



LIBERTY GROVE ROCKS

Important Dates:

Feb. 14 – Valentines Day
Feb. 15 - Board Mtg – 7:00 pm
Feb. 21 – **Spring Primary**
Feb. 22 – Plan Commission – 7 pm
Mar. 1 – Board Mtg – 7 pm
Mar. 8 – Plan Commission – 7 m

Featured Business

Savory Spoon Cooking School

Phone: (920) 854-6600

12042 Highway 42 • Ellison Bay, WI 54210 • Phone:
(920) 854-6600

Email: savoryspoon@aol.com

Are you interested in supporting the younger generation to be able to make a living in our neighborhood? Consider joining:

NexGen Young Professionals Network



The Door County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) has proudly launched the **NexGen Door County Young Professionals Network**. The purpose of the NexGen Young Professionals Network is to help attract and retain young professionals in Door County through social, educational and community service programming.

NexGen will offer a regular schedule of events, including professional development, community service projects and social gatherings, throughout the length and breadth of the peninsula. Keep up to date with NexGen events via their [Facebook Page](#). Admission to all NexGen Door County events is free for members. There is a non-member fee of \$10. Next Gen's goal is to promote the benefits of living and working in Door County to young professionals as well as long-term young residents.

By strengthening Door County's community of young people, they also hope to entice native graduates to return to the community they grew up in.

Individual Membership: \$50

- Includes admission to all NexGen events (other program costs may apply)

Business: \$300

- Up to 10 young professionals from your business can participate in our events and programming

Premier Sponsor: \$1500

- Unlimited young professional employees can participate
- Tailored tours of the community for your recruits and new hires by an appropriately matched NexGen member
- Option to hold a NexGen event or program at your business
- Business name and logo at all NexGen events

Contact: Aubrey Immel (920) 422-4911

nexgendoorcounty@gmail.com

For info on the organization and upcoming events





The Door County

Community Foundation, Inc. is an organization dedicated to supporting the numerous non-profit organizations that enhance the quality of life in order to entice people to live and work in our area. They provide:

- Ways for private parties to fund the non-profit organizations in the area
- Ways for the organizations to receive funds to support their efforts

Within this group is **Give Door County** which gives residents a place to fund these groups and gives groups an entity to turn to for help with funding their projects.

Give Door County is currently working on a project called, Discuss Door County, in order to gather information from the community leaders as well as every segment of the community in order to give a **Community Statement** to be unveiled in

May of 2017

For more information on this group and their efforts you can go to www.GiveDoorCounty.org

Winter readiness on the road:

Put together an emergency vehicle kit containing:

- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Booster cables,
- Emergency flares,
- Water and snack food
- Extra gloves, hats, scarves and blankets.
- Shovel
- A bag of sand or kitty litter to help provide traction if you get stuck
- Cell phone adapter

Survival tips:

- Make sure your vehicle is in good working order before you plan your trip.
- **Be easy to find:** Tell someone where you are going and the route you will take.
- **If stuck:** Tie a florescent flag (from your kit) on your antenna or hang it out the window. At night, keep your dome light on. Rescue crews can see a small glow at a distance. To reduce battery drain, use emergency flashers only if you hear approaching vehicles. If you're with someone else, make sure at least one person is awake and keeping watch for help at all times.
- **Stay in your vehicle:** Walking in a storm can be very dangerous. You might become lost or exhausted. Your vehicle is a good shelter.
- **Avoid Overexertion:** Shoveling snow or pushing your car takes a lot of effort in storm conditions. Don't risk a heart attack or injury. That work can also make you hot and sweaty. Wet clothing loses insulation value, making you susceptible to hypothermia.
- **Fresh Air:** It's better to be cold and awake than comfortably warm and sleepy. Snow can plug your vehicle's exhaust system and cause deadly carbon monoxide gas to enter your car. Only run the engine for 10 minutes an hour and make sure the exhaust pipe is free of snow. Keep a window open a crack while running the engine.

The best survival tip is to STAY HOME if you can.

Go to www.ready.wi.gov and click on the article [Are you Ready for Winter?](#) For more tips on surviving Wisconsin winters.

Snow Removal Notes

Due to the weather conditions during the period of October 1, 2016 to February 1, 2017, the crew has used 500 tons of salt, 800 tons of sand and 543 1/4 man hours to keep our roads clear and safe.

In the same time period during 2015 to 2016 they used 289 ¾ man hours.

During the winter 2014 to 2016 there were 480 ½ man hours used.



The town crew would like to remind its residents that during snow plowing season cars parked on town roads creates a serious problem for the large trucks.

If you need to move your car from your driveway to allow for private plowing please do so just for the time the private plow driver is there. Leaving your vehicle parked on a town road makes navigating them very difficult. Corners can't be turned leaving piles of snow where they aren't wanted or some roads unplowed because the truck cannot get down it.

From the Door County Tourism zone:



In May of 2007 the Door County Tourism Zone was established because studies showed that Door County was losing its market share to other locations in the

state. The room tax was subsequently initiated in order to generate money for a broader marketing campaign. The money is then redistributed to the municipalities at 30%, The Door County Visitors Bureau at 66% and 4% for Administration Costs.

Any innkeeper or other property owner offering transient rental (less than 30 days) must obtain a permit and collect 5.5% room tax (per WI State statute, local ordinance, and the Door County Tourism Zone Intergovernmental Agreement).

