



# LIBERTY GROVE ROCKS

## Featured Business

The Silly Goose  
11996 Hwy 42  
Ellison Bay, WI 54210  
phone: (920) 854-9692

Open daily.

## Important Dates

August 16 – Town Board meeting  
August 21 – Total solar eclipse  
August 23 – Board of Review-appt. is  
required. Contact the office by  
Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 1:00pm for  
appointment.



## WEST NILE VIRUS FOUND IN DEAD BIRD

*We have confirmation from Rhonda Kolberg, Door County Public Health, that a bird tested positive for West Nile Virus. It was found in Liberty Grove. Please take time to read up on this disease and be vigilant about using insect repellent when outdoors.*

## FROM YOUR TOWN CHAIRMAN

The Board, on the recommendation of the Tech Committee, has asked administrator Kalms to draw up a Broadband Forward Ordinance. The purpose of the Ordinance is to establish Liberty Grove as a Broadband Forward Community. That would make Liberty Grove eligible for Broadband Expansion Grants that are awarded annually. We are aware that many areas within our town have little or no access to broadband internet. The Town has worked aggressively to service those areas using existing service providers and to enhance service in the underserved areas.

The chip sealing on certain roads has begun and the repaving of others is scheduled to begin in late August. Chip sealing is done to extend the life of an existing road by seven plus years. It is considerable less expensive than repaving a road. It also requires little to no additional prep work by the Town crew as they have been doing the right of way maintenance of brushing and mowing on a yearly basis. Repaving involves tree removal plus additional brushing within the right of way. This is done to help preserve the longevity of the road and provide a positive return on the investment.

While we all enjoy the beauty of our tree lined roads it is necessary to ensure damage is not done by roots under the road and in the winter providing adequate room for snow removal. Our roads are the arteries that connect us to family, neighbors and the outside world. They are also a vital link in our economy. Perhaps most importantly properly maintained roads allow emergency personnel and their equipment to reach us in an efficient and timely manner.

Each year we hear from concerned citizens about the tree removal during road preparation and maintenance. Those concerns are always welcome but one must realize the Town has adopted a conservative approach to the protocol involved in clearing the clear zone. A dead or wind-blown tree that ends up on a road impedes emergency vehicles and one's ability to travel. In winter if snow is not allowed to be reasonably removed to the clear zone it poses an icing danger for emergency vehicles and one's safe travel. I encourage your attendance at Highway committee meetings to help understand their approach to the maintenance of our roads. Also several recent projects i.e. Isle View Road, Garrett Bay Road and Beach Road provide good visual documentation of the conservative approach and, in my opinion, certainly have not destroyed the beauty and efficiency of those roads.

The Finance Committee will soon begin consideration of next year's budget for the Town. The meetings are open to the public and people are encouraged to listen-in on the deliberations. Committees have their proposed budgets submitted to Administrator Kalms. He assembles the proposed budget for consideration by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee will then forward their recommendations/proposed budget to the Town Board. A Public hearing is then scheduled in fall for citizen input and vote. The proposed budget will be available at the Town Office and posted on the Town Web Site once it is finalized for the public hearing. A recent article in the Peninsula Pulse listed Liberty Grove as having the lowest municipal taxes in Door County. The diligence of the administration, committees and the Board has, and is getting, the best return on our tax dollars for the Town of Liberty Grove.

## From your Town Board:



**Ordinance approvals** – The Town Board approved a revised cemetery ordinance (below), an ordinance selecting an alternate for the Board of Review, and a resolution appointing the Administrator to the Board of Review.

**Rocks at Pebble Beach** – A request for an ordinance or signage came because residents have witnessed people removing the rocks at Pebble Beach. While it was pointed out that the Board would not like to see this happen, it is waterfront that is Liberty Grove on one side and Sister Bay on the other. Enforcement of this would be very difficult to do. They decided not to act on this request.

**Transient slip at the Ellison Bay Marina** – The marina in downtown Ellison Bay has several transient slips but they get reserved fairly quick. Please call 920-421-1974 to reserve a slip well in advance. We can only accommodate up to a 25' boat.

