

City of Racine, Wisconsin
Office of the Mayor
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Mayor Appoints Matt Koepnick Director of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services

RACINE, WI —Mayor Cory Mason has appointed Matt Koepnick as the City of Racine’s new Director of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services (PRCS), with the Common Council confirming the appointment at its February 3 meeting. Koepnick is promoted from his role as City Forester, a position he has held since 2010, overseeing the Forestry Division within the PRCS Department.

Koepnick brings more than 20 years of public-sector experience in forestry and natural resources management to the position, including 15 years leading Racine’s urban forestry program. In his new role, he will oversee the City’s parks, recreation programs, and cultural services that serve residents across Racine’s neighborhoods.

A Racine native, Koepnick is a Case High School graduate and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban Forestry from the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point. He returned to Racine in 2010 to serve as City Forester and has lived in the city since, where he and his wife, also a Racine native, are raising their family. Their two sons are graduating from the Racine Unified School District this spring.

“Matt has done exceptional work as our City Forester, strengthening Racine’s urban forest while modernizing operations and building strong partnerships,” said Mayor Cory Mason. “I’m excited to see him step into this leadership role and bring that same dedication and expertise to the entire Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department.”

As City Forester, Koepnick led urban forestry operations, grant-funded initiatives, and long-range planning efforts that strengthened the city’s tree canopy, environmental resilience, stormwater management practices, and neighborhood livability.

“I’m honored to take on this new role and continue serving the community that raised me,” said Koepnick. “Racine’s natural resources, parks, recreation programs, and cultural services play an important role in the community, and I look forward to working with our staff and partners to strengthen them.”

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