



City Council Meeting Agenda WORK SESSION

Council Chambers at City Hall
55 W. Tompkins Street
February 27, 2023

Members of the public who would prefer to view Galesburg City Council meetings remotely, can view the council meetings on Comcast channel 7 or stream the meeting live on the City's website.

5:30 p.m.	Roll Call	Pledge of Allegiance
	Presentation & Discussion	Presentation regarding methods to manage conflicts with Canada geese within the City of Galesburg, including a discussion of the possibility of implementing the Giant Canada Goose Charity Harvest Program
	Presentation & Discussion	NLC Service Line Warranty Program
	Presentation & Discussion	Placarding process for dwelling unfit for human occupancy
	Presentation & Discussion	CodeRED Program
		Public Comment
		Adjournment



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Operating Under Council – Manager Government Since 1957

TO: Gerald Smith, City Manager

FROM: Elizabeth Varner, Director of Parks and Recreation

DATE: February 11, 2023

SUBJECT: Goose Population

Review: A presentation was provided at the City Council Work Session on Monday, January 30, 2023 regarding the Goose Population in Galesburg, IL. Mr. Scott Beckerman, State Director for the USDA Wildlife Services, offered a variety of options for Goose Control. This memo is to sum up some of the options for Goose Control, should the Council choose to move forward. I am sure anything the city decides to do might be controversial. Many of the management practices also redistribute the geese to other areas and do not solve the issue.

Problem: The Goose Population has grown, and the main complaint is the amount of feces in the parks and on the golf course. Citizens need to understand that they cannot feed the geese. There is also concern with the water quality. The city does test the water every couple of weeks according to IDPH. We have not had a problem in the past couple of years.

OPTIONS:

- **Continue with the Status Quo** – If we are not to do anything then we would want to encourage the public not to feed the geese and educate them on why. The city is also not opposed to hunting on private land, when legal, which does occur.
- **Manage Droppings** – Management of the goose feces takes a lot of staff time and does not seem to help. Parks staff does blow out the shelter areas of droppings.
- **Charity Harvest** – This would be the most effective in providing a drastic change for this year for management effectiveness and in a sense, reset the clock to lower the goose population. This would be done around Mid-June-July during the molting season when they are growing new flight feathers. It involves the goose population to be professionally captured during molting and then processed for meat donation to food banks. The USDA would be able to do the Charity Harvest, at a cost. (Approx. \$6-7,000) The city would need to be transparent and hold a public meeting, listing this as the topic, in order to be able to obtain a permit. The geese are then rounded up and the USDA would take them for processing and donated to a food bank around Chicago, or locally if possible. **Please be aware that if we want to do this in June of**



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2023, we need to apply in May for review and potential issuance of a state permit. The Charity Harvest is the best means to reduce the population of the giant resident Canada geese in Galesburg. Then we would need to continue to employ as many techniques as possible to assist. This would include applying for and receiving an egg oiling permit from the DNR in the following years.

- **Nest Destruction/Egg Oiling** – This would involve Egg Shaking or Egg Oiling, also known as Egg Addling. **This has been tried by the city many years ago.** Addling is treating the eggs with 100% food grade corn oil, so the embryo does not develop and then removing them from the nest later. **The USDA would train our staff to do this.** I know there are volunteers, but I would worry about someone getting injured. Geese are very aggressive in defending their nests. The USDA would also be able to implement this with a Cooperative Service Agreement, of which I do not know of the cost. The permits are free. We would need to find the nests, and work in pairs so someone lures the angry geese away. These geese will be angry while one person is oiling the eggs. Later we would need to go back to remove the eggs and nest. We would need to register that we intend on doing this. This will need to be completed for many years and the city will not notice anything for 15-20 years. **A free permit from DNR is required. We can apply for the free DNR egg oiling permit in now or in early March.** They would not charge us for a short 1-hour training at one of our parks.

