



PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

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Media Release

PORTAGE COUNTY WEED COMMISSIONER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

For more information, contact:

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Stevens Point, WI (8/3/17) – **Portage County Appoints John Eron as County Weed Commissioner**

As allowed in State Statutes Ch. 66.0517, the Portage County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution on June 20, 2017 to appoint a County Weed Commissioner. John Eron, Eron Agronomics, was recently appointed as the County Weed Commissioner to serve through 2018.

As Weed Commissioner, Eron's responsibility includes investigating the existence of noxious weeds and is authorized to destroy the weeds in the most economical manner. He will be working with the County's UW Extension Agricultural Agent to educate County residents on the threats of noxious weeds. Currently, four weeds are listed as noxious weeds: Canada thistle, leafy spurge, field bindweed, and named most recently in Portage County, wild parsnip. Eron will obtain written permission prior to entering any private property. He will also be coordinating with County and Town Highway Departments to minimize the spread of noxious weeds in public right of ways.

Citizens are encouraged to submit noxious weed locations on Eddmaps, a national invasive plant database and mapping tool <https://www.eddmaps.org/>. Another option is to report locations to Steve Bradley, Portage County Conservationist, at 715-346-1334 or email bradleys@co.portage.wi.us. Digital photos are helpful to document and accurately verify specific species.

Visit <http://www.co.portage.wi.us/departments/planning-zoning/land-and-water-conservation/terrestrial-invasive-plants> for more information.

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It is the mission of Portage County government to enhance the quality of life for all its residents by providing mandated services, by aging responsive to changing needs, and by ensuring equal access to all county services, while still practicing fiscal responsibility.

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