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*Town of Rib Mountain – Where Nature, Family & Sport Come Together*

# THE TOWN BEAT



FALL 2019 • NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE RIB MOUNTAIN MUNICIPAL CENTER

## GENERAL TOWN INFORMATION

### Regular Meetings (Open to the Public)

#### Town Board

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday  
6:00PM

#### Planning Commission

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday  
6:00PM

#### Park Commission

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
5:00PM

Meeting times are subject to change. Check for changes at the Municipal Center & website.

## HOURS OF OPERATION

Municipal Center  
(Weekdays)  
8:00AM – 4:30PM

## RIB MOUNTAIN TOWN BOARD

Chairman,  
Al Opall

Supervisor,  
Gerry Klein

Supervisor,  
Fred Schaefer

Supervisor,  
Jim Legner

Supervisor,  
Brad Conklin

The "Town Beat" is published by the Town of Rib Mountain for its residents.

Ph: 715-842-0983

Fax 715-848-0186

[www.townofribmountain.org](http://www.townofribmountain.org)

## STARTING IN 2020

## RIB MOUNTAIN WILL HAVE A NEW REFUSE/RECYCLING HAULER

This past August, the Town of Rib Mountain went out for Request for Proposals for refuse/recycling services. The Town received three proposals and approved entering into a contract with Harter's Disposal. Harter's contract will start January, 2020 and will run for five years.

Changes to services are minimal. Your refuse and recycling schedule will remain unchanged; however, the time of day for pickup may vary. For example, you may notice that your garbage is picked up right away in the morning instead of the afternoon. Homeowners should have their refuse/recycling out before 7:00 am. The Town will continue to offer garbage stickers for sale for \$2.50 at the Municipal Center. These are to be used when you cannot fit all your refuse into the bin. There will also be large item pickup for a separate charge from Harter's. In addition, Harter's will offer, for a separate charge, a weekly yard waste bin pickup on a seasonal basis. Stay tuned for further information on special services.

It has been several years since the Town has seen a significant change in hauling services. Many of the refuse bins used by residents are dated and may include names of prior haulers. The recycling and refuse containers at your home are owned by the hauler, not the resident. Therefore, the bin that is currently being used will be picked up by Advanced Disposal. Harter's Disposal will start delivery of their bins after December 22. Residents may have multiple bins at their home for a couple of weeks. Harter's will have instructions attached to your bin. We request residents read the flyer and use the new bins on the date indicated on the flyer.

The exact date for pickup of refuse and recycling bins by Advanced has not been set. However, we anticipate this occurring the last week in December and/or first week in January. We will have further information released to residents as soon as it is known. This will also be posted on our website: [www.townofribmountain.org](http://www.townofribmountain.org). We will also include information in a mailed December flyer with your property tax bill. For residents who contracted separately for yard waste pickup with Advanced, your bin will be picked up on Monday, November 4.

If you plan to be out of town when the Advanced bins are to be picked up, we ask you make arrangements to have them picked up at your curb. Otherwise, if you miss the date, you can drop off the bin at the Municipal Center. Further instructions will be given in December.

For further information, please contact the Municipal Center at 715-842-0983 or contact Gaylene Rhoden at [grhoden@townofribmountain.org](mailto:grhoden@townofribmountain.org).

## TRICK OR TREAT HOURS

Town of Rib Mountain Trick or Treat hours are

**Thursday, October 31, 2019 from 4-7 pm**

Please leave your front porch light on if you wish to participate.



## YARD WASTE SITE

The Yard Waste Site is now open on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday. The site will be CLOSED for the Season at dusk on Wednesday November 13th. Please note the site may close earlier due to snowfall or inclement weather. Please check the Town's website for updates.

### LOCATION:

147033 County Road N

### HOURS:

**Wednesday** 1:00 p.m. to dusk

**Saturday** 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Sunday** 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
(Oct. 6th - Nov. 10th)

An attendant is on site to direct you to the appropriate area for leaves, grass clippings, and brush. Please be respectful of the closing times and allow yourself ample time to drop off your yard waste. The Yard Waste Site does NOT accept tree stumps, construction debris, or any animal/pet waste. Please cover your load when hauling brush and leaves to insure they do not blow onto the roadways.

