

CITY OF FRANKLIN

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.

FRANKLIN CITY HALL

Conference Room Lower Level

9229 West Loomis Road, Franklin, Wisconsin

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

II. CITIZEN COMMENT

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes of the regular meeting of January 22, 2020

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Johns Disposal Service, Inc. recycling program for the City of Franklin.
- B. Ways to improve and expand Arbor Day 2020; involvement of Root-Pike WIN (Watershed Initiative Network), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2001, program in Arbor Day celebration; Arbor Day event(s) planning.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Review of articles for the City of Franklin Newsletter, from the Root-Pike WIN (Watershed Initiative Network), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2001, program.
- B. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources programs for presentation at the City of Franklin Library-dates/schedule.

VI. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

- A. March 25, 2020

VII. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Environmental Commission involvement in the City of Franklin's National Night Out program.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Notice is given that a majority of the Common Council may attend this meeting to gather information about an Agenda item over which they have decision making responsibility. This may constitute a meeting of the Council per *State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village*

Board, even though the Common Council will not take formal action at this meeting.

Notice is given that upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information, please contact the Franklin City Clerk's office at (414) 425-7500.

CITY OF FRANKLIN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
January 22, 2020

unapproved

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

- I.** Chairman Arthur Skowron called the January 22, 2020 meeting of the Environmental Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room, Franklin City Hall, 9229 West Loomis Road, Franklin, Wisconsin.

On roll call, the following were in attendance: Chair Arthur Skowron, Vice Chair Wes Cannon, Commissioners Linda Horn, Patricia Pomahac and Ken Hritz and Alderman Dan Mayer. Also present were Executive Director of Root-Pike WIN Dave Giordano, City Engineer Glen Morrow and Assistant Planner Marion Ecks.

CITIZEN COMMENT

- II.** The citizen comment period opened at 7:01 p.m. and closed at 7:01 p.m.. No citizens present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the regular meeting of December 11, 2019.

- III.**
A. Commissioner Hritz moved and Alderman Mayer seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 11, 2019. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (6-0-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Environmental articles for the City of Franklin Newsletter.

- IV.**
A. An article for Arbor Day will be submitted in February for the April newsletter. Discussion only. No action taken.

Ways to improve and expand Arbor Day 2020; involvement of local nurseries in the City's Arbor Day celebration; Arbor Day event(s) planning; options for a potential spring program consisting of presentations by a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources speaker.

- B.** Contact will be made with Root-Pike WIN for an interactive event for children at Arbor Day on May 2, 2020 at the Franklin Public Library. The DNR will be contacted regarding topics of flooding and wildlife in urban areas for spring and fall 2020 presentations at the Franklin Public Library. Discussion only. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Root-Pike WIN (Watershed Initiative Network), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2001, educational programming and the requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for this programming.

- V.**
A. An overview of educational services and project development was given by Dave Giordano, Executive Director of Root-Pike WIN. Discussion only. No action taken.

City of Franklin waste management and recycling data examination by the Environmental Commission.

B. Johns Disposal Service to be contacted to give a presentation at the future meeting of the Franklin Environmental Commission. Discussion only. No action taken.

2020 Environmental Commission meeting dates.

C. Meeting dates for 2020 continue to be the fourth Wednesday of the month with the exception of November and December which will be held on December 9, 2020. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (6-0-0).

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

VI.

A. February 26, 2020.

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Tree selection for Arbor Day.

VII.

A. Balsam Fir, White Cedar, Elderberry and Red Maple. Choices to be submitted to Tom Riha, City of Franklin Forester.

ADJOURNMENT

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VIII.

Vice Chair Cannon moved and Commissioner Horn seconded to adjourn the Environmental Commission meeting on January 22, 2020 at 8:36 p.m.. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (6-0-0).

City of Franklin
Department of City Development

Date: February 13, 2020
To: City of Franklin Environmental Commission
From: Department of City Development – Assistant Planner Ecks
RE: City of Franklin Recycling Center

Below is information about the City of Franklin Recycling Center from the Department of Public Works:

Inside the small gated side yard we have the following:

Several John's Disposal single-stream recycling containers (basically larger versions of what each resident has at their home). They accept clean glass jars/bottles, clean plastic with recycle codes 1-7, clean tin & aluminum cans, newspaper, flattened cardboard boxes. These items are picked up by John's Disposal for recycling.

Brush. We are a brush drop off location. The brush is chipped several times a year, and the woodchips are put out for residents to take.

