

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Village Taxpayer,

Here's some good news! Slinger is rated A1. What does this mean to you? Yes, if you live in Slinger you know that we live in a top rated community -- great schools, great recreation, low crime and a beautiful location in the Scenic Kettle Moraine yet close to jobs and other services of the nearby and easy to get to metro area. Indeed Slinger is an A1 place to call home, but it now means so much more!

This year, for the first time in Village history, Slinger sought and obtained a rating from Moody's rating service. Much like your personal credit score, the higher the rating the better the loan rates and credit terms you get. For a first time rating, A1 is considered very good and as a result the Village was able to refinance some existing debt that will now save us over \$400,000 over the life of the loan. This has helped us to hold the line on taxes and utility rates.

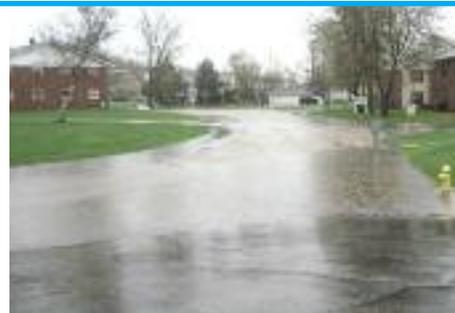
This was made possible through the hard and diligent work of the Village Board and Management Staff to watch expenses and do things as efficiently as feasible. The Village went from a negative unreserved general fund balance in 2003 to over \$1 million going into 2011. Without reserves like this the Village would not have been able to be rated so well and the result would be higher taxes and utility rates.

Moving forward, we will continue to seek ways to deliver the services you expect at even lower costs. As our financials improve so will our credit rating, which can only mean good news for us all.

Russell E. Brandt, Village President

MAPLE AVENUE SOUTH RECONSTRUCTION

The Village of Slinger recently completed the reconstruction of Maple Avenue South. The project cost nearly \$1,500,000, with nearly 50% of the costs covered by two grants awarded to the Village - Community Development Block Grant Emergency Assistance Program funding totaling \$608,624.00 and Department of Transportation's Local Road Improvement Program totaling \$40,876.68. These grants were applied for and administered by Slinger's staff. Heartland Construction, a local company, was the general contractor on the project.



The project included reconstructing the aging sanitary sewer and water systems and correcting known deficiencies in each of these lines as well as constructing a new storm sewer across the CN railroad. Maple Avenue South also benefited from new storm sewers, sidewalks, curb and gutters and new asphalt pavement. The Village's electric utility also received grant money to install LED lighting technology along the newly constructed roadway.



The road reconstruction was completed during the summer of 2011, and the Village's Electric Utility is installing new electric lines and street lights throughout the entire Maple Avenue South area.

CARRY CONCEALED WEAPON

The Village Board voted to allow CCW within village buildings. There are prohibitions built into the law wherein CCW is prohibited in the Police Department or Municipal Court while court is in session. The Slinger Community Library voted to prohibit CCW in the library at any time.

WINTER PARKING

Beginning November 1, 2011 of each year, there is no parking at any time between the hours of 3:00am and 6:00am on any of the Village streets. Winter parking rules are in effect until April 15, 2012.

SLINGER UTILITIES CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF PUBLIC POWER.

At the November 7th, 2011 Village Board meeting, Mike Gentry, an Energy Services Representative from WPPI Energy presented Village President Russell Brandt with a plaque.



New Resident Packets

If you are new to the Village of Slinger, you can pick up a new resident packet at the Village Hall. The packet contains a map, garbage and recycling information, park & recreation activity guide, library information, voter registration application, Village committee information and much more.

Automatic Payment for Utility Bills

The Village of Slinger Utilities offers automatic payment of your utilities account. Payment will be deducted from the checking or savings account you indicate, on the 5th of each month. Forms can be found on our website or picked up at the Village Hall. Please complete the authorization form and return it to Village Hall at 300 Slinger Road. If you have any questions regarding this form, please call 262-644-5265.