**Recycling and paper shredding** – There will be another chance to recycle electronics and household appliances or shred sensitive documents on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am until 1:00pm. This is for Liberty Grove and the Village of Sister Bay residents only. Document shredding is limited to 5 banker boxes per household. Be sure heavy clips, binders or plastic covers are removed.

**Finance Committee meetings** – Soon the Board along with Finance will begin preparing for the 2018 budget. Watch the town web site calendar for meeting dates if you wish to sit in on their working sessions.

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### The Plan Commission Opens and revises the Liberty Grove Smart Growth Plan

The Plan Commission has spent many hours reviewing and revising the Town of Liberty Grove Smart Growth Plan. Although they have a ways to go they are getting closer to the time when a public hearing will be necessary. You are welcome to attend the Plan Commission meetings usually held every other Wednesday night at 7:00pm. Watch the public posting places for the agendas. After they have assembled a finished product they will present it to the citizens of Liberty Grove in a public hearing. That is your time to tell them what you like or don't like or what you would like to see added to the plan.

The current Liberty Grove Smart Growth Plan was adopted in 2003 and is a document that tries to assist the Town Board and residents when making decisions on an effective way to watch our community grow in such a way as to hold on to the rural characteristics that we all love. The plan is divided into sections such as agricultural and natural resources, housing, transportation, economic development and land use. Some of these chapters may have information in them that you find interesting but they all work together to promote a healthy future for Liberty Grove.

The Commissioners have been forward thinking in their approach to these chapters. For instance, in the transportation chapter they have included information regarding travel by water. One of our biggest assets is the water and boating or silent water sports have become a real way for people to get around. As always, communication presents its own problems as the country and connectivity move much faster than we seem to.

In the future there will be a hearing where the citizens can review the plan. Before that date there will be a draft copy available for anyone to look at in the office. Please watch for future announcements of this date and time.



**Door County Invasive Species** now has a Facebook page. If you are interested in following them use the link below and "like" them.  
<https://www.facebook.com/dcist>

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### *USDA Rural Development offers incentives for home buying and renovations.*

In a communication the Town office received from USDA Rural Development, they announce home buying and home repair financing specials.

#### **Homebuying:**

- 100% financing available
  - No Down Payment
- No private mortgage insurance
- Closing costs and repairs can be financed
- Affordable 33 year fixed rate financing
  - Income guidelines apply.

### Home repair options:

Correction of health and safety hazards, accessibility, forgiven after 3 years, must be 62 years or older, 1% interest rate, limit of \$20,000, income guidelines.

For a free prequalification contact USDA Rural Development, 715-345-7611 or [SFHApplication@wi.usda.gov](mailto:SFHApplication@wi.usda.gov)  
[www.rd.usda.gov/wi](http://www.rd.usda.gov/wi)

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### REMEMBER

*A delicious and nutritious lunch is  
provided by*

*The Senior Resource Center*

*At the*

*Liberty Grove Town Hall*

*Monday, Wednesday and Friday*

*Every week, except on Holidays.*

*Come and have lunch with us and play  
bingo on Wednesdays!*

*Call \*\*888-743-1844 X2542  
24 hrs before the first time you come.*

### Blues on the Bay

August 26, 3:00pm to 9:00pm

Come to the Ellison Bay Community Park, grab a chair, bring your own or spread a blanket and enjoy an evening of great music. There is no charge to listen, food and drinks are available. Donations are welcome. Proceeds benefit Door County Secret Santa which helps those in need to cover heating costs.



On August 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a total eclipse of the sun. From Liberty Grove you can start viewing this about 11:45am. Be sure to have protective lenses if you are going to watch straight on.



