

INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

January 2022

On the web at <http://www.indiancreeksubdivision.org>

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Indian Creek Tractor Usage Guidelines

The Indian Creek Board of Directors recently reviewed our insurance coverage for the tractor and tractor usage. In the best interests of our residents the following guidelines have been established and will take effect January 1, 2022.

- *Contact the Grounds Chair to reserve a time to use the tractor. The Grounds Chair will make the key available and provide instructions for tractor usage if needed.
- *Tractor cannot be driven or used outside the subdivision.
- *Only Indian Creek residents over the age of 21 can operate the tractor
- *The tractor is designed for light usage and has to be carefully handled.
- *The fuel cost for using the tractor is \$10 per half hour of running time. This fee is to be paid to the Grounds Chair who will then replace the fuel used.
- *Any tractor malfunctions must be reported to the Grounds Chair.
- *Tractor usage for subdivision needs has priority over residents /individual needs.
- *Tractor must be returned to the shelter at the end of the day and not be kept on residential property overnight.
- *Tractor will not be available for personal use after it has been prepped and stored during the colder months.



Indian Creek Burn Pile



A big thanks to this hardworking crew that burned down the brush pile this past November. Pictured above are: Fred Walk, David Meyer, Connie Whittum, Keith Whittum, Jeremy Thomas, Rod Hinderliter, Larry Meyer, Craig Doubet, Doug Braun

Duke the Dog is front and center

Thanks to Val Beguin for making a wonderful lunch!

As a reminder, do not bring grass clippings, leaves or other yard waste to the pile.



Towanda Fire News

Happy New Year from the Towanda Fire Department

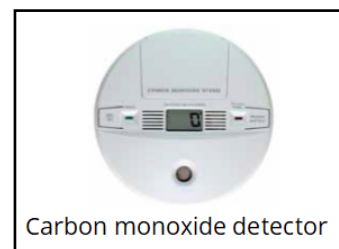
What is Carbon Monoxide? Carbon monoxide, or "CO," is an odorless, colorless gas that can kill you.

Where is CO found?

CO is found in fumes produced any time you burn fuel in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, or furnaces. CO can build up indoors and poison people and animals who breathe it.

What are the symptoms of CO poisoning?

The most common symptoms of CO poisoning are headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. CO symptoms are often described as "flu-like." If you breathe in a lot of CO, it can make you pass out or kill you. People who are sleeping or drunk can die from CO poisoning before they have symptoms. (Cont next page)



Who is at risk from CO poisoning?

Everyone is at risk for CO poisoning. Infants, the elderly, people with chronic heart disease, anemia, or breathing problems are more likely to get sick from CO. Each year, more than 400 Americans die from unintentional CO poisoning not linked to fires, more than 20,000 visit the emergency room, and more than 4,000 are hospitalized.

How can I prevent CO poisoning in my home?

- Install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home. Check or replace the detector's battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. Place your detector where it will wake you up if it alarms, such as outside your bedroom. Consider buying a detector with a digital readout. This detector can tell you the highest level of CO concentration in your home in addition to alarming. Replace your CO detector every five years.
- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors.
 - If you smell an odor from your gas refrigerator have an expert service, it. An odor from your gas refrigerator can mean it could be leaking CO.
- When you buy gas equipment, buy only equipment carrying the seal of a national testing agency, such as Underwriters' Laboratories.
- Make sure your gas appliances are vented properly. Horizontal vent pipes for appliances, such as a water heater, should go up slightly as they go toward outdoors, as shown below. This prevents CO from leaking if the joints or pipes aren't fitted tightly.
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned every year. Chimneys can be blocked by debris. This can cause CO to build up inside your home or cabin.
- Never patch a vent pipe with tape, gum, or something else. This kind of patch can make CO build up in your home, cabin, or camper.
- Never use a gas range or oven for heating. Using a gas range or oven for heating can cause a buildup of CO inside your home, cabin, or camper.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal – red, gray, black, or white – gives off CO.
- Never use a portable gas camp stove indoors. Using a gas camp stove indoors can cause CO to build up inside your home, cabin, or camper.
- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, or garage or less than 20 feet from any window, door, or vent.
- When using a generator, use a battery-powered or battery backup CO detector in your home



How can I avoid CO poisoning from my car or truck?

- Have a mechanic check the exhaust system of your car or truck every year. A small leak in the exhaust system can lead to a buildup of CO inside the car.
- Never run your car or truck inside a garage that is attached to a house even with the garage door open. Always open the door to a detached garage to let in fresh air when you run a car or truck inside.
- If you drive a car or SUV with a tailgate, when you open the tailgate open the vents or windows to make sure air is moving through. If only the tailgate is open CO from the exhaust will be pulled into the vehicle.

