COUNTY OF KENOSHA

Department of Public Works & Development Services Raymond G. Arbet, Director

For Immediate Release

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Petrifying Springs Park Temporarily Closed

Kenosha, WI – (January 18, 2016) – Kenosha County Parks Director Jon Rudie has announced that Petrifying Springs Park, golf course, bike trail, hiking trail, cross country ski trail, and Carlisle Family Dog Park will remain temporarily closed to the public due to unsafe piles of ash tree logs throughout the park.

The Park is now scheduled to be open on Saturday, February 27th.

The Kenosha County Parks is in the process of having over 2,600 ash trees removed by a logging company as part of the comprehensive emerald ash borer program. Although the harvesting and processing has been completed throughout Petrifying Springs Park, the contractor still is responsible to remove the piles of trees remaining throughout the parking lots. The contractor expects to be completed in time for the reopening on Feb. 27th.

Brighton Dale Golf Course and Fox River Park are also closed as part of the emerald ash borer removal program. Loggers will be working on the removal of ash trees within the golf course, disc golf course, sledding hill, picnic areas, roadsides, parking areas and walking paths at both Fox River Park and Brighton Dale Golf Course. The loggers are on a tight schedule to complete the removal of the ash trees and need to move and work uninterrupted in each park before the ground thaws.

Logging is one of the most dangerous occupations in the United States and to insure that the public is not placed in an unsafe situation during the project, the park will remain closed until the loggers complete their work.

Each park will reopen as soon as the logger has finished the removal of the ash trees.

Openings and closings of each park will be updated on the Kenosha County Parks website <u>http://www.kenoshacounty.org</u> and the Kenosha County Dog Park Facebook page. For more information, please contact the Kenosha County Parks at (262) 857-1869.