- **Coyote Cut Outs** – **We plan to implement these again, as this has been done by the city.** The city has used coyote cut outs several years. Often the cut outs are stolen, and the geese often get smart to the cut outs, even when moving them around. We provided a template to a volunteer who cut out a few more for us to try again. However, this disperses the geese to other areas and does not eliminate the problem.

- **Flight Control Application** – **Parks has been trying this on the golf course this year.** It does seem to help but is not cost effective. Repellents need reapplied every 2-3 weeks. We figure application would take about seven more during the summer at an estimated cost of \$10,500. This cannot be utilized by the beach and must be reapplied after every mowing. This can only be applied to vegetation, and must be reapplied every 2-3 weeks after a couple of mowing's. This provides a visual deterrence and indigestion with the geese. However, they just move to another area to avoid this.

- **Keep the grass long around the ponds to deter geese** – The city does do this to an extent to deter the geese.

- **Fencing and twine** – **This has been done by the City of Galesburg.** It is helpful at the Golf Course but is not appealing in the parks or around the lakes, as it will also block access.



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- **Lasers, Pond Lights, and Pyrotechnics (Specially designed fireworks)** – All of these have been tried by the City of Galesburg in the past, although it has been a few years.
- **Propane Cannons** – These are utilized around airports and in rural agricultural areas. They explode every 15-30 minutes on a timer and would not be appropriate to utilize within our city. Some models are set randomly. However, geese adapt, and it becomes ineffective.
- **Trained Dog Harassment** – The city does have a leash law, and the harassment would need to be constant. There are groups with trained dogs that can be contracted to do this. We do have an individual that would be happy to have her dog chase geese away. This is not recommended as it only moves them on down to another spot and they still can return. However, canines do work very well to disperse the geese, but this would be to other habitats within Galesburg. Additionally, control of the dog is important since they cannot catch, injure, or kill the goose.
- **Goose Hunting** – This was brought to the City Council in 2015 and was negatively received by the public and rejected. However, this is very effective for population management. This would need approval with DNR.
- **Allow water to freeze in the winter** – We do this but then they return with the thaw.
- **Relocation** – This is not approved, as most of the adult breeding geese would merely return to continue breeding in the future years. This is also not good in that goose relocation has the potential to spread diseases to another area, and the geese will usually return to original site.

Conclusion:

The City of Galesburg could remain status quo or select to try a method of goose population control. Regardless, if we wanted to have a Charity Harvest a public meeting is required, and we would need to apply for this option and obtain a permit. If we want to do Egg Oiling, a permit is required, and staff would need training/assistance.

Otherwise, the city could review options, and then plan to implement next year.

The City Council would need to provide the direction they would like us to go.



Department of Parks and Recreation

GIANT CANADIAN GOOSE POPULATION CONTROL

FEBRUARY 27, 2023 – CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION



Giant Canada Goose Review

- Presentation was provided at the last work session – Monday, January 30, 2023
- Scott Beckerman, State Director for the USDA Wildlife Services presented options for goose control.
- Identifying Problem: Growth in the goose population, accumulation of feces and feathers, aggressiveness, nuisance conflicts, reduced water quality of the lake and increased algae growth from feces.
- Additional Problem: Aviation safety concerns, potential for increased avian disease, and may act as a decoy for migratory geese.
- Problem Areas: Lake Storey, Lincoln Park and Bunker Links Golf Course



Canada Goose Regulations



- Protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. (Federal Law)
- State Law: Illinois Compiled Statutes
- There are federal, state and local regulations to follow when managing the population, with permits being required.





Management Strategies

CONTINUE WITH STATUS QUO:

- Discontinue Feeding: This would include encouraging the public not to feed the geese, although this method is often ignored. Educate the public.
- Continue to manage the droppings, which takes a lot of staff time and is not successful.
- The city is not opposed to hunting, when legal, on private property outside of the city limits.





