



Zoning & Permitting



Land Development



Mapping & GIS



Conservation



Septic Systems



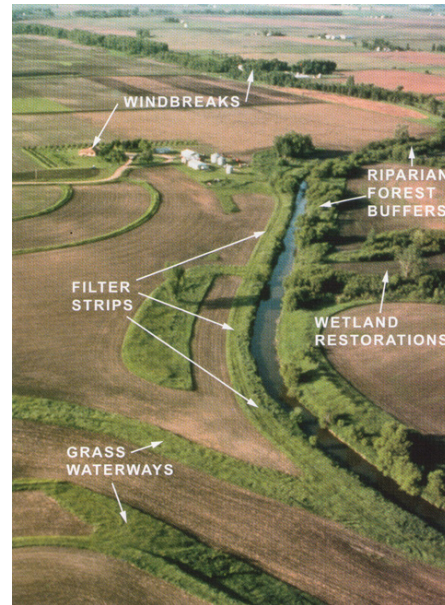
Housing Programs

COMPASS POINTS

FARM THE BEST - BUFFER THE REST

Despite significant research related to buffers, there remains no agreement as to what constitutes the optimal riparian buffer design or proper buffer width for effective pollutant removal, water quality protection, bank stabilization, improved fish and wildlife habitat, enhanced environmental corridors, stable base stream flow, and water temperature control.

Riparian buffers are zones adjacent to water-bodies such as lakes, rivers, and wetlands that protect both water quality and wildlife habitat. These buffer zones help to minimize the human impacts and disturbance to these sensitive areas. A buffer on a farm field is commonly located along the water's edge to filter nutrients, slow soil loss and stabilize the bank. Other related practices that provide buffer protection may include: grassed waterways, contour strips, wind breaks, field borders, or filter strips. These practices may or may not be adjacent to a waterway.



Some key considerations for better buffers/corridors:

- Wider buffers are better than narrow buffers for water quality and wildlife functions.
- Continuous corridors are better than fragmented corridors for wildlife.
- Natural connections/linkages should be maintained or restored.
- Structurally diverse corridors are better than corridors with simple structures (e.g., diverse plant structure or community types, upland and wetland complexes, soil types, topography, and geology).
- Corridors should be located and expanded around rare, threatened, or endangered species
- Quality wildlife habitat should be provided in a buffer whenever possible.
- Native species diversity should be promoted through plantings and active management.
- Fragmentation of corridors should be reduced by limiting the number of crossings of a creek or river where appropriate.
- Restoration or rehabilitation of hydrological function, stream bank stability, in-stream habitat, and/or floodplain connectivity should be considered within corridors.

Among the many tools available to farmers to reduce pollutant runoff from agricultural lands - such as crop rotations, nutrient and manure management, conservation tillage, and contour plowing - riparian buffers are one of the most simple and cost-effective tools to accomplish this task. Agricultural buffers provide multiple environmental benefits with watershed-wide significance.

Contact the USDA-NRCS or Kenosha County Land & Water Conservation for help designing and implementing your buffer project.

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Planning & Development Calendar 2018/2019

December	
12	Planning, Development & Extension Education Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 p.m.
20	Zoning Board of Adjustments Hearing, Room A, 6 p.m.
January	
9	Planning, Development & Extension Education Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 p.m.
17	Zoning Board of Adjustments Hearing, Room A, 6 p.m.
February	
13	Planning, Development & Extension Education Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 p.m.
21	Zoning Board of Adjustments Hearing, Room A, 6 p.m.

KENOSHA COUNTY PASSES AMENDMENTS TO ZONING CODE

This past August, Kenosha County successfully adopted proposed amendments to the General Zoning & Shoreland/Floodplain Zoning Ordinance modifying existing regulations pertaining to accessory buildings, home occupations, principal and conditional use listings, parking, signs and site plan review. This was done in order to better reflect accepted standards and practices within the field. In addition, new codes were implemented for event barns, accessory living units (in-law suites) and temporary uses to codify existing policies. Language regarding large and small wind energy requirements was also adopted as set forth by state statute.

Probably the most substantial revision involved the number and size of detached accessory buildings allowed on a property. Prior to the amendment, codes were written in a manner that regulated the number and size of accessory structures by the property's zoning classification. This was found to treat certain property owners unfairly, specifically when the zoning classification for the property was disparate to the size of the property. The new code is written in a manner so that the number and size of permitted accessory buildings is directly related to the size of the property. A comparison of the old and new accessory building codes can be seen below.

The zoning code revisions also extended the applicability of the PUD Planned Unit Development Overlay District, enabling it to apply to un-sewered areas to allow single-family residential growth to occur and coexist with surrounding agricultural production. Implemented to accommodate controlled growth in the more rural parts of the county, this revision hopes to preserve the local community's agricultural and rural character.

