



What Makes People Happy With Their Communities?

Over three years, *Gallup* and the *John S. and James L. Knight Foundation* set out to explore some questions about communities, among them: (1) What makes a community a desirable place to live? and (2) What draws people to stake their future in it? The answers are important, especially in today’s world, where the most successful communities are those that attract and retain talented workers, thereby strengthening themselves and their area economies.

The *Soul of the Community* study, which interviewed 43,000 people in 26 communities, asked a range of questions about personal satisfaction with community life, about pride in the community, and about optimism for its future, and looked at the connections between answers to these questions and people’s perceptions of many key community attributes.

Here were the findings.

People with the most favorable opinions of their cities were also more likely to have positive assessments of their local social offerings, such as (1) entertainment venues and places to meet, (2) openness (that is, how welcoming

their community is to newcomers and visitors), and (3) aesthetics (or the community’s physical beauty and green space).

The study revealed a number of interesting patterns. Looking across communities, it found that residents of smaller cities were more likely, on average, to express positive feelings about their community and optimism about its future. And those communities that have experienced particularly hard economic times had lower levels of expressed satisfaction. Community satisfaction varied with demographic characteristics, too. Some demographic groups were consistently more likely to express satisfaction with their community—namely older, better-educated and higher-income people all gave their communities higher marks, on average.

The *Soul of the Community* survey also presented one apparent paradox: People who express high levels of satisfaction with their community are no more or less likely than other residents to be engaged in community activities, such as voting, volunteering or attending community meetings. Based on an article by the Knight Foundation and reprinted with permission.

Water and Sewer Service Line Warranty Program

Water laterals are underground pipes that deliver drinking water to homes and businesses, while sewer laterals are similar pipes that take wastewater away. These pipes typically extend toward the street, where they connect with the city’s main water and sewer lines. Many people don’t realize that these lateral pipes are actually the responsibility of property owners rather than the city’s. Water laterals rarely fail, but when they do it is usually a rupture caused by the winter’s freeze-thaw. Sanitary sewer laterals, on the other hand, are more likely to get plugged. (Common culprits are tree roots, lint from a washing machine, grease from a kitchen sink, or a large product flushed down a toilet, such as a diaper.) Some building owners need to have their sewer laterals cleaned regularly, while others have trouble-free service for decades.

(Continued on page 2)

Pottery Plaza Donor Recognition Plaque to be Finalized

The new urban garden, known as *Pottery Plaza*, in the front yard of City Hall, is nearing completion. Soon, the marker commemorating the donors and volunteers who gave to the plaza will be finalized. If you have an interest in making a donation, now is the time. To have your or a family member’s name included on the plaque, please make your contribution by October 31, 2014. In addition to cash donations (with a \$50 minimum for recognition on the commemorative plaque), the following donation items are still available:

Retaining Wall : \$3,500	22’ Backless Radius Bench (1) : \$4,700
Art Feature and Installation (3) : \$10,000 - \$18,000 each	14’ Backless Radius Bench (1) : \$4,000
Pedestrian Lighting (5) : \$1,500 each	Ornamental Trees (3) : \$300 each
Columns (5) : \$3,000 each	Shade Trees (1) : \$400 each

The Election is Coming! Do you have a Photo ID? Prepare to show it at the polls on November 4th

On September 12, 2014 the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated the requirement that Wisconsin voters must present photo identification at the polls in order to cast a ballot for the November 4, 2014 General Election. Below is a list of acceptable photo IDs:

- A Wisconsin DOT-issued driver's license, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card or driver's license without a photo, issued under the religious exemption
- A military ID card, issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- A U.S. passport

The following photo IDs are also acceptable, but must be unexpired:

- A certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented
- A driving receipt issued by WI DOT (valid for 45 days)

- An ID card receipt issued by WI DOT (valid for 45 days)
- An ID card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin
- A photo ID card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university, college or technical college that contains date of issuance, signature of student, and an expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance. Also, the university, college or technical college ID must be accompanied by a separate document that proves enrollment.
- A citation or notice of intent to revoke or suspend a WI DOT-issued driver license that is dated within 60 days of the date of the election

How to get a Free State ID Card for Voting

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is providing free state ID cards for voting. To learn about getting a free Wisconsin ID card, please visit the Wisconsin Department of Transportation website:

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/idcard.htm>

(Continued from page 1)

The fact that building owners are responsible for maintaining their sanitary and water laterals is not new—the policy has existed for decades—which is why there are firms that specialize in insuring owners against costly repairs . . . repairs that might even extend to the replacement of sidewalk squares and landscaping. Any of these private warranty programs are strictly voluntary and entered into at the discretion of property owners. The city has no involvement.

If you experience a sanitary backup, or you suspect a leak in your clean-water supply-line, please contact the utility department at 608-884-3341. Our staff will determine whether the issue is with the city's main or with your building's lateral.

PUBLIC WORKS NOTICES



Leaf Pickup

Leaf pickup is scheduled to begin the week of October 27th. Please place your leaves in the street along the curb. You can assist us in making leaf collection as quick as possible by not parking too close to the leaf piles and by making the piles as consolidated as possible. Please remember that burning is not allowed in the City.



Brush Pickup

Brush pickup is scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month through November, weather permitting. Limbs and branches should be bundled or put in garbage cans. Bundles should be no larger than 6 feet long and 24 inches in diameter, and bundles and garbage cans should not exceed 100 pounds. Residents may bring bushes, tree limbs and other brush to the city-owned dump site, located at the back of the Fassett Cemetery. For complete information about Edgerton's brush pickup ordinance, please see the website at www.cityofedgerton.com.

Snow Plowing

It is against the City ordinance to plow snow from your personal driveway, sidewalk, or parking area into public streets or alleys. If necessary, City crews will remove the snow from these right-of-ways and charge the cost of this removal to the property owner, in addition to a potential fine of \$25 to \$200.

Cemetery Flowers & Plants

All summer flowers and hanging baskets must be removed by November 1st of each year or they will be removed and destroyed by cemetery personnel. Holiday flowers can be placed after November 11th.

Winter Parking Rules

Winter snow parking regulations will go into effect on November 1, 2014. Parking is not allowed on any street or highway after a snowfall until snow is plowed back to the curb. Overnight parking in parking lots is restricted to the rear of the lots during any snowfall, as posted in all lots. Parking on unplowed streets will result in a fine of \$50.00.



Sidewalks

Please have your sidewalks cleared of snow and ice, from edge to edge, no later than 24 hours after a snowfall. Failure to clear walks in the appropriate time may result in a fine of \$25 to \$200.

Compost

If you are looking for a place to dispose of leaves, twigs and garden debris, there is a compost pile located at the City Garage.