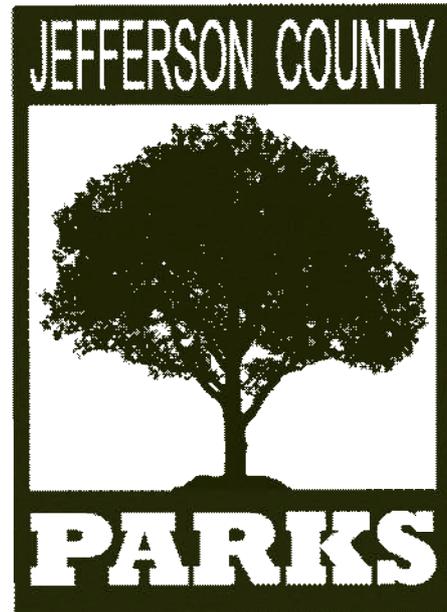




JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

MAY 1, 2013



JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN 2013-2018

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JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Jefferson County Parks Department has a history of planning for the future. This is the third comprehensive park plan that has been completed, with prior plans approved in 1997 and 2005.

Jefferson County is a planning leader in Wisconsin. A public survey for the 1999 *Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan* indicated that most property owners wanted the County to retain its rural character, increase parkland, preserve farmland, and protect natural resources. Concentrating on what residents value has created energy for pursuing large conservation parks and linking trails.

The focus of Jefferson County's *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan* is to preserve natural resources while providing outdoor recreation. Creating a park and trail network, like pearls on a string, that also connects to cities, villages, and hamlets will benefit not only local residents but also draw visitors who want to experience nature, walk and bicycle on off-road trails, and visit local establishments.

This vision of a rural landscape of farmlands, woodlands, prairies, and glacial features interconnected with large conservation parks and a trail system is a model for retaining the separation between two large urban areas (Milwaukee and Madison), maintaining and improving natural areas, and enhancing an economy based on farming and agriculture-related businesses and small town living by adding a recreational component. Several paddling and bicycling businesses have already sprung up in Jefferson County and health care providers are enthusiastic partners.

Planning is important, not only because it creates a road map for realizing goals and objectives, but also because the planning process involves the public and stakeholders, gives staff and consultants the chance to learn from others, studies current and future population, economic, and recreation trends; takes a fresh look at our natural resources, gives consideration and practical thought to expenditures and benefits, celebrates successes, and qualifies the County for a variety of grants.

Jefferson County is currently in the implementation phase of the 2005 *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan* and the *Glacial Heritage Area plan*. The plan is updated periodically to assess progress and qualify for grants. Each park and trail was assessed for progress over the last seven years and a capital improvement plan spanning the next five years was developed for each.

During this planning process, the public was asked at three input meetings how they thought the implementation was going. Their response indicated that they appreciated the parks system, protection and improvement of natural areas, and expansion of trails. Several comments indicated excitement over the reconstruction of the Mason log home and farmstead master plan. Connecting parks to economic development strategies was also suggested. Several newspaper articles and radio spots informed citizens of upcoming meetings and planning activities.

A new brochure was developed during the planning process to concisely summarize the accomplishments of the 2005 plan, state the mission and visions of the Parks Department, list priority projects, and provide a guide and map to Jefferson County Parks. The brochure, essentially an executive summary, follows on the next two pages.

5 Year Plan 2012-2017

1. Add the Holzheuer Farm to the Parks System and complete Master Plan.
2. Complete Glacial River Trail.
3. Implement approved park master plans.
4. Continue leadership in the GHIA Implementation Team and the associated subcommittees: Land Acquisition, Trails, Education, Outreach & Communications, and Economic Benefits.
5. Cultivate private and public partnerships.
6. Implement major new bike paths with a assistance of local advisors: Waterloo to Lake Mills, Waterloo to Watertown, and Watertown to Oconomowoc.
7. Pursue 8 large conservation parks identified in the GHIA Plan as land becomes available.
8. Grow Endowment Fund.
9. Add accessible features to Parks.
10. Restore prairie, wetlands, savannas, and woodlands.



Park Visions

A balance of recreation & conservation.

Multiple recreational activities in large, natural resource oriented parks.

Acquisition of new lands.

Land acquisition in & conservation parks identified in the GHIA Plan.

Parks give form to our rural landscape and communities. Parks protect special natural, historic, and cultural places that have meaning to us. Bike and trail corridors connect these jewels.

High design, maintenance, & management standards.

Celebrate and build on the uniqueness of each park site.

Promote park awareness & benefits

Personal & health, social & community, economic & environmental benefits.

Parks System Mission

Preserve natural resources for public use and conservation, operate and maintain a parks system with resource oriented recreation, trails, and special use parks, and expand the parks system for environmental and land use benefits and the health and enjoyment of Jefferson County.



The Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) is a partnership between Jefferson County, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and surrounding Counties.

