



## ELLIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL/PLANNING & ZONING QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER VOLUME 1/QUARTER 4 (OCT-DEC)

### IMPORTANT DATES IN QTR 1:

#### Zoning Meetings QTR 4:

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>, Nov 20<sup>th</sup>, Dec 18<sup>th</sup>

#### Other Dates:

**Oct 31<sup>st</sup>:** Halloween

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup>:** Election day

**Nov 6<sup>th</sup>:** Flood Plain Open House, 2-7 p.m. at Sternberg Museum.

**Nov 11<sup>th</sup>:** Veterans day. Offices closed.

**Nov 28<sup>th</sup>:** Thanksgiving. Offices closed Nov 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Dec 25<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas. Offices closed Dec 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Dec 31<sup>st</sup>:** New Year's Eve. Offices closed Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.

### NEW AND IMPROVED!

Welcome to the new Quarterly Newsletter from the Ellis County Environmental/Planning & Zoning Office! The new layout will provide the same great information in a more in-depth manner and more spread out as to not overload your inbox.

#### What will be covered in the new Newsletters?

We will still cover everything that goes on with private wastewater systems, private water wells, zoning, floodplain, HHW, etc. and get the information that is pertinent to you.

They will go out in Quarters throughout the year:

Qtr 1: Jan-Mar, Qtr 2: Apr-Jun, Qtr 3: Jul-Sep, Qtr 4: Oct-Dec

### QUICK OFFICE OVERVIEW

The Ellis County Environmental Office provides environmentally sound practices and progressive development that help Ellis County residents protect the land and ground water in the county through Private Water Well & Private Wastewater administration through permitting, regulation, and inspection. The Environmental Office is also the Director of the 13-County Regional Household Hazardous Waste Program.

The Planning and Zoning Division strives to ensure that the Ellis County Zoning Regulations and Subdivision Regulations are followed in providing proper land use and development of Ellis County properties. This is done in accordance with the Ellis County Zoning and Sub-Division Regulations and Floodplain Management.

### THE ELLIS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

We are currently approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  complete with our new Comprehensive Plan. Comprehensive planning is a process that determines community goals and aspirations in terms of community development. The result is called a comprehensive plan that both expresses and regulates public policies on transportation, utilities, land use, recreation, and housing.





## Contact Us

### **Ellis County Environmental/Planning&Zoning**

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785-628-9449

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[www.ellisco.net](http://www.ellisco.net)

#### Ellis County

#### Environmental/Planning & Zoning

#### Fees 2019

Water Well Permit- \$60.00

Wastewater Permit- \$60.00

#### Water Screen

Nitrate/Bacteria- \$20.00

Nitrate/Bacteria/RO-\$25.00

#### Property Transfer Evaluations

Water Well- \$50.00

Wastewater- \$50.00

Both- \$75.00

\*please contact office for any fees that may occur

Last completed in 2012, Ellis County decided to review the plan to make sure that our current policies are working in unison with our Zoning Regulations. The goal is for an honest understanding, uncomplicated courses of action, & a streamlined path for the future of the county.

## FLOOD PLAIN UPDATE

Ellis County's flood maps were last updated in 1986. These are paper maps that we have currently in the county that we use to determine whether a property is in the flood plain. Current technology is using LIDAR and engineering to produce 100% digital maps. This will include actual elevations of a specific location in addition to reference points used currently. Advanced engineering has streamlined the studies/mapping projects and improved results. Flood maps are now delivered in an industry-standard Geographic Information System (GIS) format allowing for easier viewing and analysis. Flood Map Modernization is using state-of-the-art technology and advanced engineering to increase the quality, reliability, and availability of flood hazard maps and data.

Ellis County has been working together with FEMA and the Kansas Department of Water and Resources to bring us up to date. This was necessary because Flood Hazard conditions are dynamic and many National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) maps did not reflect recent development and/or natural changes in the environment. Updated NFIP maps are needed to take advantage of revised data and improved technologies for identifying flood hazard. Up-to-date maps are needed to support a flood insurance program that is more closely aligned with actual risk, to encourage wise community-based floodplain management, and to improve citizens' flood hazard risk awareness.

This new data will reflect current flood hazard conditions and enable citizens to more reliably assess their flood risk and act to mitigate (i.e. reduce their physical and financial vulnerability to flooding). Community planners and local officials will gain an improved understanding of the flood hazards and risks that affect our community. Builders and developers will have access to detailed information to make decisions on where to build safely and how construction could affect the community. Finally, homeowners and business owners can make more informed decisions about their current flood risks.

What can you look forward to? Notifications will be sent out to any properties that may be impacted by the new Flood Map Designations. There will be a Flood Plain Open House Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, from 2-7 p.m. at the Sternberg Museum, 3000 Sternberg Drive, Hays, KS 67601.

If you have any additional questions, please feel to contact Ellis County Environmental Office by phone at 785.628.9449 or email us [environmental@ellisco.net](mailto:environmental@ellisco.net).

## **A SPECIAL WELCOME**

The Ellis County Environmental Department would like to introduce Justin Craig to the team. Justin joined the office on July 8<sup>th</sup> as the new Environmental Technician. Welcome Justin!

Thank you!

Mason Ruder, Carla Meier, & Justin Craig

Environmental Office