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**City of Whitewater
Municipal Building
at 312 W. Whitewater St.
Hours are Monday
through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

NEW HOURS AT THE LIBRARY IN 2011

Due to budget cuts, the library will be open fewer hours on Saturday beginning in January 2011.

The library hours will be

Monday-Thursday
9:00 am – 8:30 pm;
Friday 9:00 am – 5:30 pm;
Saturday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm;
Sunday Closed.

**Visit the Irvin L. Young
Memorial Library**
431 W. Center St.
Whitewater, WI 53190
Phone: 262-473-0530
Web: www.whitewater.lib.wi.us

Freeze Fest 2011 Scheduled For February 19th

Is 2011 the year for you to take The Plunge? Or are you too chicken?



On Saturday, February 19th, the City of Whitewater, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, the Special Olympics, and the Downtown Whitewater Inc will

host Freeze Fest in Downtown Whitewater.

Whitewater residents, students and visitors will be shaking off cabin fever as they plunge into the icy waters to raise money for Special Olympics.

The festivities start early with a pancake breakfast at 6:30AM at the Downtown Armory. After breakfast, be sure to venture to the Cravath Lakefront Building for the live animals family entertainment show at 11am with David Stokes. Courageous polar bear plungers will start the first icy dive at noon, while Big Brick Park



will be open so you can enjoy an afternoon of ice skating. Be sure to visit the Cravath Lakefront warming tent where cooking enthusiasts battle in the chili cook-off or the Irvin L. Young Memorial Library for a Snow Dogs Presentation. For further information or to register for events, please visit the city website at www.ci.whitewater.wi.us

Automatic Meter Reading (AMR)

The City of Whitewater has contracted with Badger Meter (supplier) and SL Serco (installer) to convert the Utility's water meters to a radio transmitted Automatic Meter Reading System (AMR).

What is AMR? AMR is a water metering system that transmits via radio waves the meter reading directly to the billing office, allows for more efficient management of the water system, and provides better customer service. AMR will also allow the Utility to progress to a monthly utility billing later in

2011.

AMR schedule: The AMR project is expected to start in January and be completed in May. Starting in January, SL Serco will mail a letter to you and to request that you make an appointment to enter your property to complete the work on the water meter. Access to your property is essential and required by the Public Service Commission.

Any costs to you? There is no cost to the property owner or customer for the AMR work unless the plumbing for your water meter is in bad repair or the valves

do not work. The plumbing for the water meter is the property owner's responsibility. The plumbing requires operable shutoff valves on both sides of the meter. If your plumbing is deemed to be non-serviceable for the meter work, you will be notified to repair the plumbing before the meter work can be completed.

More information: If you want more information about AMR, please go to the City's website www.ci.whitewater.wi.us or call the Water Utility at 473-0543.

Refuse/Recycling Change in 2011

There is only one change to the collection of garbage, recycling, and bulky items in 2011 that we are accustomed to here in our city. That change is the collection day of bulky items, whether the items are refuse or recycling. Starting January 1, 2011, John's Disposal will only collect bulky items on the 2nd (second) Thursday of the month.

In 2010 and years prior, bulky collection was every other week the same as recycling. Now bulky collection

will only happen once a month on the 2nd Thursday of the month for the entire city.

Why the change? The City requested proposals for the refuse collection for the next 3 to 5 years with several options to reduce costs. One option was to have bulky collection once a month. City Staff recommended to the City Council, and they agreed, that the City's selected contractor, John's Disposal, would only provide bulky collection once a month.

If you want or need



additional collection of bulky items, you can call John's Disposal at 473-4700 to schedule the collection. John's would then bill you for that collection.

City Council and City Staff are sure the citizens of Whitewater are pleased to have John's Disposal continue to provide their great service for the next five years.

Seniors in the Park **RECYCLING ELECTRONICS**

It is now illegal to dispose of some electronics in the trash, and they must be recycled.

Seniors in the Park recycles cell phones, digital cameras, lap tops, game systems, ipods, cordless phones and accessories as a fundraiser. Any of the above items can be brought to the Starin Park Community Building Monday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm and the Irvin L Young Library.

For more information on the new recycling law go to <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/ecycle/index.htm>



Big Brick Ice Rink on Center Street is Open

Come skate on the site of the old high school that burned down in 1928.

Hours are maintained for both hockey and open skating throughout the winter months.

Open Skating: Monday-Friday

3:30-5:30 pm
Saturday 10:00-2:00 pm
Sunday 12:00-3:00 pm

Open Hockey (all ages): Monday & Wednesday

7:00-9:00 pm
Tuesday, Thursday, &
Friday 5:30-9:00 pm
Saturday 2:00-8:00 pm
Sunday 3:00-8:00 pm

Visit the City's Website for
Holiday Hours.

Property Assessments: Full Value Maintenance

Accurate Appraisal LLC, who has been retained by the City of Whitewater for the purpose of revaluing taxable property within the City for the 2011 assessment year, began fieldwork the week of November 29th.

Its purpose is to maintain "full value" assessments and to make sure that all properties are valued on a fair and equitable basis so each property owner pays only his/her fair share of the property taxes. This means that ALL properties will be revalued on a yearly basis to maintain 100% market value assessments. These assessments are as of January 1st of each year and are based on the market of the preceding year.

The inspection cycle is that 100% of all non-

manufacturing parcels will be inspected in a six-year cycle (1/6 of properties per year). To achieve this objective, the City has instituted the following annual inspection cycle to be completed by Accurate Appraisal LLC: (a) new construction, exempt status changes, and zoning changes shall be inspected; (b) properties affected by legal description changes, building removal, fire, significant remodeling, or other major condition changes shall be inspected; (c) all sale properties shall be physically inspected; (d) requests for review by property owners of the City's Board of Review shall be completed during the current assessment cycle; (e) inclusive of the properties listed above, Accurate Ap-

praisal LLC shall physically inspect approximately 1/6 of the non-manufacturing parcel count as shown on the prior year's final City Clerk's Statement of Assessment.

Regardless if your property is within the 1/6 inspection cycle, ALL properties will be revalued on a yearly basis to ensure equitability & fairness.



If you have any questions please feel free to contact the City of Whitewater at 262-473-0500 or Accurate Appraisal, LLC at 1-800-770-3927.