Management Strategies Continued

NEST DESTRUCTION / EGG OILING:

- Involves egg shaking or egg oiling. (Addling)
- The City of Galesburg has tried this in the past.
- Free DNR permit is required. Applications for egg oiling need completed now.
- USDA could implement this with a Cooperative Service Agreement which do have a fee. They can also train our staff. Geese are very aggressive in defending their nests, which need to be found.
- On-going method for many years.
- Takes 10+ years to observe population decline.

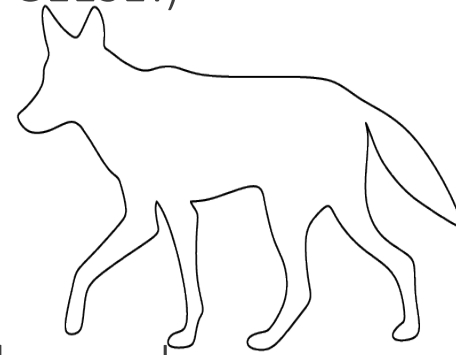




Management Strategies Continued

COYOTE CUTOUTS:

- Already implemented by the City of Galesburg.
- Cut outs are often stolen, and the geese eventually realize they are fake. (SMART GEESE!)
- Methods disperses the geese to other areas and does not eliminate the problem.



LONG GRASS DETERENT:

- Grass is kept long, to extent by the City of Galesburg, to deter the geese around the ponds.

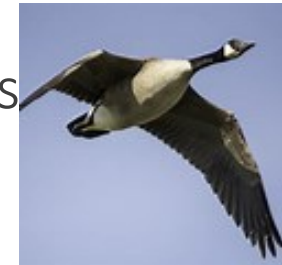


Management Strategies Continued

Grazing Deterrents:



- Anthraquinone or Methyl Anthranilate
- Park staff has been applying FC this to areas on the golf course since November.
- Repellent needs reapplied every 2-3 weeks, only to vegetation. (Can not be used at the beach.)
- Seems to help but is not cost effective. (Estimating 7 applications)
- Provides a visual deterrence and indigestion with the geese.
- Will not reduce population, as they will forage elsewhere in City.





Management Strategies Continued

FENCING AND TWINE:

- Pro: Helpful at the Golf Course, which has been utilized.
- Con: Not appealing in the parks, around playgrounds or the lakes. Also blocks human access.

LASERS, POND LIGHTS AND PYROTECHNICS:

- City of Galesburg has utilized these methods in the past.
- Designed to frighten geese away from problem area.
- Geese will disperse short distance and generally return.





Management Strategies Continued:

PROPANE CANNONS:

- Utilized on airports and in rural agricultural areas. This would not be appropriate within the city.



TRAINED DOG HARASSMENT:

- Canines work well to disperse the geese, although this would be to other habitats in the city.
- There are trained dogs that can be contracted to do this. Control of the dog is important since they can not catch, injure or kill the goose.





Management Strategies Continued

GOOSE HUNTING:

- Considered by City Council in 2015 for staff to hunt and was negatively received by the public. It was then voted down.
- Most effective for population management. Cost effective.
- Requires DNR hunting permits/stamps.
- Early September and during regular season.

ALLOW WATER TO FREEZE IN THE WINTER:

- Currently follow this practice.
- Goose population returns with the thaw.





Management Practices Continued

RELOCATION:

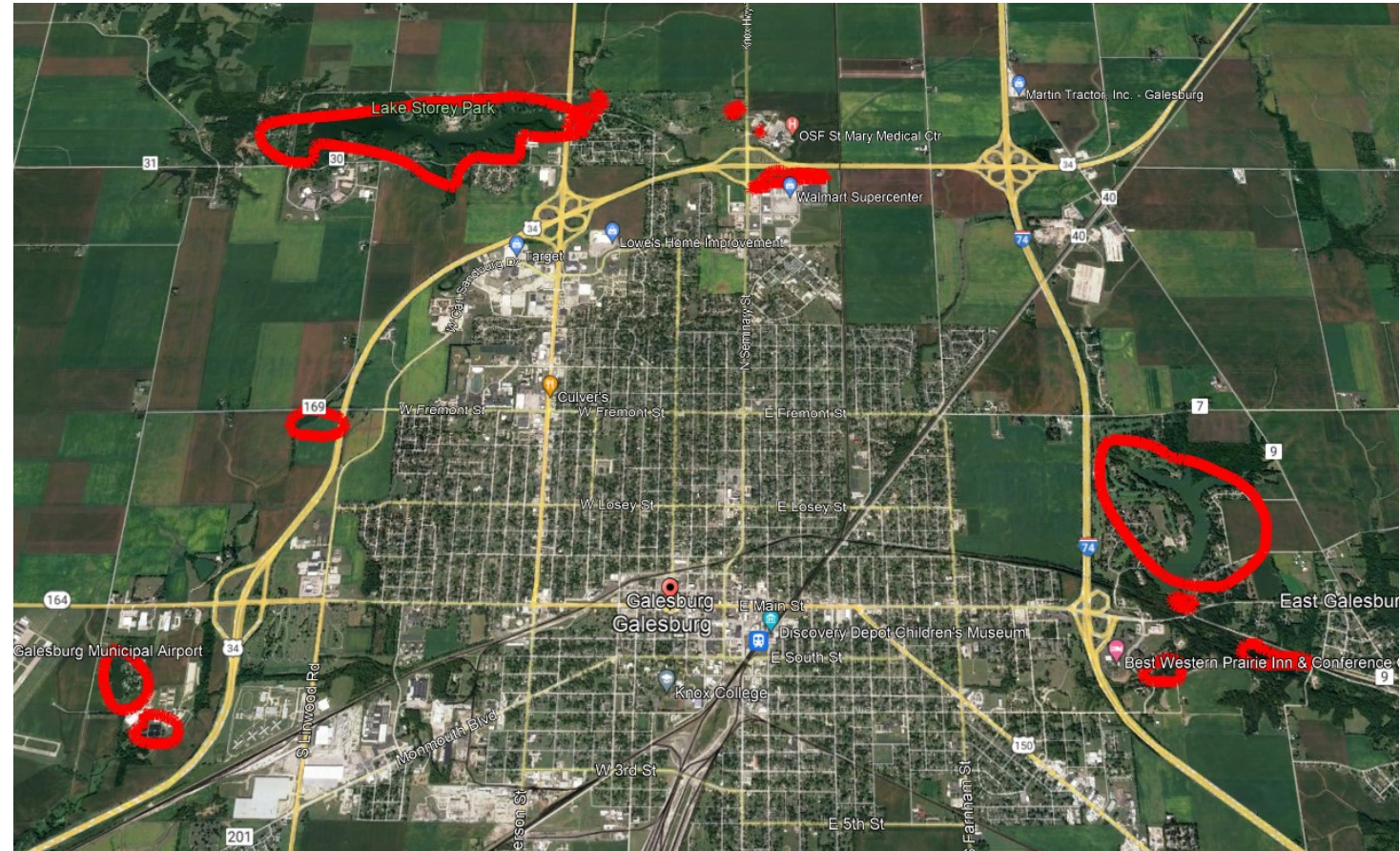
- Most of the adult breeding geese would return to original site to continue breeding in future years.
- Relocating also has the potential to spread diseases to another area.
- Not an approved method.





