

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS BOARD AGENDA**

**November 20, 2024 - 4:00 PM
City Conference Room - 1515 Strongs Avenue**

Meeting Items

1. Roll Call.
2. Minutes of the May 15, 2024 meeting.
3. Appeal of notice/service charge for property maintenance violation:
 - a. 274 Second Street North.
 - b. 1608 Illinois Avenue.
 - c. 1100 Franklin Street.
 - d. 708 Ridge Road.
4. Adjournment.

RMC – Revised Municipal Code

Any person who has special needs while attending this meeting or needs agenda materials for this meeting should contact the City Clerk as soon as possible to ensure reasonable accommodations can be made. The City Clerk can be reached by telephone at (715) 346-1569 or by mail at 1515 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481. Copies of ordinances, resolutions, reports and minutes of the committee meetings are on file at the office of the City Clerk for inspection during normal business hours from 7:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS BOARD
May 15, 2024 - 4:00 PM
City Conference Room - 1515 Strongs Avenue

MINUTES

Meeting Items

1. Roll Call.

Present:

Ald. Keymer, Kneebone, Shuda, Member Tiffany

Excused:

Member Speckman.

Others Present:

Clerk Yenter, Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus, Attorney Beveridge.

2. Election of Chair.

Clerk Yenter called for nominations for Chair of Administrative Appeals Board.

Ald. Keymer nominated Member Speckmann as Board Chair.

As there were no further nominations, Clerk Yenter closed nominations.

Ald. Kneebone moved, Ald. Shuda seconded, to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Member Speckmann as Board Chair.

Call for the vote: ayes all, nays none. Motion carried.

3. Election of Vice-Chair.

Clerk Yenter called for nominations for Vice-Chair of Administrative Appeals Board.

Ald. Shuda nominated Member Tiffany as Board Vice-Chair.

As there were no further nominations, Clerk Yenter closed nominations.

Ald. Keymer moved, Ald. Kneebone seconded, to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Member Tiffany as Board Vice-Chair.

Call for the vote: ayes all, nays none. Motion carried.

4. Minutes of the March 13, 2024 meeting.

Ald. Keymer moved, Ald. Kneebone seconded, to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2024 meeting.

Call for the vote: ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

5. Appeal of notice/service charge for property maintenance violation:

a. *2725 Soo Marie Avenue.**

Ms. Slowinski stated they misunderstood the deadline for the carpet removal and it was also noted that there was no house number.

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus gave an overview of the violation and noted that he did not observe a house number.

Member Tiffany questioned if the Stevens Point contractor picked up the carpeting.

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus answered that they did not.

Ald. Keymer questioned if the non-compliance was mailed.

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus confirmed that it was.

Ald. Shuda reiterated that the owner removed the carpeting.

Ms. Slowinski confirmed they did.

Ald. Kneebone discussed that if Ms. Slowinski would have requested an extension it would have been granted.

Member Tiffany confirmed that the fine is not an abatement fee. The fine is a re-inspection fee.

Ald. Kneebone moved, Ald. Keymer seconded, to uphold the appeal and waive the fine.

Call for the vote: ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

b. 309 Meadow Street.

Ms. Crivello discussed putting a chair on the curb but did not see that it was tagged due to knee surgery.

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus gave a brief overview of the violation. The item was tagged and picked up by a city contractor three days later.

Ald. Keymer questioned what the city compliance is with the pink slips.

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus answered compliance within the last three years has been in the high seventies.

Ald. Keymer questioned if there could be a press release to help the public understand the pink tags.

Ald. Kneebone questioned the verbiage on the tags.

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus answered and explained.

Ald. Keymer moved, Member Tiffany seconded, to waive the inspection fee; however, the abatement fee stands.

Call for the vote: ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

c. 1509 Academy Avenue.

Ald. Shuda questioned if Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus observes all violations or if they receive calls on the items.

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus explained that some are observed by him. However, he also receives anonymous complaints by phone or on-line.

Member Tiffany questioned if the owner of 1509 Academy Avenue had spoken with him.

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator Kordus stated he did not recall that.

Ald. Keymer moved, Ald. Shuda seconded, to deny the appeal for 1509 Academy Avenue.

Call for the vote: ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

6. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 4:22 p.m.



Deliver To:
City Clerk's Office
Attn: Administrative Appeals Board
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481

PROPERTY APPEAL FORM

or Email To:
clerk@stevenspoint.com

Enclosed is a notice and/or service charge issued by the Inspection Department of the City of Stevens Point. To dispute or contest this notice and/or charge, a formal written letter must be submitted to the Administrative Appeals Board. This request must be in writing, in a manner which is legible, or typed and submitted (hard copy or electronically) to the City Clerk's Office. Under City Ordinance 3.56, any person aggrieved by a notice and/or charge issued in connection with any alleged violation may file a request for a hearing with the Administrative Appeals Board for review of the case.

The written or typed appeal must set forth the reasons for contesting the interpretation of City Code of Ordinances and/or the Notice of Noncompliance issued by the Inspection Department. The appeal must be submitted within 30 days after the date of issuance of the notice and/or charge. While not mandatory, you are highly encouraged to attend the meeting.

ALL INFORMATION BELOW IS REQUIRED FOR SUBMITTAL PRIOR TO A HEARING REVIEW

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 274 2nd St N OWNER OF PROPERTY: Louise Martinez

INDIVIDUAL FILING APPEAL: Joleane Dorgan RELATION TO PROPERTY: Tenant

CONTACT PHONE: [REDACTED]

ALLEGED VIOLATION: Bulk waste at curb early VIOLATION ID #: RAC-2024-00659

HAVE YOU SPOKEN WITH THE ISSUING AGENT (REQUIRED): No [] Yes [x] AGENT: A gentleman

RESULTS OF THAT DISCUSSION:

So I called in Monday morning at 9:44 and spoke a gentleman..He asked me my address and I told him it was not my piece of furniture (recliner). I was not even in town that entire week I know the process of leaving items out front I have called and paid twice. So when I got this letter from my landlord (louise) I was shocked and spoke to my neighbors one of them told me that they seen the recliner fall off a pick up truck (green one). It sat on 2nd street for a hour with people driving around it. Then two walkers picked it up and moved it and some pieces that broke next to my mailbox. The gentleman told me I have to do this appeal process.

PLEASE STATE THE SPECIFIC REASONS YOU BELIEVE THE ORDINANCE VIOLATION(S) WERE UNFOUNDED, INCORRECT, OR WITHOUT BASIS. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MAY ONLY APPEAL THE ORDINANCE DETERMINATION, ANY DISAGREEMENT WITH THE CHARGE AMOUNTS IS NOT A VALID REASON FOR APPEAL, AS THOSE ARE DETERMINED BY ORDINANCE. YOU MAY ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS OR DOCUMENTS AS NEEDED.

[Empty box for providing specific reasons for appeal]

SIGNATURE OF APPELLANT: _____ DATE: 07/29/24

PRINT NAME: Joleane Dorgan APPELLANT'S ADDRESS: 274 2nd St N SP, WI 54481



Memo

Mark Kordus
Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator
Community Development
City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Ph: (715) 346-1567 • Fax: (715) 346-1498
mkordus@stevenspoint.com

To: Public Protection Committee
From: Mark Kordus
CC: Jarod Kivela & Andrew Beveridge
Date: 11/7/24
Subject: 274 Second St. N. – Case RAC-2024-00659

On 7/1/24 at 1:00 PM Mark Kordus observed a recliner at the curb at 1274 Second St. N. A pink slip was placed on the item. A reinspection occurred on 7/3/24 and the item was still present, and it was picked up by the City contractor that same day at 5:00 PM.





Friday, July 12, 2024

ID #: RAC-2024-00659

INVOICE #: 202400211

LOUISE MARTINEZ
701 SOUTH UNION ST
SHAWANO, WI 54166-2935

**INVOICE FOR SERVICE(S)
BULK WASTE AT CURB EARLY AT 274 SECOND ST N**

Dear Louise Martinez,

On or about 07/01/24 an order was issued on the above described property, or a violation was abated relating to BULK WASTE AT CURB EARLY. As a result, the associated fees for the preparation of the Order and/or the abatement of the violation(s) are as follows:

o **Violation**

Debris or interior items outside the dwelling: 21.03(9) No owner or occupant of a premise or premise unit shall accumulate rubbish, trash boxes, lumber, scrap metal, appliances, vehicle parts, tires, dilapidated or inoperable items, or any other material or furniture designed for interior use on the premises such that it is exposed to the weather for longer than 24 hours in such a manner that may be unsightly to, incompatible with, or repugnant to the residential or commercial neighborhood. Bulk wood storage shall be adequately supported or stacked so as not to pose a hazard to person or property, and shall not be placed within any accessory structure setback areas, with an exception for up to one face cord of wood for personal use may be stored adjacent to the primary dwelling. This section shall not apply to properties with an active building permit



Type	Amount
Inspection after Slip	\$75.00
Nuisance Abatement	\$68.22

Balance Due: \$143.22

Case details, as well as abatement photographs, may be requested at communitydevelopment@stevenspoint.com. Please reference the case number or property address. To dispute or contest this letter, a completed Property Appeal Form must be submitted to the Administrative Appeals Board within 30 days. The form is available online at stevenspoint.com/neighborhood, or a hard copy may be requested from our office. Please note that you may only appeal the ordinance determination. Disagreement with the



charge amounts is not a valid reason for appeal, as those are determined by ordinance. Sidewalk snow and ice abatement orders are enforced through City Ordinance 16.06. General refuse and items left at the curb or within the right-of-way, and removed by the City, are enforced through City Ordinances 21.03 and 24.06.

* Please remit payment to the City of Stevens Point within 30 days from the date on this notice. Please be informed that if payment has not been received by this date, these fees will be assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

Effective November 1, 2005 – The City of Stevens Point Reserves the right to process your check electronically. So, when paying by check, please be aware that you are authorizing us to use the information on your check to make a one-time electronic charge to your account at the financial institution indicated on the check. This electronic debit will be for the amount on your check. Please Detach at Dashed Line and Return With Remittance.

Customer Name: LOUISE MARTINEZ
Customer/Parcel No: 240829230038
Invoice: 202400211

Make Checks Payable and Remit to:

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Amount Due: \$143.22

Or pay online: stevenspoint.com/invoice



Deliver To:
 City Clerk's Office
 Attn: Administrative Appeals Board
 1515 Strongs Avenue
 Stevens Point, WI 54481
or Email To:
 clerk@stevenspoint.com

PROPERTY APPEAL FORM

RECEIVED
 OCT 07 2024
 CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

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The written or typed appeal must set forth the reasons for contesting the interpretation of City Code of Ordinances and/or the Notice of Noncompliance issued by the Inspection Department. The appeal must be submitted within 30 days after the date of issuance of the notice and/or charge. While not mandatory, you are highly encouraged to attend the meeting.

ALL INFORMATION BELOW IS REQUIRED FOR SUBMITTAL PRIOR TO A HEARING REVIEW

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1608 Illinois Ave OWNER OF PROPERTY: James + Dobra Koziczkowski

INDIVIDUAL FILING APPEAL: Deb Koziczkowski RELATION TO PROPERTY: owner

CONTACT PHONE: [REDACTED]

ALLEGED VIOLATION: Bulk waste at curb early VIOLATION ID #: RAC-2024-00878

HAVE YOU SPOKEN WITH THE ISSUING AGENT (REQUIRED): NO YES AGENT: Mark

RESULTS OF THAT DISCUSSION:

Was told neighbor complained. Was told city put sticker on items at curb and items were picked up 2 days later. I asked why we were not sent a notice before we were sent a bill. Mark stated they don't do that for this. Also told I could Appeal.

PLEASE STATE THE SPECIFIC REASONS YOU BELIEVE THE ORDINANCE VIOLATION(S) WERE UNFOUNDED, INCORRECT, OR WITHOUT BASIS. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MAY ONLY APPEAL THE ORDINANCE DETERMINATION, ANY DISAGREEMENT WITH THE CHARGE AMOUNTS IS NOT A VALID REASON FOR APPEAL, AS THOSE ARE DETERMINED BY ORDINANCE. YOU MAY ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS OR DOCUMENTS AS NEEDED.

See Attachments

SIGNATURE OF APPELLANT: [Signature] DATE: 10-3-24

PRINT NAME: Deb Koziczkowski APPELLANT'S ADDRESS: 2815 Jordan Rd Stevens Point 54481



Friday, September 20, 2024

ID #: RAC-2024-00878
INVOICE #: 202400258

JAMES A. KOZICZKOWSKI
2815 JORDAN RD
STEVENS POINT, WI 54482

**INVOICE FOR SERVICE(S)
BULK WASTE AT CURB EARLY AT 1608 ILLINOIS AVE UNIT A**

Dear JAMES A. KOZICZKOWSKI,

On or about 09/11/24 an order was issued on the above described property, or a violation was abated relating to BULK WASTE AT CURB EARLY. As a result, the associated fees for the preparation of the Order and/or the abatement of the violation(s) are as follows:

o **Violation**

Debris or interior items outside the dwelling: 21.03(9) No owner or occupant of a premise or premise unit shall accumulate rubbish, trash boxes, lumber, scrap metal, appliances, vehicle parts, tires, dilapidated or inoperable items, or any other material or furniture designed for interior use on the premises such that it is exposed to the weather for longer than 24 hours in such a manner that may be unsightly to, incompatible with, or repugnant to the residential or commercial neighborhood. Bulk wood storage shall be adequately supported or stacked so as not to pose a hazard to person or property, and shall not be placed within any accessory structure setback areas, with an exception for up to one face cord of wood for personal use may be stored adjacent to the primary dwelling. This section shall not apply to properties with an active building permit



Type	Amount
Inspection after Slip	\$75.00
Nuisance Abatement	\$54.11
Balance Due: \$129.11	

Case details, as well as abatement photographs, may be requested at communitydevelopment@stevenspoint.com. Please reference the case number or property address. To dispute or contest this letter, a completed Property Appeal Form must be submitted to the Administrative Appeals Board within 30 days. The form is available online at stevenspoint.com/neighborhood, or a hard copy may be requested from our office. Please note that you may only appeal the ordinance determination. Disagreement with the

Attached is a post on facebook from 10-5-24
It is apparent that citizens of Stevens Point
do not know of this ordinance. From
the post it states items are on East Ave
just blocks from 1608 Illinois Ave.

This is a rental. Because tenant saw
others put items on the curb for free
it was ok to do so.

She said she never saw a pink sticker
on items. It could of been moved if
people had gone through items.

She also asked why the city didn't put
sticker on the frontdoor where she
would of seen it.

It would of been nice if the city would
of notified us so we could of let the
tenant know to remove the items
before you sent us a large fine.

We also did not know of this ordinance.
We do not live in the city.

East ave Stevens point

FCFS



Was on Facebook 10-5-24



Memo

Mark Kordus
Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator
Community Development
City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Ph: (715) 346-1567 • Fax: (715) 346-1498
mkordus@stevenspoint.com

To: Public Protection Committee
From: Mark Kordus
CC: Jarod Kivela & Andrew Beveridge
Date: 11/8/24
Subject: 1608 Illinois Ave. – Case RAC-2024-00878

On 9/11/24 Mark Kordus received a complaint about a large amount of items stacked at the curb in front of 1608 Illinois Ave. Upon inspection a pink slip was left on the items that same day. On 9/13/24 a re-inspection occurred the items were still present, and they were picked up by the City contractor that same day at 10:30 AM.





Friday, September 20, 2024

ID #: RAC-2024-00878

INVOICE #: 202400258

JAMES A. KOZICZKOWSKI
2815 JORDAN RD
STEVENS POINT, WI 54482

**INVOICE FOR SERVICE(S)
BULK WASTE AT CURB EARLY AT 1608 ILLINOIS AVE UNIT A**

Dear JAMES A. KOZICZKOWSKI,

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Effective November 1, 2005 – The City of Stevens Point Reserves the right to process your check electronically. So, when paying by check, please be aware that you are authorizing us to use the information on your check to make a one-time electronic charge to your account at the financial institution indicated on the check. This electronic debit will be for the amount on your check. Please Detach at Dashed Line and Return With Remittance.

Customer Name: JAMES A. KOZICZKOWSKI
Customer/Parcel No: 240833200926
Invoice: 202400258

Make Checks Payable and Remit to:

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Amount Due: \$129.11

Or pay online: stevenspoint.com/invoice



Deliver To:
City Clerk's Office
Attn: Administrative Appeals Board
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, Wi 54481

or Email To:
clerk@stevenspoint.com

PROPERTY APPEAL FORM

RECEIVED
OCT 28 2024
CITY CLERK'S
OFFICE

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ALL INFORMATION BELOW IS REQUIRED FOR SUBMITTAL PRIOR TO A HEARING REVIEW

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1100 Franklin St OWNER OF PROPERTY: Frederick Seefelt

INDIVIDUAL FILING APPEAL: owner RELATION TO PROPERTY: owner



ALLEGED VIOLATION: Failure To Paint VIOLATION ID #: RAC-2024-00231

HAVE YOU SPOKEN WITH THE ISSUING AGENT (REQUIRED): NO YES AGENT: Mark Kordus

RESULTS OF THAT DISCUSSION:

I am renovating the Garage, New concrete floor straightening the walls out, squaring up door openings New concrete driveway. Then I was going to put New siding on if possible. I got the required Permit on June 12, 2024

PLEASE STATE THE SPECIFIC REASONS YOU BELIEVE THE ORDINANCE VIOLATION(S) WERE UNFOUNDED, INCORRECT, OR WITHOUT BASIS. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MAY ONLY APPEAL THE ORDINANCE DETERMINATION, ANY DISAGREEMENT WITH THE CHARGE AMOUNTS IS NOT A VALID REASON FOR APPEAL, AS THOSE ARE DETERMINED BY ORDINANCE. YOU MAY ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS OR DOCUMENTS AS NEEDED.

- ① concrete has been completed
- ② squaring up the building is in process
- ③ siding and or painting will proceed when/as weather permits

SIGNATURE OF APPELLANT: Frederick Seefelt DATE: 10-28-24

PRINT NAME: Frederick Seefelt APPELLANT'S ADDRESS: 1100 Franklin St.

THIS PERMIT MUST BE POSTED IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE AT THE WORK SITE PER ORDINANCE 30.03(8)



City of Stevens Point, WI
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Alteration to Accessory Building PERMIT

Issue Date: June 12, 2024

Expiration Date: December 12, 2024

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Update flooring to existing detached garage with concrete slab. Update siding to existing detached garage.

