Village of Balsam Lake

P.O. Box 506 404 Main Street Balsam Lake, WI 54810
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August 2026 Newsletter

Dates to Remember

August 3	Finance Committee Mtg @ 5:15pm
August 3	Village Board Meeting @ 6pm
August 4	National Night Out
August 11	Partisan Primary
August 24	Library Board Meeting @ 4pm
September 4- 7	Corn on the Curb
September 7	Village Closed
September 8	Village Board Meeting @ 6pm

Village Board Members

Kellie Flaherty	Village President
Gretchen Bloss	Village Trustee
Katie Jordan	Village Trustee
Eric Jorgensen	Village Trustee
Jason Larson	Village Trustee
Len Manning	Village Trustee
Brian Nelson	Village Trustee

Village of Balsam Lake Website

www.balsamlakevillage.com

Village office Hours

7:30AM-4:00PM Monday- Friday (Unless posted otherwise.)

Village Contact Information

Garage & Sewer Plant		715-485-3535
Dave Patterson	Director of Public Works	715-554-0420
Larry Hoen	Assistant Director PW	715-553-0767
Amy Wilson	Clerk/Treasurer	715-485-3424
Anna Ball	Deputy Clerk/Treasurer	715-485-3424
Balsam Lake Centuria Police Department		715-553-1695

Water Rates

Does your August Utility Bill look higher than normal? As stated in previous newsletters, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin implemented the Step II rates of the water rate increase on June 21st. The August bill is the first bill reflecting those new rates. The rate increase only affects the water and fire protection portion of your bill. Sewer rates have remained the same. The new rates are printed on the back of your bills. If you have complaints, please contact the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin by going to: https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/ForConsumers/LogAComplaint.aspx Or calling 1-800-225-7729.

Is your water usage high? Go to epa.gov/watersense/start-saving to see some tips and tricks to help you save on your monthly water bill.

Update on the HWY 46 Project

Highway 46 construction is full speed ahead. They have opened the bridge at Lykens Lake, so Highway 8 is accessible south of town via 46. Just be mindful of delays because of lane closures if you are headed north or south of the Village. Milling of Main Street and West Main Street should begin in the first half of August, and construction is set to wrap up in October.

Partisan Primary

The Partisan Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 11th, 2026. Polls open at 7 am and close at 8 pm. Early in-person absentee voting begins on July 28th and is available Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to noon, and 1 pm to 4 pm. Please be sure to bring valid proof of ID and proof of residence. The last day to vote in-person by absentee in the Village will be Wednesday, August 5th.

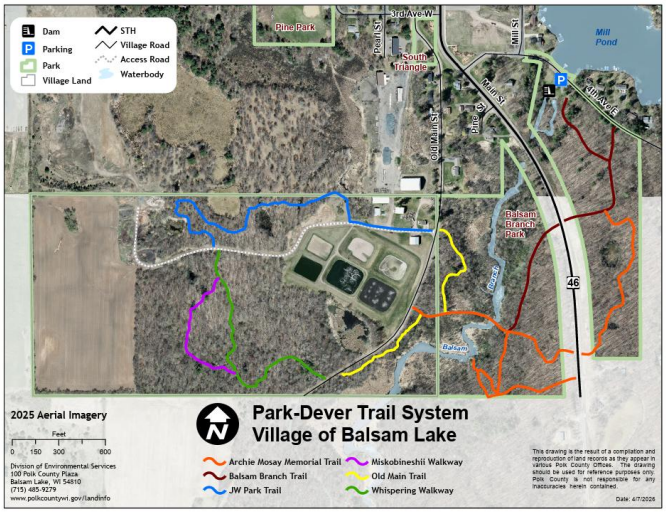
From the BLPRD's 'Dockside' Publication…

"**Dam Open Meeting Held May 28**
The Village of Balsam Lake Board and the Balsam Lake protection District concur that the Lower Balsam Lake Dam located at the end of the Millpond is an important part of the lake's sustainability and predictability. The Dam is owned and operated by the Village of Balsam Lake, and BLPRD collaborates with them on the functioning and long-term viability of the dam. An open meeting took place at the Village on Thursday May 28, 2026 to discuss future options for the Lower Balsam Lake Dam. VOBL received a directive from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to repair or replace a left tailrace channel wall. As an alternative to repairing or replacing the wall, Ayres was retained by VOBL to evaluate potential options that would include removing the existing unused powerhouse structure and surge tank to alleviate the need for future repairs.
Ayres developed three dam modification alternatives:
1) Tailrace Wall Removal,
2) Surge Tank Replacement and Powerhouse Removal, and
3) Complete Spillway Replacement.
At this public meeting, about 26 individuals were in attendance. An engineer from Ayres reviewed the three dam modification alternatives and the reasons for selecting each option. Discussions on potential funding and grant opportunities drew on expertise from a WDNR representative in attendance, and a Tax Incremental District advisor. Potential project timing, impacts to the lake during the project, and next steps were also discussed and those in attendance provided important perspectives and questions for further study and consideration. There was plenty of time for Q&A from an engaged audience at the meeting. More information on next steps will be provided in the next newsletter."

Their next newsletter will be published in the Fall of 2026. You can access all of their newsletters on their website: blprd.com.

Did you know..?

Did you know that the Village of Balsam Lake has trails that you can walk, or run, just south of the Mill Pond? The Park-Dever Trail System entrance is located right next to the Balsam Lake Dam. Go exploring the trails and enjoy the sounds of the Balsam Branch and the wildlife that run through. You can find a bigger map, like the one below, on the Village website at balsamlakevillage.com under Parks and Recreation.



Seize the Day

"Making a choice that is 1 percent better or 1 percent worse seems insignificant in the moment, but over the span of moments that make up a lifetime, these choices determine the difference between who you are and who you could be. Success is the product of daily habits- not once-in-a-lifetime transformations."
-James Clear