City of Galesburg – Bodies of Water

- Lake Storey Park
- Lincoln Park
- Bunker Links Golf Course
- OSF St. Mary Medical Center
- Walmart
- Lake Rice
- Best Western Prairie Inn
- Sandburg Lake Estates





Management Strategies

CHARITY HARVEST

- Most effective for management effectiveness with noticeable results.
- Resets the clock to lower the goose population.
- Time Period: During the molting season in mid-June to July. when they are growing new flight feathers.)
- Professionally captured by USDA and then processed for meat donation to food banks. This requires a free DNR permit. (Need to apply in May)
- Expense: Approximately \$6-7,000
- Includes applying for and receiving egg oiling permits from the DNR in future years.
- Objective is to manage Giant Canada goose population so can be enjoyed by our residents and minimize detrimental impacts on the use and enjoyment of our parks and golf course.





City Council Options

- Remain status quo by doing nothing.
- Select a method to manage the goose population. Many will be controversial.

Considerations:

- Charity Harvest – Requires applying for this option/Obtain a permit
- Egg Oiling – Requires a permit and needs training/assistance.

- Review options and plan to implement next year.

WORK SESSION OUTCOME:

City Council should provide direction for the management of the goose population at this time.

Presenters



Name:

Elizabeth Varner, Director of Parks and Recreation

Scott Beckerman, State Director for the USDA Wildlife Services





Community Development

Dwellings & Dwelling units unfit for human occupancy – Placard process

February 27, 2023



Purpose

To provide an overview of the placard process to designate dwellings and dwelling units as unfit for human habitation

History of the ordinance



Designation of dwellings and dwelling units as unfit for human habitation is within the Minimum Housing Code ordinance, initially adopted in 1963 and amended 1972.

- If a dwelling or dwelling unit did not have basic equipment and facilities, adequate light/ventilation/heating, lacked safe and sanitary maintenance, and did not meet minimum space/use provisions, a notice would be sent by an inspector providing reasonable time to comply
- If compliance was not met, the Inspector could deem the dwelling or dwelling unit as unfit for human habitation and place a placard upon the structure
- The structure could not be occupied again until such time the violations were corrected and written approval was received from the Inspector

History of the ordinance



May 2018 Council approved Housing Code amendments, which included the below changes to the Designation of dwellings & dwelling units as unfit for human habitation:

- In addition to not meeting minimum housing standards, those deficiencies must also be to the extent that health, safety and welfare of occupants, or adjacent occupants, or properties is at risk of health or harm.
- A memo documenting deficiencies, along with photos and other supporting documentation is sent to the City Manager, or his/her designee, to seek approval of an unfit designation
- An owner may file a written appeal of the designation within 5 days of the placard being placed on the structure. Appeals are heard by the administrative hearing officer through Adjudication

The Current Ordinance



150.155 DESIGNATION OF FIT DWELLINGS AND DWELLING UNITS AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

- (A) The designation of dwellings or dwelling units as unfit for human habitation and the procedure for the determination and placarding of the unfit dwellings or dwelling units shall be carried out in compliance with the requirements of this section.
- (B) Any dwelling or dwelling unit which fails to meet the requirements of §§ [150.165](#), [150.166](#), [150.167](#) and [150.168](#), or any of them to the extent that health, safety and welfare of occupants or adjacent occupants or properties is at risk of health or harm such as the structure is unsafe, unlawful or, because of the degree to which the building is in disrepair or lacks maintenance, is unsanitary, vermin or rat infested, contains filth and contamination, or lacks ventilation, illumination, sanitary or heating facilities or other essential equipment required by this code, or because the location of the structure constitutes a hazard to the occupants of the building or to the public, hereof, may be declared to be unfit for human habitation and may be so designated and placarded by the City Manager or his/her designee.
- (C) Any dwelling or dwelling unit determined as unfit for human habitation, and so designated and placarded by the City Manager or his/her designee, shall be vacated within a reasonable period, not to exceed five business days as ordered by the City Manager or his/her designee.
- (D) No dwelling or dwelling unit which has been determined and placarded as unfit for human habitation shall again be used for human habitation until written approval is secured from and the placard is removed by the Inspector who shall remove the placard only when the defect or defects upon which the determination and placarding action were based have been eliminated, and after the dwelling or dwelling unit has been inspected and been found to comply in all respects with the requirements of this subchapter.
- (E) No person shall deface or remove the placard from any dwelling or dwelling unit which has been determined and placarded as such, except as provided in division (D) above.
- (F) An owner may file a written appeal of this designation with the City Clerk's office. This appeal shall be filed within five business days of placarding of the building. Appeals shall be heard by the city's administrative hearing officer at the next regularly scheduled administrative court date.

(1990 Code, § 6-265) (Ord. 63-722, passed 7-29-1963; Ord. 72-235, passed 11-20-1972; Ord. 18-3568, passed 6-18-2018) Penalty, see § [150.999](#)

Statutory reference:

Unsafe buildings, see ILCS Ch. 65, Act 5, §§ 11-31-1 et seq.

NOTE: 150.165 Basic Equipment & Facilities 150.166 Light Ventilation & Heating 150.167 Safe & Sanitary Maintenance 150.168 Minimum Space & Use

The Current Ordinance



150.999 PENALTY.

Any person violating §§ [150.001](#) through [152.234](#) shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$1,000 for each day the violation exists, provided, however, the intentional submission of false information on a registration statement, or amended registration statement, filed pursuant to this subchapter shall be a violation punishable by a fine of not less than \$150 nor more than \$1,000. Additionally, the City Attorney shall be authorized to seek any legal or equitable remedies he/she deems necessary to enforce §§ [150.001](#) through [152.234](#).

(Ord. 66-833, passed 2-7-1966; Ord. 84-946, passed 6-18-1984; Ord. 98-1875, passed 12-21-1998; Ord. 18-3567, passed 6-18-2018)

Note: [150.001](#) through [152.234](#) include General Provisions (smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, General Contractor Registration; Building Codes; Building Demolition; Electrical Code, permits, contractors, standards; Mechanical & Fuel Gas Codes; Housing Code Minimum Standards; Moving of buildings; Plumbing Code, Contractors; Rental Licensing Program)

















The Process

- How are Inspections initiated
 - Complaint from current tenant or property owner, both notified of inspection time/date scheduled 15 days from complaint
 - If emergency complaint (life safety concern, no heat or raw sewage) an inspection can take place next business day
 - From GFD/GPD due to conditions they witness. A random rental inspection will be scheduled 15 days out, unless life safety
- The initial inspection
 - Property Compliance Officers perform inspections. If it is believed there may be extensive plumbing or electrical issues the applicable Construction Inspectors or Code Compliance Supervisor will go along, or PCO's will consult after inspection
- After the Inspection
 - Rental inspection report sent to owner & tenant listing violations and corrections needed to bring dwelling back into compliance.
 - The owner shall hire licensed contractors to perform any Plumbing, Electrical, or Structural Repairs. Proper permits must be pulled, inspections completed, and written permission from the Community Development Department must be given to enter the property.
 - In the case of a single-family owner-occupied dwelling, an electrical permit can be issued to the bona fide owner **IF** the owner is personally purchasing material and performing all labor in connection therewith and all workmanship, methods and materials meet code and pass inspections.
 - In the case of single-family owner-occupied dwelling, a plumbing permit can be issued to the bona fide owner **IF** the owner lives in the dwelling as their bona fide sole and exclusive residence for not less than 6 months after the completion of the plumbing work



The Process

- If the PCO's determine there are excessive deficiencies that may require an unfit designation
 - The rental inspection report and photos are discussed with the Code Compliance Supervisor, if there is sufficient evidence then it is discussed with the Department Head.
 - Items that may indicate the dwelling is unfit include; no active water service, no hot water, lack of operable plumbing fixtures in the kitchen or bathroom, raw sewage, no heat, faulty electrical connections, pest and vermin infestation, excessive amounts of trash and debris inside the residence, lack of safe and proper egress
 - If all parties agree, the Code Compliance Supervisor will draft a memo, compile photos and other potential supporting documentation and provide it to the City Manager and Legal. The memo typically includes:
 - A history of the processes that have taken place such as the reason for the inspection, the findings, and any conversations had with both the owner and tenants.
 - A history of any nuisance or housing violations for the property.
 - A history of Police calls for the property.
 - A fire report if applicable.
 - Photos from the inspection showing the various violations.



