

# Wausau Works

## For you!

### Spring/Summer 2012



## Mayor Tipple's Message

Greetings and welcome to the Spring Season in Wausau! Daylight is getting longer and it's always nice to see so many of our residents out walking and enjoying the quality of life we have here in central Wisconsin.

Healthcare costs are on everyone's mind and continue to be the top newspaper headlines. The City of Wausau employees recently implemented a worksite wellness program. The city took part in a biometric Health Risk Assessment (HRA) with 95% of eligible employees participating. Worksite wellness programs are proving to be an important initiative in sustaining healthy employees and establishing lower insurance premiums. We are working hard to establish long-term wellness habits to support a healthy lifestyle among our employees.

The local economy is showing signs of recovery and that is good news for the citizens of Wausau. Strong economic growth puts people back to work and helps our entire economy. Collaborative Consulting chose to locate in Wausau last November and they will create over 200 IT jobs in the next three years. They located in Wausau because of our great work ethic and our quality of life. We are very pleased they are here. Welcome Collaborative!!

The Wausau Curling Club has raised over \$3 million to build an 8 sheet curling rink. This will be a great asset to our community and will bring in thousands of visitors from around the country. This facility will be built near the old Holtz-Krause landfill at the east end of Kent Street. What a great use of vacant land! Also, we are partnering with Marathon County and the Holtz-Krause steering committee to develop 15 soccer fields on the old landfill near the new Curling facility. When this comes together, it will provide a wonderful economic boost to our region.

I encourage all of you to take part in the great summer activities and festivals we have outlined in the "Calendar of Events" insert. My door is always open and I value your suggestions and comments. We are here to provide quality services to you in the most cost effective manner. Thank you for making the City of Wausau a great place to live, work and play. I wish you a fun, safe summer.

## Farmers Market on River Drive

The Farmers Market located at 400 River Drive will begin early in May and end mid-November, weather permitting. Products are available Wednesday and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. until vendors sell out or choose to close. Please contact Craig Carlson 715-443-6647 for further information.



**Mission Statement...** In response to our citizens, we will provide services in the most effective manner in order to promote and enhance our living environment. | Plan and encourage positive growth. | Promote a positive community image by encouraging citizen involvement and civic pride.

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## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE Participants Wanted!

The City of Wausau Veterans Committee is organizing the annual **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE** to be held on Saturday, May 26, 2012 at 10:45 a.m.

Patriotic floats, marching units, and any group or organization interested in participating is needed. Line-up begins at 9:45 a.m. and the line-up location will be in the Fair Midway area of Marathon Park, east of the grandstands. Step-off for the parade will be at 10:45 proceeding through the Stewart Avenue Main Gate traveling east on Stewart Avenue to River Drive, concluding at the VFW at 388 River Drive. The ceremony at the VFW building will begin at approximately 11:00 a.m. with opening remarks by a City Representative. An address by Congressman Sean Duffy and the National Anthem will be played jointly by the High School Bands during the color raising ceremony. Following will be the exercise of the Military Rites and Taps.

Please join us as we honor our fallen comrades by coming out and enjoying the parade. Anyone wishing to participate are encouraged to call either Paul Missett at 715-842-9554 or Roger Sydow at 715-675-1839.



# Cast Your VOTE on Tuesday, April 3rd!

new voting location, ward and district. You can also refer to the map enclosed, search on line at <https://vpa.wi.gov> or call the City Clerk's office at 715-261-6620.

### ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

It's easy to see if you are registered to vote. You can check online at the Wisconsin Voter Public Access at <https://vpa.wi.gov>. or call the City Clerk's office at 715-261-6620. **If your address or name has changed since the last time you voted you are required to re-register.** As of June 2011, Wisconsin law requires that voters reside at their new address for 28 consecutive days before registering. Voters who have moved within Wisconsin less than 28 days must vote from their previous address. Voters who have moved into Wisconsin from another state less than 28 days before an elections are not eligible to vote in Wisconsin.

There are multiple ways to register:

- **By Mail** – up to 20 days before the election (March 14th, 2012). Registration applications are available on line at <https://vpa.wi.gov>.
- **By Special Registration Deputy** up to 20 days (March 14th, 2012) before the election.
- **In The Clerk's Office** - until Friday March 30th at 5PM.
- **At The Polling Place On Election Day.**

Voters registering at the polls or in the Clerk's office less than 20 days before the election (after March 14th) must provide proof of residence. Acceptable proof of residence includes the following documents that provide your **current name and address**:

Wisconsin Driver's License or ID card, other Wisconsin Government issued ID, Employer Photo ID, tax bill or receipt, residential lease, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, check issued by a unit of government, a picture ID from a university, college or technical college coupled with a fee receipt.

### BRING IT TO THE BALLOT - WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE POLLING SITE

Recent state law has changed the voting procedures at your polling place:

**STATE IT!** - As always, you need to state your full name and address to the election official at the poll book table.

**SHOW IT!** - You will also need to provide a photo id. This way the poll worker can compare your face to your photo and confirm it is you.

