

Town Government & Community

Monthly Town Meetings (Town Hall)

Residents are always welcome. The town board meets on the **third Monday** of each month at 7:30 p.m. The plan commission meets on the second Thursday at 7:30 p.m. (prior to the board). Please contact the clerk or chair at least 12 days before a meeting to request an item be considered for the agenda. Requests related to code variances/waivers, conditional use permits, zoning, and land division are first reviewed by the plan commission. *Agendas appear on the town's website.* Minutes are not posted until a draft has been approved (customarily at the following month's meeting).

Caucus (January) & Annual Town Meeting (April)

Residents (electors) who attend the January caucus determine who appears on the spring ballot for Town offices. (The town board, clerk, and treasurer are all elected at large.)

At the annual Town Meeting, residents and officials may jointly decide certain policy, salary, tax, and budget issues by an immediate vote (through show of hands or paper tally). The town chair and treasurer also present annual reports, and residents discuss issues of local concern.

Facts & Figures

- Population: 2,381 (2021 estimate)
- Equalization Value: \$336,027,500 (2021)
- School Districts: Prescott, Ellsworth
- Miles of Town road: approx. 60. Maintaining roads is historically the Town's greatest expense. (Oak Grove does not maintain or regulate county and state highways.)
- Town-owned land: Roughly 9 acres surround the town hall. Future use may include recreation (e.g., softball field).

Approximate Driving Times*

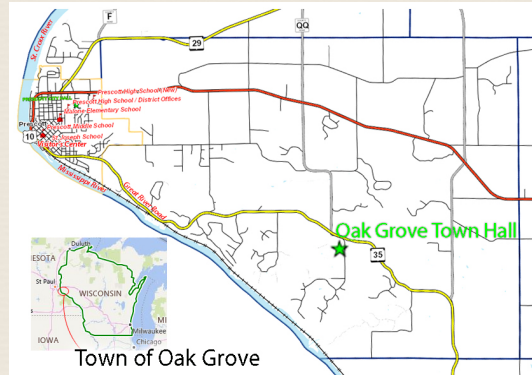
- Minneapolis-St. Paul international airport: 35 minutes
- Downtown St. Paul: 30 minutes
- UW-River Falls: 20 minutes
- Ellsworth (county seat): 25 minutes

**from downtown Prescott, Wisconsin*

Nearby Attractions

- Great River Road (voted "America's Prettiest Drive" by the *Huffington Post*)
- Great River Road Visitor Center/Freedom Park (Prescott)
- St. Croix National Scenic River recreation
- Kinnickinnic State Park (Kinnickinnic & St. Croix rivers)
- Nugget Lake County Park
- Kinnickinnic River (fly fishing, kayaking, outfitters)
- Ellsworth Creamery
- Carpenter Nature Center (St. Croix River/Hastings)
- UW-River Falls

Brochure created by A. Hayday (last update 05/31/22). Cover photo by Anita Cole.



Address & Contact

Town Chair: Jerry Kosin, 715-262-5677

Supervisors I-IV:

Richard Ruemmele, 651-260-3194 (roads)

Daniel Johnson, 715-262-1117

Michelle Huber, 715-262-0152

Jim Boles, 715-262-5738

Town Clerk: Andria Hayday, 715-262-4005;

townofoakgrovewi@centurytel.net

(voting/elections, agendas, general information)

Treasurer: Kim Huppert, 218-929-9482

(tax payment questions, dog licensing)

Assessor: Owen Assessing, LLC, 715-643-2081

Building Inspector: Todd Dolan, All-Croix

Inspections, 715-377-2152; www.allcroix.com

Town Website (notices/agendas, email addresses, forms, resident info): www.co.pierce.wi.us (click Government > Municipal/Town > Oak Grove)

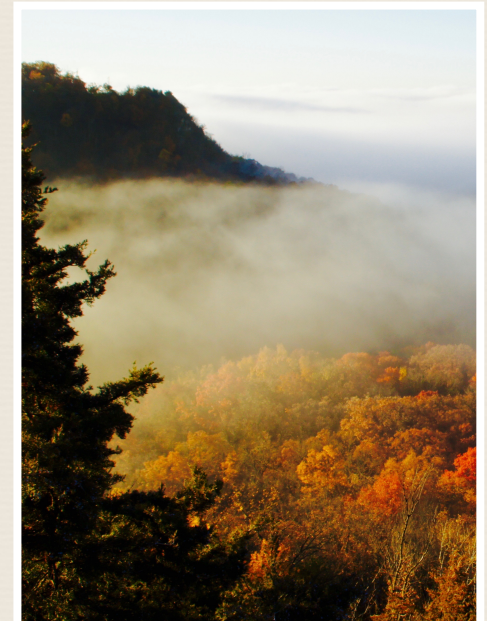


Mail: P.O. Box 434 or N4939 1100th St.
(town hall); Prescott, WI, 54021

Pierce County Sheriff (24-hour dispatch, local policing): 715-273-5051

Directions: The town hall & polling place is located at N4939 1100th St (54021). From Prescott, take Hwy. 35 south roughly 6 miles. Turn right (south) onto 1100th St. (opposite QQ); follow paved road 0.4 miles. *The hall is open for public meetings and elections but not routinely staffed.* Public notices are posted outside (and online). A secure **drop box** (slot) is by the entry.

