



PLANNING & PARKS DEPARTMENT

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www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/PlanningParks

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For Immediate Release

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Kestrel Ecology and Monitoring Workshop and Volunteer Opportunities

The Ozaukee County (County) Planning and Parks Department (Department) Ecological Division is expanding its bird monitoring efforts through a County-wide American kestrel nest box monitoring program. The Department received a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Citizen Based Monitoring Grant to purchase, install and monitor kestrel nest boxes with the help of volunteers. To kick-off the program, a kestrel ecology and monitoring workshop is being held on Wednesday, March 22nd at Mee-Kwon Park Golf Course clubhouse in Mequon from 6:00pm – 8:30pm. Bill Muller, Director of the Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory will discuss kestrel ecology and population decline as well as what is needed to build and install a kestrel box. Department staff will discuss how individuals can help with installation and monitoring kestrel nest boxes throughout Ozaukee County. In addition to the workshop, the Department will schedule volunteer opportunities for those interested in helping to install and monitor the nest boxes.

The kestrel nest box monitoring program is complimentary with existing and other developing monitoring efforts being implemented through the Department, including the installation and monitoring of nest boxes for bluebirds, wood ducks and chimney swifts. With the assistance from volunteers, Department staff have also been conducting bird surveys to gain a better understanding of the species breeding in or migrating through Ozaukee County. These combined efforts assist in the decision making processes for protecting and restoring habitat that benefit birds and other wildlife species.

If you're interested in getting involved with this program or other ecologically-related opportunities through the Department, call Tina Kroening at 262-236-2006 or kkroening@co.ozaukee.wi.us.

Attached:

- 1). Kestrel Ecology and Monitoring Workshop Flyer