

# VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM

FOUNDED 1853



## VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM GREEN-TIER AD-HOC COMMITTEE WORKING SESSION

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024 - 8:00 A.M.**

**VILLAGE HALL – 9996 WATER STREET**

The Village of Ephraim Green Tier Ad-Hoc Committee established in 2019 is made up of representatives of standing village committees, the Ephraim Business Council, and individuals within the community that meets regularly to discuss ways in which our village can advance our own sustainability goals that we set. This body will not be making policy but rather will engage in broader discussions and pass on recommendations to be considered for action by the Village Board or other standing committees of the village. These are open discussions in which public participation is encouraged.

- 1) Discussion and update on the Ephraim Wetlands.
- 2) Discussion and update on Battery Recycling.
- 3) Discussion and update on Clean Marina.
- 4) Discussion and update on Water Filling Stations.
- 5) Discussion and update on Food Pantry Magnets.
- 6) Discussion and update on Bird City and Tree City Applications.
- 7) Discussion on Green Tier update for the Village Board.
- 8) Discussion and update on Green Tier 5 year recognition letter.

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

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**You can also dial in using your phone.**

Access Code: 776-972-029

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There may be a quorum of the Village Board or another Village Committee present; no action will be taken by any committee other than the one listed on the agenda. Please note, that upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information please contact Andrea Collak, Clerk Village of Ephraim, PO Box 138, Ephraim, WI 54211

<hr/>	<b>Date: 8/26/2024</b>
<b>Andrea Collak, Clerk</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village Administrative Office
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visitors' Center
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post Office
<hr/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Website: <a href="http://ephrain.wi.gov">ephrain.wi.gov</a>
<b>Kim Roberts, Deputy Clerk</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emailed: WDOR Radio/ Peninsula Pulse

**VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM  
GREEN TIER AD-HOC COMMITTEE WORKING SESSION MINUTES  
THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024 – 8:00 AM - 9996 WATER STREET**



**Present:** Michael McCutcheon, Lane Methner, Bruce Nelson, and Cindy Nelson-Chair.

**Absent:** Jeff Lutsey

**Guests:** None.

**Staff:** Brent Bristol – Village Administrator and Kim Roberts – Deputy Clerk

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**1. Review of June 1 Clean Up Ephraim Day:**

A review was held regarding the inaugural Ephraim Clean-up Day. Notes for next year's events were made to reduce the coffee and doughnut gathering to one (1) hour, meet at the hall beforehand to hand out vests, and create an organized effort of which people are doing what areas of the Village. It was also noted that the event likely should be held earlier in the year when the grass and weeds are smaller, perhaps in early May.

**2. Discussion next steps for Ephraim Wetlands:**

A discussion was held about the recently completed Boardwalk project. It was noted that the boardwalks are wonderful but there is still work to be done. All agreed it should be kept natural but there is a need to establish a path and keep people on it. Mulch is needed because it is difficult to walk in certain areas. Replacement signage is still being worked on. It was agreed that the Ephraim Wetlands was a village property and would be maintained by the village, with attention paid to brushing and mulching. Bristol explained that this work needs to be put on pause until the file on the grant is closed with the state. C. Nelson noted that Lutsey had volunteers willing to help spread mulch.

**3. Battery Recycling discussion:**

A discussion was held regarding battery recycling. C. Nelson reviewed information obtained from Brown County. Battery drop-off is only free for Brown County residents. C. Nelson will look into pricing with both Going Garbage and Brown County. The committee decided on collection spots: The Administrative Building, The Visitor Center, and the Post Office. Bristol suggested a sign be placed out at recycling showing people on a map where the battery collection sites are located. C. Nelson will coordinate and discuss with the Physical Facilities and Utilities (PFU) committee to determine if the Village is willing to support the program.

**4. Update on Moravia Point:**

C. Nelson reported that the contractor the Village was interested in doing the work on Moravia Point has taken a position with the County; he's not adding projects. The project is currently stalled.

**5. Clean Marina Update:**

B. Nelson reported that the Clean Marina materials and Emergency Procedure Handbook are completed. The next step is to complete employee training and once that happens the site visit and inspection can be scheduled for the Village to qualify as a Clean Marina.

**6. Water Filling Station Update:**

No new information to report.

**7. Discussion on Plastic Bag Removal:**

C. Nelson reported that the Door County group will be discussing plastic bag removal at the October meeting. It is a hot topic and the hope is to come out of the meeting as a unified Door County group. She noted that if the plastic bags can be reduced it will make a small difference in the overall use of plastics.

**8. Upcoming Newsletter Article:**

C. Nelson will submit the Green Tier article for the Village Newsletter.

**9. Next meeting:**

Next meeting date: Thursday, September 5, 2024, at 8:00 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 AM.

Recorded by, Kim Roberts – Deputy Clerk

**From:** [Bird City Wisconsin Director](#)  
**To:** [Village of Ephraim Office](#); [Rocky Marciano](#); [Cindy Nelson](#)  
**Subject:** Bird City Renewal - Ephraim  
**Date:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 11:30:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [Village of Ephraim - 2024 Plaque Insert - Bird City.pdf](#)  
[Village of Ephraim - 2024 Bird City Letter.pdf](#)

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Congratulations on renewing your Bird City status!