**Did you know banging  
your head against the  
wall burns up 150  
calories an hour?**

# Revised Cemetery Ordinance has been approved.

This time of year there seems to be a lot of interest in the Liberty Grove Cemeteries. We have 4 of them. They are Little Sister Cemetery, Ellison Bay Cemetery, Trinity Cemetery and Rowleys Bay Cemetery. All the cemeteries are under one ordinance. A copy of the revised ordinance is below. As always, if you have questions you are welcome to call the office at 920-854-2934.

**Fees:** Subject to change by Board approval

Burial site - property owner	\$750
Non-property owner	\$1500

Open lot	regular burial	\$650
	Cremation	\$300

**Sister Bay residents may purchase lots at Little Sister Cemetery at the resident rate.**

## TOWN OF LIBERTY GROVE CEMETERY ORDINANCE # 2-17

**An ordinance for administration of Liberty Grove cemeteries.**

### Section 1.

All previous cemetery ordinances, including Ord. 15-6, and all other rules of cemetery operation for the Town of Liberty Grove, hereafter referred to as Town, are hereby rescinded, to be replaced by this ordinance.

**Section 2.** All cemeteries and subdivisions thereof operated by the Town of Liberty Grove shall be ruled by the regulations herein set forth.

### Section 3. Definitions:

A. **Plat:** That section of the cemetery which is differentiated according to time of incorporation into the cemetery, e.g., original plat, first addition, second addition, etc.

B. **Lot:** A section of eight burial sites contained within a specific lot. A lot for eight graves shall have a dimension of 16' X 20'.

C. **Burial site:** Actual site of interment contained within a lot is 4'X10'.

D. **Family Burial Sites:** Must be contiguous, consisting of 2 or more sites, and the layout shall be determined by the Town Administrator.

E. **Purchase Price:** Actual cost in dollars to purchase a burial site. The purchase price entitles the purchaser to a burial site and care of that site thereafter. See Sec. 4A

F. **Opening fee:** The fee set by the Town of Liberty Grove to excavate the burial site and refill it once the burial has taken place. Included in the opening fee are normal excavation, and replacement. Not included are abnormal costs such as opening frozen ground or hammering rock. See Section 4B.

G. **Resident:** A registered voter in the Town of Liberty Grove and/or a person who pays property tax to the Town of Liberty Grove and has done so for one calendar year or more including the calendar year preceding death.

H. **Calendar Year:** A period of 12 consecutive months.

I. **Non-Resident:** A person who is not a registered voter in the Town of Liberty Grove and has not paid property tax for one calendar year as defined in ordinance to the Town of Liberty Grove.

J. **Place of Residence:** For these purposes, shall mean residing within the said municipality for a continual period of 5 (five) months or greater per calendar year.

**K. Condominium owners or nursing home residents:** must have been residents of said municipalities for a period of one year to be eligible to purchase a burial site.

**L. Immediate family:** Relatives consisting of husband, wife, sons, daughters 18 years or younger, and parents of husband or wife.

**M. Property:** Real property consisting of land and/or buildings.

**N.** With respect to this ordinance, Sister Bay village residents may purchase burial sites at the resident price in Little Sister Cemetery only.

**O. Deed.** A deed for each site shall be issued to the owner of the site. Multiple sites may not be held by one individual.

**P. Flat Marker:** A marker and foundation that is level with the contour of the ground on all sides; that is, flush with the surface of the ground on all sides.

#### **Section 4. Fees:**

A. Charge to purchase burial sites shall be determined by the Town Board of the Town of Liberty Grove, and may be changed without amendment to this ordinance. Contact Town Clerk for current fee.

B. The opening fee shall be set by the Town Board of the Town of Liberty Grove and may be changed as the need arises without amendment to this ordinance. Contact Town Clerk for current fee.

C. Shall the desires of a gravesite owner change from the original intention of burial, extra work by Town staff at the site above and beyond the normal procedures of opening and closing shall be charged on a time and materials basis.

#### **Section 5. Plantings and objects placed on cemetery lots:**

A. Plants or flowers are to be planted only in a cultivated area the width of the stone marker, extending out from the base of the marker on the face side for a distance not greater than eight inches. No bushes or shrubs are allowed to be planted.