TOWN OF OAK GROVE, WI



Welcome to Oak Grove, Wisconsin!

Oak Grove is one of Pierce County's most scenic rural townships, with Mississippi River bluffs and wooded coulees shaping our western boundary and rich farmland stretching to the east. A bridge in the adjacent city of Prescott spans the St. Croix River and provides quick access to the Twin Cities metro area.

This guide answers common questions in brief for local residents. For complete information, see Oak Grove code, the Comprehensive Plan, and visit our website at www.co.pierce.wi.us.



Local Building Codes & Permits

Contact the building inspector's office for building permits and code information (Todd Dolan, All-Croix Inspections; www.allcroix.com, 715-377-2152). The Town requires permits for driveways (roadway access), most structures, and remodels. Pierce County issues prerequisite sanitary permits and land-use permits for new construction. See "Home Construction" on the county website (under Departments/Land Management/Zoning).

Zoning, Land Use, & Property Information

Pierce County manages zoning and land-use issues for the Town. Much of Oak Grove is zoned "General Rural Flexible" (GRF), an agricultural district encompassing some subdivisions. *Consult the county's website (under Departments/Land Management) for parcel maps and tax and zoning information.* The "Table of Uses" lists activities, businesses, and mining allowed in each district (some require a Conditional Use Permit with prior Town recommendation). Local ordinances and neighborhood covenants may also apply.

Minimum Lot Size: 3 acres, not including easements or rights of way. (OG code sec. 18.28)

Driveways (OG code sec. 14.26, waivers 14.27)

- "One lot, one driveway": Each lot may have one connection to the public roadway. Plan ahead so your existing driveway can be extended to serve any future outbuilding. Sec. 14.26 (2)(L).
- *Shared driveways:* When 3 or more houses share a driveway, it is considered a private road and must meet Town road standards. Sec. 14.26.

See Oak Grove code for additional details. (A copy is available at the Prescott Public Library.)

RURAL LIVING

Fire & Emergency Medical Service (EMS)

The Prescott Fire Dept. serves Oak Grove and equips the ancillary (unmanned) fire station at our town hall. The department's roughly 40 volunteers are all professionally trained. EMS is provided through the City of River Falls (subcontracting to Allina, 2021-2025), with response based in Prescott, River Falls, and Hudson. The Prescott Area Fire & EMS Association oversees service and operations.

In case of emergency, dial 911. Cellular 911 calls may link to the call center in Dakota County, Minnesota, which will promptly transfer you to the Pierce County Sheriff's 24-hour emergency dispatch.

Addresses (Fire Numbers)

Pierce County assigns addresses and enters them into the 911 system. The county also issues red metal "fire" signs (typically when you request a sanitary or land-use permit).

Mailboxes

The USPS dictates placement of rural mailboxes to allow easy access by mail carriers in vehicles. Offset post designs may help prevent damage from snowplow wake.

Burning

All open fires must be at least 20 feet from buildings and monitored. You may have a small (3x3x3-ft.) recreational "campfire" without a permit (unless a burn ban is in effect). You *do* need a Town permit to burn brush, grass/prairie, and eligible construction waste. Free permits are issued by the town chair or a designated supervisor (by phone). *No permit is valid unless you also notify the Sheriff's Department.* It is unlawful to burn trash, painted or treated wood, or any noxious material. See Ord. 2013-05.

Trash, Recycling, & Composting

Residents pay private trash/recycling haulers for pickup. You may also drop off select recycling at town hall bins. The Pierce County Solid Waste Dept. offers other programs. *It is unlawful to burn trash, including recyclables.*

The City of Prescott operates a seasonal compost site on 620th Avenue (0.8 mi. north of Hwy. 10). Oak Grove

residents may use this site for a modest annual fee. Contact Prescott City Hall for details (715-262-5544).

Snowplowing

You may not push/deposit driveway snow across public roadways or deposit it on plowed public shoulders. Oak Grove pays Pierce County to plow town roads. Private roads and driveways are the owners' responsibility.

The county is not responsible for plow damage to your mailbox unless the blade strikes your box directly.

ATVs & Snowmobiles

See state regulations on the DNR website. Pierce County clubs maintain local trails and provide information online. On public land, ATV/UTV riders do not have the same access rights as snowmobilers and are permitted only on approved routes/trails. Town roads (numbered avenues and streets) are now ATV/UTV routes unless otherwise posted/signed; see Ord. 2021-01 on the Town website.

Animals & Agriculture

Dogs: Under state law, each dog kept in Oak Grove must be licensed annually by the Town, with proof of rabies vaccination provided. Residents keeping 4 or more dogs must obtain a Town kennel license (a private license covers 4 or 5 dogs; commercial, 6 or more). Rules apply to dogs 5 months or older. County code also governs kennels.

Strays: Owner IDs (phone numbers on collars), social media, and Craigslist posts help reunite owners and lost pets. Contact the designated town supervisor and see the Town website for assistance. Local law enforcement can also help. There is no animal shelter in Pierce County.

Horses: County code allows one horse per open acre in agricultural zones (including GRF); see "stables" under county code. Residential zoning excludes horses.

Poultry & Livestock: Pierce Co. zoning excludes most livestock (sheep, pigs, goats, etc.) from residential districts. Chickens are permitted in residential zones under county code. Neighborhood covenants may apply.

Crops: Local code allows traditional row-crop farming in all zones (throughout Oak Grove).