

ALDERMAN Jim BOHL



5th District | 286-3870 | jbohl@milwaukee.gov | www.milwaukee.gov/district5

Dear Residents:

Spring thaws bring memories of last year's summer floods to mind. The city is continuing to move forward to examine the problems of city-wide flooding and I have been named a co-chair to the task force working to create a series of recommendations to help remedy such devastating storm water backups. These recommendations are due to the Common Council by this summer.

I'm also eager to move forward on a "reverse auction" plan for the purchase of city goods and services. The reverse auction approach to soliciting the best prices for our purchases has long been used in the corporate world and has increasingly been adopted in many state and local governments. The process is more open as bidders can see their bids' status and adjust them in real time through an online system. Read more about this cost-saving efficiency in this newsletter.

Hartung Park continues to move forward and updates on its progress as well as summer season reminders like block party permit acquisition and farmer's market info in the area are also within this newsletter. New policies and programs like the unemployment task force and the new Wal-Mart development in our district are also profiled here.

And as we come out of another winter in Wisconsin, you'll notice the efforts to repair weather damage and potholes in our roadways. Here, you can learn more about how the Department of Public Works handles these road concerns.

Please have a safe and peaceful spring and enjoy the many offerings of a Milwaukee summer.

Sincerely,

Jim Bohl
Alderman, 5th District



Committee Assignments

- CHAIR** • Licenses Committee
- MEMBER** • Judiciary & Legislation Committee
- MEMBER** • Steering & Rules Committee
- CHAIR** • Taxicab Review Board
- MEMBER** • Flooding Study Task Force

View meetings on the web at: www.milwaukee.gov/channel25

The Capitol West Neighborhood Association (CWNA) Spring Clean Up!

Saturday, May 7, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Gather with neighbors at North Shore Bank, 7927 W. Capitol Dr. at 9:00 a.m. to register and pick up supplies. Return at noon to Covenant Lutheran Church Hall, 8121 W. Hope Rd. for a free hot dog lunch and zoo passes!

Get paid to work at the polls:

286-3491 or www.milwaukee.gov/election

Get fit at the YMCA:

www.ymcamke.org or (414) 224-9622

Visit the Art Museum for free on Thursdays:

www.mam.org

Sample and buy fresh produce:

Hartung Farmer's Market

July-September, Wednesdays 4-7 p.m.



Packer Rally at City Hall

Alderman Jim Bohl and colleagues Alderwoman Milele A. Cogg and Alderman Willie Hines (right) are pictured with former Green Bay Packer All-Pro safety LeRoy Butler during a February 4 City Hall rally. The public event got city workers and fans pumped up for the Super Bowl, and showed the city's strong support for the Packers.

Wal-Mart will Anchor “Renewed” Timmerman Plaza



This artist's rendering looks north toward the proposed new Walmart store that will be built at the site of the current JCPenney Outlet at N. 104th St. and W. Silver Spring Dr.

A new 155,000 square foot Walmart store will replace the former JCPenney Outlet building at the Timmerman Plaza at N. 104th St. and W. Silver Spring Dr., spurring a much needed renewal of an underutilized commercial property, Alderman Bohl said.

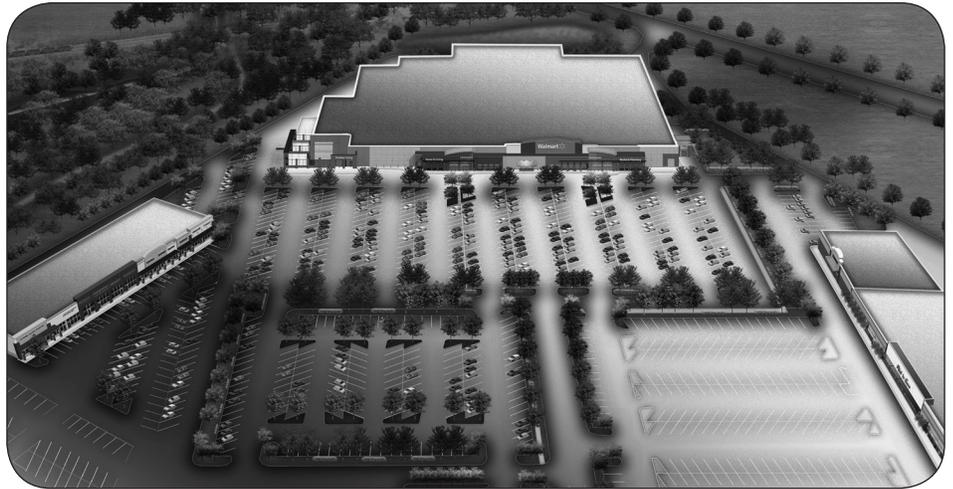
The project, which won Common Council approval on February 8, 2011, will include the demolition of the vacant JCPenney Outlet building, which will be replaced by the new Walmart. The project will also include façade upgrades of other commercial locations at the site, as well as significant upgrades to landscaping and the surface parking areas, Alderman Bohl said.

