

Public Notice

ROCK COUNTY SHORELAND ZONING ORDINANCE REVISION

The Wisconsin Legislature has recently made changes to the laws implementing Shoreland Zoning in Wisconsin through Wisconsin Acts 55, 167 and 391 (2015). These revisions to State Law require counties to adopt and implement the amendments in the respective local ordinance. Notable revisions pertain to (but are not limited too) the inability of counties to regulate matters more restrictively than the matter is regulated under the state minimum standards, the regulation of nonconforming structures and structures authorized by a variance, shoreland setback averaging, impervious surface limit standards and definitions.

Wisconsin counties are required to adopt and enforce Shoreland Zoning regulations to "further the maintenance of safe and healthful conditions; prevent and control water pollution; protect spawning grounds, fish and aquatic life; control building sites, placement of structures and land uses and reserve shore cover and natural beauty." Rock County has enforced a shoreland zoning ordinance in the unincorporated areas of the county, with amendments, since 1983.

The Rock County Planning and Development Agency has drafted revisions to the Rock County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance consistent with changes to State Law and based on the model ordinance developed by the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The draft ordinance is available at the P&D Agency offices at the Courthouse or at the Agency's webpage, http://www.co.rock.wi.us/planning.

A Public Hearing will take place in the Courthouse Conference Center, second floor, east wing of the Rock County Courthouse, 51 S. Main Street, Janesville, WI at 8:00 AM on **Thursday, October 13, 2016** at the regular meeting of the Rock County Planning and Development Committee. Interested parties are welcome to attend and/or submit comments prior to the meeting.

Please contact the Rock County Planning & Development Agency with any questions at 608-757-5587.