

FOCUS ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE DESK OF WAUKESHA COUNTY EXECUTIVE
DANIEL P. VRAKAS



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Dear Friends,

One month ago this week, an F-2 tornado touched down in Eagle causing damage to over 100 homes and businesses in the area. Despite the tragedy of the event, I was able to witness the incredible strength and support in the Eagle community, Waukesha County and our surrounding area.

Eagle is a resilient community. While visiting the area in the aftermath of the storm the spirit of the community, neighbors helping neighbors, doing what they could to assist one another was truly remarkable. Despite the stressful times, never once did I hear an unkind word or witness a selfish action from Eagle residents.

When the tornado touchdown was confirmed, a call went out to surrounding communities and surrounding counties for police and fire assistance. Immediately, over 35 agencies responded. Driving around the area in the aftermath of the storm there were vehicles from many different communities and counties acting as one cohesive team to respond to the event.

Local business also stepped up to the plate to contribute what they could to disaster recovery. Over 40 businesses and non-profit agencies provided services, food or equipment in-kind to support residents in need.

I would like to thank all of the individuals, responding law enforcement agencies and businesses that provided support during this event. I am confident that when faced with an emergency Waukesha County is ready to handle any situation.

Sincerely,

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The County Executive discusses Capital Plans with County Board Chairman, Jim Dwyer, Finance Chair Pat Haukohl and Chief-of-Staff Ellen Nowak.

BUDGET UPDATE

Throughout the month of July, County Executive Dan Vrakas continues to meet with County Board Supervisors, department heads, personnel and budget staff daily in an effort to create his Executive Budget that will be proposed to the County Board in September. The first phase of the budget development is the Capital Plans phase. The County's Annual Budget includes a 5-year Capital Plans portion that outlines major capital projects occurring in Waukesha County including the construction and repair of buildings and roads.

This year's plan includes some very important projects including:

- A new Health and Human Services Building
- Widening of Janesville Road in Muskego
- Paving Lake Country Trail
- Construction of a fully sustainable Retzer Nature Center Building
- Many sustainability upgrades including the installation of solar panels at the jail and Law Enforcement Center

WAUKESHA WEST BYPASS UPDATE

The Waukesha West Bypass team held a public information meeting last week to evaluate the preliminary route alternatives in terms of how they will address project purpose and need, environmental impacts, engineering factors, and public input. The study team will also meet with state and federal review agencies to receive their input on the preliminary alternatives.

Another public information meeting will be held in fall 2010 to present the alternatives that will be carried forward for detailed study in the environmental document. More detailed information on these alternatives and their impacts will also be provided at that time.

Based on input from the May 18 public information meeting and the June 22 Community Sensitive Solutions Advisory Group meeting, a range of initial alternatives were developed and presented at the July 14 public information meeting. The initial range of alternatives can be grouped into three general corridors:

- County TT corridor
- New corridor extending south from the I-94/County SS interchange
- County T/Grandview Boulevard corridor

At the south end of the study area the alternatives include using Sunset Drive and County X to reach the WIS 59/County X intersection, going through the Pebble Creek corridor, and using Merrill Hills Road and WIS 59 to reach the WIS 59/County X intersection.

The next Bypass meeting will be August 4th from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Waukesha West High School. For more information about the West Waukesha Bypass Study please visit www.waukeshabypass.org.

**JULY REMINDERS:
BUDGET TOWN HALL
& COUNTY EXEC
AWARDS**

Town Hall Budget Presentations

There are two Waukesha County Budget Town Hall meetings left! These meetings are essential in the budget process as they provide an opportunity for stakeholders – the public – to provide input and feedback on how the county is doing. The remaining presentations are:

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Town Bank, 850 W. North Shore Drive, Hartland, 9:00 a.m.

Monday, July 26, 2010

Waukesha County Courthouse, 515 W. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, 6:00 p.m.

County Executive Awards

Nominations are being sought for the Waukesha County Executive Awards to recognize the Business, Government Agency, Small and Large Non-Profit of the Year. Award criteria, nomination forms and more information are available at www.waukeshacounty.gov or by calling the County Executive’s office at (262) 548-7902. Please submit an awards application by Friday, July 23 at 4:30 p.m.