For a permit application, call 920-854-6200 or e-mail info@doorcountytourismzone.com

Notes from your Town Board:

- Money has been granted by the State Waterways commission to the Town for the repairs to Ellison Bay Marina in the amount of \$96,450. 50% of that will be available immediately for start-up costs.
- A resolution was made to contact state officials to make them aware of the problems caused by the recent decision of the Postal Service that ALL mail, including local mail, be sent to a central office for sorting. In the case of Washington Island and the rest of Door County, that would mean sending all mail to Green Bay for sorting and then back to the various towns for local delivery.
- An additional street light has been approved for the corner of Townline Drive and Hwy 42 at a cost of \$18 per month.

We are sorry to discontinue the service of providing sand/salt to residents. However, this is due to the fact that some people are not paying the nominal fee needed.



**It's not too early to start
thinking about the next growing
season in Door County!**

**National Invasive Species Awareness Week
February 27 - March 3, 2017**

[Save the Date!](#)

PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS ACROSS THE NATION to raise awareness and identify solutions to invasive species issues at local, state, tribal, regional, international and national scales. Locate an invasive species event in your state or county. Plan your own event using the NISAW Toolkit – where and when it works for you!

***Plan ahead! The first ever NISAW in the Field will
be July 9 – 15 2017.***

**Ten ways you can help to raise
awareness and reduce the spread of
invasive species:**

1. Learn about invasive species, especially those found in this region. [The Door County Invasive Species Team Webpage](#), the [DNR](#), and the [National Invasive Species Information Center](#) are trusted resources.
2. Clean hiking boots, waders, boats and trailers, off-road vehicles and other gear to stop invasive species from hitching a ride to a new location. Learn more at [PlayCleanGo.org](#).
3. Avoid dumping aquariums or live bait into waterways. Learn more at [Habitattitude.org](#).
4. Don't move firewood – instead, buy it where you'll burn it, or gather on site when permitted. Learn more at [DontMoveFirewood.org](#).
5. Use forage, hay, mulch and soil that is certified as “**weed free**”
6. Plant only non-invasive plants in your garden, and remove any known invaders.
7. Report new or expanded invasive species outbreaks to DCIST (Door County Invasive Species Team) at dcist1@gmail.com or the [Wisconsin DNR](#).
8. Volunteer to help remove invasive species from public lands and natural areas.
9. Invasive species spread on things that people move and pack. Do your part and always make sure you are not packing a pest. Learn more at [Hungry Pests](#).
10. Ask your political representatives at the state, local and national level to support invasive species control efforts.

Chairman's Corner:

Please mark Tuesday April 18th on your calendar. This is the Annual Town Meeting which begins at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. As in the past several years we will have a report from the auditors on the Town's financial condition. In addition I have invited NWTC Dean of Corporate Training & Economic Development Dean H Stewart Jr. to update us on the status of the proposed Regional Learning Center to be located in the former Bay Lake Bank Building. NWTC has finalized the purchase of the building and is now moving forward with remodeling plans and class offerings. This will be an extremely important project for northern Door County.

Also invited to make a presentation is Matthew Velguth of Ellison Bay. He is author of "The Gills Rock Petragraphs" and will provide us with information on his project of protecting the Petragraphs and making them available for public viewing on the shores of Hedgehog Harbor. The Petragraphs tell a fascinating story of the history of our area.

Contrary to the press release from the Village of Sister Bay regarding their law suit against the Town we certainly are not the villain as portrayed in the release which contained a lot of erroneous information. The Town has been in discussion with the Village since 2008 regarding the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Bud and I in December of 2008 visited with the then Village administrator informing him that per the existing agreement the Town would seek mediation regarding the renewal of the original agreement which had been languishing on his desk for several years. From that point forward discussions were held with representatives from the Village to draft a new agreement which was ratified in 2013. During that time period the old agreement remained in effect. The initial response from the Village negotiators was they would not discuss the ownership issue as part of the new draft. The Town agreed acknowledging that we reserved the right to open that discussion at a later date. We have legal opinions from three attorneys that the Town has ownership interests in the plant based upon legal precedent in such cases.

After a long period of consideration the Board has decided on a course of action to defend our substantial investment in the treatment facility and protect the Town from future contentious situations between the two municipalities. We are hopeful that the current situation will be settled without a difficult legal confrontation.



D.O.T. plans removal of Stone Fences along Hwy 57

In the Feb 3, 2107 of the Green Bay Press Gazette there is an article about the state **Department of Transportation** plan to remove certain stone fences along Hwy 57. The plan was discussed by community members and town officials at the Liberty Grove Town Board meeting of February 1, 2017. There were many comments outlining reasons not to remove the fences.

Letters about removing the rocks by May 1 will be mailed during the week of Feb. 7 to the approximate 30 property owners whose fence piles encroach on the highway

According to **Jeremy Ashauer** of Wisconsin D.O.T., "We look at encroachments and other hazards. This is a safety versus aesthetics issue, and we want to maintain a clear zone along the highway," Ashauer said. "Some of these stone piles have ended up falling into the right-of-way."

The DOT had informational meetings about the plans in 2014, which resulted in exemptions for stacked or layered stone fences, Ashauer said.

Stone fences **exempt from removal** would need to be moved out of the right-of-way if the structure needs maintenance or rebuilding, he said. The state also has the right to revoke the exemption as needed, he said.

You can read the entire article in the Feb. 3, 2017 of the Green Bay Press Gazette

Do you or someone you know want to learn more ways to explore our peninsula's natural beauty? Visit:

Door County Coastal Byway

www.doorcountycoastalbyway.com

Among other things, you'll find:

- A wealth of information about our beautiful scenic roads and what there is to see here in Door County.
- You'll also find a list of contacts-people you can talk to about their work on this committee- and a link to donate to the cause.
- You will also find help in planning what places to visit on your next visit to "The Door".



The Great Arc – the Niagara Escarpment stretches from New York, Canada, the UP and then into Wisconsin.