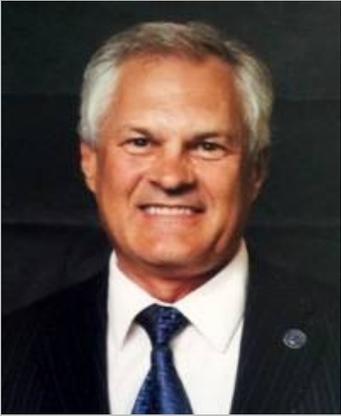


FOCUS ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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



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Dear Friends,

In the next few weeks, Waukesha County will officially kick-off our 2014 Budget planning and creation process. Over the next several months, my budget team and I will meet with department heads and County personnel to create the Executive Budget. Also participating in these meetings are County Board Chairman Paul Decker, Finance Committee Chair Pat Haukohl and other Committee Chairs – Supervisors Yerke, Swan, Heinrich, Falstad and Paulson. This unique partnership maintains open and clear communication between the executive and legislative branches at the County as well as strengthens this relationship during the budget process.

As part of the budget creation process, Waukesha County holds a series of Budget Town Hall meetings to communicate with residents on our budget activities. These meetings are essential in the budget process as they provide an opportunity for our stakeholders – the public – to provide input and feedback on how the county is doing.

The budget hearings are among many opportunities for the public to provide feedback and insight to Waukesha County. The Department of Public Works and the Department of Parks and Land Use also seek public input by holding public information meetings for most capital projects. The Department of Health and Human Services holds an annual listening session, and at the beginning of every County Board meeting there is an opportunity for public comment. These are just some of the opportunities for public feedback.

I invite and encourage you to provide me, and my office, with your feedback so that we continue to serve Waukesha County in the best and most efficient way possible.

Sincerely,



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PRESCRIPTION DRUG COLLECTION RESULTS

Nearly 2,600 vehicles dropped off 6,115 pounds of medication, collectively, at the 7 location sites in 4 hours during the Waukesha County Drug Free Communities Coalition's Prescription Drug Collection held on Saturday, April 27th. Collection drop-off sites included Brookfield, Menomonee Falls, Mukwonago, Muskego, Oconomowoc, Pewaukee and Waukesha.

The goal of the program is to dispose of unused medications in an effort to reduce prescription drug abuse and accidental poisonings in Waukesha County, help protect local waterways and create awareness of the dangers of prescription drug abuse. Since the program began in 2009, as a result of 5 collections, nearly 12 tons of medication has been collected and properly disposed.

The program is partially funded due to a partnership with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), ProHealth Care and donations from community organizations, businesses and individuals. If you would like to join us in this effort and make a donation to the program, please contact Drug Free Communities.

The drugs were collected under the supervision of local police and the Waukesha County Metro Drug Enforcement Unit. The drugs will be escorted by law enforcement to an incinerator where they will be properly destroyed.

DRUG FREE COMMUNITIES PREVENTION WEEK ACTIVITIES

County Executive Dan Vrakas proclaimed the week of May 12-17 Prevention Week in Waukesha County. In recognition of this week, Waukesha County Drug Free Communities Coalition (DFC) is hosting and/or launching an event or program each day of the week.

Monday, May 13 – Student Generated PSA Launch

Waukesha County DFC is collaborating with Arrowhead High School and Waukesha West High School to create Public Service Announcements (PSAs) focused on positive messaging and dispelling myths on youth substance use. The PSAs generated by Waukesha West High School Students will be featured at the school on Monday.

Tuesday, May 14 – C.A.R.E.S. Program Expansion

On Tuesday, DFC will release an exciting announcement on the expansion of the Coalition's C.A.R.E.S. (Community Alcohol Resources for Establishments and Servers) program.

Wednesday, May 15 – New Drug Trends Education Forum

On Wednesday morning, from 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the Waukesha County Courthouse, Captain Frank McElderry will present an education forum titled "New Drug Trends in Waukesha County."

Thursday, May 16 –Life of an Athlete Program Enhancement

New tools to enhance the Life of an Athlete program, which DFC has been involved with since 2010, will be announced and released on Thursday. The Life of an Athlete program provides information to students regarding the effects alcohol and drugs can have on their athletic performance and their life.