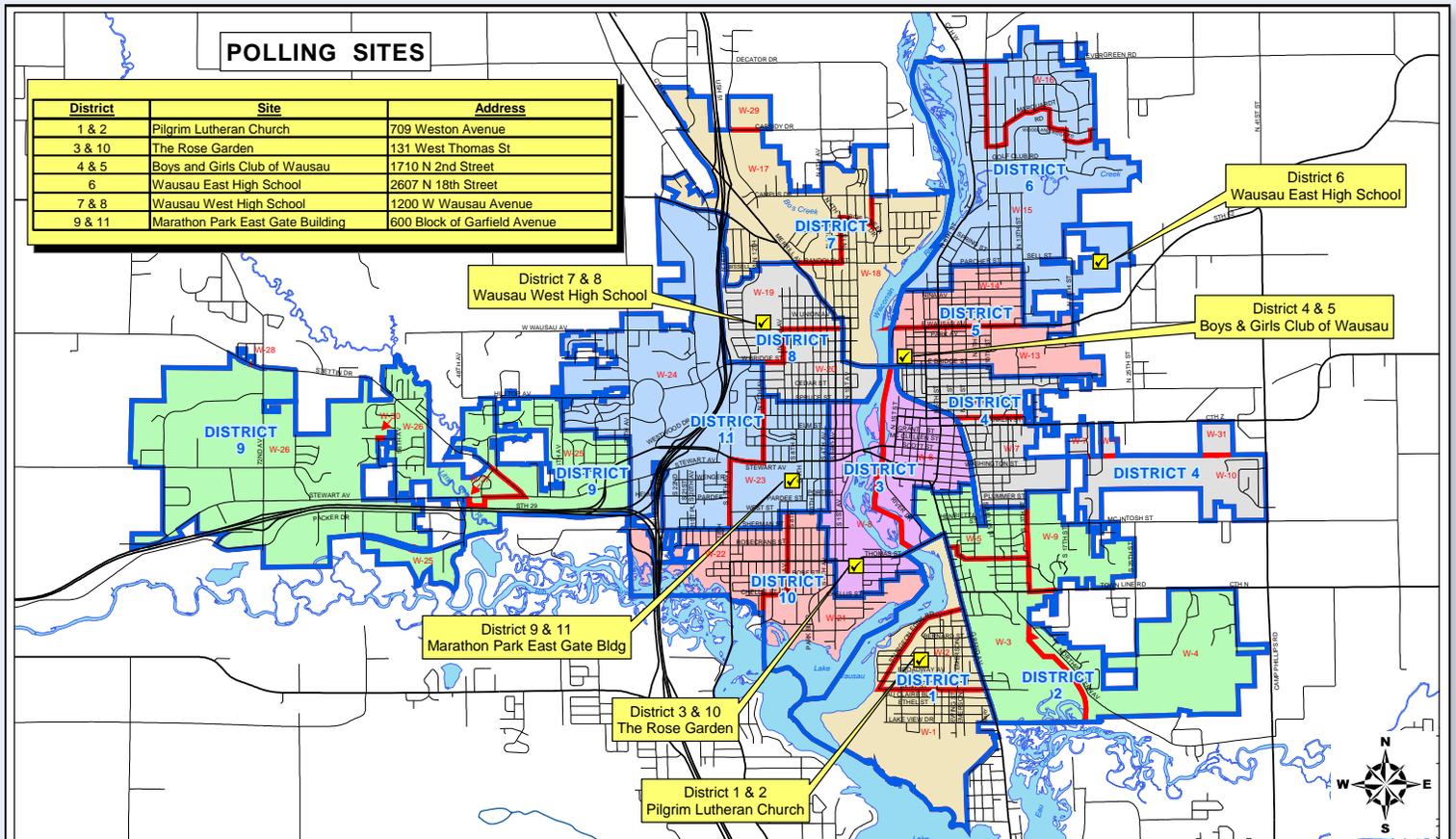
**SIGN IT!** - Finally, you'll need to sign the poll book (unless a physical disability prevents it). Your signature will be placed right next to your name in the poll book.

The ballot will be full on April 3rd with School Board, City of Wausau Common Council, Mayor and Municipal Judge and the Presidential Preference Primary. Polling sites are open 7AM to 8PM.

### YOUR VOTING LOCATION MAY HAVE CHANGED!

Every ten years, based upon the results of the federal census, electoral districts are redrawn. Based upon a desire to maintain identical City of Wausau Council and Marathon County Supervisory boundaries, the City reduced the size of the Common Council to eleven members. This "downsizing" will take place with the April 3rd election.

The redistricting may or may not change your voting location. Each registered voter received a letter around February 18th providing your



### WHAT PHOTO ID CAN I PROVIDE AT THE POLL BOOK?

That's easy! A **Wisconsin Driver's License, Wisconsin DOT ID Card, US Military ID card, US Passport** or any of these unexpired documents: driving receipt or ID card receipt issued by WI DOT within the last 45 days, ID card issued by a federally recognized Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, A Certification of Naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of the election, A citation or notice of intent to revoke or suspend a WI DOT issued driver license that is dated within 60 days of the date of the election. Photo ID issued by a Wisconsin University, College, or Technical College that provides date of issuance, student signature and expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance. Your college ID must be accompanied by a current tuition receipt.

Want to know more? Check out the Government Accountability Board web site <http://BringIt.Wisconsin.Gov/> or call your friendly Clerk's Office 715-261-6620.

### BECOME INVOLVED IN THE ELECTION PROCESS

Want to spend a rewarding day and serve your country? Sign up to be a poll worker! Citizen involvement ensures open, accurate and fair elections. Job duties include: greeter, registering new voters, poll list check in, ballot issuance and managing the ballot counter. Job requirements: good with people, detail oriented, good penmanship, ability to sit or stand for long periods of time, willing to work in any one of the six polling sites located within the City. All day and half day shifts are available. Training is provided. Applications are online at [www.ci.wausau.wi.us](http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us) at the bottom of the home page under "Announcements."

### STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS – BE PART OF THE VISION

The City of Wausau Common Council has initiated a process to develop a strategic plan. This plan, which was funded in the 2012 budget, will kick off after the new council is seated in April. A key component of the plan is **YOU!** Public involvement is crucial and many participation opportunities will be available including: interviews, focus groups, surveys and planning meetings. This is a great opportunity to **share your vision for the future of Wausau!** The plan will also identify performance measures and create a long term financial plan to ensure the strategic goals are realized.



## The Flood of 1912

The residents of Wausau had no idea that on the evening of July 23, 1912, a storm was about to drench the city with over four inches of rain. This proved minimal compared to the 15 inches of rain that fell to the north and east of Wausau in Lincoln County.

The massive rain storm fed into the Wisconsin River causing the water level to rise over 14 feet. As the flooded river rushed south towards Wausau, at 10:00 pm it cut away part of the new dam at the Brokaw Paper Mill, setting free millions of board feet of timber stored in a holding pond.

At 2:00 a.m. all that lumber and water hit Wausau and it hit without warning. All the means of communication that Wausau had to points north were cut off so only those folks working along the river saw what was coming. And what they saw never had happened before and has not happened since.

The rampaging water and all the lumber hit Wausau hard with millions of dollars in damage. Everything along the river was either flooded or damaged or simply carried down the river.

The flood brought six feet of water into the power plant of the city, stopping all light and power service. Through the good efforts of the city of Mosinee, a power line was brought from Mosinee to restore electrical power within a day.