The initiative focuses on four landscape resources:

- ❖ Conserving Parks
- ❖ Linking Trails
- ❖ River-based Conservation Areas
- ❖ State Wildlife Areas

For Jefferson County this means expanded off-road trails linking cities and villages with parks, expansion of existing parks with more recreational activities, establishing new parks, and improvements along marked canoe/kayak water trails.

Come and connect with nature and history.
Take a hike or ride a bike to your special place!

Jefferson County Park Features



Award-winning pavilions at Dorothy Canine and North County Parks.



Historic terraced walls.



Restored prairie, wetlands, and savannas and miles of trails.



Boating, canoeing, and kayaking.



Miles of off-road bicycle trails including a covered bridge.



Nationally recognized Jefferson County Dog Park.



Five and uncommon spades at Dorothy Canine County Park & Rose Lake State Natural Area.



Whisper sports cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and a new accessible bridge over the Crowfish River.



Historic and cultural Native American mounds and trails.



Community gardens in uncommon settings.

Fishing on the Crowfish, Rock, and Bark Rivers, and Rock Lake.



Protect Our Environment. Improve Our Health. Support Our Economy

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JEFFERSON COUNTY



PARKS

Jefferson County Parks	Acres	Picnic Area	Shelter	Grills	Drinking Water	Restroom	Play Area	Boat Access	Fishing	Trails	Disc Golf	X-Country Skiing	Snow-shoeing	Lake, Pond, River	Open Area	Dog Exercise Area
Altpeter Park	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Burnt Village Park	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Carlin Weld Park	78	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cold Spring Creamery Park	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Dorothy Carnes Park	514	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Garman Nature Preserve	40	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Indian Mounds Park	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Jefferson County Dog Park & Terri Tinsley Dog Exercise Area	109	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Joy Park	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Kanow Park	45	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Korth Park	89	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pohlman Park	10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Rock Lake Park	23	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Rock River Park	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Rome Pond Park	12	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Welcome Travelers	8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*



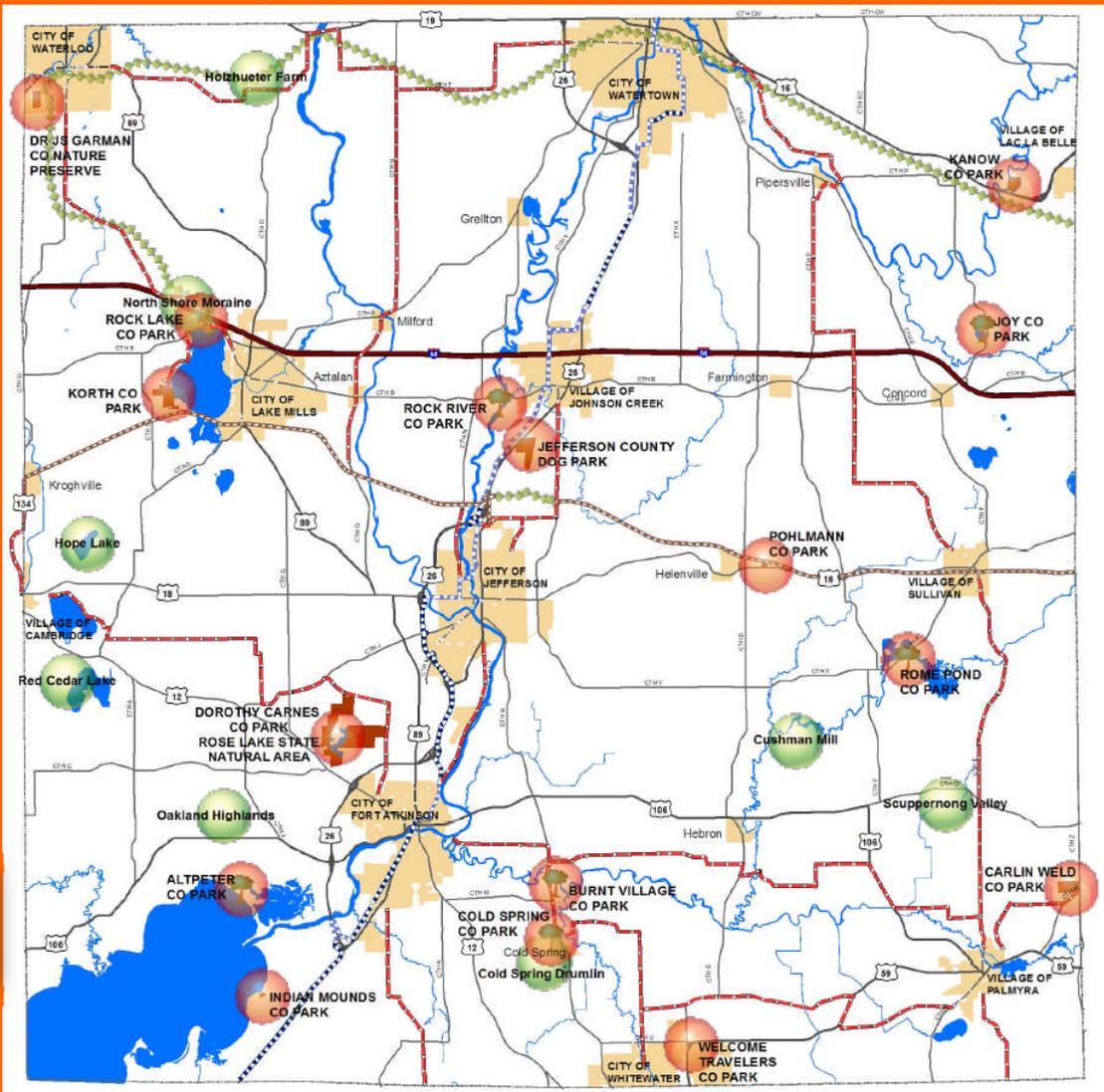
Jefferson County Bicycle Routes connect communities on low volume roadways, many with paved shoulders.