If you have any questions regarding the Towanda Fire Department or would like some information in becoming a firefighter, please contact Chief Lueschen at 309.728.2353 or email: towandachief@gmail.com

2022 Advance Meat Order Towanda Scouting Organization

**Friday, February 11th, 2-5:30pm -OR- Saturday, February 12th, 9:00-11am
@Towanda Community Building**

PLEASE BRING YELLOW COPY WHEN PICKING UP YOUR ORDER!
To order, call Virginia Lowery 309-825-6341 or Mike/Linda Potts 309-728-2384

Place Your Order Today ~ The Deadline is January 31, 2022

WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE	Package Size	# Packages	Package Price	Total
BULK SAUSAGE (\$4.50/lb)	2 pounds		\$ 9.00	\$
LINK SAUSAGE (\$4.50/lb)	5 pounds		\$22.50	\$
BACK RIBS (\$4.50/lb)	5 pounds		\$9.50	\$
COUNTRY STYLE BACON	1 pound		\$ 8.00	\$
ITALIAN SAUSAGE				
ITALIAN BULK (\$4.50/lb)	2 pounds		\$ 9.00	\$
ITALIAN LINK (\$4.50/lb)	5 pounds		\$22.50	\$
OTHER				
BONELESS / SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST(\$6.00/lb)	5 pounds		\$30.00	\$
BONELESS TENDERIZED PORK CHOPS (\$6.00/lb)	2 pounds		\$12.00	\$
			TOTAL	\$

ORDER TAKEN BY: _____ Pick Up: ☐ Fri ☐ Sat ☐ Unsure

PHONE: _____ ☐ Paid ☐ Not Paid

EMAIL: _____

NAME: _____

We are unable to use the grade school for our annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast this year, but the Scouts will be selling their sausage as their annual fund raiser. If there are any questions, please contact: Virginia Lowery 101 Miriam Way Towanda, 61776. 309 825-6341 vlowery1@hotmail.com.

Garden Tips

by Helen Leake



For years, farmers have been growing crops using the no-till method. Gardeners can also use no-till and save energy and time. When we till the garden, we bring weed seeds up and also kill some of the living organisms in the soil. The more life we have in the soil, the more nutritious vegetables we will harvest. Today's vegetables don't have near the nutrients that they had years before synthetic fertilizer.

If you want to start now, decide where you want to plant your tomatoes. If it is in the garden or in an untilled weedy spot, cover it with cardboard. Then cover that with fresh compost. Water it to soften the cardboard. When it is time to plant tomatoes, cut some 12-inch holes in the cardboard and plant your tomatoes and water. The cardboard will help hold moisture, so you should not need to water as much. The cardboard will prevent the sun from getting to the weeds and seeds.

For smaller plants, next spring shovel well-aged compost on the untilled area, lay cardboard over it, soak it with water, cover it with well-aged woodchip mulch. Poke some 2-inch holes for small plants and water.

For seeds, place cardboard on the untilled ground, wet the cardboard, and cover with well-aged compost. Sow your seeds.

Cardboard is good food for the worms and the best plant food is worm poop. It would also be deep in the soil where the roots are.

Next year just repeat the cardboard and compost. You will end up with much healthy soil.

Now that the furnace is running more and the air in the house is drier. You will need to water your houseplants more. If the plant is lighter in weight, it needs water.

If you have a problem with your cat chewing on your houseplants. You might place some pieces of orange, lemon, or lime peelings on top of the soil in the container. The cats do not like the smell of citrus peelings.

In the summer, the birds use the birdhouses for raising their family. In the winter, some birds use them for roosting sites. They provide shelter from the cold winter winds. Birds also depend more on your bird seeds for food.

If you have finished mowing and mulching the leaves, you need to either run all of the gas out of your mower and weed trimmer or add a gas protective to them. Before next spring you will need to clean them up and sharpen the mower blade. Bring the batteries and any liquid chemicals into a place where they will not freeze.

Also, before you put your garden tools away, wash all of the caked soil off of them, and wipe them off with an oily rag to prevent rust. Also, sharpen the shovels and hoes. A clean, sharp tool is must easier to use than a caked mud and dull blade.

If you have any battery-powered tools, they should be in a place where they can not freeze. Also, they need to be recharged once a month during the winter so the battery does not completely run down.

