



Town of Hurley Newsletter

John Perry, Supervisor

Spring 2021

NEWS FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

Normally, I would be highlighting the Town's accomplishments, updating you on current issues and, sharing plans for the future.

However, first I feel the need to thank all the front line and essential workers who persevered to get us through the worst of the Pandemic. I want to send out positive thoughts to the family and friends of those who lost their lives and to those struggling with the mental anguish that this Pandemic has created. ***Remember, everyday is a new beginning. Take a deep breath and start anew. We will get through this.***

It makes me proud to see our Town Board, old members and new, working together. I've highlighted the many things accomplished during a very tough time for all.

* Project Resilience, an Ulster County initiative to feed seniors and the needy during the Pandemic, was a huge success in Hurley. Joanne Hoban, Secretary to the Supervisor, single handedly got the project up and running, and as it grew, was joined by all Town Departments including the Clerk's office, Town Board, Highway Department and many of our amazing residents. This was a shining example of unselfish collaboration during a desperate time.

* My first year in office, 2018, I lowered taxes by 4% and have continued to sustain a 0% increase for the following 3 years, all the while updating much needed infrastructure, technologies and other areas of neglected concerns town wide.

At the time of this newsletter, the last broadband build outs are being done. This was a high priority of mine and Councilperson Mike Boms. Once the build outs are complete, the Town of Hurley will have accomplished all requests for broadband connections town wide. If there are any residents not able to get broadband, please contact Councilperson Mike Boms at: mboms3@gmail.com

Currently, the Town of Hurley is updating its Zoning Laws. One such update just recently passed was presented by Councilperson Melinda McKnight a Local Law governing Short Term Rentals. (Please see town website for details). Councilperson McKnight has established and is Chairperson, for a Zoning Task Force to continue with zoning updates.

*2021 will continue the work of the Comprehensive Review Committee in updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Also, known as the "Master Plan", it was originally developed in 2006. (Please see the town website for complete details). Also see CRC section of this newsletter to sign up to take part in focus groups giving input to the Committee to assist in current and future updates.

*Many have seen the changes at the Transfer Station. Once the Pandemic hit, the Transfer Station took on new personnel who stepped up to make this essential service, a safe and controlled environment. The almost daily adjustments, as well as, current updates and procedures were overseen by Councilperson Peter Humphries.

*The Town is setting up a Communications Committee to assist in many areas currently behind in offering updates, as well as adding other communication platforms.

* Due to Covid-19, many events did not and again may not take place, but I want to point out the improvements to the many historic homes on Main Street and Hurley Avenue. With the help of Hurley resident and Historic Preservation Committee Chairperson Frank Dunn, and liaison to the HPC, Councilperson Barbara Zell, our historic heritage will continue to live on for many years. We are still working on more improvements, but please treat yourself to a stroll down one of America's oldest streets.

John Perry
Supervisor
Town of Hurley

Is February too early for *cabin fever*?

Do you yearn for warm fresh air; the exhilaration of cycling; the mind clearing/euphoric feeling when running the rail trails?

I bet *Fido, Bailey, Otis, Spot* and *Emily* miss socializing with *their* four-legged friends. Are the kiddos sitting & playing too long with their new PS5 or Xbox SeriesX games? If so, put the “to-do” lists away or controllers down, get bundled up and get outside. Take an adventure on one of our magnificent rail trails. Go cross-country skiing. Try snow-shoeing or ice fishing for the first time.

Being outside makes us happier, more confident, more creative, and less stressed. As Sidney Sheldon once said, “Exercise not only changes your body, it changes your mind and your mood.”



Now you're probably wondering what to do when the sun sets...and you are feeling the *good* muscle soreness. How about a book that is too good to put down...a suspenseful thriller, a hopeless romance or an enlightening history book? Did you know that the Town of Hurley has two marvelous libraries... the West Hurley Library & the Hurley Library? Albert Einstein said it best, “The only thing that you absolutely have to know is the location of the library.”

So, with that said get comfy; near a crackling toasty fire; snuggle with that new fuzzy blanket or those old well-worn leather slippers. Make yourself a Hot-Toddy or a Hot Cocoa and grab your favorite book.

