

CITY OF PORTAGE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2025



"Where the North Begins"

2024-25 Highlights



The Portage Fire Rescue's new EMS Program began January 1, 2025. See page 8 for more information



Many new housing and business developments are coming to Portage! Go to page 6 for more details!



The Public Works Department and Park & Recreation Department is moving into a new shared facility this spring, located at 401 Cemetery Road.



www.portagewi.gov

608-742-2176

CITY CLERK

Assessment News

The City of Portage is updating its assessment process this year. In the past, all property owners received a notice, and values were adjusted based on market conditions and sales data. However, under the new Maintenance Assessment Cycle, property values will only change if there is a modification to the property or parcel.

Examples of changes that may affect a property's assessed value include:

- Splitting or combining parcels
- Removing structures
- Adding or modifying buildings

As a result, most property owners will not see a change in their property value this year and will not receive a notice. If you do receive a notice, it will be because a change was made to your property.

With fewer notices being sent, the Open Book period will be shorter, but it will still be available for anyone who wants to review or discuss their assessment. Additionally, a Board of Review will still take place for formal appeals. Open Book, May 8, 2025. Board of Review, May 27, 2025. Website: www.accurateassessor.com

Election

Visit <https://myvote.wi.gov> to do any of the following items:

- Register to vote
- Update name or address
- Check voting status and history
- Request an absentee ballot
- Find polling location
- See what is on ballot



Spring Election – April 1, 2025

- Deadline to Register
- By mail or online: March 12, 2025
- In City Clerk's office: March 27, 2025
- Deadline to Request Absentee Ballot:
 - Regular and Overseas Electors: March 27, 2025
 - Indefinitely Confined Electors and Military Electors: March 28, 2025

In-Person Absentee Voting Hours

- March 18–20, 2025 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- March 21, 2025 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- March 24–27, 2025 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- March 28, 2025 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



CITY CLERK

Are chickens allowed in the City?

Residents are allowed to keep up to six (6) chickens in their rear yards; but you must have a Chicken Permit in order to do so. You can find the complete regulations and application on the City website.

Notice to Destroy Weeds

The City requires that all noxious weeds be destroyed prior to the time in which such plants would mature to the bloom or flower state. The growth of noxious weeds in excess of eight inches in height from the ground surface shall be prohibited within the city corporate limits. Noxious weeds shall include any weed, grass or similar plant growth which, if allowed to pollinate, would cause or produce hay fever in human beings or would cause a skin rash through contact with the skin.

Permitting

Do You Require A Building Permit?

If you are planning any of the following, then the answer is yes:

- New Dwelling (Residential or Commercial) - Roof - Fence
- Dwelling Addition - Remodel - Swimming Pool
- Removal of Structure (Raze) - Retaining Wall - Deck/Porch/Patio
- Detached Accessory Building (Shed, Garage, Etc.)
 - Siding - Windows (new or replacement)

This includes Electrical, Plumbing, and HVAC located at or within these locations.

Additionally:

- If you are digging or disturbing the soil you may also require an Erosion Control Permit. In certain cases approval from the DNR or other State agency may be required.
- If you are performing work within or adjacent to the City-owned Right-Of-Way (ROW), you may also require a ROW permit. (Examples include: Driveway, Sidewalk, Etc.).
- Note: please contact DIGGER's Hotline whenever performing any excavation at (800) 242-8511 or 811.

Why are Permits Required?

- The permitting process is the best way to assure that the work being done meets the requirements of the City and current ordinances. It also protects current and future property owners should there be a change to those ordinances or a dispute relative to the work is performed.



FAILURE TO OBTAIN THE CORRECT PERMIT MAY RESULT IN CHARGING OF DOUBLE PERMIT FEES

Permits are available at City Hall or on the City of Portage Website:
<https://www.portagewi.gov/licenses-and-permits>

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, AND ZONING

New businesses that have opened:

- Hachi Hachi Habachi Grill, 2800 New Pinery Road
- Dairyland Defense Solutions, 1803 New Pinery Road
- All Day Tinting and Detailing, 2646 New Pinery Road
- Frost Dragon Market, 210 W. Cook Street
- Kiki's Paw Spa, 311 E. Wisconsin Street
- Portage Marine Repair, 109 W. Mullett Street
- Harvey Auto Decals, E. Edgewater Street
- Danny's Auto Repair, 106 Brook Street
- Heller Creative Marketing & Graphic Design, 104 W. Cook Street
- Cross Law Office, 210 W. Wisconsin Street
- Sweet Sanctuary Services, 104 W. Cook Street
- Wisconsin Warehouse Solutions, 2855 Smith Road
- Runnings, 2935 New Pinery Rd
- Condon Gallery, corner of W. Wisconsin Street and W. Cook Street



Kiki's Paw Spa Ribbon Cutting

Charters of Freedom

Charters of Freedom, a national non-profit organization, has selected Portage (Riverside Park) as the site of a new national monument to be constructed and erected in Wisconsin. The organization's goal is to erect one monument in each state to contain an exact replica of the Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, and Bill of Rights --and to honor all 8 branches of the U.S. Military. Construction will start early this Spring for completion by July 4, 2025.



Sample Charters of Freedom display, planned for installation at Riverside Park

Borealis Train and High Speed Rail

Portage is on the planning map for both a passenger rail line between Portage and Madison and a high speed rail (reaching 200 mph) line between Chicago, Madison and the Twin Cities. Discussions and meetings with WisDOT, Amtrak, and related stakeholders, as well as Madison Mayor Rhodes-Conway, have been held regarding this goal.

Energizer Facility

The Department of Business Development, Planning and Zoning has been very active in efforts to attracting a new manufacturing entity to the Energizer plant, located on Portage Road, as the facility decommissions. Portage is a finalist for the European-based company looking to site a facility in the United States.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, AND ZONING

Upcoming Residential Developments

- The Rolling Prairie Subdivision offering 91 new single family lots ranging in size from .25 acres to .9 acres. 5 multi-family lots will also be developed. The extension of Gunderson Drive to Hamilton Street will take place during Phase 2 of the development. Phase 2 of this development was recently approved by the Plan Commission. Future phases are also planned.
- Hill Row Subdivision developing 16 zero lot line duplexes at Lake Road and Silver Lake Drive (2024-25)
- River's Crossing Multi-family Development, featuring 52 apartment units, Rolling Prairie



A Brush With Kindness

A Brush with Kindness, a national Habitat for Humanity program, is going to provide Portage residents in the First Ward a community clean up / beautification project in April, including April 8 and April 21-23.

40 volunteers are already lined up to do a lot of aesthetic improvements in the First Ward. The volunteer program has a lot of paint for fences and garages. They can also fix trim, soffit and fascia, decks, porches, stairs that need repair, wheelchair ramps etc. The program is also a certified aging in place contractor, but much of the work they would like to do are simple repairs that do not require permits or inspections.



The First Ward was chosen in part because it has a 70 percent homeownership rate, with 14% of residents having some type of disability. Habitat for Humanity believes it can do a lot of good for a lot of people in this neighborhood.

Any First Ward Homeowners can contact John if you are interested and would like to have a home project done with volunteers from this Habitat for Humanity program:

John Peruzzi
608.340.4985
john.peruzzi.hfh@gmail.com

Volunteers are also needed so feel free to volunteer with this program in Portage's First Ward as well!

FINANCE, TREASURER, UTILITY BILLING

How do I get my tax bill?

Tax Bills are mailed annually mid-December

Online: [Real Estate Tax Parcel \(columbia.wi.us\)](https://www.columbia.wi.us)

In addition, once you pull up your parcel you can obtain your tax receipt. Under tax information, click on the year on the left-hand side, payment information will pop-up and is printer-friendly.

- 1st Installments are due to the City Treasurer by January 31st each year
- 2nd Installments are due to the County Treasurers office by July 31st each year

Tax Payments

The City accepts checks and credit cards in office for tax payments. We contract with Community Bank of Portage/BWD to take our cash payments. Credit cards are processed by a third-party provider and there is a fee (collected by them) based on the transaction total. One check can be submitted for multiple parcels!

Name Change

If you need to make a name change on your tax bill, you will need to contact Columbia County Register of Deeds: [Columbia County Register of Deeds Contact Us](#)

Address Change

If you need to make a billing address change on your tax bill, please write the new billing address on the tax bill stub and include a copy of the stub when making your payment.

