



ZONING & PERMITTING



LAND DEVELOPMENT



MAPPING & GIS



CONSERVATION



SEPTIC SYSTEMS

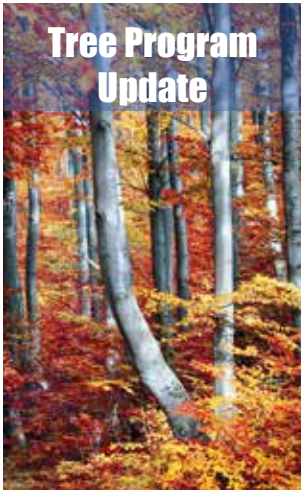


HOUSING PROGRAMS

COMPASS POINTS

FALL 2020

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Extension Highlight



POW/MIA Honor Chair at the KCC

Kenosha County Tree Program 2021

Orders for the annual tree and shrub program will be open in mid-November for the Spring 2021 season. Nearly one million trees have been sold through the program over the last 30 years. 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. New species available this year include Burr Oak, Swamp White Oak, Eastern Redbud, and Highbush Cranberry. Trees and shrubs are sold on a first-come, first-served basis to be picked up in mid-April.

For more information, go to www.kenoshacounty.org/trees. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, users are encouraged to order online. Users without internet access may purchase trees and shrubs with a credit card in-person at the Planning and Development Office in the Kenosha County Center, 19600 75th St., Bristol.

For more information on the tree program, contact County Conservationist Mark Jenks in the Division of Planning and Development at 262-857-1900.

CALENDAR 2020/2021

DECEMBER

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

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

- 10 - Planning, Development & Extension Committee, Public Hearing Room, 6 p.m.
- 18 - Zoning Board of Adjustments, Hearing Room, 6 p.m.

Plan Ahead and then Call Ahead

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are taking necessary precautions to keep staff and customers safe. To that end and to better serve you, we encourage you to call ahead to schedule an appointment related to your project. Before visiting the office, please consider the following:

Where is the property located?

Knowing the unique tax key parcel number or address in question will enable staff to quickly located the project area and determine the best contact to assist you. Please do not provide a generic lot and street location (Lot 4 on 60th Street) or an MLS number. There may be many “lot 4s” along 60th Street and planning staff will not search the web for a property listing to determine its location. If you don’t have a unique tax key parcel number or full property address, you can find it on your tax bill, obtain it from the selling agent or property owner or find it by visiting the Kenosha County Online Interactive Mapping Application at www.kenoshacounty.org/673/Interactive-Mapping.

Have a general idea of what it is you are looking to do.

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 answer next-step questions.

If you are asking to subdivide a piece or 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?

Talk to the right parties.

Make sure you talk to the right people about your project. Below is who you can contact for projects in the Towns and the Village of Somers.

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. You can find phone numbers for local municipal offices within the county as well as links to their municipal web pages at www.kenoshacounty.org/808/Links.

Who is you zoning administrator?

Planner	Jurisdictions	Contact Information
Ben Fiebelkorn	Town of Brighton Town of Randall Town of Wheatland Town of Paris Town of Somers	Phone: 262-857-1901 Ben.Fiebelkorn@kenoshacounty.org
Luke Godshall	Village of Somers	Phone: 262-857-1909 Luke.Godshall@kenoshacounty.org
Mark Meldgaard	Town of Randall Town of Wheatland	Phone: 262-857-1902 Mark.Meldgaard@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 Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (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:
 - 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 discharging to the system.
 - 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 roofline, 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 treatment 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.

Extension Kenosha County: Jen Reese, Interim 4-H Program Educator



Jen Reese has been serving as the Interim Kenosha County 4-H Program Educator since May 2020. Prior to this role, Jen held this same role in another Wisconsin county for 4.5 years.

Jen's role is focused on coordinating the Kenosha County 4-H program, the Kenosha County Youth In Governance program, and the Kenosha County Youth As Resources program.

Jen told us that Kenosha County youth development programs are grounded in the belief that young people learn best by doing. She said that she facilitates positive environments where young people receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles.

Jen earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Family & Health Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and a Master of Science in Counselor Education from Mississippi State University.

For more information on Extension's youth development programs, including 4-H, Youth In Governance (YIG), and Youth As Resources (YAR), visit our website at kenosha.extension.wisc.edu or e-mail Jen at jen.reese@wisc.edu.

POW/MIA Display at the KCC

A POW/MIA Honor Chair was dedicated in September at the Kenosha County Center, located at the intersection of highways 45 and 50. This memorial, donated by Chapter 2 of the Wisconsin Branch of Rolling Thunder® Inc., is intended to serve as a permanent reminder of these veterans' sacrifice. The Chair of Honor is a perpetually empty chair, left open for those who have not returned from service.

This will be the second POW/MIA Honor Chair to be located in Kenosha County government facilities. The first, in the lobby outside of the County Executive's Office and the County Board Chambers on the third floor of the county Administration Building, debuted last September.

"As of Aug. 21, 2019, the Department of Defense still lists 81,641 service members and associated civilians as being unaccounted for – missing in action – from World War II to the present," said Steve Tindall, of Chapter 2 of the Wisconsin Branch of Rolling Thunder Inc. "This number is only slightly less than the total population of the City of Kenosha and also represents the hundreds of thousands of family members who will never receive closure for their loved ones."



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.