



Columbia County Requirements & Contacts

Phone: (608) 742-9660
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www.co.columbia.wi.us

Planning & Zoning Department

112 E. Edgewater St.
Portage, WI 53901

Applications for Sanitary, Zoning and ERN permits are available in the Planning & Zoning Office located in the Columbia County Administration Building (Second Floor). Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All permit forms, fee schedules and supplementary information are available at the Planning & Zoning Department website.

The building process including County and Town Permits must occur in the order shown below. Before any permit can be issued, the property *must* be recorded at the Register of Deeds indicating you are the owner of record.

1. DETERMINE ZONING DISTRICT of PROPERTY and FLOOD PLAIN STATUS
 - Verify the Zoning District of the property through the Planning & Zoning Dept. and Floodplain status (www.fema.com) to determine if your lot is buildable.
2. SOIL TEST
 - Contact a Certified Soil Tester for a soil evaluation. The test results will dictate the type and size of septic system that is suitable for the property.
 - A list of Certified Soil Testers is available at the Planning & Zoning Dept.
3. DRIVEWAY PERMIT
 - Obtain a driveway permit from the appropriate contact (*see reverse*).
 - Existing driveways may require a current permit. Please consult with appropriate contact. (*see reverse*)
4. ERN PERMIT
 - Obtain and complete County Emergency Response Number (ERN) Form.
 - An Emergency Response Number (ERN) is required when address is not assigned to property.
 - A Driveway Permit is required in order to receive an Emergency Response Number.
5. SANITARY PERMIT
 - Obtain application for County Sanitary Permit. The Master Plumber you contract with should have this form on hand.
 - The application form and plans for the septic system will be prepared by a person licensed by the State of Wisconsin as a Master Plumber or Designer.
 - A list of Master Plumbers is available at the Planning & Zoning Dept.
 - Setbacks to keep in mind:
 - A. Your **Treatment Tank** for your septic system must be at least:
 1. 5 feet from the house (all structures)
 2. 2 feet from the property line
 3. 10 feet from any underground water supply system
 4. 25 feet from a well, lake, stream, or pond
 - B. Your **Soil Absorption Area** for your septic system must be at least:
 1. 10 feet from any building
 2. 50 feet from any well, lake, stream or pond
 3. 5 feet from the property line
 - C. Your **Well** (private water systems) must be at least:
 1. 2 feet from the eaves of any building
 2. 25 feet from all treatment tanks
 3. 50 feet from the soil absorption area
6. ZONING PERMIT
 - Obtain an application for a County Zoning Permit
 - The Zoning Permit may either be completed by the owner or by the builder/contractor.
 - The *owner's* original signature is required.
 - All pages of the application must be completed accurately and permit fee received prior to processing.

**It is the responsibility of the property owner and builder/contractor to ensure that all permits have been obtained prior to construction*

TOWNSHIP(S):	CONTACT:	
DRIVEWAY PERMIT FOR TOWN ROADS (E.G JOHNSON DRIVE)		
Arlington, Courtland, Dekorra, Fountain Prairie, Hampden, Leeds, Lowville, Wyocena	General Engineering Co.	(608) 745-4070
Caledonia, Lewiston, Marcellon, Newport, Otsego, Pacific, Randolph, Springvale	Columbia County Highway Dept.	(608) 429-2156
Columbus	Darren Schroeder	(920) 623-4616
Fort Winnebago	William Schroeder	(608) 742-2981
Lodi	Town of Lodi	(608) 592-4868
Scott	James Nelson	(608) 429-3703
West Point	Michael Wipperfurth	(608) 643-6757
DRIVEWAY PERMIT FOR COUNTY HIGHWAY (E.G COUNTY HIGHWAY "U")		
All Townships	Columbia County Highway Dept	(608) 429-2156
DRIVEWAY PERMIT FOR STATE HIGHWAYS		
All Townships	Scott Hinkle	(608) 246-5334
TOWN BUILDING PERMIT/UNIFORM DWELLING CODE		
Arlington, Caledonia, Columbus, Courtland, Dekorra, Fort Winnebago, Fountain Prairie, Hampden, Leeds, Lewiston, Lodi, Lowville, Newport, Otsego, Pacific, Randolph, Scott, Springvale, Wyocena	General Engineering Co	(608) 745-4070
West Point	Michael Wipperfurth mwipperfurth@msa-ps.com	(608) 643-6757
Marcellon	Robert Kanter Robert.kanter@wisconsin.gov	(608) 261-6541 (o) (608) 225-1855 (c)
TOWN CONTACTS		
Arlington	Nate Moll, Chair	(608) 445-7813
Caledonia	Steve Pate, Chair	(608) 963-2684
Columbus	Darren Schroeder, Chair	(920) 623-4616
Courtland	Glenn Smits, Chair	(920) 948-2979
Dekorra	Kyle Knuteson, Chair	(608) 617-3670
Fort Winnebago	William Schroeder, Sr., Chair	(608) 742-2981
Fountain Prairie	Ron Huebner, Chair	(920) 484-3187
Hampden	David Tuschen, Town Chair	(920) 623-0513
Leeds	Mark Frank, Chair	(608) 575-6192
Lewiston	Thomas Klappstein, Chair	(608) 981-2776
Lodi	Town of Lodi Municipal Office/Hall	(608) 592-4868
	Brian Henry, Chair	(608)592-4868
	Harmony Grove & Okee Sanitary Districts	(608) 592-5795
Lowville	Curt Walters, Chair	(920) 992-3040
Marcellon	Neal James, Chair	(608) 429-3603
Newport	Mat Brunn, Chair	(608) 697-0327
Otsego	Harlan Baumgartner, Chair	(608) 992-5180
Pacific	William Devine, Chair	(608) 742-3398
Randolph	James Sanderson, Chair <i>(issues non-dwelling & demolition permits)</i>	(920) 344-6900
Scott	James Nelson, Chair	(608) 429-3703
Springvale	Scott Link, Chair	(920) 382-5323
West Point	Ashley Nedeau-Owen, Chair	(608) 381-1414