



Winter 2025

Board Meetings

4:00 pm

(Meetings are held in the Autumn Manor Community Room and online via Zoom.)

Jan. 22, 2025

Feb. 26, 2025

March 26, 2025

Closures

Presidents Day—
Feb. 17, 2025

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
8 a.m.—4 p.m.

Friday—Closed to the Public



Housing Authorities of the City of Washburn & County of Bayfield

Struggling with Technology?

You have access to free internet (or will soon), now what?

With the grant providing the free internet service, you also have access to a “digital navigator” for technical assistance with connecting your devices. For problems with the internet service itself, you will need to contact Norvado directly.

If you have any questions about the new internet service or how it will affect you, or if you need help connecting your existing devices to your new Wi-Fi, please contact Eric Faber at 715-204-7501 or efaber@nwwib.com. He is the Digital Navigator for Bayfield County during this project and the upcoming digital lending program and can assist in many ways with hands-on help or more information.



Look for notices in your building for dates Eric plans to be in-person for assistance.

If you have problems with the internet connection itself, please contact Norvado at 1-800-250-8927.

Please do not contact the Housing Authority office or maintenance regarding questions or problems with the internet or your devices as we will only be able to direct you to call the above numbers.

Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA)

2024 Housing Grant Program Awards Announced

In December, WHEDA announced that the WHEDA Foundation awarded 52 grants amounting to \$2 million to improve emergency shelter, transitional residences, and extremely low-income housing.

WHEDA received 97 applications requesting more than \$4.4 million through the housing grant process this year, an indication of the high demand and need in Wisconsin.

We are excited to announce that the Bayfield County Housing Authority has been awarded one of these grants. The Bayfield County Housing Authority received \$50,000 to repair a roof on one of the properties in Washburn. The Housing Authority expects that work will be completed within the 2025 calendar year.



“It does not do to dwell on dreams and forget to live.”

J.K. Rowling, from her book *“Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone.”*

Humor

1. Why didn’t the toilet paper cross the road?
2. What do snowmen eat for breakfast?
3. How did the squirrel get his valentine's attention?

Requesting 2024 Rent Certificates for Taxes

The Homestead Credit is a state of Wisconsin tax benefit for renters with low or moderate incomes.

Please contact our office to request a Rent Certificate.



2025 Social Security Award Letters

These usually come out in December. Be sure to send a copy to the Housing Authority office upon receipt.

Household Composition Changes

As per your lease, guests may visit for no more than a combined fourteen (14) days and/or nights within a twelve (12) month period. This means that no individual may stay at your home more than a total of 14 days or nights within one year. Any guests staying longer must pass our application process to be approved to stay on our property. You **MUST** first receive Housing Authority approval before you move anyone into your unit.

There are **Household Composition Change** packets required for removing or adding members to the household. Please note that completing a **Household Composition Change** packet does not give you the authorization to allow anyone to move into your household. New members must go through and pass this application process **before** moving into your unit.

If you have any income or household changes, please contact our Occupancy Specialist – Molly Vail (715-373-2653 ext. 111).

Winter Snow Removal

Please cooperate with maintenance to allow for plowing of the parking lots. Due to the number of buildings to plow, they may not get to your building right away. Keep salt and a shovel on hand outside your unit. As a reminder, this is the time of year we experience fluctuation in temperatures, which means melting and freezing, so there may be a slippery spot here, but not there. Please use caution when walking on sidewalks and in parking lots.

The following guidelines apply to all units for snow removal procedures when we receive over 2 inches of snow:

- Your vehicle must be moved out of the parking lot no later than the time posted. If you are unable to move your vehicle yourself, please make arrangements with a friend or neighbor to move it for you. Staff cannot move vehicles.
- Please be advised that Housing staff will not call or look for tenants to move their vehicles.
- Our maintenance workers will not plow between parked cars. If you do not move your vehicle, it may be "plowed in."
- Apartments - Maintenance will remove snow and ice from perimeter walkways and the sidewalks leading from the entrance of the apartment to the perimeter walkway both in front of and behind the unit.
- Do not move your vehicle back into the parking lot until after your lot has been plowed.
- Tenants will be charged a fee of \$25.00 each time their vehicle is not moved by the posted time.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Housing Authority Contact Information

715-373-2653

Work Orders, Ext. 8

After Hours Emergencies, Ext. 7

Executive Director, Ext. 112 Accountant/Office Manager, Ext. 110 Occupancy Specialist, Ext. 111 Admin. Assistant, Ext. 113

Humor Answers: 1. Because it got stuck in a crack. 2. Frosted Flakes. 3. He acted like a nut!

Baseboard Heat Reminders

Allow Air to Flow

To function properly, a baseboard heater needs space for air to flow. Though they don't directly need air to operate, baseboard heaters release the warmth into the cool air surrounding them, thereby heating the entire room. A blocked baseboard heater is both a safety hazard and a drain on the heater's efficiency since it won't be able to heat the room as effectively as if it weren't blocked.

