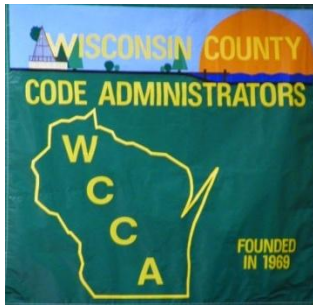


DECODER



Official Newsletter of the Wisconsin County Code Administrators



Inside this issue

- NR115 Guide Book
- Membership Application
- District Reports
- Legislative Report (Attached)

Don't forget your 2011 Annual Dues

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President's Message — Mark Steward

Happy Summer to Everyone! I hope you are enjoying the weather and of course the politics at the State level. Governor Walker has signed the budget bill after several months of fighting and the Supreme Court is choking each other. What is going on with our State? There was a lot of fast track legislation happening and some at the 23rd hour that affected our organization and our departments, but we were successful in getting the POWTS legislation omitted from the final budget bill. Thanks to all who were involved in contacting the WCA and our legislators. This bill will surface again, so we need to be on the lookout. I am sure that won't be the only bill affecting us in the near future, and Steve Rannenberg is actively watching the Wheeler Report and communicating with John Reinemann of WCA on the activities of the Legislature. The NR115 Guidebook is available for use by all the counties. Thank you to the NR115 Committee led by Karl Kastrosky, and to Lynn Markham, NCWRPC, Heidi Kennedy and Dean Richards for your hard work and attention to this document. Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.

The Working Lands Committee was able to meet with DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel in an intimate setting, in his office with only him and our three members. This was a great opportunity for our organization and we were represented by Scott Godfrey, John Bluemke and Michelle Staff. They did a great job communicating our wishes and desires for the Working Lands program and he was open to our suggestions. Scott is working on putting together changes to the Statute; simple ones that should be able to make it passed the Legislature. If a task force is set up to discuss alternatives to the conversion fee language, a representative from WCCA will be

on that task force. We have made great headway into DATCP and the Working Lands program. Thank you to that committee.

Paul Van Eijl and CeCe Tesky are working very hard on putting together a great fall conference. After putting together a great and successful Spring Conference, the Fall Conference will not disappoint. The Fall Conference will be held earlier (October 12-14) so as to avoid the deer rut of late October, and to also bring warmer weather for those who would like to participate in team building exercises before or during the conference. The conference will be held at Devil's Head Ski and Golf Resort in Merrimac. This is located between Baraboo, Portage and Madison, just south of the Wisconsin Dells area. There will be an opportunity to ride the new ski lift to the top of the hill and at the top we will have one to two of our presentations. There will also be field trips. One will be to see pervious pavers, work on wetland delineations, and to tour the International Crane Foundation. The other field trip will be to see a community or cluster septic system at a condominium subdivision and along with that will be a chance to view the land uses and bathouses at the condominium subdivision and here how they came to be. I realize budgets will be tight this year, but I can only stress the importance of our conferences, not only for the camaraderie but for the learning opportunities, some of which you can earn POWTS credits. It will be a fun and informative conference. I look forward to seeing everyone there. The Fall Conference is also

where we give out awards for retirements and Professional of the Year award. We also hope to start a new award called the Richard Mace Lifetime Achievement Award, and award that at the conference. We also hold elections at the Fall Conference. This year, as in past years, we elect a new 2nd Vice President, however, we are not only electing for 2nd VP but we will be electing a new Secretary/Treasurer, which happens to be a paid position for the amount of time put into the work.

Mary Greenman will be retiring from Vilas County and from the WCCA. After nearly 15 years of service as the Secretary/Treasurer Mary is calling it quits. These will be big shoes to fill as Mary has kept our organization together and solvent for many years. Mary will be enjoying her retirement with her new husband, John Anderson, the former ZA of Vilas County. Best of luck and happy travels Mary. We look forward to seeing you this fall as you pass the torch.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to be district reps, elected members, and committee members. Your contributions to our organization make it the success it is today.

Have a Great Summer!



Steve Rannenberg (Douglas County) Chair of the legislative Committee has been working feverously on the legislative report. If you have any questions or concerns about legislative issues, please contact Steve at steve.rannenberg@douglascountywi.org

You can view the full report on the WCCA Web Site at <http://www.wccadm.com>

Wisconsin Shoreland Zoning Revision NR 115 Guidebook

Wisconsin County Code Administrators (WCCA) received a contract from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2010 to develop guidance for county zoning staff and county zoning committees for the implementation of the administrative rule NR 115 – Wisconsin’s shoreland protection program. Through this guidebook WCCA intends to: 1) Provide its membership guidance on the model shoreland protection ordinance. 2) Attempt to explain NR 115 and make it clear where we feel there is ambiguity and address how counties can continue to provide greater protection for the resource. 3) Provide a menu of policy and procedure options for zoning staff to use in developing their revised county shoreland ordinances and in administering them.

