



Zoning & Permitting



Land Development



Mapping & GIS



Conservation



Septic Systems



Housing Programs

# COMPASS POINTS

## KENOSHA COUNTY TREE PROGRAM 2020

For the second year, the 2020 Kenosha County Tree and Shrub Program has moved to an all on-line ordering system. The on-line store is simple to use and adds full color pictures and descriptions of the annual inventory.

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

The program offers transplants and seedlings of a variety of evergreens, hardwoods, and shrubs and are sold in undividable bundles of 25 at a cost of \$24-\$26 per bundle. Trees and shrubs are sold on a first-come, first-served basis and picked-up by the customer.

Pick-up date is usually late April at the Kenosha County Center in Bristol. A confirmation email will be sent to customers approximately two weeks before the pick-up date. Any orders not picked up on the specified date will be donated to the Kenosha County Parks Department.

For more information about the program please visit the Planning and Development website at <https://www.kenoshacounty.org/713/County-Tree-Program>. The on-line tree order store may be accessed directly at <https://kcplananddev.myshopify.com/>.

If you do not have access to a computer, you may purchase trees and shrubs with a credit card in-person at the Division of Planning and Development office in the Kenosha County Center, 19600 75th Street, Bristol. Office hours are from 8:00 am. to 12:00 pm. and 1:00 pm. to 5:00 pm., Monday through Friday. For more information contact Mark Jenks, County Conservationist in the Division of Planning and Development at 262-857-1900.

### KENOSHA COUNTY 2020 TREE ORDER



Evergreens



Deciduous Trees



Shrubs

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### Planning & Development Calendar 2020

May	
13	Planning, Development & Extension Education Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 pm.
21	Zoning Board of Adjustments Hearing, Room A, 6 pm.
June	
10	Planning, Development & Extension Education Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 pm.
18	Zoning Board of Adjustments Hearing, Room A, 6 pm.

## LAKE MICHIGAN SHORELINE EMERGENCY EROSION CONTROL

Continued high water levels on the Great Lakes has prompted officials at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to implement a process that allows homeowners to implement temporary, emergency erosion control measures on their shoreline with the understanding that a DNR permit for more permanent erosion control practices will be applied for within 18 months. This process only applies for shorelines along Lake Michigan, Lake Superior and Green Bay.

Under the Great Lakes Emergency Erosion Control Self-Certification process, homeowners fill out a form on the DNR website: <https://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/forms/3500/3500-127.pdf>.

The form lists several professional standards that the homeowner must follow when undertaking emergency erosion control measures. Included are details on the type and placement of material intended to protect the shoreline temporarily until a more permanent solution can be designed and installed. Only certain materials are appropriate for use, even on a temporary basis, so homeowners should be certain before proceeding with an emergency shoreline protection project.

More information about Lake Michigan monthly water levels and other resources about coastal issues in southeastern Wisconsin can be found at the Southeastern Wisconsin Coastal Resilience website: <https://sewicoastalresilience.org/>.



## PLANNING A VISIT TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Below are some questions to consider when planning to visit the Office of Planning and Development. **Please call first and/or make an appointment at 262-857-1920 when normal office hours resume.**

### Where is the property located?

The unique tax key parcel number or full property address will enable staff to quickly locate the project area and determine how to best assist you. A generic lot and street location or MLS number will not be sufficient. You may find the tax key parcel number and/or full property address on the Kenosha County [Online Interactive Mapping Application](#).

### What are you looking for?

Whether you want to subdivide a piece of property or simply construct a detached garage, have a general idea of what you desire as a final product. This enables us to set realistic expectations and move forward from the first "can I do it" question. The conversation can move quickly so try and think about and be prepared to answers next step questions.

If you are asking to subdivide a piece of property, what do you intend the lots be used for? How many lots do you desire (density)? Do you intend the lots be serviced by municipal sewer or septic systems? How will access be provided to the lots? If you are looking to build a detached garage, where would you like to place it on the property? Will the new garage location require driveway access or access modifications within the public road right-of-way? What size and height do you want the garage to be? Do you anticipate installing any plumbing in the garage?

### Who should you talk to?

When inquiring about planning and development projects, it is important to speak with the appropriate approving agents. Find out who your zoning administrator is using the table to the right.

### Who is your local Town or Village Building Inspector?

Contact your local township or village office to get in touch with your local building inspector. They usually have limited office hours due to their fieldwork. So if you want to speak to them in person, it's best to call ahead.

Planner	Jurisdictions	Contact information
Ben Fiebelkorn	T. of Brighton T. of Randall T. of Wheatland T. of Paris T. of Somers	Kenosha County Planning & Development Phone: 262-857-1901 Ben.Fiebelkorn@kenoshacounty.org
Luke Godshall	V. of Somers	Kenosha County Planning & Development Phone: 262-857-1909 Luke.Godshall@kenoshacounty.org

## TRIGGERS FOR RESIDENTIAL SEPTIC SYSTEM EVALUATIONS

When it comes to purchasing a home, knowing what type of wastewater utility infrastructure serves the residence is one of the first questions any potential home buyer should ask themselves. Most properties are serviced by either municipal sanitary sewer or a private on-site wastewater treatment system, more commonly referred to as a septic system.

Municipal sewer systems are common in densely populated areas, are funded and maintained by local governments, and flow to one or more regional treatment locations. Septic systems are usually independent systems located on the property they serve and are privately maintained by the property owner.

