

Town of Canosia Newsletter

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Spring 2024

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Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will begin at approximately 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Items on the Agenda: Election Results and 2025 Tax Levy. The meeting will be held in-person. Agenda and year-end reports will be available online as well. In case of severe inclement weather, the Election, Board of Canvass, and Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2024.

2024 Elections

March 5, 2024

Presidential Nominations Primary

7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m./Canosia Town Hall/4896 Midway Rd

In this election voters will be given the choice between three political parties. Each voter will choose one party to vote for and then vote for one presidential candidate from that party.

March 12, 2024

Township Elections

12:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m./Canosia Town Hall/4896 Midway Rd

In this election voters will vote for one Town Supervisor (3 year term.) Supervisor Dieryck is running again. The Board of Canvass will certify the votes after the closing of the polls. For those wishing to vote absentee in the Canosia Township election, the town hall will be open on Saturday, March 9, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. You can also contact the clerk at canosiatownship@yahoo.com for additional absentee voting options. The Public Accuracy Test will take place on the same day from 10:00am – 11:00am. We will be testing the Omniballot assistive voting device that will be used in the election.

August 13, 2024

Primary Election

7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m./Canosia Town Hall/4896 Midway Rd

In this election you help narrow down the contenders for federal, state, and county positions. You will be given the choice between three parties. You will choose a party to vote for and then vote for candidates from that party.

November 5, 2024

General Election

7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m./Canosia Town Hall/4896 Midway Rd

In this election you will vote for all open federal, state, county, and school district positions.

Become An Election Judge

Interested in giving back to your community, hanging out with some amazing people, and reconnecting with your neighbors and friends? Then consider becoming an election judge with Canosia Township. Election judges help voters register to vote and participate in our local elections. To learn more, contact the Township Clerk.

Register to Vote

You can check your voter status and register to vote at www.vote.org.

Recreation Area

The Gerhart Erikson Recreation Area saw some wonderful enhancements to the facility in 2023 including the leveling of the back soccer field that will improve play, an expanded play space for future playground development and creative play, new groundwork at the playground making the equipment safer and more accessible, and updated fencing. Moving into 2024, the town board is working on a long range plan for the recreation area and you can participate by completing our recreation survey at:

<https://forms.gle/WphhjyAYCDRuChyWA>



Volunteer Fire Department



The Canosia Township Volunteer Fire Department responded to 203 calls in 2023. There were 124 Medical EMS calls, 31 Mutual Aid Medical EMS calls, 22 Fire calls, and 26 Mutual Aid Fire calls. There are currently 22 volunteer firefighters in the department and they could always use additional residents to volunteer. To learn more contact Fire Chief Stevens. As you enjoy those amazing calendars, you can also donate to Fire Relief Fund!!

Roads



Greetings!

This winter, if we can call it that, has provided Canosia Township with little snow or cold up until January 5, 2024. It has given us less maintenance costs for snow removal of the roads the township has contracted to plow and sand. These are the roads that SLC will not plow due to equipment limitations. The majority of our township roads are plowed by St. Louis County. Canosia has a long standing Cooperative Agreement with the County, and they plow and sand those township roads. I expect Winter to arrive soon, meaning snow and cold, but we are prepared for it and are confident we will be ready when it does decide to arrive.

This Spring/Summer, we will be doing Striping of all of our asphalt roads in the township. We were able to attach our work to the County's bid, which lowers our costs. We will be doing road inspections in the Spring to determine any gravel road repairs needed, as well as checking culverts for needed repair or replacement. Let's hope we have an early Spring and we can all enjoy what 2024 has to offer.

As always, please contact me with any road or culvert concerns. 218-590-6473.

Kevin L, Comnick
Canosia Supervisor

Pike Lake Area Wastewater Collection System

The last couple of years have been very busy for PLAWCS. We completed our lift station upgrades and replaced all control panels. Our hope is that this will allow us to build that capital fund up to where we need to be. As we all know, it was also a year of major issues with the water issue during the hot spring weather. The cost to PLAWCS was roughly \$55,000.00. The good news is that due to FEMA declaring a disaster area, PLAWCS was reimbursed a large portion of those costs. As you may be aware of, dealing with both Federal FEMA and State FEMA can be a long and complicated process. Thanks to the Board of Directors, the PLAWCS Clerk, and the PLAWCS Accounting firm (Duluth Tax and Accounting Services,) it appears that we will be approved for this reimbursement.

Canosia also experienced a loss of roughly \$10,000.00. Again, working with the Town Board and the Town Clerk, it appears that Canosia will also be reimbursed. A special thanks goes out to Clerk Amber Madoll, and Accountant Donovan Frye for their dedicated commitment in working through the process with FEMA.