PROJECT #
20240683

(715) 346-1567 ext 1
Inspections

www.stevenspoint.com
Permits

Contractors

Frederick C. Seefelt
1100 Franklin St
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Owner

FREDERICK C. SEEFELT
1100 FRANKLIN ST
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Required Inspections
Before covering and/or concealing work, including but not limited to:
Footings
Foundations
Underground Mechanicals
Framing & Rough In of mechanicals
Above Ceiling
Mechanicals Final
Final Before Occupancy

Calling For Inspection

Per local and state codes, all work must be completed before calling for inspection. Note that we do our best to try for same day appointments, though it is sometimes not possible.

Please plan accordingly.
Phone 715-346-1567 Ext. 1

INFORMATION

Location	1100 FRANKLIN ST
Parcel Number	281240829304505
Zoning District	R3
Cost (Total Project)	\$1,220.00
Fees	\$35.00

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Agent	Type	Decision	Date	Comments
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NOTICES

1. The applicant must sign the permit for the permit to be valid.
2. A copy of the signed permit and approved plans must be on site at all times.
3. The project address must be clearly posted at the job site.
4. Inspection information is listed on the left side of the permit.
5. If applicable, new and/or altered rooms must meet minimum head height requirement of 7 ft for 50% of room area
6. For commercial properties that require Fire Department approval, call 715-344-1833 to schedule the Fire Inspector
7. Call (715-346-1567 Ext.1) or email (communitydevelopment@stevenspoint.com) for general inquiries.
8. If applicable, work may proceed in accordance with this permit only after necessary state approvals are filed with the Community Development Department's Inspection Division.

READ AND SIGN

I understand that I am subject to all applicable codes, statutes and ordinances, and with the conditions of this permit; understand that the issuance of the permit creates no legal liability, express or implied, on the state or municipality; and certify that all above information is accurate. I expressly grant the building inspector, or the inspectors authorized agent, permission to enter the premises for which this permit is sought at all reasonable hours and for any proper purpose to inspect the work which is being done. I understand that I shall contact the inspector(s) at the appropriate times throughout the project for the required inspection(s). I have read and understood the Cautionary Statement to Owners Obtaining Building Permits.

Frederick C. Seefelt
SIGNATURE

6-12-24
DATE

Finvera Christian
ISSUER'S SIGNATURE

June 12, 2024
DATE



Friday, March 1, 2024

ID#: RAC-2024-00231

FREDERICK C. SEEFELT
1100 FRANKLIN ST
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

**NONCOMPLIANCE NOTICE:
EXTERIOR VIOLATIONS ON HOUSE AT 1100 FRANKLIN ST**

Dear Frederick C. Seefelt,

An inspection of the property located at 1100 FRANKLIN ST was made on 02/29/2024. As a result of this inspection, the condition below was observed:

Condition:

- o Exposed wood and peeling paint on garage please correct prior to the due date. Must be corrected by: 09/30/2024

Weather-Proof Exterior Surfaces and Tarps a Temporary Use 21.07(2): (2) Building Maintenance and Weather-Proofing. (a) Exterior; every foundation, roof, exterior wall, door, skylight and window shall be reasonably weathertight, watertight, and shall be kept in sound condition and good repair. Exterior brick or stone joints shall be tight fitting and mortar joints maintained to avoid excessive cracks or deterioration. All exterior wood surfaces, other than decay-resistant or treated woods, shall be protected from the elements and decay by paint, stain, or other protective coverings or treatments. A tarp or similar type material may only be used as a temporary protective treatment for up to 90 days.



The condition described above is not in compliance with the referenced Municipal Code, WI Admin Code, & WI Statutes, which states, 'the provisions of these codes shall apply to all existing premises and constitute the minimum requirements and standards for property conditions'. **Case details may be requested at communitydevelopment@stevenspoint.com.**

This is your official notice that you will need to bring the property into compliance by properly abating such conditions within the timeline indicated. A re-inspection will occur to verify if the condition(s) is abated prior to **09/30/2024**. Please contact the issuing inspector if this date needs to be adjusted before the scheduled re-inspection. Grants or low interest loans may be available to local homeowners, to verify funding availability please visit stevenspoint.com/595/Homeowner-Help



Monday, September 30, 2024

ID #: RAC-2024-00231

INVOICE #: 202400268

FREDERICK C. SEEFELT
1100 FRANKLIN ST
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

**NOTICE AND INVOICE FOR CORRECTING VIOLATION(S):
EXTERIOR VIOLATIONS ON HOUSE AT 1100 FRANKLIN ST**

Dear Frederick C. Seefelt,

An inspection of the property was made on 09/30/2024. As a result of this inspection, the condition described below was observed:

- o Exposed wood and peeling paint on garage please correct prior to the due date. Must be corrected by: 06/10/2025
Structurally Sound and Aesthetically Compliant Structures 21.07(1): 21.07(1) The exterior of every structure or accessory structure including fences shall be structurally sound and maintained in good repair. The same shall be maintained free of broken glass, loose shingles or siding, crumbling stone or brick, excessive peeling paint or other condition reflective of deterioration or inadequate maintenance to the end that the property itself may be preserved, safety and fire hazards eliminated, and adjoining properties protected from blighting influences. No building shall be so unsanitary or otherwise unfit for human occupancy, habitation, or dilapidated or blighted to the extent where windows, doors, or other openings or plumbing or heating fixtures or facilities or appurtenances of such building, dwelling or structure are either damaged, destroyed or removed so that such building, dwelling or structure offends the aesthetic character of the immediate neighborhood or produces blight or deterioration by reason of such condition.



This is your official notice that you will need to bring the property into compliance by properly abating such violations prior to 06/10/2025. Failure to abate the condition(s) described above will result in the issuance of a \$100.00 service charge, as well as, enforcing the penalty provisions described in the Stevens Point Municipal Code, including, but not limited to the issuance of a citation and/or the abatement by the City with the costs of abatement being assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

Please note that work being performed, or slated to be performed, may require a building permit. Inquire with our office to verify if a building permit is needed. Double fees shall be charged if work is commenced prior to the



Memo

Mark Kordus
Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator
Community Development
City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Ph: (715) 346-1567 • Fax: (715) 346-1498
mkordus@stevenspoint.com

To: Public Protection Committee
From: Mark Kordus
CC: Jarod Kivela & Andrew Beveridge
Date: 11/8/24
Subject: 1100 Franklin St. – Case RAC-2024-00231

On 2/29/24 Mark Kordus observed a garage with peeling paint and exposed wood. A notice was sent with a due date for compliance of 9/30/24. The owner stopped in shortly after the notice was sent to discuss options. Nothing more was heard, and a re-inspection occurred on 9/30/24, there was no change to the condition of the garage and service fee of \$100 for re-inspection and revised notice of non-compliance were sent. The revised due date is 6/10/25. On a separate note a permit was obtained for work on the garage by the owner on 6/12/24. Though no work was completed prior to the original due date and the code enforcement official was not made aware of the permit or the owners intentions.





Monday, September 30, 2024

ID #: RAC-2024-00231

INVOICE #: 202400268

FREDERICK C. SEEFELT
1100 FRANKLIN ST
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

**NOTICE AND INVOICE FOR CORRECTING VIOLATION(S):
EXTERIOR VIOLATIONS ON HOUSE AT 1100 FRANKLIN ST**

Dear Frederick C. Seefelt,

An inspection of the property was made on 09/30/2024. As a result of this inspection, the condition described below was observed:

- o Exposed wood and peeling paint on garage please correct prior to the due date. Must be corrected by: 06/10/2025

Structurally Sound and Aesthetically Compliant Structures 21.07(1): 21.07(1) The exterior of every structure or accessory structure including fences shall be structurally sound and maintained in good repair. The same shall be maintained free of broken glass, loose shingles or siding, crumbling stone or brick, excessive peeling paint or other condition reflective of deterioration or inadequate maintenance to the end that the property itself may be preserved, safety and fire hazards eliminated, and adjoining properties protected from blighting influences. No building shall be so unsanitary or otherwise unfit for human occupancy, habitation, or dilapidated or blighted to the extent where windows, doors, or other openings or plumbing or heating fixtures or facilities or appurtenances of such building, dwelling or structure are either damaged, destroyed or removed so that such building, dwelling or structure offends the aesthetic character of the immediate neighborhood or produces blight or deterioration by reason of such condition.



This is your official notice that you will need to bring the property into compliance by properly abating such violations prior to 06/10/2025. Failure to abate the condition(s) described above will result in the issuance of a \$100.00 service charge, as well as, enforcing the penalty provisions described in the Stevens Point Municipal Code, including, but not limited to the issuance of a citation and/or the abatement by the City with the costs of abatement being assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

Please note that work being performed, or slated to be performed, may require a building permit. Inquire with our office to verify if a building permit is needed. Double fees shall be charged if work is commenced prior to the



issuance of a permit. If you require assistance or have any additional questions regarding this matter, please contact the issuing inspector. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. To dispute or contest this notice and/or charge, a formal written letter must be submitted to the Administrative Appeals Board. The form is available online at stevenspoint.com/neighborhood, or you may request a hard copy from our office. Please note that you may only appeal the ordinance determination. Disagreement with the charge amounts is not a valid reason for appeal, as those are determined by ordinance. Local grants or low interest loans may be available, to check funding and program availability please visit stevenspoint.com/595/Homeowner-Help

As this is a subsequent offense, and the associated fees for the re-inspection and / or abatement of the condition(s) are as follows:

Type	Amount
Inspection after Initial Notice	\$100.00

Balance Due: \$100.00

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Kordus".

Mark Kordus
Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator
mkordus@stevenspoint.com
715-346-1567

RECIPIENTS: Frederick C. Seefelt

Please remit payment to the City of Stevens Point within 30 days from the date on this notice. Please be informed that if payment has not been received by this date, these fees will be assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

* Effective November 1, 2005 – The City of Stevens Point Reserves the right to process your check electronically. So, when paying by check, please be aware that you are authorizing us to use the information on your check to make a one-time electronic charge to your account at the financial institution indicated on the check. This electronic debit will be for the amount on your check. Please Detach at Dashed Line and Return With Remittance.

Customer Name: FREDERICK C. SEEFELT
Customer/Parcel No: 240829304505
Invoice: 202400268

Make Checks payable and Remit to:

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strong's Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Amount Due: \$100.00

Or pay online: stevenspoint.com/invoice



Deliver To:
 City Clerk's Office
 Attn: Administrative Appeals Board
 1515 Strongs Avenue
 Stevens Point, WI 54481
 or Email To:
 clerk@stevenspoint.com

PROPERTY APPEAL FORM

P MS. RUTH PFIFFNER
 708 RIDGE RD.
 STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Enclosed is a notice and/or service charge issued by the Inspection Department of the City of Stevens Point. To dispute or contest this notice and/or charge, a formal written letter must be submitted to the Administrative Appeals Board. This request must be in writing, in a manner which is legible, or typed and submitted (hard copy or electronically) to the City Clerk's Office. Under City Ordinance 3.56, any person aggrieved by a notice and/or charge issued in connection with any alleged violation may file a request for a hearing with the Administrative Appeals Board for review of the case.

The written or typed appeal must set forth the reasons for contesting the interpretation of City Code of Ordinances and/or the Notice of Noncompliance issued by the Inspection Department. The appeal must be submitted within 30 days after the date of issuance of the notice and/or charge. While not mandatory, you are highly encouraged to attend the meeting.

RECEIVED
 SEP 24 2024

ALL INFORMATION BELOW IS REQUIRED FOR SUBMITTAL PRIOR TO A HEARING REVIEW

CITY CLERKS
 OFFICE

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 708 RIDGE RD OWNER OF PROPERTY: RUTH PFIFFNER
 INDIVIDUAL FILING APPEAL: RUTH PFIFFNER RELATION TO PROPERTY: OWNER

ALLEGED VIOLATION: NON-COMPLIANCE / ROW VIOLATION ID #: RAC-2024-00907
 HAVE YOU SPOKEN WITH THE ISSUING AGENT (REQUIRED): No Yes AGENT: MARK KORDUS
 RESULTS OF THAT DISCUSSION: VIA EMAIL

I have requested (multiple time) copies of neighbors' ditch plans. I have never received anything I have requested.

PLEASE STATE THE SPECIFIC REASONS YOU BELIEVE THE ORDINANCE VIOLATION(S) WERE UNFOUNDED, INCORRECT, OR WITHOUT BASIS. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MAY ONLY APPEAL THE ORDINANCE DETERMINATION, ANY DISAGREEMENT WITH THE CHARGE AMOUNTS IS NOT A VALID REASON FOR APPEAL, AS THOSE ARE DETERMINED BY ORDINANCE. YOU MAY ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS OR DOCUMENTS AS NEEDED.

see attached papers(z) regarding writing a random, un related sentence to create a new code

SIGNATURE OF APPELLANT: Ruth Pfiffner DATE: 9-24-24
 PRINT NAME: RUTH PFIFFNER APPELLANT'S ADDRESS: 708 RIDGE RD.
ST. PT.

Writing a random, unrelated sentence above an existing Municipal Code does NOT CREATE A NEW CODE.

Example: Fill (a word that has not been defined) placed with right of way drainage swale must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. (This sentence has been copied from my letter of noncompliance.)

The municipal code follows:

16.13 (1) Debris Placed Within Right of Way

No person shall intentionally place any lawn clippings, sand, soil, gravel, stones, junk, garbage, or any other debris or material onto any SIDEWALKS, STREETS, or ALLEYS without permission from the Director of Public Works. Any person sweeping or blowing such materials shall take due care to ensure that no amount is left upon City streets and sidewalks.

This is the municipal code used on the non-compliance letter I received from the city, dated Sept. 18, and received on Sept. 20. It has no bearing on anything in the ROW at Ridge Rd. No sidewalks, alleys, or streets have been affected, and nothing mentioned in the code is applicable.

This is the specific reason I believe the ordinance violation is, unfounded, incorrect, without basis.

Ruth Pfiffner ID# RAC-2024-00907



Wednesday, September 18, 2024

ID#: RAC-2024-00907

RUTH J. PFIFFNER
708 RIDGE RD
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

**NONCOMPLIANCE NOTICE:
PUBLIC WORKS VIOLATION AT 708 RIDGE RD**

Dear Ruth J. Pfiffner,

An inspection of the property located at 708 RIDGE RD was made on 09/17/2024. As a result of this inspection, the condition below was observed:

Condition:

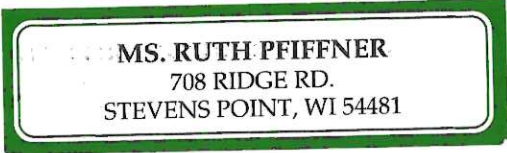
- o Fill placed within right of way drainage swale must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. Must be corrected by: 10/17/2024
16.13(1) Debris Placed Within Right of Way: (1) No person shall intentionally place any lawn clippings, sand, soil, gravel, stones, junk, garbage, or any other debris or material onto any sidewalks, streets, or alleys without permission from the Director of Public Works. Any person sweeping or blowing such materials shall take due care to ensure that no amount is left upon City streets and sidewalks.



The condition described above is not in compliance with the referenced Municipal Code, WI Admin Code, & WI Statutes, which states, 'the provisions of these codes shall apply to all existing premises and constitute the minimum requirements and standards for property conditions'. **Case details may be requested at communitydevelopment@stevenspoint.com.**

This is your official notice that you will need to bring the property into compliance by properly abating such conditions within the timeline indicated. A re-inspection will occur to verify if the condition(s) is abated prior to **10/17/2024**. Please contact the issuing inspector if this date needs to be adjusted before the scheduled re-inspection. Grants or low interest loans may be available to local homeowners, to verify funding availability please visit stevenspoint.com/595/Homeowner-Help

Failure to correct the condition(s) described above will result in the issuance of a \$100.00 service charge, as well as, enforcing the penalty provisions described in the Stevens Point Municipal Code, with the any unpaid charges



9-23-24

Property Appeal

Ruth Pfiffner
708 Ridge Road

On Friday, September 20, 2024 I received a non-compliance letter from the city of Stevens Point, Department of Community Development/Mark Kordus.

On August 27, 2024 I sent Mark Kordus a letter (with copies to Mayor Wiza, Scott Beduhn, Adam Kuhn, Andrew Beveridge) that explained that the ROW area (now listed as non-compliant) was going to be made into a dry creek bed (aka dry stream bed, dry river bed, wadi, oued, dry wash, arroyo) because of the continued washing away of the plants/grass that I had been trying to grow, along with the dirt, gravel and stones from the shoulder. I have a letter that I am enclosing from two years ago to Scott Beduhn. The letter clearly says what I

/,

9-23-24

knew to be true. I am now, and always have been (since 1977) at the low point of Ridge Rd from two directions. My property and the ROW are also banked toward my property. Because of the two issues, the water from heavy rains (there have been white caps on the water) rushing down Ridge Rd. washing away plants/grass growing in the ditch/swale. This has been happening since the swales were installed late summer of 2022.

Because of the condition of the material that was used in the ditch, I had a soil sample done last summer in Madison (included with this appeal) that indicated that the pH (8.1) was "off the charts" high (alkaline) and the organic matter was 1.2%.

Needless to say, not many plants like to grow in gravel, broken glass, and landscape fabric pieces, along with the above conditions. The report indicated that I would need to fertilize 3 times per summer if I was going to get anything to grow. I offered to send this document to the city officials

and they did not respond, but one. I also am including contact with the UW Extension office in Stevens Point regarding the plantings the city/landscape contractor used. We were given notice that perennial rye would be used, but instead, we had annual rye that the landscape company incorrectly used on the Ridge Rd section from Janick Circle to Simonis St. There is a major difference in the two seeds/plants.

During the last two summers, I have spent my own money, and hours and hours of time and energy in removing broken glass, and an infinite number of aggressive weeds. Being a gardener for 60+ years, I knew the weeds needed to go before I could expect any grass or acceptable plants to grow. For two summers I have attempted to get grass to grow, only to see the young grass disappear with rain that rushed down the street (driveway to corner). Another issue is that the roads were narrowed by 4 ft. from what they had been in all the years I've lived here. Because of the narrowing of the road, the water moves faster than it ever did,

doing more damage to my ROW than ever before, (37.4% faster). Over and over, I'd try a different approach. The stones/rocks are helping to stop that rush of water down into the ditch, carrying with it all manner of road/shoulder gravel and litter. The dry creek bed stones, rocks, and plantings help to divert and direct water. In the course of this plan, the dry creek bed will also help to hold the shoulder material in place. When the shoulder material is washed away from the road, the edge of the asphalt road will crumble and fail.

I've had many compliments regarding the manner of planting I have achieved this late summer, in addition to stopping the rushing water that does so much damage to plantings, including scouring the area and removing all manner of plantings/grass. One stranger told me that when she bikes past my yard, it is her happy place. Another gal that lives a block away, told me that my yard represents "peaceful" to her and her young child.

