

TREE PROGRAM NOW TAKING ORDERS

Kenosha County's annual tree and shrub program is now taking on-line orders for seedlings to be picked up in spring 2022. Items may be purchased through an on-line store that is simple to use and includes full-color images and descriptions of the tree and shrub species offered for sale.

Over the last 30-plus years, the program has sold nearly one million trees. The purpose of the program is to encourage Kenosha County residents and property owners to plant more native trees and shrubs for conservation, reforestation, and wildlife habitat enhancement.

Trees and shrubs are sold in undividable bundles of 25, at a cost of \$28 per bundle. Items are sold on a first-come, first-served basis and must be picked up by the customer. Pick-up date is typically in late April at the Kenosha County Center in Bristol. A confirmation email will be sent to customers approximately two weeks before the distribution date.

For more information about the program, please visit the county's website, at <u>http://www.kenoshacounty.org/Trees</u>. The on-line store may be accessed directly at <u>https://kcplananddev.myshopify.com/</u>.

CALENDAR 2022

FEBRUARY

9 - Planning , Development & Extension Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 p.m.

MARCH

- 9 Planning , Development & Extension Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 p.m.
- 17 Zoning Board of Adjustments, Conference Room A, 6 p.m.

APRIL

- 13 Planning , Development & Extension Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 p.m.
- 21 Zoning Board of Adjustments, Conference Room A, 6 p.m.

MAY

- 11 Planning , Development & Extension Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 p.m.
- 19 Zoning Board of Adjustments, Conference Room A, 6 p.m.

Flooding Can Happen Almost Anywhere

Floods occur naturally and can happen almost anywhere. In simple terms, a flood is an excess of water on land that is normally dry. For National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) purposes, a flood is a general and temporary condition where two or more acres of normally dry land or two or more properties are inundated by water.

Many conditions can result in a flood: fast melting snow, severe storms with a rapid accumulation of rainfall, outdated or clogged drainage systems may result in cresting rivers, backed-up storm drains or saturated ground with significant widespread flooding. Just because you haven't experienced a flood in the past, doesn't mean you won't in the future. Flood risk isn't just based on history, it's also based on a variety of factors: changing weather patterns,



erosion, river-flow data, topography, flood-control measures, and landscape changes due to building and development.

Flood maps are one tool that communities use to know which areas have the highest risk of flooding. FEMA maintains and updates data through flood maps and risk assessments. Flood hazard maps have been created to show different degrees of risk for a property, which helps determine the cost of flood insurance. The lower the degree of risk, the lower the flood insurance premium. Flooding can happen anywhere, but certain areas are especially prone to serious flooding. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has developed the Flood Map Service Center for flood hazard information.

To find your official flood map, access a range of other view flood hazard products, and take advantage of tools for better understanding flood risk, go to <u>https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home</u>.

Spotlight: Scott McComb, Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach Specialist



Scott McComb is the new aquatic invasive species (AIS) outreach specialist serving Kenosha, Racine and Milwaukee counties. His primary role is to prevent the spread of AIS through education, monitoring and prevention programs by working with volunteers, lake and conservation groups, and communities. He works out of the Kenosha County Center in Bristol, though he spends a significant time in the field in the three counties.

The three main programs McComb focuses on are the "Clean Boats, Clean Waters" watercraft inspection program, the citizen lake monitoring program and the purple loosestrife biocontrol program. He will also have a presence at local and regional events to help spread the word about AIS prevention and answer the public's questions.

McComb grew up in the Madison area and earned a bachelor's degree in geography

from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He then spent several years in Utah, where he completed a master's degree in environmental planning and worked in planning and conservation.

For more information on AIS or how you can become involved in preventing the spread, contact Scott by phone at (608) 890-0977 or email mccomb@aqua.wisc.edu.

South Branch Pike River Restoration Project

Kenosha County has requested that the Chicago District, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) initiate a study under Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 1996, as amended, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration authority, to ascertain the feasibility of restoring important riverine habitat for fish and wildlife within the South Branch of the Pike River.

