

JUNE

Event Snapshot

4th - Community Rum-
mage Sale

5th - Community Rum-
mage Sale

5th - Francis Creek Fire
Department 100 YR Cel-
ebration, Fire Station, 3-
11 PM

6th - Francis Creek Fire
Department Parade,
11:15 AM

6th - Francis Creek Fire
Department 100 YR Cel-
ebration, Fire Station, Af-
ter the Parade!

7th - Village Board Meet-
ing, Village Office, 7 PM

23rd - Lions Club Picnic
and Meeting, Dave &
Donna Dvorak's, 6 PM

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Creek

Francis Creek Community Newsletter

May 27, 2021

From the Village Office

WATER SOFTENING AND THE VILLAGE

On page 6&7 of this newsletter you will find an environmental awareness message brought to you by the WI DNR and the Village of Francis Creek. Please read through and do your part to address our chloride problem by tuning up or replacing your older softeners. The DNR and EPA have given the Village time to reduce chlorides through voluntary measures. If not successful, the DNR/EPA may mandate expensive measures that will impact sewer rates in the future. If upgrading your water softener, contact the Village office about our Water Softener Rebate program.

NOXIOUS WEED NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all persons who own, occupy, or control land in the Village of Francis Creek, Manitowoc County, State of Wisconsin, to destroy all NOXIOUS WEEDS on such property before the plant blossoms. After that time, the Village of Francis Creek shall cut all noxious weeds found on any property within the Village. The cost of such work is \$100.00 per hour and is a minimum charge of \$100.00 which will be charged to the property owner. If village is not paid for this service, it will be added to the property tax bill as a special assessment with an addition \$25.00 to be put on the tax bill. To avoid this extra cost we ask for your cooperation in this matter. As this is a State Statute and the Village of Francis Creek must comply.

NOXIOUS WEEDS ARE: any thistle, chicory, burdock, poison ivy, sumac, milkweed, field dodder, wild mustard, Indian mustard, quack grass, marijuana, goats beard, ragweed, oxeye daisy, goldenrod, and any grasses, lawns or other grasses over 8 inches in height.

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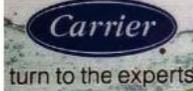
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business added to our
sponsor corner?

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villageoffranciscreek@yahoo.com



Francis Creek Lion's Club

The Francis Creek Lions Club will have a food tent on the corner of Packer Drive and Forest Home Drive, in front of Wagner's Restaurant. With the lifting of the COVID restrictions, we will not have a drive thru as noted last month but will return to our normal configuration.



Menu items include delicious hamburgers, brat patties, cheeseburgers, brat patties with cheese, hot dogs and the ever-popular famous French Creeker! Quench your thirst with soda or water.

We'd love to have you stop by and support our fundraising efforts. Your patronage allows us to continue the many service projects and donations we so enjoy investing into our community.

Trek the Creek Scott Bohman Memorial 5K Run and Family Walk

Registration is open for the September 11, 2021 5k to honor the memory of Scott Bohman and raise much needed funds for the following local organizations: Pink Heals of Manitowoc County, Francis Creek First Responders, School District of Mishicot Snack Pack Program, Francis Creek Fire Department and Francis Creek Lions Club. Entries submitted by August 23, 2021, qualify for the discounted registration fee of \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids under 12. Day of event registration is \$25 and \$10 respectively. Early registrants will receive a commemorative tee-shirt as well as a gift bag. Registration can be completed either online at <https://www.raceentry.com/race/trek-the-creek-5k/infoPage> or brochures with entry forms are available at area businesses or by calling Joe Debilzen @ 682-2860.

Francis Creek Fellowship Club



The Fellowship Club held their monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 11, 2021.

The Fellowship Club is a dedicated service organization whose main focus is to give back to the local community, support the local youth, and improve the park and village.

The Fellowship Club members picked up garbage in the ditches on Hillcrest Road, from Stone Road to Highway T as part of the Adopt - a - Highway Program, prior to the meeting.

The Fellowship Club members cleaned the interior of Concession Stand One at Pla-Mor Park, prior to the monthly meeting. It's all set for summer activities.

Please Note: The date has changed from Tuesday, May 18, 2021, to Tuesday, May 25th. The Fellowship Club will be spreading mulch around the memorial trees in Pla-Mor Park. The members plan to start this project at 5:30 PM. If you can't make it at 5:30, please come any time after to help out. Please bring rakes, etc. to use with mulch. Many hands make light work.

The Fellowship Club would like to thank again, Lakeshore Forest Products for donating the mulch that will be spread in Pla-Mor Park, Holschbach Escavating for donating equipment and time, the Village of Francis Creek for the refreshing of the paint of the playground equipment and for the labor and time volunteered by the Fellowship Club members.

The Francis Creek Fellowship Club made a \$100 donation to the Francis Creek Lions Club for "Trek the Creek-Scott Bohman Memorial 5K Run/Family Walk. This event starts at Pla-Mor Park on Saturday, September 11, 2021, at 9:00 AM. The Francis Creek Fellowship Club will be donating their time and some may participate in the Walk/Family Run.

The Francis Creek Fellowship Club made a \$100 donation to the Francis Creek Fire Department in honor of their 100 year anniversary on June 5th and 6th. The Francis Creek Fellowship Club will be donating time and labor during this event. If there is anyone interested in helping out during this celebration, especially after the parade on Sunday, June 6th, please contact Mike Albers at 920-973-2057.

If anyone is interested in hearing about our club and would like to attend our next meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2021 at 7:00 PM, please contact Paul Wojta, our President, at 920-901-3614 for more details. It would be great to see you there.

Please note that the Francis Creek Fellowship Club will not be meeting during the months of June, July and August.