Lottery and Gaming Credit (LGC) Available

- Are you a WI Resident and your home is your primary residence? Then you may qualify for the LGC. If you do not see the credit on your tax bill – please to go the DOR Online filing application – [Lottery and Gaming Credit Form Selection](#). Property owners must submit a complete application, with the appropriate documentation, to DOR by October 1, 2025 to have it appear on the current year tax bill.

City Budget and Financial Audit

The City publishes its annual budget and audited financial statements each year. They can be found on the City of Portage website: [Finance Director | City of Portage Wisconsin](#)

Water & Sewer Utility Billing

The City offers multiple automatic payment options.

- One is PSN (Payment Service Network) you can register to have your payment pulled from a bank account or on a credit card by calling 877-885-7968. There is a fee for this service.
- The City also offers ACH payments directly from your bank account at no charge. This is a simple form authorizing the payment and can be obtained in office or via email.

Please provide the utility with your phone number! We have been working to collect phone numbers in case of a utility emergency! Please write on your next payment or email it into us at billing@portagewi.gov

Our office is always available for questions or concerns related to the City Finances or Utility Bills. Please feel free to contact us via phone, email or stop in!

[Jennifer Becker](#)

Finance Director/Treasurer

[Tonya Long](#)

Deputy Treasurer/Utility Account Clerk

[Jessica Congdon](#)

Water Account Clerk

FIRE RESCUE



As we enter a new year, we also take time to look back on what our Department accomplished. The Department answered 608 emergency calls in 2024 with 17 of those being outside of our jurisdiction to help our neighboring communities. Overall, the Department responded to 81 additional calls or a 14% increase over 2023. In addition, we made operational changes to help improve our response and build relationships with our community partners. The Department also completed our 2024 Annual Report which can be found on our website.

Portage Fire Rescue Staff

The members of the Department are the backbone of our organization and are what allows us to strive for excellence in everything we do. The Department currently has 40 members, 21 full-time, 18 paid-on-call, and an administrative assistant. We are currently accepting applications to establish an eligibility list, so if you are interested in obtaining an application it is located online at www.portagewi.gov/fire-rescue.



Fire Safety Reminders

The Department would like to encourage residents to replace the batteries in their **Smoke Alarms** and **Carbon Monoxide Alarms**. We have AA batteries available at the fire station. If assistance is needed with installing the batteries in your alarms, please contact us at **(608) 742-2172** and we will schedule a time to come and assist you. The batteries we receive are donated each year by Energizer.

Burn Permits

The City of Portage requires a burn permit for all open burning other than outdoor recreational fire pits or fireplaces. The permit can be found on the Portage Fire Department website or you can stop into the station. For those of you that live outside of the City and wish to burn, you must contact the DNR at <https://dnr.wi.gov/burnpermits> or 1-888-947-2876.

What does a Portage Paid-on-Call Firefighter do? Could I do this? Where do I even start?

Portage paid-on-call firefighters go about their everyday lives and when called upon, answer the call during community need. Our team of paid-on-call firefighters come from vastly different backgrounds, professions, interests and we would value YOUR addition to the team. Gaining exposure to matters only the fire service can provide, learning about and engaging in the community, deepening your professional development and making lasting friendships are all part of the everyday life of a Portage paid-on-call firefighter.

FIRE RESCUE



Portage Fire Rescue's New EMS Program is Off to an Incredible Start!

We are thrilled to share the remarkable success of Portage Fire Rescue's new EMS program, which has already responded to **231 calls in January!** This highlights the dedication and efficiency of our Fire and EMS personnel as they provide top-tier emergency medical care to our community and the surrounding townships.

Launching a new EMS service is no small feat, but our team has risen to the challenge with unwavering commitment and professionalism. Every call represents a moment where our responders have made a difference—whether providing critical pre-hospital care, assisting those in need, or ensuring rapid transport to medical facilities.

As Portage Fire Rescue's new EMS program continues to grow, we want to take a moment to recognize the **incredible contributions of all our members.** Their dedication, teamwork, and commitment have been instrumental in the successful launch and operation of this service. We are grateful for their **hard work, flexibility, and willingness to step up whenever needed.** The strength of our team lies in its unity, and the efforts of our members have reinforced that. Because of their contributions, lives have already been saved, and our community is safer.

The seamless collaboration between our **EMS and the paid-on-call personnel** has already made a life-saving impact. Their ability to work together under pressure, respond swiftly to emergencies, and provide exceptional patient care has proven essential in delivering the highest level of service to our community.

Thank you to all our fire and EMS personnel for your unwavering dedication. Your teamwork is the foundation of our success, and we look forward to continuing to serve Portage with excellence.

Stay safe and thank you for trusting us to serve you.

Portage Fire Rescue



[Employment
Opportunities](#)

LIBRARY

Explore Fun and Learning at the Library

Color Our World is the 2025 theme for the Portage Public Library summer library program. Register the entire family. The library offers a reading program for adults, teens and children. The more you read this summer, the more chances to win prizes! The Kickoff Celebration will be held on May 29, 2025 at 6 p.m. at Pauquette Park where you can meet three animatronic dinosaurs at the family friendly Dinosaur Dimensions performance. Register at the park or at the library any time after May 29. The Summer Library Program runs June 2–July 19. Join us to be a part of the fun this summer!

The Children's Department has a wide variety of programs for children ages Birth to Grade 5. Sign up for story time for the little ones, or join us for one of our engaging and educational afterschool programs. Storybook Art, Pre-K Friday, This & That Thursday, Block Party, Pokémon Club and Music Together! are just some of the programs offered at the library for kids and families.



Teens and Young Adults have their own space at the library. Stop by to enjoy board games, relax and read a new YA book, or hang out with friends. The library offers monthly programs for teens in Grades 6–12. Teen Reading Challenges are offered in summer and winter.



Adult Programs are available every month at the library. We offer a wide variety of programs including Euchre Club, Bingo, Zumba, Chair Yoga, and Arts & Crafts. Adults can also participate in summer and winter reading challenges! A monthly calendar of programs and events is available at www.portagelibrary.us or in the library. Library programs are free of charge.

Technology Assistance: Need help with your Smartphone? Do you have questions about your tablet or laptop computer? Sign up for a Technology Assistance appointment available at the library on the third Tuesday of each month. We will work one-on-one with you to solve your technology problems. We offer 15-minute appointments between 1-2 p.m. Please bring your device with you. Register in advance by contacting programs@portagelibrary.us or 608-742-4959.

Discover Your Library: Resources for Every Season

Whether you're looking for the latest bestseller, a language learning resource, or a new TV series to binge, your library card is your key to endless possibilities.

Having a library card is now more valuable than ever. Why pay for expensive streaming services when you can explore our rapidly expanding and popular TV series on DVD collections? With titles ranging from the latest hits to timeless classics, there's something for everyone to enjoy—all at no cost! And with a digital library card on your phone, never worry about leaving your card at home!

We're also excited to introduce our new Spanish Language collection. From popular fiction to insightful nonfiction, this collection is designed to meet the diverse needs of our community and support readers of all ages.

LIBRARY

Looking for something specific? Your library card gives you access to materials from over 50 libraries in our system through our hold request service. If we don't have what you need, our Outer Library Loan service can request books and other materials from across the country!

Don't forget our digital offerings! With a library card, you have free access to a wide selection of eBooks, audiobooks, and digital magazines with the Libby app by Overdrive. Perfect for reading on the go or cozying up at home, our digital collection ensures you're never far from a great read.



Don't have time to browse the library shelves? Looking for something new to read? Join our Book Bag subscription service! Each month you'll receive three books, selected just for you based on your reading preferences, and a mystery gift to keep! Find more info on our website or stop into the library today.

For history lovers and genealogists, we offer a wealth of local history resources, including a large collection of Portage area history materials, digitized newspapers, and Portage High School yearbooks. We also provide in-library access to Ancestry.com, making it easier than ever to research your family tree.

For patrons who are unable to visit the library to pick up materials due to age, disability, or other barriers, our Homebound Delivery Volunteers bring books and audiobooks directly to your home!

Print and copy services are available on public access computers and wireless printing from your phone or laptop. Send documents through fax or scan to email.

Every time you check out a book, DVD, or other physical material from the library, you're helping us continue to provide and expand these valuable services. So, whether you're discovering a new author, revisiting an old favorite, or exploring a new TV series, every checkout makes a difference.

Visit us today and see what treasures await on our shelves and online. Your library is here to help you learn, explore, and save—all year long!



Support Your Library: Donate, Shop, and Join the Friends!

The Friends of the Portage Public Library invite you to support the library by donating gently used books and AV materials. Popular new titles are especially appreciated, as they sell quickly and help keep the book sale thriving.