The eastern edge of the guard lock by the High Bridge, now the Scott Street Bridge, was taken out and forced the collapse of the eastern part of the bridge

Also washed away were the railroad tracks and the freight cars that ran along the east bank of the River below the current library. It especially took out rail cars which were packed with wheat and fruit at August Kickbusch wholesale grocery warehouse on West Washington Street.

The flood took all of the lumber that was waiting at the sawmills down river. The Barker & Stewart Lumber Company, and the B. Heinemann Lumber lost considerable amounts of lumber. The Jacob Mortenson Lumber Company lost one million feet of lumber alone. The lumber would, through the hard work of their workers, be recovered from the island to the south of the city and from Rothschild millpond and returned to the rightful owner of the wood.

What is now the Bridge Street Bridge was destroyed and the Thomas Street Bridge was carried down the River.

In Schofield, the bridge across the Eau Claire River was taken out, forcing the trolley to stop in Schofield. A temporary footbridge was installed to get people across the river.

The flood of 1912 was not only the mother of all floods to hit the city; it was one of those disasters that will be long recounted.

The citizens of Wausau responded to this calamity with diligence and hard work. The "Wausau Spirit" got the city through this disaster with everyone cooperating to make all the repairs needed and to help the people that needed assistance due to the flood.

# City of Wausau Yard Waste Site

(Please save for future reference)

The City of Wausau Yard Waste Site is located at the east end of East Chellis Street.

**IMPORTANT PLEASE READ:** Registering at the Yard Waste Site Requirements – Photo ID and / or mail indicating a City of Wausau Residency

**HOURS OF OPERATION 2012:** The Yard Waste Site will be open from March 30th through November 18th during the following hours:

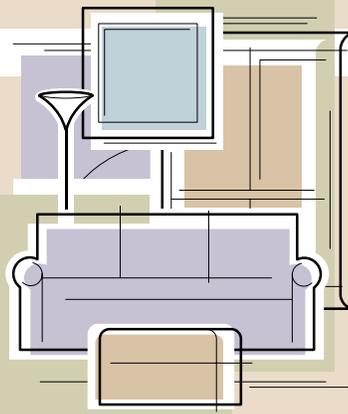
Tuesday	CLOSED
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	CLOSED
Friday	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Yard Waste Site will be **CLOSED on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day**. Please note that the site will be locked and gated during non-operating hours. Citations will be issued to parties who leave yard waste outside the gate of the facility.

**MATERIALS ACCEPTED:** Garden & flower debris, Grass, Leaves, Tree branches/brush

**MATERIALS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:** Tree stumps, Root balls (Stumps and root balls less than 60 lbs. can be placed at the curb with your normal garbage for pickup).

The City of Wausau appreciates your cooperation. Call The Department of Public Works at 715-261-6960, if you have any questions, Office hours are: Monday thru Friday 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.



# Annual Large Item Pick-Up 2012

This service begins **April 23rd** per the schedule listed in this newsletter. This program is intended to help residents dispose of LARGE, unwanted items. **ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP AT THE CURB FROM RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS AND APARTMENTS ONLY. ITEMS WILL NOT BE PICKED UP FROM BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS.**

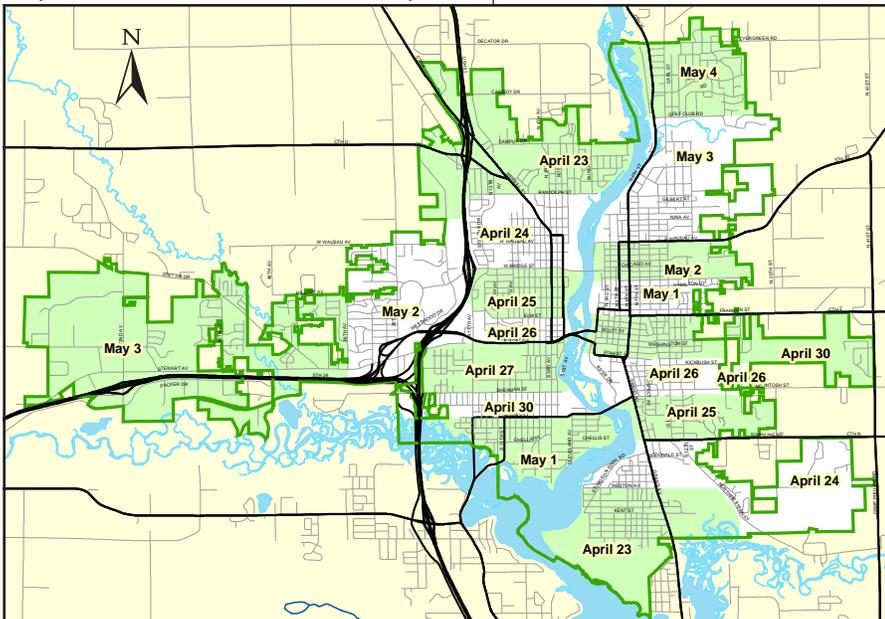
Items that <b>WILL</b> be Picked up include:	Items that <b>WON'T</b> be Picked up include:
<b>Bathroom Fixtures</b>	<b>Smaller Items such as:</b> Vacuum Cleaners, Humidifiers, Water Hoses, Luggage, toys, clothing, blankets, radios, broken window panes, up to 60 lbs. of construction material (Place out for weekly garbage collection)
<b>Carpeting</b>	<b>Appliances such as:</b> refrigerators, TV's, toasters, air conditioners, microwave ovens, ranges/stoves, washers, dryers, freezers, dishwashers, vending machines, computers, monitors, water purifiers, dehumidifiers. (Veolia will pick up for a fee – 715-359-6637 or dispose at the Clean-It Up, Wausau event on April 13 and 14, 2012)
<b>Cabinets and Countertops</b>	Tires (Residents may dispose of tires at tire dealers for a nominal fee.)
<b>Dining Room Tables</b>	Household Garbage
<b>Water Heaters</b>	Brush, tree limbs and Yard waste (Take to the Yard Waste Site – see hours below)
<b>Large Furniture items, (Overstuffed chairs, Sofas, end tables)</b>	Root balls/stumps
<b>Grills</b>	Large Quantities of Building Materials and Roofing Shingles (Use a commercial dumpster or haul privately to Marathon County Landfill)
<b>Large Metal items</b>	Aluminum cans
<b>Lawn Mowers (gas &amp; oil removed)</b>	Newspaper, Magazines, Cardboard (Place in recycle bin for bi-weekly pick-up)
<b>Small Engines (gas &amp; oil removed)</b>	Containers: Glass, Plastic (Place in recycle bin for bi-weekly pick-up)
<b>Overstuffed chairs</b>	Light bulbs: Fluorescent
<b>Pianos</b>	Batteries
<b>Pool Tables</b>	Chemicals: Paint, Pesticides, Fungicides, Hazardous or Toxic Material, Oil (Please call Marathon County Solid Waste & Recycling 1-877-270-3989)
<b>Sinks</b>	Trash bags, drums, containers or barrels containing unknown material
<b>Mattresses</b>	Medicines (may be discarded at Medication Drop-off Sites throughout Wausau - Call the Marathon County Solid Waste and Recycling at 1-877-270-3989)
	Sharps (Needles, Syringes, Lancets) (Call Marathon County Solid Waste 1-877-270-3989)