Avoid Placing Furniture or Fabrics Next to Heaters

An object blocking a heater not only prevents heat from circulating throughout the room but also poses a serious safety hazard. Baseboard heaters typically need at least 12 inches of space in front of the heater. Though it's rare, a piece of furniture, set of curtains, or similar object that has prolonged contact with baseboard heaters while they're running is at risk of catching fire. Better to make sure the baseboard heaters are clear of any obstructions.

Maintenance Reminders

Do you have any maintenance or repair issues in your unit? Do not delay...this could turn a small problem into big damage!

Do NOT give work order requests directly to Maintenance, through notes on doors, or by calling them. It is IMPORTANT to ALWAYS call the office with any work orders so they can be processed and documented properly. Both HUD and USDA require us to track maintenance/repair issues.



If you have a maintenance request, please call the office:

715-373-2653

Press 8 for non-emergency work orders.

Press 7 for after-hours heating, water, or sewer emergencies.

If no one is available to take your call, please leave a detailed message and state whether maintenance may enter your unit if you are not home when they arrive.



Get Free Tax Prep Help

(For most people, **April 15** is the last day to file a 2024 tax return.)



WASHBURN TAX-AIDE 2024 TAX SEASON

Free tax preparation offered by AARP, IRS, & Wisconsin Department of Revenue. All tax returns will be completed at 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.

Taxpayers can pick up the required envelope at the following locations beginning January 15:

*Bayfield County Courthouse
117 E 5th Street Washburn
8:00-4:00 Monday – Friday

NOTICE: Packets will be available in the entrance. No staff or volunteers are on site to answer questions or provide service. Look for the Tax-Aide signage.

*Ashland, Bayfield, Cable, and Iron River Libraries.

*Town of Bell Town Hall-Cornucopia.

*Hayward Community Center

IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

Free tax help for taxpayers who qualify.

Northwest Wisconsin Community Services Agency - Ashland VITA
623 2nd Avenue East
Ashland, WI 54806

Volunteer Prepared and Self-Prep

For an appointment call:

715-292-6400

Local Events

Community Dinners

Second Tuesday of the month; 5 – 6 p.m.

Cost: Free

Cable Community Center

13660 Cty Hwy M; Cable, WI 54821

Community dinners are held at the Cable Community Center from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM on the second Tuesday of the month from October to April. They are open to the public and free of charge. A freewill donation is collected, with all of the proceeds going to CARE.

Each month, a local group, business, or organization partners with CARE to provide and serve the meal. It is the goal of these dinners to not only create and build a sense of community by enjoying the company of our fellow neighbors, but to also provide a warm home cooked meal once a month at no cost or for a minimal donation.

If you or your organization is interested in partnering with C.A.R.E. for the community dinners, or to volunteer during the dinners, please contact Diane Stewart at (715) 798-4567.

Jigsaw Puzzle Challenge – Namakagon Town Hall

January 23; 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Cost: Free

Namakagon Community Hall

23845 Cty Hwy M

Namakagon, WI 54821 United States



Join us at the Namakagon Town Hall for a Jigsaw Puzzle Challenge! Teams can be 4 – 5 people, ages 12 and up. Space is limited to 4 teams.

Sign up BY January 21st.

Puzzles will all be the same and will be 300 pieces. Scooping tools can be used. All teams will start at the same time and whichever team completes their puzzle first (or whoever is closest when we reach the 1 hour time limit) is the winner! Winning team will receive a puzzle prize basket.

To sign up, email Director Amanda Westlund: awestlund@cablenet.wislib.org or call: 715-798-3189

Northwoods Harness Club 36th Annual Sleigh & Cutter Rally

January 18, 2025; 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Cost: Free

Northern Pines Golf & Event Center

69420 Airport Rd;

Iron River, WI

54847

Free Sleigh Rides

10-11:30 am

Exhibition 12-2:30 pm



This is a fun, free, family event. It turns back time to when horses were a cornerstone of our livelihood. Horse drawn sleighs in 17 narrated and judged classes. Junior drivers spotlighted. Indoor and outdoor viewing. Raffle, food, educational activities.

6th Annual Northern Pines Sled Dog Race

Sat., Feb. 8, 2025 at 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Cost: Free

Northern Pines Golf

Course and Special

Events Center

69420 Airport Rd, Iron

River, WI 54847



This FREE, family-friendly event hosts 50-60 professional & recreational mushers from across the Midwest!

Join us for a day filled with thrilling race action including four different sled dog races, and kids mutt run, a sanctioned weight pull, sled dog rides provided by Martens Mushing, and snowshoeing provided by the Iron River National Fish Hatchery!

Spectators can catch all the action from the warmth of the clubhouse or along several great vantage points on the trail route.

There will also be a variety of vendors, raffles, food & drinks, and sled dog merch available!

First Monday Muffins**First Monday of each month; 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Cost: Free

Bayfield Carnegie Library
37 North Broad Street; Bayfield

We invite you all to the Bayfield Carnegie Library on the first Monday of each month for free muffins and coffee/tea. Come in and browse the library and join us in conversation.