There will be an increase in rates in 2024, just to keep up with rising costs for everything. One example is the cost of our pumps. The cost for 2024 for one pump will be close to \$3,000.00. With that being said, I am asking that all users ensure they are not flushing anything but toilet tissue down the system. It is extremely important that we all do this to keep costs down. You have all done a good job in taking responsibility for the system. I thank you all for that! Let's hope 2024 is a great year.

Thank You,
Kevin L. Cornick
PLAWCS Chairman

PLAWCS Customer Responsibilities

- Maintain the sewer plumbing within the home
- Maintain the sewer line from the home to the main
- Notifying PeopleService immediately if there is something wrong with the system- this includes damaged or missing caps
- Paying their monthly bill on time and any outstanding assessments
- Notifying PLAWCS that line capping is needed and completing the capping process
- Completing a new or alterations application when making any changes to the property- building a structure, modifying the land, taking down a structure, etc.
- Completing a sewer line inspection when selling a home, making necessary repairs, and notifying PLAWCS immediately once the home is sold

How To Protect Your Home's Sewer DON'T FLUSH THE FOLLOWING:

- **Food wastes:** animal bones, egg shells, coffee grounds, corn cobs, melon rinds, fruit peels, home brewery waste
- **Personal Care Products:** bandages, condoms, diapers, sanitary pads, wet wipes
- **Chemicals/Toxins:** auto fluids, caustic cleaners, herbicides/pesticides, medications, drugs, oil-based paints, ammonia, solvents, thinners
- **Other Common Items:** cat litter, cigarette butts, cloth towels, rags, film developing waste, metal, plastic objects, modeling clay, paper towels, scraps, plastic bags, rv waste, string/yarn, yard waste

Recycling News

Recycling Center Hours of Operation

T/Th 5:00pm-8:00pm
Sat 9:00am-5:00pm

Plastic Film Bags

i.e. such as those from SuperOne, Wal-Mart, Target, etc. can NOT go into the dumpsters. Place them in the ORANGE barrel.



Please be prepared to quickly unload your recycling. We have a small parking lot and one unprepared person can cause the recycling line to significantly back up... sometimes into the road.

Food... Gross



Anything recycled must be clean of food remnants. Otherwise, our recycling is gross... not cool.

**NO
METAL SCRAPS OR
BROKEN ITEMS**

Boxes must be flattened before arriving at the recycling center.



Plants, pots, and soil are NOT recyclable... even if they have the triangle mark on the bottom.

Think Tiny!



Please bring small loads. We need the drive-up line to move smoothly and large loads back up traffic. We offer multiple days for drop off to help, and you can also donate at the Grand Lake Recycling Center if you have large loads that cannot be broken down.

Canosia History Snapshot

FARMER'S FAMILY IS DESTITUTE

Family of Nine in Canosia Township Lack the Necessary Clothing and Food.

CONDITIONS EXISTED DURING ENTIRE WINTER

Father Incapacitated From Work by Illness - Humane Agent Comes to Rescue.

An awful condition of destitution has been discovered by Humane Agent McKercher in Canosia Township, within 12 miles of Duluth. On account of the inability of the father to work during the winter because of rheumatism a family of parents and seven children came near to actual starvation and avoided it only through the kindness of neighbors.

The humane agent found the family living in a shack hardly worthy the name of house and with only one room. There were but three pieces of furniture and no food whatever while the parents and children were emaciated and clothed in rags which did not permit them to venture forth. Even the neighbors, said Mr. McKercher, have not appreciated the conditions under which the family has been existing.

The children range in age from 1 to 14 years, but lack of sufficient clothing has kept them from school for all except two weeks of the year. They live two and a half miles from the nearest school house.

The father has now secured work at the Duluth ore docks and the family has been temporarily supplied with necessities by the humane agent. The oldest boy has also secured working picking up stone for a nearby farmer and adds slightly to the family's income. Clothing has been the only requirement furnished by the humane society, but the family has been without sufficient food during practically the entire winter.

Pike Lake Elementary School



The all-day preschool class at Pike Lake Elementary School

Minnesota has new science standards and they implement three dimensional learning. The standards are made up of three distinct but equally important components: Disciplinary Core Ideas, Cross Cutting Concepts, and Science & Engineering Practices. Our 2nd graders have been exploring landforms and matter. We have been questioning, analyzing, researching, experimenting and having guest speakers. Our goal is to have our 2nd graders know why science is important and how it is used in our world. One of the engineering projects we have been working on is creating a playground. After studying and experimenting with properties of materials, they decide what materials would work for the base and different pieces of the equipment. Then they draw a draft of the playground. It is amazing the ideas and reasoning they have for the use of different materials for safety and enjoyment. They are also considering how children with disabilities could use their playground.