Mr. Kordus has used the word “debris” in his letter of non-compliance. He should have looked up the definition of “dry creek bed” which I included in my Aug. 27, 2024 letter telling him of my plans. There is **NO DEBRIS** in the area from my driveway to the corner. There are only stones, rocks, and plantings, exactly what should be in a dry creek bed, according to the plans to install one. In past communication, Mr. Kordus asked me to put into words exactly what I was going to do. Well, that’s what I was doing when I sent the letter to Mr. Kordus back in August. I not only told him what I planned to do, but I told him **WHY**. There is **NO DEBRIS**. The dry creek bed is stones, rocks and plantings. I have been slowly trying to repair the damage done by Haas/city of Stevens Point and finally came to a solution after talking to landscapers and researching how to achieve one. From August 27 until Sept 20, I received NO comments saying I could not improve my site/ROW from Mr. Kordus, Mayor Wiza, Andrew Beveridge, Adam Kuhn, or Scott Beduhn. No response is a

response. Certainly, a visit, phone call, or an email note would have been considerate and warranted if there were issues. I did all the landscaping to save money. I am 82 yrs. old and on a fixed income. That does not change the fact that I have improved the site, and repaired the area that has been scoured. The use of the word debris to describe my landscaping is ^{offensive} **incorrect** on all levels. After I received the soil sample test results from Madison, I also called the person in charge of soil tests. He told me that there is no way to increase the organic matter of my ditch, except to add it. He also told me that there is not likely to be any way to change the high alkalinity of the mix that was used in our ditches. In other research regarding alkalinity, I found that in 1000 years, there might be a change.

The definition of a dry creek bed is: a popular landscape feature that uses rocks, boulders, and plants to mimic the look of a stream bed. They can be built in trenches or gullies and can serve a variety of purposes including drainage and focal points. They can be designed to look like a

natural creek or stream bed by using river rock, plants, and other rocks.

Dry creek beds can help with water drainage after heavy rainfall by directing water away from areas that are prone to flooding or waterlogged soil.

They can also help prevent erosion and keep water from pooling in unwanted areas. The primary purpose of a dry creek bed is to manage excess water and control drainage. During heavy rainfall the creek bed acts as a channel, directing water away from areas prone to flooding. It helps erosion, protecting your plants and structures. If you have sloped areas in your landscape, erosion can be a concern. Dry creek beds effectively control erosion and reduce its velocity. The rocks and stones protect the bed and help slow down the water, allowing it to gradually infiltrate the soil and prevent erosion. Dry creek beds add a natural and visually appealing element to your landscape. They create a sense of movement and tranquility mimicking the appearance of a meandering stream or river. The combination of rocks/stones, in and

around the creek bed adds texture, color, and depth to your outdoor space, enhancing its overall beauty. Once properly installed, dry creek beds require minimal maintenance compared to other landscaping features. They do not require mowing, watering, or regular pruning.

Xeriscaping: A landscaping practice THAT AIMS TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR IRRIGATION.. Whether you call them dry stream, creek, or river beds, these rock, stone, plant, and boulder landscape elements divert water and look lovely doing it. My dry creek bed is a work in progress. Plantings will take more than a few months to get established and grow to maturity, with the added benefit of attracting insects, bees, and pollinators.

I used stones, plants and rocks, not debris, in the making of my dry creek bed.

This continued HARASSMENT by the city of Stevens Point and its agents is unwanted, unwelcome, and tiresome. The harassment goes back to the when I collected 121 signatures from home owners in the area that was destined to be "swaled". All those home owners had a resounding NO to the idea. I made an appointment at the mayor's office to present the petition with some of the neighbors. During the time of the meeting, I was suppressed by Mr. Wiza from speaking.

In previous contact with Dennis Laidlaw, Joel Lemke, and Scott Beduhn, we had been told that the reason for the swales was to avoid standing water in the streets. Because we had no standing water in the streets. I decided to research swales. I found something totally different. **The swales are installed to get DNR credits against the polluting of the WI River from storm water drains.** It has absolutely nothing to do with us, since we are over 3 miles from the river. We live on sand and any rain or snow melt goes into the ground, just as

Mother Nature intended it. We have no storm sewers, so we are NOT POLLUTING ANY PART OF THE WIS. RIVER. City officials found out that the neighbors now knew the truth, something they didn't plan we would/could find out. I have been finding out all kinds of truths dealing with the city. Hence, the non-compliance letter, code violation, anything they can find. And constant harassment and elder abuse continues to plague me. No police reports (speeding/accidents) were used by the engineering dept. to give a reason to narrow the roads by 4 feet. I believe it was to save money on the amount of asphalt needed. I had a meeting at Mr. Beduhn's office and he could provide no police reports when I asked about them. This is at a time when vehicles are getting larger and more plentiful. Ridge Rd is also part of the Green Circle Trail system, so we have more and more traffic. Mail boxes stand out into the road as well, endangering all who walk and ride bikes. All in all, the city officials don't like to be called out about the decisions they have made that have destroyed our

neighborhood, by removing 55 trees, and a variety of plantings in a 2 block area. (This from a city that claims to be TREE CITY). I believe my words, actions, government meeting attendance has set me up as a target for revenge by city officials. I would not have had this urgency to become an "advocate/activist" for all the things I've mentioned except when I find that "truth is stranger than fiction" by our city leaders. Finding the truth is my "ON BUTTON". My attendance, letters, and actions, will be determined by the words and actions of the city. My favorite quote is: "Your words and actions say everything about you, and nothing about me." And the reverse is also correct. My words say everything about me and the search for truth. I have not appreciated the city officials attempts to harass, discriminate, and use elder abuse over the past few years. False accusations are not likely to advance the city of Stevens Point on any level. Dumping a load of snow on my driveway isn't likely to get high marks. This was also done at another residence of a person who

speaks out. It wasn't snow from the street area. It was a load of clean snow perhaps from the snow fields off of Green Ave.

I might suggest that our city leaders educate themselves on the many issues they bring up, before taking action against me. My yard is unlike any of the yards across the street from me, or next to me. Don't try to make a "one size fits all" experience the order of the day. If you have knowledge in gardening/landscaping, you would know that there are differences from place to place, even a few yards away, such as sunlight exposure, amount of water, seeds used, underground irrigation, and amount of fertilizer, pesticides, or herbicides used. Some of us choose to use natural/organic methods (leaves, needles, branches, and grass cuttings) to improve our gravel/soil. When did that become illegal? My attempts to correct the situation (I knew would happen) are honorable. No one else in this area

has the same problem. Therefore, the "fix" is going to be different from my neighbors.

When I requested copies of letters of non-compliance, or letters that show ditch plans homeowners have sent to Mr. Kordus, I have received nothing in the past two years.

Am I to think the latest action (non-compliance letter) taken by the city is fair and honorable?

It says HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and ELDER ABUSE. Perhaps I should add lack of knowledge about landscaping/gardening.

You are welcome to visit my yard at any time. I would be happy to do a "show and tell" for you all. It might take any guesswork out of your decision.

Ruth Pfiffner
708 Ridge Rd.
Stevens Point

Ditch Information



From:

To:

Cc:

[Redacted email addresses]

Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024, 11:18 AM CDT

August 27, 2024

To Mark Kordus

Good Morning Mark,

I have decided to bring you up to date regarding my ditch activity and let you know what I have found out through my research.

I have been fertilizing (3 times this summer) and adding grass seed to the gravel mix that Haas brought to this neighborhood (extremely high pH (alkaline) and basically no organic matter (1.2%). I have been following the recommendations set forth by the UW Madison soil sample information I received last summer. The fertilizing and seeding has been expensive for me to try to fix the damage done to the ROW. It has not been successful. I have spent all last summer and this summer digging up the array of AGGRESSIVE WEEDS that continue to grow in the ditches. Nothing seems to help. I am sending you the soil sample attachment, even though only one of the city officials asked to see it. I find that disturbing since it means basically no one wants to learn what really happened during the road rebuild. Whether you read it or not is up to you. I would hope that all people employed by the city of Stevens Point would want to educate themselves on this event.

Since I have not been successful in establishing any type of corrective lawn in the ditches (ROW), I decided to get professional help. After reading the soil sample results and the city information about the changes to the road, I was told that it was going to be a rough/tough "road" ahead. One of the biggest flaws in the road rebuild plan was to narrow the road by 4 feet. This action, alone, has caused heavy rains to flow 37.4% faster down Ridge Rd. When you narrow the space for the water to follow the path of least resistance, then you also cause the flow to increase and be able to do much more damage. As I have written/spoken to Mr. Beduhn, I knew the actions mentioned above would happen. I am at the low point (and always have been) of Ridge Road from the west, and from the north. And the corner/curve is banked toward my ROW.

Those facts alone set the water flowing at a speed to do a lot of damage to my ROW, especially, the area from my driveway east to the corner. The fast flowing water scours the few existing patches of grass/plants and leaves my ditch with nothing growing. I've been transplanting existing plants from my yard to try to stop this action.....with little success. My professional landscaper told me that rocks/stones may help. I am in the process of putting rocks/stones in the ditch to slow the damaging water flow. It is a work in progress and will continue through this summer and years ahead.

I hope this updated information will help you understand the reason for the rocks/stones in my ditch. As you probably know, two of my neighbors/city employees would like nothing more than to stop me from improving my yard/ROW. I am giving you this information to halt any complaints filed by these two individuals.

Thank you for listening.



Ruth Pfiffner

 Letter to Scott Beduhn re swales.docx
16.2kB

 LG-2252-23.pdf
208.9kB

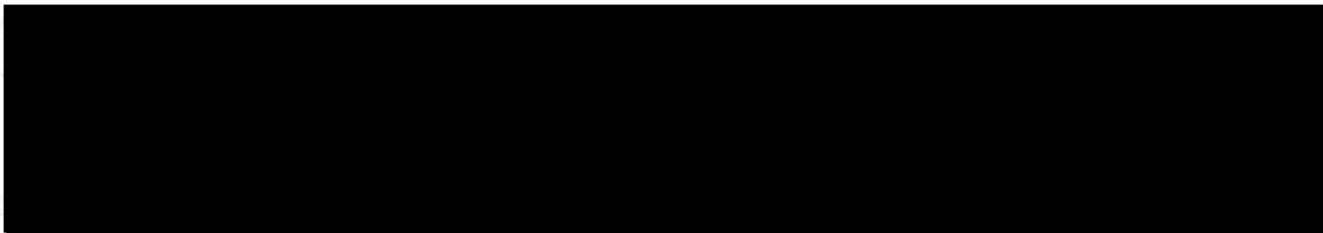
 20230512131103184.pdf
268.8kB

pictures of dry creek beds

 **MS. RUTH PFIFFNER**
708 RIDGE RD.
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481 



Fw: Lawn & Garden Report for RUTH PFIFFNER



m;

Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023, 10:36 AM CDT

This is the Lawn and Garden Report from Madison. Perhaps you'll now realize that I've been using facts when I make statements about the condition of the "soil" used on Ridge Rd and Janick C. (N&W). All the things I've said have come from this report.

Please note the recommendations in the report as I'll be using that information in my email response to the mayor's letter to me.

Ruth Pfiffner

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Soil & Forage Analysis Lab <soils@slh.wisc.edu>

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023, 08:39:47 AM CDT

Subject: Lawn & Garden Report for RUTH PFIFFNER

*** This is an automated message, replies will not be answered. Please call us at 608-262-4364 if you need additional information. ***

Attached are the results for your Lawn & Garden test from the Soil & Forage Analysis Lab. This report is also available from our web site at <http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu/reports> using the following lab number and access code:

Lab number: 2252
Access code: xsue

If additional tests were requested and the results are not included with this report then they will follow shortly. If you have trouble viewing this report or would like a hard copy, please contact the lab at the number above.

Thank you,
Soil & Forage Analysis Lab

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: This message and all attachments may be confidential or protected by privilege. If you are not the intended recipient you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the information contained in or attached to this message is strictly prohibited. Please notify the sender of the delivery error by replying to this message and then delete it from your system. Thank you.



LG-2252-23.pdf

Samples Analyzed By:
Soil & Forage Analysis Lab
4702 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53705
608-262-4364

SOIL TEST REPORT

LAWN SOIL

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
University of Wisconsin-Extension
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of Soil Science

Lab Number: 2252

Access Code: xsue

Date received: 5/18/2023

Account: 555050

Client: RUTH PFIFFNER

County: Portage

Date processed: 6/12/2023

708 RIDGE RD
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Send to:

Extension Portage County -
1462 Strongs Ave
Stevens Point, WI 54481-2947

Area Type Lawn/New from seed
Area Designation LAWN

RECOMMENDATIONS

Lime to Apply

No soil pH adjustment is recommended.

Fertilizer to Apply

Based on the results of your soil analysis, we recommend the following fertilizer program.

Using the following grid, apply the recommended fertilizers using the spreader setting shown on the fertilizer bag. Use only fertilizers manufactured specifically for application on turfgrass. Re-test soil every 2 to 3 years.

Type of turf fertilizer	At Establishment	May 15-31	July 1-15	September 1-15
General high N				
Starter high P	2X			

After 3 to 4 mowings following establishment, commence application of general turf fertilizer at the dates listed above.

Apply a double application of starter grade fertilizer to supply additional P at establishment.

Wisconsin Statute 94.643 allows the application of starter fertilizer during the first season, regardless of soil P levels.

The soil test interpretation for phosphorus level shown below is for turf following initial establishment from seed. New turf plantings established from seed will respond to phosphorus fertilizer which is typically applied in the form of starter (high P) lawn fertilizer. Please see the guidelines above for recommended application of starter turf fertilizer followed by the use of general turf fertilizer beginning 3-4 mowing after establishment.

Environmental Tips

Shaded lawns and all lawns that have been consistently fertilized for 10-15 years have a reduced requirement for nitrogen fertilizer. If your lawn falls under either of these categories, consider fertilizing in May and September only.

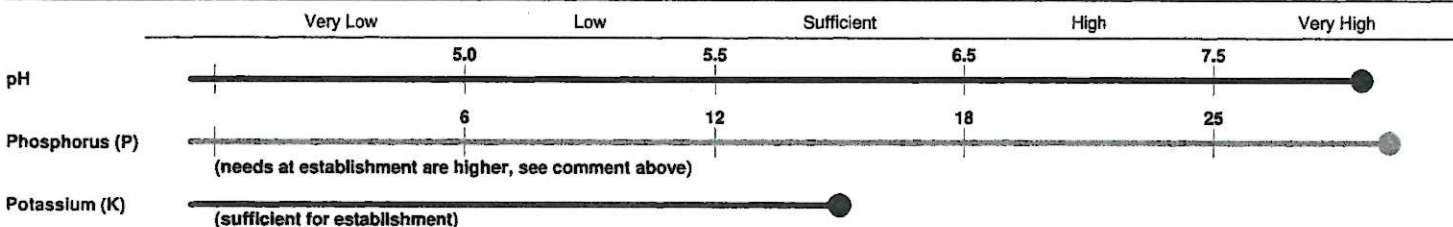
An organic-based fertilizer, or a fertilizer with a high percentage of slow-release nitrogen, is a good choice for July when conditions can be too hot or too dry for a primarily soluble fertilizer.

Unless there is rain the day of the application, water the turf for at least 30 minutes after applying fertilizer. Sweep up any fertilizer accidentally applied to paved surfaces.

References and Resources

For additional information on lawn fertilization please see <http://uwlax.soils.wisc.edu/turf.htm>

LABORATORY ANALYSIS INTERPRETATIONS FOR ESTABLISHED TURF



LABORATORY ANALYSIS

Sample	pH	Phosphorus [P] (ppm)	Potassium [K] (ppm)	Organic Matter %
1	8.1	30	47	1.2

Guide to Turfgrass Recommendations

Lime and fertilizer recommendations are given just below the sample information and look like the example below.

Example Results

RECOMMENDATIONS			
Lime to Apply			
No soil pH adjustment is recommended.			
Fertilizer to Apply			
<i>Wisconsin Statute 94.643 prohibits application of lawn fertilizer containing phosphorus to established turf when soil tests indicate no phosphorus is needed. All vendors of lawn fertilizer stock phosphorus-free fertilizer.</i>			
Based on the results of your soil analysis, we recommend the following fertilizer program.			
Using the following grid, apply the recommended fertilizers using the spreader setting shown on the fertilizer bag. Use only fertilizers manufactured specifically for application on turfgrass. Re-test soil every 2 to 3 years.			
Type of turf fertilizer	May 15-31	July 1-15	September 1-15
General high N	X	X	X
Starter high P			
Winterizer high K			
Apply general fertilizer using the spreader settings on the bag.			
Apply general grade fertilizer between October 1st and 15th if clippings are bagged.			

Lime rates are given in pounds of “finely ground lime” per thousand square feet. This assumes a Lime product with a Neutralizing Index of 90-99. If you choose a lower grade lime, more product will be required as the Neutralizing Index will be proportionally less.

Lime applications can be made at any time as it may take 24 months or longer for it to fully react with soil acidity. If you plan on tilling prior to lawn establishment, application of lime prior to tilling will be beneficial as the lime can react with soil to the depth of tillage.

Fertilizer applications are given in the table by **type** and by application **timing**.

Three main nutrients found in turf fertilizers are Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K).

Fertilizer bags will have the percent of **actual nutrient** in the bag listed in order as “N – P₂O₅ – K₂O”

Turf fertilizer **types** and the amount of nutrient they **generally contain** are in the table below:

	%N	%P ₂ O ₅	%K ₂ O
General	20 to 30	0	less than 5
Starter fertilizer	10 to 30	20 to 30	any
Late season/winterizer	20 to 30	0	10 to 30

It is suggested to use nitrogen (N) fertilizer that at least ¼ of the total N is slowly available. Generally, turf fertilizer bag labels will show the total N and percent of the total N that is slowly available.

If potassium is “Very Low” or “Low” try to find a fertilizer with K₂O.

To apply the **right amount** of fertilizer, it is **critical** that your **spreader** is set to the **proper setting**.
 If your spreader is not listed below, look for a toll free number on the fertilizer bag to call for the proper setting.

These settings are meant to apply approximately 1 lb of N per thousand square feet of a 25 to 30% N fertilizer.

Spreader Settings



Broadcast Spreader		Drop Spreader	
Agri-Fab	4.0	Agri-Fab	6.0
Ames	4.0	Ames	2.5
Ames Deluxe 2in1	3.0	Ames Deluxe 2in1	1.5
Craftsman	4.0	Craftsman	5.5
Earthway	11.5	Earthway	9.5
Plant Mate	8.0	Plant Mate	1.7
Precision GreenLine	3.75	Precision GreenLine	1.5
Precision Red Devil (old dial 0 to 12)	6.5	Precision Red Devil (old dial 0 to 14)	7.0
Precision Red Devil (new dial 0 to 10)	3.75	Precision Red Devil (new dial 0 to 5)	1.5
Precision Pro	3.75	Precision Pro	1.5
Scotts Speedy Green	5.75	Scotts Accu Green	6.5
Scotts Easy Green	26.0	Scotts Even Green	7.5
Taylor	8.0	Taylor	1.7



TIPS:

If you have elected to purchase a weed and feed fertilizer, the grass must be wet when applied. The best time is early morning when there is heavy dew on the grass.