Our libraries are places of information, offering people *free* access to a wealth of information that they often can't find elsewhere, whether online, in print or in person. When most people think “library” they think books. And while that is certainly true, these days' books take different shapes, such as eBooks and eAudio books using Libby/Overdrive and/or Hoopla. Our libraries offer Story Hour To Go...which allows families to participate in whatever way is convenient for them. If you are interested in joining or would like more information please email, Miss Christine shoryhour@westhurleylibrary.org and/or Miss Amy hurleylibrary@gmail.com. Our libraries also have a wide array of DVD's from the oldies to the latest blockbusters. How about online magazines with RB Digital; homework help/tutoring with Tutor.com; take an online class, streaming videos with Kanopy and AcornTV and more? Great Courses Library Collection for lifelong learning and personal enrichment, with hundreds of courses spanning thousands of in-depth video lectures on subjects like Science, Health & Wellness, and much more! Learn a language...Mango Languages is a language learning tool that offers instruction in more than 70 languages. There are even courses for people who are learning English as a second language. How about a family outing...our libraries offer Museum Passes...be sure to check for availability.*

Visit hurleylibrary.org and westhurleylibrary.org and checkout our upcoming events. These websites are your key to getting your kids involved in reading and building a better world for our future.



Relax. Be thankful & take care.

Healthy Lawn-Healthy Environment: Caring for Your Lawn in an Environmentally Friendly Way

Picture a healthy green lawn: perfect for lounging, great for ball games and cookouts, a real asset to your home.

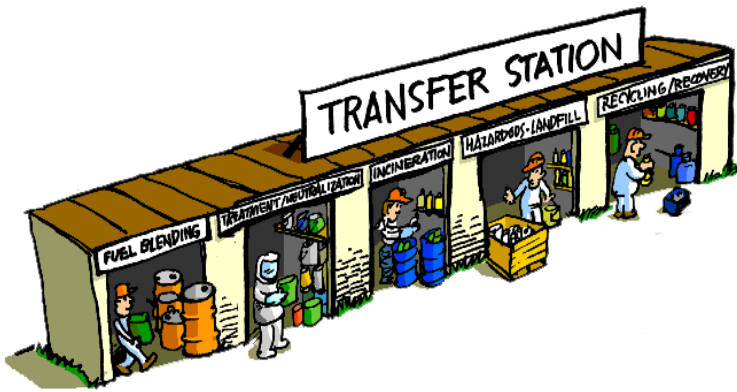
But did you know that your lawn—and how you take care of it—can also help the environment? Healthy grass provides feeding grounds for birds, who find it a rich source of insects, worms, and other food. Thick grass prevents soil erosion, filters contaminants from rain-water, and absorbs many types of airborne pollutants, like dust and soot. Grass is also highly efficient at converting carbon dioxide to oxygen, a process that helps clean the air. Caring for your lawn properly can both enhance its appearance and contribute to its environmental benefits. You don't have to be an expert to grow a healthy lawn. Just keep in mind that the secret is to work with nature. This means creating conditions for grass to thrive and resist damage from weeds, disease, and insect pests. It means setting realistic goals for your lawn, whether you or a professional lawn care service will be doing the work. And if you choose to use pesticides, it means using them with care so as to get the most benefit and reduce any risks. Caring for your lawn in an environmentally sensible way can have a bigger impact than you might think. Your lawn is only a small piece of land, but all the lawns across the country cover a lot of ground. That means you and your lawn care activities, along with everyone else's can make a difference to the environment. And that's why taking care of the environment begins in our backyards.



Working with Nature: A Preventive Health Care Program for Your Lawn

To start, think about lawn care as a preventive health care program, like one you would use to keep up your own health. The idea is to prevent problems from occurring so you don't have to treat them. As they say, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. A healthy lawn can out-compete most weeds, survive most insect attacks, and fend off most diseases—before these problems ever get the upper hand. Your lawn care program should be tailored to local conditions—the amount of rainfall you get, for example, and the type of soil you have. A preventive health care program for your lawn should include these steps:

1. Develop Healthy Soil: Good soil is the foundation of a healthy lawn. To grow well, your lawn needs soil with good texture, some key nutrients, and the right pH, or acidity/alkalinity balance.
2. Choose a Grass Type that Thrives in Your Climate: The right type of grass—one that suits our needs and like the local weather—will always give better results.
3. Mow High, Often and With Sharp Blades: Mowing high—that is, keeping your lawn a bit long—will produce stronger, healthier grass with fewer pest problems. A lawn's ideal length will vary with the type of grass, but many turf grass species are healthiest when kept between 2 1/2 & 3 1/2 inches.
4. Water Deeply But Not Too Often: It's best to water only when lawn really needs it, and then water slowly and deeply. The best rule is to water only when the lawn begins to wilt from dryness when the color dulls & footprints stay compressed for more than a few seconds.
5. Correct Thatch Build-Up: All grass forms a layer of dead plant material, known as thatch, between the grass blades and the soil. When thatch gets too thick—deeper than one-half-inch—it prevents water & nutrients from penetrating to the soil & grass roots. Some grasses tend to form a thick layer of thatch. Overuse of fertilizer can also create a heavy layer of thatch.
6. Set Realistic Goals: Even a healthy lawn is likely to have some weeds or insect pests. But it will also have beneficial insects and other organisms that help keep pests under control.