The book sale has become a beloved community resource, offering affordable used books, puzzles, DVDs, and audiobooks while raising funds for the library. Every purchase directly supports library programs, services, and resources.

Want to make an even bigger impact? Become a member of the Friends of the Portage Public Library! Membership fosters community, friendship, and a shared love of libraries. Friends members help organize book sales, fundraisers, and special events, with proceeds funding free library programs for all ages.

Join today and be a part of something bigger—your support makes a difference!

POLICE DEPARTMENT



It has been a privilege to be your Chief of Police over the last 5 years. I thought I would take this opportunity to reflect on our advancements and achievements while focusing on the amazing staff that make up your police department.

This department went through a lot of change from staff , promotions, equipment and technological upgrades, and building improvements which have improved our programs, efficiency, and officer safety while still maintaining our standards of public engagement and how we treat our citizens and guests.

We welcomed two new officers recently, Megan Fahey and Evan Hedlund.

We have a total of 24 Sworn Officers, 1 Community Service Officer, and 2 Administrative Assistants. With the reduction of one community service officer in 2024 you can imagine they are working extremely hard with reduced resources to process the activities of this department. I commend them on their dedication and resilience to keep afloat.



Megan Fahey



Evan Hedlund

I want the community to know that our officers are committed to making Portage a safe desirable location to live and visit. We are proud of this community and care about the relationship we have built with community members. Our officers are not AI generated but human beings much like yourselves, so I would ask that you reflect on that before being quick to pass judgement. The public demands our best in terms of respect, equality, and justice, and we strive to meet these goals constantly, I ask that maybe you do the same in return.

Officers appreciate any positive interactions are always welcomed. Officers are visible and approachable so please take the time to engage them or even thank them.

I kindly ask that you keep our officers in your thoughts and prayers, so they return safely to their loved ones after protecting yours, especially Officer Ethan Krzanowski who is currently on an overseas military deployment and is expected to return at the end of the year.

With thoughts of a new police department on the distant horizon, we are trying to maximize the limited space we have at the municipal building. The department is wrapping up an internal facelift with the expansion of our secure evidence room and upgrading our evidence processing room. After remodeling what used to be a dispatch center and CSO office, it was better suited as the Chief's office and several other office personnel moves are in the works.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

In partnership with Prevention and Response Columbia County (PARCC) and a generous donation from Aspirus Divine Savior Hospital, the department received a new drug drop-off box in our lobby. This container is much larger and more identifiable than our previous one.

The spring Drug Drop-Off event is scheduled for April 26, 2025. Stay tuned to our facebook page for further details on this event and several other events throughout 2025.

We celebrated our 6th Annual Award Ceremony on January 22, 2025 where several officers were recognized for their outstanding law enforcement efforts in 2024. Awards issued include:

- 4 15-year Tenure Awards to Volunteers in Police Services
- 2 Citizen Appreciation
- 4 Team Effort awards to various officers
- 2 Live Saving
- 7 Meritorious Service
- 1 Medal of Valor

And our newest award, Team Member of the Year, in which this member is selected by his/her peers was awarded to Officer Kaylee Ramirez.

Lastly, I would like to provide resources available to our residents. We have many people within our community that need support. Here is the QR code and clickable link for the Columbia County Resource Guide.

For more information on the Portage Police Department or city functions attached is the QR code and clickable link for our city's website.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the City of Portage and I hope to see you at the many events happening within our city this year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith J. Klafke
Chief of Police



Drug Drop Box in Police Department Lobby



Team Member of the Year-
Kaylee Ramirez

Scan QR Code with your phone's camera, or click the links below



[Columbia Count
Resource Guide](#)



[City of Portage Website](#)

PUBLIC WORKS

Spring Clean-Up: May 3, 2025, 8:00am – 2:00pm at the Public Works Garage located at 616 Washington Street. Residents of the City of Portage will have the opportunity to dispose of large/bulky items for a small fee. Please visit the City of Portage website for more information as this date approaches.

Guidelines for Brush/Leaf/Clipping Collection: Brush Collection will take place the week of April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, September 8, October 6, and November 3. Brush needs to be out in your boulevard by 7am Monday morning to be picked up that week. Leaf bags and grass clippings must be separated from the brush and be out by 7am Monday morning as well. Leaf and grass bags may be collected separately from our brush collection. The Airport Road brush site is open for resident drop off of brush, leaves and grass clippings. In addition to the Airport Road site, the City also offers residents the ability to dispose of larger wood waste at the Currie Road site. Residents dropping off larger wood waste are required to fill out a waiver at City Hall prior to accessing this site. Both drop off sites are not to be used by commercial contractors. Guidelines for brush, bagged leaves, and grass clipping collection and drop off requirements can be found on our City website at <https://portage.municipalimpact.com/brush-and-grass-collection>. Items not in compliance will not be collected.

Recycling: Columbia County Recycling is the City of Portage's contractor for garbage and recycling collection. Please visit our City website for information on what can and can't be recycled at <https://portage.municipalimpact.com/garbage-and-recycling>. Additionally, the City maintains a drop off center for residents to use for household recyclables as a supplement to curbside collection on Washington Street. Please note, this drop off site is monitored by video surveillance to ensure drop off guidelines are followed. Guidelines for drop off are posted on-site.

Water Utility: To ensure utility customers continue to receive quality drinking water, crews will be flushing hydrants between April 21 - May 16, 2025. During this period, you may experience some discoloration in your water. If this happens, simply run your faucet with cold water until the water clears. Water Utility crews will continue to perform meter swaps and cross connection surveys in 2025, these will be scheduled with property owners in advance.

Waste Water Reminders: If you have a sanitary back-up after 4:30 pm Monday-Friday, or on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday, please call (608)742-2171.

Combined Public Works/Park & Recreation Facility:

Completion of the shared Public Works/Park & Recreation facility is intended in February of 2025. The 9-acre site off of Cemetery Road includes a new operations building, cold storage building, salt shed, material storage containers, and a variety of equipment laydown areas. The operations building will house both Public Works and Park & Rec staff, and consists of office space, mechanic bays, fleet parking, work areas, general storage, as well as a community room. Following the completion of the project, both departments will begin moving into the new facility in Spring of 2025.



PUBLIC WORKS

2025 Road Construction/Improvement Projects:

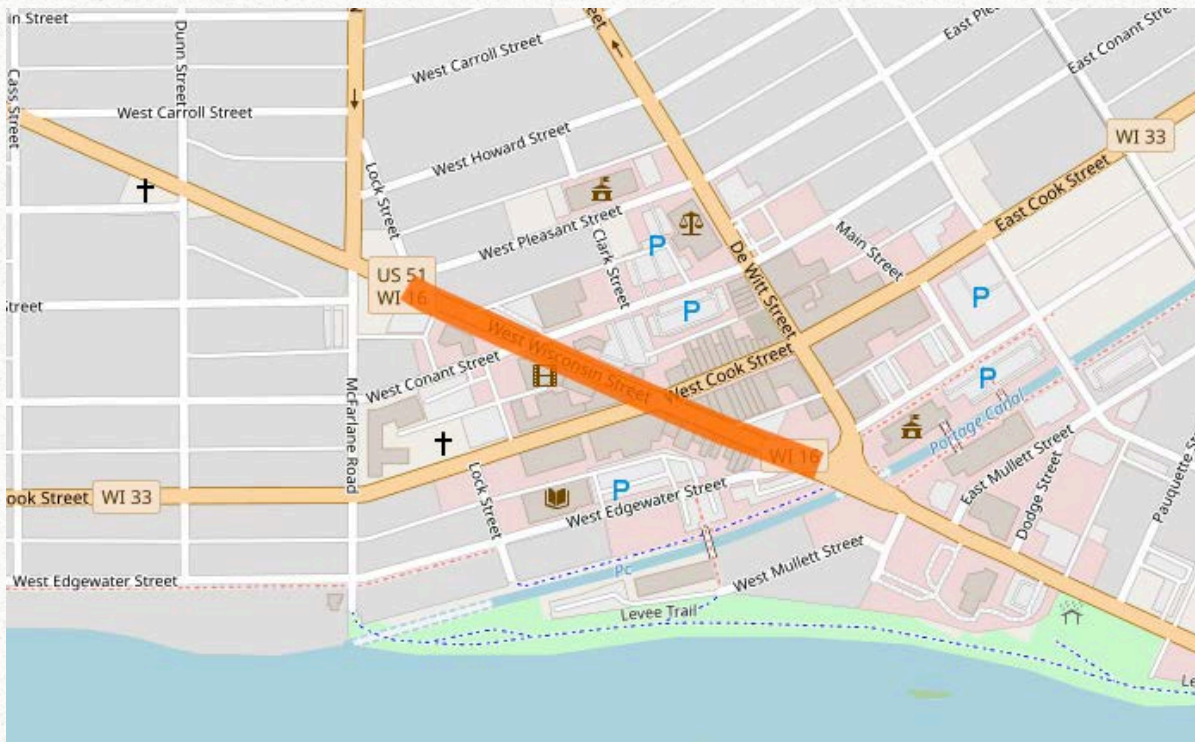
- **2025 Sidewalk Improvement Project:** Much like 2024, we will be bidding out a variety of sidewalks throughout the City for improvements in 2025. The project will consist of both new sidewalk and replacement of existing sidewalk. After bids are awarded for designated areas, a map will be posted on the City website. Abutting properties will be special assessed at 50% for the improvement costs.
- **Street Chip Sealing:** Annually, the City contracts to have designated streets in which the pavement is in relatively good shape, structurally sound and does not need subgrade or utility improvements. Chip sealing is a cost-effective preventative maintenance method to improve and extend the life of the street before more intensive improvements are needed. Streets that are chip sealed are first sealed with an application of an emulsion (asphalt and water) that adheres to the pavement surface and then a thin layer of aggregate or chips are immediately applied onto the emulsion. This creates an improved road surface that extends the life of the pavement and improves rideability. The cost for this is 100% funded with Wheel Tax revenues. After bids are awarded for designated streets, a map will be posted on the City website with locations of chip sealing.
- **Street Crack Filling:** Recently paved streets are crack filled to reduce water infiltration and reinforce the pavement surface. This comparatively inexpensive preventative maintenance method extends the life of pavements. The process involves sweeping the streets designated for crack filling, followed by crews using hot air lances to incinerate and remove material in the cracks. This is followed by crews applying a hot sealant into the cracks and spraying a solution onto the sealant and applying bio-degradable paper to prevent the sealant from sticking to tires while it cools. The cost for this is 100% funded with Wheel Tax revenues. After bids are awarded for designated streets, a map will be posted on the City website with locations of crack filling this summer.



