

# VILLAGE OF FONTANA-ON-GENEVA LAKE

Fall Issue 2010

## State Requires Rental Permits

Q. I want to rent my house out. What do I need to know?

A. The State of Wisconsin requires anyone renting their home out to tourists or transients - that is, to anyone whose permanent address is elsewhere, regardless of length of stay - to obtain the appropriate permits from the Department of Health Services. The Village of Fontana also requires proper licensing and approvals in order to rent your home. It is important to note that you cannot operate a rental until all items have been satisfied.

### Step 1

#### Ensure Proper Zoning

The Village of Fontana recognizes there are two categories of rentals; short term (less than 30 days) and long term (30 days or more). Currently, only the C-4 Resort Commercial and Abbey Springs Planned Development zoning districts allow for short-term rentals. If you are located outside those zoning districts then you may not rent your home short term.

Contact the Department of Building & Zoning to verify the zoning district of your property.

### Step 2

#### Complete the Annual Rental Occupancy Inspection

You must first schedule an inspection with the Department of Building and Zoning to ensure compliance with Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Codes. The inspection fee of \$100 must be paid before it can be scheduled and you must be present at this inspection.

If something is found to be noncompliant during the initial inspection, it must be corrected and a follow-up inspection must be scheduled to ensure compliance. The fee for all follow-up inspections is \$50 per inspection, and must be paid before it can be scheduled. The Rental Occupancy Inspection must be conducted once each year you are planning on renting your home.

### Step 3

#### Obtain State of Wisconsin Tourist Rooming House Permit

Once the Annual Rental Occupancy Inspection has been passed, you must apply for and obtain all necessary licenses and approvals from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services. You should contact the state well in advance of your intended time of rental to ensure you understand the requirements and timing of everything involved.

The Department of Health Services will also conduct a separate inspection to inspect such items as furnishings, equipment and utensils; generally, those items beyond the actual construction of the house or unit.

### Step 4

#### Obtain Village of Fontana Transient Room Tax Permit

Once you have the State permit, you must then complete an application for, and obtain, a Village of Fontana Transient Room Tax Permit for any short-term rentals (less than 30 days). This permit requires you to submit to the village a record of all rental income received and pay the required room tax. If you are planning on providing long term rentals for people whose primary address is elsewhere, you must provide your state approvals to the Village of Fontana; you are not required to obtain a Transient Room Tax Permit.

#### Additional Information

A two-hour town meeting and discussion with Wisconsin Department of Health Services representatives is being held at the Lake Geneva Public Library on Thursday, November 4, 2010, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm and is open to the public. For additional questions and concerns, contact the Department of Building and Zoning at (262) 275-9769.

## Inspection Scheduling

**NOTE:** When calling the Village of Fontana Department of Building and Zoning To schedule a cross connection inspection, please use the number (262) 275-9769. Please note that (262) 749-0004 has been disconnected.



Fontana Village Hall  
175 Valley View Drive  
PO Box 200  
Fontana, WI 53125  
(262) 275-6136 voice  
(262) 275-8088 fax

## Pottawatomie Drive Project Underway

**By Craig Workman**

Director of Public Works

Residents should be advised that Pottawatomie Drive will be under construction this fall from Shabbona Drive to Sauganash Drive. This stretch of Pottawatomie will be open to local traffic only.

In addition, construction traffic in Country Club Estates is expected to increase while the project is being completed. The project is expected to be finished in early June, 2011.

### Leaf Vacuum Service

The Department of Public Works crew will commence leaf vacuum services in late October and continue through the first snow accumulation of the season.

The entire Village will be covered on a weekly basis starting at the northern village limits, progressing through downtown and Country Club Estates, and finishing along South Lakeshore Drive at the eastern village limits. Due to the unpredictability in leaf volume, it is impossible to schedule a specific day each week for a particular street or subdivision.

Property owners must deposit leaves no farther than 8 feet from the street, but **not on the pavement**. Also, do not place any sticks or brush in with the leaves, and do not place leaves on top of rocks.

### Tips for Winter Season

As the leaves and temperatures continue to fall, there are a few suggestions to keep in mind prior to the onset of winter.

1. Make sure you have an operational snow shovel available at the lake house in case of a really big storm.

2. If you plan to leave your home, and not return until the lilies are up next spring, make sure you call the Village to schedule an appointment to have the water shut off. You could also plant some lilies as a reminder to make an appointment to have the water turned back on in the spring.

3. If you have any big landscaping rocks located closer than 5 feet from the road, you may want to relocate them prior to the snow plowing season as they may wind up closer to your house than you may like.

