

# Nepeuskun News

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**Town Website:** A website has been established for the Town. The address is [www.townofnepeuskun.org](http://www.townofnepeuskun.org). Currently the site has some town history information, town official contact information, and the current Town Zoning ordinance. More information will be added soon, including meeting agendas and minutes.

**Town-wide Curbside Garbage and Recyclables Pickup** -As of January 1, 2008, the approximately 60 households in our Town that had contracted privately for garbage pickup lost that service due to the contractor determining that it could not economically operate the route. There is no other private contractor that will pick up garbage in the Town. As a result, The Town Board is again considering Town-wide pickup as it did approximately 2 1/2 years ago. The Town has no legal duty to provide garbage pickup, but the Board does feel that a percentage of the households in the Town have a need for garbage pickup; therefore, we will again address this matter. The Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, to provide more information and take public comment on this matter. Here is some information:

-Neighboring Towns of Rushford and Utica have weekly pickup of garbage and either weekly or monthly pickup of recyclables at an annual household cost of \$120.00 - \$127.00 per year placed as a special assessment on the real estate tax bill.

-Neighboring Town of Ripon has residents drop off garbage and recyclables at the Town Hall on two days of the week. No assessment is placed on the real estate tax bill but the cost to the Town (placed in the Town budget) is approximately \$84.00 per household.

-Households in Rushford and Utica that use a dumpster for their garbage may be able to negotiate a reduced fee for their dumpster but must pay the regular assessment on their real estate tax bill.

-Garbage trucks will pickup on private roads in Rushford and Utica depending on acceptable road conditions and turn around areas.

-The Town would continue to receive it's State Recycling Grant in the amount of approximately \$900.00 annually and it would eliminate it's cost of providing drop-off recycling service of approximately \$270.00 per month if curbside pickup was used.

-The Town Board is considering the following "Pros" and "Cons":

"Pros"

1. Need for garbage pickup
2. "Neater and Cleaner" Town / Town Hall
3. Convenience

"Cons"

1. Heavy trucks on Town roads
2. Mandatory - it's on your tax bill
3. Recycling efforts may be less

-The Town has received the following prices for Town-wide curbside pickup:

- |                                    |                   |                            |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Veolia Environmental Services:  |                   |                            |
| Weekly pickup of garbage -         | \$111.72 per year | (Annual increases based on |
| Weekly pickup of recyclables-      | \$ 29.40 per year | CPI and subject to fuel    |
| Will provide 1 recycling container |                   | surcharge)                 |
| 2. Waste Management of WI:         |                   |                            |
| Weekly pickup of garbage -         | \$237.00 per year | (+3% annually in '09 and   |
| Weekly pickup of recyclables-      | \$ 33.00 per year | 2010 and subject to fuel   |
| Will provide 1 recycling container |                   | surcharge)                 |

-The Town Board desires to receive survey responses regarding Town-wide garbage and recyclables pickup. Enclosed with this newsletter is a post card that the Board encourages you to return. Please notice that you must sign and fill in your name and address on the survey postcard. If you lose the postcard, another can be requested from the Town Clerk and more will be available at the Public Hearing on March 13. Renters should not fill out the survey but be sure to get it to their landlord. Only property owners with a residence are receiving a survey postcard.

## Rush Lake Project

**Rush Lake Project** – At the Board of Directors meeting for Rush Lake Watershed Restoration, Inc. held on December 8, 2007 at the Nepeuskun Town Hall, the primary purpose of the meeting was to gather public input for a ban on boat motors and a hunting refuge on Rush Lake. The consensus was to leave things as they have been in the past with no restrictions on boat motors or the establishment of any type of refuge, but the Board will continue to study these matters in the long term. At the January 17, 2008 Board of Directors meeting at the Waukau Youth Center, all current officers were re-elected to one-year terms. Kendall Kamke, WDNR Fisheries Biologist, spoke regarding the stocking of fish in Rush Lake and stated that due to new regulations on transferring fish in State waters due to the new fish virus “VHS”, that the stocking of fish in Rush Lake cannot happen. A letter of resignation from Bernie Egan was presented to the Board. Bernie is retiring from the County Board and has been instrumental in the success of the Rush Lake Project. It was reported that the dredging project at the South Landing was due to start as soon as colder temperatures arrived. The Board also agreed that a post-drawdown vegetation survey was needed. The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting to be held on Thursday, April 17, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Waukau Youth Center. Some bylaw changes and a review of the Mission Statement and Action Plan will be the main agenda items. Please contact the Rush Lake Watershed Restoration, Inc. Directors from the Town of Nepeuskun for more information and upcoming meeting dates: Ken Merk, Rob Stone and Ron Bahn. For info on the Internet see: [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/rushlake/index.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/rushlake/index.htm)



## Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting for the Town of Nepeuskun will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, at the Town Hall, 1475 County Rd E, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The agenda will contain approval of minutes from the 2007 Annual Meeting, presentation and review of the 2007 Annual Report (Financial Statement) for the Town, and followed by any statutory or advisory matters as desired by the electors present. Please plan to attend!

## New Fire Station for Ripon Area Fire District

Construction is complete and the equipment will be moved from the old station to the new one by the end of March. It is located behind Baird GM on Aspen and Commercial Streets.

## Town Plan Commission Activities

A consultant will soon be hired to assist the Plan Commission in completing the Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan for the Town and also to develop an updated Municipal Code including Zoning and Land Division ordinances. Your attendance at the Plan Commission meetings, normally held the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month, would be appreciated.

## VOTE-VOTE-VOTE

**Spring Election 2008:** Tuesday, April 1st will give Town residents the opportunity to cast their votes for the following offices: State Supreme Court Justice, Court of Appeals Judge - District 2, County Board Supervisor, and School Board Members for Berlin, Ripon and Omro School Districts. Polling at the Town Hall will run from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

## Dates To Remember

**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING TOWN-WIDE GARBAGE AND RECYCLABLES PICKUP** – Thursday, March 13, 2008 at the Town Hall, 1475 County Road E, at 7:00 p.m.

**SPRING ELECTION:** Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at the Town Hall. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** Tuesday, April 8, 2008, 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall

**RUSH LAKE PROJECT MEETING**—Thursday, April 17, 2008, 7:00 p.m., at the Waukau Youth Center

**RECYCLING**—3rd Saturday Every Month at the Town Hall 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS**—3rd Monday every month, at the Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

**REGULAR MONTHLY PLAN COMMISSION MEETINGS**—Usually every 1st Monday of the month, at the Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.