Dog and Cat Licenses

This is just a reminder to those who have dogs and cats in the Village, that a license is required. Every dog and cat five (5) months of age or older must be licensed; spayed/neutered licenses cost \$7.00, otherwise the fee is \$12.00. Applications can be picked up at the Village Hall. Proof of rabies vaccination is required at the time of licensing for your cat or dog. The licenses expire December 31st and must be renewed annually. If you do not obtain a license for your dog or cat on or before April 1st, a \$5.00 late fee will be assessed. Just a note: you do not need a separate check if obtaining your dog and cat license when paying your taxes.

BRENDAN'S PLAYGROUND:

FROM PARKS DIRECTOR, TONY DOBSON:

On September 24, 2011, the Village of Slinger and friends from near & far, came together to honor the memory of a very special little boy, my son Brendan Dobson. Brendan's Playground was built at our Rueckl Park Fields located behind the Slinger Middle School. It was a day that my family & I will never forget. We are honored to have had so much community support over the past year. Brendan's Playground is so special to us because it is a true reflection of Brendan's spirit. He was a helpful and caring little boy, who loved to play and have fun, and who loved Slinger. I wish we could find a way to thank everybody individually involved in this project, but doing so would take up far too many pages of this article. Thank you to everybody involved, for your donation of time, talent and monetary support. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for helping us honor our son. We are so proud to be a part of such an amazing community. Brendan's Playground has added an amazing place of beauty to our park system thanks to the kindness and generosity of so many amazing people. We are looking forward to seeing many smiling faces enjoying this new playground. Because of you, Brendan's memory will live on.

How it Happened

The playground project began when friends, family, people in the community, and members of the Wisconsin Parks and Recreation Association (WPRA) began asking about ways they could honor and show their love for Brendan in a way that would also benefit the Slinger community. Shortly after some ideas had been briefly discussed, the Parks and Recreation department was approached by Kelly Valentino, Director of Jackson Jt. Parks & Recreation and WPRA Foundation member and Harlan Lehman, Minnesota Wisconsin Playground Company Vice President. Mr. Lehman said his company wanted to show their support. Minnesota Wisconsin Playground Company asked us to raise \$25,000 to go toward a playground in Brendan's honor and they would donate the rest. A playground committee headed by Kelly Valentino was formed to raise funds for this special project. With tremendous support from local clubs, organizations, families, friends, and the community we raised just over \$30,000 for the playground.

CUSTOMER CREDIT AVAILABLE:

As a customer of our electric utility, you may be eligible for our Customer Credit Program, which was established to help members of our community with limited financial resources cover their energy costs.

To qualify for our program you must verify through the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance program (WHEAP) that your gross household income from the last three months falls within the guidelines provided here:

Family Size	Gross Household Income (for 3 months)
1	\$6,080
2	\$7,950
3	\$9,821
4	\$11,692
5	\$13,563
6	\$15,433
7	\$15,784

To apply for energy assistance, please contact Washington County Social Services (West Bend Office) at (262) 335-4677 to schedule an appointment. You can apply anytime from October 1, 2010 through May 15, 2012.

If you are approved for energy assistance through WHEAP, you will automatically be approved for our Customer Credit Program without having to complete any additional paperwork.

Once you are approved for our Customer Credit Program, you will receive notification in the mail prior to the credit being applied to your electric account. The written notification will state the amount of the grant that you have been approved to receive and it will also let you know when you can expect to see this amount appear as a credit on your electric bill. (please allow 2-4 weeks for the credit to be applied to your utilities account.

If you have questions about our Customer Credit Program, please contact our program administrator Cheri Tessmann during business hours, Monday -Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at 1-800-255-9774.

In July, Heartland Construction began the project at Rueckl Fields Park, by stripping the topsoil from the site and hauling in fill to raise the playground site nearly six feet to bring it to the finish grade. With tremendous support from Heartland Construction, the site was prepared and ready for the playground equipment.



The "Community Build" took place on Saturday, September 24th with overwhelming support, over 100 volunteers showed up to help construct the playground. The equipment was quickly erected and the playground area was filled with ADA compliant engineered wood fiber chips. A week later, the finishing touches took place. Windy Acres Landscaping installed a decorative boarder around the playground area and finishing landscaping took place. The playground opened on Monday, October 10th and has been very busy.

The Parks and Recreation department plans to complete the project in the spring of 2012. Plans include adding a basketball climber, a concrete walkway to the playground from the parking lot area, and adding signage.