The project, which received strong neighborhood support, will break ground this spring, with completion expected by spring 2012.

“This site is currently more than 80% vacant, and the Walmart development will help renew and revitalize this highly underutilized commercial property,” Alderman Bohl said.

The project's developer, Gatlin Development Co., has indicated they have commitments to fill all vacant strip mall parcels. The group has commitments for Dot's Clothing Store, Anna's Linens and Payless Shoes. They have also expressed an interest in possibly acquiring some other nearby “outlot” properties in order to build sit-down restaurants – perhaps an Applebee's or something similar, the alderman said.

The project received approval from the City Plan Commission in late January.



Above: Rendering showing the major site improvements – including landscaping – that are proposed for the parking areas at Timmerman Plaza, where ground will be broken this spring for a new Walmart store.

Below: Aerial view of the current Timmerman Plaza.



Please be advised that **Call For Action booklets** are no longer available.

Go to www.milwaukee.gov/callforaction for an up-to-date directory of city phone numbers.

Time to Think About a Block Party Permit



Block party permits are issued to residents in the City of Milwaukee who would like to barricade the residential street they live on for a neighborhood event - main thoroughfares are not closed for block parties. Planning a block party is a big job and requires the support of all those who reside on the block that will be closed. For first-time events, residents on the block must sign a petition verifying their support.

The block party applicant must reside on the block and is responsible for the event - including setup and take-down of the barricades as described in the permit - cleanup of the public right-of-way following the event, and maintaining a clear lane for emergency vehicles.

Applications should be submitted 30 days prior to the event because they must be reviewed and approved by the District Alderman, the Department of Public Works, and the Milwaukee Police Department. When choosing the date and time of your event, it is important to be mindful and considerate of those who reside in the surrounding area as well as on your block.

Residents may apply for one non-fee block party permit annually. A fee for subsequent block parties in the same year will be imposed for the delivery of barricades, which typically is \$31.00.

Block party applications may be downloaded from DPW's website at www.milwaukee.gov/mpw/BlockParties.htm or call the Special Event Permit Office at (414) 286-3329.

Ald. Bohl is Co-Chair of Flooding Study Task Force

In September 2010, Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. appointed Alderman Jim Bohl as co-chair of the Flooding Study Task Force, which held its first meeting on January 6, 2011. Alderman Bohl, chair of the Licenses Committee, was the lead sponsor of the resolution that created the task force following the devastating flooding that damaged thousands of Milwaukee homes in July 2010.

Alderman Bohl said he is hopeful the task force will be able to identify recommendations to address the problems that have caused so much damage and heartbreak for city residents. "The city engineer has agreed with my assessment that the vast majority of flooded basements back in July (2010) were caused by sewage backups," he said.

According to analysis by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), more than 80% of excess rain water that is surcharging the sewer system is coming from leaky private home laterals and foundation drains connected to the sanitary system in pre-1955 homes. MMSD calls this problem INI - short for inflow and infiltration.

The question is where exactly is the excess water (INI) coming from, and what is the most thorough and economical way of dealing with it?

MMSD initiated a \$156 million mandate to address INI from private laterals, but then it was determined that the biennial budget bill proposed by Governor Walker included cuts that would make that plan impossible. Instead, MMSD has revised that plan into a 10-year \$50 million initiative that would

only "nip at the edges" of the INI private lateral issues, Alderman Bohl said.

"The governor's proposed budget only dampens local efforts to reduce flooding and will force Milwaukee County's municipalities to look to local sources of revenue to remedy the INI and flooding issues," he said.

"This is just another classic example of state government shifting costs to local governments, and it could mean that the city will need to look at an increase in the sewer maintenance fund fee to make up for the loss of the anticipated MMSD revenues," he said.