PREVIOUS ACCESSORY BUILDING CODES

SUMMARY OF REGULATIONS FOR DETACHED ACCESSORY BUILDINGS				
ZONING DISTRICT	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF BUILDINGS	MAXIMUM SIZE (square feet)	TOTAL AREA	MAXIMUM HEIGHT (feet)
R-1	1	150	1950	12
	2	total 1800		20
R-2	1	150	1650	12
	1	1500		20
R-3	1	150	1150	12
	1	1000		20
R-4	1	150	870	12
	1	720		17
R-5	1	150	870	12
	1	720		17
R-6	1	150	870	12
	1	720		17
R-7	1	150	1650	12
	1	1000		20
R-8	1	150	1150	12
	1	1000		20
R-9	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	20
R-10	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	20
R-11	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	20
R-12	1	150	870	12
	1	720		17
C-2	1	150	1950	12
	2	Total 1800		20

Setback Requirements shall be as follows:

ZONING DISTRICT	SEPARATION BETWEEN BUILDINGS	SIDE YARD (feet)	REAR YARD (feet)	SHORE YARD (feet)
R-1	10	10	10	75
R-2	10	5	5	75
R-3	10	5	5	75
R-4	10	5	5	75
R-5	10	5	5	75
R-6	10	5	5	75
R-7	10	5	5	75
R-8	10	5	5	75
R-9	10	5a	5a	75
R-10	10	5a	5a	75
R-11	10	5a	5a	75
R-12	10	5	5	75
C-2	10	10	10	75

a 10 feet if abutting a single-family residential district

NEW ACCESSORY BUILDING CODES

LOT SIZE	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF BUILDINGS	MAXIMUM SIZE (square feet)	MAXIMUM HEIGHT (feet)	YARD LOCATION	SIDE/REAR SETBACK
<15,000 SF	1	150	12	SIDE OR REAR SIDE OR REAR	5 FEET
	1	720	17		5 FEET
15,000-19,999 SF	1	150	12	"	"
	1	1000	20		
20,000-39,999 SF	1	150	12	"	"
	1	1,500	20		
40,000-79,999 SF	1	150	12	"	10 FEET
	1	2,000	20		10 FEET
80,000-119,999 SF	1	150	12	"	"
	2	2,500	20		
120,000-159,999 SF	1	150	12	"	"
	2	3,000	24		
160,000-4.9 AC	1	150	12	"	"
	2	3,500	24		
5-5.9 AC	1	150	12	"	"
	2	4,000	24		
6-6.9 AC	1	150	12	"	"
	2	4,500	24		
7-7.9 AC	1	150	12	"	"
	2	5,000	24		
8-8.9 AC	1	150	12	"	"
	2	5,500	24		
9-9.9 AC	1	150	12	"	"
	2	6,000	24		
>10 AC	No Limit	No Limit	24	SIDE, REAR, STREET	25 FEET/ 50 FEET
R-9	No Limit	No Limit	20	SIDE OR REAR	"
R-10	No Limit	No Limit	20	SIDE OR REAR	"
R-11	No Limit	No Limit	20	SIDE OR REAR	"
R-12	1	150	12	SIDE OR REAR SIDE OR REAR	5 FEET
	1	720	17		5 FEET

RETROACTIVE POWTS PROGRAM

As part of a statewide septic system inventory and maintenance reporting mandate, Kenosha County staff have sent letters to many residents of the county to try and obtain information property owners may have regarding existing septic systems, private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) serving their homes, businesses or storage facilities.


The information obtained from these responses will be used to create a permit record file to track POWTS maintenance history for these systems. Owners of a POWTS that have not been part of the existing POWTS maintenance program will become part of that program once all data files are established. As part of the maintenance program they will receive maintenance notices every 3 years that are the same as those that are already part of the current POWTS maintenance program.

The new retroactive maintenance program notice recipients will now be required to report to Kenosha County when their POWTS is serviced or there is a review of its condition. This new retroactive program group of property owners will join the existing group of property owners that have participated in the POWTS maintenance and inspection program since 1980. The combination of participants in these two programs should encompass all POWTS that exist within the county.

The data collected from the nearly 3,000 sent and returned responses is very limited but may be useful to those conducting a property inquiry. There may be some additional POWTS information for some properties where a sanitary or zoning permit was issued prior to the Kenosha County Planning and Development department’s program administration. Where records do exist, the existing POWTS data will eventually be added to the newly created POWTS database. It will still be unknown as to whether the data contained in the historic record is accurate due to the lack of an inspection report accompanying those files, but it is the best documentation available for those properties where historic records may exist.

