

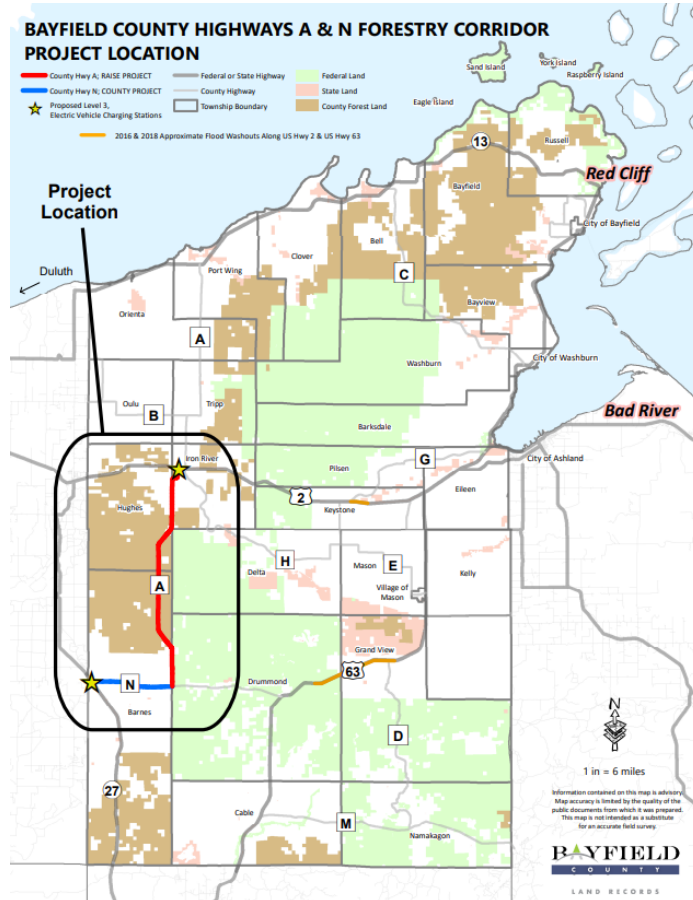
Bayfield County Times

A Periodic Publication for County Municipal Officials Providing Updates on Ongoing and New Program Opportunities in Bayfield County

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Senior Dining*
- *Load Restrictions*
- *Operation Deliverance of Comradery*
- *Free Tax Preparation*
- *Health Infrastructure Grant*
- *WIC*
- *CheqBUILT*
- *Family Care and Iris*
- *Sheriff's Office Statistics*
- *Criminal Justice Council*
- *Comprehensive Plan*
- *Water Quality Testing*
- *Land Records—What's New*
- *Bayfield County Fair*
- *Medicare Virtual Sessions*

Bayfield County Highway Department Applies Again for USDOT RAISE Grant



Bayfield County is submitting for the USDOT RAISE grant again in 2024. The project includes reconstruction of County Highways A and N between the Town of Barnes and Iron River. Under the proposed project this section of highway will become an all season road, eliminating the need for posting seasonal weight restrictions for 60+ days each year.

The project area bisects a large section of both County and Federal Forest Lands where weight restrictions limit logging operations.

VISIT BAYFIELD COUNTY FACEBOOK PAGES TO STAY UP TO DATE.

BAYFIELD HIGHWAY LOAD LIMITS TEMPORARILY LIFTED, 3PM FRIDAY, FEB 16, 2024

TREASURERS OFFICE REMINDER: Second installment property tax payments are due to the Bayfield County Treasurer's Office by July 31, 2024.

Questions? Please contact the Treasurer's Office at: 715-373-6131

YOUR SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS BAYFIELD COUNTY

www.bayfieldcounty.wi.gov

SENIOR DINING

More than a meal!



Meal Site Location Information To reserve your meal, call 715-373-3396

Barnes Town Hall 3360 County Hwy. N Barnes, WI 54873	Meal Days: Thursdays Reservation required? Yes Call by 9:00 a.m. the day before.	Site Opens: 11:30 a.m. Meal Served: 12:00 noon
Bell Town Hall 22620 Ash Street Cornucopia, WI 54827	Meal Days: Tuesdays Reservation required? Yes Call by Monday at 8:30 a.m.	Site Opens: 11:30 a.m. Meal Served: 12:00 noon
Cable United Church of Christ 13445 County Hwy. M Cable, WI 54821	Meal Days: 1 st & 3 rd Mondays of the month Reservation required? Yes Call by Thursday at 12:00 noon	Site Opens: 12:00 noon Meal Served: 12:30 p.m.
Iron River Community Center 8275 E. Mill Street Iron River, WI 54847	Meal Days: 2 nd & 4 th Thurs. of the month Reservation required? Yes Call by Monday at noon	Site Opens: 11:30 a.m. Meal Served: 12:00 noon
First Lutheran Church 83105 Washington Avenue Port Wing, WI 54865	Meal Days: Wednesdays Reservation required? Yes Call by Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.	Site Opens: 11:30 a.m. Meal Served: 12:00 noon
Time Out Restaurant 4 Bayfield Street Washburn, WI 54891	Meal Days: Wednesdays Reservation required? No <i>*Please be respectful of the restaurant and do not arrive earlier than 1:00 p.m.</i>	Seating Opens: 1:00 PM* Meal Served: 1:30 – 2:00 p.m. Site Closes: 3:00 p.m.
St. Louis School 713 Washington Avenue Washburn, WI 54891	Meal Days: Fridays Reservation required? Yes Call by 3:00 p.m. Wednesday	Site Opens: 11:30 a.m. Meal Served: 12:00 noon

Be sure to include your name, phone number, meal site location and date you are making the reservation, and how many people you are making reservations for.

Suggested contribution amount is \$3.00 - \$5.00 per meal. All contributions are used to fund the program.

HOME DELIVERED MEALS

How Does it Work?

Participants must be 60 years old and up or have a spouse who is 60+ to participate.

Participants will be required to complete a registration form and nutrition questionnaire and be considered homebound to be eligible.

Delivery days and times are determined based on your home address. Participants must be home to receive the meals but may request a pause or break in service when necessary.

Participants will have an opportunity to contribute toward the cost of their meals (\$3.00-\$5.00 a meal).

For more information, please call the **nutrition program line: 715-373-3396** and leave your name(s), phone number and address when leaving a message.

COUNTY HIGHWAY LOAD RESTRICTIONS -TEMPORARILY LIFTED-

PURSUANT TO SECTION 349.16 OF THE WISCONSIN STATUTES SEASONAL WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ARE **TEMPORARILY** BEING REMOVED ON ALL BAYFIELD COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAYS EFFECTIVE:

3:00 p.m. – FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

AS ROAD CONDITIONS VARY, WE MAY NEED TO IMPOSE ROAD RESTRICTIONS AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.



Operation Deliverance of Comradery

We have a mission if you to choose to accept it...

We are looking for volunteers who are interested in providing their time and service to our local heroes in need, who may be physically or financially unable to do so themselves. Please call, email, or inbox us if you or someone you know might be interested.

veteransservice@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov
OR 715-373-6137

Examples:

- ◆ Snow clearing - driveways, sidewalks, rooftops
- ◆ Minor residential repairs
- ◆ Small engine repairs
- ◆ Automobile repairs
- ◆ Housekeeping
- ◆ Grocery Shopper
- ◆ Delivery of Groceries



AARP Foundation

Washburn Tax-Aide 2023 Tax Season

Free Tax Preparation offered by AARP, IRS, & Wisconsin Department of Revenue

AARP Foundation Tax Aide volunteers will offer in-person tax preparation. All tax returns will be completed in the Bayfield County Board Room located in the upper level of the Bayfield County Courthouse.

APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED

Taxpayers must pick up an envelope containing paperwork that needs to be completed before an appointment can be made. Instructions for making an appointment are included in the packet.

Individuals must complete all of the forms included in the packet before arriving for their appointment, otherwise the appointment will need to be rescheduled. In addition to the forms in the packet, you will need to provide either originals or copies of all 2023 tax documents. These documents may include, but are not limited to:

- ⇒ Social Security Statements
- ⇒ 1099's
- ⇒ W-2's

Taxpayers can pick up the required envelope at the following locations beginning January 10th:

- ⇒ Bayfield County Courthouse
117 E 5th Street Washburn
8:00-4:00 Monday – Friday
NOTICE: Look for the Tax-Aide signage. Packets will be available at the courtroom entrance. No staff or volunteers are on site to answer questions or provide service.
- ⇒ Ashland, Bayfield, Cable, and Iron River Libraries
- ⇒ Town of Bell Town Hall in Cornucopia

All taxpayers will be required to show a picture ID and proof of Social Security Number.

The tax preparers will not be allowed to file any out of state returns which includes the Minnesota returns that have been done in the past.

Bayfield County District Attorney Named 2023 District Attorney of the Year

The Wisconsin District Attorney's Association (WDAA) has named Bayfield County District Attorney, Kim Lawton, the 2023 District Attorney of the Year. Kim, a 2010 graduate from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln Law School, was nominated by Marathon County ADA, Elizabeth Gerbert; Marathon County DA, Theresa Wetzsteon; and Outagamie County DA, Mindy Tempelis for her efforts as a devoted prosecutor.

Kim is often described as someone who shares her positivity and laughter as well as her understanding and moral outrage whenever and with whomever needs it.

On January 30, 2024, the Bayfield County Board recognized Kim Lawton on the receipt of her reward and commended her for her commitment and service as the Bayfield County District Attorney.



Bayfield County District Attorney Kim Lawton receives her award at the fall State Prosecutors' Education & Training conference held in Elkhart Lake Wisconsin, November 2023.

Municipalities are encouraged to apply for this year's 2024 Bayfield County Community Wellness Initiative (formerly Health Infrastructure Grant)

Project Description: A community wellness initiative that promotes the health infrastructure of Bayfield County, its residents and visitors.

Purpose: Provide the community with assistance to create the opportunity for a better place to live by supporting infrastructure for physical activity, promoting health and wellness.

Grant Details: Applications are open from February 1, 2024, through **Sunday, April 28, 2024.**

Cost sharing of 50% from Bayfield County with local communities.

Up to \$5,000 per project for cost-sharing. Minimum of \$1,000 request for grants.

Up to \$30,000 of funds available county-wide.

Grant funds may only be used for materials, equipment and contractual costs.

Community may include donations of equipment, materials, parts, labor, and time in 50% cost-sharing. (Labor contributions up to \$10/hour.)

Approved grant expenses will be reimbursed upon project completion.

Any funds awarded must not be used to replace (supplant) funds that have already been appropriated for the project.

Projects must be completed by June 30, 2025.



Apply online at: www.bayfieldcounty.wi.gov/communitywellnessgrant

Criteria for Selection:

Projects must create an opportunity for physical activity and/or promotion of healthy living. Special preference will be given to projects that promote health and wellness for persons of all ages.

Projects must focus on improving wellness opportunities in Bayfield County.

Project proposals will be accepted from towns, cities, village or tribe located within Bayfield County.

Community groups may work through these government entities.

Project proposals must demonstrate local commitment in the form of two letters of support from community members or organizations.

Selection of projects will be determined by the *Community Wellness Initiatives Committee*.

Grant recipients will be announced by Wednesday, May 15th, 2024.

Suggestions for Project Proposals:

Improvements or outdoor exercise systems including bicycle paths, walking path development, accessible walking paths or hiking trails.

Playground equipment or interactive outdoor exercise equipment

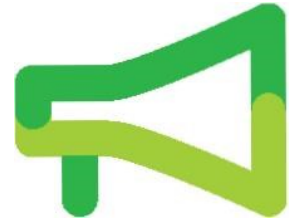
Establish a new farmers market or infrastructure to support farmers markets or community gardens.

Safety or user accessibility enhancements in parks or at swimming beaches (example: lifejacket stations, lifeguard chair, benches, accessible walkways)

Basketball, volleyball, pickleball or tennis courts, skateboard or wheel parks.

Other proposed projects are welcome.

Call (715)373-6109 or email Health@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov



The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC) helps families stay healthy by providing nutrition education, breastfeeding education and support, healthy foods, and connections to other community services.

You may qualify if:

- You live in Wisconsin
- You are pregnant, breastfeeding, or have had a baby in the past 6 months
- You have an infant or children under age 5
- You or your children have a health or nutrition need
- All income coming into the house (before any deductions) is less than or equal to WIC income guidelines

With our main office currently in Ashland, we will resume holding satellite clinics in 2024 in Hurley and likely in the Iron River or Drummond area as well as Mellen.

GROSS INCOME
(before deductions)

Family Size	Weekly Income	Bi-weekly Income
2	\$702	\$1,404
3	\$885	\$1,769
4	\$1,068	\$2,135
5	\$1,251	\$2,501
6	\$1,434	\$2,867

Note: A pregnant woman counts as 2 persons.

You may qualify if anyone in your family is receiving FoodShare, Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, W2, TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Foster children and Kinship Care recipients under age 5 are eligible for WIC, regardless of income.



Phone: 715-682-6661
Email: wic@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov
Facebook: Bay Area WIC



What is CheqBUILT?

The Chequamegon Bay United Impact Land Trust (CheqBUILT) is an emerging community land trust (CLT) dedicated to increasing the long-term availability of affordable homes for residents across Ashland and Bayfield Counties, Wisconsin. Check for updates and contact information at www.cheqbuilt.org.

What is a Community Land Trust (CLT)?

A CLT is a nonprofit, community-based organization that removes land from the speculative real estate market with the intent of preserving long-term housing affordability and other community benefits. A CLT can acquire land and homes through purchase or donation, from public or private entities.

How do CLTs work?

In a CLT, a homebuyer is able to purchase a home, but not the land it sits on. The land is leased from CheqBUILT under a 99-year (renewable) ground lease, which provides long-term protection to the homeowner and makes the home more affordable. The ground lease requires owner-occupancy and responsible use of the premises. Further subsidies are layered in to ensure the property is affordable for the homeowner.

How will CheqBUILT ensure permanent affordability?

In exchange for buying a CheqBUILT home at an affordable price, the homeowner agrees to sell the home at an affordable price. The sale of CheqBUILT homes is governed by a resale formula, which allows residents to capture a portion of their home's appreciated value while maintaining affordability for the next homeowner. CheqBUILT will use a resale structure in which homeowners are able to gain 1% in equity per year of ownership.

Are CLTs a new idea?

CLTs have been around for a long time. There are currently four CLTs operating in Wisconsin and more than three-hundred across the nation. As the housing crisis continues to grow, CLTs have emerged as a critical piece of organizational infrastructure needed to preserve long-term affordability of homes in areas of high demand.

What are the advantages of owning a land trust home versus renting?

In addition to the long-term stability and affordability of a land trust home, homeowners are able to access many financial and tax advantages of homeownership while building a modest equity. An estimated 70% of CLT homebuyers go on to purchase a market-rate home in the future.