This special lasting memory of Brendan could not have been done without the overwhelming support from many local organizations and clubs, families, friends, the Slinger community. The Village of Slinger and the Dobson family would like to thank everyone who donated, volunteered, or helped in any way with the project.

LIBRARY NEWS YOU CAN USE!

Need help finding materials? Visit the Slinger Community Library every day at www.slinger.lib.wi.us and log into the SHARE catalog where you have access to 44 public libraries in Dodge, Jefferson, Racine, Walworth and Washington Counties. With a combined collection of over 2.7 million items, your favorite author, music or movie is just a click away! Library staff is available 53 hours per week to happily assist you in person or via phone to find any materials or information you need. The library is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – Noon (Labor Day through Memorial Day).

Upcoming FREE Programs in 2012:

January 3 – March 31 – 11th Annual Adult Winter Reading Program

February 4 – Valentine Craft Day for Children ages 3 – 12 @ 10 am

March 3 – All You can Read Continental Breakfast 8:30 am - 11:45 am for kids in grades 6-8.

March 24 – Easter Craft Day for Children ages 3-12 @ 10 am

April 9 – Amish in Wisconsin II presented by Wisconsin Author Richard Dawley @ 6 pm.

April 12 – Storyteller & Family FUN with Chris Fascione @ 6 pm

May 8 – “Clutter Free Living with Kids!” presented by Kathi Miller, the Clutter Coach @ 6 pm

The 2012 six-week summer reading program starts on Monday, June 11 and ends on July 20. The Grand Finale to the summer reading program will be held on Monday, July 23, at 6 pm. The theme is “Dream Big READ!” Check the library’s website for a complete schedule in early May.

The library offers free wireless internet for users with a laptop computer during regular library hours.



CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP

The Village of Slinger will be picking up Christmas trees starting the week of January 2nd, 2012. Trees should be left curbside with the cut end of the tree facing towards the roadway. Should you choose to remove the tree yourself, it can be dropped off at the Public Works yard and placed along the north fence line near the mulch pile.

Christmas trees should not be placed in the compost dumpster!

WISCONSIN ELECTION LAWS: PHOTO ID AND OTHER RECENT CHANGES EFFECTIVE 2012

Photo Identification

Beginning in 2012, you cannot receive a ballot until you have met ID requirements. (See the “Photo ID Exemptions and Exception” section.) Wisconsin does not issue a separate “Voter ID” card. Instead you must use one of the photo IDs listed below. Your photo ID does not need to show a current address.

Acceptable forms of Photo ID

- Wisconsin driver license*
- Wisconsin DOT-issued photo ID card*
- U.S. passport*
- Military ID card*

*The above documents may not have expired earlier than the date of the last November election.

- Certificate of naturalization issued within last two years
- Unexpired Wisconsin driver license or state ID receipt
- ID card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin.
- Unexpired ID issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college that contains an issuance date, student signature, and expiration date within two years of issuance, along with a separate document showing proof of current enrollment.

If you are eligible to vote but do not have an acceptable ID, you may obtain a free ID for purposes of voting. Please visit <http://gab.wi.gov> and click “Voter Photo ID” for more information.

Photo ID Exemptions/Exceptions

Photo ID is always required when voting at the polling place and at the clerk’s office unless you are a confidential elector.

Photo ID is not required for these absentee voters:

- Military electors
- Voters who are permanently abroad
- Confidential electors

Photo ID is not required, but is replaced with alternative requirements for these absentee voters:

- Indefinitely confined voters
- Nursing home and other care facility residents who have ballots delivered by a Special Voting Deputy
- Residents of care facilities who are not visited by a Special Voting Deputy

For further information contact your municipal clerk.

Provisional Ballots: Voters who do not provide Photo ID

Voters, including absentees, who are required but unable to provide photo ID may vote by provisional ballot.

2012 VILLAGE OF SLINGER RECYCLING INFORMATION

Recycling Requirement

Recycling collection in the Village will continue to be every other week. The collection will continue under the current system with VEOLIA providing the service, **every other Tuesday.**

Residents are required to place recycling bags curbside no earlier than 24 hours prior to collection & no later than 7 a.m. on collection days. If no curb exists, or if you live in a condominium, multi-family unit, or operate a commercial business, place bags at the end of your driveway. **Please place bags approximately 2ft. from trash carts.**

Recycling will be collected on the following dates: Please Note that * represents Wednesday Pickups for recycling - This can happen when a holiday falls on a Monday.