If you have questions about what is acceptable or unacceptable, please call 715-261-6960. All material should be placed at curbside by 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled pick-up day. If your property is missed, please call 715-261-6960 on the day after your scheduled pick-up.

**DO NOT place items for Large Item Pick-Up at the curbside until the day before the scheduled pick-up day. Doing so can create an unsightly, hazardous situation and increases the city's disposal costs if items get waterlogged. Store the material in a garage or elsewhere until that time. Persons placing material at the curbside more than 24 hours prior to their collection day shall be subject to a fine of up to \$200.00 for each offense (each day a violation occurs), or shall be subject to having the material removed at a cost to the property owner. No person may bring material for disposal into the city from property outside the city. Violators will be subject to a fine of up to \$200 for each offense.**

**This Pick-Up Service is for large items only and will be strictly enforced.**

	East Side of Wisconsin River	West Side of Wisconsin River
April 23	South City Limits to Weston Avenue	North City Limits to Randolph Street and Hwy U west of USH 51/I39, Merrill Ave to Westwood Dr.
April 24	Weston Avenue to Town Line Road	Randolph Street to Bridge Street between USH 51/I39 & Wisc. River
April 25	Town Line Road to Thomas Street	Bridge Street to Elm Street between 17th Avenue and 1st Avenue
April 26	Thomas Street to Forest Street	Elm Street to Stewart Avenue between 17th Avenue and 1st Avenue
April 27	All of Grand Avenue from South City Limits	Stewart Avenue to Sherman Street between USH 51/I39 to Forest Street and 1st Avenue
April 30	Forest Street to Franklin Street	Sherman Street to Thomas Street between USH 51/I39 & Wisc. River
May 1	Franklin Street to Stark Street	Thomas Street to South City Limits between USH 51/I39 & Wisc. River
May 2	Stark Street to E. Wausau Avenue	USH 51/I39 to 36th Avenue
May 3	E. Wausau Avenue to Golf Club Rd.	36th Avenue to West City Limits
May 4	Golf Club Road to North City Limits	



**Recycle electronics instead of trashing them when you spring clean.**

*By Bridgette Valdez-Kogle, DNR*

Many Wisconsinites will be cleaning their homes, garages and basements this time of year. If you have old, unwanted or broken electronics in your home, make sure you get rid of them the right way.

Cell phones, computers, TVs and other electronics are a daily part of most of our lives. The more electronics we use the more we discard. There are millions of pounds of electronic waste in Wisconsin alone.

Under Wisconsin's electronics recycling law, a number of electronics cannot be put in the trash. The E-Cycle Wisconsin program offers Wisconsin residents and schools many options for recycling electronics. More than 325 collection sites around the state will take items like TVs and computers for either a small recycling charge or for free.

"This is an exciting opportunity for many of us in Wisconsin to recycle our electronics more easily and cheaply," Coakley said.

Electronics can contain harmful chemicals like mercury, lead, cadmium and other heavy metals, as well as chemical flame retardants. When disposed of improperly, these pollutants can pose a risk to human and environmental health.

Electronics also contain valuable reusable material, including steel, gold, silver, copper and glass. Properly recycling these materials reduces the need for mining new materials.

"Electronics are resources that are too valuable to waste, and we can help both our economy and the environment by recycling them," said Ann Coakley, director of DNR's Waste and Material Management Program.

For more information on the E-Cycle Wisconsin program, including a full list of collection sites, see <http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin>. For questions contact the E-Cycle Wisconsin program at 608-266-2111.

The following electronics are banned from Wisconsin landfills and incinerators:

- Computers (desktop, laptop, netbooks and table computers)
- Computer monitors
- TVs
- DVD players, VCRs and DVRs
- Cell phones
- Computer mice and keyboards
- Other computer accessories such as hard drives, speakers, flash drives and modems
- Desktop printers (including those that scan, fax and/or copy)



## 3rd Annual Clean-It Up Wausau!

**Friday, April 13, 2012  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**Saturday April 14, 2012  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Drop off - Near the Yard Waste Site  
at 105 E. Chellis Street**

The Mayor's N2N (Neighbor to Neighbor) Committee and local non-profit organizations, are again coordinating the "Clean-It Up, Wausau" event for Wausau residents to properly and safely dispose of unwanted items.

This is your opportunity to properly dispose of, donate and recycle electronics, appliances, household items and more. ***This event is in addition to the annual Spring Large Item Pick-Up which will take place as scheduled during the weeks of April 23 and 30th.***

Drop off will be near the Yard Waste Site at 105 E. Chellis Street. Follow the signs and please be prepared to show proof of Wausau residency. A small fee, which will benefit area non-profit groups, will apply to some items. Accepted items include all appliances including: refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, washers, dryers, and stoves. Lawnmowers, snow blowers, TV's, VCR's, computers, monitors, cell phones, furniture, mattresses and box springs will also be accepted. Watch for future details in your local newspaper and on the City of Wausau website ([www.ci.wausau.wi.us](http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us)).

"The N2N Committee works hard at supporting neighborhoods and working to improve the quality of life in Wausau. Providing an opportunity for residents to properly recycle and dispose of items we all seem to collect in our homes aligns itself with their mission, says Mayor Tipple. We are proud to partner with so many from our community for this event."