Why do we need a CLT in the Chequamegon Bay Region?

Homeownership has slipped out of reach for median-income earners in our community. Housing costs have risen sharply over the past decade. Second-homeownership and loss of units to the short-term rental market have reduced housing stock. As remote work becomes more common, migration trends to rural areas are continuing, increasing market pressure as high-wage earners relocate from higher cost areas. Recent inflation and higher interest rates are further pushing homeownership out of reach for local median-wage earners. As a result of this housing shortage, many employers are unable to recruit and hire needed support. Chronic understaffing in critical sectors threatens the stability of the region's core amenities. Increasing the inventory of perpetually affordable housing options for median-income wage earners is critical to our region's economic development and community well-being.

How will CheqBUILT be funded?

Like most CLTs, CheqBUILT will initially rely on a combination of public funding, grants, land donations, private foundation efforts, and other mission-driven donors. As our property portfolio grows, CheqBUILT will generate ground lease fees and other income that can be used for ongoing operations, property acquisition, and capital improvements. We anticipate significant match funding from WHEDA as a result of the region's participation in the Rural Affordable Workforce Housing Initiative.

Who is developing CheqBUILT?

CheqBUILT has been developed as part of the WHEDA Rural Affordable Workforce Housing Initiative. Partners involved in this initiative include representatives from Bayfield & Ashland Counties; the Cities of Ashland, Washburn & Bayfield, and the Towns of La Pointe and Cable with additional support from the Red Cliff, Bad River & Bayfield County Housing

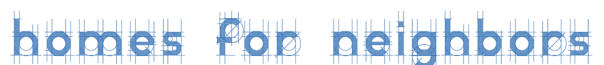
Who will be eligible to purchase a CheqBUILT home?

2023 Income Eligibility Guidelines - Bayfield County					
*Based on HUD Estimated Nonmetropolitan County Median Family Income of \$82,300					
	1 person	2 person	3 person	4 person	5 person
60% CMI	\$35,700	\$40,800	\$45,900	\$51,000	\$55,080
80% CMI	\$47,600	\$54,400	\$61,200	\$68,000	\$73,450
100% CMI	\$59,500	\$68,000	\$76,500	\$85,000	\$91,800
120% CMI	\$71,400	\$81,600	\$91,800	\$102,000	\$110,160

In addition to income eligibility, homeowners must qualify for an approved mortgage.

**A CheqBUILT homebuyer's income cannot exceed 120% of the median income of Bayfield County.*

**Some homes may only be available to homebuyers whose incomes do not exceed 80% of median income.*



Beware of Scams Targeting Older Adults!!!



Older adults are often the target of scams. Scammers are savvy and convincing, and their scams are designed to catch people off guard. Don't be ashamed if you think you or someone you know has been a victim of a scam — it can happen to anyone.

Common scams aimed at older adults include:

- ⇒ [Government impersonator scams](#), such as someone posing as a Medicare representative asking for account information
- ⇒ [Fake prize, sweepstakes, and lottery scams](#), in which you are asked to pay money or provide account information to claim winnings
- ⇒ [Computer tech support scams](#), in which a scammer tells you that your computer has a problem and wants you to pay for support services to fix it
- ⇒ [The grandparent scam](#), in which a caller pretends to be a grandchild or other relative in distress

What can you do?

Here are a few steps you can take to help protect yourself and your loved ones from scams:

- Don't give out sensitive personal information over the phone or in response to an email, social media post, or text message. Sensitive information includes your Social Security number, bank account information, credit card numbers, PINs, and passwords.
- Check incoming bills, including utility bills and credit card statements, for charges that you didn't authorize. Contact the utility provider, credit card company, or bank if you see any charges you don't recognize.

Protect your electronic accounts by keeping the security software on your computer and smartphone up to date and by using [multifactor authentication](#) when possible.

- Don't transfer money to strangers or to someone over the phone. Similarly, never buy a gift card to pay someone over the phone. Once you transfer money or share the numbers on the back of a gift card, there's usually no way to get your money back.
- If someone is trying to scam you, they may threaten you or pressure you to act immediately. If this happens to you, don't panic. Slow down and think about what the person is saying. If you suspect it's a scam, end the call and talk to someone you trust.

One reason that scammers target older adults is that they are less likely to report suspected fraud. If victims have given out personal information or financial transactions, they should contact the Bayfield County Sheriff's Office at 715-373-6120 and ask to connect with a Deputy for assistance. You can also contact the Wisconsin Department of Justice Consumer Protection Unit via this site:

<https://www.doj.state.wi.us/dls/consumer-protection> You can report the scam to the [Federal Trade Commission](#) and/or if you think that you or someone in your life has been the target of a scam, contact the National Elder Fraud Hotline at 833-372-8311.



Operation Gone but Not Forgotten



VETERANS SERVICES



The Bayfield County Veterans Service Office is on a mission to provide the community with a digital platform to honor our local veterans’ gravesites. This database will list all our local heroes buried within the county.

It will show each Veteran’s:

- ◆ Resting Place
- ◆ Cemetery Address
- ◆ Contact
- ◆ Section/Site/Location
- ◆ Date of Interment
- ◆ Picture of Gravestone/Headstone

Accessing Wisconsin’s Publicly Funded Long-Term Care Programs: Family Care and IRIS

Wisconsin has long been committed to providing comprehensive care and support for individuals in need of longer-term care services is exemplified through the Family Care and IRIS (Include, Respect, I Self-Direct) programs. These publicly funded initiatives ensure eligible individuals receive the necessary support for a fulfilling life.

Family Care is a publicly funded long-term care program designed to assist adults with physical disabilities. Its primary objective is to empower participants to live independently within their own homes and communities.

Family Care, which would be managed by the client’s chosen Managed Care Organization, offers a wide range of services, including personal care, medication management, transportation, and home modifications. By providing comprehensive support, Family Care enhances the well-being and quality of life of its participants.



IRIS, on the other hand, is a unique self-directed program. IRIS enables eligible individuals to have greater control over their care by allowing them to manage their own budgets and choose their preferred support providers. This approach empowers participants to tailor their care plans in a way that best suits their individual needs and preferences. From personal care to assistive devices and community-based activities, IRIS offers flexibility and autonomy in decision-making.



Family Care and IRIS Cont'd:

The Family Care and IRIS programs have financial and functional eligibility. Eligibility for Family Care and IRIS can be determined by contacting the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of the North at 1-866-663-3607. This resource hub serves as a crucial point of contact for those seeking access to long-term care services, both publicly and privately funded.



By reaching out to the ADRC of the North, individuals seeking assistance can weigh their long-term care service options including:

- Information about the choices you have when making decisions about where to live, what kind of help you need, where to receive that care and help, and how to pay for it.
- One-on-one consultation to help you think through the pros and cons of the various options considering your situation, values, resources, and preferences.
- Information about Wisconsin’s long-term care programs and help to understand resources in your area.

Remember, you don't have to face the challenges of long-term care alone—the ADRC of the North is here to help you every step of the way.

