

FALL 2023



A Welcome Note from City Manager Joe Moore

We're excited to share the fall edition of the City newsletter after such a great reception in the spring. We had an action-packed summer with events such as Walleye Weekend, Fondue Fest and a total of 44 outdoor concerts. It's refreshing to see how widely attended, fun and well-run these events are, which is no easy feat. Thank you to all the organizers who made these events possible.

Of special note, **we completed and celebrated a number of City improvements this summer.** We hosted ribbon-cutting ceremonies to commemorate the following improvements:

- The Lighthouse at Lakeside Park and the new boardwalk at Supple's Marsh in Lakeside Park West.
- The new accessible playground and Miracle League of Fond du Lac complex at Plamore Park.
- The remarkable enhancements to Franklin Park's playground and basketball court, as well as the six new pickleball courts at Adelaide Park.

We're excited to continue improving our City and look forward to the construction of the new bridge that will connect Lakeside Park to Lakeside Park West next summer, as well as new pedestrian paths leading to both sides of the bridge.

I would be remiss to not mention significant achievements earned in the past few months:

- **Our Police Department was re-accredited by the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group**, which recognizes the Police Department's dedication to upholding the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and operational excellence.
- Of over 1,800 towns, villages and cities in Wisconsin, **Fond du Lac is one of two municipalities whose police and fire departments are both accredited**, and their fire suppression capability has the highest ranking possible from the Insurance Services Organization (ISO).
- The Comptroller's Office once again **received the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**, which is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.

We're hard at work gearing up for essential seasonal tasks such as leaf and snow removal. In addition, we've recently unveiled our [proposed 2024 budget](#), which is designed to provide the necessary funding for all the initiatives and services most valued by the wonderful people who call Fond du Lac home.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events, including Halloween Trick-or-Treating and the annual Homecoming and Christmas parades. For a full list of upcoming events, visit the Lake Winnebago Region [community calendar](#).

Until next time,



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FOND DU LAC ELECTED OFFICIALS

Contact your City Council members to discuss City ordinances. Please note that an email to the City Council becomes public record.

City Council President

Keith Heisler
kheisler@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 786-0336

City Council Vice President

Tiffany Brault
tbrault@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 251-4209

City Council Members

Kenneth Cassaday
kcassaday@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 602-0764

Patrick Mullen
pmullen@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 485-1355

Jane Ricchio
jricchio@fdl.wi.gov
(715) 281-5753

Thomas Schuessler
tschuessler@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 210-4990

Brett Zimmermann
bzimmermann@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 979-9963

City of Fond du Lac Departments and Resources

City Manager

Joseph P. Moore
jmoore@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 322-3407

City Administration

(920) 322-3450

Director of Administration: Tricia Davi
tdavi@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 322-3455

Community Development

(920) 322-3440

Community Development Director:
Dyann Benson, AICP
dbenson@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 322-3440

Department of Public Works

(920) 322-3470

Director of Public Works: Paul De Vries
pdevries@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 322-3473

Library

(920) 929-7080

Library Director: Jon Mark Bolthouse
bolthouse@fdlpl.org

Fire Department

(920) 322-3800

Fire Chief: Erick Gerritson
egerritson@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 322-3802

Police Department

(920) 322-3700

Chief of Police: Aaron Goldstein
agoldstein@fdl.wi.gov
(920) 322-3706

NEWS BRIEFS



Save the Date!

FARMERS MARKET

Through October 28

FALLTOBERFEST

October 21

MONSTER MARCH

October 28

TRICK-OR-TREATING

October 28

LAKESIDE PARK HOLIDAY LIGHTS

November 24 – December 31

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

November 25

HOLIDAY PARADE

December 3



PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT INFO

Personal Property Taxes payments are due on or before January 31, 2024. Residents are encouraged to pay by mail to avoid long lines. Checks should be made payable to City of Fond du Lac – Treasurer. More information on property tax payments [can be found on the City's website](#).