Many of the participants in the project have shoreland ordinances within their respective counties which already incorporate impervious surface and mitigation standards and it is our intent to share their experience with those who have not yet had to administer these standards.

In this contract, WCCA agreed to establish an NR 115 Implementation Advisory Committee consisting of County Code Administrators to develop topic-related guidance for Wisconsin counties to address how existing county shoreland regulations are best amended to implement state-required provisions of NR 115 that were published as administrative rule on February 1, 2010 and need to be incorporated into county shoreland zoning ordinances by February 1, 2012.

The guidebook addresses the following components of shoreland zoning with a focus on those that have changed due to the revised NR 115. It includes NR 115 language, DNR model ordinance language, example ordinance language and graphics, and administrative methods and procedures for their effective implementation as follows:

1. vegetation removal and retention
2. impervious surface limits
3. mitigation
4. nonconforming uses & structures
5. reduced shoreland setbacks
6. wetland protection

Guide Book Link

<http://www.ncwrpc.org/NR115>



FLOOD INSURANCE WORKSHOP

For citizens, local officials and industry professionals interested in flood mapping, floodplain management and flood insurance issues

No cost to attend, no registration required



Agenda

NFIP overview - maps, regulations, insurance

LOMA/LOMR's, grandfathering, lender determination reviews, role of flood zone determination companies

Local concerns, additional questions

Schedule

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------|
| July 6 | Ozaukee Adm. Center Auditorium, Port Washington | 3:00 |
| July 7 | Kewaunee Co. Highway Dept. E4280 County Rd. F | 3:00 |
| July 13 | Douglas Co. Govt. Center, Room 201, Superior | 2:00 |
| July 14 | Lincoln Co. Service Center, Upper Level, Merrill | 4:00 |
| July 25 | Racine Co., Ives Grove Auditorium | 2:30 |
| July 28 | Lincoln Town Hall, Eagle River | 10:00 |
| Sept. 7 | UW-Ext., Rooms 8/9, 864 Collins Rd., Jefferson | 3:00 |
| Sept. 13 | Waupaca Co. Courthouse, LL42 | 3:00 |

QUESTIONS? Please contact Gary Heinrichs 608-266-3093, gary.heinrichs@wi.gov

PUBLIC & PRIVATE SECTORS UNITE

By Paul van Eijl – Buffalo County

Why do we do the things we do? This question has been asked since the dawn of man, and the same answer has been given, "Because that's the way we have always done it". Society is finding out today that this answer is not sufficient anymore for companies, governments, and individuals who are to last the current recession.

Unfortunately, for too long, too many in the private and public sectors have looked at each other as an enemy, which has led to mistrust, resentment and a constant tug-of-war. The two sides have been so busy fighting each other and locked in a fundamental stare-down that efficiency, errors, and outright injustice has taken place underneath our eyes. Why does there seem to be animosity between the private and public sectors at times. What has transpired when the two valuable sectors of society have put aside differences and worked for the common good of the country?

Where were you when you saw the first "Adopt-a-Highway" sign and wondered what it meant? Adopt-a-Highway was adopted when the James Evans, an engineer for the State of Texas saw how much was being spent on the cleanup of the highway system and sought a way to relieve taxpayers of the burden. He began to seek the help of local groups to clean portions of highways and the Adopt-a-Highway program was born. The concept was to let a business or organization maintain the highway system and in exchange put up a sign that shows their contribution to the environment and community. The business gets great exposure and the highway department saves taxpayer dollars. It was a genius idea because if the highway does not get cleaned up, it sheds a bad light on the business or organization. This concept is being experimented with by nurseries planting beautiful flower arrangements in public areas and in turn being allowed to erect a small sign advertising the business.

Another area that the public and private sectors need to analyze is the creation of stormwater detention ponds. These ponds have started springing up all across the country in new developments. The intent of them is to capture stormwater from the created impervious surfaces in the development so as not to increase the runoff from the development into the watershed. Eventually, as more and more land is paved, the amount of runoff increases because the water that used to percolate into the ground now runs off into the watershed. The increase in impervious surfaces has contributed to higher floodplain elevations and increased flash flood events.

These stormwater detention ponds serve to decrease runoff and to filter out the contaminants before they enter the water table. However, the ponds end up taking up valuable lots, which cost the developer and eventually the future property owner more for the developable sites. The same can be said in commercially developed areas. Developers are required to set aside portions of the property to be utilized for stormwater detention. The land lost to detention ponds in a 10-20 acre commercial development can easily cost the developer 1-2 million dollars because the

land could have been used for another commercial building or extra parking.