Towanda HCE



Sitting L-R: Robin Pearson, Sandy Whalen, Barb Wager, Jeanie Wager;
Standing L-R, Jennifer Miller, Ruth Stewart, Kathleen Emery, Linda Conder



Sitting L-R: Clara Lehan, Bev Hornickel, Karen Wyant, Joann
Steinberg; Standing L-R: Pat Pulokas, Jean Glowicki, and Cindy Kelley

The Towanda HCE Unit met on Monday, Dec 13 to celebrate the Holidays at the Towanda Community Building. A potluck meal was enjoyed by the 15 members attending. We had wonderful conversation, played Holiday Bingo, and had a gift exchange.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 6:30pm at the Towanda Community Building. Sandy Whalen will be presenting the lesson on spices, "From Agar to Za'atar" and our minor lesson will be on the Canadian Province of Alberta. For information about Towanda HCE Unit, contact Cindy Kelley, 309-824-4797.

Water Hydrant Flushing Schedule

Water hydrant flushing will not be done in January or February due to possible freezing temperatures. We will publish the 2022 schedule prior to restarting the process in March.

Jim Larson – ICHWA Water Chairperson



2020 McLean County Waste Generation and Recycling Rate

As the community's solid waste agency, the EAC annually collects waste and recycling data to calculate the amount of municipal solid waste generated and recycled for all of McLean County. The information gathered serves as a lagging performance indicator of the success of outreach programs on waste generation and recycling. This performance indicator helps guide the EAC's efforts to improve the county's recycling rate and increase source reduction.

The Covid-19 pandemic brought unprecedented impacts in waste management and recycling. Commercial and industrial waste generation decreased, and collection and sorting practices were altered due to restricted workforce. At the same time, residential waste generation skyrocketed, likely a result of intensified cleaning routines, carry-out meals, and disposable PPE. The use of cardboard also rose sharply, as residents opted for online purchasing and delivery in place of shopping and dining excursions. While working from home, many residents cooked more and spent time on yard work. As reclamation of restaurant and institutional food waste plummeted, net food and yard waste trended up. McLean County saw a 27% decrease in measured recovery of these organic waste materials.

The Ecology Action Center's annual calculation of community-wide waste generation and recycling shows that the County realized a recycling rate of 36% in 2020. The 22% decrease in recycling compared to 2019 is consistent with national and global deviations that resulted from the Covid-19 pandemic.

McLean County has historically performed well ahead of reported national averages for recycling. It is notable that, while some municipalities worldwide diverted recyclables to landfills, haulers servicing McLean County continued to pick up recycling throughout 2020. Even with the decrease in overall recycling rate, the county is expected to compare favorably for 2020. Although landfilling of single-use items likely increased, the total amount of municipal solid waste decreased 16%, and the amount sent to the landfill in 2020 remained nearly identical to the amount landfilled in 2019.

With the closure of the McLean County Landfill in late 2018, the Ecology Action Center continues to focus on waste management priorities as outlined in the Twenty-Year Materials Recovery and Resource Management Plan for McLean County, Bloomington, and Normal, Illinois. This includes diversion strategies for waste that would otherwise require landfill disposal further away from the source of origin. McLean County Waste Generation and Recycling Rates: 2015-2020

McLean County Waste Generation and Recycling Rates: 2015-2020

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total MSW Recycled (tons)	81,302	83,335	88,459	94,804	88,330	58,193
Total MSW Landfilled (tons)	154,662	120,815	124,364	109,467	104,772	104,919
Total MWS Generated (tons)	235,964	204,150	211,230	204,271	193,102	163,113
Recycling Rate	34.5%	40.8%	41.9%	46.4%	45.7%	35.68%



Ecology Action Center seeks nominations for McLean County Green Awards

Ecology Action Center seeks nominations for McLean County Green Awards The Ecology Action Center presents the annual McLean County Green Awards to recognize local efforts to improve our environment. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2021 awards, with recipients being named at an online event on February 9, 2022.

The McLean County Recycling and Waste Reduction Award identifies businesses, schools or organizations with outstanding recycling programs or waste reduction efforts or individuals who have played a role in a successful program or effort. While nominations will be accepted for any recycling or waste reduction project, areas of growing interest include source reduction efforts, especially alternatives to single use items (plastic or paper grocery bags, etc.).

The Anne McGowan Making a World of Difference Award recognizes outstanding projects, activities, or individuals in McLean County who promote environmental awareness or natural resource conservation. The EAC dedicated the World of Difference Award in memory of McGowan, an early director of the EAC, due to her ability to inspire and motivate others to take action. Former EAC Executive Director Michelle Covi described Anne as a catalyst for action.

“She was energetic and never hesitated to get her hands dirty. Her natural curiosity and love of the natural world fueled her passion for wildlife exploration and preservation. She shared her love with children and adults alike when she conducted nature walks, wildflower walks, and nature programs. She inspired and nurtured life-long dedication to environmental awareness and conservation in children, college students, and adults whose lives she touched.”