4. Make sure your automobile is ready for winter -- have the battery, tires, heater, wiper fluid, coolant, etc., all checked out before the first snow fall.

## The Cop Shop ...

Department Has Busy Year

**By Chief Steve Olson**



It has been a busy year for the Fontana Police Department with our officers handling 1,944 calls for service as of September 23, 2010.

A call for service is any incident, including but not limited to traffic violations, emergency calls, non-emergency calls, crime investigations and ordinance violations.

School is open which means our officers will be watching the school zone and school bus routes closer for unsafe driving. Please slow down and watch for children especially during the times they are going to and from school.

This year the police department has received at no cost \$12,600 in equipment/training through government and private programs. The department actively seeks outside funding sources such as grants and free training programs to keep our operating costs as low as possible.

We want to remind all of our drivers that recent changes in state law require drivers to have proof of insurance when they drive and that the wearing of seatbelts is mandatory for all occupants in a vehicle.

### Winter Parking Starts November 1

Winter parking rules go into effect from November 1st until April 1st. There is no parking on any village street or parking lot from 2:00 AM until 6:00 AM to allow the Public Works Department to plow the roads.

Our annual "Operation Feed the Need" food drive will be taking place again this holiday season. Watch for further announcements in November on our webpage and Facebook.

Do you know a college student from Fontana studying for a degree in Criminal Justice or Police Science? They may qualify for several scholarships we have information on. Please call our office for more information.

Be sure to look us up on the Police Department website at: [www.fontanawipolice.com](http://www.fontanawipolice.com).

The Police Department also has a page on Facebook that receives regular updates and announcements.

Other contact information for the Fontana Police Department is: Non-emergency Police Department office telephone number: (262) 275-2275; Non-emergency dispatch telephone number: (262) 275-2135; Emergency number: 911.

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## County Schedules Annual Clean Sweep Program October 8, 9

The Walworth County Public Works Department's annual Clean Sweep program for households, farms and businesses will be held Friday and Saturday, October 8 and 9, 2010.

The Business Clean Sweep event will be held Friday, October 8, 2010. The Household Hazardous Waste and Pharmaceutical Collection event will be held October 8 and 9, 2010.

Household hazardous waste is the unwanted or unusable portion of a household product that contains caustic, acidic, dangerous, flammable or poisonous materials.

These products can be identified by the warnings on their labels, which include "CAUSTIC," "ACID," "DANGER," "FLAMMABLE," "WARNING," "MERCURY" and "POISON."

The Clean Sweep program is targeting the collection of items that contain mercury. Mercury is found in fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries, thermostats, ballasts and thermometers. The 2010 program will accept all brands of wall-mounted mercury thermostats. The entire thermostat should be brought in since it will provide protection for the mercury bulb.

Clean Sweep program services are available free-of-charge to household residents.

The Collection Location will be at the Walworth County Public Works Department, W4097 County Highway NN, Elkhorn.

Before bringing a product to Clean Sweep, residents should make every effort to use it up, or give it to someone who will use it.

The waste products must be kept separate and in their original containers. Products should be packed carefully and not transported in the passenger compartment of a vehicle.

For more information, contact the Walworth County Public Works Department Solid Waste Division at (262) 741-3367, or via email at [jcline@co.walworth.wi.us](mailto:jcline@co.walworth.wi.us).

## Village Not Open on Saturdays Until December

The Village Hall will not be open for customer service on Saturdays until the tax collection season in December. Beginning Saturday, December 11, 2010 Village Hall will again be open from 8:00 am to Noon on Saturdays.

Village Hall is open Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

## Fontana Beach Receives Recognition

The Village of Fontana Municipal Beach was ranked in the top five best public beaches in Wisconsin in a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article published in July 2010.

The article, written by John DeBaun, states that the pleasant Fontana beach puts you in the heart of the Geneva Lake scene.

The other four beaches ranked in the top five are at Kohler-Andrae State Park, Point Beach State Forest, Whitefish Dunes State Park, and Simmons Island Beach, Kenosha.

## Village Allows Dog Walking on Beach

In an effort to help abate the pollution problem created by the large flocks of geese and seagulls that gather on the beach during the fall, the Village of Fontana encourages residents to walk their dogs on the municipal beach from October 15 through March 31.

The Village Board amended the Municipal Code several years ago to allow for people to walk dogs on the beach after the summer season has ended.

During the summer season, dogs are only allowed at the Duck Pond Recreation Area dog track area. Dogs owners are reminded that the Village Municipal Code requires owners to pick up their pet's waste.

