



# Land Use Quarterly

Winnebago County Planning, Zoning, GIS and Property Lister Newsletter

Issue 7

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR... Jerry Bougie

Summertime – it's a time to get outside and enjoy all that our County has to offer.

One thing our county has for us to enjoy during the summer is WATER. We spend a lot of time in and around water at this time of year and we are lucky here in Winnebago County with the substantial water resources that we have.

Our county has about 91,000 acres (143 sq miles) of inland surface water area which is more than any other county in the state.



Residents and visitors alike love the recreational opportunities available on these waters such as swimming, fishing, boating and so on. To ensure that these waters remain a quality resource we need to protect our water resources - what goes on around them and what flows into them.

One way the State of Wisconsin protects water resources throughout the state is through the State Shoreland Zoning program. The program began in the 1960's under the State Natural Resources code NR-115 which mandates that all counties manage land use activity within 1000 feet of our lakes, ponds and flowages and within 300 feet of our rivers and navigable streams.

Given the substantial water resources our county has, it keeps our office quite busy whenever development activity occurs within our shoreland zoning areas. In fact, our office issues over 200 permits every year for various types of development in designated shoreland areas.

Our Land and Water Conservation Office, along with a number of private and non-profit conservation groups, also plays an important role in protecting our water resources through the various watershed and conservation programs they administer.

So, the next time you're at that favorite fishing spot that you're not telling anyone about, you can thank the various entities, including our office and our LWCD office, for all their efforts to keep our water resources enjoyable!

Have a great summer everyone.

## DID YOU KNOW....

...more impervious surface equals less fish?



Impervious surfaces are areas that restrict, entirely or partially, precipitation from infiltrating into the ground. Examples are sidewalks, gravel pads, driveways, buildings, building overhangs, patios, decks, etc.

The greater the percentage of impervious surfaces in shoreland areas means the greater the detrimental impact on the number of species of fish.

More impervious surface allows for:

- more sediment and algae growth making it difficult for some predator species that hunt by sight to find their food
- more sediments covering spawning beds of fish such as walleye and smallmouth bass, depriving eggs of oxygen
- more runoff which leads to warmer waters that eliminate fish like northern pike and trout

Areas located within 300' of waterfront and non-waterfront shorelines are limited in the amount of impervious surface allowed. There are specific calculations used to determine how much impervious surface area is allowed and varies by individual circumstances.

For more information on impervious surfaces go to the Planning and Zoning homepage at:

<https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/sites/default/files/uploaded-files/IMPERVIOUS%20SURFACES.pdf>.

Enforcing state mandated impervious surfaces areas, means Winnebago County will continue to be a great place to enjoy fishing.



### Out with the old....

On August 4<sup>th</sup>, Peggy, the "old" Planning Administrative Associate, will officially become a lady of leisure when she retires after 11 years in the department and 23 years with the county.

### ...in with the new!

We welcome Julie Rosenau from Finance who will be filling the position.

Julie worked for the county many years ago and 2 years ago once again became a Winnebago County employee.



Julie

Peggy

### Employee Spotlight



David Levine  
GIS Specialist

#### How long have you worked for Winnebago County?

Almost 40 years in the GIS Department.

**What was an unusual job you had?** Providing maps and information to the Secret Service for President Reagan and Bush's visits to Oshkosh.

**Who would you want to be stranded on a deserted island with? Why?**

I can't answer this one because I want to stay married. Obviously they would need to be awesome to be with.

**What is one of your greatest strengths?** I have determination.

**If you could have dinner with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?** The whole Chicago Cubs World Series team.

**What is an accomplishment you're proud of?** I completed the Century Ride 6 times which is a 100 mile bicycle ride around Lake Winnebago.

**If you could have dinner with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?** The whole Chicago Cubs World Series team.



*Our mission is to promote, preserve, and protect the economy, public health, safety, general welfare and natural resources of the County through well planned development and responsible stewardship of the land through the equitable administration of ordinances, regulations and practices which implement sound*

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[zoningdepartment@winnebagocountywi.gov](mailto:zoningdepartment@winnebagocountywi.gov)

*Thanks to my co-workers in the Planning & Department for making our office an enjoyable place to work. The job was rarely dull and I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to work with.*

*I also appreciate the many acquaintances who became friends through my interactions with other county employees, municipalities and the public.*  
Peggy

**Floods can happen anywhere.  
To anyone. At any time.**



FEMA



NATIONAL FLOOD  
INSURANCE PROGRAM



**DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE**

Flood insurance policies are available at any time. However, there's typically a **30-day waiting period** before a policy goes **into effect**. This can leave your property and/or belongings vulnerable to uninsured flood damage. **For more information on the 30-day waiting period, visit**

[agents.floodsmart.gov/flood-in-progress](https://agents.floodsmart.gov/flood-in-progress)