In the spirit of Anne, the EAC seeks nominations of worthy projects, organizations, or individuals in nomination for the Anne McGowan Making World of Difference Award or the McLean County Recycling and Waste Reduction Award. Current EAC Executive Director Michael Brown suggested, “if more of us followed the outstanding example set by Anne McGowan, the world would be a much better place.”

Nominations may be made online at ecologyactioncenter.org/green-awards/ or by stopping by the Ecology Action Center at 202 W College Avenue in Normal; all submissions are due by Monday, January 3, 2022 at 5 p.m.

The Ecology Action Center is a not-for-profit environmental agency with a mission to inspire and assist residents of McLean County in creating, strengthening and preserving a healthy environment. The EAC acts as a central resource for environmental education, information, outreach, and technical assistance in McLean County.

Plastic Silverware

Donate your unwanted plastic silverware to the Miller Park Zoo via Linda Garbe at: Lhgarbe46@mail.com or 309 728-2236.

Towanda District Library

JANUARY 2022

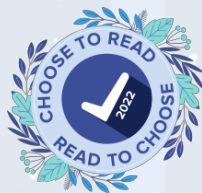
Browsing a Library Wonderland!

— TOWANDA DISTRICT LIBRARY —

Towanda District Library is dedicated to supporting its patrons and community, even while weathering the pandemic and preparing for chilly, winter days. How can we best assist you at this time? Here are some “cozy choices” to consider:

- ❄️ **Browse indoors** during the library’s expanded hours of operation*
- ❄️ Call to place holds and/or request items for **curbside delivery**
- ❄️ **Search the collection online** via the library’s website or mobile app
- ❄️ **Access e-resources** from the “Quick Links” section of the library’s website, including audiobooks/ebooks from the Digital Media Library, animated stories/games from Tumblebooks, and research content from World Book Online

Browsing our “Library Wonderland” often begins by visiting the website at <http://www.towandalibrary.org>. To access your account or an e-resource, simply enter your library card number and PIN. Unsure of this information? A friendly staff member can often resolve login issues by phone. We invite you to call **(309) 728-2176** for assistance; messages left after hours are typically addressed the next business day!



Readers' Choice Awards

Sets of award nominees are **now on display!** Book lists for students of **all ages** (birth – grade 12) have been printed on bookmarks to help readers track their progress.

Towanda District Library will host its **first, official Readers' Choice election** in March 2022! You're invited to browse the display and discover how to participate. **Choose to read, and read to choose!**

Library Hours & Reminders

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Tuesdays, Thursdays

1:00 – 6:00 pm

Saturdays

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

*Closed
Sundays*

*All patrons (above the age of 2 years) are required to wear masks within the library, regardless of vaccination status.



Scheduled Holiday Closures - Reminders

Towanda District Library will be **closed Thursday, December 23, 2021 through Saturday, January 1, 2022**. Returned items will be periodically disinfected/checked-in during the holiday closure, but may take up to 3 business days to process. The library will reopen Monday, January 3 at 10:00 am.



Following the Unit 5 Calendar, Towanda District Library will be **closed Monday, January 17, 2022** in observance of the MLK Jr. holiday. The library will reopen Tuesday, January 18 at 1:00 pm.



TOWANDA DISTRICT LIBRARY

301 S. Taylor St. Towanda, IL 61776

(309) 728-2176

www.towandalibrary.org

Explore. Share. Read. Discover.

Classified

For Hire:

Aubrey Thomas is available for childcare and pet care. She has taken the Safe Sitter course and is experienced with taking care of several animals. Aubrey is a Junior at NCHS. Please call or text her at 309-532-7522.

Lydia Lueschen is available for babysitting. She is 16 years old and has completed a babysitting course along with being CPR certified. Please call or text her mom - Dallas Lueschen- at 309-826-1868.

Bailee Harmon is available to pet sit, babysit, and to do other household chores such as water plants/flowers and cleaning. Please contact Bailee at (309) 530-8279 or her mom (Hallie Harmon) at (309) 530-5360.

Caden Lueschen is available for snow removal. Please call 309-728-2353.

Businesses:

Pampered Chef features cooking shows, catalog parties, freezer meal workshops, bridal showers & fundraisers!

Contact your local Indian Creek consultant for these events.

Annette Hancock
7 Bent Tree Lane
Call Home - 728-2990
Text or call- 242-1802
Email - annettehancock1953@gmail.com
Website - www.pamperedchef.com/pws/annettehancock
Pinterest - www.pinterest.com/ahancock0935



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- Thinking about selling your house?
- Considering buying a house?
- Contact me today!
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