Seeking Board and Commission Volunteers

The City is accepting applications to fill volunteer positions on various City Boards and Commissions, including:

- Ⓜ Board of Appeals
- Ⓜ Downtown Architectural Review Board
- Ⓜ Historic Preservation Commission
- Ⓜ Housing Authority

Boards and Commissions advise the City of Fond du Lac on issues important to the municipality. Most positions do not require extensive expertise, just a willingness to serve. Applicants should be city residents or work in the City of Fond du Lac.

More information on available volunteer positions [can be found on the City's website](#). Applications can be submitted in person or mailed to the City Clerk's Office, 160 S Macy Street, or emailed to mhefter@fdl.wi.gov.

Spring Elections / Presidential Primary

2024 Election Dates

- Tuesday, February 20 – Spring Primary – (if needed)
- Tuesday, April 2 – Spring Election & Presidential Preference
- Tuesday, August 13 – Partisan Primary
- Tuesday, November 5 – General Election

Not registered to vote? [Register online now!](#)

The City of Fond du Lac is accepting applications for Election Officials for the 2024 – 2025 Election Cycle. Election Officials perform a valuable community service by assisting voters at polling places throughout the City on Election Day. Citizen involvement is essential to conduct open, accurate and fair elections in Wisconsin. [Learn more and apply today.](#)

**WE'RE
HIRING!**

Are you looking for a career and/or venue change? Do your values align with ours — excellence in service, honesty, integrity and personal accountability? Visit the [City website](#) for a variety of diverse opportunities both working indoors, outdoors, or a combination of both. We support and invest in employee development (continuous education and learning) to benefit personal and professional advancement possibilities for the current and future benefits of the employee and the City.

CITY OF FOND DU LAC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW) UPDATES

From clean streets and quality drinking water, to quality parks and robust transportation options, we take our responsibility to provide for City residents, businesses and visitors seriously.



Construction Updates

It's the time of year for leaf collection, which begins October 16. The crews work clockwise around the city collecting leaves raked into piles on residents' terraces. Stay informed on progress by visiting the [City's website](#) and clicking on the Leaf Collection Map.

As an alternative, residents may haul their leaves to the City's yard waste drop off at 530 Doty Street. Bags must be emptied and disposed of properly at the site.



Fond du Lac Area Transit

Every three years, the Federal Transit Administration conducts a review of our transit operations to ensure we meet or exceed federal standards and requirements, including for operations, maintenance and ADA compliance. We're pleased to report that our transit system received a clean audit, with no deficiencies. Great work Fond du Lac Area Transit!

Waste and Recycling

Note the upcoming [winter hours for bulky waste drop-off](#):

NEW HOURS STARTING NOV. 30:

Monday – 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Wednesday – 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Friday – 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.



Engineering

Site preparation and embankment work has begun on the bridge connecting Lakeside Park to Lakeside Park West. Now, in the fall, they are returning to construct the bridge abutments. The delivery and installation of the bridge truss are still on track and scheduled for late winter/early spring of 2024.

CITY OF FOND DU LAC DPW UPDATES

Water Utility

The Fond du Lac Water Utility has converted to a new billing software with a new Online Bill-Pay Portal. You can always still pay in person at the City-County Government Center. More information can be found [here](#).

TIP FROM FOND DU LAC WATER UTILITY:

With the cold weather approaching, remember to seal up doors, windows, basements and crawl spaces to prevent pipes and meters from freezing. When snow arrives, your help in clearing it from hydrants on your property is greatly appreciated!



Parks

Summer went out with a bang with the grand opening of Plamore Park. The Miracle League ball field complex is complete and was open for some limited fall use. The much anticipated inclusive playground also opened to the delight of kids from all over the City and beyond.

A new playground is being installed in Lakeside Park in partnership with BCI Burke. Look for this new addition just north of the zipline in spring 2024.

With the warmer weather behind us, Parks crews are gearing up for winter maintenance and closing non-heated bathrooms. Don't let that stop you from enjoying the fall colors and winter landscape that our parks offer!

A Message from the FDL Wastewater Treatment & Resource Recovery Facility

Think before you flush! The Fond du Lac Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Facility is working hard to improve water quality by informing residents and businesses of ways to reduce water pollution and sewer backups.