We have also had a couple of guest speakers. Geologist Darin Albrecht came in and discussed his job as project manager. Melissa Shene visited and shared her knowledge as a nurse oncologist. In the coming months we have a construction worker, farmer/rancher and registered nurse coming in. If anyone in the community would like to share their knowledge with our students, please reach out to me - khagemey@proctor.k12.mn.us We would love to have you!

Kris Hagemeyer/2nd Grade
Pike Lake Elementary



Student pointing out lichens in the school forest.



The all-day preschool class at Pike Lake Elementary School made two snowmen to help feed the birds and deer.

Winter Safety Tips



- ❄ **Winter Wear:** Wear dry, loose-fitting layers. The outside layer should be waterproof. Wear warm accessories such as hats, ski masks, gloves, and socks, along with sturdy waterproof, insulated boots.
- ❄ **Car Safety:** Keep hand warmers, blankets, and extra hats/mittens in your car. Keep the tank ½ full or more, car fluids filled, and check your tire pressure regularly. Keep jumper cables, first aid kit, cell phone charger, flash light, shovel, water, snacks, etc. in your car in case you get stuck somewhere.
- ❄ **Home Safety:** Keep your phone(s) charged. Never use portable generators indoors. If you use an alternative heat source, keep a fire extinguisher close by. Make sure that smoke and carbon dioxide alarms are working. Keep shovels by your door and sand/salt ready for ice. Take breaks when shoveling and ask your neighbor for help. We are a community.
- ❄ **Help Your Neighbors:** Check on them and make sure they are safe with heat, food, medications, etc. When we get a lot of snow, if you have a plow/snow blower and time, please help plow them out. Again, Canosia Township is a community. Let's keep each other safe this winter season. ☺

Township News

Is Your Dog Licensed?



Canosia Township requires all dogs living within the township to be licensed. Licensing requires a simple form to be completed, along with a \$10 licensing fee. Your pet then receives a very nice tag!! To license your dog, contact the Town Clerk at canosiatownship@yahoo.com.

Reminder: The Town Hall parking lot is for township business only 24/7. Do not park in the township parking lot unless you are there for township business or to recycle materials during the recycling center's hours.

Upcoming Town Board Meetings

Meetings are held at the Canosia Town Hall and online at 7:00 pm, unless otherwise noted. For online/phone log in information, please visit the website at canosiatownship.org.

March 6, 2024

Regular Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

April 3, 2024

Re-Organization Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

May 1, 2024

Regular Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

June 5, 2024

Regular Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

July 3, 2024

Regular Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Emerald Ash Borer Threatens Northern Minnesota Ash Forests



Emerald ash borer (EAB) is a non-native insect that threatens all species of ash in Minnesota. This insect is a wood borer that feeds in the phloem and disrupts the movement of nutrients, resulting in eventual mortality. The first discovery of EAB in Minnesota occurred in 2009 in St. Paul. It eventually was found in northern Minnesota with the discovery in late 2015 in Duluth. Currently, EAB has spread to 45 counties throughout Minnesota. Recently EAB was found in Cass County. This find is significant because it is an isolated find in Minnesota's forested region, particularly in forests where one of the dominant species is black ash.

Minnesota has close to one billion ash trees with black ash representing 80% of the ash species, putting it near 800 million trees in the state. The majority of the black ash forests are located in northern Minnesota. Most of these forests are characterized as wetland forests with black ash composing >75% of the canopy and understory components. Thus, EAB moving into northern Minnesota in these black ash-dominated wetland forests is a serious concern with the impact it will have on these ecosystems.

The main concern is that EAB will kill most of the black ash in these forests thus changing the ecosystem in the process. These sites could change and be composed of grasses, cattails, and shrubs. This would then impact the plants and animals that rely on the black ash ecosystem. However, it will still be some time until EAB has a very noticeable impact on northern black ash forests. This provides time to prepare for the future mortality to ash trees. One main tactic is to start diversifying black ash forests by planting trees not susceptible to EAB attack. Research has started to examine species that will thrive in these ecosystems with the main goal of keeping these sites forested. The movement of EAB throughout northern Minnesota is most likely inevitable, but there is time to prepare and hopefully we can maintain the forested regions in Minnesota. Additional information on emerald ash borer can be found at:

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/eab>

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/eab/index.html>

Aquatic Invasive Species News

Canosia Township is committed to keeping our lakes clean by reducing/preventing AIS invasions and by educating our community boaters. If you are interested in a sun filled part-time job that gives you the opportunity to help protect our waters and educate our community, then we encourage you to apply to be a 2024 AIS Inspector. Contact Supervisor Comnick at canosiacomnick@gmail.com for more information.