## LEAF DISPOSAL

The Fall Season is here and it's time take out the rakes, leaf blowers, mulchers, and baggers. While cleaning up your leaves please keep these guidelines in mind.

### DO

- Take your leaves to the Town's Yard Waste Site.
- Mulch your leaves when possible.
- Compost your leaves when possible.
- Help those who may need assistance.
- Rake leaves and debris from roadside ditches to help keep the spring thaw flowing

### DO NOT

- Deposit your leaves on any public or private property without permission.
- Obstruct or block any ditch, culvert or waterway.
- Burn your leaves.
- Obstruct or block any road, sidewalk or driveway.
- Allow leaves to blow out of your truck or trailer when transporting.

Thank you for your cooperation in making Rib Mountain a safe and beautiful place.

## 2020 ELECTIONS

**February 18, 2020**

**April 7, 2020**

**August 11, 2020**

**November 3, 2020**

**Spring Primary**

**Presidential Preference**

**Partisan Primary**

**General Election**



**Go to [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov) to:**

- Register to Vote
- Sign up to receive an absentee ballot
- Update your name or address
- Find your polling place
- Find out what's on the ballot

**To register to vote, you will need one of the following:**

- A current and valid Wisconsin Driver's License
- A current and valid Wisconsin State ID card
- An official identification card or license issued by the State of Wisconsin
- A real estate tax bill for the current year
- A utility bill for not more than 90 days before the election date
- A bank or credit card statement
- A paycheck or paycheck stub
- A residential lease that is effective on the date of registration

All people eligible, who want to vote, need to be registered. Online and mail registration closes 20 days prior to each election. In-person registration at the Town of Rib Mountain Clerk's office is available until the Friday before each election. Election day registration is available at the polling place on election day as well.

**In order to vote, you will need a proof of voter photo identification (address on your identification does not matter). Please bring in one of the following:**

- A Wisconsin DOT-issued driver's license even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card or driver's license without a photo issued under the religious exemption
- Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- A U.S. Passport
- An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian Tribe in Wisconsin
- A current veterans photo identification card issued by the Veterans Health Administration

## ABSENTEE VOTING:

There are a couple different option for voters who want to vote early, if they are already registered.

One way is to vote absentee by mail. A voter will need to fill out an application to receive a ballot by mail. Along with the absentee application, a copy of your photo ID needs to be received in the Clerk's Office before a ballot can be mailed.

The second way is to come to the Municipal Center and vote in person. Similar to election day you will need to bring a photo ID. The deadline to vote by absentee in person is 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election. There will be NO voting on the Monday before an election. Please watch our website or Facebook page as to when early voting begins.

The third way is if you are indefinitely confined or disabled and cannot come to the polls on election day, you can request a ballot. In this case, you would not need to provide a photo id. The elector would only need to request a ballot once and for every election thereafter a ballot would be sent to them. If the elector fails to return a ballot for an election, the ballots will cease being sent out.

For more information, please visit [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov) or contact Joanne Ruechel, Town of Rib Mountain Clerk at 715-842-0983.

## TOWN BOARD POSITIONS

The following Town Board positions will be on the ballot on April 7, 2020.

### OFFICE

Town Board Supervisor  
Town Board Supervisor

### INCUMBENT

James Legner  
Gerard Klein

If you are interested in running for Town Board Supervisor, please visit our website under the elections tab or contact Town of Rib Mountain Clerk, Joanne Ruechel at 715-842-0983. Please note that the first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2019. All completed forms must be returned to the Town Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on January 7, 2020. Please call 715-842-0983 if you should have any questions.



## WINTER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Winter will be arriving shortly and the Rib Mountain Public Works Department will be making sure the Town roadways are clear and safe for driving. Here are a few requests from our snowplow drivers:

Do not park on Town roads during the winter season during enforcement hours. According to Town Ordinances 7.03 Winter Parking Regulations, "no person shall park any vehicle on any public street or highway in the town between the hours of 3 a.m. and 10 a.m. from November 1st through March 31st."

Please keep snow on your property for roadway safety. Do not blow, plow, or shovel snow onto or across public roadways. This creates a safety hazard and is a violation of State Statutes and Town Ordinances (Sec. 86.022 Stats and Sec. 8.03 Town of Rib Mountain Municipal Code)

Please give plows room to maneuver. Place garbage and recycling containers at least two feet from the paved portion of the roadway. It is also important to stay at least 200 feet behind a snowplow. These vehicles make frequent backing maneuvers, primarily at intersections, and can't easily see behind them.