## Plans for East Riverfront District Take Shape

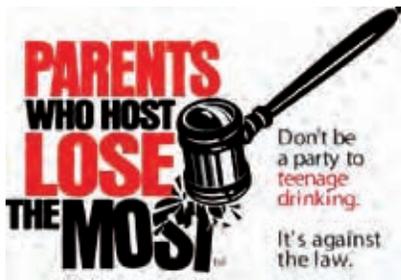
Planning for enhancements to the riverfront has been an on-going process that can be traced back to the mid 1970's with the formation of the River Edge Commission. The Park and Community Development departments were also involved in the early stages planning for recreational opportunities along the river. Efforts were moved forward in 1995 with the adoption of the River Edge Master Plan. More recently, in 2007, the city adopted the North Downtown Area Master Plan which reinforced recommendations for public access to the river, and provided direction for properties adjacent to, and near the river.

In 2011, the city purchased 16 acres of land on the east bank of the Wisconsin River south of Bridge Street. This land makes up a large portion of the East Riverfront District, as outlined in the North Downtown Area Master Plan. Recommendations in the plan include linking the area to downtown, and following general guidelines for building design and land use.

Community Design Solutions (CDS) from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee's School of Architecture and Urban Planning was engaged in the spring of 2011 to take some of the general recommendations from previous plans and, with input from the community, develop renderings of how the area might look. The goal was to begin putting a physical form to the area that could be used for further public input, planning, and decision-making.

In June of 2011, CDS and the Planning department facilitated a series of design charrettes in downtown Wausau. A charrette is a collaborative activity during which a group of people organize a response to or generate design solutions for a land use, building design or similar planning or visioning opportunity. Approximately 80 people from the community participated in the charrettes. The image shown here is one that was generated by the team and shown at an open house in Wausau in January of 2012. More images and other information can be viewed on the Planning department's website at: [www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Planning.aspx](http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Planning.aspx).





## Stopping underage drinking is a top priority in Wausau

One tool to limit youth access to alcohol is a social host ordinance. This ordinance, which was passed unanimously by the Wausau City Council on October 25th, 2011, penalizes anyone, of any age, who provides a location for underage drinking to take place. The penalty for hosting an underage drinking party ranges from \$1000-\$5000. This ordinance does not throw people in jail, take away a parent's rights, or duplicate state law.

Let's face it...when kids drink...they drink hard...& they get drunk! Studies show that those who drink alcohol before their 15th birthday are five times more likely to have issues with alcohol as an adult.

There are a number of things that a community can do to tackle underage drinking. One way is to limit access to alcohol. There are two places kids usually get their alcohol – retail locations (grocery stores, gas stations, bars or restaurants) people they know (parents, family or friends).

It is not uncommon for adults, including parents, to host an underage drinking party. Hosts may think they are doing the right thing by taking the keys and providing a "safe" location for underage drinking. Though they may not be drinking and driving, taking the keys does not prevent all the other bad things that can happen when kids drink alcohol. Underage drinking also can lead to increased drug use, arrests, violence, STDs, pregnancy, accidents or falls, suicides, or death.

The message to the community is clear. Don't be a party to teenage drinking, it's against the law.



### Purpose of Revaluations

The State of Wisconsin requires assessments to be within 10% of full value (market value) at least once in a four-year period. The purpose of an assessment is to assure all property in the city is valued fairly and equitably as required by law, while the information gathered provides a historical record and reference base for municipal operations.

The most recent city-wide reassessment was completed in 2007. The timing of the next revaluation has not been determined. The Assessment Department will continue to discuss property values with property owners and address all valuation concerns when they are brought to our attention.

Assessed values are established as of January 1 per Chapter 70 of the Wisconsin Statutes. It is Wisconsin Laws, Chapter 39 (1975) which defines criteria for staff certification. Employees must be state certified to legally perform described duties.

### Personal Property 2012

The time is here to file the 2012 Statement of Personal Property with the Assessment Department. If you have not received your 2012 Statement of Personal Property, you may (1) download the statement from the Wisconsin Department of Revenue website at: [www.revenue.wi.gov](http://www.revenue.wi.gov) or (2) from the City of Wausau website at: [www.revenue.wi.gov/forms/govtvc/pa-003.pdf](http://www.revenue.wi.gov/forms/govtvc/pa-003.pdf) or (3) we have statements available in our department for you to pick-up.

Statements are due on or before March 1, 2012. If you fail to file, the assessor must estimate the value of your property using the best information available. This estimate is called a **doomage** assessment. In addition, you shall be denied any right of abatement by the Board of Review, under Section 70.35(4), Wisconsin Statutes.

If you have sold or transferred your business (or personal property), please write the new owner(s) name and address on the form and return it to our office. Failure to notify our office of a change in ownership or location will result in an assessment based on the information we currently have on record.

**Note:** Per Wisconsin Statute 70.13(6), there is no partial year pro-ration for a business that has sold or moved after January 1, 2012.

### Open Book Period

Assessment change notices are typically mailed during the end of April through the end of May. This "open book" period is set aside to answer questions posed by property owners and to correct errors on the assessment roll. Property owners wishing to review and compare assessments may view the assessment rolls located at either the Assessment Department or online at [www.ci.wausau.wi.us/webapps/AssessmentSearch/index.asp](http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/webapps/AssessmentSearch/index.asp).

Owners who disagree with their assessment should contact the Assessment Department. If an error was made, or if there is evidence the assessment is more than the actual fair market value of property we will review the facts. The best evidence of value is a recent sale of the property or sales of comparable properties.

Owners who still feel their property value is overstated may file formal written objections to the Board of Review (BOR). Objections must be submitted to the City Clerk on forms available in the City Clerk's Office or on-line at: [www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Clerk/PropertyAssessmentObjection.aspx](http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Clerk/PropertyAssessmentObjection.aspx).

Formal hearings before the Board of Review are typically held after the second Monday in May. Similar to a court, the BOR has the responsibility for resolving differences of opinion of valuation. After hearing evidence, the Board may lower, raise, or sustain the assessment.

