



ZONING & PERMITTING



LAND DEVELOPMENT



MAPPING & GIS



CONSERVATION



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WINTER 2021

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Spring into Gardening Virtual Workshop

The annual Spring into Gardening event returns this year on a virtual platform. Two sessions will be held each Saturday throughout the month of March from 9:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. The lineup of speakers includes local plant experts, University of Wisconsin specialists and Master Gardeners. Register today and get ready for spring. Topics include:

1. Seed starting 101
2. Top 10 annuals for containers
3. Sustainable lawn care
4. New trends in Perennial Plant Varieties
5. Trees and Shrubs for pollinators
6. Dwarf fruits and berries for home gardeners
7. No-till gardening techniques
8. New, improved shrubs to consider for 2021

Date: March 6th, March 13th, March 20th, and March 27th 2021

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

Cost: \$25 per person

Where: Zoom Webinar

Registration: www.go.wisc.edu/springintogardening

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

CALENDAR 2021

March

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

18 - Zoning Board of Adjustments, Hearing Room, 6 p.m.

April

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

15 - Zoning Board of Adjustments, Hearing Room, 6 p.m.

May

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

20 - Zoning Board of Adjustments, Hearing Room, 6 p.m.

Be Salt Smart

The use of salt to keep roads, sidewalks, and parking lots clear of ice during the winter months comes at a cost to the environment, our vehicles, and critical infrastructure such as bridges and roads. Studies conducted in Wisconsin and elsewhere show increasing levels of chloride in lakes, streams and groundwater over the last several decades. Salt from water softeners and fertilizers also contribute to the problem. It is estimated that a single teaspoon of salt can pollute five gallons of freshwater, making it toxic to freshwater ecosystems. Getting smarter about how we use salt is critical to slowing and perhaps, reversing, the upward trend in chloride levels.

A recent study by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) showed that during the winter of 2018-19, the Wisconsin DOT spent \$40,683,595 on salt for state highways. That was the cost for 553,443 tons of salt and it doesn't include what communities, businesses and homeowners applied (Winter Maintenance at a Glance, 2018-2019). Looking to reduce expenses, many communities have already invested in ways to reduce the amount of road salt they use annually. Practices such as using brine and pre-wetting road surfaces provide alternatives to traditional salting practices, reducing salt use and saving money.

In the last few years a group of like-minded organizations have combined their resources forming a partnership to educate on the impacts of salt use and provide trainings on smart salting practices for communities, contractors and individuals. The goal of the Wisconsin Salt Wise Partnership is to reduce salt pollution of our freshwater resources. Free certification classes are offered annually for winter maintenance professionals to learn the latest about de-icing products and calculating proper application amounts. See the latest training schedule at : <https://www.wisaltwise.com/Winter-Salt-Certification>.

Homeowners can take steps on their own to reduce salt use. Some suggestions:

- Use a shovel to remove as much snow as possible before it turns to ice. You'll end up having to use less salt and it will work more effectively.
- All salt is not equal. Be sure of what your using for de-icing products. Sodium chloride ("rock salt") is cheapest but doesn't work below 15° F. Magnesium chloride and calcium chloride cost more, but you'll use less and it works in colder temperatures.
- Scatter the salt so there are spaces between the grains. A coffee mug of salt is enough to treat an entire 20-foot driveway or ten sidewalk squares.
- If you hire a contractor for winter maintenance, check to see if they are "Salt-Wise certified."
- Check your water softener to see if it is working optimally. Hire a professional to give it a tune up. When time to replace, purchase a high efficiency model.

For more information and educational resources on reducing salt use and training opportunities check out the Wisconsin Salt Wise website at <https://www.wisaltwise.com/>.



POWTS Replacement Source Funding Opportunity

The State of Wisconsin provided a grant program funding source for people who need to replace their failed, private, on-site wastewater treatments systems (POWTS) in Kenosha County. This grant offered assistance to locals since April 1981. As of January 1st, 2021, these grant funds have ceased to be available as the State of Wisconsin legislative bodies have decided to end grant program funding with no future plan of program funding reimplementation or activation.