If there is grass directly adjacent to the pavement, the grass may be damaged by the plow wings, especially during an early fall or late spring snowfall when the ground is not frozen. Residents may mark the edges of their lawns, but crews need at least two feet of room to remove the snow off the edge of the road and the shoulders.

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

This position is responsible for the management of all day-to-day operations of community development and zoning administration for the Town. This position reviews and advises zoning applications, monitors developers' agreements for compliance, implements business retention and expansion strategies, prepares marketing program for business recruitment, facilitates long range/strategic planning. A Bachelor's Degree in Urban and/or Regional Planning or related field, and a minimum of three (3) to five (5) years local government planning experience is required. Extensive knowledge of planning and zoning practices, experience and knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is also required. AICP certification is preferred. Knowledge and/or training regarding State of Wisconsin building codes is highly desirable.

A complete job description can be obtained by contacting the Town at 715-842-0983, downloading a packet at [www.townofribmountain.org](http://www.townofribmountain.org) or emailing [grhoden@townofribmountain.org](mailto:grhoden@townofribmountain.org). Resume, cover letter and references should be submitted to the Town of Rib Mountain, 227800 Snowbird Avenue, Wausau, Wisconsin 54401. Resume, cover letter and references must be received by Friday, November 1, 2019.

### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT JOB OPENINGS

The Public Works Department has two part-time positions available for the winter season. The opportunities include; **Trail & Sidewalk Maintenance** and **Ice Rink Maintenance & Attendant**.

The **Trail & Sidewalk Maintenance position** consists of snow removal on multiuse trails, sidewalks, and at municipal facilities. The position is call-in, on an as needed basis that involves the operation of light, medium, and heavy construction equipment or comparable automotive equipment. A commercial driver's license is not required.

The **Ice Rink Maintenance & Attendant position** involves ice rink sweeping, ice repair, ice flooding, operation of light equipment for snow removal, and observation of the general public during rink hours.

Additional information and job applications may be obtained from the Town's website [www.townofribmountain.org](http://www.townofribmountain.org) or by contacting the Public Works Department at 715-848-5123.

## RIGHT-OF-WAY OBSTRUCTIONS

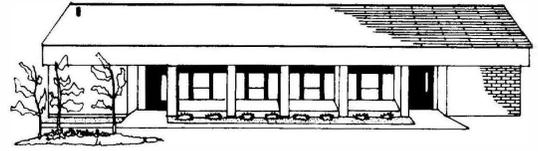
The area of land between the edge of pavement and the private property line is referred to as the road right-of-way and is public property. The road right-of-way typically extends 33 feet from the center of the road. During winter operations, the Town will occasionally remove snow from the side of the road and at driveway openings to provide better visibility. As the Town is clearing the right-of-way, many items become buried in the snow and are difficult to see. The following items should not be located within the public right-of-way:

- Landscaping materials (shrubs, rocks, boulders, planters, decorative pieces)
- Signs
- Lawn sprinkler systems
- Pet fences
- All other items that could be damaged by equipment

Any items that are placed within the right-of-way are there at the risk of the owner. The Town is not responsible for any damage to these items

# Rib Mountain Sanitary District

224505 Lilac Avenue — Wausau, WI 54401  
(715) 359-6177



## AROUND THE DISTRICT

We again had a busy summer with back to back years of many construction projects and near record new home permits. Fall watermain flushing is done, but it looks like winter will be here all to soon. Remember to insulate the cold areas in your house so the water pipes do not freeze. It happened to quite a few people last year. Also remember to shovel around a hydrant in your neighborhood when the snow flies. This really came in handy last year with all the snow. We will also be offering online and phone bill payments in the near future. We will let you know when it is operational and ready to use.

See below for updates on a few other topics. And remember to visit our website at [Townofribmountain.org](http://Townofribmountain.org). Just click on the Sanitary District tab on the left to find answers to your questions and the latest information from the District.

## WARNING

The Rib Mountain Sanitary District is **warning all customers not to flush items such as cloth rags, "flushable" wipes, disposable wipes and cleaning clothes, plastic or latex products down the toilet.**

These items are clogging pumps and valves in lift stations and they may clog your own private lateral creating sewer backups and flooding into your basement.