WAUKESHA COUNTY PARKS UPDATE

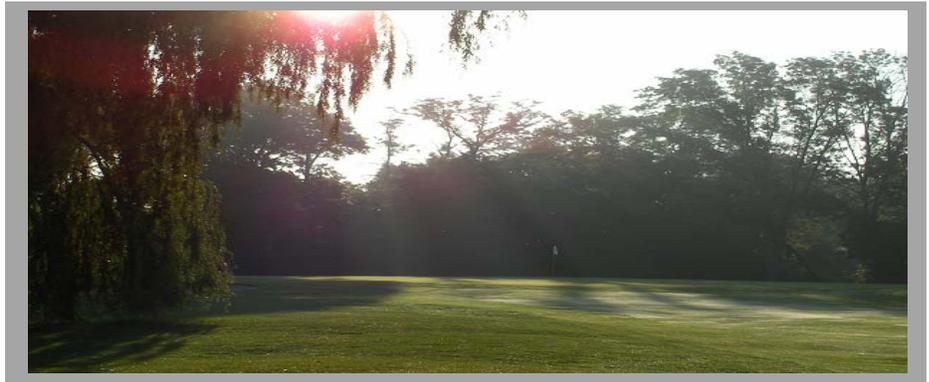
Camping

Waukesha County Parks’ camp sites are available in Menomonee Park, Mukwonago Park, Muskego Park, and Naga-Waukee Park. There are group campsites that patrons can reserve, as well as family sites that are on a first-come first- served basis. Family camping fees are \$14.50 per unit, per night, without an annual Park Sticker and \$11.25 per unit, per night, for those with an annual Park Sticker. The Waukesha County Park System does not have hook-ups and the maximum trailer allowed is 20 feet. Firewood is available at all locations for \$5.50 a bundle.

Family Days at Waukesha County Golf Courses

All season long, any youth (age 17 and under) can golf FREE with a paying adult (limit one child per adult). This is available at Moor Downs Golf Course located at 438 Prospect Avenue in Waukesha on Sundays after 12 p.m., and at Wanaki Golf Course located at N50 W20830 Lisbon Road in Menomonee Falls on Saturdays after 3 p.m.

The Waukesha County Park System is a natural resource based park system that demonstrates stewardship while providing recreational and educational opportunities. For more information, visit the County Parks website at www.waukesha-countyparks.com.



Family Days are available at Wanaki Golf Course, pictured above.

“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”

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4-H COUNTY FAIR

The Waukesha County Fair opened today and will run through Sunday, July 25th. The Waukesha County 4-H, a division of Waukesha County UW-Extension, is participating in the fair in many different ways.

As the demographics of the County's residents changed from primarily rural to primarily urban and suburban, so have the projects that 4-H youth exhibit at the fair changed. Only about 33% of the Waukesha County 4-H youth show livestock at the fair. The fair serves to showcase the 4-H's robotics program and the Latino 4-H club members who perform traditional Mexican dances at the fair. The Iron Beaver model railroad is put up each year by award winning 4-H modelers who compete nationally and internationally.

Be sure to stop by and visit the 4-H projects and programs at the Waukesha County Fair this weekend at the Waukesha County Expo Center located at 1000 Northview Road in Waukesha. For more information visit the Waukesha County Fair website: www.waukeshacountyfair.com.



Follow County Executive Dan Vrakas on Twitter!

**Username:
CoExecDanVrakas**

EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

Creating a disaster supply kit is the simplest way to ensure that you and your family have access to the basic necessities of life during and after a disaster. Depending on the type of disaster, emergency response personnel may not be able to reach you for three or more days. Prepare to survive on your own by assembling a kit that contains the following:

Water
Battery Powered Radio/NOAA Weather Radio
Utility Tool
Dust Mask
Plastic Garbage Bags
Flashlight
Moist Towelettes

Non-Perishable Food
First Aid Kit
Emergency Whistle
Matches/Lighter
Duct Tape
Emergency Blanket/Sleeping Bag
Extra Batteries

Also remember to include other special items such as pet food, medications, change of clothes, copies of vital documents, infant formula/diapers, cash, spare keys, can opener or activities for children.

“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”