When President Hines made his task force appointments, he said: "Both Alderman Hamilton and Alderman Bohl will bring considerable experience, insight and expertise to the task force. I commend Alderman Bohl for initiating this task force, and I know that numerous residents and businesses in his district have endured flood damage, too."

The Common Council unanimously voted to create the Flooding Study Task Force to "recommend remedies for storm water and sewage backup flooding of city residential and commercial properties, and flooding

of streets and alleyways." The task force is further directed to include in its review an evaluation and analysis of the region's storm water and sewage capacity and will make recommendations regarding capacity within its findings.

The task force's findings are scheduled to be reported to the Common Council no later than May 31, 2011.



Why the City Uses Hot and Cold Patch for Potholes



Deep, large potholes like this one are an unfortunate common sight in Milwaukee in March and April, thanks to the freeze-thaw cycle and precipitation.

If you've noticed city Department of Public Works crews filling potholes during the spring and summer months, you've seen the crews using what is called "hot mix."

But, potholes are a year-round problem, and sometimes they can develop rapidly during wet winter periods, and especially during the thawing and freezing of February and March. It is during these colder months that crews use "cold mix" patch fill.

Here are some quick facts about "hot mix" and "cold mix":

What's the difference between "hot" and "cold" mix?

Cold patch is liquefied with something other than heat, such as water, (in the case of emulsified asphalt) and naphtha, gasoline, or kerosene (in the case of cutback asphalt). The mixture is put in place and when the water and/or naphtha, gasoline, kerosene evaporates, the material hardens in place. Hot mix asphalt is applied using heat which thins the material for application. Once it cools, it hardens in place.

Which mix is better?

Cold patch has minimal strength...it's just a protective surface to cover potholes during the winter until hot mix plants are running again in April. That's right – only cold patch is available during the winter months. If the "hot" option was there year-round, the city would never use cold patch, we would always use hot mix.

What is the cost difference between the two mixes?

Cold patch is more expensive (\$110/ton) but it's the only thing available between November 15 and April 15. Hot mix is cheaper (\$70/ton) and more durable but is only available from April 15 to November 15. Cold patch is just a temporary measure to get us through the cold months, and unfortunately, many times cold patch can pop out within days or weeks of its application.

To report a pothole, please call 286-CITY (2489).

Public Transportation Review Board

On February 8, the Common Council approved creating the Public Transportation Review Board (PTRB) that was proposed by Alderman Bohl.

Alderman Bohl said the 10-member PTRB will be "a strategic-minded body looking to bring open, public planning and synergy to the many modes of ground transportation" in Milwaukee. "It's a very reasoned approach at looking at our modes of ground transportation in a comprehensive way," he said.

The board will look at taxicabs and public passenger vehicle services, buses, public parking and parking meter placement, para-transit services, trolley service and streetcars, pedestrian and bicycle transport, and rail service, Alderman Bohl said.

The open, public nature of the PTRB reflects a desire to have access and transparency in important city public transportation discussions, the alderman said. "In the past, as evidenced by the Milwaukee Downtown Transit Connector Study that was championed by a narrow group of stakeholders and completed without broad public input, I think we've shot ourselves in the foot by not having a more open and public process," he said.

The PTRB will succeed the Taxicab Review Board that has been chaired by Alderman Bohl after its creation in 2009. The PTRB is empowered to hold public hearings and take testimony and evidence, and report its recommendations from time to time to the Common Council.

Seven members of the board will be appointed by the Common Council President Willie Hines, and three members will be appointed by the mayor. Members will be appointed to serve a three-year term.

The city previously had a transportation commission with fairly similar goals but a stronger emphasis on parking. That body was established in 1990 and last met in 1996, although it was not officially dissolved until 2003.

Unemployment Task Force

Alderman Bohl was a co-sponsor of legislation that created the city's African American Male Unemployment Task Force last year.

Alderman Bohl said the task force is addressing the unemployment crisis as it specifically relates to African American men in our community. "When various statistics show that unemployment in Milwaukee so dramatically affects black males, it is a crisis that cannot be ignored, and the task force is working to identify causal factors and possible solutions," he said.

Several community and business leaders, educators, legislators and activists are part of the task force, which will report its findings and proposals to the Common Council.

Water Rate Increase Excessive, Alderman Says

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) in late December 2010 approved and is now finalizing the details of a water rate increase for the Milwaukee Water Works for its customers in Milwaukee and the 15 suburbs it serves. The rate increase affects water service and water usage charges on the municipal services bill sent to city property owners, and it will be reflected on bills received in April 2011.