- **Pavement Rehabilitation:** These projects, includes street excavation and pavement resurfacing within the limits of the existing curb line. There are no proposed special assessments for these projects. These projects are partially funded with Wheel Tax revenues. Pending further utility review, the 2025 Pavement Rehabilitation projects will include segments of Northridge Drive as well as Schneider Street. These tentative segments will be confirmed later this spring.

PUBLIC WORKS

- **USH-51/W. Wisconsin Street Utility Replacements** (Pleasant Street to Edgewater Street): This project involves a full utility reconstruction which includes storm sewer, water utility, sanitary sewer, curb & gutter spot repairs, and sidewalk curb ramp replacements. The design for this project began in 2024. After bids are awarded a construction schedule will be determined. This project is being completed in conjunction with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT), USH-51 Resurfacing Project, which is a separate project they will be performing on the same segment of roadway following the utility replacements. The WISDOT project will consist of the installation of asphalt pavement on the roadway. For more information relating to the DOT project, please visit <https://projects.511wi.gov/us51-columbiacounty/>



USH-51/W. Wisconsin Street Project Map

- **Woodcrest Drive Water Main Replacement:** This project involves replacement of the aging water main and water services along Woodcrest Drive between E. Slifer Street and Winnebago Avenue. This project was designed in conjunction with the 2024 E. Slifer Street Reconstruction Project, where the west half of Woodcrest Drive was disturbed for storm sewer installation associated with the project. The Woodcrest Drive project will also include the final pavement resurfacing associated with both the 2024 and 2025 work areas. Work for this project is intended to take place in late summer 2025. This project is partially funded by the WISDOT Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP).
- **Signals Upgrades:** In 2022, the City applied for grant funding through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the rehabilitation of the traffic signals at the Collins and Slifer Street intersections on New Pinery Road. The City received the grant funding which includes 90% state funding for the rehabilitation. Design work began in early 2024 with anticipated construction taking place 2025. Once a contract has been awarded a construction schedule will be determined.

PARK & RECREATION ACTIVITY GUIDE



Mission Statement

The Portage Park & Recreation Department aims to provide and maintain a beautiful and accessible park system, quality and affordable recreation programs, and restore and maintain city forestry. We strive to serve the community and provide options that will benefit the lives of those in the Portage Community



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PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT INFORMATION



401 Cemetery Rd
Portage, WI 53901

portage.recdesk.com

(608) 742-2178

[facebook.com/
portageparknrec](https://facebook.com/portageparknrec)

MEET OUR STAFF

Toby Monogue
Department Manager

Mike Percy
Recreation Coordinator

Hayley Wolfe
Recreation Assistant

Mark Fahey
Parks Crewperson

Justin Brown
Parks Crewperson

Vacant
Parks Crewperson

Employment Opportunities– Persons interested in obtaining part-time or seasonal employment with the Portage Park & Recreation Department should visit the next page, go on our website, or contact our department for information about open positions.

Everyone is Welcome– We welcome anyone to participate in our programs regardless of ability, race, or gender. We want to encourage everyone to participate and join in on the fun!

You Snooze....You Lose– Nothing kills a program quicker than waiting until the last minute to register. If we do not meet the minimum number of participants by the registration deadline, the program will be canceled. We also set registration maximums on each program based on staff, equipment, and space, so be sure to register early in order to reserve your spot before they are all gone!

Smile! – For program promotional purposes, photographs may be taken of participants. If you do not wish to have your photo, or photos of your children taken, please notify our department.

Residents vs. Non-Residents– All program and park shelter rentals will list 2 prices under the description. (Ex: \$15/\$25). The first price is the City of Portage and Pacific Township residents. The second price is for non-residents (Lewiston, Caledonia, Fort Winnebago, Pardeeville, etc.). Non-resident fees are charged to help our department continue to maintain our programs and facilities for those who do not pay taxes to the City of Portage.

Scholarships– The City of Portage wishes to offer our programs and activities to all area children. If financial assistance is needed for a child's participation, please contact our department for more information. Park Shelter Rentals, select programs, and special events/tickets do not qualify for our scholarship program.

Typos/Mistakes– Occasionally, there may be an error in days, times, registration requirements, pricing, or location in our program descriptions. When such errors occur, our staff will do everything possible to correct the situation promptly. Our department reserves the right to change program schedules as needed to accommodate demand or school/community conflicts.

Program Refund Policy– Refunds will be granted if requests are made seven (7) days before the scheduled start of the activity. Please contact our department if you have questions regarding refunds due to medical or unavoidable circumstances. All refunds carry a \$5.00 processing fee.

Facility Rental Refund Policy– Refunds for facility rentals will be granted if requests are made thirty (30) days prior to scheduled rental. Extenuating circumstances are occasionally considered. Refunds requested due to poor weather on your rental day will not be granted. All refunds carry a \$5.00 processing fee.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Applications and additional information about our Employment Opportunities can be found under the 'Employment' tab on our website: portage.recdesk.com.

Interviews for positions begin in April, so please submit applications by April 1st

Drop off completed applications at 401 Cemetery Road or email to mike.percy@portagewi.gov



Tot Sports Supervisor

This position will lead and run our Tot Sports programs as well as supervise the staff helping with those programs. Practice plans will be prepared by Park & Rec staff, but it will be the responsibility of the Tot Sports Supervisor to execute the prepared practice plans during the program. Applicants must be at least 18 and have past experience working with kids, preferably in a sports setting.

- Tot Sports include TBall, Soccer, and Basketball
- Roughly 6-8 hours per week
 - Tues/Thurs evenings
- Pay range \$16-\$18/hour depending on qualifications and experience



Youth Sports Staff

Help coach and instruct kids in our t-ball, soccer, basketball and/or other youth sports programs! These programs will have lead instructors, and the Youth Sports Staff will help lead drills, games, and help the programs run smoothly. Employees must be reliable, hard working, outgoing, and able to work well with kids. Must be at least 14 to apply.

- Programs may include: Tot Sports (TBall, Soccer, Basketball), Youth Soccer, Youth Baseball Camp, and more!
- 5-20 hours per week
- Flexible scheduling, and can work other Park & Rec positions around Youth Sports program schedules
- Pay starting at \$10.00/hour

Seasonal Maintenance Worker

This is a non-supervisory position. General job function is to efficiently and effectively perform maintenance operations; including operating machinery and performing maintenance and cleaning tasks throughout the City's parks. Must be 18 to apply.

- Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:00 pm / Some Saturday AM hours
- Starts mid-May, working through mid-August (start date may be flexible)
- Pay \$15.50/hour
- Applications currently accepted, and position will be filled as soon as possible, so apply today!

Playground Program Staff

This position will help at our Summer Playground Program at Collipp-Worden Park. Staff will be responsible for leading games, activities, and crafts throughout the program. Staff will also be responsible for supervising all children attending the program, and ensuring their safety and well-being. Must be at least 15 years old to apply.

- 20-35 hours per week
- Pay starting at \$10.00/hour



Beach Concession Attendant

This position will be responsible for operating the concession stand at Silver Lake Beach. Duties will include selling concession items, restocking items, renting kayaks and paddleboards, keeping the concession stand clean, and cash handling. Must be at least 16 years old to apply.

- 10-30 hours per week, with flexible scheduling
- Must be responsible and reliable
- Pay starting at \$11.00/hour

REGISTRATIONS & RESERVATIONS

There are 3 easy ways to register for a program or reserve a park shelter for your next event. We accept cash, check, or credit card for registrations and reservations. All Mail-In or Drop Off payments must be made with cash or check only. We do not offer over-the-phone registrations or reservations due to liability waivers that must be signed at the time of reservation.

Online

(portage.recdesk.com)

Create an account on our website to sign up for programs or reserve a park shelter. You will need a credit card to complete any online transaction. A small convenience fee will apply.

Mail-In or Drop Off

Mail-in or Drop Off registration is available for all programs and shelter rentals. All Mail-In and Drop Off registrations or reservations must have completed paperwork and payment included in envelope. Drop Offs can be placed in our secure drop box outside of our office front door.

In-Person

Check our website or Facebook page for office hours, or call ahead to make sure we are accepting in-person registrations & reservations

SUMMER HOT SPOTS

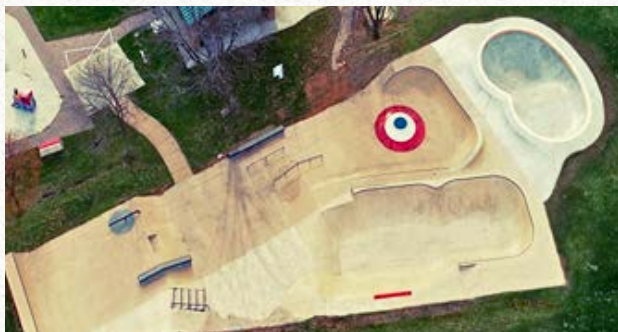
Silver Lake Beach

Enjoy this FREE sandy beachfront with a dedicated swimming area, fishing piers, and a dock with a slide. This beach is SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK. We also offer a concession stand, and paddleboard and kayak rentals onsite during staffed hours.



Portage Family Skate Park

- Located at Goodyear Park
- Free Admission
- Operating Hours: 8am– Dusk



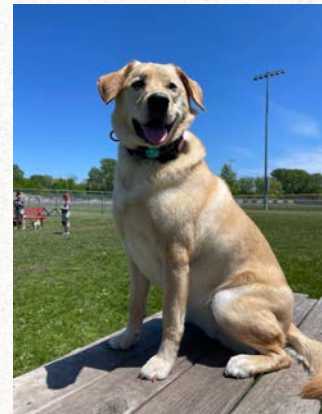
Goodyear Park Splash Pad

Cool off in the Goodyear Park Splash Pad this summer! This FREE facility is fun for kids, and operates daily, 10:30am–6:30pm, from Memorial Day through Labor Day. This facility also has bathrooms, seating, and shade structures.



Fritz Port Dog Park

The Fritz Port Dog Park is located at the Portage Fairgrounds, on the corner of Superior Street and Morgan Street. There is a \$2 daily fee to use the Dog Park (pay cash onsite). Residents who have registered their dog with the City of Portage in 2025 receive free use of the Dog Park with their annual dog registration.



SPRING RECREATION PROGRAMS

Karate

Check out our popular youth Karate program! We have 3 levels to choose from, so that each individual will learn and be challenged by others with similar skills and experience.

- **Basics**– Join in on the fun and join our martial arts program! Karate Basics is an intro level class and will introduce participants to the fundamental skills of the martial arts world. This class is designed for inexperienced, new karate participants.
- **Intermediate**– This program is for our mid-level karate participants and will help build and improve the participant's skills and knowledge. This program is designed for participants who have experience in our karate programs.
- **Advanced**– This program is designed for more experienced karate participants. This advanced program will expand and develop participant's knowledge and skills in martial arts. Karate Advanced participants must have a Green Belt or higher in order to register.

Dates: (Monday and Thursday evenings)

Session 2- March 3- April 21

Session 3- April 28- June 19 (no class May 26)

Session 4- June 30- August 18

Session 5- August 25- October 16 (no class Sept 1)

Session 6- October 27-December 18 (no class Nov 27)

Times: Basics (5-6pm)
Intermediate (6-7pm)
Advanced (7-8pm)

Location: 401 Cemetery Rd (New Park & Rec Office)

Ages: 6+

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$35/\$50 (per session)

Each class may have additional classes scheduled as needed for Belt Testing

Registration: Sessions 2 & 3 Registration is open online right now. Sessions 4-6 Registration begins Wednesday, April 16 at Noon.



Registration for these Spring Recreation Programs is currently Open!
Visit portage.recdesk.com or stop in to 401 Cemetery Rd. to register!

Flag Football

Back again is our popular Spring Flag Football program! Kids will learn and practice the basics of throwing, catching, and playing games. We will start with individual skill development and evolve into game play as the program progresses.

Dates: Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings, May 1 thru May 24

Times: K-2nd Grade- 5:00-5:55pm on Thursdays,
9:00-9:55am on Saturdays
3rd-5th Grade- 6:00-6:55pm on Thursdays,
10:00-10:55am on Saturdays

Location: Ball fields at the Portage Fairgrounds

Grades: K-5th

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$25/\$35

Registration Dates: March 17-April 25

Min/Max: 10/30

**Interested in helping coach? We have paid positions, as well as volunteer positions available. Coaches who volunteer will have their child's registration fee waived.*



SafeSitter Babysitting Course

This class will teach middle schoolers how to be a safe, responsible babysitter. Safety skills, child development and behavior tips, rescue breathing, first aid, and general responsibilities will be covered in this course. Upon passing this class, children may gain employment within their community with their certification, and parents will be able to feel more comfortable and confident leaving an elder child to watch their younger siblings.

Dates -March 29* -April 12*
-May 10* -June 7
-June 21 -August 16
-September 13

Registration: Opens online April 16 at Noon

*indicates Registration is currently open

Times: 9am-2:30pm

Location: NEW Park & Recreation Office (401 Cemetery Rd)

Ages: 11-15

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$50/\$60

Min/Max: 2/6 per class

SUMMER YOUTH SPORTS

TOT SPORTS

Tot T-Ball (June)

This program will introduce baseball and softball to future All-Stars! Players will learn the basics of fielding, catching, throwing, hitting, and running the bases. We'll work on individual skill development, as well as play scrimmage games. This program is about getting kids involved, learning, and having fun!

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 3rd-June 26th

Times: Session 1- 4:00-4:45pm
Session 2- 4:50-5:35pm
Session 3- 5:40-6:25pm

Location: Ball Fields @ the Portage Fairgrounds

Ages: 4-5 year olds

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$26/\$36

Registration Deadline: Friday, May 30

Min/Max: 10/18 per session

Tot Soccer (July)

This fun and instructive program will teach the basics of soccer to 4 & 5 year olds. We'll work on skill development with kicking, passing, dribbling, and teamwork. Kids will practice skills and learn the game, and play scrimmages to get game experience.

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 8th-July 31st

Times: Session 1- 4:00-4:45pm
Session 2- 4:50-5:35pm
Session 3- 5:40-6:25pm

Location: Soccer Fields @ the Portage Fairgrounds

Ages: 4-5 year olds

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$26/\$36

Registration Deadline: Monday, June 30

Min/Max: 10/18 per session

Tot Basketball (August)

This program will introduce the game of basketball to beginners, and teach them the fundamental skills to be successful. Players will learn the basics of dribbling, shooting, passing, and defense. We'll work on individual skill development, as well as play scrimmage games later in the season. This program is about getting kids involved and having fun!