If the fertilizer does not contain weed killer, apply when the grass is dry.

Apply the fertilizer in a pattern that assures some overlap between adjacent passes with the spreader.

UW Madison Soil and Forage Analysis Laboratory Report

From: [REDACTED]
To: mkorobus@stevenspoint.com; jienke@stevenspoint.com; mwiza@stevenspoint.com; sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com; ternster@stevenspoint.com; rkernosky@stevenspoint.com; bkalata@stevenspoint.com
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023, 11:34 AM CDT

Good Morning All,

I have paid for and received the analysis of the soil sample I sent to the UW Soil and Forage Laboratory regarding the "soil" that was used to fill the ditches (swales) in the Ridge Rd./Janick Circle area during the summer of 2022. The reason for the quotation marks around the word "soil" will be clear by the time I tell you what the analysis indicated.

The soil contains only 1.2% organic matter. The pH of soil is "off the charts"....beyond 8. After receiving the analysis, I called and spoke to a gentleman who works at the laboratory to help me be clear about the results. The only way to get organic matter into the "soil" is to put it in....leaves, branches, pine needles, pine cones. In other words, items provided by nature, which can also include yard/garden debris as long as it is from plant material. As it breaks down, it will add organic matter to the gravelly mixture we now have and become proper soil for plants to grow.

He also told me that pH is extremely difficult to change at any time. The only way to alter pH during the growing season is to add fertilizer, which in our case, would be 3 times a year. In other words, in order to grow anything in the HIGH pH particles/gravel/grit (not really soil) is to put chemicals into our ditches. The pH won't change, just the amount of chemicals that you use each season will alter the environment. That is certainly not my plan. When you place chemicals into the ditch, you are also putting chemicals into the ground water.

I also found out that there are few plants that grow in such a high pH environment. Lavender happens to be one of them, also asparagus. So now, I am to wonder what is expected of the property owners who live on Ridge Rd and Janick Circle. None of the planned landscaping has much of a chance to grow/thrive as the city government would have us believe. Just water and mow and **trust the process** is Mr. Beduhn's suggested approach to having our ditches become lawn once again. In just a few years it will look the same as it once was, he said. According to the the laboratory report, that won't happen. When man alters/plays with nature, man doesn't win.

I would suggest that the city provide enough lavender seeds, or asparagus plants to fill our ditches. I would also suggest that we be allowed, actually encouraged, to place organic matter into the ditches and not be harassed or threatened for doing so.

I would also like you to tell me why the people living on Ridge Rd have ANNUAL rye grass growing, when the report we were given by the city before the destruction event took place that we were to get seed mixture #40, which included **perennial** rye. There is a huge difference between annual and perennial rye. Please respond. Our property values depend on what we do with this existing situation.

A copy of the laboratory report is available upon request.

Regards,
Ruth Pfiffner

文

Fw: "weed"

From: [REDACTED]

To: mhwiza@stevenspoint.com; rkernusky@stevenspoint.com; sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com; ternster@stevenspoint.com; bkalata@stevenspoint.com; jlemke@stevenspoint.com; abeveridge@stevenspoint.com; bradleya.johnson@wisconsin.gov

Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023, 11:30 AM CDT

Here is the report from the UW Extension Office (kiddie corner to City Hall) right here in SP. It proves that the landscaper used ANNUAL rye grass seed on Ridge Road, and not the perennial rye that was ordered by the city. I will be referring to annual rye in my response to the mayor. This is the research I keep using to find out what is, or is not true.

As you can see, the email is from Denise Worzalla-Rocha, referring to her associate KEN in identifying the annual rye grass. No matter what you think was laid down by the landscaper, it was annual, not perennial grass. That means it dies after one season. The folks on Janick N&W got perennial rye grass. RP

----- Forwarded Message -----

[REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2023, 01:09:56 PM CDT
Subject: "weed"

Ken ID'd the "weed" as annual rye grass.

Here is a website with more information.

<https://turf.purdue.edu/annual-ryegrass-showing-up-in-lawns/>

Denise Rocha

Pronouns: she/her

Safe Zone Certified

Lead Extension Support Specialist

Portage County Extension

(715) 346-1316

“A home without a dog is like a garden without flowers” – Anonymous

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



20230512131103184.pdf

268.8kB

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To:

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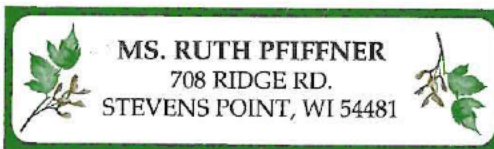
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20230512131103184.pdf

268.8kB

articles on pine needles



From: [REDACTED]

To: akuhn@stevenspoint.com

Bcc: mwiza@stevenspoint.com; sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com; shuda5@yahoo.com; phred@acnow.us;
kidagain7@hotmail.com; jkjusta@yahoo.com; mkordus@stevenspoint.com; ternster@stevenspoint.com;
jlemke@stevenspoint.com

Date: Friday, April 26, 2024, 11:41 AM CDT

Hi Adam,

I'm sending you articles about pine needles since Ryan doesn't want me to email him. I'm hoping you can get this email to him, or just the articles so he can learn the right and wrong of pine needles. He can learn a whole lot from this information so that he'll not embarrass himself in the future by saying exactly the wrong thing about our wonderful pine needles. I hope he will appreciate this information and believe it.

I've known this information for years and have used it to my advantage. Needless to say, you'll find pine needles in my ditches for the very reason all the articles say. I am only helping, not hindering the future of the ditches.

Ruth Piffner

Are pine needles the cause of acidic soil beneath pine trees? The surprising answer - as this idea is pretty common - is NO, pine needles do not cause the soil to be overly acidic. Normally, pine needles barely affect the soil Ph, but they can cause slightly more acidic conditions if they are worked into the soil.

If pine and fir needles fall on bare soil and decompose there, they provide valuable mulch and a source of organic matter, which improves the soil and helps PREVENT EROSION. However, if they build up in large quantities close to structures, they can constitute a fire hazard.

A very common gardening myth is that pine trees and the needles they drop acidify the soil. While it's true that the soil near pines is often quite acidic, the soil pH was not determined by the tree. Pines grow where they do because the soil and climate are suitable, and they are not creating acid conditions themselves. When nothing grows beneath a white pine tree, it is probably because the tree has numerous shallow roots and is casting too much shade.

There is a long list of benefits to using pine needle mulch, including that it is free and often readily available. Pine needles provide all the advantages of any other mulching material, including conserving soil moisture, suppressing weeds, adding soil nutrients, moderating soil temperature and keeping plants and fruit clean during heavy rains. Additionally, pine needles have a tendency to stay loose and light, without forming an

impenetrable crust like wood mulch. They are quite stable and do not tend to wash out of beds during heavy rains. In spots where it is difficult to keep mulch in place on a slope, pine needles might be the answer. Finally, pine needles are longer lasting than other types of ORGANIC mulch, and their fine texture is quite attractive against most permanent plantings,

If you have a pine tree in your yard, start taking advantage of fallen needles. They are a free mulch and will benefit your garden.

April 22, 2023

To: Joel Lemke
Scott Beduhn
Mayor Wiza
City Attorney Beveridge
Dean Shuda
Ryan Kernoskey
Mark Kordus
Becky Kalata

From: Ruth Pfiffner

To Whom It May Concern:

I received a letter from Mr(s). Lemke and Beduhn on Thursday, April 20, 2023, dated April 17, 2023 that I have unauthorized improvements within the right of way. I was told I must have a permit before I put an improvement in the ROW. I am requesting a copy (in writing) of the law, or ordinance, that states same. I am also requesting a written reply to the invitation to come to my house (all of the above names mentioned so as to show me how you think I'll be able to take care (mowing or raking) of the ditch that goes all across my yard and around the corner. It is so deep that nothing I own will be able to mow said ditch. The webbing/netting will keep me from raking. I see no way that any person will be able to get to said ditch without injury. I am not able to walk north to south, or east to west across this dangerous ditch. I have both knee and hip replacements and have been told not to walk on uneven surfaces. I stated this to the director of public works and public utilities in the past. I will NOT BE risking life and limb to do anything with this hazard **you have created.**

/

To put it mildly, you created this monster, now show me (and others) how it can be taken care of. A real, not theoretical, demonstration needs to be given.

I repeat myself, and will continue to repeat these statements/questions until I see the written agreement/permits/answers: How can the property owner on Janick Circle West be allowed to have NO TREES REMOVED that are in the ROW, and along the street, now followed by adding wood chips? It's the property owned by Cynny Porter. It's not difficult to find as Janick W is but one block long. Herein lies harassment. When more than one property owner (Lake, Borchardt, and Porter) is treated differently than others in the same block and area, therein lies harassment. What you do for one, you do for all. If other property owners are allowed to have sticks/branches/etc. in the ditch, then I should be granted the same rights.

All of the bullet points you listed in your letter of 4/17/23 have ABSOLUTELY nothing to do with my property/row. I have not created any physical barrier, nor have I created any impervious surface, nor have I created anything that could be deemed treating stormwater, nor have I made any attempt to improve the parking surface. It appears that this is a form letter created for some other use. I see nothing in it that cites where it came from as an ordinance, or a city, county, state, or federal law.

Oh, I forgot to mention that you should have your drivers/partners in crime smile for the cameras when they deliver a truck load of snow (from an outside source, not from the plow) in my driveway a couple of months ago. I have pictures to show any of you that participated in the planning or direct action, as well as another resident of the city. WOW, it must have taken a lot of brain power to create this childish action.

Re: [External] (Swales/ditches/trenches) Friday, Oct. 27, 2023

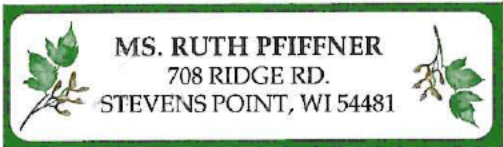
From: [REDACTED]

To: mwiza@stevenspoint.com

Cc: jlemke@stevenspoint.com; bradleya.johnson@wisconsin.gov; sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com;
abeveridge@stevenspoint.com; bkalata@stevenspoint.com; rkernosky@stevenspoint.com;
ternster@stevenspoint.com; shuda5@yahoo.com; mkordus@stevenspoint.com

Bcc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023, 01:17 PM CDT



Mike,

I was driving into my driveway when I saw you at the corner of my property. Why didn't you come to my door? We could have had a discussion, rather than all this email letter stuff and all the research I have sent you to make my comments informed and correct. Too bad you didn't stop to talk.

I have many comments to make and will try to stay on task to respond to your photos and statements.

Let's start with the photos. First of all, the "thriving" lawns you showed are those that have been chemically treated (fertilizers and herbicides). Some also have been shaded for most/part of the day. My ditches have full sun from dawn to dusk. This summer's heat & sun were brutal. The other factor you didn't realize is that those thriving lawns have underground sprinkler systems, while I do not. The **FACT** that there is next to no organic matter in the "soil" that was brought in (**see soil report**) meant that no amount of watering was going to last. I would have had to have all my hoses going all day long just in the ditches. Since the "soil" has little to no organic matter to feed grass, the **soil report** recommends using a fertilizer 3x per season. Do you know that chemicals/fertilizers are constantly leaching into our ground water? Did you know that the SNOW FIELDS at the end of East Maria Dr where the city brings all the polluted snow from city streets/parking lots is polluted? And you're bringing it to our backyard without a care in the world. I will NOT be using fertilizer to try to make the grass grow. I would rather we showed concern for our planet than throw chemicals into/onto the "problem" areas/mistakes. I prefer to use natural organic matter in/on the ditches. **Please refer to the letter I wrote regarding Mr. Joel Lemke** threatening me for putting natural organic matter into the ditch. In other words, you/Mr. Lemke would rather have me throw chemicals into my ditch to force growth than to do it naturally (just as Mother Nature takes care of things.) I've heard say "There isn't enough lime in the entire state of WI to neutralize all the salts/fertilizers". We all know that with Winter on the horizon, that there will be salt and grit added to our ditches. How great is that???? Anything we may have growing may be taken out with salt....but you say we must tend to the grass. Perhaps to cover up the devastation/destruction that the city did to our neighborhood last year, we must now use whatever means to have grass!!!! I should say "shame on you" but I'll let others do that.

/

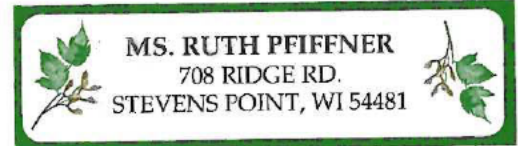


Re: Kordus.

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 03:15 PM CDT



See my other email. I said same thing row ditch swale vs yard.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 2:20:57 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Kordus.

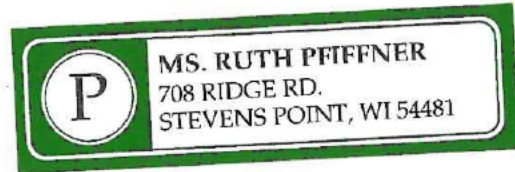
How is this for my reply? He sent me the same lawn crap and is using it for row..

Lawn and ditch are two different things. I keep my lawn mowed. You and yours have made it impossible to do anything about the ROW. I requested many copies from you regarding properties all over this neighborhood that are completely wild. You can send me their native lawn plans anytime now.

I will be happy to comply when I see how their plans are worded....and do a similar plan. I hope you won't say there are issues with privacy. I don't want their names. You can black them out.

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android

Please see below.



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 12:48 PM
To: Kari Yenter <KYenter@stevenspoint.com>
Subject: Re: [External] document, April 12, 2023, and Email 4/13/23

Hi Kari, Please send this email to the following. I appreciate all you do. Ruth

To: Mark Kordus
CC: Mayor Wiza
Joel Lemke
Ryan Kernoskey
City Attorney Beveridge
Scott Beduhn
Dean Shuda
Becky Kalata

Mark: I told you a year ago that I would send you the names of the native plants I was using when you sent me the names of all the weeds that were coming to me via the ditch. So far, you are in non-compliance with my request. I have received nothing from you. **Please respond asap.** Since I received no response, I considered it "your response" which then allowed me to act accordingly.

I have also written/spoken to Scott Beduhn and his workers multiple times about the ditches being so steep/deep that NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO COMPLY with the 8" rule. So do ALL OF THE RESIDENTS GET THE SAME TREATMENT? Or will it be just be me at 708 Ridge Rd.? You better look at the possibilities here. **One person treated differently is harrassment AND discrimination.** Now you're in new territory. **I like your answer to these questions in writing.**

I consider this harrassment, as does my attorney. Your correspondence and all the above names will be considered part of this harrassment.

I am also **requesting a written statement/agreement** that tells why some (3) of the people in the two blocks of Ridge Rd, Janick N. and Janick W were NOT DITCHED because they have added buildings/sheds in their yards or had trees you chose not to remove.

What code covers that decision? **I want to see it in writing.** If there are permits for these buildings that have no ditch, then I'd like those copies as well.

I want COPIES OF ALL YOUR CODES THAT APPLY TO SOME, BUT NOT ALL. I'm confused as to why some people have not LOST multiple trees (as per Janick W/Porters property). **I would like to see that agreement/code in WRITING**, as well.

Now, let's move down the road to the property belonging to Keith Pilger, next to Kernoskey's property. His entire front yard is wild. **I would like to see his management plan (IN WRITING, OF COURSE)** that allows him to have all wild plants, whether native, or not. I would like to copy his plan, or one of the many management plans that you **MUST HAVE IN WRITING FOR ALL THE PROPERTIES** starting at Main St./HWY 66/former HWY 10). I would like to copy their management plans as well.

Once again, I am requesting these plans in writing as soon as possible so I can be ready to deliver them to my friends, neighbors, family, and attorney, and, of course, to the important person who will make the decision to allow me to have what others on this same street have. Be sure you include all the residents that are allowed to have wild, but I am not. **I will consider writing my plan after I receive my request for all of the codes/agreements for all of the above properties. Certainly, you have more important things to do than to harrass/threaten an old person. I consider this Elder abuse by the city of Stevens Point with all the city officials listed above.**

Another new territory you have now entered.

On Thursday, April 13, 2023, 08:48:44 AM CDT, Mark Kordus <mkordus@stevenspoint.com> wrote:

Ruth – please be aware as I had indicated in my email to you on 4/12/22, we would need a plan submitted for establishing a native lawn, which we have not received. I have include the relevant code sections below fro you convenience, if this is something you still wish to pursue. My understanding is that there is a separate issue with our public works and storm water utility related to fill placed within the right of way, which is not something allowed under native lawn plan in any case. I believe you will be receiving a formal notice of non-compliance shortly related to the unauthorized fill from the utilities with a specific timeline for compliance prior to City abatement.

Relevant code sections from Chapter 21 related to native lawn establishment;

Native Lawn shall mean a parcel with a Vegetation Management Plan in place which has received approval, where native vegetation may exceed eight (8) inches in height. This shall also include undeveloped lots.

Vegetation Management Plan shall mean a written approved plan specific to management of the native vegetation on a parcel which contains a map of the area upon which native vegetation or in combination with an eco-grass short no mow mix, may exceed eight (8) inches in height, a statement of intent for either an active and/or passive restoration, a plan view of the property and plantings including a general narrative description of the vegetation types, and plant succession schedule if turf grass is to remain present, with the specific timelines for management and maintenance techniques to be employed.

(21) Lawn Maintenance. The owner of any property within the City shall maintain their lawn, grasses and weeds, to a length not to exceed eight (8) inches. If a property is found to exceed this height standard or is determined to be a public nuisance by the Code Official, a notice shall be served to the property owner giving them a minimum of 7 days from the date the notice is mailed, to correct. If the nuisance is not corrected after that time period, upon re-inspection the City shall have it abated by City or contracted staff and the actual costs for abatement, plus any applicable municipal service fees shall be charged to the owner. Properties exempt from these requirements shall be the following:

a. *Any properties which have been deemed by the Code Official as undeveloped (the property has no dwelling on it or does not constitute a zoning lot and/or can be further subdivided) or agricultural parcels. These properties would only be required to maintain the area within the road right of way up to and including three (3) feet beyond the edge of public rights of way, in addition to any applicable vision triangle requirements per the Zoning code.*

b. *If a property owner has submitted a Vegetation Management Plan and received approval from the Code Official for a Native Lawn. Those properties would be exempt from these provisions, so long as they are in compliance with the approved Vegetation Management Plan, are maintaining vegetative growth along adjoining neighboring property lines, and any applicable conditions within the approved plan.*

Regards,

Mark E. Kordus

Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator

City of Stevens Point - Community Development

1515 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Direct: (715) 346-1554 Main: (715) 346-1567

mkordus@stevenspoint.com | www.stevenspoint.com/neighborhood

From: Kari Yenter <KYenter@stevenspoint.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 10:28 AM

To: Mike Wiza <MWiza@stevenspoint.com>; Ryan Kernosky <rkernosky@stevenspoint.com>; Joel Lemke <jlemke@stevenspoint.com>; Scott Beduhn <sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com>; Mark Kordus <mkordus@stevenspoint.com>; Andrew Beveridge <ABeveridge@stevenspoint.com>

3

Cc: District 8 <district8@stevenspoint.com>; Becky Kalata <bkalata@stevenspoint.com>
Subject: FW: [External] document, April 12, 2023

Please see the attached letter that Ms. Pfiffner would like me to share with you.

