



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Date: February 17, 2016****Contact: Katie Bobich****Phone: (218) 824-1002****HIGH CLOSURE RATE FOR CROW WING COUNTY LAND USE ENFORCEMENT CASES**

110 land use enforcement cases were reported to the County in 2015, according to a year-end report compiled by the Crow Wing County Land Services Department. Of those 110 cases, 93 were resolved, which was an overall closure rate of 85%. This is the highest closure rate for the Land Services Department in recent years. 2012, 2013, and 2014 saw closure rates of 76%, 79%, and 77%, respectively. "I am very proud of our Land Services staff for their dedication to getting these enforcement cases resolved," said Land Services Director Mark Liedl. "It demonstrates their commitment to effective communication and excellent customer service."

Crow Wing County Land Services staff will continue to work in 2016 to close 17 cases that remain open. Examples of land use enforcement cases include building without a permit, dirt moving within the shoreland district (1,000 feet of a lake or 300 feet of a river or stream) and unlicensed vehicles/junk on a property. The easiest way to avoid being a part of a land use enforcement case is to apply for the right permit(s) before starting your project, and to contact the Land Services Department with any questions you may have, noted Liedl.

To make the permit application process more accessible to citizens, Crow Wing County offers a variety of resources on their website (www.crowwing.us). Land owners can apply for a permit or request a free site visit, all online. Factsheets and information are also available for various construction activities, landscapes, bodies of water and stormwater, property classification and values, property tax programs and land management.

Citizens may view the year-end report data by going to www.crowwing.us/DocumentCenter/View/11001. The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping landowners make wise choices that protect Crow Wing County's extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Land Services Department at (218) 824-1125 or environmental.services@crowwing.us to discuss land use questions before starting building projects, applying for an address or with questions regarding land use requirements.

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Our Vision: Being Minnesota's favorite place.
Our Mission: Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.
Our Values: Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.

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