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays, Aug 12th-Aug 28th

Times: 4-6 year olds (Session 1)- 4:00-4:45pm
4-6 year olds (Session 2)- 4:50-5:35pm
7-8 year olds- 5:40-6:25pm

Location: Outdoor Basketball Courts at Collipp-Worden Park

Ages: 4-8 year olds

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$21/\$31

Registration Deadline: Friday, August 8

Min/Max: 8/15 per group



Instructional Soccer Camp

This program will focus on intermediate skills and drills for soccer players. The first portion of the program will be dedicated to individual skill development, but will evolve into more advanced drill work and gameplay.

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 8th-July 31st

Times: 6 & 7 years olds- 2:00-2:45pm
8-10 year olds- 3:00-3:45pm

Location: Soccer Fields @ the Portage Fairgrounds

Ages: 6-10

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$26/\$36

Registration Deadline: Monday, June 30

Min/Max: 10/24 per age group

Baseball Skill Development Camp

This program is a skill development baseball program for players ages 9-13. This program will focus on individual skill development, drill work, and having fun. Scrimmage games will occur later in the season.

Dates: Mondays and Wednesdays

June 16-July 16

Time: 9am-10:30am

*Times may be adjusted depending on enrollment and gameplay.

Location: Fairgrounds-Lawton & Siegel Ball Diamonds
(north end of Fairgrounds near the Dog Park)

Ages: 9-13

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$35/\$45

Registration Deadline: Monday, June 9

Youth Baseball

For those interested in Youth Baseball for ages 6-14, please check out Portage Youth Baseball at portageyouthbaseball.org. They offer a variety of levels from TBall and Coach Pitch to traveling tournament teams. The registration deadline for these teams is March 31!

Registration for Summer Programs begins Wednesday, April 16 at Noon!
Visit portage.recdesk.com or stop in to 401 Cemetery Rd. to register!

SUMMER YOUTH SPORTS

PHS Sports Camps

We have developed a great partnership with the Portage High School Athletic programs to be able to offer these youth sports camps. Each one of these camps is coached by the PHS coaching staff and players for that sport. Kids in these camps receive incredible instruction from experienced coaches, and get to learn from skilled high school athletes! A portion of each registration fee goes directly to the high school team helping with that camp.

Baseball

Dates: TBD- watch our Facebook page and website!

Location: Portage High School Baseball Field

Ages & Times: 3rd-5th graders: 11:30am-1:00pm
6th-8th graders: 9:00am-11:00am

Fee: \$15



Girls Basketball

Dates: June 23, 24, 25

Location: Portage High School Gym

Ages & Times: 3rd-5th graders: 11:30am-1:00pm
6th-8th graders: 9:00am-11:00am

Fee: \$15

Registration Deadline: June 16

Tennis

Dates: Session 1: June 23-26

Session 2: July 14-17

Location: Portage School District Tennis Courts
(305 E Slifer St)

Ages & Times: 5-7 year olds: 5:00-5:45pm
8-10 year olds: 6:00-6:45pm
11-14 year olds: 7:00-7:45pm

Registration Deadline: 1 week before program start date

Fee: \$15

Max: 20 per group

Track/Cross Country

Dates: July 29, 30, 31

*Plus a FREE optional Track Meet on Thursday,
July 31 in the evening

Location: Portage High School Track

Ages & Times: 3rd-5th graders: 9:00am-10:00am
6th-8th graders: 10:00am-11:00am

Fee: \$20 (includes t-shirt)

Registration Deadline: July 21



Volleyball

Dates: August 12, 13, 14

Location: Portage High School Gym

Ages & Times: 3rd-4th graders: 8:00-9:00am
5th-6th graders: 9:00-10:00am
7th-8th graders: 10:00am-Noon

Fee: \$15

Registration Deadline: August 4th

Soccer

Dates: July 8, 9, 10

Location: Portage Soccer Complex (799 Thompson St)

Ages & Times: 3rd-5th graders: 8-10am
6th-8th graders: 10:30am-12:30pm

Fee: \$15

Registration for Summer Programs begins Wednesday, April 16 at Noon!
Visit portage.recdesk.com or stop in to 401 Cemetery Rd. to register!

YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Playground Program

Looking for a fun, outdoor program to keep your kids entertained all summer long? Our Playground Program is a supervised day camp designed to keep kids active and outdoors this summer! Whether you can attend all day every day, or just a few hours each week, our camp staff will lead participants in fun games and activities, arts and crafts, supervise playtime on the playground, and much more!

Dates: Monday thru Friday

- June 9th through August 1st

- No program on July 4th

Time: 9:00am-3:00pm

Location: Collipp-Worden Park Shelter #1

Ages: 6-14 (entering 1st - 8th grade)

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$160/\$185

Max: 70 kids (Register ASAP to reserve your spot!)



Dance

Perfect for beginners, those wanting to see if dance is the right fit, or those wanting to give something new a try! Participants will learn a little of everything to help them become well-rounded dancers. Class also helps improve balance, coordination, and rhythm. Dance shoes are recommended but not required. Each class will learn a routine to be performed at National Night Out on August 5th!

Dates: Tuesday Nights | June 10 - August 5

Ages & Times:

4:30-5:00pm (ages 3-5)

5:05-5:35pm (ages 6-8)

5:40-6:10pm (ages 9-11)

Registration Deadline: Friday, June 6th

Location: Park and Rec Office

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$30/\$40

Min/Max: 4/15 per class



Summer Cheerleading

These classes are for anyone who dreams of being a cheerleader! Students will work on basic cheer fundamentals including jumps, band dances, stunting, tumbling, and cheering. This is a fun way to develop strength, flexibility, and self-esteem through fun choreographed material.

Dates: Session 1- Wednesdays, June 4-June 25

Session 2- Wednesdays, July 9-July 30

Session 3- Wednesdays, August 6-August 27

Times: Kids entering K-4th Grade (4:45-5:15pm)

Kids entering 5th-8th Grade (5:30-6pm)

Location: Portage High School Football Field (High School wrestling room will be used for a rain location)

Ages: Kids entering grades K-8th

Fee (Res/Non-Res): \$20/\$30

Registration Deadline: Friday prior to each start date

Min/Max: 5/60

**These sessions will NOT cheer at a football game. Sideline Cheer Clinic to cheer at game will be held through the PHS Cheer Program*

Discover Drums

Is your child's inner musician looking to explore? Would they like to learn about tons of rhythms and to play on a variety of drums? This program is the perfect introduction to the world of percussion and exploring your inner drummer! You'll discover drum sets, snare drums, marching drums, hand drums, mallet instruments and way too many percussion instruments to name them all (ankle bells, anyone?). This program is geared towards beginners and participants will receive a pair of drumsticks and a bucket drum at the conclusion of the class.

Dates: Session 1- June 16 & 17

Session 2- July 14 & 15

Session 3- July 16 & 17

Session 4- Aug 11 & 12

Min/Max: 3/5 participants per session

Times: 10am-Noon

Location: Portage Soundworks (129 W. Cook St.)

Ages: 8-15

Fee: Resident-\$40 or Non-Resident-\$50

(Includes drum sticks & bucket drum)

Registration for Summer Programs begins Wednesday, April 16 at Noon!

Visit portage.recdesk.com or stop in to 401 Cemetery Rd. to register!

YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Warrior Spirit Craft Corner

Join the PHS Cheer Coaches with a morning of creating your own Warrior Spirit gear! Participants will make their own cheer bow, megaphone, and t-shirt!

Dates: Wednesday, July 30th

Times: 10:00am-11:30am

Location: Sunset Park Pavilion

Ages: 5-14

Fee: \$10

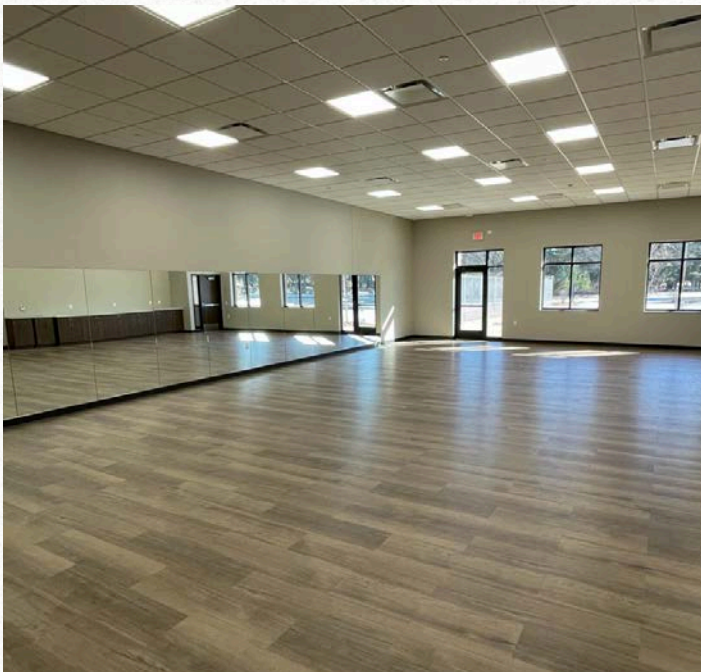
Registration Deadline: July 25th

Min/Max: 5/40



Coming Soon!