January 3, 17, 31	February 14, 28
March 13, 27	April 10, 24
May 8, 22	June 5, 19
July 3, 17, 31	August 14, 28
September 11, 25	October 9, 23
November 6, 20	December 4, 18

Blue Bag Program

The Village of Slinger utilizes a “Blue Bag Curbside Recycling Program,” which is designed to provide an easy separation process for residents.

All recyclable material collected by the Village, except for cardboard, magazines, newspapers and miscellaneous papers are to be placed in the blue bag.

Magazines, newspapers and miscellaneous paper may be bundled together or placed in brown paper bags (grocery bags). All types of cardboard must be flattened and be no larger than 30”x30”.

DO NOT place TV’s or computer items in your dumpster.

These items have been banned from landfills, and require special handling. For disposal of Non-Operational Appliances- Stoves, washers, dryers, air conditioners, refrigerators & dehumidifiers call Port Recyclers 262-284-4060. For Working Appliances, call 1-800-922-3744 Large items such as beds, mattresses, & furniture call Veolia at 1-800-387-0949. Hazardous waste such as chemicals, oil, & pesticides call Veolia Special Services at 1-262-243-8914. NOTE: There is a charge for all special pick-up items.

Remember trash bags MUST be placed inside refuse containers. Trash not placed inside these containers will be left behind. The maximum weight for the containers is 200 lbs.

The closest disposal station is located at 803 N River Road in West Bend (off Hwy 33) & is open M-F, 7am-3pm & the 1st Sat. of the month from 7-11am.

There is a fee to dump any material. Call VEOLIA at 1-800-387-0949 for more information.

Provisional ballots are not counted unless the voter provides an acceptable photo ID to the municipal clerk by 4 p.m. the Friday after the election.

Changes to Absentee Voting Absentee in the Clerk’s Office

Absentee voting in the clerk’s office is now restricted to the two weeks before an election. Absentee voting now ends at the close of business the Friday before the election.

The new law prohibits absentee voting and voter registration the Saturday, Sunday or Monday before an election.

Beginning in 2012, absentee voters in the clerk’s office must present the same type of photo ID required at the polls (see list on the left).

Absentee Requests by Mail

Beginning in 2012, absentee requests for ballots sent by mail must be accompanied by a photocopy of an acceptable form of voter ID (see list on the left).

Once you have sent the clerk’s office a photocopy of your ID, you will not need to send photocopies with future absentee ballot requests by mail, fax or email unless you change your name or address.

Absentee Requests by Email / Fax

If submitting an absentee request via fax or email, you must either include a photocopy of acceptable ID with your request or in your absentee ballot envelope.

Signing the Poll Book

Voters must sign the poll book to obtain a ballot. The poll book now contains a signature block for each voter. Only one poll book needs to be signed.

Voters unable to sign the poll book because of a physical disability are exempt from this requirement. If this applies to you, tell the election officials that you are unable to sign because of a disability. Election officials will write “exempt” in your signature block.

Hospitalized Voters

Hospitalized voters may appoint an agent to pick up their ballot from the clerk’s office. The agent must present the hospitalized voter’s photo ID to the clerk’s office.

Voter Registration Changes

You can register to vote up until the Friday before the election or on Election Day. You must reside at your address for 28 consecutive days to be eligible to vote, and you may no longer use a corroborating witness as proof of residence. Proof of residence is required when registering less than 20 days before an election, on Election Day, and for first time Wisconsin voters registering by mail. For more information on acceptable proof of residence documents contact your local municipal clerk.

For detailed information about the Voter Photo ID law, please visit the Government Accountability Board website:

<http://gab.wi.gov> or call 1-866-VOTE-WIS or Voter Public Access <https://vpa.wi.gov>

Monthly Meeting Schedule

1st and 3rd Monday 6 p.m.Village Board
 2nd Monday 4:30 p.m.Library Board
 2nd Wed. after 1st Mon. 6 p.m. Planning Commission
 4th Monday 6 p.m.....Park Board

Dates subject to change due to holidays.