B. No artificial flowers shall be placed on or near the grave in the summer months (May 15 – Sept 15) EXCEPT for the Memorial Day observance, Friday before thru Tuesday after. All artificial flowers shall be removed by June 1. Any remaining after that date shall be subject to removal and disposal by the Town and its employees.

C. In order to maintain the dignity of the cemeteries and in order to perform the routine maintenance of the cemetery grounds there are to be no objects placed anywhere on a cemetery lot including but not limited to the following: shepherd's hooks, statues, stones or rocks, remembrances, potted plants. If placed anywhere on a cemetery lot such objects will be subject to removal by town employees

#### **Section 6. Cremation:**

A. Cremains: The maximum number of urns placed on one burial site is four (4).

#### **Section 7. Markers and Foundations:**

##### **A. Foundations.**

1. Foundations shall be concrete or stone a minimum of 4" thick, and placed according to Town's instructions and shall be below the surface.

2. The foundation for an upright marker can have a width of not more than 5" on each side of the marker.

##### **B. Markers.**

1. All markers, flat or upright, must be placed on foundations.

2. Individual markers shall be flat and not exceed 1 foot x 2 feet in size.

3. Double markers shall be flat and not exceed 1 foot x 3 feet in size.

4. The top of the combined flat marker and foundation shall be level with the contour of the ground on all sides.

5. Family markers are allowed only as defined in section 3D of this ordinance. The maximum dimensions of a family marker shall be 4' long and 3' high. Placement of a family marker shall be determined by the Town.

6. All other types of designs of monuments, markers or mausoleums are hereby prohibited.

7. Only one marker is allowed on a single site; the only exception is an additional flat military marker which will be placed at the foot of the lot.

8. Only flat markers will be permitted in the second addition of Little Sister Cemetery

### C. Setting of Markers

1. Location of all markers shall be determined by the Town of Liberty Grove and/or its designee.

2. All markers to be erected and placed on the graves shall be of the specifications herein set forth. Failure to set the markers properly shall result in notification in writing to the company or individuals setting the markers, informing them as to the inappropriateness of their setting. The company/individual shall have 60 days from the day of notification to correctly set the marker. Should said company/individual fail to perform within said time limits, the Town of Liberty Grove shall correct said marker's setting, and bill the company/individual for the cost of correcting the fault.

## Section 8. Rule regarding purchase and release of burial sites:

A. Residents as defined in the ordinance may purchase burial sites, and those sites may be used by the named owner of the site unless changed by Section 8 (E) of this ordinance.

B. The Town retains exclusive buy back rights to burial sites for original sale price, without interest.

C. The purchase price is to be paid to the Town of Liberty Grove in full within 30 days upon receipt of bill, or a deed for the site will not be issued by the Town.

D. Corporate officers or members whose corporation owns property in said municipalities may not purchase burial sites based upon membership in their respective corporations.

E. Upon the change in status of a gravesite owner by death or divorce or other situation, sites not used may be transferred to immediate family members only, provided they own no other sites in the cemetery, upon presentation of one of the following:

a. A legal document detailing the terms of the transfer of ownership of the site.

b. A signed, notarized agreement of the immediate family members designating to whom the site(s) shall be transferred.

F. An additional cremation burial on an existing cremation site that is not a named owner of the site is limited to sons, daughters, mothers or fathers of the owner of the site. The limit to additional burials on a site is based on the number of burials allowed as defined in Section 6. The cost of the addition to the burial site shall be one-half the price of a resident site purchase.

G. No additional burials are allowed on a cemetery lot where a full burial has taken place.

## Section 9. Severance Clause:

Provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable, and if any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses or phrases of this ordinance.

This ordinance shall take effect after passage and notice as provided by law.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Liberty Grove, Door County, Wisconsin, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.

### CERTIFICATION:

*I, Janet Johnson, Clerk of the Town of Liberty Grove, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of an ordinance that was adopted on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017 by the Town of Liberty Grove Board of Supervisors.*

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Janet Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer