



Department 2019 Successful Projects

The Rental Inspection Program has improved the safety and appearance of 106, now fully compliant, rental units in the city. Naturally, since it is a new program, there were a few growing pains at the beginning. As we gain experience with the process, we continue to refine and clarify regulations and expectations as part of our goals to enhance the community image, increase measures to improve housing and make Oelwein a safer and more desirable place to live.

The combination of the new Rental Inspection and Vacant Property Registration Programs, increased code enforcement and abatements issued have resulted in an improved quality of life and an enhanced community image. More stringent building inspections are coming in the new year.

2019 has been a year full of surprises, changes, challenges and progress. The efforts of the Community Development department have borne fruit in its inaugural year.

- 227 Initial Inspections
- 208 Reinspections
- 106 Fully Compliant Rental Units

With the new year comes the next section of rental inspections – the Northeast side of Oelwein.

Goals/Projects

The body of work that Community Development has done aligns very well with Oelwein’s Goals as a whole. All our projects enhance the community image and build community identity in a positive direction. The acquisition of the Davey’s Doins properties, as well as others in the past year, are a major step towards a cleaner and more attractive city. We are also in the process of acquiring other homes, also with rehab potential, with the goal of owner-occupied properties that increase tax revenue.

As we enter 2020, we are eager to continue pursuing nuisance houses, increase code enforcement and collaborate with contractors and agencies like Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission and Northeast Iowa Community Action to revitalize neighborhoods and keep our historic charm while clearing a path for the future.

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