Contact the ADRC of the North at 1-866-663-3607

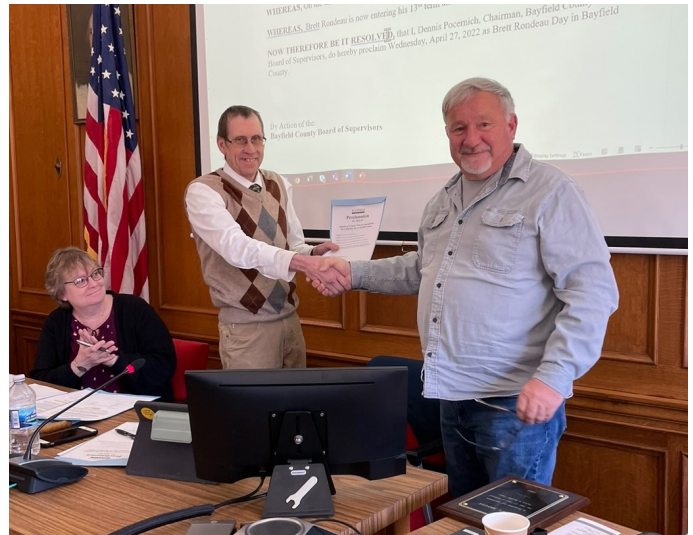


Rondeau Calls it a Day!

After 26 years, 13 terms, on the County Board, Bayfield County Board Supervisor, Brett Rondeau, has decided not to run again in the spring election.

Rondeau succeeded his father in the position and has held a prominent role in County Government for nearly three decades.

Rondeau is best known for his efficient and effective leadership skills having served as chair of the Executive, Personnel, and Planning & Zoning Committees.



On April 19, 2022, the Bayfield County Board adopted Proclamation No. 2022-03 which proclaimed April 27, 2022 as Brett Rondeau Day in Bayfield County



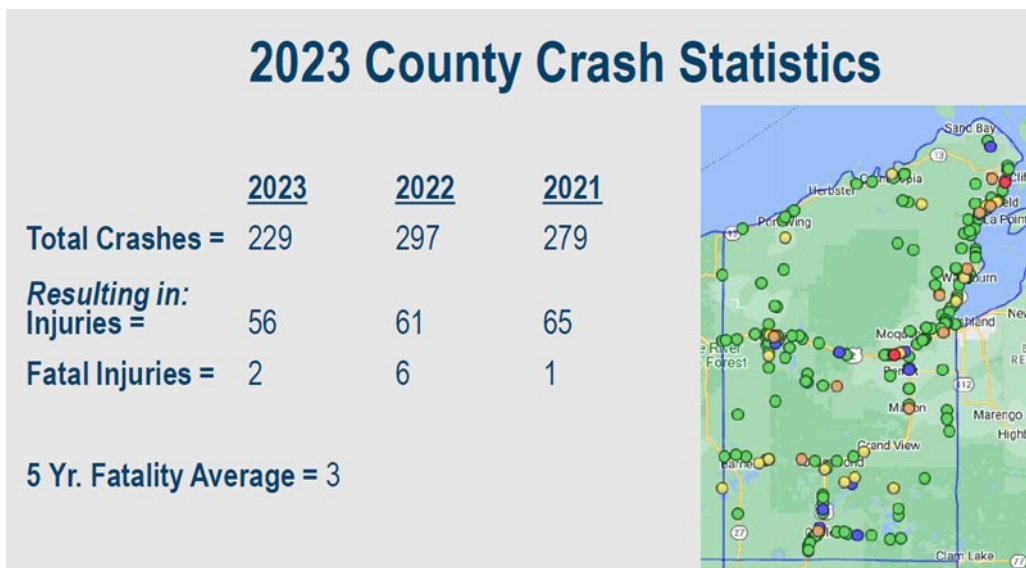
BAYFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE STATISTICS 2023

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation shared these statistics at a recent traffic safety meeting.

A focus on traffic safety and high visibility have helped result in a significant decrease in crashes in 2023. 229 crashes were reported in 2023, down from 297 and 279 in 2022 and 2021 respectively.

Comparing 2023 with a five-year average showed a 21%, 48% and 37% reduction in the following “crash flags”, Speed, Distraction and Aggressive Driving.

Sheriff Williams credits these efforts to Deputy dedication and a focus on driver safety.



Bayfield County Criminal Justice Council

Bayfield County established a Criminal Justice Council over 20 years ago. The Criminal Justice Council was created to advise elected officers and committees of the County Board which oversee programs and services related to criminal justice.

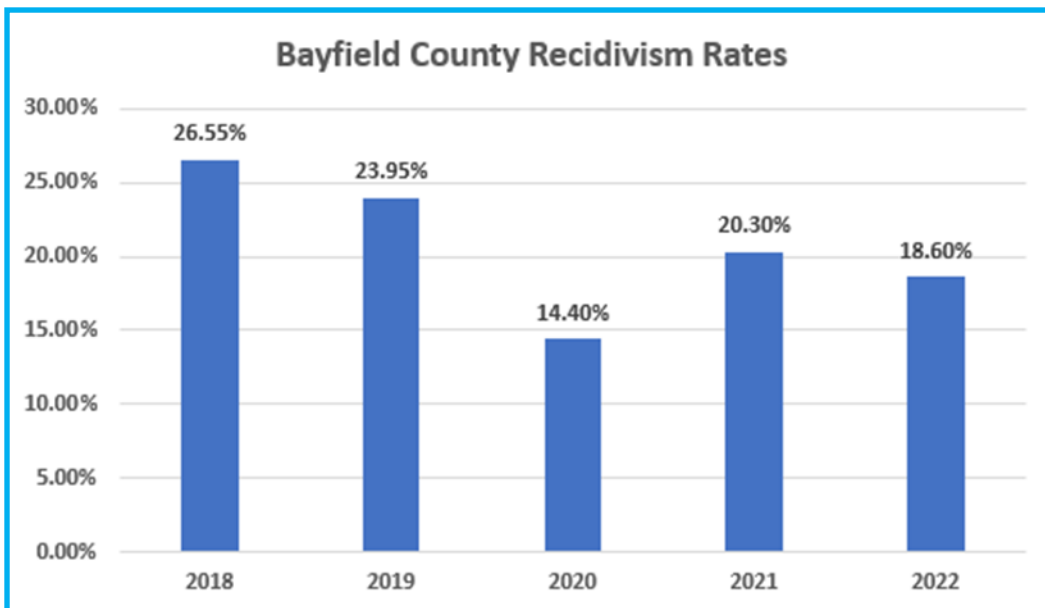
The Council's purpose is to recommend actions, including the creation, elimination or modifications of programs, policies and procedures that reflect the Bayfield County Criminal Justice Mission.

The Council's mission is to: Work cooperatively to make recommendations regarding the criminal justice system in Bayfield County.

A key focus of the Council is to oversee programs that reduce the chance of future recidivism. Bayfield County defines recidivism as rearrest within one year. The Wisconsin Department of Corrections uses a three year rearrest calculation.

For the previous 5 years the average Bayfield County recidivism rate was 20.76%. For comparison, Wisconsin Prison System 2023 average was 38.1%.

The Chart below shows county recidivism rates over the past five years.



Bayfield County employs Barb Flynn as the Criminal Justice Council Coordinator.

The Criminal Justice Coordinator serves as a liaison between local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies involved in criminal justice in Bayfield County.

Criminal Justice Council Cont'd.

In addition, the Coordinator is responsible for developing, implementing, and facilitating programming that is effective in changing destructive behaviors of offenders to protect the community, in addition to reducing recidivism.

The Criminal Justice Coordinator facilitates three main programs:

1. The Hybrid (OWI & Drug Court):

This program holds offenders accountable and develops an intensive treatment plan that focuses on providing critical resources for rehabilitation. It involves collaborative team decision-making, case management and extensive court oversight.