Used motor oil, used oil filters (uncrushed & drained), used anti-freeze, and car/truck batteries. The oil & antifreeze items are picked up by an environmental company, who recycles them for safe reuse. We currently use GFL Environmental (previously Future Environmental). Vehicle batteries are taken to be recycled.

The DPW recycle yard is open Mon-Fri, 8am to 3pm. The Waste Management Metro Landfill, 12200 W South County Line Rd, also takes recyclables, and is free for Franklin residents to use (with ID). WMML is open Mon-Sat (Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm, Sat 7am-3pm). Other hazardous waste items can be taken to Veolia Environmental Services, 10518 S 124th St, Tues 11am-6pm & Sat 8am-2pm.

AS/mx

2020 Newsletter Dates and Deadlines

2020 Newsletters	Deadline Date for Articles	Approximate Delivery Date
Newsletter 1	Friday, January 17th	Week of Feb. 17th
Newsletter 2	Friday, April 17th	Week of May 18th
Newsletter 3	Friday, June 19th	Week of July 20th
Newsletter 4	Friday, August 21st	Week of Sept. 21st
Newsletter 5	Friday, October 23rd	Week of Dec. 1st

Being Stormwater Friendly

Wisconsin's lawn care season will soon be in full swing. Mowing, fertilizing, and applying chemicals aimed at destroying weeds and insects can result in a highly sought-after carpet of bright green adored by many. With an estimated *greater than 1 million acres* of turf in Wisconsin (1), the work required to produce this landscape is repeated throughout the growing season by countless property owners. Though the season is brief, it has long-lasting impacts on our wetlands, streams and rivers. The tradeoff for all this turf management is a highly polluted watershed.

We tend to think that what we do in our yards stays in our yards. But, it doesn't. Stormwater runoff is the conduit that connects us beyond our property lines. Rain coming off rooftops, paved surfaces and lawns becomes stormwater runoff, sometimes also referred to as sheet flow. As it does so, it carries with it grass clippings, fertilizers, lawn chemicals, pet waste and all manner of other things. This water and all it conveys travels directly into the nearest body of water, unfiltered and untreated.

So, what happens once these pollutants reach surface water like the Root River, for example? Grass clippings, leaves and fertilizers transported by stormwater runoff contribute to excessive nutrient loading. Nutrients like phosphorus, nitrogen and suspended solids generate an over-abundance of algae. One bushel of grass clippings can contain 0.1 pound of phosphorus (2). *That's enough to produce 30 to 50 pounds of algae*. When excess algae begin to die, bacteria that decompose algae deplete oxygen that fish and other aquatic species require to survive. Excess algae also affects water temperature, degrades habitats, and negatively impacts important tourism and recreation dollars.

What can be done to lessen the impact of contaminated stormwater? Turns out there's a host of things we can do to be stormwater friendly. Here are a few:

- Mulch your grass clippings and leave them on the lawn. It feeds the soil and keeps them out of stormwater.
- Have your soil tested before you fertilize. You may save time and money.
- Top-dress your lawn with an inch of compost and rake into the turf. This is great for soil health and healthy soil is great for your lawn.
- Healthy soil contains a robust population of living things. Pesticides are counterproductive to this goal.
- Mow higher. This allows better root development and that makes it easier for water to travel back into the soil where it belongs instead of becoming runoff. It also enables turf to better out-compete with weeds.
- Clean up after pets and dispose of it in the garbage.
- Minimize the amount of runoff on your property by using rain barrels and rain gardens.
- Consider replacing a portion of your non native lawn with native grasses. They are beautiful and functional. Their root systems are excellent for stormwater infiltration.

Stormwater runoff isn't the problem. The real problem is the contaminants that it carries. Being stormwater friendly means changing our view of run-off and becoming better educated about how our actions impact it.

Summertime in Wisconsin on a beautiful lawn is precious. Equally precious are Wisconsin's beautiful lakes and rivers!

For more information, please contact Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network at 262-898-2055 or nan@rootpikewin.org. Check us out on Facebook and our website – www.rootpikewin.org. We can also be found at www.respectourwaters.org

1. <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/news/2018/05/18/turf-and-lawn-care-in-wisconsin-2/>
Doug Soldat, UW-Extension Turfgrass and Urban Soil Specialist
2. <https://fwwa.org/newsc3/>
(Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium)

Nan Calvert
Program Manager
Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network
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