Alderman Bohl strongly opposed the rate increase, and voted against it when it came before the Common Council. "This is a classic case of bait and switch," he said.

"I simply can not justify overcharging residents with an excessive water rate increase as a means of shifting revenues into the city's general coffers," he said.

The typical single family in Milwaukee spends \$45.45 each quarter for water for drinking, cooking, cleaning and showering – or \$181 a year.

New Garbage Cart Policies

Waste reduction works! More and more people find they no longer need two or more garbage carts because they're doing an effective job of recycling and generating less garbage. If you have an unwanted extra cart, please call (414) 286-CITY (2489) or fill out an online service request, and the city will collect it. One of the changes brought about by this year's budget, however, includes a \$20 annual fee for every extra garbage cart you'd like added to your residence. The fee was opposed by Alderman Bohl. The Sanitation Division repairs broken carts. Call (414) 286-CITY (2489) or fill out an online service request to have your cart picked up for repair or replacement.

City of Milwaukee garbage and recycling collectors and their safety committee ask for your help during snowy winter months. Make sure your garbage and recycling carts aren't frozen or buried in snow and that there's a clear path through the snow to the carts. Crews will not empty carts that are snow-covered or frozen.

Support Your Local Library!

This year, the Common Council worked hard during budget season to keep all our libraries open, though their hours may have changed. Visit www.mpl.org or call 286-3000 to check hours for your favorite libraries!

Capitol Library
3969 N. 74th St.

Mill Road Library
6431 N. 76th St.



Hartung Farmer's Market



Fresh veggies will be available again in 2011 at the Hartung Park Farmer's Market.

During 2010 a farmer's market was launched at Hartung Park, and it caught on nicely with neighbors. So nicely, in fact, that the farmer's market will continue this year – each Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. from July to September.

Alderman Bohl said more than 60 respondents to a survey conducted by the Hartung Park Community Association board indicated that they would support a farmers' market again in summer 2011.

Go to www.hartungpark.com to get involved in the Hartung Park Community Association or for volunteer information, please send an email to hartungpark@gmail.com.

Milwaukee Job Corps: A Way to Get What You Want Out of Life

The Milwaukee Job Corps is a no-cost educational and vocational training program that helps youth ages 16-24 (the upper age limit is waived for those who have a documented disability) learn a career, earn a high school diploma or GED and help find and keep a good job. They are currently holding orientation sessions on a weekly basis for those who are interested in the program. Go to www.milwaukeejobcorps.org to learn more about the Milwaukee Job Corps.

Job Corps Orientations for Wisconsin:

New Milwaukee Job Corps Center

6665 N. 60th St. - Every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

For more details, contact Yulanda Randolph at 671-6129.

Esperanza Unida Building

611 W. National Avenue, Ste. 209
Every Monday and Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

For more details, contact Omar Barberena at 649-9055.

No late arrivals admitted to orientations.
No orientations on Holidays.

Hartung Housing Hits Potential Snag

State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) mandated testing has found positive results for excessive methane, groundwater contamination, and soil contamination at some of the locations where possible new home sites were to be located at Hartung Park, Alderman Bohl said.

“The geotechnical and environmental testing was done by boring (soil sampling) deep into the sites at various locations, and that’s where the positive results came back at a number of locations,” he said, noting that the DNR will not allow excavation or construction on the lots where methane has been detected.

Alderman Bohl said the city will conduct further investigations and re-configuring at Hartung to see if contiguous lots can be identified. Additional tests for methane, and some definitive results are expected by this summer.

“This means that of the 13 original lots, only four or five potential sites might be approved for building homes. The city’s hope is to find contiguous lots as it would not be advantageous to develop homes in a scattered nature which would resemble ‘missing teeth,’” he said.

The snag could possibly have repercussions on completing all three phases of the park, which is now over 50% completed, the alderman said. “The city’s financial outlook is challenged. We had planned on sales of 13 lots and not fewer than 10 and had planned to use the moneys from the sales of the Hartung home lots to develop the remainder of the park,” he said.

Alderman Bohl said the city may need to explore grant funding or other financing options to help pay for developing the remainder of the park.