HDB Book Club**Recurring monthly on the 2nd Monday**

Cost: Free

Honest Dog Books
40 South Second Street; Bayfield, WI 54814

A monthly club hosted by Store Manager Erin Schlager. We'll include snacks and will have wine and soft drinks available for purchase.

This a commitment-free book club. Come once and never come again, come every time, or drop in when the book suits you.

Email or call to let us know you're coming (helps us plan) but feel free to drop in. Email: info@honestdogbooks.com or call at 715-779-5223

These will be held the second Monday of every month Jan-May and Oct-Dec.

January - North Woods

February - Martyr

March - Whiskey Tender

April - The Power

May - Why Fish Don't Exist

Big Top's Open Mic Nights at The Backstage**Wednesdays; 6-9 p.m.**

Cost: Free

Intersection of Highways 13 & J at the gateway to Bayfield

Get up on stage or just grab a seat & listen. Every Wednesday we'll be joined by special guest hosts including some of your favorite Blue Canvas Orchestra musicians!

All musicians welcome to play. Everyone is welcome to attend. The bar is fully stocked & we have food & snacks for purchase.

No cover, no tickets, & no reservations needed.

Sit n' Knit**Wednesdays – 1-4 p.m.**

Cost: Free

Brownstone Centre
121 Rittenhouse Avenue; Bayfield, WI 54814

Come join our knitting group on Wednesdays from 1-4 p.m. No experience is necessary.

Carnegie Kids Story Hour**Wednesdays; 10:30 a.m.**

Cost: Free

Bayfield Carnegie Library
37 North Broad Street; Bayfield, WI**Graphic Novel Club****January 29, 2025; 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

Cost: Free

Bayfield Carnegie Library
37 North Broad Street; Bayfield, WI

For grades 3-6. January's read is book 1 of *Cucumber Quest*.

Toddler Tales Story Time**Wednesdays; 10 a.m.**

Cost: Free

Washburn Public Library
307 Washington Avenue

Each Wednesday at 10 am the kids' area of the upstairs becomes a place for storybook wonder and excitement when we host Toddler Tales/ Story Time.

Preschoolers and their moms and/or dads listen to a few great tales, maybe sing a song and share a dance or two, and generally just have fun.

It's a great time for young families to interact and meet one another.

New Books & Coffee**3rd Wednesday each month; 10 a.m.**Washburn Public Library; 307
Washington Avenue

The third Wednesday of each month is set aside for New Books & Coffee.

We gather in the basement at 10:00 am, have a cup of coffee and conversation, and delve into reviews and have a look-see at the new books that will be going on the shelves of the library.

Everyone is welcome!

After School Arts & Crafts

Wednesdays; 3:30 p.m.

Cost: Free

Washburn Public Library
307 Washington Avenue

Each Wednesday at 3:30 pm — while school is in session — we host After School Arts & Crafts in the basement with famed artist Tina Fung Holder.

There’s no telling what you might make or create, but you’re certain to have some fun. Parents can sit in if they like, and early grades to older preschoolers are welcome to participate.

We’ll also share a snack and get to visit with one another.

Aging Mastery Program (AMP) – The Art of Aging

Wednesdays; Feb 5 – March 26, 2025; 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Cost: Free

Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center
29270 Co Hwy G, Ashland, WI 54806

As children, we’re taught how to become successful adults. By contrast, no one teaches us how to age well. We want to change that.

Workbook, Coffee & Refreshments provided

14th Annual Tony Woiak Winter History Festival

Tuesdays; 7 – 9 p.m.

Cost: \$5

Harbor Table

128 Harbor View Dr, Washburn, WI

The purpose of the History Festival is to provide educational and entertaining programs about Washburn area history. Programs are scheduled four times in the winter and four times in the summer.

This is a collaborative program with the Washburn Area Historical Society. Pases and Seasons Pases available at the door.

January 14, 2025

“Trail to LaPointe”: A Journey Across the Northwest Sands Through Time

Speaker: Brian Finstad

January 28, 2025

“The Bank Building”

Speakers: Dick Olson with Karen Maki, Sharon Stewart, and Steve Cotherman

February 11, 2025

“The Wicked Mr. Probert”

Speaker: Bob Mackreth

February 25, 2025

“Community Voices in Harmony”

Speaker: Michael Powers



509 W. Main Street, Ashland

**Pay-As-You-Can Lunch
Saturdays**

**EVERY WEEK, beginning November 2
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**



Our Mission

To increase access to healthy food in a safe, welcoming environment regardless of ability to pay.

For more information:
Find us on Facebook: Stone Soup Café
Or Instagram: chequamegonsoup
Call or Text Joel at 715-209-0009



Advance Directives/Power of Attorney

FREE informational sessions regarding Advance Directives/Power of Attorney.

Watch for notices and/or postings for upcoming sessions brought to you by the Bayfield County Department of Human Services.