One of the most common issues we see with residential homeowners served by a septic system involves their desire to renovate or expand their residence and how permitting procedures for additions and renovations require an evaluation of that existing septic system. The Kenosha County Sanitary Code and Private Sewage System Ordinance states the following:



(a) Pursuant to Comm 83.25(2)(c), Wisconsin Administrative Code a municipality shall not issue a building permit nor the County a zoning permit for the addition to a structure that will modify the design wastewater flow or contaminant load or both to an existing POWTS unless the owner of the property:

1. Possesses a sanitary permit to either modify the existing POWTS or construct a POWTS to accommodate the modification in wastewater flow or contaminant load, or both; or
2. Provides documentation to verify that the existing POWTS is sufficient to accommodate the modification in wastewater flow or contaminant load, or both.
3. For the purpose of this ordinance, a modification in wastewater flow or contaminant load or both shall be defined as discharging to the system.
  - a. Commercial Facilities, public building and places of employment when there is a proposed change in occupancy of the structure; or the proposed modification affects either type or number of plumbing appliances, fixtures or devices.
  - b. Dwellings that have an increase or decrease in the number of bedrooms and/or additions, interior modifications, renovations or remodeling or any combination thereof that enlarges or impacts a dwelling's building area and/or floor area by 25% or greater. For purposes of this ordinance and this provision only, a modification in wastewater flow or contaminant load or both may result in; a change in roof line, the conversion of storage area to building area or floor area, re-wiring, re-insulating, re-constructing a foundation, enclosing open porches, decks or patios, replacing drywall, plaster or paneling, removal or construction of interior walls. A modification in wastewater flow or contaminant load or both does not result in the construction of open decks, patios or porches, garages, re-roofing, painting, wiring, re-siding, window replacement or the replacement of equipment or appliances.

What many Kenosha County homeowners don't realize is that while many older existing residential septic systems, installed prior to July 1, 1980, appear on the surface to be working just fine, they may fail this required evaluation, usually due to the fact that the septic field has been installed in soils that do not meet the minimum separation to seasonal water table. This is due to the abundance of seasonally saturated, hydric, soils in the region, predominantly east of the Fox River. In addition to the aforementioned construction and remodeling triggers, existing private on-site wastewater treatments systems are also required to be evaluated by a Wisconsin-licensed master plumber, or others as stated in Wisconsin administrative code, in the event the subject property is proposed to be rezoned or subdivided by means of an official certified survey map or subdivision plat.

For questions about the Kenosha County Sanitary Code you can contact Alex Priesgen at (262) 857-1910 or [alex.priesgen@kenoshacounty.org](mailto:alex.priesgen@kenoshacounty.org).



## COUNTY SPOTLIGHT: MARK JENKS, KENOSHA COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST



Mark Jenks was hired in June 2019 as the County Conservationist in the Kenosha County Division of Planning and Development. Mark comes to Kenosha County after nearly a decade with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture where he worked as a Nutrient Management Specialist and Environmental Analyst in the Bureau of Land and Water Resources. He looks forward to working with individuals and groups, building partnerships and working towards improving the natural resources of the county to benefit residents now and in the future.

Jenks graduated from Carthage College with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in biology and conservation and a Master's degree in water resources management from UW-Madison. He has also earned his teaching certificate in secondary education and has completed coursework working towards a certificate in public administration.

As County Conservationist, Mark's role is focused on the implementation of a comprehensive land and water resources management program addressing the needs of both urban and rural residents in Kenosha County. Through a combination of education, technical assistance, regulation, cost-sharing and collaboration, the program seeks to address local conservation concerns related to soil and water resources management. Jenks' other duties include:

- Implementation of the Kenosha County Land & Water Resource management plan.
- Promote, plan, and implement the Soil & Water Resource Management (SWRM) Program.
- Recommend solutions to land and water resource problems.
- Conduct resource inventories (i.e. soils, drainage, topography, water resources, land use and vegetation).
- Serve as a Shoreland Zoning Permit Administrator.
- Document substantial damage following a flood event.
- Administer the FEMA Community Rating System Program.
- Administer the Stormwater Management, Erosion Control, and Illicit Discharge Ordinance.
- Coordinate and participate in outreach and educational events that promote soil and water conservation.
- Promote invasive and non-native species management and control.
- Serves as Division and/or County liaison to local, state, and national conservation organizations.
- Manage the County Annual Tree Sale Program.

## UW-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION KENOSHA COUNTY OFFICE MOVE

**WELCOME TO  
KENOSHA COUNTY**

  
Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
KENOSHA COUNTY  
Division of Extension

  
KENOSHA COUNTY  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
Division of Planning  
and Development

 Extension Kenosha County: (262) 857-1945  
Planning & Development: (262) 857-1895

 Office is open Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

 [kenosha.extension.wisc.edu](http://kenosha.extension.wisc.edu)  
[www.kenoshacounty.org](http://www.kenoshacounty.org)

After an extensive office remodel the UW-Madison Extension Kenosha County office has officially re-located to a shared office space across the hall with Planning and Development.

Extension Kenosha County staff will continue to provide services in the areas of Agriculture, Horticulture, Community Development and Natural Resources, Youth Development, Health and Well-Being, 4-H and Master Gardener Volunteers.

Contact information for UW-Extension remains unchanged.



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

[www.facebook.com/kenoshacountygovt/](http://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.