Participation requires motivation and commitment from clients to successfully complete an intensive program designed to end the cycle of substance abuse and criminal behavior. Treatment Court facilitates recovery from addiction, improved mental and physical health, and an opportunity to become productive members of society. The Treatment Court team consists of the Criminal Justice Coordinator, Case Manager, District Attorney, Behavioral Health & Community Programs Manager, State Public Defender representative, Department of Corrections representative, law enforcement, and circuit court. This project is funded by the Department of Justice through an annual grant.

2. Pre-Charge Diversion Program:

In collaboration with the District Attorney's Office, the Criminal Justice Department offers coordination services for this program. An offer of a Pre-Charge Diversion to an individual allows for a participant to consider their behavior and amend their cognitive thought process with no, court-filed criminal charges. Alternative routes can include completion of mental health/AODA assessments/recommendations of therapist, payment of traffic fines and written assignments reflecting on behavior and change.

3. Jail Programming:

Bayfield County has received funding through the Department of Corrections Becky Young Community Corrections Recidivism Reduction grant. This \$50,000 annual grant supports jail inmates with addiction and mental health issues. Over the 12-month period of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, licensed therapist facilitated over 342 individual sessions serving 88 unique inmates, an average of 3.8 sessions per client.

Barb Flynn, Criminal Justice Coordinator, stresses how unique and important this Council has become to the County. "This program is critical in supporting evidenced based practices with individuals in need of mental health and addiction-based services."

The PACT Act

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring these changes:

- ◇ Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- ◇ Adds 20+ more presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic exposures
- ◇ Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- ◇ Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care
- ◇ Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures.

To get a VA disability rating, your disability must connect to your military service. For many health conditions, you need to prove that your service caused your condition. But for some conditions, VA automatically assume (or “presume”) that your service caused your condition. VA calls these “presumptive conditions.” VA considers a condition presumptive when it's established by law or regulation. If you have a presumptive condition, you don't need to prove that your service caused the condition. You only need to meet the service requirements for the presumption.

Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veterans:

VA added more than 20 burn pit and other toxic exposure presumptive conditions based on the PACT Act. This change expands benefits for Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veterans.

These cancers are now presumptive:

- ◇ Brain cancer
- ◇ Gastrointestinal cancer of any type
- ◇ Glioblastoma
- ◇ Head cancer of any type

- ◇ Kidney cancer
- ◇ Lymphoma of any type
- ◇ Melanoma
- ◇ Neck cancer of any type
- ◇ Pancreatic cancer
- ◇ Reproductive cancer of any type
- ◇ Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type

These illnesses are now presumptive:

- ◇ Asthma that was diagnosed after service
- ◇ Chronic bronchitis
- ◇ Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- ◇ Chronic rhinitis
- ◇ Chronic sinusitis
- ◇ Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis
- ◇ Emphysema
- ◇ Granulomatous disease
- ◇ Interstitial lung disease (ILD)
- ◇ Pleuritis
- ◇ Pulmonary fibrosis
- ◇ Sarcoidosis

If you served in any of these locations and time periods, we've determined that you had exposure to burn pits or other toxins. We call this having a presumption of exposure.

On or after September 11, 2001, in any of these locations:

- ◇ Afghanistan
- ◇ Djibouti
- ◇ Egypt
- ◇ Jordan
- ◇ Lebanon
- ◇ Syria
- ◇ Uzbekistan
- ◇ Yemen
- ◇ The airspace above any of these locations



The PACT Act Cont'd.

Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veterans Cont'd:

On or after August 2, 1990, in any of these locations:

- ◇ Bahrain
- ◇ Iraq
- ◇ Kuwait
- ◇ Oman
- ◇ Qatar
- ◇ Saudi Arabia
- ◇ Somalia
- ◇ The United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- ◇ The airspace above any of these locations

Vietnam era Veterans:

Based on the PACT Act, VA added 2 new Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

High blood pressure (also called hypertension)
Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)

You may also be eligible for disability compensation based on other Agent Orange presumptive conditions. These conditions include certain cancers, type 2 diabetes, and other illnesses.

VA added these 5 new locations to the list of presumptive locations:

- ◇ Any U.S. or Royal Thai military base in Thailand from January 9, 1962, through June 30, 1976
- ◇ Laos from December 1, 1965, through September 30, 1969
- ◇ Cambodia at Mimot or Krek, Kampong Cham Province from April 16, 1969, through April 30, 1969
- ◇ Guam or American Samoa or in the territorial waters off of Guam or American Samoa from January 9, 1962, through July 31, 1980
- ◇ Johnston Atoll or on a ship that called at Johnston Atoll from January 1, 1972, through September 30, 1977

If you served on active duty in any of these locations, we'll automatically assume (or "presume") that you had exposure to Agent Orange.

Camp Lejeune Water Contamination

Health Issues:

If you served at either of these locations between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987, you may be eligible for disability and health care benefits:

- ◇ Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, or
- ◇ Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) New River, North Carolina

You may be eligible for disability compensation payments on a presumptive basis if you meet all of these requirements. These requirements apply to Veterans, Reservists, and National Guard members.

Both of these descriptions must be true:

- ◇ You served at Camp Lejeune or MCAS New River, North Carolina, for at least 30 days total between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987, and
- ◇ You didn't receive a dishonorable discharge when you separated from the military

And you must have a diagnosis of 1 or more of these presumptive conditions:

- ◇ Adult leukemia
- ◇ Aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes
- ◇ Bladder cancer
- ◇ Kidney cancer
- ◇ Liver cancer
- ◇ Multiple myeloma
- ◇ Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- ◇ Parkinson's disease

Evidence shows a link between these conditions and exposure to chemicals found in the drinking water at Camp Lejeune and MCAS New River during this time.



COURTHOUSE RECONSTRUCTION COMPLETION!

2023 was a major construction year at the courthouse. Bayfield County used Federal ARPA funds to update heating, cooling and ventilation systems in both the courthouse and annex. Funds were also used for new entry windows for the Clerk of Courts Office in the court waiting area.



New lighting and HVAC work was installed throughout the Administration wing of the Courthouse.



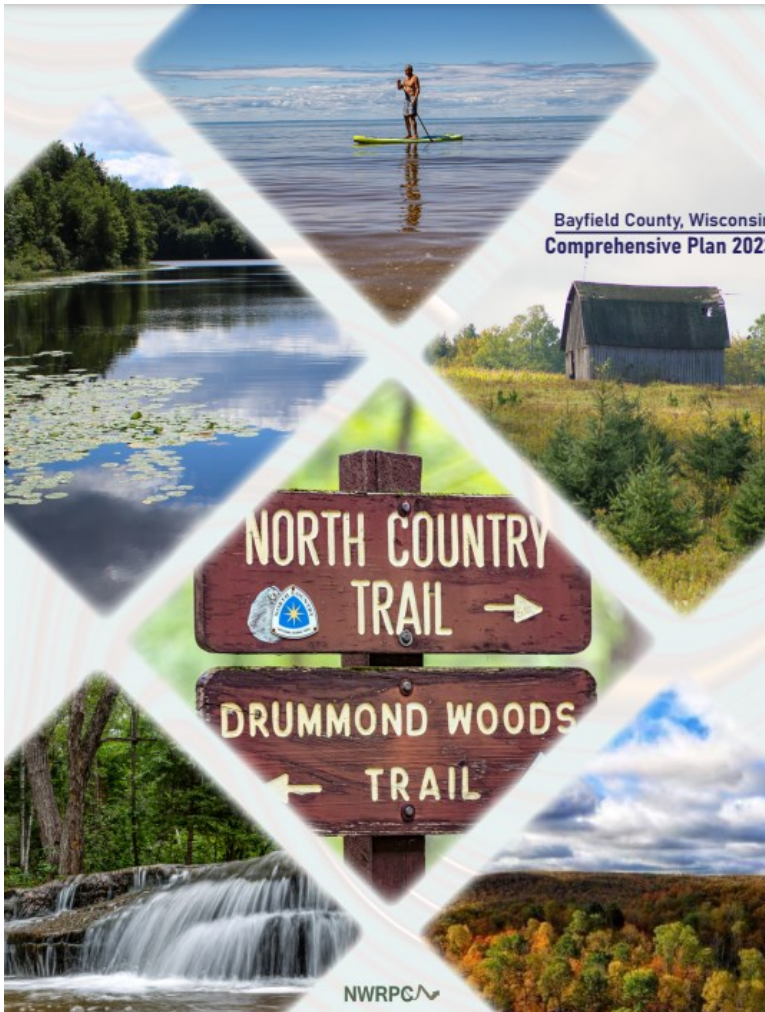
The project facilitated several department moves:

- ⇒ The Clerk of Court's Office traded places with the Register of Deeds.
- ⇒ The Child Support Office is now close to the courtroom, in part of the space where the Register of Deeds was.
- ⇒ The Bayfield County Veteran Service Office moved from the Annex Building to the former Child Support Office in the Courthouse.



The Clerk of Courts Office can now be found at its new location in the entry hallway through the courtside entry of the Courthouse.

Bayfield County Adopts 2023-2043 Comprehensive Plan!!



Bayfield County, Wisconsin, announces the adoption of its updated Comprehensive Plan for the years 2023-2043, reflecting the community's vision for sustainable growth and development. UW Extension Community Development Educator, Kellie Pederson, explains that "Comprehensive plans are required by state statute, in order to thoughtfully guide a community's future development. In this process, the Comp Plan Committee went above and beyond; not only considering the required elements of the plan, but also interconnections of the required elements, in a focused effort to develop a broader vision for the county's future that will enhance community and economic vitality without compromising the needs of future generations."

Funded by a Wisconsin Coastal Management Grant, the Bayfield County Comprehensive Plan update process began 18 months ago. With the assistance of the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC), and under the leadership of Steve Sandstrom, Bayfield County Supervisor, the Comprehensive Planning Committee met to review, update, and revise the Bayfield County Comprehensive Plan. "The comprehensive Plan is utilized by the county on a regular basis as a policy guide regarding decisions pertaining to future growth and development," says Emily Nelson, NWRPC. Sandstrom notes that "every part of the

plan had a subcommittee that met approximately every two to three weeks."

Each subcommittee carefully analyzed the nine plan elements with the assistance of Bayfield County staff members as well as members of the community. Town participation proved to be crucial as each of the 25 towns in Bayfield County worked to update both their current and future land use maps so they may be included in the final plan. Residents were also encouraged to attend three public input sessions in the City of Washburn and the Towns of Iron River and Cable where they were able to discuss the plan with committee members and offer recommendations for changes they'd like to see included in the plan.

On November 14, 2023, the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors held a public hearing to receive public input for the Comprehensive Plan and the plan was unanimously adopted with some final suggested amendments. Sandstrom told the board that really good changes have been made throughout the plan, including changes in the introduction of the plan "emphasizing the importance of sustainability."

Sandstrom thanks the committee members as well as the members of the public whose time, effort, and input made this a stronger plan for the future and states that he is "really proud to have been part of the whole process."

The entire document is available at: <https://bayfieldcounty.wi.gov/209/Bayfield-County-Comprehensive-Plan>

COUNTY USES FEDERAL FUNDS TO RECONSTRUCT TWO HIGHWAY GARAGES

One time Local Assistance Tribal Consistency Funds (LATCF) were allocated to the reconstruction of two Bayfield County Highway Garages. The Cable Highway Garage was completed in late 2023. The Grand View Garage is scheduled for reconstruction in 2024.

Both garages will feature additional space including three bays, a loft and in-floor heating.



In 2023, the Bayfield County Highway Department demolished the old highway garage in the Town of Cable and worked with engineers and contractors to design and construct the new garage pictured below.



Reproductive Health Information

At Bayfield County Health Department, our Reproductive, Family Planning & Sexual Health program aims to create a future where everyone has the trust, support, and Information they need to make the proper health and wellness choices for themselves. We make confidential reproductive and sexual health care accessible to everyone, no matter who they are or where they come from (LBGTQ+ friendly, males and females, teens alone or with guardian support). We do this by offering affordable, convenient, and inclusive reproductive and sexual health services and health education outreach to our schools. Our comprehensive reproductive and family planning services include information, education, counseling, and referrals; male and female condoms; pregnancy prevention supplies and testing; birth control (natural family planning, pills, patches, shots, rings, condoms, emergency contraception.) The Family Planning Only Services Program provides low to no-cost reproductive and sexual health care for people with limited income to reduce unplanned pregnancies.

Additionally, our role is to reduce Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) rates and outcome disparities in Bayfield County. We work to prevent disease transmission and manage outbreaks. Our priority is to ensure everyone at risk for STIs gets confidential testing and treatment. We offer STI testing, including same-day results for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea and treatment (medications) for STIs and follow up. All patient services are confidential. Our nurses are available in person via appointment, telehealth, phone and text.

For more information visit: Bayfield County Health Department: 715-373-6109 | <https://www.bayfieldcounty.wi.gov/1355/Reproductive-Health>

Or contact:

Laura Lear, Reproductive/Public Health Nurse

email: laura.lear@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov

phone: 715-373-3191 | text: 715-209-1568

WATER QUALITY TESTING

Our Environmental Health Services at Bayfield County Health Department include water testing and analysis for both public and private drinking water supplies.

We offer bacteria testing services, including Coliform and E-coli bacteria, and nitrate testing for drinking water samples. We also test and analyze surface water samples for E-Coli quantifications (counts). Total coliforms are indicator organisms used to detect bacterial contamination in drinking water. Their presence indicates that a pathway for contamination exists and organisms that cause disease may be present. The presence of E.coli in a drinking water sample is an indication of fecal contamination of the water supply.

High nitrate levels in drinking water pose a risk to infants and children. Infants under six months of age who are fed water or formula made with water that is high in nitrate can develop a condition called methemoglobinemia or "blue baby syndrome." State and federal laws set the maximum allowable level for nitrate-nitrogen in public drinking water at 10 milligrams per liter (ppm).

Water sampling is also available to the general public. Homeowners can pick up test kits for bacteria and nitrate testing during regular business hours and bring samples back to our on-site laboratory for testing. Samples are accepted Monday - Wednesday from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Other sampling times may be arranged. Cost is \$25 per sample.

For public water sampling, the Health Department works with the Wisconsin DNR to test and evaluate public drinking water systems that serve 25 persons or more each day. This includes facilities such as restaurants, retail stores, town halls, campgrounds, hotels or motels and churches. The well and water distribution system are sampled for bacteria and nitrates and the system is checked annually for issues that may increase risk of contamination.

Our surface water testing program includes our summer beach monitoring at 14 Lake Superior Beaches. Beaches are tested for temperature, turbidity, and E. coli levels. Elevated E. coli levels are associated with increased gastrointestinal illnesses. The recreational water guideline is less than 235 MPN/100 mL. Beach advisories are posted if the E. coli level is between and 235 MPN/100 mL and 1000 MPN/100 mL and beach closures are issued if the E. coli level is greater than 1000 MPN/100 mL.

Our laboratory also accepts surface water samples from the public, such as samples for private beaches, swim ponds, and farms that need irrigation water testing. Surface water testing is also \$25 per test. Additional testing for turbidity, pH, salinity, and conductivity can be requested.