**The Sanitary District does not provide any compensation to property owners or renters for damage done by sewer backups.**

It is recommend that you add to your homeowner's insurance policy coverage for this hazard. We also urge you to install a check valve in your basement floor drain. While this check valve requires periodic cleaning to insure proper working conditions, it can reduce the devastating effects of a sewer backup.

## DELINQUENT UTILTIY BILLS

Delinquent utility bills not paid before October 31, 2019 will be placed on the tax roll, with an additional 10% surcharge, as directed by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. Delinquent bills placed on the tax roll and paid with your property taxes are **NOT** deductible, **PER INTERNAL REVENUE REGULATIONS.**

## MONTHLY MEETING

**6:00 P.M. THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT OUR OFFICE 224505 LILAC AVENUE**

## WATER QUALITY STUDY UPDATE

We have been working with our consultant, Short Elliot Hendrickson (SEH), compiling information about our water system. We are looking at pumping capacities, future growth areas, treatment plant designs and locations, alternate sources of water, regulatory applications/meetings and requirements, water rate cases and funding sources. All this information will be collected and examined so it can provide the basis for our future water quality decisions.

Our projected deadline is the end of the year and as always, this information will be presented at board meetings and made available on our website. We will also have a public information meeting once all the options are explored and further decisions can be made.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns by calling the office at 715/359-6177 or emailing us at [Mheyroth@rmsd1.com](mailto:Mheyroth@rmsd1.com)

## READDRESSING:



*The blue and white signs are here. The county will be installing the signs and we will update all our records accordingly from the master list they sent us.*

**THERE IS NO NEED TO CALL US WITH YOUR NEW ADDRESS.** We have the list from the county and will update all addresses in the near future once the signs are installed.

FYI - For the people that send in checks, our new address is 224505 Lilac Ave.

## SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PAYMENTS

If you would like to make a payment to eliminate or reduce your special assessment balance before preparation of the 2019 tax roll, please have your payment to our office by October 31, 2019.

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

After Hours Emergency Number:	(715) 571-1226
Mike Heyroth, Director:	(715) 571-1225
Ed Abendroth, President:	(715) 359-6236
Ed Jensen, Commissioner:	(715) 359-5364
Bill Miller, Commissioner:	(715) 355-7156

# 2020 CENSUS

## What Is the 2020 Census?

The Census is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). During the Census process, each home will receive an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire—online, by phone, or by mail.

The information collected during the census provides the critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

The results of the Census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

This Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

## Important Dates

Counting every person living in the United States is a massive undertaking, and efforts begin years in advance. Here's a look at some of the key dates along the way:

- **January–September 2019:** The U.S. Census Bureau opens 248 area census offices across the country. These offices support and manage the census takers who work all over the country to conduct the census.
- **August 2019:** Census takers begin visiting areas that have experienced a lot of change and growth to ensure that the Census Bureau's address list is up to date. This is called address canvassing, and it helps to ensure that everyone receives an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census.
- **January 2020:** The Census Bureau begins counting the population in remote Alaska.

- **April 1, 2020:** Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. When you respond to the census, you tell the Census Bureau where you live as of April 1, 2020.
- **April 2020:** Census takers begin visiting college students who live on campus, people living in senior centers, and others who live among large groups of people. Census takers also begin conducting quality check interviews to help ensure an accurate count.
- **May 2020:** The Census Bureau begins visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to make sure everyone is counted.
- **December 2020:** The Census Bureau delivers apportionment counts to the President and Congress as required by law.
- **March 31, 2021:** By this date, the Census Bureau will send redistricting counts to states. This information is used to redraw legislative districts based on population changes.

## Census Takers in Your Neighborhood

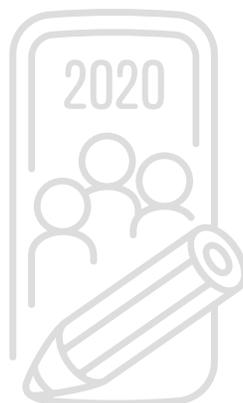
Starting this fall, you may notice census takers in your neighborhood. This is a normal part of preparations for the 2020 Census. Census Bureau employees will also be in the community to continue collecting information for the American Community Survey and other ongoing surveys.