Thanks,
Kari

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 9:06 AM
To: Kari Yenter <KYenter@stevenspoint.com>
Subject: [External] document, April 12, 2023

Hi Kari,

I would like you to send this document to Mayor Wiza, Ryan Kernoskey, Joel Lemke, Scott Beduhn, Mark Kordus, and Dean Shuda. You can keep a copy for your files, as well.

I would like it to go to the city attorney too. I think you told me in the past you couldn't do that, but, if you can, then please send it to Mr. Beveridge. I'm not sure a document can be sent through the usual contact email. Please advise.

Thank you.

Ruth Pfiffner

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

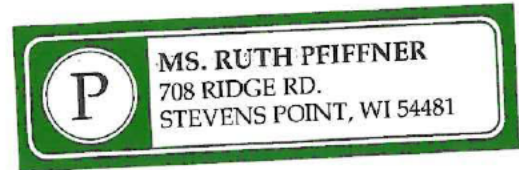
H

Re: [External] Email re: swale and native lawn

From: [REDACTED]
To: abeveridge@stevenspoint.com

Bcc: [REDACTED]

Date: Friday, April 14, 2023, 07:28 AM CDT



City Attorney Beveridge,

I'm sorry to hear that we can't sit down and have a reasonable conversation. All this about pine needles!!!!

Actually, it's about revenge. I've written many letters over the past 4 years, and have spoken at city govt meetings. They don't like me, or what I say, so this is what it is all about. I hope you can get them to back off. There are many issues being brought up that may have bad endings.

One of the biggest concerns I have is the make-up of the ditches. I do all my own yard work. I will be 81 next Friday. I have had knee replacement and hip replacement. It is difficult enough to mow/bag/plant/weed/etc. on flat surfaces. Now you add a deep ditch with high sides. I have only a walk behind mower. I will NOT RISK life and limb and another joint replacement to go down into that ditch. Not by myself, certainly NOT with a mower, NOT with a rake, NOT at all. The webbing/netting catches on your shoes and causes tripping. There are plastic clips that stick out and also trip you. I would suggest there will be injury lawsuits against the city when they do such dangerous things and then try to tell us WE HAVE TO take care of it. I would invite you to come and see my yard. One of the nicest in the neighborhood, all done by me. Adding pine needles before I plant so that I can walk without any danger to life and limb should not be the start of a war. There is no one that takes better care of his/her yard than me.

Thank you for listening. I hope some semblance of civility can be reached.

Ruth Pfiffner

On Thursday, April 13, 2023, 02:56:47 PM CDT, Andrew Beveridge <abeveridge@stevenspoint.com> wrote:

Ruth –

Under SCR 20:4.2 (part of the ethics rules for attorneys in Wisconsin), I cannot communicate with a person I know to be represented by counsel about the subject matter of such representation, without the consent of that person's attorney.

Thank you,

Andrew

Andrew Logan Beveridge

City Attorney

City of Stevens Point

1515 Strongs Avenue

Stevens Point, WI 54481

(715) 346-1695

abeveridge@stevenspoint.com

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:30 PM
To: Andrew Beveridge <ABeveridge@stevenspoint.com>
Subject: Re: [External] Email re: swale and native lawn

I will not give you that at this time. I'm writing all correspondence at this time to save money as long as she allows and is informed. I do not have the funds to fight a fight with people who use tax payers' money. My money is real money, not play money. Hence, you will be stuck with me. I'm sorry you have to get into the thick of this. There are so many things wrong I could go on and on. I would meet with you if I can bring a friend, and record it. Please let me know.

On Thursday, April 13, 2023, 02:21:11 PM CDT, Andrew Beveridge <abeveridge@stevenspoint.com> wrote:

Ruth –

You've made reference to 'your attorney' in your recent emails. Consequently, my office has been asked to take over communications in this regard. Which attorney are you working with on these issues?

Thank you,

Andrew Beveridge

Andrew Logan Beveridge

City Attorney

City of Stevens Point

1515 Strongs Avenue

Stevens Point, WI 54481

(715) 346-1695

abeveridge@stevenspoint.com

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From: Kari Yenter <KYenter@stevenspoint.com>

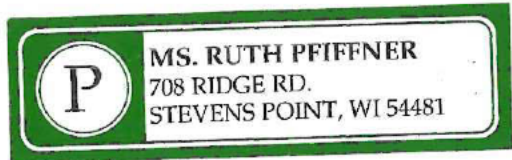
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 1:59 PM

To: Mark Kordus <mkordus@stevenspoint.com>; Mike Wiza <MWiza@stevenspoint.com>; Joel Lemke <jlemke@stevenspoint.com>; Ryan Kernosky <rkernosky@stevenspoint.com>; Andrew Beveridge <ABeveridge@stevenspoint.com>; Scott Beduhn <sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com>; District 8 <district8@stevenspoint.com>

Cc: Becky Kalata <bkalata@stevenspoint.com>

Subject: FW: [External] document, April 12, 2023, and Email 4/13/23

Mark Kordus and company



From: [Redacted]

To: kyenter@stevenspoint.com

Bcc: [Redacted list of email addresses]

Date: Thursday, April 13, 2023, 02:16 PM CDT

Kari, Please send these on for me. Mayor Wiza, Kordus, Kernoskey, Shuda, Beduhn, Kalata, Lemke
Thank you, Kari. Ruth

Hi Mark, Joel, Mayor Mike, Ryan, Becky, Scott, Dean,

I just had a new brilliant idea. I know you will agree. I will host a gathering at my house for all the neighbors that were ditched last year and those that are going to be ditched this year. Of course, I will let you use my ditch for demonstration purposes. Especially since it is nice and deep and very long. You should probably plan for an extra amount of time for the demonstration given the depth/width/length.

Our guests of honor will be YOU and all of the names above. You will bring a walk-behind mower/with bagger, along with a riding mower, so that you can show all of us how to rake a ditch that has webbing, how to mow a deep ditch, and otherwise, how to take care of our new friends, the ditches. I can just hear your excitement about the idea to see the city officials attend a gathering at my house AND to show us that the new ditches will be so wonderful. Some of the words that you and the city government uses to tell us how things will be will can NOW BE PUT INTO ACTION, not theory. You will also have the chance to park along this narrowed road and see how wonderful that will be. I hope there is a great turnout of the people from city hall. Please do not send your associates in place of yourself. It is imperative that you begin to be part of the city plans, and not just come and take away our trees, our peace and serenity, and our real estate value. I hope you will be able to explain to all of the neighbors exactly how it works to have our area (3 miles from the river) responsible for the pollution that happens from the storm sewers, while at the same time, within a stones' throw from this area (East Maria Drive), be used by the city for all the polluted snow from streets, parking lots, and places throughout the city be dumped in OUR BACKYARD. Exactly how does that work????? We've been wondering for years. We would like the answer in writing so we can share with people who aren't available to attend the meeting. Can't wait for your response. You know how important it is.

Oh, I should mention this meeting will NOT BE during your hours at your office. It will be when you can get comp time as you do for attending meetings. Should we say....hmmmm 6:30 p.m. which will allow neighborhood people to get home from their workplace (where they don't get

/

comp time) and to have dinner before the meeting. I am extending this invitation to all of you ..and expect an answer so that I can plan the meeting to see that most of the neighbors are available. I will let you choose from the following days; Tuesday, April 18, Wednesday, April 19, or Thursday, April 20, or the Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday in the last week of April. We want to know the ins and outs. I hope you all will find time to come so you can show your sincerity to the people of Stevens Point about these plans you have put on us. I know you will. I can almost feel your excitement at this invitation. I will let the neighbors know they will be getting a date for this demonstration soon.

P.S. I forgot to mention that I expect to get all the information I asked for in my previous communication this morning by Wed, April 19, 2023. I believe that is enough time since you all have so many assistants and associates to aide you in compilation of said codes, answers, and signed agreements. I am filled with anticipation to get all the official looking papers, documents, and, who knows what all you'll find.

Ruth Pfiffner

Online Form Submittal: Contact the Director of Public Works

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Wednesday, June 29, 2022, 10:55 AM CDT

Contact the Director of Public Works

First and Last Name:	Ruth Pfiffner
Street Address:	708 Ridge Road
City	Stevens Point
State:	Wisconsin
Zip:	54481
Phone Number:	[REDACTED]
Email Address:	[REDACTED]

Please enter your questions or comments below:

Good Morning Scott,
I've sent this request as a separate one from the previous request so it doesn't get too long, or find its way into another file. I am still concerned about the swale being in my front yard east of the driveway., It has lost a LOT OF SOIL in the many years I've lived here (1977). When I came to see you, I told you that the surveyors found it 6 inches lower than all the yards across the street. So, here is my concern. Let's say the contractor is told to dig up peoples' yards 10 inches. If there isn't a separate condition for my yard, that means that my swale will be 16 inches deep, rather than the 10 inches as others on this street. I am hoping that you can make this request happen. My yard is so low, and the banking of the corner will cause havoc to my (not ROW) own property. It is slowly sinking into the road area. I would like to think that can be prevented with your wise decisions. One size DOES NOT WORK HERE.
Thank you for your consideration of my request.
I also have found a contractor that will cut sod from the ROW before the swales are dug. It will be so much more efficient to use my own sod, rather than dig up everything and hope that seeds germinate before the snow falls. The contractor needs to know a few days before the event (digging) happens in order to do the sod at the right time. Can I count on you to let me know exactly what day this digging will occur at 708 Ridge Road? I hope you will respond so that I can let the contractor know the

work can be done.

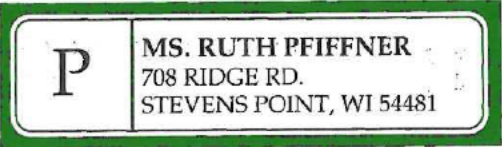
Thank you for your kind support during a difficult time. Ruth
Piffner

Online Form Submittal: Contact the Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Monday, April 11, 2022, 10:13 AM CDT



Contact the Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator

First and Last Name:	Ruth Pfiffner
Street Address:	708 Ridge Road
City:	Stevens Point
State:	Wisconsin
Zip:	54481
Phone Number:	[REDACTED]
Email Address:	[REDACTED]

Please enter your questions or comments below: This is my statement regarding a natural lawn/yard. I will be leaving the grasses (natural and ornamental) and native flowers that are in the ROW as my natural lawn/yard continuing from 2022 and beyond. The east side of my property has already "gone wild" and will continue.

Online Form Submittal: Contact the Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator

From: noreply@civicplus.com

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Monday, April 25, 2022, 02:34 PM CDT



Contact the Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator

First and Last Name: Ruth Pfiffner
Street Address: 708 Ridge Road
City: Stevens Point
State: Wisconsin
Zip: 54481
Phone Number: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]

Please enter your questions or comments below:

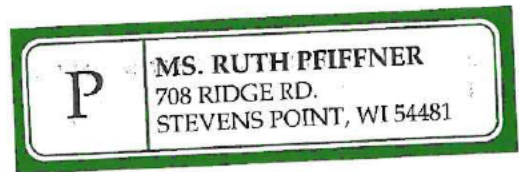
In response to your response....I'll tell you the names of the plants, grasses, etc. when I'm notified of the names of all the weeds, plants, grasses, etc. that will be placed in my yard during swaling. I also want to know where the topsoil is from, where is it sterilized, where is it certified to have NO JUMPING WORMS, and that all care is given to identifying all vegetation that is brought in, a practice that the DNR and other agencies says is not supposed to take place since it is the quickest way to have non-native species (plants and animals) find new homes. Thank you. Ruth Pfiffner

Fw: Letter to Joel Lemke

From: [REDACTED]

To: jlemke@stevenspoint.com

Date: Saturday, January 29, 2022, 07:42 AM CST



Mr. Lemke,

I'm sure you have heard the quote...."Lead by example".
Here it is again: LEAD BY EXAMPLE

I am referring to the swaling of Mary Ann Avenue. It is your turn to show how well the swales work and how important it is for the city to get the most credits from the DNR for the SM4 project. Let the property owners on Mary Ann Ave. have their yards destroyed first. You might offer to have them start at your house.

From what we have now been told, Mary Ann Avenue will NOT BE SWALED, nor the road torn up. Three years ago, I wrote a letter to Mayor Wiza with a copy to you, questioning why only Mary Ann Ave was being maintained, but the rest of the neighborhood has NOT BEEN MAINTAINED (for 25+ yrs). Mayor Wiza explained that some important people (engineers and Paser ratings) decide who gets maintained, and who doesn't. All of the streets north of Hwy 10 and east of Green Ave. would be in great shape if a timely maintenance program had been followed.

Trying to say Mary Ann Ave. isn't being rebuilt doesn't work. All the folks west of Green Ave. had their yards dug up a few years ago. None of them had new roads. All of them were

"swaled/destroyed". There is nothing different about this issue. We get roads and swales, you should be getting swaled. Think of all those extra SM4 credits you could get.

So now we find out why Mary Ann Ave has been maintained. The plan to have the rest of us go through **agonizing destruction** of our yards, but **YOUR YARD AND STREET WILL NOT.**

Some plan. We are not all sheeple Joel. We have the brains to figure things out, no matter what you and others attempt to tell us.

Lead By Example, Mr. Lemke.

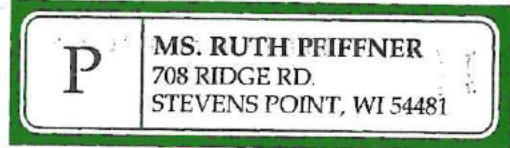
Ruth Pfiffner

Monday

From: [REDACTED]

To: sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com

Date: Monday, February 7, 2022, 11:03 AM CST



Good Morning Scott,

I'm going to reference some points from the meeting on Jan. 26. 2022

1. I'm requesting a natural lawn. Hoping you can let Mark Kordus know.

② When you emphasized that the contractors walk away after they complete the tearing up of our neighborhood, did you also mean that the city will do likewise? I can tell you from watching other areas of the city that were swaled, no one is doing anything to keep the shoulders healthy, thus causing erosion and breaking of the edges of the road.

3. Since I know that Tim Siebert was allowed to complete his swale professionally, I will be doing the same. I haven't yet decided about the east part of the ROW where it has been "natural". I will let you know once I've committed to a professional and I find out how much money I will have to spend because the city has not taken a pro-active position against this meaningless swale activity.

4. Do you realize that blue grass is not growing here? You mentioned that the matts contain blue grass. Well, the matts contain weeds and no grasses.. My entire yard is fescue. Blue grass doesn't grow here. I've been caring for my yard for 55 yrs. I do know a thing or two about what happens and why.

5. The matts made with fishing line do not allow anyone to mow or weed eat. That's not right. Did you realize that once weeds take hold (go to seed), they are next to impossible to remove, unless you use Round Up. Not everyone wants to use chemicals on their lawns. Did you also know that by digging the top part of soil/sod, you are removing billions of microscopic organisms that keep our plants/trees healthy, and, in fact, help to control the insects that are unwanted. By putting these weeds into our neighborhood, you are, in fact, spreading them everywhere, not just in the ROW. Weeds are the most prolific of plants. Deep/strong roots are impossible to eradicate.

6. Mayor Wiza is always saying he wants citizen involvement, yet, no one is asked to help make the decisions that impact them directly. I would love to be on a committee to do most anything. Mike wouldn't allow it as I expect he doesn't allow anyone to respond to anything I write/say. So much for community involvement.

I would love to see your response to my letter/points. I will hope that you will be able to communicate with me via phone, cell, email. I will hope that you will surprise me.
ruth pfiiffner

(Swales/ditches/trenches) Friday, Oct. 27, 2023

MS. RUTH PFIFFNER
708 RIDGE RD.
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

From: [REDACTED]

To: sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com

Cc: mwiza@stevenspoint.com; mkordus@stevenspoint.com; shuda5@yahoo.com; rkernosky@stevenspoint.com; ternster@stevenspoint.com; bkalata@stevenspoint.com; abeveridge@stevenspoint.com; bradleya.johnson@wisconsin.gov; jlemke@stevenspoint.com

Bcc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date: Friday, October 27, 2023, 09:34 AM CDT

To: Scott Beduhn
Mike Wiza
Joel Lemke
Ryan Kernoskey
Becky Kalata
Todd Ernstner
Andrew Beveridge
Dean Shuda

From: Ruth Pfiffner
October 27, 2023

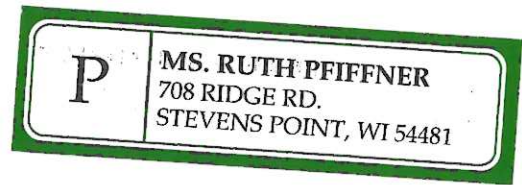
Well, here I am again with words about the swales/new roads that were installed during the summer of 2022, and in particular the ditches at 708 Ridge Road.

As you already know, the soil test I had done in Madison this past summer (2023) told me/us that the "soil" that was put in place had only 1.2% organic matter, and the pH was off the charts high. I also found out the only way to get organic matter into the soil is to put it there. None of that was done to make a growing environment for new grass. pH is almost never going to change is another thing I found out from one of the researchers in Madison and in the research I also did. The landscaper also put "ANNUAL RYE" when there was supposed to be PERENNIAL RYE. Huge difference. And the home owners properties in this area were not watered after the landscapers were done, which was late in the Fall, too late for home owners to water the "grit" that was used in place of soil. It is also interesting that only two of you asked to see the soil sample results. Do the rest of you like to "stay in the dark"/"head in the sand" about things going on in this community? I know the answer to that question. So do other members of this community.

And now I come to what has happened in the ditch in front of my house (driveway to corner). The rain has completely scoured the ditch, down to the grit (fake soil) and has dug a deeper path along the bottom of the ditch. I told you so. But you wouldn't listen. Water follows the path of least resistance, and it also goes from the high point to the low point (me). Our recent rains have done so much damage to the ditch. As you may/should recall, I told you this was going to happen. I've lived here since 1977, and know exactly what heavy rain damage can, and does, do to my property and ROW. No matter what plans you came up with in rebuilding our road, the water still comes down Ridge Road to my area and scours the land.