What does this have to do with the private and public sectors? Every year states shell out millions of dollars to construct earthen dams on hilltops around the country. Why do they do this? Because without these dams, the water momentum from the top of hill would reach devastating currents at the bottom of the hill causing severe erosion and property devastation. The dams are constructed to hold water from these storm events and have the water evaporate and/or percolate into the ground in a short time period. The dams are also constructed at times to hold water for feeding livestock on farms on top of these hills.

So the predicament society is left with is a group of developers at the bottom of the hill that do not want to spend valuable money and lock up valuable land to construct water retention areas. However, we have a group of people at the top of the hill that we, the taxpayer are greatly assisting to construct these dams.

So the thought occurred to me. At the end of the day when you are filling a watershed like the Mississippi River, does it matter that you are generating waterflow from the top of the hilltop but capturing more at the bottom of the watershed. Or is there a difference if more water was captured on top of the watershed, which equals or exceeds the increase in amount that is being created at the bottom.

Why not let the developer blacktop the whole 10 acres of land that costs \$1 million per acre instead of allowing him to blacktop 9 of the 10 acres on the land. Allow him to take the \$1 million saved in making the property more efficient and put it into a fund to help the farmer on top of the hill capture 2 times the runoff by creating an earthen dam at the developers expense and not the taxpayers.

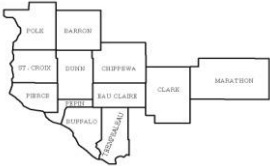
This concept is not independent to stormwater. States and municipalities have been working with Purchase of Development Rights and Transfer of Development Rights, which have allowed developers to develop more densely in urban areas while protecting more rural areas. We, as Americans are at a critical point in our history, and we must be open-minded by looking into working together on these issues and simply not saying, "That is how we have always done it".



DISTRICT REPORTS

West Central Report
 Dave Gifford—Barron County

No Report



South East District
 --Colin


No Report.



East Central District –
 Sue Vanden Langenberg, Door County


Our last meeting was our annual joint meeting with the NE district at Kelly Lake on March 11, 2011 with those amazing tips, chicken and fish. Our district only meets during the fall and winter months, so I have nothing new to report.

Kewaunee County is hosting a Floodplain Workshop presented by Gary Heinrichs on July 7, 2011, 3 p.m., at the Kewaunee County Highway Department. So, if you're on vacation in the area, and want to see your long lost colleagues, stop on in!




North West District Report
 Dan J. Bowers – Lincoln County

The Northwest District last met in Hayward 18. Kyle Magyera from the Wisconsin Wetlands Association was in attendance to present Land Use and Wetland recommendations developed by the association. We discussed the need for basic to intermediate level wetland delineation training for County staff especially since there are fewer staff at the state to assist with wetland issues. Also in attendance were DNR staff Heidi Kennedy and John Gozdziński, the Regional Director for the Northern Region. No new developments on the NR115 extension front; but, we briefly discussed the state of the state for the DNR and how that will affect us in the north. We will need to work cooperatively, now more than ever, with the loss of staff at both the County and the DNR. Speaking of losses; Leroy Jansky and Carl Lippert, Wastewater Specialists Department of Commerce, have announced their retirement. They will be sorely missed and we wish them the best. Even if their positions are refilled their knowledge cannot be replaced. We meet again late summer.




Central District
 Missy Sorenson – Green Lake County

No Report



North East Wisconsin County Code Administrators
 Submitted by District Rep. Rebecca J. Frisch

No Report . Becky is busy reviewing farmland preservation agreements for the Langlade County AEA. At last count, Langlade County has over 60 farmers, covering over 15,000 acres of farmland.



Southern District
 -- Dan Everson, Dane County

On a wet, overcast morning, the Southern District met at the Richland County courthouse in Richland Center. Counties represented were Crawford, Dane, Grant, Green, Iowa, Richland and Sauk.


We started with reviewing the proposed district by-laws and with no major interruptions and with no one fleeing the state, we are now referred to as the Southwest District. The name change better suites our vastness within the state. A thank you goes out to the northern districts that provided us with examples to get us started. From there we went over proposed legislation within the Legislative Report, NR 115 updates and the latest rendition of the guidebook and WLI updates.

I shared with the group the outcome of an audit recently conducted by the DNR with respect to our non-metallic mining reclamation ordinance. We then shared some stories of how some operators who have sites in multiple counties will use one county over the other when it comes time to filling out an annual report. We also shared the importance of keeping the financial assurance records up to date due to a number of companies filing for bankruptcy.

Adam Wiegel with Green County talked about audits of sanitary permits vs. the schedule of Department of Commerce. WCCA President, Mark Steward went over the latest with the Fall Conference and asked us to keep in mind possible nominations for the Executive Board.