This Draft Integrated Feasibility Study/Environmental Assessment (IFR/EA) documents whether a project is warranted for federal participation based on a feasibility level assessment of estimated costs, potential benefits, and possible environmental impacts of various alternatives. USACE held a Public Hearing December 14, 2021.

The 246-acre project area is located within the Pike River Watershed in southeast Kenosha County, Wisconsin. The project area is bordered to the south by Highway K (60th Street) and to the north by Highway S (38th Street).

The south branch rehabilitation will also include an off-road multi-purpose trail – connecting existing east-west trails on Highway S and new trails to be built as part of the Highway K expansion. Future restoration phases to the north along the south branch would connect the trail to Highway E and ultimately Petrifying Springs Park.



CURRENT STATE



The purpose of the proposed project is ecological restoration that would provide high quality habitat for various fish and wildlife species. The need for the proposed project is due to past human induced disturbances within the watershed that have altered and/or modified natural biological processes and have reduced flora and fauna biodiversity. A byproduct of this project will be improved stormwater control and reduced flooding.

To view project documents, visit <u>https://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works-Projects/South-Branch-Pike-River/.</u>

Community Rating System (CRS) 5-Year Cycle Review

Recent review of Kenosha County's active participation in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) has resulted in a recommendation that the county continue to maintain a CRS Class 5 rating. As a result, residents and business owners in the unincorporated areas of Kenosha County can continue to receive a reduction in flood insurance premiums for NFIP policies. Kenosha County strives to remain in compliance with NFIP floodplain management requirements, enabling our CRS rating to be annually renewed. This renewal will occur as long as Kenosha County continues to implement qualifying CRS activities. FEMA commends Kenosha County's actions, programs and regulations that have lead our community to be more disaster resistant. This commitment has enhanced public safety, protects property, preserves the natural functions of floodplains, and reduces flood insurance premiums.

The CRS is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management practices that exceed the minimum requirements of the NFIP. Over 1,500 communities participate nationwide. For more information on this program, go to https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/community-rating-system.

Terri Ward, Extension Kenosha County Director



Terri Ward is the Area Director for UW-Madison's Division of Extension in Racine and Kenosha Counties. She provides leadership to the team of faculty and staff who collaborate with local businesses, governments, and non-profits; connecting people and organizations to knowledge and resources that solve real-world problems.

Among her many interests are the processes of learning and teaching in all contexts, and how those influence peoples' lives. She is passionate about the Wisconsin Idea, that the walls of the University are the borders of the state, and that education should be driven by locally determined needs.

Prior to her current role, she was the administrator for Extension's FoodWIse nutrition education program in both counties for 7 years, leveraging federal funds to improve the health of local residents. Before working for the Division of Extension, Terri worked in the hospitality industry in various roles, including

executive chef, catering manager, consultant, and business owner for 15 years, working in Asia, Seattle, and Minneapolis.

For more information on the Division of Extension Kenosha County, visit https://kenosha.extension.wisc.edu/.

Spring into Gardening Virtual Workshop Series

The annual Spring into Gardening workshop will be held virtually this year every Saturday in March. Go to https://kenosha.extension.wisc.edu/horticulture/spring-into-gardening/ for more information and registration details.

Date: March 5th, March 12th, March 19th, and March 26th 2022

Time: Two sessions per day, 9.30 A.M. – 11.45 A.M.

Registration: \$25 per person

Questions: Contact Extension Kenosha County at 262-857-1945 or by email at uwextension@kenoshacounty.org



For up-to-date Kenosha County news and upcoming events, visit



www.facebook.com/kenoshacountygovt/

Kenosha County Division of Planning and Development 19600 75th Street, Suite 185-3, Bristol, Wisconsin, 53104 Phone: (262) 857-1895 | Fax: (262) 857-1920 http://www.kenoshacounty.org/

It is the mission of the Kenosha County Division of Planning and Development to provide professional, customer-centered services to residents and organizations pursuing individual and community development goals while ensuring the balance of our community's economic advancement with protection of the natural environment. The Division provides services that; encourage the use of natural resources in a planned and orderly manner, utilize technology to ensure the efficient/accurate communication of technical land-use information, improve our local economy and advance the common good of the citizens of Kenosha County.