



WASHINGTON COUNTY PLANNING & PARKS DEPARTMENT *e-newsletter*

Fall / Winter 2015

- **Redevelopment in Washington County.** Learn how Washington County and five local communities are making a difference by proactively working to evaluate and assess sites in need of redevelopment. The environmental assessment of brownfield sites is the first step toward eliminating threats to human health and the environment and revitalizing Washington County communities. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **Golf Shop Holiday Gift Sale.** The golf shop at the Washington County Golf Course located at 6439 Clover Road, Hartford WI will remain open through December 23rd for merchandise and gift card sales. For those of you who want to keep your game sharp for that trip south or keep your swing on track for the spring season you can sign up for indoor golf lessons with PGA Pro Craig Czerniejewski. Please call 1-262-670-6616 or check our website at www.golfwccg.com for winter golf shop hours or to schedule a lesson.
- **Groundwater Resources and Well Water Testing Interactive Website.** Do you get your drinking water from a private well? When was the last time you tested the quality of your drinking water? The Wisconsin health departments tested nearly 4,000 rural drinking wells between July, 2007 and December, 2010. Laboratory analysis found that 47% of these wells had an exceedance of one or more health-based water quality standards. This interactive website for Washington County provides more information about well water testing and groundwater contaminants. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **2016 Tree & Prairie Seed Program.** Washington County's Tree & Prairie Seed Program information is available online. Trees and native prairie help conserve energy, cut down wind, muffle noise, reduce runoff, protect soil and improve our water resources. Orders due by March 4, 2016. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **High School Environmental Education Competition.** Wisconsin Envirothon is our state's ultimate middle and high school environmental science challenge. Teams of five high school or middle school students participate in the hands-on, outdoor field challenges designed by natural resources professionals and educators. Start planning now for the April 15, 2016 WI Envirothon competition at the Wisconsin Lion's Camp in Rosholt. The winning team will advance to the National Competition next summer. [Click here to learn more.](#)
For local information contact Stephanie at (262) 335-4804.
- **Conservation Posters Due In December.** Washington County's K-12th grade students are invited to participate in the 2016 Conservation Poster Contest "We All Need Trees". First place winners advance to the next level of competition. Posters must be submitted to the Land & Water Conservation Division by Wednesday, December 30, 2015. Required [entry forms](#) and [contest rules](#).

- **Safely Store Manure for Ideal Field Spreading.** The LJ Farms (Luke & John Weninger) Waste Storage Facility was reconstructed this past summer with a concrete liner. Total capacity of the new facility is approximately 4.5 million gallons. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **Farmers Thinking Ahead For 2016.** “Nutrient management is a way for Wisconsin farmers to ensure that their crops get the right source of nutrients at the right rate, time and place to match crop needs and minimize nutrient losses from fields. Planning should be underway for your 2016 growing season! Be environmentally safe this winter if spreading manure on frozen/snow covered ground. Contact Stephanie Egner, CCA for planning assistance (262) 335-4804. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **2014 Farm Bill – Conservation Compliance Changes.** Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions aim to reduce soil loss on erosion-prone lands and to protect wetlands for the multiple benefits they provide. Producers, and any affiliated individuals or entities who participate in most programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) are required to comply with certain provisions. Information provided by USDA-NRCS. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **Washington County and City of West Bend Collaborate on Ridge Run Park Transfer.** Ridge Run County Park ownership is scheduled to be transferred to the City of West Bend on Monday, January 4, 2016. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **Shoreland Zoning Code Revision.** Are you planning to build a new house, an addition to an existing house or landscaping to your property in a shoreland zoning district? By October 2016 Washington County along with all counties in the state must revise their Shoreland Zoning Ordinance to meet new Department of Natural Resources (DNR) rules. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **Starry Stonewort Found.** Five lakes in Wisconsin are known to contain the invasive algae known as [Starry stonewort](#); two of them located in Washington County. Silver and Pike Lake have both applied for control grants to prevent and monitor the invasive species from spreading to other lakes in Wisconsin. Throughout next summer, volunteers at both lakes’ boat launches will be conducting Clean Boats, Clean Waters surveys to educate boaters about the algae, and how to prevent its spread. If you are interested in volunteering contact the county Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator at (262) 335-4806 or bradley.steckart@co.washington.wi.us. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Planning & Parks Department Newsletter is published semi-annually for Washington County residents. Viewpoints of authors do not necessarily reflect those of the Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee or the Washington County Board of Supervisors. The Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee and the Planning and Parks Department staff encourage responses from the public.



Washington County Planning & Parks Department
333 E. Washington St., Suite 2300
West Bend, WI 53095
phone: 262.335.4445



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