WHO TO CONTACT??

Village President	Russell Brandt	644-8854
Village Trustees	Rick Gundrum	644-7002
	John Dukelow	644-6490
	Jeff Behrend	644-9849
	Lee Fredericks	920-843-2007
	Richard Kohl	644-8673
	Dean Otte	623-1906

ADMINISTRATOR

Maureen Murphy
 644-5265 • mmurphy@vi.slinger.wi.gov

TREASURER-DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK

Margaret Wilber
 644-5265 • mwilber@vi.slinger.wi.gov

POLICE CHIEF

Dean Schmidt
 644-6441 • dschmidt@vi.slinger.wi.gov

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Jennifer Einwalter
 644-6171 • jeinwalt@mwfls.org

ENGINEER/PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

James Haggerty
 644-5265 • jhaggerty@vi.slinger.wi.gov

PARK & RECREATION DIRECTOR

Tony Dobson
 644-5265 • tdobson@vi.slinger.wi.gov

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Terry Frederickson
 644-5265 • tfrederickson@vi.slinger.wi.gov

VILLAGE WEBSITE:

www.vi.slinger.wi.gov

2012 ELECTION DATES



- February 21, 2012 - Spring Primary (if needed)
- April 3, 2012 - Spring Election
- August 14, 2012 - Partisan Primary
- November 6, 2012 - Presidential Election



2011 Village Board

Front L-R: Dean Otte, Jeff Behrend, Russ Brandt, Rick Kohl
 Back: Rick Gundrum, Lee Fredricks, John Dukelow

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR TAX BILL?

Following are some common questions that may come up as you look over your 2011 tax statement.

Where does this money go?

As you can see from the enclosed tax statement and the graph shown here, your tax dollars go to a number of governmental and educational institutions:

- The largest portion of your tax bill goes to the Slinger School District, which receives 45%.
- The Village of Slinger receives the next largest portion, or 33%.
- Washington County receives 14% for its programs and services.
- Moraine Park Technical College receives 7%, and the final 1% goes directly to the State of Wisconsin.

Specific questions you may have about any individual part of your tax bill should be directed to the agency concerned.

So who do I pay, and when is everything due?

Tax payments must be postmarked by January 31, 2012.

Taxes paid by January 31, 2012 must be made payable to:

Village of Slinger – Treasurer
 300 Slinger Road, Slinger WI 53086

You also have the option of paying your taxes in two equal installments. If you decide to take advantage of that option, the first half needs to be paid to the Village of Slinger Treasurer by January 31, 2012. The second payment must be made no later than July 31, 2012 to:

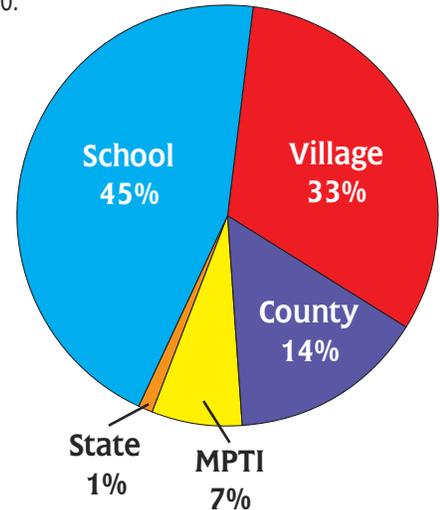
Washington County – Treasurer
 PO Box 1986, West Bend WI 53090.

When is Village Hall open for tax payments?

Village Hall is open from 8am to 5pm Monday – Friday during normal workweeks, including 8am – 12 noon on Friday, December 30th.

With the holidays fast approaching, there are a few days when the Village Hall offices will be closed:

- Friday, December 23rd
- Monday, December 26th and
- Monday, January 2nd, 2012



Tax Rate

State	0.159178609
County	2.679662304
MPTI	1.389143692
School	8.461325827
Village	6.304102094
TOTAL	18.99341253
Less Credit	\$1.038380868
Net Rate	\$17.96
2011 Lottery Credit	\$81.19
2011 First Dollar Credit	\$61.34



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