Transfer Station & Recycling Center

1043 Dug Hill Road

West Hurley, NY

338-5412

The annual permit fee is \$20.00 for residents & \$40.00 for non-residents.

*Visit www.ucrra.org to register and to obtain a complete listing of acceptable items.

*If you are unsure about a particular material please call beforehand or talk to an attendant. * Pamphlets available*

Hours of Operation

Monday	9:00—3:00
Tuesday	9:00—3:00
Thursday	9:00—3:00
Friday	9:00—3:00
Saturday	8:00—3:00

Closed

Wednesday & Sunday

*Price Changes

Brush	\$10.00 per cubic yard
Logs	\$15.00 per cubic yard
Tires	\$6.00 each
Tires, Large	\$15.00 each

Recycling No-No's

Common materials in this non-recyclable category include:

- Hazardous waste
- Oil based paint and stains
- Cooking oil
- Styrofoam
- Alkaline batteries
- Milk/juice containers and tetra paks
- Pizza boxes
- Tissue paper
- Soiled paper items

MSW and Recycling Fees

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) is weighed and charged at 15 cents per pound, all to the nearest 25 cents. *Fees are subject to change.*

CRT Recycling

Cathode Ray Tubes (CRT) found in older TVs and monitors have become expensive to recycle. Most vendors have passed that cost on to customers. The Transfer Station must also pass the cost on. Hurley is currently charging 45 cents per pound for CRT units.

The Hurley Rail Trail Committee

During 2020, trails in our local community have had an increase in trail usage in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Trails provide a natural, open space to be active & benefit each of us in sustaining or improving our physical & mental health.

The Hurley O&W Rail Trail Committee thanks you all for seeing the importance of keeping yourself & other trail users safe by



wearing masks & practicing social distancing. As we all hope the pandemic will come to an end in 2021, we will continue to be safe not only for ourselves but for others. Thank you to the many members of the following groups that keep the trail open and maintained– the Hurley Rail Trail Committee & Berm Adopters, Town of Hurley Town Board & Highway Department, and Ulster County Probation Department. A big thanks to NYSDOT for their planting of several wildflower pollinator areas along the trail. We're always in need of more volunteers, so if you are interested please contact hurelyrailtrail@hvc.rr.com to find out more about volunteering or joining our meetings.

Happy Trails!

"Like" Hurley Rail Trail on Facebook

Heather Hirsch, Rail Trail Committee Chairperson

Town Historian

Jim Decker

From the Office of the Town Historian:

During this Pandemic our town hall and my research office are closed to public access. I am still in the office Friday mornings, if any researchers are looking for information about our historic Town. Please reach out to me by email so I can continue your research quest & exhaust our archives for you.

Also, any individual who might have early documents, old photographs or any information relating to our Historic Hurley and would like to share with this office, please reach out to me.

I have access to a scanner here at the Town Hall, so you can retain your originals. Thanks for helping me document our important history. You may reach out to me at historian@townofhurley.org

Let's all be safe and stay well.

Historian@townofhurley.org

Hurley Comprehensive Review Committee

The Comprehensive Review Committee (CRC) has initiated a review of the 2006 Comprehensive Plan to develop proposed updates. The Plan is a collection of information and materials designed to guide future development and provide communities with a foundation for policies and legislation to foster a more certain future. Comprehensive Plans are subject to change and revision with the passage of time. In drafting the Comprehensive Plan, the community's vision is necessary to provide specific development and revitalization goals with clear steps to implement those recommendations necessary to achieve the Town's Vision.

For those residents wishing to be included and provide input in upcoming community outreach gatherings, please provide your contact information to CRC Secretary at

planning@townofhurley.org

Do you want to receive Town of Hurley news and keep abreast of current events of the Town of Hurley?

Log onto townhurley.digitaltowpath.org then click '**Sign-up here**' ...Clicking there will bring you to the **Town of Hurley News** page...Once on that page scroll all the way down and provide your email address in the space provided then click **subscribe**. You will then receive an email asking you to confirm your subscription.

From the Clerk's Office

I want to thank all of the residents who used the Tax drop box at Town Hall . It really worked out well in keeping everyone safe.

Just a reminder that dog license renewals and handicap permits can be sent in by mail. We are taking applications for Park rentals. Just call to reserve a date and we will mail you an application.

