

NEWS



CROW WING COUNTY

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA 56401

Land Services Department
Planning and Zoning
322 Laurel Street, Suite 14
Brainerd, MN 56401

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 11, 2010

CONTACT: Chris Pence
218/824-1123
chris.pence@co.crow-wing.mn.us

Crow Wing County to Administer Shoreland Permitting For the City of Jenkins

The Crow Wing County Land Services Department is now responsible for land use and permitting within the shoreland area of the City of Jenkins. The Crow Wing County Board and the Jenkins City Council entered into a memorandum of understanding on May 11, 2010. The agreement authorizes the Land Services Department to handle all permits in the shoreland area for Jenkins.

Jenkins has a minimal amount of shoreland within the city and has only issued a few permits over the last two years. "It is difficult for the city to stay current on all the regulations and it just makes sense for us to use the resources at the county level to administer permits in the shoreland area" stated Jenkins Mayor Jon Lubke.

The Land Services Department will also have a satellite office located at the Jenkins City Hall that will be open for half a day per week during the construction season. This will allow citizens from the north part of the county the opportunity to meet with county staff to discuss a specific project or to get questions answered without having to make the long drive to Brainerd. "We want to make it as convenient as possible for folks to discuss land use issues" stated Chris Pence, Crow Wing County Land Services Supervisor.

The Land Services Department will accept applications for building permits, septic systems, dirt moving and public hearings for shoreland parcels in Jenkins. A complete building permit application consists of the application, site sketch, appropriate fees and a compliance inspection on the septic system. In addition, county staff will recommend stormwater best management practices when reviewing the permit application on-site and will include that information with the approved permit. Crow Wing County has been recommending stormwater best management practices on shoreland permits since 2008.

Crow Wing County implemented the site based model in 2008 that involves a field review of all permits prior to issuance and a follow up field inspection of lake issued permits to verify the construction was completed according to the permit. The call for service program is another element of the on-site model where citizens can request a site visit to discuss land use issues prior to applying for a permit.

Citizens are encouraged to call the Land Services Department at 218-824-1125 with any questions or concerns regarding land use management prior to commencing work on a property. This collaboration of services between Crow Wing County and Jenkins will provide a high level of customer service and will protect the natural resources of the county at the same time. Promoting wise land use is a win-win for everyone.

-end-