For more information about our Water Quality Testing program: <https://www.bayfieldcounty.wi.gov/230/Water-Quality-Testing>

Or contact:

Pete Morrissette, Water Supply Specialist

Peter.Morrissette@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov

715-373-3318

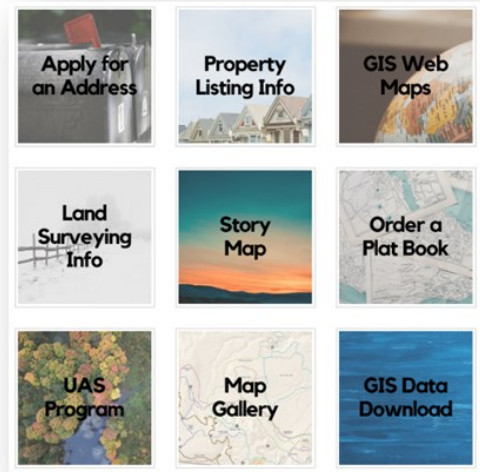


What's New in Land Records?

The Land Records Department provides effective geospatial information and resources to Bayfield County and stakeholders to benefit and serve the public, the environment, and the economy. A major goal is to create and compile Bayfield County's land information, modernizing records and making this data accessible to the public.

Some of the services offered by Land Records include:

- ◆ Access to filed surveys, plats, tie sheets, and PLSS records
- ◆ Address application processing and assignment
- ◆ Aerial imagery and LiDAR
- ◆ Certified Survey Map (CSM) review
- ◆ Connecting customers to land record resources
- ◆ Creating mailing labels from land and tax records data
- ◆ Custom map creation and printing
- ◆ Database preparation of land records data
- ◆ GIS data maintenance
- ◆ Land records data distribution
- ◆ Land sales of properties via online auctions
- ◆ Land surveying of county properties
- ◆ NG911 data preparation and support
- ◆ Online map application services
- ◆ Parcel mapping and maintenance
- ◆ Plat book creation and distribution
- ◆ Road map, emergency response booklet, ATV and snowmobile map production



- ◆ Scanning, printing, archiving historical maps
- ◆ Special event maps, emergency maps, attraction maps
- ◆ Tax bill preparation and printing
- ◆ UAS program collects imagery
- ◆ USNG signage implementation
- ◆ ... and more!

The Land Records webpage continues to be one of the **top visited** pages on the county website! We are happy to support the public with their land information and mapping questions!

HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

Bayfield County received ARRA Health Infrastructure funding for renovations in the health department. A project will begin in March to create a new entry at the end of the current health department wing. A formal entry with a new vestibule, expanded laboratory, dedicated vaccine storage, controlled door access and ADA restrooms will be added upstairs. In the lower level of the building, new office build outs and two meeting rooms will be added to provide additional space for public health emergency response. The project is anticipated to wrap up by early summer.





Bayfield County Fair 130 Years Old and Going Strong!!

The first Bayfield County Fair was held in Iron River, WI in 1894 and it remains the home of the Fair to this day. From this first Fair in 1894 to the Fair in 2024, one thing has remained constant: the commitment of the local community to carry on the agricultural and cultural traditions of Bayfield County and put on a great County Fair.

The mission of the Fair today is, "To organize and manage an annual County Fair that is educational and entertaining." This mission is only possible because of the continued involvement of the residents of Bayfield County. Community involvement is crucial in every aspect of the Fair.

It starts with the exhibitors who bring their animals, vegetables, crops, food, art, crafts, and more to display at the Fair. In 2023, 600 exhibitors registered over 5000 entries to try to earn the coveted Blue Ribbon. The Superintendents receive, register, and organize the entries and then the judges pick the best of the best for all coming to the Fair to see. But it is the Volunteers that make it all possible, from helping with displays to working the ticket gates, the Fair would not be as successful without the effort and dedication of the volunteers.



Of course, all of this takes money, so let's not forget the community members and local businesses who sponsor the Fair with financial donations. Making the Fair affordable for families to enjoy is one of the County Board's primary goals for the Fair. Every donation means fewer taxpayer dollars needed to put on the Fair. In 2023, donations totaled over \$20,000 in addition to countless in-kind contributions. If you are unable to volunteer at the Fair, this is the perfect way to show your commitment to this community event.

Even after all this work is done, none of it really matters unless you come to the Fair. Nearly 12,000 people attended in 2023 to see the animals and exhibits, have some food at the 4-H booth, ride the carnival rides, catch a show in the grandstand, or just stroll the fairgrounds with family and friends and enjoy the day. The Fair brings the community together and has been doing so for 130 years.

Do you have special knowledge that you are willing to share? Consider signing up to be a judge! For information on how you can be a part of the Bayfield County Fair, stop in the Fair Office located at: 117 E 5th Street, Washburn, WI 54891 or call: 715-373-3493. More information is available on the county website (www.bayfieldcounty.wi.gov/fair). Be sure to follow the Fair on Facebook for updates and email us to share ideas, photos and suggestions at thefair@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov.



Life is a Highway

The Bayfield County Highway Department continues to maintain a 20-year schedule to replace and reconstruct the 170 miles of county highways. Reconstructed highways will result in smoother driving, fewer road surface related accidents, and less damage to vehicles. To stay on schedule, Bayfield County reconstructs approximately nine miles of county highways a year.

There are three reconstruction projects scheduled for 2024 and one preservation project:

- ◇ CTH-E from US-63 to Town Road 36
- ◇ CTH-E from CTH-H to Sandor Road
- ◇ CTH-C from Blueberry Road to Siskiwit Falls Road

These projects will be pulverized and have 4" of new asphalt placed.

- ◇ CTH-H CTH-M Preservation from CTH-D to County Line

These projects will see a Chip Seal applied.



A Big Thank You from the County Board

County Board Supervisors say “thank you” to employees. From Highway to Human Services, the Sheriff’s Office to Forestry, Health to Extension, county employees came together at the end of December to share good food and fellowship.

County Board supervisors participate by sharing in the celebration and serving up a feast prepared by head cook Lori Fibert. Over 150 employees enjoyed a bit of holiday cheer, led by a group of ambitious organizers. Sparkling ornaments, pine boughs and even a crackling fire on the video monitors lit up the room.

Behavioral Health and Community Programs

By: Tom Croteau, Behavioral Health and Community Program Section Manager

A lot has been happening in the Behavioral Health and Community Programs section of Human Services. Here is a recap. In July 2022, the DHS sections were reorganized where Behavioral Health (BH) left Family Services and joined with the community programs. This brought the two BH care coordinator positions under my section to combine with Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) and Community Support Programs (CSP). These programs provide wrap-around services for people needing more intensive community support for mental health and/or substance use concerns.

CCS is provided by the county and is funded through a Medicaid-waiver program from the state. We currently have 3 full-time service facilitators that provide services to 48 residents here in Bayfield County. The program has been steadily increasing over the last 3 years. We are currently recruiting a full-time Mental Health Professional (MHP) to help with clinical oversight and guidance in the program as it continues to grow. The MHP will allow us to continue to grow to meet the ongoing needs of our community and return to the capacity it served nearly a decade ago when CCS was first started by the county in 2015.

The Community Support Program is provided through a contract with Northland Counseling and provides services to individuals with increased mental health needs to assist them in remaining in the community and thriving where they are at. There have been structural changes at Northland Counseling over the past 6 months. We have seen new leadership and an increased commitment to provide these vital services. Due to their changes, they are now in a better place to increase capacity in the CSP program. Services can include daily in-home medication visits, community integration, and skill development focused on individuals' mental health symptoms.