If you are a property owner who is currently faced with having to replace a failed POWTS, you may be able to check with the following agencies to find out of funding availability. The following agency staff contacts will provide specific program eligibility requirements for failed POWTS replacement funding availability. Possible funding loan or grant sources and agency contact staff are the following:



Image source: <https://www.vcrma.org/onsite-wastewater-treatment-systems>

1. USDA Rural Development Single Family Housing Repair Loans & Grants

Website: www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants

Contact: Michelle Wallace, Wisconsin Acting State Director

Address: 5417 Clem's Way, Stevens Point, WI 54482

Phone: (715) 345-7600

2. Southern Housing Region Program

Website: www.co.walworth.wi.us/193/Southern-Housing-Region-Program

Contact: MSA Professional Services, Inc.

Address: 100 W Walworth Street, Elkhorn, WI 53121

Phone: (800) 552-8330

3. Kenosha County Housing Authority

Website: www.kenoshacounty.org/792/Housing-Programs

Contact: Christopher Parisey, Program Administrator

Address: Kenosha County Center, 19600 75th St, Bristol WI 53104

Phone: (262) 857-1843

Animal Ordinances: Kennels

Pursuant to section 12.16-1 of the Kenosha County General Zoning and Shoreland/Floodplain Zoning Ordinance, kennels are defined as any lot or premises on which four or more dogs or cats, or both, at least four months of age are kept, boarded, or trained, whether in special structures or runways or not. Due to the nature of commercial and non-commercial kennels, they are defined as a conditional use by ordinance. Conditional uses are defined as uses of a special nature as to make impractical their predetermination as a principal use in a district. Commercial and non-commercial kennels are regulated under the County Zoning Ordinance and subject to the following additional standards:

Kennels (commercial or non-commercial) in the A-1 and A-2 Districts.

- All animals shall be kept within an enclosed structure and no structure or animal enclosure shall be located closer than one hundred (100) feet to a property boundary.
- Adequate provisions shall be made for the proper disposal of animal waste.
- Buildings to house animals shall be constructed with materials so as to deaden noise, such as concrete, etc.
- In no case shall the parcel be less than ten (10) acres in size.

You can learn more about conditional use permits by visiting the following web page or contacting the Kenosha County Department of Planning & Development at (262) 857-1895 or <http://www.kenoshacounty.org/769/Conditional-Use-Permits>.

Kenosha County Spotlight: Highway Division

It is the mission of the Kenosha County Division of Highways to provide the necessary services to construct and maintain a safe and efficient highway system within Kenosha County by pursuing the following ideals:

- Selective technological application
- Work process definition
- Customer service
- Proactive approach to highway maintenance
- Infrastructure/economic development

The Division manages 504 county highway lane miles, 664 state highway lane miles, and 80 town road lane miles. The Division provides routine maintenance that includes snow plowing, shouldering, trash pickup, sign repair, culvert repair, and bridge repair. To contact the division, please call (262) 857-1870.



County Highway S Expansion Project

The County Highway S Reconstruction Project began in Spring of 2020. The goal of the project is to improve safety and capacity by reducing traffic congestion on County Highway S. Along with the widened roadway, the Highway S project includes the addition of turn lanes, replacement of traffic signals, improvements to drainage, and the construction of an off-road, multi-use path for bicyclists and pedestrians. Work on the entire project is scheduled to continue through late 2021.

The project is broken into two phases, which will be built out concurrently. Phase 1 includes the roughly 2-mile stretch from Highway 31 (Green Bay Road) to just west of Highway H (88th Ave). Significant progress was made in 2020 with the construction of westbound lanes north of the existing roadway. Most of the multi-use path on the north side of the project was constructed. A crossing at the Union Pacific Railroad was also completed. Lastly, a 15-acre dry detention basin was installed.

Phase 2 includes the roughly 1.6-mile stretch between Highway H and the Amazon west driveway. Work includes the closing of Highway S from the East Frontage Road to 38th Street. Construction will include westbound lanes east of 38th Street north of the existing roadway. New eastbound lanes will be constructed over the existing road. I-94 traffic will be detoured around construction accessing Highway 158 and Green Bay Road. The project is expected to be completed in late fall of 2021.



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.