The Process

- If the Designation of Unfit for Human Habitation is approved
 - A Notice to Placard is posted on the structure
 - The notice informs all occupants of a time and date to vacate the property.
 - An informational packet is distributed to both owner and tenants. This packet contains applications and contact numbers for Income Based Housing such as Knox County Housing Authority. Contact information for Community Resources such as Salvation Army and Alternatives for Seniors. Contact Information for Food Resources such as Fish Food Pantry and several local churches.
 - The PCO's also reach out and notify the housing facility's and Salvation Army of the situation and let them know that we have referred the occupants to them.
 - When the date arrives to Placard the building, the City PCO's and Officers from GPD will enforce the eviction of anyone still occupying the residence. Depending on how secure the property is, additional board up services may be necessary for doors that won't secure and broken or missing windows.
- Appeal Process
 - The owner may appeal the Designation of unfit for Occupancy within 5 business days of the Placard being placed on the structure
 - The appeal will be heard at the next available Administrative Adjudication Hearing.
 - If the Hearing Officer upholds the Placard the owner can appeal to the Judicial Court within 35 days of the Hearing Officers Decision.



Structures unfit for Human Occupancy

The previous slides were specific to Dwellings that can be declared unfit, but City ordinance did not have a similar ordinance for buildings of other uses that may have deficiencies to the extent human occupancy should not be allowed.

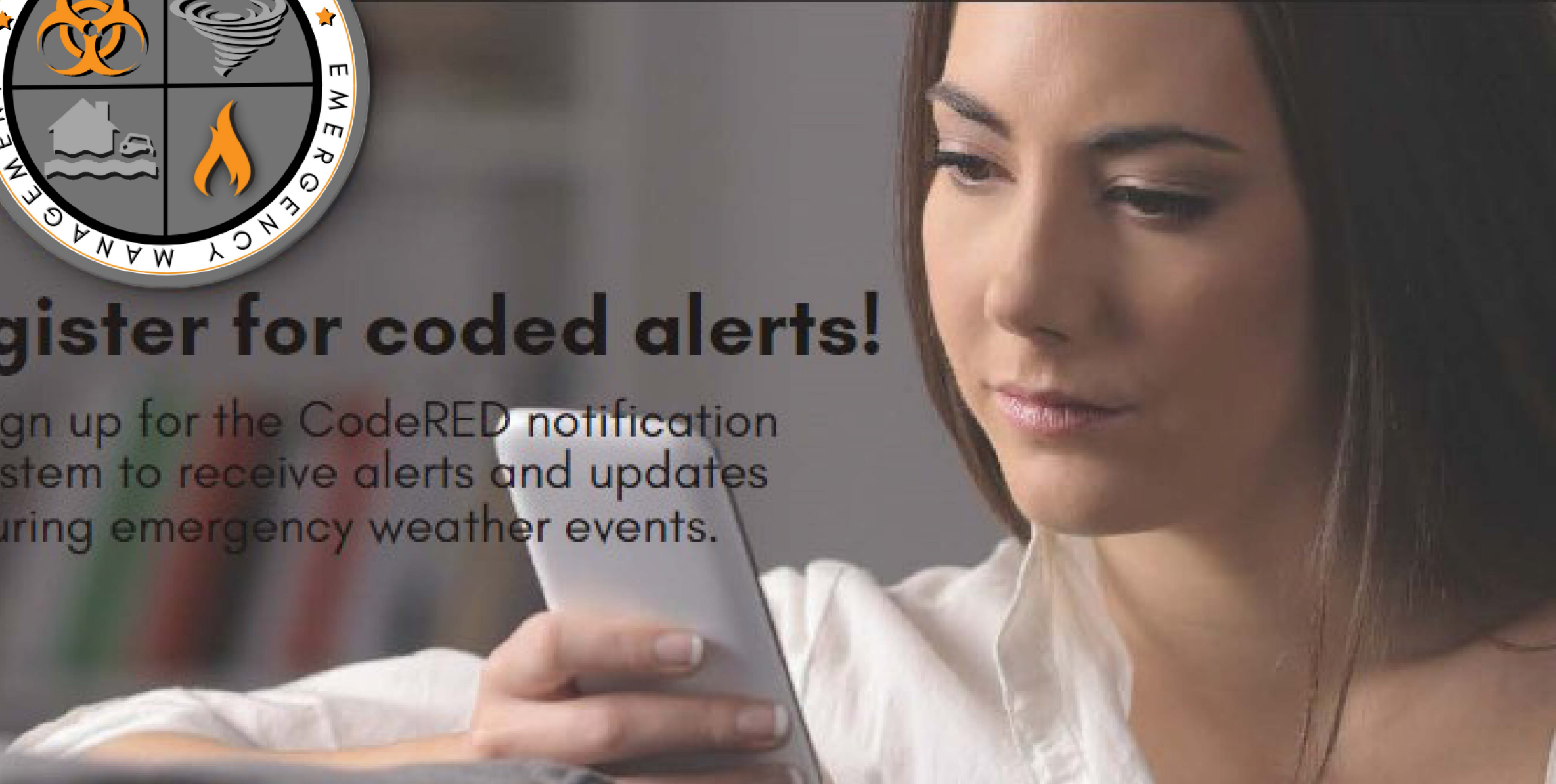
April 2022 Council approved amendments to the Nuisance Chapter which added a section for Structures Unfit for Human Occupancy that are applicable to buildings used for purposes other than a dwelling.