The 18-acre Hartung Park (formerly called Hartung Quarry) has been used as a landfill since 1964. At first it was used for such things as discarded furniture and appliances, wood fragments and leaves. From the early 1970s until the present, the landfill has accepted only what is called “clean” fill, including concrete, asphalt and soil from city projects or taken by residents to the Self-Help Centers. The landfill is expected to be completely filled by late this year.

Youth Council Back in Session



Alderman Bohl stands at the Common Council President’s desk (in the Council Chamber at City Hall) with Shavon Rudolph, the 5th District’s representative on the Milwaukee Youth Council.

The City of Milwaukee Youth Council is a powerful and diverse group of young leaders committed to making a difference in Milwaukee. They work on issues important to youth, talk to peers, family, and neighbors about their concerns and take action to address them.

Youth Council members represent young people in their aldermanic districts and meet with leaders like the Mayor, Common Council, School Superintendent, business owners, and community groups to advocate for youth. The community is invited to attend all Youth Council meetings and most meetings are broadcast on City Channel 25.

The 5th District’s Youth Council representative is Shavon Randolph, an 11th grade student at Rufus King High School. She is active in forensics, debate, and model United Nations. She applied for the council to make a difference in the community. She is committed to improving MPS and wants to work on education issues as a council member.

Sidewalk Markings? Here’s What They Mean

Has your sidewalk or street become a paint palette? Ever wonder what all those paint markings mean? Here are some answers:

- **Red** - Electric work
- **Pink** - Temporary survey (example: owner wants their property’s lot lines marked)
- **Yellow** - Gas or oil company work
- **Green** - Sewers and drain work
- **Blue** - Water work
- **Orange** - Communications (cable, TV, phone)
- **White** - Proposed excavation

If you are planning to dig on your property, don’t forget to call Digger’s Hotline at **811** or **1-800-242-8511**.



Simply call 211 to
get help with life.

To call using a cell phone, dial 414-773-0211
or on a pay phone, dial 1-866-211-3380.

“Reverse Auction” Measure Could Save City Time and Money

A bold online-centered “reverse auction” approach to securing goods and services could be saving the City of Milwaukee time and money, according to Alderman Bohl, who introduced legislation in January seeking Common Council support in establishing such a system.

The reverse auction approach – long used in the corporate world and now increasingly popular with many state and local governments across the U.S. – follows a structured bid process that works much like online auction site eBay, only in reverse, Alderman Bohl said. “With reverse auctions, the city would put out an invitation to purchase a quantity of goods or services online, which pre-qualified vendors – instead of using a single, blind sealed bid – would compete over to win.

During the bidding process, vendors would be able to view the current status of the bids online, allowing them to adjust their bids in real-time. This more competitive process establishes a true market value that usually results in a major cost savings to the buyer,” he said.

Alderman Bohl said that in traditional government blind-bid procurement situations, it is not uncommon for losing vendors to state that they would have bid lower to secure a contract if they were only given an additional opportunity to re-bid. “Because these vendors can see the low bid in a reverse auction process, they can adjust their own bid in that situation,” he said.

Significant time savings have also been realized by using reverse auctions, Alderman Bohl said. “Typical 30-day sealed bid process timelines can be reduced, in many cases, to just hours, resulting in huge time savings for the local government and greatly improving efficiency,” he said.

To protect the city, bidders would be pre-approved by city officials in terms of quality of the goods or services to be provided, and in terms of ability to deliver those goods and services, Alderman Bohl said.

Alderman Bohl said the following are examples of savings realized by government use of reverse auctions:

- State of Minnesota officials estimate that they’ve saved \$1 million in the first year of their program, and those savings jumped to \$22 million over the five-year life of the contracts awarded through the state’s Internet bidding system, according to the Minnesota Materials Management Division.
- Minnesota trimmed its \$10 million copy paper contract by \$1.2 million, a 13% savings; chopped its \$200,000 paint contract by \$36,000, an 18% savings, and slashed \$67,000 from its \$432,000 body armor contract, a 16% savings.
- The Kentucky League of Cities completed 18 auctions in 2003 for everything from fire apparatus to computers. Estimated costs related to these auctions totaled close to \$5 million with low bids resulting in an average savings of 15%.
- Delaware saved more than \$13 million on its utility bills from 2010 through 2013.
- The City of Dayton will enjoy average savings of 12% on some basic commodity purchases for 2010 and 2011 as the result of a pilot “reverse auction.”
- The City of Chicago shaved \$1 million dollars from the purchase of snow removal equipment for O’Hare airport in 2009 by utilizing a reverse auction instead of a traditional sealed bid process that had taken place only months before with the same four suppliers.
- In a pilot first-year trial, the Louisville Metro Government ran eight reverse auctions and realized a savings of nearly \$600,000.