Our next District meeting will be September 16th in Crawford County where we will have an election for District Rep. and a seat on the Executive Board, which will get you a seat at the head table at the conference dinners. (Insert clearing out my throat sound, to be followed up with Adam). In recent news, Richland County has hired Mike Bindl from Iowa County as Zoning Administrator. Congratulations to Mike!

With that said, we traveled to Richland County with really just one purpose and that was to wish Harriet Pedley a great retirement as she steps away from office officially on July 8, 2011. I know I speak for the rest of the membership when saying that we will miss Harriet and her insight and vast knowledge at the district meetings and conferences. Harriet told us that she was thankful for being friends and to "stick to your guns." Prior to saying goodbye and last minute hugs we shared an ice cream cake at the Zoning counter.





2715 Post Road
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481
(715) 345-5334

Scott Walker, Governor
Paul F. Jadin, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 06/30/11

TO: County Code Administrators
POWTS Program Staff
Interested Parties

FROM: Roman A. Kaminski, Program Manager
715.345.5334 – voice 715.345.5269 – fax
roman.kaminski@wi.gov – e-mail

SUBJECT: POWTS Program, WI Fund Program and Department Transition Updates

With the end of the state fiscal year today I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on various issues that may be of interest to you.

-Comm 83 Code Revision

A public hearing was held on Monday June 27, 2011 for the Comm 83 code revision package [CR 11-031]. No one testified at the hearing. Written comments are being accepted until July 11, 2011. Information related to the status of this code package can be obtained here: <http://commerce.wi.gov/SB/SB-CodeDevelopment.html#A81>

-Wastewater Specialist Staffing

Leroy Jansky retired on June 29, 2011. On an interim basis, Carl Lippert will cover the counties formally served by Leroy. Discussions are being held on workload priority and staffing level issues. A request to fill at least one of the vacant Wastewater Specialist positions will be submitted. However, due to the ongoing fiscal situation facing the POWTS program it is unknown whether the request will be approved. We will keep you posted on events related to this issue.

-WI Fund Program

We have been informed by the department budget analyst that money for the current WI Fund grant applications will be available in August, 2011. The transition to the new Department of Safety and Professional Services will not affect the release of these funds. The amount that will be available is \$2,338,600.

-Department Transition

With the signing of the new bi-annual state budget, the Division of Safety and Buildings has been formally transferred to the new Department of Safety and Professional Services. As you might imagine the transition will be complex and take time. At some point staff located at 201 W. Washington Ave. will move to a building located in the 1400 block of E. Washington Ave. [The current location of the Department of Regulation and Licensing.] There is no timeline for this move. At this time there is no indication that staff phone numbers and P O Box numbers will be changing.

The transition to a new department will necessitate numerous changes including:

- Forms and publications will need to be revised to reflect the new department name. At this time please continue to use existing forms, publications and any other documents until such time as replacements are provided.
- Code naming conventions will change as some point. For now, The "Comm" identifier [e.g. Comm 83] will continue to be used.
- At some point, there will be new website addresses. We have been told that the "old ones" [e.g. www.commerce.wi.gov] will remain functional for a period of time. As new web addresses appear please update your bookmarks accordingly.
- A few years ago our e-mail addresses were migrated to the "@wi.gov" exchange. However, the old "@commerce.state.wi.us" exchange continued to function. If you haven't already done so, please update your address books to reflect the "@wi.gov" exchange because at some point the older addresses will be discontinued.

There will no doubt be many other changes during the coming months. We will try to keep you informed as new information about the transition becomes available.

WCCA

330 Court Street
Eagle River, WI 54521

Phone

(715) 479-3620

Fax

(715) 479-3752



October 19, 1979

Bill Hnilicka Brown County (left) and Harold Olson Douglas County

Submission of Articles:
WCCA Welcomes articles, letters to the editor, articles from the WCCA districts, calendar listings, etc. Please send anything that may be of interest to other zoning administrators in Wisconsin. Articles may be submitted by mail, fax or email. Content of the articles does not necessarily represent the position of WCCA, the WCCA Executive Committee, or the editor.

Deadlines:

Spring Issue March 15
Summer Issue June 15
Fall Issue September 15
Winter Issue December 15

Dates to Remember:

Executive Board Meeting
August 26, 2011

Fall Conference
October 12-14, 2011

2011 WCCA Executive Board

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marksteward7@yahoo.com

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East Central District Representative, Sue VandenLangenberg
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svanden@co.door.wi.us

Southeast District Representative, Colin Byrnes
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Janesville, WI 53545
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Visit the WCCA webpage for up-to-date news and information between issues of the Decoder Newsletter

www.wccadm.com

Don't forget your 2011 Annual Dues