The historical permit records will soon be scanned and eventually available online to the general public. If you are interested in finding out about a POWTS serving a property you can visit the following website to see what is currently available: <http://www.kenoshacounty.org/1541/Sanitary-Maintenance-Portal>

Below is an example of some of the data that you may find available on the sanitary maintenance portal website mentioned above.




Permit Information: SANT- #####

Permit/System Info

Maintenance Records

Permit/System Information:




Permit Type/Subtype:	SANITARY / RETROACTIVE PROGRAM	Permit Issued Date:	10/18/1974	Status:	ISSUED
Sanitary Permit Type:	New System	Final Inspection Date:		State #:	#####
System Type:	Seepage Trench	Effluent Filter Installed:		# Tanks:	1
Drainfield Dimensions (L' x W' x # of Cells)	Drainfield 1: 50X3X2				
Owner:	John Doe				
Address:	1234 Main Street				
Parcel #:	##-#-###-####				
Description:	RETRO NEW SEEPAGE BED				

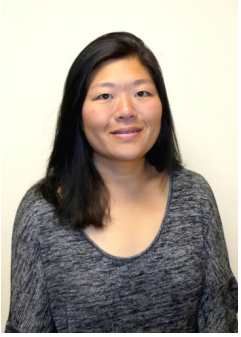
Tank Information:

Tank 1					
Manufacturer:	UNKNOWN	Condition:	NEW	Total Vol (gal):	1000
Use:	SEPTIC TANK	Features:	SINGLE COMPARTMENT	Liquid Level (in):	
Inlet Chamber Vol (gal):	1000	Outlet Chamber Vol (gal):	1000	Center Chamber Vol (gal):	0
Construction:	PRE-FABRICATED CONCRETE				

The above information is only a subset of collected data on this permit. If you need more details then are provided here, please contact the Environmental Sanitarian at 262-605-6700.



COUNTY SPOTLIGHT: MARY METTEN, KENOSHA COUNTY UW-EXTENSION HEALTH AND WELL-BEING EDUCATOR



Mary Metten was hired as the Health and Well-Being Educator with Kenosha County UW-Extension in May 2018. Mary was born and raised in Kenosha. Previously, Mary was a Foster Care and Adoption Licensing Specialist at SaintA, a human services agency in Milwaukee, WI, providing innovative, family-centered care utilizing the seven essential ingredients of trauma informed care. She has a Bachelor's Degree from Carthage College and Master's Degree from Loyola University of Chicago.

As a Health and Well-Being Educator, Mary's role is focused on programming related to food security, financial security, and social/emotional well-being. She will serve the people and community of Kenosha County by addressing local, statewide and national issues, improving lives through research-based education, and fostering partnerships and action.

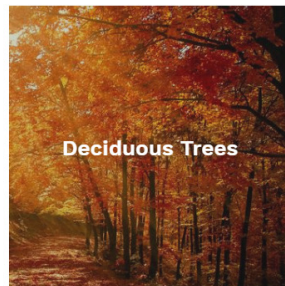
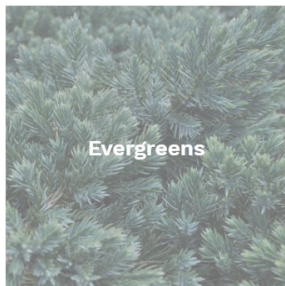
Mary is excited to be working back in Kenosha County. She is dedicated to facilitating positive impacts that support thriving individuals and families, effective organizations, healthy and vibrant communities, and strong economies.

MAKE HISTORY - PLANT A TREE

The Kenosha County Tree Program has sold nearly one million trees to residents over the last 25 years with the purpose of encouraging area residents to plant native trees and shrubs for conservation and wildlife enhancement. This year, among various other species, we have available White Pine, Spruce, Frasier & Balsam Fir, Walnut, Red & Sugar Maple, Oak, Birch, Dogwood, Hazelnut, Poplar, Redbud, Lilacs, and Winterberry to name a few.

The Kenosha County Tree and Shrub Program is now offering people the opportunity to make purchases online at <http://www.kenoshacounty.org/trees>. Trees and shrubs are sold in un-dividable multiples of 25. Pick-up date is approximately mid-April at the Kenosha County Center in Bristol. A confirmation will be sent to you approximately two weeks before the pick-up date. Any order not picked up on the specified date will be donated to the Kenosha County Division of Parks. Stock is perishable. There are no refunds or warranty.

For more information, contact Dan Treloar at 262-857-1900.



For up-to-date Kenosha County news and upcoming events, visit
www.facebook.com/kenoshacountygovt/

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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.