Friday, May 17 – Project Sticker Shock

DFC is teaming up with local Police Departments and School Districts to roll out the Wisconsin Department of Transportation sponsored, "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most" campaign in Waukesha County. Through a unique and innovative marketing method, a number of Waukesha County restaurants and retailers will help spread the message of this important campaign.

"Waukesha County: Leading the Way ..."

WAUKESHA COUNTY RECEIVES Aaa/AAA BOND RATINGS

Both Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings awarded Waukesha County triple A bond ratings, the highest ratings possible. Maintaining a triple A bond rating helps lower borrowing costs and taxes in Waukesha County.

In their bond rating report, Fitch Ratings highlighted Waukesha County's strong fiscal management and diverse tax base.

"Prudent fiscal policies and budgetary conservatism have resulted in positive financial results," Fitch Ratings highlighted in their report.

Moody's Investors Service said in their report that Waukesha County is in a strong financial position due to conservative budgeting practices. The report said, "we expect the County's financial position to remain strong due to a history of conservative budgeting."

This year marks the 25th consecutive year that Moody's has awarded, and the 16th consecutive year that Fitch has awarded, Waukesha County this rating. Waukesha County is in the top 4% of counties nationwide to achieve the coveted triple A status.

WAUKESHA COUNTY BEACHES

Waukesha County Park System's six beaches will open on Saturday, June 1 for the summer.

Enjoy the beach at Fox Brook Park in Brookfield, along the 25-acre lake. It offers a diving dock, beach house, pedal boat rentals and concession stand. Menomonee Park has a 16-acre lake with a diving dock, beach house and concession stand. Minooka Park, in Waukesha, offers a four-acre pond with a beach house.

Enjoy the view of the 16-acre spring fed pond at Mukwonago Park from the beach and beach house. Muskego Park offers a two-acre swimming pond, beach house and concession stand. Naga-Waukee Park offers many possibilities for summer fun with its boat launch, picnic areas, concession stand and beach along Nagawicka Lake.

NEW beach hours are from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. everyday, with lifeguards on duty daily. County Park entrance fees are \$4.00 daily. Beach use is included in the park entrance fee.

The following are the Waukesha County beach locations:

- Fox Brook Park, 2925 North Barker Road, Brookfield
- Menomonee Park, W220 N7884 Townline Road, Menomonee Falls
- Minooka Park, 1927 E. Sunset Drive, Waukesha
- Muskego Park, S83W20370 Janesville Road, Muskego
- Mukwonago Park, C.T.H. LO, Mukwonago
- Naga-Waukee Park, 651 S.T.H 83, Hartland

For more information, visit our website at www.waukeshacountyparks.com.



There are many beach activities at Fox Brook Park during the summer.

"Waukesha County: Leading the Way ..."

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MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL

Waukesha County has partnered with the Waukesha Bicycle Alliance (WBA) in the design, construction and maintenance of mountain bike trails at Minooka Park that will open this summer. This will be the first trail designated for off-road bicycle only use in the parks system.

The trails will meet a community and regional need, and promote bicycling and outdoor activities in the park. Currently, Waukesha County has only 4 miles of off-road trails designated for bicycles. The basic elements of the Minooka Park Mountain Bike Trails will include single-track trails as well as a multi-use trailhead. There will be trails for a variety of different skill levels, from beginner to advanced covering a variety of terrain. The single-track aspect of the trails encourages safe riding speeds.

For questions or comments, please contact Ginny Bocek at (262) 548-7803 or gbocek@waukeshacounty.gov. Project updates will be posted on the Waukesha County Parks and Land Use website at www.waukeshacountyparks.com.



**Follow County
Executive Dan
Vrakas on Twitter!**

**Username:
CoExecDanVrakas**

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE SPECIAL COLLECTION

The Village of Mukwonago will be holding a special one-day collection of household hazardous waste open to any Waukesha County resident on Saturday, May 18th from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The collection will take place at the Village Public Works Garage at 630 Hwy NN.

Old, unusable chemicals, pesticides, wood preservatives, solvents, oil-based paints, and mercury-containing products will be accepted. Latex paint and non-hazardous cleaning materials will not be accepted.

Waukesha County's four year-round collection sites located in Muskego, Waukesha, Menomonee Falls, and Franklin will observe the Memorial Day holiday weekend with closings. Only the Waukesha site, located at 900 Sentry Dr., will be open on May 25 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

For more information, including a detailed list of acceptable household hazardous waste materials, visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/hazardouswaste or call 262-896-8300.

“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”