We hope that you are experiencing good health, and that we will see you out and about in the village.

Water Softening and the Environment

The Village of Francis Creek treats approximately 25,000 gallons of wastewater per day before it is discharged to ponds on County Highway V East of the Village. Wastewater treatment plants are designed to remove solids and organics commonly found in

wastewater, although it cannot remove chlorides.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has set limits on the discharge of chlorides from the Village's wastewater treatment plant. Chlorides are dissolved solids in the water that pass through a wastewater treatment plant. Treating for chlorides would require exotic treatment technologies that are extremely cost prohibitive; therefore, the only feasible way to reduce chlorides discharged from the treatment plant is to reduce the amount of chlorides sent down the sewer.

Residential softening is the most significant source of chlorides entering the wastewater treatment plant. The salt (sodium chloride) used by the softeners, passes through the treatment plant and ultimately ends up in neighboring lakes, streams, rivers, and groundwater. The cumulative effects of the salt used from each softener can have toxic effects on aquatic plants and animals.

Why Is Salt A Problem?

The primary salt utilized in home water softeners is sodium chloride (NaCl), a naturally occurring and commonly used substance. NaCl normally breaks down into sodium (Na⁺) and chloride (Cl⁻). These elements are discharged to the wastewater treatment plant via sanitary sewers.

Chlorides pass through the treatment plant and are discharged to surface water, where they may impact freshwater organisms and plants, from plankton to fish, by altering reproduction rates, increasing species mortality and changing the characteristics of the entire local ecosystem. In addition, as chloride filters down to the water table, it can stress plant respiration and change the desirability of our drinking water.

How Does A Water Softener Work?

In many Wisconsin communities, people use water softeners to remove minerals from their water that cause hardness. An ion-exchange process is the traditional method of removing hardness from water. Hard water passes through a column of sodium charged resin, where hard water ions such as calcium and magnesium are removed from the water by exchanging places with the resin-bound sodium ions.

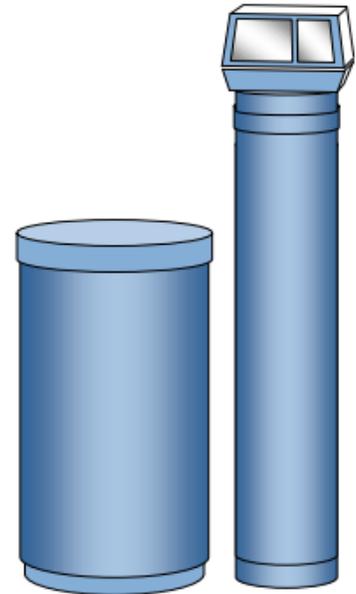
The water is then said to be "softened".

The resin is "exhausted" when it has given up all or most of its available sodium ions. The resin is then "recharged" with sodium ions during a process known as regeneration. During this process, the resin is washed with a concentrated brine (salt) solution (most often NaCl) that reverses the hardness removal process. The regeneration wastewater, which is high in chlorides, ends up in the drain where it flows to the sanitary sewer.

What Can I Do to Reduce My Salt Usage?

Soften only the water that needs to be softened. If you are building a new house, remodeling bathrooms or kitchens, replacing old plumbing or installing a new water softener, consider where your water needs to be softened. Work with your plumber to connect your water softener to only those areas that need softened water.

Do you use a water softener?



Places to “Feed” Softened Water Are:

- hot water heater
- laundry facilities
- dishwashers
- toilets (consider low flush models)
- Showers

Places to Bypass Using the Water Softener:

- outside water spigots for yard use
- cold tap drinking water lines

By softening more water than what is really needed, you increase the cost of operating your softener (in terms of increased payments for salt and energy), and ultimately, more salt will enter the environment as a result of increased softener regenerations.

Softener Tune Up or Replacement TUNE UP... The Village of Francis Creek encourages residents to have their softeners inspected/tuned up on a regular basis (every 5-years) by a qualified technician who is knowledgeable in increasing softener salt use efficiency. Request that the softener be adjusted to minimize salt use while retaining enough softened water for normal household use. Things to consider include:

- Verifying softener set for proper hardness. If set for a higher than actual hardness level, the softener may be regenerating too often, wasting salt.
- Verifying/adjusting water demands
- Adjusting salt dose per regeneration

Water softener regeneration is most efficient at the beginning of the brine cycle. The higher the salt dosage in the cycle, the lower the regeneration efficiency.

By setting your water softener to regenerate more frequently and using less salt for each regeneration, you may be able to increase your softener’s regeneration efficiency.

SOFTENER REPLACEMENT...

Many older water softeners regenerate based on a timer typically set to regenerate once every 2 or 3 days, depending on expected water usage and water hardness. By measuring actual demand on the water softener, “demand initiated regeneration”, or DIR controls are much more efficient in the regeneration process. These systems can reduce salt use by up to 70%. These controls use either a flow meter or a hardness sensor to determine when to begin the cycle. The “payback” period for adding a DIR control to your water softener from reduced salt usage can be as little as 3 years.

Newer DIR Models

Even if your current meter-based softener is older, newer DIR controls can predict and monitor softener performance, reducing salt usage. These higher efficient systems can save an additional 30% of salt use compared to the traditional metered system. Check with your local qualified water softening representative to see what is appropriate for your particular needs. Even if a newer, more efficient water softener is not in your immediate future, you can still optimize the efficiency of your home unit, resulting in savings for you and the environment.

JUNE 2021

200 Norwood Drive
PO Box 68
Francis Creek, WI 54214

Phone: 920-682-7410
Fax: 920-682-3615
villageoffrancisreek@yahoo.com