It was inevitable, but you still wouldn't listen when I told you this was going to happen. You were so certain that the theoretical hogwash you find in books/charts/files is going to be right. Maybe you should start to listen to those that live in the area and have a long standing visual of all that happens in this area. I have been a gardener for longer that I can count the years and know how nature acts during rain events, or snow melts. During rain storms I have watched the water rush down to my corner with abandon. You thought you could change Mother Nature, I guess. When "man" interferes with Mother Nature, man does not win.

I'd like to know what you plan to do with this damaged area in the ROW. Please respond.



To: Joel Lemke

CC: Mayor Wiza
Ryan Kernoskey
Mark Kordus
Scott Beduhn
City Attorney Beveridge

Mr. Lemke

On Tuesday, April 11, 2023, you drove to my house at approximately 11:45 a.m. after you received a phone call from Ryan Kernoskey. You told me multiple times that it was your day off. I was placing pine straw (a.k.a. mulch) in the ditch in my front yard. I am using it as part of my plan for my natural ditch since the ditch is so deep and I (and all the other neighbors) will be unable to mow. I am using the pine straw as a base, and also as a place for me to get to my mailbox so that I DO NOT have to go onto the narrow, dangerous street.

In case you don't know, tall grasses are the favorite place for ticks (the ones that cause Lyme Disease) to sit and wait for someone to come along so they can get a blood meal. As I work my plan for a "NATURAL DITCH" (the plan has been submitted to both Scott Beduhn and Mark Kordus), I do not wish to have ticks coming to me for that blood meal.

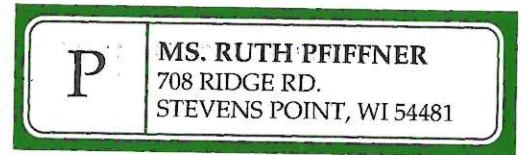
I contacted my attorney and she advised me to send this letter to you and all of the names listed above. You **HARRASSED** and **THREATENED** me when you said I would be cited for what I was

doing. Are you the gestapo police now? I was incensed (as were many Stevens Point residents) that you thought you could intimidate me and scare me into submission. **Well, Mr. Lemke, I will call the police if you should ever come to my house and threaten me. EVER.** I expect an apology from you. Both you and Mr. Kernoskey have no business trying to tell me what to you. As you kept mentioning, you were having a day off. So, what does that make you? A neighbor, nothing more. Maybe you need to check with others at city hall and find out if there is a ditch plan in place, before you act in anger and defiance of civility.

As a reminder, there are no ordinances or laws to tell anyone what they can and cannot do in the ditches. It is also important for you and all the city govt. officials to look at submitted plans before they come and threaten a resident/home owner with threats in your **BIG BLACK CADILLAC.** Picking on an old woman who takes care of her property tells a lot about your character. I hope it was worth it.

Ruth Pfiffner
Ridge Road

To: Joel Lemke
CC: Mayor Wiza
Ryan Kernoskey
Mark Kordus
Scott Beduhn
City Attorney Beveridge



8-23-23

Mr. Lemke

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Ruth Pfiffner
Ridge Road

1-23-22

Neighborhood meeting Jan. 26 @ 6:00 at police dept community room.

Mayor Wiza has spoken often about the importance of community involvement. Let's take a look at his understanding of "community involvement". 3+ years ago, the neighborhood where I have lived since 1977 was doomed to be swaled, a process that has absolutely NO BENEFIT to polluted water that goes into the Wisconsin River from storm water drains in the city. You may not be aware that **we have no storm water drains**, but we have Mother Nature that knows how to filter water that comes from rain, or snow melt. City and state officials are claiming they know more about rain and snow melt than Mother Nature. We are 2.8 miles from the Wisconsin River. There is 0% benefit to destroy the very trees that use the water (100 gallons per day) and dig ditches in our front yards. And they call it "storm water management".

In fact, trees help our soil remain healthy by reducing soil erosion and by creating a soil climate suitable for microorganisms to flourish.

One large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people.

A tree can absorb as much as 48 pounds of carbon dioxide per year and can sequester 1 ton of carbon dioxide by the time the tree is 40 years old.

Date

A healthy tree can increase your property value by as much as 27%.

We need to keep all of our trees, especially when 479 trees were lost in 25 homes in the past 10 years.

A few of us went around the area and received 121 signatures on a petition to NOT HAVE SWALES. I would call that community involvement. When we were going to present the petition to the mayor, I made an appointment and kept his office apprised of the number of people attending. I thought it was important to be “transparent” and have no surprises for this government official. When I said that Brandi Makuski of PointPloverMetrowire was coming, I was told she would NOT BE ALLOWED. I was completely open and honest to his holiness, but the idea that a person that represented the media was my guest, then “community involvement” apparently took on a new definition.....a definition that only certain people could be involved.

There is one street that isn't going to be touched by the wreckers/destroyers and that happens to be the exact same street that a city official lives on. If SWALES are so important and do so much good, why, oh why, isn't that street being swaled? I've been told that because the road doesn't need to be rebuilt, it won't have to have swales. Let's look at this phenomenon. That one street has been maintained all the time, though the rest of our adjacent streets have been left to

crack, break, crumble, and fail for over 25 years. The city official's street has been maintained to within an inch of its life, over and over again. I've been told by Mr. Wiza and Mr. Lemke that streets are only maintained when certain ratings deem them useful. This particular street also has a corner where rain and snow melt always floods....one neighbor lost his automobile due to the high water when he was trying to get home to his family during a rainstorm. Now, one would think that corner would be a #1 priority to fix. Alas, no, that street has a bye. No swales, no road rebuild, no destruction by the city and their contractors. If all the other streets in this neighborhood are being destroyed along with the trees, and wildlife areas, then all areas should be under the same umbrella. What's good for me, is good for you.

Only community involvement would allow me to know these particulars. But this community involvement isn't the kind Mr. Wiza wants. They are planning to go ahead with all this destruction based on a few peoples' decisions. "Community involvement" isn't worth the paper it's written on.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Popper". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the main body of text.

6-27-21

To: Scott Beduhn, Director of Public Works

From: Ruth Pfiffner, resident on Ridge Rd since 1977

Good Morning, Scott

I am writing this letter as a concerned citizen/resident of Stevens Point, and more specifically, 708 Ridge Rd.

In keeping with your plans to swale our area; Janick Circle, west and north, Sunset Fork, and Ridge Road. I have several observations and concerns.

1. This neighborhood has been in its original condition since before I moved here in 1977. Many species of trees, plants, and bushes are growing happily throughout the land associated with the many homes/residences. Besides their attractive appearance, they all have work to do. They collect water, use carbon dioxide to create oxygen, and hold the soil. We live in an area of complete sand, aka, sand barrens, pine barrens, or golden sands. We, the neighborhood property owners, do not wish to see this miracle of nature to be taken lightly or have the city remove one living plant. We also understand the value and importance of topsoil. We do not want the topsoil removed and taken to someone else's property or business.

Date of doc.

2. My property is at the gradual curve of Ridge Rd., on the north west corner. This curve is not a right-angled corner, it is a gradual curve. Since 1977, I have watched my land/property/ROW be taken away by the hard rains, snow plows, and street cleaners, such as the storm on June 24, 2021. My property is at the lowest point from the area west of me, and also north of me. When it rains, the street is sloped down to my house from both Ridge Rd (west of my property) and also from Janick Circle north. Not only is my property at the low point, but it is also at the "banking" of the street as it makes the curve. The banking and downhill slope starts well west of my property. I'm sure you're heard the saying "water takes the path of least resistance". This has been the case for all the years I've lived here. I'm going to send pictures to show you what happens after a hard rain. Over the years, I've purchased, and laid gravel along the street shoulder to try to hold my soil (and to keep the road from crumbling). It has been a difficult time. Water is very powerful as it rages/races downhill and banks to my property. No amount of crowning/swaling is going to change the fact that roads are banked (starting well ahead of the actual curve). I'm not an engineer, but I have years of living here (daily observation) that tells me if you continue to plan to take more of my ROW to ditch/swale, I'll have no soil in my front yard. I am aware that surveyors have been measuring the ROW, but I haven't seen them

measuring the distance from the neighbors' yards across the street and see the difference in how high their lawns/sod are from mine. I invite you to come and take a look. I'm sure you will see the enormous difference.

Banking, prevailing winds, and a downhill slope will always allow rain direction to triumph over crowned

roads. My property continues to diminish with each and every rain. I hope you will give this phenomenon a look.

My neighbors across the street are probably 6-8 inches higher than my property. Perhaps a surveyor has a way to measure this. I could do it with a couple of stakes and a string strung across the road, but it wouldn't be taken seriously, in my opinion.

3. Please consider my lengthy letter when you are making detailed plans. I am also aware that there is little ROW at the gradual curve. I've been told it will require a concrete flat curb to hold the gradual corner in place.

4. My last concern is with Jumping Worms. We now have them in Portage County. I sent all the city government officials a link to a program on jumping worms a year or two ago. It is dangerous to bring soil from other places. It is the number one way that jumping worms are deposited into new areas. If you'd like to watch this program, I still have the link. It would be a travesty to

spoil our wonderful/charming neighborhood with yet another "man-made" problem.

Please consider these issues when you decide to make changes to this "country in the city" place I call home.

Ruth Pfiffner

Fw: jumping worms and DNR swales

From:

To: mwiza@stevenspoint.com; jlemke@stevenspoint.com; sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com; ternster@stevenspoint.com; shuda5@yahoo.com; bkalata@stevenspoint.com; rkernosky@stevenspoint.com; abeveridge@stevenspoint.com

Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023, 11:22 AM CDT

Here is a letter to and from Bradley Herrick in Madison (UW) back in 2021. You will find I have been researching all things I say in my letters. I could send more but I'll try to sit on my hands and hope that all of you become informed about all things related to our city. I do not randomly say anything that comes to my head. I research issues before I speak.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Bradley Herrick <bradley.herrick@wisc.edu>

To:

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021, 02:55:40 PM CDT

Subject: Re: jumping worms and DNR swales

Hi Ruth,

j

Where does the time go? Sorry for not getting back with you sooner. The WI DNR has a great website dedicated to Jumping Worms: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/fact/jumpingWorm.html>

I would start there. There are other materials, but this is the most comprehensive.

Best of luck,
Brad

Sent from my iPhone

On May 6, 2021, at 12:34 PM, Ruth Pfiffner <rjpr@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

Hi Bradley,

I watched the program about jumping worms on PBS about a year ago with great interest. I live in Stevens Point and have become an activist against our city putting in swales, digging up our yards, and bringing in unknown soil (better known as sand and gravel, along with a landscape mix that is nothing but weeds). Besides taking what little topsoil we have, they take out trees along the ROW (right of way/ city easement). It has been a practice that they have used for some years to meet MS4 permits. We live in an area of COMPLETE SAND/golden sands/sand barrens. We have no drainage problems, but the city is using our area to offset the fact that they allow rainwater runoff into storm sewers throughout a large portion of the city that, in turn, goes into the Wisconsin River, and they use us (french drains, no stormwater drains) to get credit against that part of the city that has the runoff into the river.

When I watched the program about the worms, I immediately thought that moving soils from here to there, and there to here might make a great argument to stop this madness. You emphasized that even purchasing/trading plants was an issue and we're talking about a large scale movement of soils in the city plans.

My question to you: Do you have materials/flyers/books/videos you could share with us in this fight to save our neighborhood? I do come to Madison to see my granddaughter/great granddaughter and could come to the arboretum if you have time to meet. Please let me know if you might be able to help us in any way.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Ruth Pfiffner



Fw: what is a swale

From: [REDACTED]

To: bradleya.johnson@wisconsin.gov

Date: Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 11:16 AM CDT

Good Morning Brad,

It is time to contact you again as the city is having our neighborhood (north of Iverson Park and west of Green Ave) surveyed for new roads and swales (God help us). A neighbor sent this article about swales and i thought you should see it.

Is there anything you can do to help us going forward? The mess the city made west of Green Ave a couple of years ago has disgusted many of us, as they tore up yards, removed trees and the few inches of black dirt we have. I've researched the importance of trees in our environment, along with great articles about microorganisms in the top layer of our soil. The city seems to think it doesn't matter if trees and topsoil are removed, never to be seen again. I think differently.

If drainage is part of this swale thingy, then we don't need them. The city has the SNOW FIELDS a few blocks north of us where tons of city snow is brought to melt and drain. We live on complete SAND....a neighbor next door had some problem with sewer pipes last year. They had a hole dug about 30 ft deep. There was nothing but sand and if they had gone down further, it wouldn't have changed. No one in the city has heard of the "golden sands" or sand barrens. Perhaps they haven't ever dug a hole.

We have heard that there may be new regulations coming (or here). Is there anything you can think of to keep the city from destroying our neighborhood? I appreciate your help in this matter.

Ruth Pfiffner [REDACTED]

What is the purpose of a swale?

However, it's a lot more subtle in terms of its appearance in the landscape. A swale is like a ditch but it's broad and shallow, and usually covered or lined with turfgrass or other vegetation. The purpose is to slow and control the flow of water to prevent flooding, puddling, and erosion and/or avoid overwhelming the storm drain system.

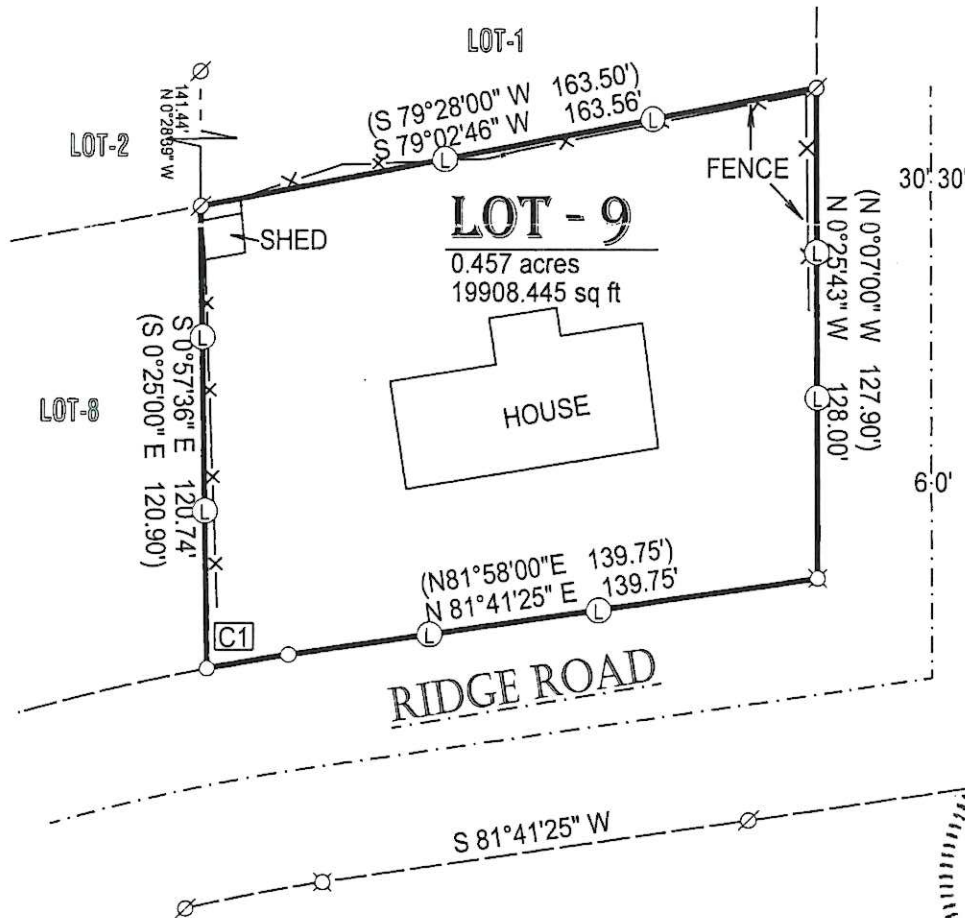
But, water isn't the only function of swales, and it is, in fact, imperative that they be regarded as a tree growing system. Swales without trees can possibly be even more damaging than the flow of water they have pacified. In some climates, they can potentially oversaturate the landscape, leaving a designer with difficult growing conditions. Trees, however, will moderate the saturation levels, utilizing the water deep into the soil as opposed

IF THE SURVEYORS SEAL IS NOT RED IN COLOR, THIS MAP IS A COPY AND SHOULD BE ASSUMED TO CONTAIN UNAUTHORIZED ALTERATIONS, THE CERTIFICATION DOES NOT APPLY TO COPIES.

PLAT OF SURVEY

This map DOES NOT transfer property ownership. Sale or transfer of property requires a recorded deed.

BEING ALL OF LOT 9 OF JANICK SUBDIVISION, LOCATED IN PART OF SW1/4 SE1/4 OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 24 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, CITY OF STEVENS POINT, PORTAGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN.



CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that such map is a correct representation of the exterior boundaries of the land surveyed and that the above map is a true representation thereof. That I have complied fully with Section AE7 of Wisconsin Statutes to the best of my knowledge and belief.

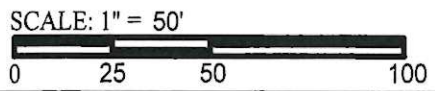
CERTIFIED CORRECT THIS 30TH DAY OF MARCH 2022.

K. Whipple
 KEVIN M. WHIPPLE P.L.S. 2444
 Drafted By: KEVIN WHIPPLE
 FIELD WORK COMPLETED ON 3/22/22



The East Line of Lot 9 assigned a bearing of N 0°25'43" W for this map

- () PREVIOUSLY RECORDED AS
- 3/4" O.D. X 18" IRON ROD SET (1.5#/FT)
- 1" O.D. IRON PIPE FOUND
- 2" O.D. IRON PIPE FOUND
- WOODEN LATH SET



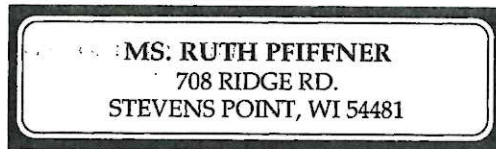
Id	Delta	Radius	Arc Length	Chord	Ch Bear
C1	2°13'22"	555.23'	21.54'	21.54'	S 80°20'59" W



Wednesday, September 18, 2024

ID#: RAC-2024-00907

RUTH J. PFIFFNER
708 RIDGE RD
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481



RECEIVED
NOV 13 2024
CITY CLERKS
OFFICE

**NONCOMPLIANCE NOTICE:
PUBLIC WORKS VIOLATION AT 708 RIDGE RD**

Dear Ruth J. Pfiffner,

An inspection of the property located at 708 RIDGE RD was made on 09/17/2024. As a result of this inspection, the condition below was observed:

Condition:

- Fill placed within right of way drainage swale must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. Must be corrected by: 10/17/2024
16.13(1) Debris Placed Within Right of Way: (1) No person shall intentionally place any lawn clippings, sand, soil, gravel, stones, junk, garbage, or any other debris or material onto any sidewalks, streets, or alleys without permission from the Director of Public Works. Any person sweeping or blowing such materials shall take due care to ensure that no amount is left upon City streets and sidewalks.