The toilet was invented to dispose of human waste. Using it for any other purpose not only damages your plumbing and our sewer system, but it can also pollute the community's water supply.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE ITEMS THAT SHOULD NEVER BE FLUSHED DOWN THE TOILET:

Baby or Personal Wipes	Prescription Drugs
Feminine Hygiene Products	Condoms
Paper Toweling/ Napkins	Bandages
Dental Floss	Any Hazardous Waste
Cotton Swabs	Cooking Grease or Food
Disposable Diapers	Tobacco Products
	Pet Goldfish or Turtles

UPDATE FROM CHIEF AARON GOLDSTEIN

Fond du Lac Police Department



In October, the Fond du Lac Police Department (FDLPD) will host a two-day fair and impartial policing session with command-level members and key community stakeholders as part of our continued commitment to the fair and bias-free treatment of all people. We will be discussing policy recommendations, training, recruitment/hiring, outreach, operations and ways to promote trust within our community.

October also brings a multitude of community events. The FDLPD is thrilled to participate in several Trunk-or-Treat events, including Boo Fest at Festival Foods, as well as overseeing Trick-or-Treat hours throughout the city. It's a tradition for us to patrol neighborhoods, ensuring the safety of trick-or-treaters while happily distributing candy.

Following the Thanksgiving holiday, we will transition to our annual Adopt-A-Family program, a collaborative effort between the FDLPD, the Cops for Kids Foundation and the FDLPD Chaplain program. For over 19 years, we have partnered with businesses like Holiday Automotive and Festival Foods, among others, to provide Christmas presents to kids and holiday meals to families across the City. Typically, the Adopt-A-Family program serves around 75 families each Christmas.

In December, we look forward to our annual Department Awards event where staff are recognized for longevity milestones, and celebrated for life-saving and heroic actions from the previous year. The FDLPD also recognizes community members for their significant contributions that substantially aided the Department in fulfilling its mission. Be sure to follow our [Facebook page](#) as we share the stories behind the awards throughout the month.

We wish you a safe and joyful holiday season as you celebrate with friends and family!



Connect with us:



UPDATE FROM CHIEF ERICK GERRITSON

Fond du Lac Fire and Rescue



As we transition from the heat of summer to the colorful days of autumn and eventually the chilly winter season, it's crucial to keep fire safety and your overall health a top priority. Over the next few months, Fond du Lac Fire and Rescue (FDLFR) will highlight events and initiatives to raise awareness about fire safety and health risks in our community.



During the week of October 8-14, we observed **National Fire Prevention Week**. This year's focus was on cooking safety, so we provided important steps to help reduce the risk of fire when cooking at home by hosting a Community Open House at the Public Safety Training Center. This family event was packed with numerous activities, demonstrations, and booths, providing education and fun for people of all ages.



From Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, we will once again launch the **"Keep the Wreath Green"** campaign. Each of our three fire stations will display a wreath adorned with green bulbs. Any time a fire is reported in the City, a green bulb will be replaced with a red one. When you pass by your local fire station and see these wreaths, they should serve as a reminder to prioritize fire safety throughout the holiday season, when the number of fires has historically increased.



FDLFR will also be actively involved in other initiatives, including providing Halloween safety tips for trick-or-treaters, offering advice on safe deep-frying and kitchen practices during Thanksgiving, participating in the Red Kettle Campaign, and engaging in various community events that make our City an awesome place to live, work and play.

Continue to monitor our [Facebook page](#), [our website](#), and our quarterly **"Fire Line" newsletter** for more information and events.

Have a safe and excellent holiday season celebrating with friends and family!



Connect with us:



STAY CONNECTED

Stay connected with the City of Fond du Lac!
Follow our Facebook accounts and stay up to date on local news and events:



[Fire Rescue](#)



[Police Department](#)



[Public Library](#)



[Transit](#)



[Senior Center](#)



[City of FDL](#)



Photo Credit: Fond du Lac Noon Rotary Club