The Behavioral Health team has seen increased stabilization and growth as the two primary staff have learned their roles, completed community outreach, and have been providing excellent integrated services. Word has gotten out about this team, and they are seeing referrals coming from our local hospital, law enforcement, schools, and community providers. There have been intensive cases where they have worked jointly with Family Services and provided care coordination that collaborated with multiple community partners. This has resulted in not only quality services being provided but also significant improvement for our consumers.

BH has also focused on building the strength and depth of our behavioral health system in our community. We meet regularly with BH staff in Red Cliff, local law enforcement, and our crisis screeners with Northland Counseling. Last fall, the BH team organized a meeting of 20 members from Tamarack Health, law enforcement, corporate counsel, crisis, and DHS to discuss the emergency detention process for those needing this level of need. The focus was on building our working relationships and providing education and understanding for each of our roles within the system. The group has expanded to include members from Ashland County as well due to our close working relationship between the two counties due to a population that often lives between county lines.

This community BH system building and community outreach for services has not gone unnoticed outside of Bayfield County. Several times in recent months, our state DHS partners have referred other county CCS and BH programs to Bayfield County for consultation to discuss our system of care and how they might implement a similar system in their communities. This recognition is the result of the hard work that each member of the BH team and community programs has been doing in providing such great care to our residents. My team is composed of talented, dedicated staff that care deeply for their consumers and desire to see positive BH outcomes in our community. It is a privilege to work with each one of them!



Medicare 101 Virtual Informational Meetings in 2024

The Bayfield County Elder Benefits Specialist, Marianne Johnson will be offering “Medicare 101” presentations for those Bayfield County residents who are approaching age 65 or who will soon be on Medicare. These presentations will **introduce attendees to the basics of Medicare**, as well as give you the information you need to know before making decisions about enrolling in Medicare. Information provided will help you understand what Medicare options would best suit your needs. The Elder Benefit Specialist is an unbiased source for information and takes pride in helping people get the information they need to make an informed decision about benefits.

If you are turning 65 this year and a Bayfield County resident, attending one of these trainings is strongly encouraged. This training will give you enough information to understand your Medicare options and be ready to make decisions about your Medicare when it is time to do so. If you are not a Bayfield County resident you are welcome to register and will be able to attend the presentation but will be encouraged to contact your counties elder benefits specialist as a resource.

All presentations currently scheduled will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Presentations will either start at noon or 6:00pm and will last about an hour and a half depending on the questions asked by the audience. Please register as soon as possible in advance as there are written materials that would be helpful to reference during the presentation that will need to be mailed or printed off by the attendee. There is no charge for the presentations. **Call Marianne at 1-866-663-3607 or email marianne.johnson@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov to register.**

Find Dates and Times of Presentations in 2024



* March 20, 2024	-	12:00pm
* April 24, 2024	-	6:00pm
* May 15, 2024	-	12:00pm
* June 11, 2024	-	6:00pm
* July 17, 2024	-	12:00pm
* August 21, 2024	-	6:00pm
* September 18, 2024	-	12:00pm
* October 9, 2024	-	6:00pm

Local Road Improvement Program



The LRIP Program has begun for the new biennial cycle of 24-25. This program includes the Town Roads Improvement (TRI) element, the Town Roads Improvement Discretionary (TRID) element, and the Town Roads Improvement Supplemental (TRIS) elements. The Counties also have the same corresponding elements that compete with other Counties. This year WisDOT has rolled out a new Agricultural Road Improvement Program (ARIP) that is intended to assist with repairing or reconstructing roads used to access agricultural land uses which includes forestry. The new ARIP Program is expected to be ran similar to the LRIP Program with more information coming out soon. These programs offer a chance to repair and reconstruct roads that have deteriorated and include 50% up to 80% funding depending on which element an application targets.

Our Towns are finalizing their project applications for the TRI element of the program. These projects were awarded at the County Town Road Improvement Committee Meetings. The Discretionary and Supplemental Applications will be sent to the Statewide Town Road Improvement Discretionary Committee and awarded. If our Towns have any questions or issues, they should contact the Area LRIP Coordinator who can assist them. There are guidelines that must be followed to be eligible for this funding so please make sure you understand the limitations or ask either the County Highway Commissioner or the Area LRIP Coordinator.

ASHLAND—BAYFIELD CONSOLIDATED PSAP



Project Status:

- The RFP (Request for Proposal) period for the furniture has closed, Xybitx was chosen as the vendor for the PSAP Furniture.
- The CAD/RMS (Computer Aided Dispatch/Records Management System) RFP has been released and is set to close on March 11th, 2024.
- The physical consolidation date has been moved to September 1st as the ESInet installation is set for August. ESInet must be completed to bring Ashland County calls over to Bayfield County.

Workgroups:

- The GIS, IT, and Operations workgroups have already been meeting biweekly and creating timelines for completion before September 1, 2024.

Stakeholders:

- Emergency Management has been providing updates to stakeholders including Fire, EMS, and Law agencies on the project.

Leadership:

- A PSAP director has not yet been chosen. There have been interviews with potential candidates.

SMILE, YOU'RE ON CAMERA!

After years of discussion the Bayfield County Sheriff's Office has moved to a new field camera platform. The new systems integrates vehicle and body cameras in a cloud based storage/retrieval system.

The Cameras were purchased to ensure everyone is accountable for their actions. Sheriff Tony Williams stated that "Cameras hold both officers and the public accountable, it is invaluable to have audio and video for incident reports and investigations".

The new equipment was strongly supported by both Bayfield County Corporation Counsel and the District Attorney as a tremendous time saver. With cameras running on all calls there is less chance for disputes and disagreements on what happened in stressful situations.

Chief Deputy Runice Reports reported that "this is a win-win for the community, saving staff time through simplified uploads and downloads as well as providing a very high level of transparency for all.



Bayfield County Sheriff's Office Deputy Harnisch and Patrol Sergeant Benton model the new body cameras that are clipped to the front of their vests. These cameras operate when deputy's respond to calls or make traffic stops.

Bayfield County

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*Serving the Citizens of
Bayfield County*



*Bayfield County Courthouse
Built 1908*



2025 Budget Suggestions Wanted

2024 is barely underway but efforts over the next six months will begin to unfold priorities and projects for the new year. If you have ideas for budget items in 2025 please send them on. Here is the budget calendar for this year.

- January-March: Develop broad budget initiatives for 2025
- April: Community Survey on 2025 initiatives
- May: County Board Budget Planning and Priority Setting Session
- June: Direction to County Department Heads
- August: Departments submit proposed budgets
- September: County Administrator submits a proposed, balanced budget
- September / October: County Executive Committee meet an average of four times to review and modify the proposed budget as presented
- October / November: Budget is presented to the full board for consideration

Share your thoughts today!

Email: Mark.Abeles-Allison@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov

**FORECLOSURE? TROUBLED FINANCES?
HELP IS AVAILABLE**

Every year property owners risk losing their home due to foreclosure. Resources are available to help residents access critical resources during these very difficult times. Counselors are available at local non-profit organizations that can help make the best of a difficult and unfortunate situations. Their services are free and confidential.

The Wisconsin 2-1-1 call service or 877-947-2211 can help connect you to resources for assistance today.

You can also call receive Mortgage Delinquency and Default Resolution Counseling through Catholic Community Services in Superior at 888-831-8446.

If you or someone you know is on the tax delinquency list and are experiencing financial hardship it is important to get help now.

Foreclosure is final. We can't help if you don't call.