Our NEW Park & Recreation Department building includes a multi-purpose Community Room, which we will be able to utilize to offer more enrichment programs and classes throughout the year! We will be moving into our new offices this spring, and hope to begin offering new programs later this year. Be on the lookout and follow our Facebook page and website so you don't miss announcements on new programs!



Competitive Cheer

All youth competitive cheerleading is now through the **Portage Jr Warriors Cheerleading Program**. Registration for competitive cheer for athletes going into 3rd-8th grade can be found at jrwarriorscheer.com.



Looking For More?

Looking for more youth sports options? Check out these Youth Organization websites for more Youth Sports in the Portage area!

- **Youth Soccer**– portageyouthsoccer.org
- **Girls Basketball**– portagegirlsbasketball.sportngin.com/
- **Boys Basketball**– portageboyshoopsclub.com
- **Baseball**– portageyouthbaseball.org
- **Girls Fastpitch Softball**– portageyouthsoftball.org
- **Tackle Football**– portagewarriorfb.com
- **Wrestling**– portageyouthwrestlingclub.sportngin.com/home
- **Hockey**– thunderbirdyouthhockey.com
- **Competitive Cheerleading**– jrwarriorscheer.com
- **Archery**– portagewiarchery.wixsite.com/portage-archery-club
- **Curling**– portagecurling.com/

Boys & Girls Club

The Boys & Girls Club in Portage offers an after school and summer program for youth ages 7-17 years old. Club programming provides homework help, mentoring, friends, as well as a wide array of activities spanning from arts and crafts to gym games and more. The Club aims to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.

The Portage Boys & Girls Club is located in the former Rusch Elementary School building, and utilizes classrooms, gym space, and the outdoor recess area.

After School Hours: Mon-Thurs 3:00pm-7:00pm
Fri 2:00pm-6:00pm

Summer Camp Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30am-5:30pm

Location: 117 W Franklin St (Rusch Elementary)

Website: www.bgcwcw.org

Contact: Portage@bgcwcw.org

Please check out the Boys & Girls Club website for more information about registering for their Summer Camp or their Annual Membership.

Registration for Summer Programs begins Wednesday, April 16 at Noon!
Visit portage.recdesk.com or stop in to 401 Cemetery Rd. to register!

ADULT RECREATION

Adult Softball

Adult softball is back in Portage and we are happy to offer our Monday Night Men's League again this year! League Rules and Registration Packets can be found on our website beginning April 1st. Teams from last year will be contacted prior to April 1st and will have the first opportunity to register. Each league is limited to 8 teams, and we will accept the first 8 teams to turn in their Registration Packet and Team Fee.

Times: Games will start between 6–9 pm. Exact game times will be determined when the schedule is created after registration.

Location: Portage Fairgrounds (new field at the north end of complex near the Dog Park)

Fee: \$300 per team

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 18th

Season Dates: Mid-May through Mid-August



2024 Men's League Champions– La Tolteca

Adult Co-Ed Sand Volleyball

We are excited to offer a 6 vs. 6 Recreational Co-Ed Sand Volleyball league this year at Collipp–Worden Park! Get some friends together, bring a cooler, and enjoy a fun night at the park each week! Registration packets can be found on our website under the 'Forms' tab, or in our office.

Dates: Thursday Nights, mid-June to mid-August

Times: Evenings (exact times and dates will be determined depending on number of teams)

Location: Collipp–Worden Park

Ages: 18+

Fee: \$50 per team

Registration Dates: Registration closes May 9th



Pickleball

Come join in on the Pickleball craze this year! Pickleball nets, paddles, and balls are provided in our Community Equipment storage bin at the courts, but feel free to bring your own if you'd like! We recently installed 3 permanent pickleball courts at Pine Meadow Park, and these are open for play mid-spring to mid-fall, dependent on the weather.

If you are looking for other Pickleball Players to play with, we recommend signing up with Playtime Scheduler at www.playtimescheduler.com. It is a free website that allows you to see when others will be playing at the courts, and allows you to sign up to play with others.

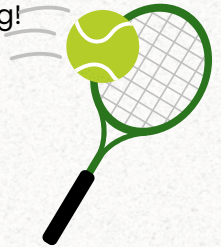
Courts are free to use and open to the public at all times, unless otherwise noted on the court entrances. At this time, we are not reserving courts for private groups or closed play, so please make sure you are sharing the courts!

Our department, as well as the Portage Public Library, plan to offer 'beginner' Pickleball lessons this spring and summer. Watch our Facebook pages and websites for more information this spring!

Adult Tennis

We are looking to grow the adult tennis community in Portage, so come join other tennis players in a fun and relaxed setting!

We plan to schedule Open Tennis times each week throughout the summer, in an effort to make finding other players easier for those looking to play. All skill levels are invited to come check it out, or sign up for our 'Tennis Club' on our website to stay informed about upcoming Open Play times, instructional programs, and more! *Because this is a free program, players will be responsible for bringing their own rackets and balls.



Dates: Sundays, beginning in May, or when the weather allows us to start in the spring

Time: 5:30pm

Location: Portage School District Tennis Courts (near Bartels Middle School)

Fee: FREE!

Ages: Must be in High School or older to participate

Registration: There is no registration or sign up for the Open Play dates, just show up whenever you can! If you'd like to sign up for our 'Tennis Club' to stay in the loop with tennis news in Portage, go to our website, select 'Programs' and register for Tennis Club. There is no fee to sign up for this.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

National Night Out

National Night Out is an opportunity to enjoy a fun night in the park to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement, while bringing back a true sense of community! Local Police and Sheriffs representatives will be in the park playing games, handing out safety information, and helping to create a positive relationship between our community and law enforcement.

We'll have food and snacks available, multiple raffles, demonstrations, as well as tons of local businesses and organizations handing out giveaways, promotional items, and more!

This has been a HUGE community event with thousands of attendees the past few years, so come out and join in on the fun in 2025!

Date: Tuesday, August 5th

Time: Evening- exact time frame will be announced this spring!

Location: Collipp-Worden Park

Fee: Free- no registration required



Milwaukee Brewers Game

Join us at the Milwaukee Brewer game on Saturday, May 17th as they take on the Minnesota Twins! Our group tickets will be in the Loge Outfield area. Have a fun day at the ball park as we cheer on the Brewers! This is a group rate partnership between Portage, Sauk Prairie, and Wisconsin Dells communities. You do not need to be a resident of these communities in order to get this discounted rate.

Price: \$34 per ticket (transportation not included)

Game Time: 6:10pm

Location: American Family Field, Milwaukee, WI



2024 National Night Out Mascot Race. Congrats to the winner, Wolfie, from Madison College!

Concert in the Park

Join us at Pauquette Park at the Beasley Pavilion to enjoy some live music this summer. We encourage you to bring your family and friends along with a lawn chair or blanket and spend a relaxing evening at the park listening to live music. Concert is free to attend!

Time: 6:30pm

Date- Tuesday, July 15th

Band Name- The Dweebs- an interactive, unique show including crazy stage antics and lots of crowd participation. The Dweebs play everything from the 60's to today!

Taste of Portage

Taking place in downtown on Friday night and Saturday there will be live music, food, drinks, kid's activities, an art and craft show, and a classic car show. Events take place at Market Square Parking Lot, Cook Street, and Dewitt Street.

Dates: August 22 & 23

For details visit <https://www.portagewi.com/>

Portage Fireworks Celebration

The Portage Fireworks Celebration will be held on the north side of Portage, just off Gunderson Drive. We encourage you to enjoy the show from areas nearby including the parking lots of Festival Foods, and nearby businesses.

Time: 9:30pm

Date: Friday, June 27th



Columbia County Fair

Join us as we celebrate this year's fair "Christmas in July" from July 23-27th at the Columbia County Fairgrounds in Portage.