This is related, but separate from today's topic.



Register for coded alerts!

Sign up for the CodeRED notification system to receive alerts and updates during emergency weather events.





KNOX COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

THREE SIMPLE WAYS TO ENROLL

1. Go to this website & follow the steps.
<https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BFFC6B0BEC21>
2. Text to receive a link to the enrollment
Text "KNOX" to 99411
3. Scan this QR Code





KNOX COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

ACCOUNT REGISTRATION

1. SINGLE SIGN-ON ACCOUNT

Select "Yes", & click on either google, facebook or twitter. You will log into your account to permit access.

2. MANAGED ACCOUNT

Select "Yes". create username & password.
Username 6+ characters, password: 8 + characters

3. NON-MANAGED ACCOUNT

By selecting this option, you will not be able to create an account later, nor the ability to log back in to update your contact information at a later date.

Would you like to create a managed account?

Creating a managed account will allow you access to modify your existing notification. You may also add an additional address.

☒ YES, I would like to create a managed account

 Login with Google

 Login with Facebook

 Login with Twitter

Or Create An Account
Username

Password

Confirm password

☐ No, continue to enroll as a guest

Continue



KNOX COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

ENTER YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Complete your information and select if this is for a business or a home. You can add more locations further in the process as long as you choose a managed account.

Contact Information

First name

Last name

Contact Addresses and Communication Methods

Address is:

☒ Residential ☐ Business

Address name:

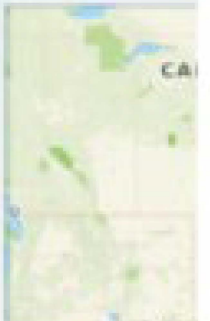
Address to be notified

(please no P.O. boxes)

City

State

Zip



CONTACT

📞 1.309.343.4181

🌐 https://www.ci.galesburg.il.us/resources/emergency_management/index.php



DOCUMENT

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Structure Tree	654	0	0
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