Rat Problems can be Prevented

The Department of Neighborhood Services can use poison baits to address rat problems in our neighborhoods, but residents can also take an active role in making sure rats don’t feel welcome.

Residents are asked to remove fallen garbage from garbage carts and containers, fruit from trees, dog waste (especially in winter when food is scarce), dog food, bird seed from under bird feeders and any other items that may fall on the ground or out in the open and can be used as food.

Rats dig holes or burrows and especially prefer spaces underneath garages and sheds. Any resident witnessing the problem should call DNS at 286-2268 so that workers can inspect the situation and place baits if necessary.

Rat infestations can quickly get out of hand when people are careless, but Alderman Bohl said residents working together can help eliminate conditions that allow rats to thrive and survive. “Even something as simple as cleaning up underneath your bird feeder and securing your garbage cart can make a huge difference,” he said.

Hartung Update: More Grading

As the warmer weather approaches, our thoughts turn toward outdoor activities and times spent at various parks, including Hartung Park.

This year, residents will continue to see DPW crews doing filling and grading work at the park. This work will NOT increase the height of the sledding hill. There will be some continued filling around the hill and between the hill and N. 99th St., as well as toward the south end of the park. DPW estimates filling will be completed by late 2011.

Alderman Bohl said he’s looking forward to seeing residents and children enjoy the huge labyrinth, the playground, and other unique amenities of the park. “As a community, we’ve helped create a gem of a park that everyone can enjoy,” he said. “I ask for patience with the grading work, as it is noisy at times but will ultimately help to better integrate the phases of the park.”



City of Milwaukee website
www.city.milwaukee.gov

Ald. Bohl’s website
www.milwaukee.gov/district5

One Call For City Info

286-CITY (2489) - That one number can connect you with 21 departments, 8,800 employees and 100s of city services, ranging from building permits to parking permission to library hours to garbage pickups. Residents should still call **911** for emergencies. Of course you can always call Ald. Bohl's office at **286-3870**.

Important Phone Numbers

Common Council.....	286-2221
Mayor Tom Barrett.....	286-2200
Fire/Police/Ambulance	911
Fire - non-emergency	286-8999
Police - non-emergency	933-4444
Dist 4 non-emergency	935-7242
Dist 7 non-emergency	935-7272
Health Department.....	286-3616
Domestic Violence/assault.....	286-2997
Parking Hotline.....	286-8350
Public Works.....	286-2489
<i>(special pickups, street lights, potholes, garbage/trash pickups, water, sewers)</i>	
Graffiti hotline	286-8715
Nuisance issues.....	286-2268
<i>(debris, litter, abandoned/illegally parked vehicles, code violations, landlord/tenant problems)</i>	
City of Milwaukee Web Site.....	www.city.milwaukee.gov

ALDERMAN
Jim BOHL



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Sanitation Changes & Project Clean & Green

Beginning April 4, 2011, in order to adjust to the four holiday weeks that occur over the summer, Milwaukee's DPW Self Help sites will be closed Mondays instead of Wednesdays.

Project Clean & Green will also be held again this spring, allowing residents of the 5th District to leave extra materials and items out for pickup by Sanitation crews. However, it should be noted that no construction materials, hazardous waste, paint, electronics, more than 5 automobile tires, or brush piles larger than 2 cubic yards (equivalent to a 6-foot sofa) will be accepted.

For residents south of W. Congress St., Clean & Green will occur May 4- 10, and for residents north of W. Congress St., it will occur May 18-24.

It should also be noted that no garbage or recycling will be collected on the following days this calendar year:

Good Friday/Easter

Friday & Monday – April 22 & 25, 2011

Memorial Day

Friday & Monday – May 27 & 30, 2011

Independence Day

Friday & Monday – July 1 & 4, 2011

Labor Day

Friday & Monday – September 2 & 5, 2011

Thanksgiving

Thursday & Friday – November 24 & 25, 2011

Christmas Eve & Day

Friday & Monday – December 23 & 26, 2011

New Years Eve & Day

Friday & Monday – December 30, 2011
& January 2, 2012

For more information, please visit
www.milwaukee.gov/district5
or call **286-CITY (2489)**

 May 18-24

 May 4-10

