

VNA Good Neighbor Digest



01-29-2024

Vilas Neighborhood News

Everyone seems to have been busy clearing snow! There are no changes or updates reported this week. Entries below are still relevant.

[Tag Evers blog \(edited\)](#)

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/blog/> for complete text.

No changes or updates reported yet this week. Entries below are still relevant.



Passenger Rail Meetings for Madison Station Location

The City of Madison Transportation Division, along with Wisconsin

Department of Transportation, Amtrak, and consultants, will discuss the eight potential passenger rail station sites located along three general corridors—downtown, near the coming Madison Public Market and by the former Oscar Mayer plant. There will also be a brief question and answer panel, paired with public input survey, and an open house after the presentation. Please consider joining us for one of two upcoming public meetings:

In-Person Public Meeting

- Tuesday, January 30, 2024
- 5:00 - 7:00 pm
- Madison Municipal Building - Room 215
- 215 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Madison, WI 53703

Virtual Public Meeting

- Tuesday, February 6, 2024
- 6:00 - 7:30 pm.
- Registration is required.
- Zoom – [Register here](#)



City News

For further details check:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/>

No changes or updates reported this week. Entries below are still relevant.

Crews to Clear Storm Inlets During Thaws

The City of Madison Engineering Division will continue removing snow from storm inlets while temperatures fluctuate. Crews will continue to clear inlets as warmer temperatures arrive.

Clearing inlets is important to prevent potential flooding. The City of Madison has 27,793 inlets in the City's stormwater sewer

system. Each inlet moves water to area waterways, if the inlets are blocked with snow and ice, water can begin to pool in streets and begin ponding or create minor flooding.

The Engineering Division crews will prioritize inlets that are at lower points with an enclosed depression. Crews will also respond to calls where water is ponding.

* * *

Spring Primary Media Kit Is Now Available

As the February 20 Spring Primary approaches, the Madison City Clerk's Office is releasing a [media kit](#) to provide accurate and timely information to the media and the public.

The media kit includes essential details about the election, statistical information, and key dates.

Only three portions of Madison will have a Spring Primary: County Supervisor District 13, County Supervisor District 36, and the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District.

The goal of the City Clerk's Office is that each eligible voter will be able to cast a ballot and have that ballot counted.

* * *

Follow Posted Parking Restrictions to Help Snowstorm Cleanup

Continuing throughout winter, the Streets Division will be using the posted daytime parking restrictions to prevent streets from narrowing due to the accumulating snow.



From the MPD

No changes or updates reported this week. Entries below are still relevant.



In case you missed it and For Reference

From the 1/17 VNA Council meeting

Our Neighborhood officer Jeff Hayes addressed concerns about neighborhood incidents:

There is no issue that does not deserve attention (eg. hit and run - yes definitely report it), it helps to track trends and work on prevention. Report as follows:

1) Dane county dispatch 911 for emergency, non-emergency line 608.255.2345. The same group of people answer both numbers, and triage priorities. If you're not sure, call non-emergency and they can help determine if dispatch is needed.

2) Self-report online via city of Madison website : <https://www.cityofmadison.com/police/selfreport/selfreport.cfm> : These will be read and assigned if an officer needs to be involved.

3) Email Officer Hayes: jhayes@cityofmadison.com always an option (however, don't use for emergencies).

Use of home video footage.

These can be subpoenaed if it is critical, but otherwise police do not have access to the footage unless the homeowner offers it. It is helpful for them to know where cameras are in the neighborhood.

In the event of a disaster - one of the first things employed is canvassing neighborhood cameras. If this is required, and you are comfortable, a known network of cameras can help speed up an investigation.

Monroe St. Library

Storytime for kids ages 5 and under is back Tuesday mornings at 10:30. Sibs and daycare groups are welcome to join Jennifer for stories, songs, and play.

Check out our two mini displays. In the front of the library are books that are first of a series. In the back near the 649s (parenting) are children's books about death and grieving. We'll be creating a series of displays of children's books on tough topics for parents, care-givers, teachers, etc. Let us know if you'd like us to cover a particular topic.

Here's a list of winter activities to enjoy from home. Keep this link handy for snow days.

<https://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/winter-break>

Each drop-in workshop runs from 10 a.m. - noon.

February 3 and 17

March 2 and 16

April 6 and 20

May 4

Jill Maidenberg

Assistant Librarian

Madison Public Library Monroe Street

VNA Book Club

Our next book is *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese.

We will be discussing it on **February 22nd at 7pm** in person.

Please note the new time of 7:00. We'll choose the next book at that meeting.

Please let me know if you would like to volunteer your home for our meeting place.

Sarah Bahauddin

2024 VNA meeting schedule

These are mostly on the fourth Wednesday at 6:30, with a few changes noted below. We'll use Zoom through April and consider in-person meetings over the summer and for the annual meeting in November. A few noteworthy items:

- The March and April meetings are combined to April 10 to avoid Spring Break. Usually a slow period anyway.

- The May to October meetings are all on the fourth Weds. and are scheduled in Zoom as "recurring" (one invite below for all). Any in-person locations TBD.