Questions about the Fair can be directed to the Columbia County Fair Board by visiting ColumbiaCountyFairWI.org, emailing them at ColumbiaCoFair@yahoo.com or calling 608-697-5043



SUMMER DISCOUNT TICKETS

Our department receives discounted tickets to local attractions through our state-wide Wisconsin Park & Recreation Association (WPRA). Tickets are available to purchase in-person at the Portage Park & Rec Office (401 Cemetery Rd) May 5th thru August 29th. Cash or card accepted. No checks. Please call ahead to check availability.

NOAH'S ARK

Price: \$37.35 per person
Children under 36" are FREE
Season: May 24-September 1

JET BOAT ADVENTURE

Price: \$39.00 Adult (12+)
\$19.00 Child (4-11)
Children 3 and under not allowed
Season: May 10-October 12

ORIGINAL WISCONSIN DUCKS

Price: \$39.00 Adult (12+)
\$19.00 Child (4-11)
Children 3 & under are FREE
Season: March 8-Mid November

UPPER DELLS BOAT TOUR

Price: \$39.00 Adult (12+)
\$19.00 Child (4-11)
Children 3 & under are FREE
Season: March 15-November 2

MILWAUKEE COUNTY ZOO

Price: \$15.50 Adult (13+)
\$12.50 Child (3-12)
Children 2 & under are FREE
Open year-round. Tickets expire 12/31/25

MOUNT OLYMPUS WATER & THEME PARK

Season: May 23-September 1
Price: \$16.00 per person
Kids 2 and under are FREE

PIRATES COVE MINI GOLF

Price: \$8.50 per person
Children 4 & under are FREE
Season: Mid-March thru Mid-October
Only paying players allowed on course

LAND OF NATURA

Price: \$19.99
Season: May-September

MEMORIAL PROGRAM

Our Memorial Program gives you the opportunity to donate a tree, bench, or brick in celebration, honor, or memory of a person or event. Trees and benches will be placed in the Portage Park system, and the Memorial Bricks are for veterans and will be placed at Blue Star Park.

Memorial Trees

Work with our department to select an approved tree and find a suitable location in one of our parks. Customized plaque included.

Cost: \$500



Sample Tree

Memorial Benches

Work with our department to find a location in our park system for your bench. Some restrictions may apply.

Cost: \$2000



Sample Bench

Memorial Bricks

All Memorial Bricks will be placed at Blue Star Park. This program is reserved for veterans.

Cost: \$160



Blue Star Park Memorial

[Click here](#), or scan the QR code to find our Memorial Tree, Bench, and Brick Order Forms.



WINTER VEHICLE STORAGE

Looking for a place to store your boat, RV, camper, or vehicle over the winter? The City of Portage offers indoor and outdoor storage at the Portage Fairgrounds each winter.

Move In- Late October or Early November. Exact dates will be announced in August.

Rates- Resident of Portage: Indoor=\$15/foot Outdoor=\$10/foot
Non-Residents: Indoor=\$20/foot Outdoor=\$15/foot

This is a one-time up-front fee paid via check at Move-In. No monthly fees. The Move-Out date will be scheduled for early April 2026 and will be announced prior to Move-In.

For more information visit portage.recdesk.com or call 608-742-2178

PARK SHELTER RENTALS

Reserve any shelter at portage.recdesk.com under the 'Facilities' tab.
Or stop in the Portage Park & Recreation Department at 401 Cemetery Rd, Portage, WI

TIER ONE SHELTERS

Monday-Friday \$45 R/\$70 NR Saturday/Sunday \$55 R/\$80 NR

Collipp-Worden #1



226 W. Slifer St
-14 picnic tables
-Electricity
-Flush Restrooms
-Charcoal Grill
-Disc Golf Course
-Basketball, Volleyball, and Tennis Courts
-Playground

Sunset



1217 W Pleasant St
-12 picnic tables
-Electricity
-Flush Restrooms
-Charcoal Grills
-Playground
-Scenic Overlook of Wisconsin River

Silver Lake



522 Silver Lake Dr
-6 picnic tables
-Electricity
-Flush Restrooms
-Playground
-Beach swimming area

Pauquette Beasley Pavillion



815 W. Cook St
-12 picnic tables
-Electricity

*Please see Pauquette Shelter #1 for additional park amenities.

Pauquette #1



900 W Conant St
-7 picnic tables
-Electricity
-Basketball Court
-Playground
-Flush Restrooms
-Floral Garden

Goodyear #1



920 Dewitt St
-6 picnic tables
-Electricity
-Splashpad
-Playground
-Flush Restrooms
-Skatepark

TIER TWO SHELTERS

Monday-Friday \$35 R/\$60 NR Saturday/Sunday \$45 R/\$70 NR

Collipp-Worden #2



301 W Slifer St
-5 picnic tables
-Electricity
-Charcoal Grill

*Please see Collipp-Worden Shelter #1 for additional park amenities

Pauquette #2



900 W Conant St.
-6 picnic tables
-Electricity

*Please see Pauquette Shelter #1 for additional park amenities

TIER THREE SHELTERS

Monday-Friday \$25 R/\$50 NR Saturday/Sunday \$35 R/\$60 NR

Cattail



510 W. Burns St
-1 picnic table
-Green Space
-Small playground equipment

Pine Meadow



865 Hamilton St
-3 picnic tables
-Green Space
-NEW Playground in 2025
-Pickleball Courts
-Portable Restroom

Pauquette Gazebo



900 W. Conant St
-Great Wedding and photograph venue
-Located next to Bridal Pond at Pauquette Park

*Please see Pauquette Shelter #1 for additional park amenities

Sanborn



922 W. Franklin St
-3 picnic tables
-Green Space
-Playground
-Basketball Court

Woodridge



424 Winnebago St
-3 picnic tables
-Playground

Lincoln



404 E Carroll St
-2 picnic tables
-Playground
-Basketball Court

2024 PARK & REC SPONSORS

We want to say **THANK YOU** to all of our Sponsors who helped support us in 2024. We truly appreciate all of your generosity, and you helped us provide quality programs and facilities for kids and families in our community.

- **ALLSTATE (SHELLY CIBULKA)**
- **AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE (RILEY KUBATZKE)**
- **AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE (SHEILA LINK)**
- **ARBOR GREEN**
- **BLAU FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC**
- **BREMNER GRANITE**
- **CARDINAL GLASS**
- **CASCADE MOUNTAIN**
- **COLLECTORS CHOICE COINS & COLLECTIBLES**
- **COMMUNITY BANK OF PORTAGE**
- **CORDELL'S AUTOMOTIVE**
- **COUNTRY PLUMBER**
- **CRAIG'S POPCORN CORNER**
- **CRAWFORD OIL**
- **CULVERS**
- **EDWARD JONES (KLAY VEHRING)**
- **ELECTRIC 1**
- **FOREVER YOURS JEWELRY**
- **GALLEY STUDIO**
- **GENERAL ENGINEERING**
- **GRANDE CHEESE COMPANY**
- **GUMZ FARMS**
- **HAIR SENSATIONS**
- **HART & OLSON FAMILY DENTISTRY**
- **HILLESTAD HEATING**
- **JOHNSON CHIROPRACTIC**
- **KIWANIS CLUB OF PORTAGE**
- **KNIGHT BARRY TITLE SERVICES**
- **KRUGER FAMILY INDUSTRIES**
- **LYNN HOLDINGS**
- **MACHINELAB FITNESS**
- **MCREATH ORTHODONTICS**
- **MEIGS TRANSPORT**
- **MIDWEST DENTAL**
- **NATURES WAY LANDSCAPING**
- **PFLANZ MENDRALA FUNERAL HOMES**
- **PORTAGE AUTOMOTIVE CENTER**
- **PORTAGE CROSSFIT COOPERATIVE**
- **PORTAGE ELKS CLUB**
- **PORTAGE FURNITURE STORE**
- **PORTAGE LIONS CLUB**
- **PORTAGE ROTARY CLUB**
- **PORTAGE STATE BANK**
- **RHYME**
- **ROTH PROFESSIONAL SOLUTIONS**
- **SAINT GOBAIN**
- **STATE FARM (SEAN MALONE)**
- **SEUBERT FAMILY DENTISTRY**
- **SMILEY LAW OFFICE**
- **SUMMIT CREDIT UNION**
- **TERRYTOWN PLUMBING**
- **TRICOR LLC (DON RICK INSURANCE)**
- **VFW POST 1707**
- **WCCU**
- **WIESER CONCRETE**
- **WISCONSIN RIVER TITLE CONSULTANTS**
- **ZIMMERMAN PLUMBING**
- **WOMEN'S CIVIC LEAGUE OF PORTAGE**