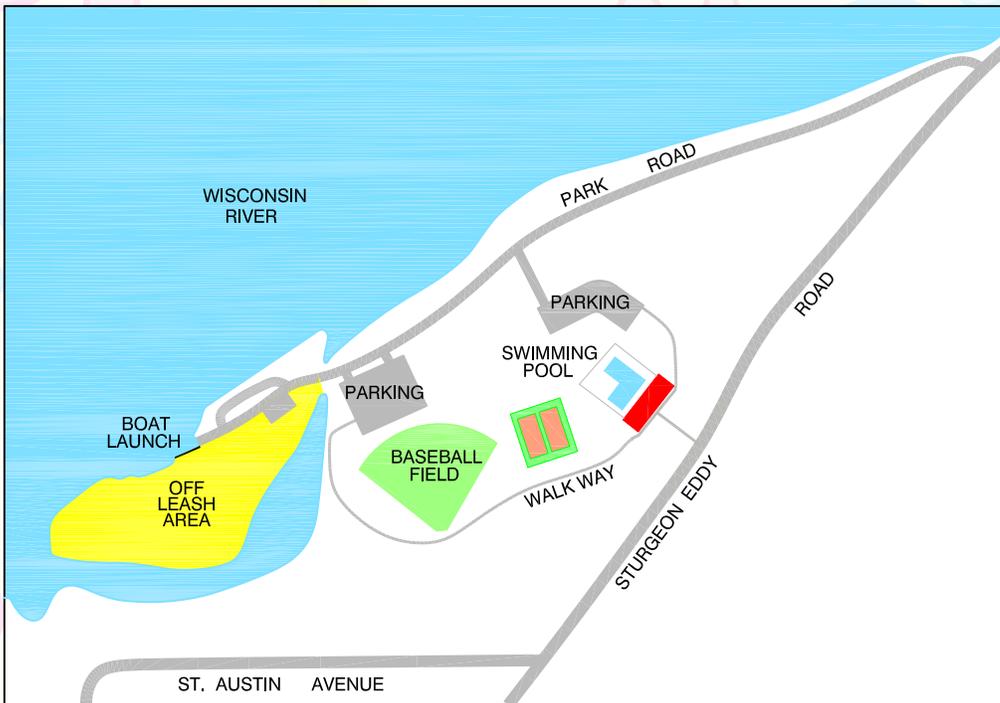
To contact the Assessment Department:

- Phone: (715) 261-6600
- Pre-Appointment Questionnaire: [www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Assessment/PreAppointmentQuestionnaire.aspx](http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Assessment/PreAppointmentQuestionnaire.aspx)
- In Person at: City Hall, 407 Grant Street, 1st Floor, Wausau, WI 54403

## New Dog Off-Leash Areas

The City recently designated off-leash areas in three Wausau parks to allow your dog the freedom to run and play. These areas and times are shown below:

1. Clean up after your dog
2. Remove aggressive dogs
3. Keep your dog in sight
4. Dogs must be on a leash when outside the off-leash area.



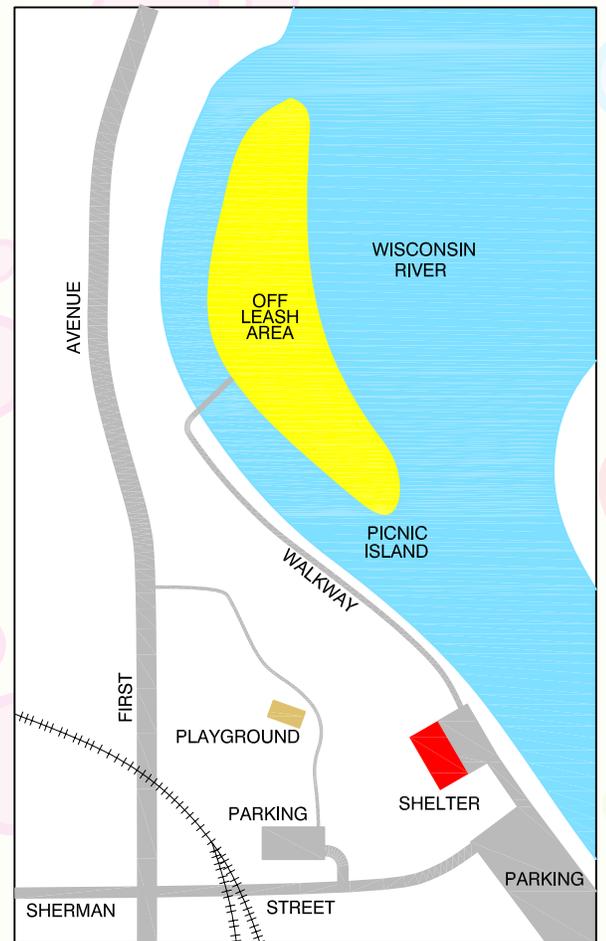
### Memorial Park

505 Memorial Park Road  
Hours  
6:00 AM to 9:00 AM  
Only



### Oak Island Park

500 River Drive  
Hours  
6:00 AM to 9:00 AM 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM



### Riverside Park

100 Sherman Street  
Hours  
6:00 AM TO 9:00 AM 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM



## Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Update

by Blaine Peterson Wausau City Forester

In an effort to minimize the impact of EAB to the City of Wausau the Wausau Park Department has focused more effort in removing ash trees around the city.

We have primarily removed ash trees growing under overhead electric lines that were of poor quality, generally unattractive and were high maintenance trees for Wisconsin Public Service. We are still focusing on these tree locations but with the inevitable spread of EAB to the area our efforts have intensified and I am now marking and removing ash street trees that have developed poorly because they were planted under or too close to large private trees.

I have also started to "thin" out the ash population along streets that have high densities of ash trees. My plan is to remove some of the trees at this time and then replant. At a later date more of the ash trees will be removed and replanted and finally the last of the ash will be removed and replaced. In this way the removal will have less of an immediate impact to any one street or area.

On some streets this has resulted in every other tree being removed. Other locations the removal has been somewhat irregular depending on the presence of other existing street or private trees.

Most of the ash tree removal will be conducted in winter months when homeowner requests for work are at a minimum and wind storms and other warm weather work has slowed down.

We have also started a selective removal of ash trees in the maintained portions of the City Park property.

To date no additional funding has been supplied to supplement removal, stump grinding or replanting of trees that are removed but every effort will be made to mitigate the impact of EAB to the citizens of Wausau.

The arrival of EAB seems inevitable; it is just a matter of when. Communities that have delayed in dealing with the problem have been faced with enormous numbers of removals in a relatively short amount of time as trees start dying in large numbers.

In March of 1997 there were 6200 ash trees along Wausau City streets. At this time we have approximately 5550 left subtracting those that have been removed in the last several years.

The most prudent approach is to spread the impact out over as many years as possible which is why we have stepped up our efforts at this time.