## How Can You Verify That Someone Is a Census Worker?

If someone visits your home to collect information for the 2020 Census, you can do the following to verify their identity:

- First, check to make sure that they have a valid ID badge, with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date.
- If you still have questions about their identity, you can call 800-923-8282 to speak with a Census Bureau representative.

population



census



## SANDY'S BARK PARK

It has been over a year since the Town of Rib Mountain Dog Park opened and we have had more visitors than we ever expected! Thousands of dogs and their owners have enjoyed the nearly four acre park, which features a fenced green space with 2,000 feet of crushed gravel walking paths, benches, water bottle filler/fountain and dog water spigot. The Town continues to be amazed by the positive feedback we have received!

We want to encourage all users to review the rules of the Park so everyone has an enjoyable experience. Some of the rules that need attention include; picking up dog waste, aggressive dogs are not permitted, and the owner/handler must be present at all times.

With the success of the Dog Park, over 70,000 "Mutt Mitts" were purchased over the past year! Please be sure to pick up and dispose of all dog waste in the designate waste receptacles. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Please consider making a donation at the box located at the Park or at the Town of Rib Mountain Municipal Center. Your donations are appreciated to help offset the cost of doggie bags and other maintenance items.

The Town needs your help to keep the park clean. If you'd like to get involved, please join the Friends of Sandy's Bark Park. For more information please call the Municipal Center at 715-842-0983 or email Gaylene Rhoden at [grhoden@townofribmountain.org](mailto:grhoden@townofribmountain.org).

Fundraising for future improvements continues. If you are interested in contributing towards the Dog Park and future expansion plans, the Rib Mountain Community Improvement Foundation is taking donations. Please contact the Rib Mountain Municipal Center for further information.

Please **NOTE**: With winter snow the Park will be extremely wet during the spring thaw. The Park will be **CLOSED** from March 1st to May 1st (weather pending) to allow for the Park to dry and for spring cleanup. Signs will be posted when the closing will occur.

***Have a great time enjoying Sandy's Bark Park!***



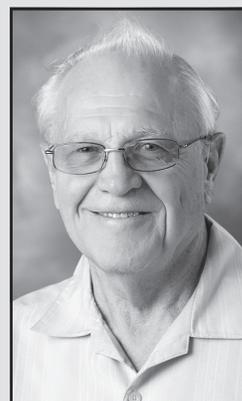
## WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ALL THE OLD ROAD SIGNS?

With the change of over 60 roads, the Town of Rib Mountain has been left with several unusable signs. Several residents have called wishing to have the old signs. The Town discussed ways to make it fair for residents to acquire the signs. It was determined that the Town would conduct a silent auction for the road signs with a minimum bid of \$20. The money raised for the signs will be used towards the expansion of Sandy's Bark Park and development of trails for the newly acquired nature preserve south of Sandy's Bark Park. The old signs will not be removed until next spring. The silent auction will be held in late spring or early summer. More details for the auction will be shared in upcoming Town Beat newsletters. Stay tuned!

## NEW ADDITION TO THE TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN TEAM

The Town of Rib Mountain welcomes Orv Quamme as the Town's new Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Quamme has an extensive law enforcement background. His experience was primarily in southern Wisconsin where he served on the City of Watertown's Police Department and later elected Sheriff for Jefferson County. Mr. Quamme has also served on the Marathon County Board.

If you need to reach out to the Code Enforcement Officer, please email to [oquamme@townofribmountain.org](mailto:oquamme@townofribmountain.org) or call the Municipal Center at 715-842-0983.





# THE TOWN BEAT

Rib Mountain Municipal Center  
227800 Snowbird Avenue  
Wausau, WI 54401



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Rib Mountain!

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Wausau, WI  
Permit #452

**ECRWSS**

## POSTAL DELIVERY CHANGES

The Town is typically not notified when there are changes to your address. Residents should receive a newsletter three times every year. If one is missed, contact the Town of Rib Mountain Municipal Center at 715-892-0983

## POSTAL PATRON

### OUR ADDRESS HAS CHANGED

Please note the new address  
for the Municipal Center

**227800 Snowbird Avenue  
Wausau, Wisconsin 54401**