The condition described above is not in compliance with the referenced Municipal Code, WI Admin Code, & WI Statutes, which states, 'the provisions of these codes shall apply to all existing premises and constitute the minimum requirements and standards for property conditions'. **Case details may be requested at communitydevelopment@stevenspoint.com.**

This is your official notice that you will need to bring the property into compliance by properly abating such conditions within the timeline indicated. A re-inspection will occur to verify if the condition(s) is abated prior to **10/17/2024**. Please contact the issuing inspector if this date needs to be adjusted before the scheduled re-inspection. Grants or low interest loans may be available to local homeowners, to verify funding availability please visit stevenspoint.com/595/Homeowner-Help

Failure to correct the condition(s) described above will result in the issuance of a \$100.00 service charge, as well as, enforcing the penalty provisions described in the Stevens Point Municipal Code, with the any unpaid charges

assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

Please note that if work is being performed, or slated to be performed, it may require a building permit. Inquire with our office to verify if a building permit is needed. If you require assistance or have any additional questions regarding this matter, please contact the issuing inspector.

Sincerely,



Mark Kordus
Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator
mkordus@stevenspoint.com
715-346-1567



Thursday, October 17, 2024

ID #: RAC-2024-00907
INVOICE #: 202400285

RUTH J. PFIFFNER
708 RIDGE RD
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

**NOTICE AND INVOICE FOR CORRECTING VIOLATION(S):
PUBLIC WORKS VIOLATION AT 708 RIDGE RD**

Dear Ruth J. Pfiffner,

An inspection of the property was made on 10/17/2024. As a result of this inspection, the condition described below was observed:

- o Fill placed within right of way drainage swale must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. Must be corrected by: 11/21/2024
16.13(1) Debris Placed Within Right of Way: (1) No person shall intentionally place any lawn clippings, sand, soil, gravel, stones, junk, garbage, or any other debris or material onto any sidewalks, streets, or alleys without permission from the Director of Public Works. Any person sweeping or blowing such materials shall take due care to ensure that no amount is left upon City streets and sidewalks.



- o No materials may be placed within drainage swale without permission and a permit from the Director of Public Utilities. This material must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. Must be corrected by: 11/21/2024
13.27 PLACING DEBRIS INTO STORMWATER SYSTEM PROHIBITED: PLACING DEBRIS INTO STORMWATER SYSTEM PROHIBITED No person shall intentionally place any lawn clippings, sand, soil, gravel, stones, junk, garbage, or any other debris or material onto or into any portion of the Stormwater System as defined under RMC 13.17(d) without permission from the Director of Public Utilities





This is your official notice that you will need to bring the property into compliance by properly abating such violations prior to 11/21/2024. Failure to abate the condition(s) described above will result in the issuance of a \$100.00 service charge, as well as, enforcing the penalty provisions described in the Stevens Point Municipal Code, including, but not limited to the issuance of a citation and/or the abatement by the City with the costs of abatement being assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

Please note that work being performed, or slated to be performed, may require a building permit. Inquire with our office to verify if a building permit is needed. Double fees shall be charged if work is commenced prior to the issuance of a permit. If you require assistance or have any additional questions regarding this matter, please contact the issuing inspector. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. **To dispute or contest this notice and/or charge, a formal written letter must be submitted to the Administrative Appeals Board. The form is available online at stevenspoint.com/neighborhood, or you may request a hard copy from our office.** Please note that you may only appeal the ordinance determination. Disagreement with the charge amounts is not a valid reason for appeal, as those are determined by ordinance. Local grants or low interest loans may be available, to check funding and program availability please visit stevenspoint.com/595/Homeowner-Help

As this is a subsequent offense, and the associated fees for the re-inspection and / or abatement of the condition(s) are as follows:

Type	Amount
Inspection after Initial Notice	\$100.00
Balance Due: \$100.00	

Sincerely,

Mark Kordus
Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator
mkordus@stevenspoint.com
715-346-1567

RECIPIENTS: Ruth J. PfiFFner

Please remit payment to the City of Stevens Point within 30 days from the date on this notice. Please be informed that if payment has not been received by this date, these fees will be assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

* Effective November 1, 2005 – The City of Stevens Point Reserves the right to process your check electronically. So, when paying by check, please be aware that you are authorizing us to use the information on your check to make a one-time electronic charge to your account at the financial institution indicated on the check. This electronic debit will be for the amount on your check. Please Detach at Dashed Line and Return With Remittance.

Customer Name: RUTH J. PFIFFNER
Customer/Parcel No: 240827301809
Invoice: 202400285

Make Checks payable and Remit to:

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481-3594



Department of Community Development
Phone: (715) 346-1567
Fax: (715) 346-1498

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Amount Due: \$100.00

Or pay online: stevenspoint.com/invoice

Ruth Pfiffner Appeal

ID# RAC-2024-00907

Nov.10, 2024

2024 On Oct.17, 2024 another Public Works violation letter was sent to me (708 Ridge Rd) under the same letter of non-compliance that had been sent on Sept. 18, 2024. It appears that one complaint has now morphed into a new complaint. I'd suggest that it is illegal to cover up one try at non-compliance with a totally new one, listed as something other than non-compliance, using some new pictures and text from the one letter, then attaching it to the other.

I have covered this before with a letter to Mr. Beveridge when Mr. Kernoskey walked over to my house, without a badge as a ditch police, or

/

as a representative of any city government office. He told me he was going to report me as you can see in the letter. He and Joel Lemke have done this to me several times. It is harassing, threatening, and considered elder abuse. I have had to correct the conditions on either side of the asphalt drive done by the city in the fall of 2022. The edges of the asphalt were crumbling due to the repeated attacks of water rushing/raging down Ridge Road and the fill that was used by Haas Company did not hold in place along said asphalt. The fill washed away from the edge of the asphalt. The asphalt became so unstable that I could actually crumble it in my hands. I used a stabilizer mix from Stuczynski's to hold the section of asphalt in place and keep my driveway from crumbling to bits and not hold my vehicle (or others) and to keep vehicles from dropping down into the ditch. **Washouts**

from the raging water coming down Ridge Rd. and onto my property caused the structure of the asphalt to give way. Mr. Beduhn had told us at the meeting on January 26, 2022 that when the contractors who worked on the road rebuild were done, they would leave and **NEVER COME BACK**. What that says is: when the work done by a contractor is broken/damaged, he/they are not going to come back and the homeowner will have to take over fixing what needs to be repaired. I have repaired what the city and contractor have not done. Instead of waiting for the damage to get so bad that it is unreparable, I do like to stay ahead of the maintenance before it is very costly, and I am unable to do it myself. I used a product that is called cisler road material. **It is NEVER CALLED FILL OR DEBRIS** by Stuczynski's, where I purchased it. You can contact them and get this information.

I would like to know on what date Mr. Beduhn and company sent out notices with both ordinances that the public works dept. is trying to use against me.

That letter should be on file telling ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE ROAD REBUILD AREA that they must get written approval before they do anything, according to the violation and non-compliance complaint against me. I'd like to see that letter and copies of all the people who supposedly received one.

For your enjoyment

DEBRIS is defined as scattered waste or remains, or the remains of something broken down or destroyed.

FILL is defined as the screened earthen material used to create a stable base. Fill mixes natural soil, gravel, sand, and clay. This definition is provided by the FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION. (FHWA-RD-97-148)

None of these materials know as Fill or Debris are a part of repairs to the ditches that were, and are, being washed out from multiple rains,

storms, salt and snow melt as Mr. Lemke and Mr. Kordus would like you to think.

Nov. 10, 2024

Words from the public works violation notice.

No materials may be placed within drainage swale without permission and a permit from the Director of Public Utilities. This material must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. Must be corrected by 11/21/2024.

13.27 Placing Debris
into Stormwater
system prohibited:
PLACING DEBRIS INTO
STORMWATER SYSTEM
PROHIBITED No
person shall
intentionally place any
lawn clippings, sand,
soil, gravel, stones, junk

garbage, or any other debris or material onto or into any portion of the stormwater system as defined under RMC13.17(d) without permission from the Director of Public Utilities.

16.13(1) Debris Placed Within Right of Way: No person shall intentionally place any lawn clippings, sand, soil, gravel, stones, junk, garbage, or any other debris or material onto any sidewalks, streets, or alleys without permission from the Director of Public Works. Any person sweeping or blowing such material shall take due care to ensure that no amount

is left upon City streets and sidewalks.

Fill placed within right of way drainage swale must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. Must be corrected by 10/17/2024

Re: Saturday

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Sunday, October 27, 2024, 11:22 AM CDT

Hi Ruth,

Thanks for reaching out. It sounds like the issue is with the stones and not the plants. I remember many years ago my Mom wanted to place a big rock near our south driveway entrance in a location where nothing seemed to grow. My Dad looked into it and there was (at that time anyway, 15-20 years ago or more) a rule or ordinance of some kind that prohibited this in order to avoid conflicts with and damage to city snow plows, street cleaners and such. My Mom never did get her rock! I have no idea if that rule still exists or if this is why the city opposes using rocks in your drainage project, but possibly. For the record, I think your stone creek bed looks great -very zen!- and was obviously made with a carefully thought-out aesthetic in mind.

To be honest, I really haven't done much with the swale in front of my property. The tree removal and street re-do taught me one thing in particular: the right-of-way is not "mine" and is subject to alterations beyond my control so I have spent some time, but not a lot of \$\$, knowing it could all be ripped out again for who knows what reason. I did speak with a (the?) city forester when they made the rounds before our phase of the project started. I put in a final and futile plea for the big red pines my Dad planted way back in the 1950's (house was built in 1954). I ran my "plan" by him - that I would be letting it revert to its natural state as it has been for the last 70+ years and adding native plants, particularly pollinator-friendly milkweeds and grasses. He approved and even said when they were done with their end of the project I could do "whatever I want". I took that statement with a grain of salt!! I have shared my plan with all immediate neighbors so they understand my objectives. I am only planting in the back half of the swale -from the lowest point in the middle back up towards the house. I'm trying to maintain the front half that borders the street as best I can with no water source and no lawn mower. My neighbors are used to it being wild/natural like the properties across the street and south along Ridge Rd to 10/Main. I transplanted some white pine seedlings from my yard to soften the harsh border that I was left with. I've moved some Wild Bergamot and Vervain in there and also planted Little Bluestem and Butterfly Milkweed. If they take hold I will continue to add a little more every year. I'd like to get some Lupine in there too eventually. All plants that can handle or thrive in crappy soil (more like hardened powder). I'm also removing invasives like spotted knapweed, sweet clover, ragweed, mullein and hoary alyssum. It's a long, slow work in progress!

Anyway, that's probably more than you wanted to know, but I hope it gives you some perspective. Please let me know how your case plays out. Also, I would be happy to lend a hand if you ever need it with plantings (or UN-plantings - hopefully NOT). I know it's a lot of work!

-Jim

On Sat, Oct 26, 2024 at 6:21 AM Ruth Pfiffner [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Jim,

I've heard that you were able to do what you wished regarding the ditch/swale. I have had problems with my section of ditch, from the driveway to the corner because of the low point from two directions and also the banking of the road for the corner. Water running/raging down Ridge Rd. tore up everything in its wake when there were heavy rains. The water scoured anything growing in its path. Well, after two years of having no success at growing anything, having a soil sample at UW Madison, and talking to the folks at the UW Extension office here in town, I decided late summer to put in a dry creek bed, (aka dry

stream bed, dry river bed). It's been a success, helping to divert rushing water and allowing plants/grass to start growing. It's been a lot of hard work, but the challenge was worth it UNTIL the city decided they didn't like it, and called the river rock debris and fill, along with sending me a non-compliance letter. I had sent a letter to Mark Kordus/mayor/engineer/etc, etc, etc before I did anything, and received nothing. That is, until my project was finished.

My questions to you: how were you able to complete your project? What steps did you have to take? What permissions did you have? Who did you contact?

I am disappointed, to say the least, at all the work to repair/rescue the damaged ditch and then get "the letter". I know the city govt. doesn't like me, but this is ridiculous. I am hoping you can help.

Ruth Pfiffner

Automatic reply: Friday, Sept. 27, 2024

From: Mark Kordus (mkordus@stevenspoint.com)

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Friday, September 27, 2024, 07:39 AM CDT

Hello. I am out of the office and will be returning on Sept. 30th. If you have an urgent need that requires a response prior to my return, please call our main office line at (715) 346-1567 and select option #1. If it is a RentReady question please contact Sherry Daniels at (715) 498-7945 or sherry.daniels@wisc.edu

Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2024

From: Ruth Pfiffner [REDACTED]
To: seckels@stevenspointwi.onmicrosoft.com
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 07:53 AM CDT

Good Morning Shannon,

I have additional information that I'd like to give to you regarding my appeal, (#RAC-2024-00907) now scheduled for Nov. 20, 2024. I would like you to send it to the board of appeal.

Is it best to bring it to the office, or email it to you?

I am also requesting any/all information provided by the public works department (Joel Lemke), along with Mark Kordus, to the appeal process. You can send it to me via email, or I will pick it up.

Thank you for your help.

Ruth Pfiffner

Re: Friday, Sept. 27, 2024

From: Ruth Pfiffner [REDACTED]

To: mkordus@stevenspoint.com

Date: Thursday, October 3, 2024, 06:10 AM CDT

Thank you for responding. ruth

On Wednesday, October 2, 2024, 08:54:15 AM CDT, Mark Kordus <mkordus@stevenspoint.com> wrote:

Hello Ruth – I spoke to Joel and we will reinspect on the given due date. However no abatement will occur until after the hearing date.

Mark Kordus

(715) 346-1554

From: Ruth Pfiffner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2024 7:39 AM
To: Mark Kordus <mkordus@stevenspoint.com>
Subject: Friday, Sept. 27, 2024

Good Morning Mark,

I have sent **appeal papers** to the city clerks office on Monday, Sept. 23, 2024 regarding your letter of non-compliance for the dry creek bed. Since I've filed the correct papers in a timely fashion, your plan to do anything to all my hard work to repair the ROW will not be allowed.

You can come over to talk, or send a note.

Ruth Pfiffner

Non-compliance letter regarding ditches

From: Ruth Pfiffner [REDACTED]

To: mwiza@stevenspoint.com; mkordus@stevenspoint.com; abeveridge@stevenspoint.com;
sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com; akuhn@stevenspoint.com

Date: Friday, September 27, 2024, 01:22 PM CDT

Friday, Sept. 27, 2024

To: Andrew Beveridge
Mayor Wiza
Mark Kordus
Scott Beduhn
Adam Kuhn

I have submitted my Property Appeal forms to the City Clerks office.
I have included multiple documents relating to the non-compliance letter I received last Friday,
September 20, 2024, written on Sept. 18, 2024.

Since the date for the appeal hearing has not been set, I am requesting that the Oct. 17, 2024
compliance date be suspended.

Please respond.

Ruth Pfiffner

Friday, Sept. 27, 2024

From: Ruth Pfiffner [REDACTED]

To: mkordus@stevenspoint.com

Date: Friday, September 27, 2024, 07:38 AM CDT

Good Morning Mark,

I have sent **appeal papers** to the city clerks office on Monday, Sept. 23, 2024 regarding your letter of non-compliance for the dry creek bed. Since I've filed the correct papers in a timely fashion, your plan to do anything to all my hard work to repair the ROW will not be allowed.

You can come over to talk, or send a note.

Ruth Pfiffner

Ditch Information

From: Ruth Pfiffner [REDACTED]
To: mkordus@stevenspoint.com; mwiza@stevenspoint.com; sbeduhn@stevenspoint.com; akuhn@stevenspoint.com; abeveridge@stevenspoint.com
Bcc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024, 11:18 AM CDT

August 27, 2024

To Mark Kordus

Good Morning Mark,

I have decided to bring you up to date regarding my ditch activity and let you know what I have found out through my research.

I have been fertilizing (3 times this summer) and adding grass seed to the gravel mix that Haas brought to this neighborhood (extremely high pH (alkaline) and basically no organic matter (1.2%). I have been following the recommendations set forth by the UW Madison soil sample information I received last summer. The fertilizing and seeding has been expensive for me to try to fix the damage done to the ROW. It has not been successful. I have spent all last summer and this summer digging up the array of AGGRESSIVE WEEDS that continue to grow in the ditches. Nothing seems to help. I am sending you the soil sample attachment, even though only one of the city officials asked to see it. I find that disturbing since it means basically no one wants to learn what really happened during the road rebuild. Whether you read it or not is up to you. I would hope that all people employed by the city of Stevens Point would want to educate themselves on this event.

Since I have not been successful in establishing any type of corrective lawn in the ditches (ROW), I decided to get professional help. After reading the soil sample results and the city information about the changes to the road, I was told that it was going to be a rough/tough "road" ahead.

One of the biggest flaws in the road rebuild plan was to narrow the road by 4 feet. This action, alone, has caused heavy rains to flow 37.4% faster down Ridge Rd. When you narrow the space for the water to follow the path of least resistance, then you also cause the flow to increase and be able to do much more damage. As I have written/spoken to Mr. Beduhn, I knew the actions mentioned above would happen. I am at the low point (and always have been) of Ridge Road from the west, and from the north. And the corner/curve is banked toward my ROW.

Those facts alone set the water flowing at a speed to do a lot of damage to my ROW, especially, the area from my driveway east to the corner. The fast flowing water scours the few existing patches of grass/plants and leaves my ditch with nothing growing. I've been transplanting

existing plants from my yard to try to stop this action.....with little success. My professional landscaper told me that rocks/stones may help. I am in the process of putting rocks/stones in the ditch to slow the damaging water flow. It is a work in progress and will continue through this summer and years ahead.

I hope this updated information will help you understand the reason for the rocks/stones in my ditch. As you probably know, two of my neighbors/city employees would like nothing more than to stop me from improving my yard/ROW. I am giving you this information to halt any complaints filed by these two individuals.

Thank you for listening.