- The November and December meetings are the THIRD Wednesdays, 11/20 & 12/18 to avoid holidays.

Thanks to all of you for your contributions to our neighborhood.

Doug Carson (president)

* * *

We would still like to receive updated information for VNA emails. Please provide: Street address, Names, Emails, One phone # (not required, just helpful) to Mary Clare Murphy, (608) 235-4281 maryclarem@charter.net or Rachel Bennet (treasurer) (214) 538-0400 cashdollarb@gmail.com.

City of Madison



Get Involved After the Plow Comes Through

Residents can help out during snow storms by shoveling or snow blowing snow from the inlets in their neighborhoods.

The Streets Division is planning on plowing residential areas some time Tuesday afternoon, so residents should sign up for [Snow Plowing Updates](#) to learn the exact time to avoid clearing inlets a second time after plows work through the area.

Residents can report issues to us at 608-266 4430, engineer@cityofmadison.com or via the City's [Report-A-Problem](#) web app.

Be kind to the snow plow drivers,

The Streets Division asks all residents who park on the street, please follow posted restrictions to help plow drivers as they push the snow back, so roads remain passable for all traffic throughout the rest of winter.

When snow piles up, cars park further and further out from the curb into the travel lane. This means streets become impassable for emergency service vehicles (fire trucks and ambulances) essential services (recycling and trash collection trucks), and normal passenger vehicles. The only way for the streets to be widened so they can be safe for travel are for people to follow the posted parking signs so plowbacks can be performed.

Additional Snowstorm Information

More details about the ongoing response from the Streets Division regarding the repeated winter storms of late, subscribe to receive [Snow Plow Updates](#).

More information about all City of Madison winter services can be found at www.cityofmadison.com/Winter.

More information about all other Streets Division services can be found at www.cityofmadison.com/Streets.

* * *

- [Mayor, Common Council, Madison Police Department Joint Statement on Recent Acts of Vandalism](#): We believe that all residents and visitors of our community should have the right to feel safe on our streets, at their businesses, and in their homes. I urge everyone to help us with that by reporting potential crimes of hate or bias to MPD immediately.
- [Large Items Free with Work Orders for Resource Recovery Charge Ratepayers](#) : Starting December 27,

2023 and continuing through all of 2024, Madison residents who pay the Resource Recovery Special Charge will not be charged for items that require a fee when they make their required large item work orders.

* * *

Winter advisory from Wisconsin Salt Wise

How to stay safe while using less or no salt to slow the harmful salt pollution of our lakes - <https://www.wisaltwise.com/documents/PDFs/Handouts/homeowners.pdf>



Winter Updates: What happens when the City of Madison [declares a snow emergency](#)? **Don't let the snow lead to a ticket or a tow!** Sign up to get notified via [Text Messaging](#).

* * * *

Alternate Side Parking Rules *Español*

Don't let the snow lead to a ticket or a tow. Here are few things you need to know to avoid a ticket or a tow:

- Alternate Side Parking is in effect city-wide with the exception of the [Snow Emergency Zone](#) (unless there is a [Declared Snow Emergency](#)).
- Alternate Side Parking is in effect from November 15 - March 15, seven days a week, regardless of weather conditions.
- Park on the **EVEN** house numbered side of the street on even numbered days from **1:00 am – 7:00 am**.
- Park on the **ODD** house numbered side of the street on odd numbered days from **1:00 am – 7:00 am**.

Fines

- Violations of the Alternate Side Parking rules are subject to a **fine of \$20** when a Snow Emergency **has not** been declared.
- Violations of the Alternate Side Parking rules are subject to a **fine of \$60** when a Snow Emergency **has been** declared.

Get Reminders

Sign up for [Daily Alternate Side Parking Reminders](#) via text messaging!

You will receive a text message every day at 5:00 pm telling you which side of the street to park on. Announcements & News Releases

* * *

Boards, Commissions, and Committee Meetings

All meetings and their details can be found [here](#).

Streets Division Updates

- **Drop-off Site Hours:** Drop-off sites are on winter hours. Check the hours before loading your car. Drop-off site information is available at www.cityofmadison.com/DropOffSites.
- **Winter Information:** Is available at www.cityofmadison.com/Winter



Trash and Recycling

www.cityofmadison.com/DropOffSites

Trash & recycling calendar for 2023 is available at www.cityofmadison.com/CollectionSchedule.

- **Large Item Pickup:** Large item collection rules changed a few years ago and now you need a work order to get on the crew's pickup schedule. Learn more about the process at www.cityofmadison.com/LargeItem
- **Recycle Right:** Be sure you're putting the right things in your recycling cart. Get the rules at www.cityofmadison.com/recycling.



Electronics Recycling Now Free

The Streets Division no longer charges recycling fees for televisions, computers, laptops, and monitors. Click [here](#) for more information.



Recorded city meetings you have missed can be watched on the on [City Channel](#). If you have questions and/or concerns about the budget, please email Tag Evers at district13@cityofmadison.com

It's hard to be a Human Being

Norman Lear