## Volunteers Needed to Plant Trees

The Commission for a Greener Tomorrow is starting a tree planting effort in the Wausau area this spring. On Saturday, April 28, 2012, all area residents are encouraged to participate in the planting of 200 native pine trees on Barker-Stewart Island, among other places. Volunteers interested should meet in the parking lot behind the Eye Clinic of Wisconsin on First Street, downtown, at the pedestrian bridge leading to Barker Island at 10 am, where representatives from the Commission and the Parks Department will be waiting to direct volunteers. No equipment or experience is necessary, all that is required is a desire to improve our area's ecology. Any questions should be directed to [info@gogreencentralwisconsin.com](mailto:info@gogreencentralwisconsin.com).



## Volunteer Foresters

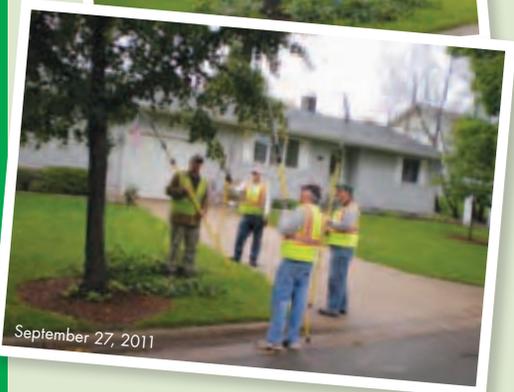
What do you get when you bring together City Foresters, six energetic volunteers, and tree pruning tools? Answer: Well-groomed, unobstructed streets, as pictured here.

Last September, Liberty Mutual encouraged its employees to give time volunteering. United Way Volunteer Connection brought this group of volunteers together with the Wausau Forestry Department for a mutually beneficial experience.

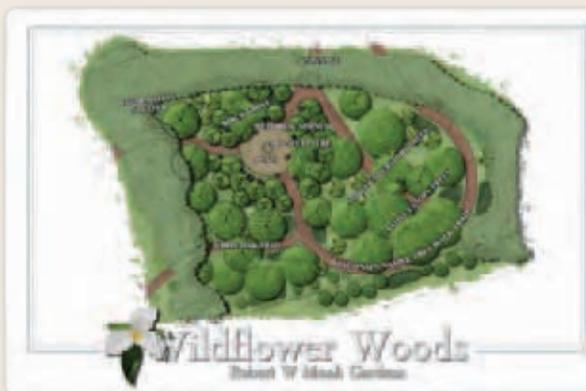
Despite a wet start to the volunteer day, the group set out, undaunted. Liberty employees first learned the basics of tree pruning then applied their new skills to overgrown trees. Volunteers felt a real sense of accomplishment when they could see the difference their pruning efforts made. And the City of Wausau scored extra hands for a day to help trim approximately 100 trees in and near Scholfield Park.

City Forester Blaine Peterson, who oversaw the Liberty volunteers, is hopeful for opportunities to work with similar groups again. Great community cooperation everyone!

September 27, 2011



September 27, 2011



The Wildflower Woods will provide members of the community with a serene place both to reflect and enjoy the natural surroundings.

## Planting The Seeds: Robert W. Monk Public Gardens Moving Ahead With Wildflower Woods And Memory Garden.

Within the next year, Wausau area citizens and visitors could be strolling through the first completed phase of the Robert W. Monk Public Gardens on the city's west side, enjoying the wildflower and fern gardens, shaded by a grove of beautiful birch trees, or relaxing on a bench in the memorial plaza.

The Board of Directors of the Robert W. Monk Public Gardens are currently raising the funds for the Phase 1 Wildflower Woods and Memory Garden – the first of what is expected to be a series of gardens which will ultimately occupy the 21-acre site at the north end of First Ave.

This first project is expected to cost approximately \$285,000.

"We are excited to get this project underway," said Bev Smith, board president. "A successful fund drive will allow us to begin construction this spring, with the new garden ready for public use by next fall.

The Wildflower Woods and Memory Garden will be positioned near the current entrance to the property. It will include a thick stand of birch trees, fern and wildflower gardens, some 20 Marathon County blue stone boulders, a berm, hard-surface pathways and an information kiosk. The Memory Gardens will contain a memorial to the late Robert W. Monk, who donated the property to be developed into a public garden in 2004, as well as plantings, benches, and trees given in memory of individual donors.

The design is by Craig Rowe, local landscape architect.

The project will also include several infrastructure elements necessary for long-term garden development—water and sewer lines, electrical conduit, an irrigation system, and a parking area.

Smith explained that the garden's board of directors has taken a new approach to developing the garden—proceeding one project at a time rather than taking on the whole 21-acre plan at once. "This is more feasible," she said, "and we are confident we can get this done." She indicated that contacts with a number of local foundations, corporations and individuals for potential funding have been encouraging. "Public support for the garden continues to build," she said. "Just last summer, more than a thousand people toured the property, participated in our bus trips and other events, helped with work days, and joined our Friends of the Garden group.

"It's been very encouraging and confirms that the garden will be an educational and environmental resource the community wants and will use."

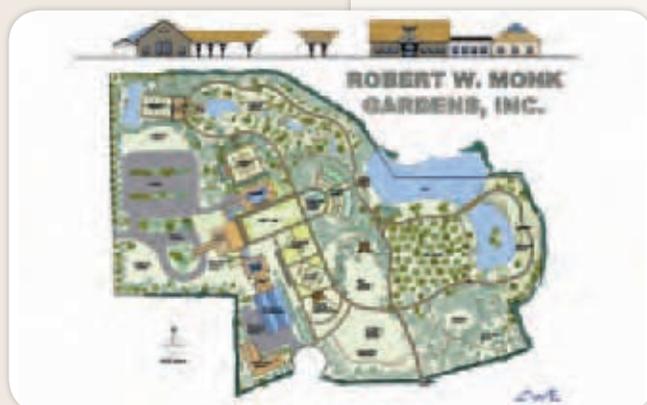
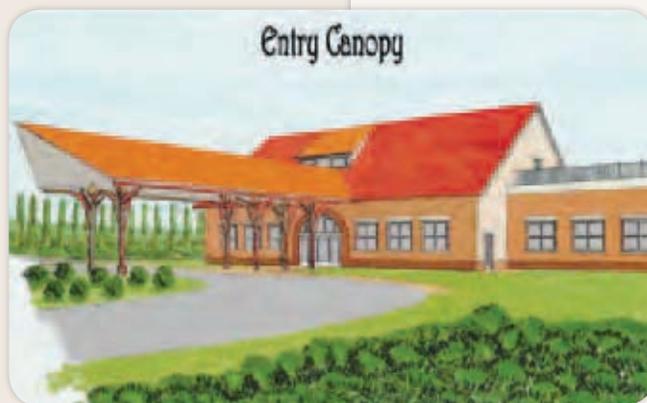
She said the community has already provided about \$350,000 in donations and in-kind contributions over the last five years, including fencing, a gazebo, storage shed, plantings, and numerous garden accessories which have helped get the project off the ground.