Ruth Pfiffner



Letter to Scott Beduhn re swales.docx
16.2kB



LG-2252-23.pdf
208.9kB



20230512131103184.pdf
268.8kB



708 Ridge Rd.



Channel Dh. 2, Heffron



708 Ridge Rd.



708 Ridge Rd.



Corner of Hatch & County Ct. Dr



Channel Dr & Hyffron



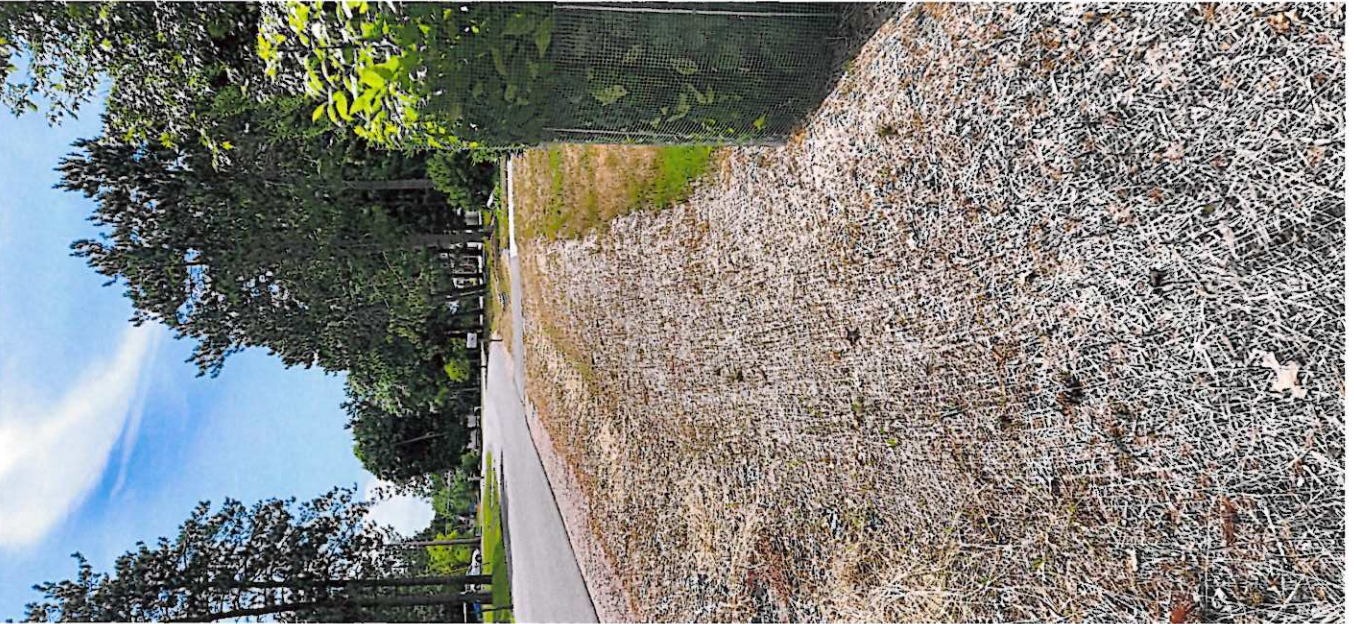
708 Ridge Rd



North Central Tech / Wounu



Before



Before (2022)

During early growth



Before germination





On stop breaking down of
 asphalt
 ↓
 temporary stabilize after a washout.

708 Ridge Rd.



708 Ridge Rd.



708 Ridge Rd



708 Ridge Rd.



online dry creek bed



online dry creek bed



Onlone Drop Creek bed

To: Scott Beduhn, Director of Public Works

From: Ruth Pfiffner, resident on Ridge Rd since 1977

Good Morning, Scott

I am writing this letter as a concerned citizen/resident of Stevens Point, and more specifically, 708 Ridge Rd.

In keeping with your plans to swale our area; Janick Circle, west and north, Sunset Fork, and Ridge Road. I have several observations and concerns.

1. This neighborhood has been in its original condition since before I moved here in 1977. Many species of trees, plants, and bushes are growing happily throughout the land associated with the many homes/residences. Besides their attractive appearance, they all have work to do. They collect water, use carbon dioxide to create oxygen, and hold the soil. We live in an area of complete sand, aka, sand barrens, pine barrens, or golden sands. We, the neighborhood property owners, do not wish to see this miracle of nature to be taken lightly or have the city remove one living plant. We also understand the value and importance of topsoil. We do not want the topsoil removed and taken to someone else's property or business.

/

2. My property is at the gradual curve of Ridge Rd., on the north west corner. This curve is not a right-angled corner, it is a gradual curve. Since 1977, I have watched my land/property/ROW be taken away by the hard rains, snow plows, and street cleaners, such as the storm on June 24, 2021. My property is at the lowest point from the area west of me, and also north of me. When it rains, the street is sloped down to my house from both Ridge Rd (west of my property) and also from Janick Circle north. Not only is my property at the low point, but it is also at the “banking” of the street as it makes the curve. The banking and downhill slope starts well west of my property. I’m sure you’ve heard the saying “water takes the path of least resistance”. This has been the case for all the years I’ve lived here. I’m going to send pictures to show you what happens after a hard rain. Over the years, I’ve purchased, and laid gravel along the street shoulder to try to hold my soil (and to keep the road from crumbling). It has been a difficult time. Water is very powerful as it rages/races downhill and banks to my property. No amount of crowning/swaling is going to change the fact that roads are banked (starting well ahead of the actual curve). I’m not an engineer, but I have years of living here (daily observation) that tells me if you continue to plan to take more of my ROW to ditch/swale, I’ll have no soil in my front yard. I am aware that surveyors have been measuring the ROW, but I haven’t seen them

measuring the distance from the neighbors' yards across the street and see the difference in how high their lawns/sod are from mine. I invite you to come and take a look. I'm sure you will see the enormous difference. **Banking, prevailing winds, and a downhill slope will always allow rain direction to triumph over crowned roads.** My property continues to diminish with each and every rain. I hope you will give this phenomenon a look. My neighbors across the street are probably 6-8 inches higher than my property. Perhaps a surveyor has a way to measure this. I could do it with a couple of stakes and a string strung across the road, but it wouldn't be taken seriously, in my opinion.

*refer to
Rosie's
 driveway*

3. Please consider my lengthy letter when you are making detailed plans. I am also aware that there is little ROW at the gradual curve. I've been told it will require a concrete flat curb to hold the gradual corner in place.
4. My last concern is with Jumping Worms. We now have them in Portage County. I sent all the city government officials a link to a program on jumping worms a year or two ago. It is dangerous to bring soil from other places. It is the number one way that jumping worms are deposited into new areas. If you'd like to watch this program, I still have the link. It would be a travesty to

Many people are aware of the lengths you go to harass me. I expect it to stop. I am still waiting for written responses to my communications to all of you. I expect that my questions and requests will be honored with answers and documents.

Ruth Pfiffner

Correction

ROSICKY LAND SURVEYING
 2610 WEST GRAND AVE
 WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI 54495

PHONE: (715) 342-6949
 FAX: (715) 434-5901
 rosickylandsurveying@gmail.com
 www.rosickylandsurveying.com

PREPARED FOR:
RUTH PIPPNER
 708 RIDGE RD.
 STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

DRAWN BY: TS JOHN: 31722A

This map DOES NOT transfer property ownership. Sale or transfer of property requires a recorded deed.

ELEVATIONS

BEING ALL OF LOT 9 OF JANICK SUBDIVISION, LOCATED IN PART OF SW 1/4 SE 1/4 OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 24 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, CITY OF STEVENS POINT, PORTAGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN.

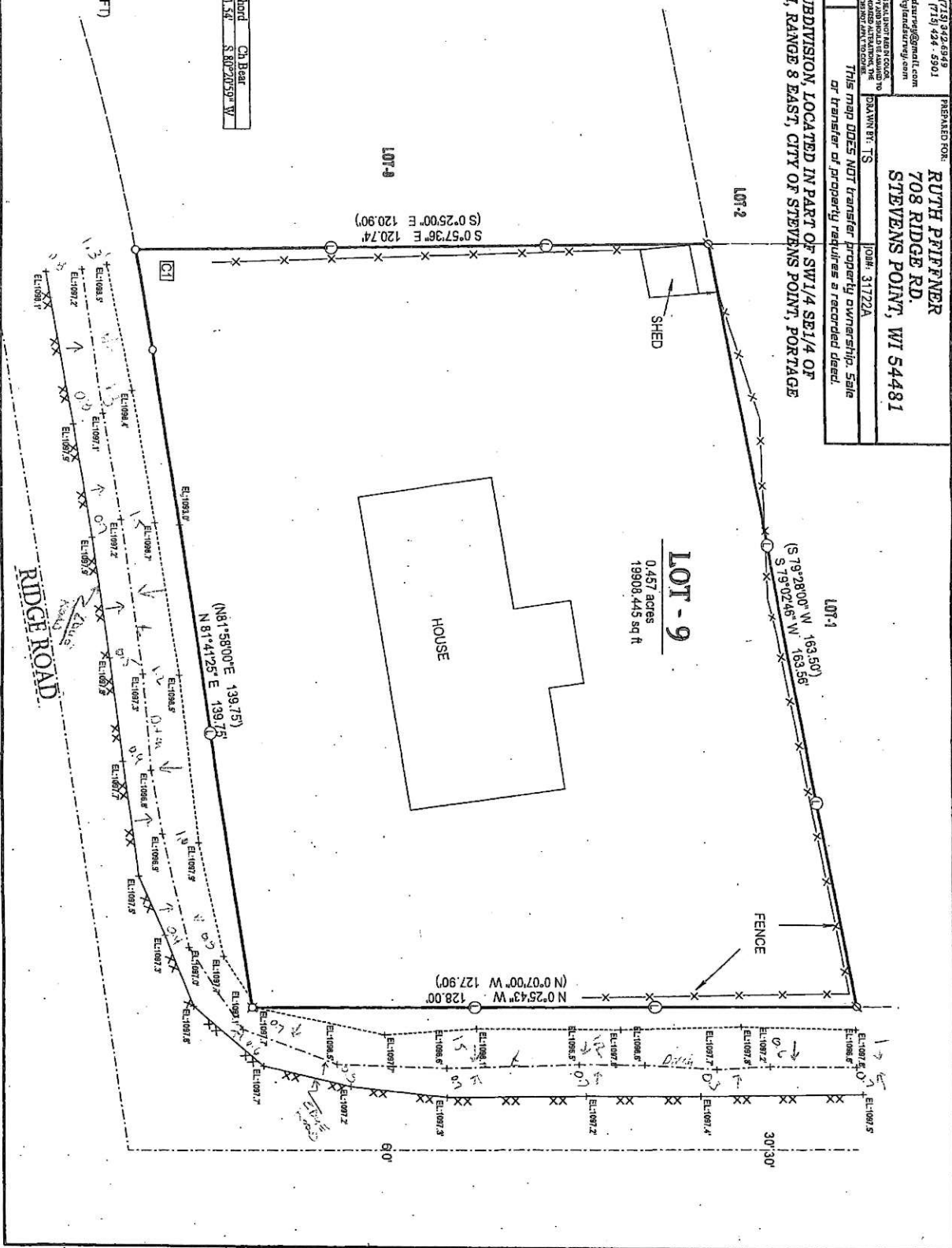


ID	Delta	Radius	Arc Length	Chord	Ch. Bear
C1	751372"	555.73'	21.54'	21.54'	S 80° 20' 59" W

The first line of Lot 9 assigned a bearing of N 0° 25' 43" W for this map.

(1) PREVIOUSLY RECORDED AS
 03/4" O.D. X 18" IRON ROD SET (1.5#FT)
 Ø1" O.D. IRON PIPE FOUND
 Ø2" O.D. IRON PIPE FOUND
 ○ WOODEN LATH SET

SCALE: 1" = 50'



202411081051.pdf

COUNTY
MATERIALS CORPORATION



27241787

1	DATE 11/08/24	62022	SHIP TO	SALES PERSON nbe	TRUCK/DRIVEN Picked Up	4 27284-00
DELIVERY LOCATION			[REDACTED]			
MULTS			SCHOOL ST STEVENS POINT WI 54481			
JOL ST POINT WI 54481						
TERMS		PURCHASE ORDER			SLUMP	
CHARGE		agg.			0	
STOCK # / DESCRIPTION	QTY ORDERED	QTY DELIVERED	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT		
018606 AMERICAN HERITAGE 3/4" 1/3 YD BUCKET	2.00		23.700	47.40		
ARRIVE JOB SITE	START	FINISH	ARRIVE PLANT			

SubTotal 47.40
 Taxes 0.00
INVOICE TOTAL \$ 47.40

Visit Us At: countymaterials.com

LOADED	DRIVER	RECEIVED IN GOOD ORDER
		X

that they have actual and apparent authority to bind Buyer. The signature above binds the Buyer to the terms and conditions (INCLUDING THE WARRANTY AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY) contained on the reverse side of this ticket. Signature binds Buyer to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Seller, including claims for bodily injury, property damage, business loss, or any other incidental or consequential damage, arising out of the delivery, loading, unloading, or installation of the s to sign, the terms and conditions of this document shall become binding upon Seller's delivery or commencement of delivery. Any additional terms and conditions proposed by Buyer, al, are rejected and shall be of no force or effect unless expressly consented to in writing by the Seller. These terms and conditions supersede all previous quotations and agreements ts unless otherwise previously agreed to by the Seller in writing. Any declaration of unenforceability of a provision shall be as narrow as possible and shall not affect the enforceability of the

WHITE - OFFICE COPY - YELLOW/PINK - CUSTOMER COPY - GREEN - YARD

780-0003 Rev 6/23

Nov. 8, 2024

Although the municipal code mentioned in the noncompliance notice I received on Sept. 20, 2024 doesn't apply to anything I have used in my landscape repair of the ROW at 708 Ridge Rd., I do believe that the three things I've used (stones, rocks, and plants) are considered natural to any landscape plan. The soil testing lab at UW Madison told me that the only way to get organic matter into the ditches was to put it there. I have included all manner of organic matter in order to help upgrade the 1.2% organic matter that was delivered by Haas and the city of Stevens Point during late summer of 2022. I prefer not to use chemicals that will leach into the ground water. I use, instead, organic matter. That includes pine needles, grass, branches, garden cuttings, and such. They will not be used/tossed into the street, sidewalk, or alley as per code.

and again on
Oct. 19, 2024

Matter that is not organic, such as broken glass, broken irrigation pieces, landscape fabric pieces, plastic clips from the landscape company, or other non-organic items that were in the mix of fill have been removed by me.

Dry Creek Beds, aka dry stream beds and dry river beds are a great addition to landscape design. They help to add more character to outdoor spaces, especially front yards for curb appeal. DCB are also a great solution if



Church St. Saw-a-Lot



Are needed that more with



Memo

Mark Kordus
Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator
Community Development
City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Ph: (715) 346-1567 • Fax: (715) 346-1498
mkordus@stevenspoint.com

To: Public Protection Committee
From: Mark Kordus
CC: Jarod Kivela, Joel Lemke & Andrew Beveridge
Date: 11/7/24
Subject: 708 Ridge Rd. – Case RAC-2024-00659

On 9/17/24 Mark Kordus in response to complaint observed fill material placed within a drainage swale at 708 Ridge Rd. A notice of non-compliance was sent giving the owner until 10/17/24 to remove the material or city abatement would occur. A reinspection occurred on 10/17/24 and the material was still present. Upon discussion with the Utility Director Joel Lemke, it was decided to apply the service charge for reinspection, but wait on the abatement until after the appeal was heard. This was also relayed to appellant via email. A second notice with the \$100 service fee for re-inspection and a revised due date for compliance of 11/21/24 the day after the scheduled appeal hearing, was sent on 10/17/24.



Swale east of driveway, area of non-compliance and the fill material



Swale west of driveway in compliance



Thursday, October 17, 2024

ID #: RAC-2024-00907

INVOICE #: 202400285

RUTH J. PFIFFNER
708 RIDGE RD
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

**NOTICE AND INVOICE FOR CORRECTING VIOLATION(S):
PUBLIC WORKS VIOLATION AT 708 RIDGE RD**

Dear Ruth J. Pfiffner,

An inspection of the property was made on 10/17/2024. As a result of this inspection, the condition described below was observed:

- o Fill placed within right of way drainage swale must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. Must be corrected by: 11/21/2024
16.13(1) Debris Placed Within Right of Way: (1) No person shall intentionally place any lawn clippings, sand, soil, gravel, stones, junk, garbage, or any other debris or material onto any sidewalks, streets, or alleys without permission from the Director of Public Works. Any person sweeping or blowing such materials shall take due care to ensure that no amount is left upon City streets and sidewalks.



- o No materials may be placed within drainage swale without permission and a permit from the Director of Public Utilities. This material must be removed prior to the due date to avoid city, abatement and service fees. Must be corrected by: 11/21/2024
13.27 PLACING DEBRIS INTO STORMWATER SYSTEM PROHIBITED: PLACING DEBRIS INTO STORMWATER SYSTEM PROHIBITED No person shall intentionally place any lawn clippings, sand, soil, gravel, stones, junk, garbage, or any other debris or material onto or into any portion of the Stormwater System as defined under RMC 13.17(d) without permission from the Director of Public Utilities





This is your official notice that you will need to bring the property into compliance by properly abating such violations prior to 11/21/2024. Failure to abate the condition(s) described above will result in the issuance of a \$100.00 service charge, as well as, enforcing the penalty provisions described in the Stevens Point Municipal Code, including, but not limited to the issuance of a citation and/or the abatement by the City with the costs of abatement being assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

Please note that work being performed, or slated to be performed, may require a building permit. Inquire with our office to verify if a building permit is needed. Double fees shall be charged if work is commenced prior to the issuance of a permit. If you require assistance or have any additional questions regarding this matter, please contact the issuing inspector. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. To dispute or contest this notice and/or charge, a formal written letter must be submitted to the Administrative Appeals Board. The form is available online at stevenspoint.com/neighborhood, or you may request a hard copy from our office. Please note that you may only appeal the ordinance determination. Disagreement with the charge amounts is not a valid reason for appeal, as those are determined by ordinance. Local grants or low interest loans may be available, to check funding and program availability please visit stevenspoint.com/535/Homeowner-Help

As this is a subsequent offense, and the associated fees for the re-inspection and / or abatement of the condition(s) are as follows:

Type	Amount
Inspection after Initial Notice	\$100.00
Balance Due: \$100.00	

Sincerely,

Mark Kordus
Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator
mkordus@stevenspoint.com
715-346-1567

RECIPIENTS: Ruth J. Pfeiffer

Please remit payment to the City of Stevens Point within 30 days from the date on this notice. Please be informed that if payment has not been received by this date, these fees will be assessed against the real estate as a special charge.

* Effective November 1, 2005 - The City of Stevens Point Reserves the right to process your check electronically. So, when paying by check, please be aware that you are authorizing us to use the information on your check to make a one-time electronic charge to your account at the financial institution indicated on the check. This electronic debit will be for the amount on your check. Please Detach at Dashed Line and Return With Remittance.

Customer Name: RUTH J. PFEIFFER
Customer/Parcel No: 240827301809
Invoice: 202400285

Make Checks payable and Remit to:

www.stevenspoint.com

ID #: PAC-2024-00907

Page 2 of 3



City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Amount Due: \$100.00

Or pay online: stevenspoint.com/invoice