Attached you will find your award letter and a new insert for the plaque we presented to you during the recognition ceremony for your first Bird City application.

I would like to apologize for how long this review process has taken. As you may know, I took over Bird City as the Interim Director on December 30, 2023 and have been doing this position in addition to my full-time job (and my two young kids!). I have also been working on some big changes to Bird City's home and all of our processes so that we can be more responsive in the future. I will announce these changes in the not-too-distant future. I greatly appreciate your patience, thank you.

Bryan

Bryan Lenz, Ph.D.  
Interim Director  
Steering Committee Chair  
Bird City Wisconsin  
<https://birdcity.org/wisconsin>



# Bird City Wisconsin

*Making our communities healthy for birds ... and people*

4230 N. Oakland Ave., No. 219

Shorewood, WI 53211

July 23, 2024

Dear Village of Ephraim,

On behalf of myself and Bird City Wisconsin's Steering Committee, I would like to congratulate the Village of Ephraim on achieving Bird City status in the Bird City Wisconsin program.

Bird City communities are at the forefront of efforts to forge a statewide coalition of citizens and public officials who recognize that birds are more than beautiful - they are significant. Bird City Wisconsin truly appreciates both all that you do to green your community as well as all of the effort that you put into demonstrating all of your community's actions to us during the renewal process.

## **THANK YOU!**

We ask that you share news of your renewal with local media. To make your job easier, we have included some general text about the program at the bottom of this letter. Feel free to use Bird City's logo to promote your community – and let us know if you would like a digital copy. Please also consider other ways that we can help you achieve public recognition for your accomplishments, or any other way that we might be able to assist you. As always, feel free to contact us with your thoughts at [director@birdcitywisconsin.org](mailto:director@birdcitywisconsin.org).

We celebrate your efforts to improve the quality of life of the people and birds that reside in your community. Thank you for helping to make Wisconsin healthy for birds... and people.

Sincerely,

Bryan Lenz, Ph.D.  
Interim Director

## **About Bird City**

Bird City Wisconsin was created in 2009 and began recognizing communities the following year. The program recognizes municipalities for the conservation and education activities that they undertake to make their communities healthy for birds... and people. Bird City Wisconsin is the first Bird City program and served as the model for the Western Hemisphere-wide Bird City Network, of which Bird City Wisconsin is a founding member.

To be recognized as a Bird City, a community must take actions across four categories (Habitat, Threat Reduction, Education & Engagement, and Sustainability) and officially recognize and celebrate World Migratory Bird Day. Bird City also offers High Flyer recognition for those communities that truly go above and beyond in their conservation and education programs. To become a High Flyer, a community must meet additional, and more involved, criteria.



# Bird City Wisconsin

Recognizes the

## *Village of Ephraim*

for implementing sound practices and fostering public education on important bird conservation issues.

**2024**



June 11, 2024

Mike McCutcheon  
President  
Village of Ephraim  
10005 Norway Street  
Ephraim, WI 54211

Dear Mr. McCutcheon,

Congratulations! 2024 marks your fifth year as a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Green Tier Legacy Community. The Village of Ephraim is part of a select group of Wisconsin local governments that are dedicated to sustainable improvement. The DNR applauds your continued commitment to minimizing environmental impacts, being fiscally responsible and improving the quality of life for those in Ephraim. We recognize and value that your leadership has a ripple effect throughout Door County and the rest of the state.

Ephraim's leadership and commitment to superior environmental performance, combined with your team's hard work and dedication, have delivered important environmental achievements which include:

- ✓ Endorsing renewable energy through city operations by:
  - Installing solar lights at various community locations along the shoreline of Lake Michigan, resulting in decreased energy use and increased protection from the negative effects of light pollution via the DarkSky initiative.
  - Providing electric vehicle charging stations at various across the village for residents and visitors.
- ✓ Enhancing the health of Ephraim's residents and its landscapes by:
  - Passing a tree ordinance in 2022 to protect and restore the existing urban forest.
  - Hosting tree planting and seedling sale events annually since 2020.
  - Banning the use of phosphorous fertilizers on village properties.
  - Banning the use of coal tar-based sealants on repaving projects to protect Green Bay from contaminants and carcinogens.
- ✓ Promoting sustainable practices throughout the community by:
  - Releasing regular issues of a Sustainable Living Newsletter for residents.
  - Managing a recycling center with drop-off facilities for all residents.



- Providing watt meters to residents, which create detailed, real-time, power usage statistics for home devices and appliances.
- Installing bike racks at three high traffic locations throughout the Village.

The Village of Ephraim, its leadership, employees, residents and stakeholders should be proud of these accomplishments.

The DNR is ready to help your community continue to challenge itself. Thank you for your continued commitment to improving your community and Wisconsin's environment.

Sincerely,



Steven Little  
Deputy Secretary  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

cc: Kyle Burton  
Laurel Sukup, DNR  
Jennifer Feyerherm, DNR  
Mandaline Bergstrom, DNR

**GREEN TIER**