



PRESS RELEASE

City Inspections focuses on cleaning up the City

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KENOSHA – Junk vehicles on the lawn? Tall grass and weeds? That’s not just being a messy neighbor. Those are considered Public Nuisance violations, and the City is cracking down on enforcement. As of the end of May, Property Maintenance Inspectors conducted 3,727 code compliance investigations, compared to 2,639 at the same time period last year.

This year, Property Maintenance Inspectors became Code Compliance Officers because of the increase in the types of inspections that they are performing. The officers identify Public Nuisance violations and work with residents to improve property conditions.

Chapter 16 of the Code of General Ordinances has been updated to identify items that were deemed Public Nuisances and City has the authority to take action to remedy violations if the owner does not fix them by a deadline.

The Public Nuisance violations are:

- Nuisance Weeds
- Unsafe Signs
- Junk in the Front Yard
- Junk in an Outdoor Area
- Unburied Animal Carcass
- Pest Harborage
- Blighted Buildings
- Foul Water
- Graffiti

Director of City Inspections Gary Roberts stressed that the department aims to have residents

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voluntarily comply with fixing violations.

“Our job is to educate our population on what our Codes are, what constitutes a violation of those Codes, and to bring them to voluntarily comply with any violations identified. Should the owner or responsible party choose to not comply voluntarily, then the City is now in a position to take appropriate action to either abate the violation, to move forward with citations and/or to take action in Municipal Court,” he said.

In the near future technology upgrades are planned, which will increase overall productivity and efficient operations for the Department, Roberts said. Upgrades will include laptop computers for inspectors to complete their casework in the field; and new cameras for gathering evidence for the investigation process.