.00 (kitchen/open air seating) #2 = \$65.00 (electrical outlets/enclosed)		
MUNICIPAL SERVICESBrush chipping	Town Hall (W7937 County Road MH): Day rental = 8 am to 6 pm \$175 with \$50 deposit Evening rental = 8 am to 10 pm \$275 with \$50 deposit Reception rental = 8 am to midnight \$350 with \$75 deposit For pictures and further information, check out the Town website.		
Recycling/Refuse	2022 Election Schedule		
 The "Recycler" newsletter was sent separately. Please call the Town Hall if you have not received one by the end of December. You can also view the newsletter on the Town website. ► Carts may not be placed within the right-of-way (33 feet from the center line) other than from 5 pm the day before service to 5 pm the day of service ► Place carts <u>2 feet</u> from road edge and at least <u>3 feet away</u> from obstacles 	 2/15/22– Spring Primary (if needed) 4/5/22–Spring Election 8/9/22–Partisan Primary 11/8/22–General Election REGISTER TO VOTE: Option 1: www.myvote.wi.gov Register online up to 20 days before an election. Option 2: Register in the Clerk's office.		
 including but not limited to: other carts, recycling bins, mailboxes, power poles, etc. ▶ Remove the carts from the right-of-way by the end of the collection day. If a vehicle or plow hits a cart, the homeowner must pay to replace it!!! Call 608-783-6727 if your trash or recycling was missed! 	Option 2: Register at the polls. <u>Options 2 & 3:</u> You will need current proof of residency. See <u>www.myvote.wi.gov</u> for details.		