As always, I am available for anyone who needs personal service.

Thank-you for your patience
Judy Mayhon
Town Clerk



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the Assessor's office is collecting Exemption Renewals by mail to encourage limited contact for the safety of staff and residents. The deadline for Exemption submission to the Assessor's office is March 1, 2021.

Seniors enrolled in the Enhanced STAR program no longer have to submit a renewal application for the Enhanced STAR Program.

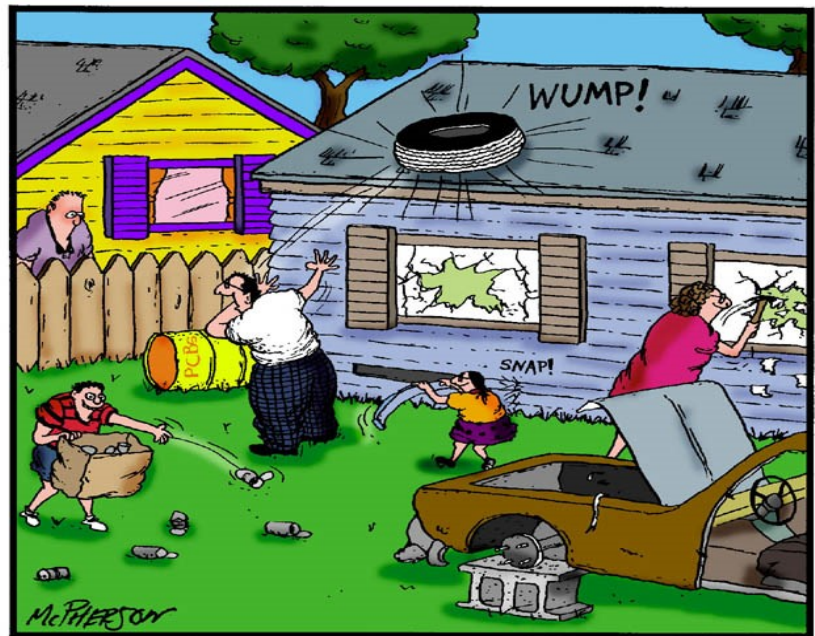
New Enhanced STAR applicants, please be advised you must be at least 65 years of age with an annual income below \$90,550.

Renewal forms for senior citizens with limited income were mailed to seniors in November. If you are a senior with an annual income below \$38,000 for the tax year of 2019 & did not receive a renewal application, please reach out to the Assessor's Office for more information. The Assessor can be reached by email at assessor@townofhurley.org or by phone at 331-7474, ext. 5.

New Property owners should be aware they can no longer register with the Assessor's office for the Basic STAR credit & must register directly with New York State Office of Taxation. If you own your home, it's your primary residence, and your income is \$500,000 or less, you're eligible for the Basic STAR credit. You can register at www.tax.ny.gov/star or call 1-518-457-2036.

Grievance Day will be held May 25th, 2021 by appointment only. Grievance applications must be received by the Assessor's office prior to May 25th, 2021.

Stay Safe & Be Well in the New Year.



"Relax! This is just until the tax assessor comes here tomorrow."

HURLEY HIGHWAY SPRING 2021
 OFF: 845-338-4067 FAX: 845-338-0597
 SUPERINTENDENT MICHAEL C. SHULTIS
 EMAIL: HIGHWAY@TOWNOFHURLEY.ORG

SPRING IS ALMOST HERE, REALLY!

Even though the snow is still falling Highway is preparing for Spring Cleanup! Crews will be begin sweeping as soon as the weather allows.

BRUSH PICKUP SCHEDULE : April 26-30 Hurley, May 3-7 West Hurley. Please place brush at 45° angle to road so we can grab with loader. Nothing larger than 4" dia. and 6 ft long. This is NOT an on call service and brush must be at roadside by the Monday of your scheduled week. NO EXCEPTIONS as our schedule is FULL!

We will be back to complete the Park Dr Drainage Project as soon as weather breaks. Crews will then move to Broad/Cedar Drainage Project, Pleasant Ridge Drainage Project (to alleviate drainage on Ryan Dr) and wrap up Wildwood Drainage Project.

Preliminary list for drainage and paving for 2021 are Dug Hill Rd, Bessal Rd, Park Dr, Chestnut St. More will be known once frost comes out of ground and we can access damage to roads.

Please remember, if you see an issue we need to address please call the Highway Office at 338-4067 or email highway@townofhurley.org

We are always available to discuss highway issues in your neighborhood! Stay Safe, Mike

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