### Shore Path Reminder

The Village Lakefront and Harbor Committee and Building and Zoning Department would like to remind lakefront property owners and homeowner associations that all materials for piers and moorings must be stored during the off-season in locations that do not block the public Geneva Lake shore path.

## Voters Deny CDA Lakefront Referendum

The 555 Village of Fontana voters who cast ballots in the September 14, 2010 Partisan Primary Election voted to deny the Village of Fontana Community Development Authority referendum seeking approval for a \$2.8 three-phase lakefront building project by a 135 to 369 margin.

There were 556 voters who turned out and were issued ballots for the election, but one of the voters did not cast their ballot.

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# VOF Calendar

The 2010 General Election will be held Tuesday, November 2, 2010.

- Oct. 4, 2010** - Village Board meets at 6:00 pm
- Oct. 6, 2010** - CDA Board meets at 6:00 pm
- Oct. 7, 14 & 21, 2010** - Read and Romp Program at Public Library at 10:30 am
- Oct. 7, 2010** - Finance Committee budget meeting at 6:00 pm
- Oct. 8 & 9, 2010** - Walworth County Clean Sweep Program
- Oct. 12, 2010** - Fontana-Walworth WPCC Board meets at 7:30 pm
- Oct. 13, 2010** - Plan Commission staff meeting at 1:00 pm
- Oct. 14, 2010** - Congressman Ryan Mobile Office at Village Hall from 9:00 to 10:00 am
- Oct. 14 & 28, 2010** - Fontana Municipal Court Dates at 5:00 pm
- Oct. 18, 2010** - Protection Committee meets at 5:45 pm
- Oct. 18, 2010** - Village Board & Finance Committee meets at 6:30 pm
- Oct. 20, 2010** - Library Board meets at 10:00 am
- Oct. 20, 2010** - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm
- Oct. 21, 2010** - Evening Book Club at Public Library at 5:30 pm
- Oct. 21, 2010** - Village Board & Finance Committee meets at 6:30 pm
- Oct. 21, 2010** - GLEA Board meets at 7:00 pm
- Oct. 25, 2010** - Plan Commission meets at 5:30 pm
- Oct. 27, 2010** - Lakefront and Harbor Committee meets at 4:30 pm
- Oct. 28, 2010** - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm
- Oct. 31, 2010** - Halloween Trick-or-Treat Hours from 3:00 to 7:00 pm
- Nov. 1, 2010** - Public Hearing on Comprehensive

- Plan Map Amendment at 6:00 pm
- Nov. 1, 2010** - Village Board meets at 6:15 pm
- Nov. 2, 2010** - General Election polls open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm
- Nov. 3, 2010** - CDA meets at 6:00 pm
- Nov. 9, 2010** - Fontana-Walworth WPCC Board meets at 7:30 pm
- Nov. 11 & 25, 2010** - Fontana Municipal Court Dates at 5:00 pm
- Nov. 15, 2010** - 2011 Budget Hearing at 6:00 pm
- Nov. 17, 2010** - Library Board meets at 10:00 am
- Nov. 17, 2010** - Plan Commission staff meeting at 1:00 pm
- Nov. 17, 2010** - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm
- Nov. 18, 2010** - GLEA Board meets at 7:00 pm
- Nov. 25 & 26, 2010** - Village Hall & Public Library Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 29, 2010** - Plan Commission meets at 5:30 pm
- Dec. 1, 2010** - CDA meets at 6:00 pm
- Dec. 6, 2010** - Village Board meets at 6:00 pm
- Dec. 9, 2010** - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm
- Dec. 11, 2010** - Village Hall Open for Saturday Morning Customer Service from 8:00 am to Noon
- Dec. 14, 2010** - Fontana-Walworth WPCC Board meets at 7:30 pm
- Dec. 15, 2010** - Library Board meets at 10:00 am
- Dec. 15, 2010** - Plan Commission staff meeting at 1:00 pm
- Dec. 15, 2010** - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm
- Dec. 16, 2010** - GLEA Board meets at 7:00 pm
- Dec. 18, 2010** - Village Hall Open for Saturday Morning Customer Service from 8:00 am to Noon
- Dec. 24 to 27, 2010** - Village Hall and Public Library Closed for Christmas Holiday
- Dec. 31, 2010** - Village Hall and Public Library Closed for New Year's Eve Holiday

[www.villageoffontana.com](http://www.villageoffontana.com)

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FONTANA  
WISCONSIN