The public can keep up with garden developments at [www.rwmonkgardens.org](http://www.rwmonkgardens.org), or on the garden's Facebook page.

## How to support the Garden

Contributions of any and all amounts are welcome in support of Phase 1 of the Robert W. Monk Public Garden. Just go the Garden website at [www.rwmonkgardens.org](http://www.rwmonkgardens.org), or contribute through the website of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin ([www.cfoncw.org](http://www.cfoncw.org)). Checks can also be mailed to the Community Foundation, earmarked for the R.W. Monk Wildflower Woods project, at The Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, Suite 2600, 500 First St., Wausau, WI 54403.

Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.





## 2012 Road Construction Projects

The following city streets are anticipated to be reconstructed in the Summer of 2012:

- Washington St. from 4th St. to 6th St.
- Jefferson St. from 5th St. to 6th St.
- Randolph St. from Stevens Dr. to Merrill Ave.
- Plato St. from Weston Ave. to Ruder St.
- Ruder St. from Plato St. to Geisler St.
- Prospect Ave. from Townline Rd. to Forest St.
- East Hill Dr. from Townline Rd. to North
- S. 12th Ave. from Stewart Ave. to Bridge St.

**Description:** The street reconstructions will include removing the existing street surface, installing new sanitary sewer, water main, storm sewer, curb and gutter and pavement. Sanitary sewer and water laterals will also be replaced where required.

**Traffic Impacts:** The streets will be closed to thru traffic during construction. Residents should have access to their driveways for a majority of the project.

**Schedule:** May – October

**Special Note:** Due to the reconstruction of Jefferson and Washington Streets, the Metro Ride bus terminal will be temporarily relocated to River Drive. The anticipated relocation will run from June – August.

If you have any questions regarding the reconstruction of the city streets please call the Engineering Department at 715-261-6740.

## Rent Abatement Ordinance Takes Effect April 1st

Rent abatement is a process by which tenants living in rental units with certain unrepaired conditions may qualify for rent reduction if property owners do not comply with inspection orders. Residents may report conditions to inspections by calling (715)261-6780. Inspections will provide notice to tenants if abatable conditions persist after the owner has received notice of code violations and failed to correct issues prior to re-inspection. Once notified of abatement eligibility, tenants have 30 days to request a hearing before the Public Health and Safety committee by completing a request form available at the customer service desk at city hall or via the City's website. A fee of \$25 must be submitted with the form to the city clerk. Once these are received, a hearing is scheduled. Testimony and evidence are presented by both sides for committee consideration. If abatement is awarded, the tenant may deduct the approved percentage of the rent retroactive to the date of the original violation notice. A list of abatable conditions is included in the ordinance, available at city hall and online. Conditions include, but are not limited to issues with heating systems, electrical, plumbing, security, moisture, pests, safety and structural issues. A list of addresses with unresolved abatable violations will be posted at [www.ci.wausau.wi.us](http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us) every 10 days. Residents and prospective tenants may view the list to determine if a unit they are living in or considering renting has serious issues. The new ordinance is the result of months of work by the Housing Code Enforcement Task Force whose members include: Ann Werth & Tammy Stratz from Community Development, Alderperson Lisa Rasmussen, Karen Bauer -Tenant Advocate, John Fischer-Landlord, Jim Bauman-Homeowner and Inspections Director Bill Hebert and City Attorney Anne Jacobson.

## Important Information for Owners of Residential Rental Properties

As a reminder, the City adopted an ordinance requiring owners that **rent out** residential properties and living units to provide their contact information for the rental units they own, and if they live outside of Marathon County, their registered agent's contact information as well. More information regarding this can be found at: <http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Inspections/RentalRegistration.aspx>. A Rental Dwelling Unit Registration form can also be downloaded from this website.

If you own rental properties in the City and have not submitted this information, or if you have made any changes in contact information for the properties you own, such as mailing address, telephone numbers, change of registered agent, this information should be forwarded to the Department of Inspection and Zoning. If you have any questions, their department can be reached at 715.261.6780.

## Metro Ride Transit Center Temporarily Moving

Construction on Jefferson and Washington Streets in downtown Wausau this summer will necessitate the temporary closure of the Metro Ride Transit Center facility, located at 555 Jefferson Street. The facility accommodates the transfer of passengers between Metro Ride bus routes and is a boarding location for intercity services provided by Jefferson Lines and Lamers Bus Lines. The closure is anticipated to begin in early June and will last about 60 days. During that period, Metro Ride will relocate to a municipal parking lot on River Drive, just south of the United Way building. Passengers will be able to transfer between routes at that location. Route detours to accommodate the temporary location will be announced at a later date.





## CITY OF WAUSAU

407 Grant Street  
Wausau, WI 54403

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Wausau, WI

\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*

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## POSTAL PATRON

# Welcome to Wausau, Collaborative Consulting!

After an extensive site selection process that included several states and cities including Puerto Rico, Collaborate Consulting selected Wausau, Wisconsin as the site for development of an onshore software development and testing capability center to open in January of 2012. Collaborative Consulting, headquartered outside of Boston, MA having expanded into Wausau, Wisconsin is expecting to reach full production by year three. The plan is to locate in the Dudley Tower and hire 200 employees (at minimum) that serve as "knowledge-based" professionals. Collaborative offers a complete service delivery continuum, from strategy to implementation, at a cost that is competitive and offers a higher quality service throughout the United States, using the talent base of United States-based employees. So far, Collaborative Consulting has hired 15 people locally and acknowledges the skilled and experienced workforce they've been able to capitalize upon in Wausau.



Bill Robichaud, President and CEO

John Williams, Senior VP