The Glacial River Trail travels adjacent to Hwy 26 from Watertown to south of Fort Atkinson. 17 miles of the trail are on an off-road paved path.



Glacial Heritage Area Watertrail put-in and take-out points are marked on many rivers and streams.



Legend

- Jefferson County Parks
- Jefferson County Parks 1-3 acres in size
- Future Conservation Parks - GHA Plan
- Jefferson County Bicycle Route
- Glacial River Trail - Off-Road Path
- Glacial River Trail - On Road
- Glacial Drumlin State Trail
- Planned Linking Bicycle Trails

Sixteen Jefferson County Parks cover over 950 acres. The Glacial River Trail will ultimately travel for 34 miles through the center of the County.

Future Conservation Parks are part of the Glacial Heritage Area, a joint initiative with the WDNR, adjoining counties, and several municipalities. Connecting trails are planned between Lake Mills, Waterloo, Watertown, and Oconomowoc.

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Acknowledgments: This poster was produced for the Jefferson County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan update in 2012 through the efforts of the Jefferson County Parks Department, Jefferson County UW Extension, the Jefferson County Land Information Office, and LandDesign by Margaret Burlington LLC. Photography: Margaret Burlington, Kevin Wiseman, and Tom Jennings.

I MISSION, VISIONS, AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The Jefferson County Parks Department mission and vision statements were developed during the planning process for the 2005-2010 *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan*. Input from the public, the Parks Committee, and Parks staff informed the mission and vision statements and the plan was adopted by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors.

The plan is currently in the implementation phase and the mission and visions have not changed but have been clarified, updated and re-ordered from general to more specific.

The vision statements and accompanying implementation strategies essentially lay out a work plan for the next five years.

DEFINITIONS

Mission: Purpose of the Parks Department - what we do.

Vision: A description of a future end state.

Strategies: A pattern of actions, policies, and tasks that make vision happen.

VALUES

Values define the core beliefs and theoretical context of the Parks Department; values are what we care about and what we stand for.

- Pride in our accomplishments
- Respect by and for others
- Reputation for excellence
- Teamwork to achieve goals

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission is the purpose of the Parks Department – what we do on a daily basis.

The mission of the Jefferson County Parks Department is to preserve natural resources for public use and conservation, to operate and maintain a parks system with resource oriented recreation, trails, and special use parks; and to expand the parks system for environmental and land use benefits and the health and enjoyment of Jefferson County residents.

VISIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Visions for the future and implementation strategies and recommendations to accomplish those visions have been developed to guide the Parks Department for the next 5 or more years. In each vision statement section on the following pages a short version of the vision statement is given followed by an explanation of the vision and then the full text of the vision. Implementation details for each vision follow.

VISION I

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS GIVE FORM TO OUR COMMUNITIES AND CREATE AND PROTECT UNIQUE PLACES AS PART OF ONE WELL-PLANNED SYSTEM.

This vision expresses the significance of Jefferson County Parks in the context of the Jefferson County landscape and how the Parks System reflects the goals of the County's land use plan.

Full Text Vision I

Jefferson County's system of large parks, extensive trails, and natural areas gives form to our communities and the rural landscape and integrates important cultural features. As part of this landscape, the Parks System is fundamental in creating special places to live with natural and rural character, vital and distinctive communities, and working farms.

DETAILS

A. The Parks System furthers several the goals of the *Jefferson County Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan*:

Goal 1: Preserve the "rural character" and aesthetic quality of Jefferson County.

Goal 5: Maintain the integrity of agricultural districts allowing for accepted agricultural practices. (Parks and farms in close proximity can create large areas free from non-agricultural development benefiting both our natural resources and the ability to farm.)

Goal 6: Protect and preserve an environmental corridor system consisting of wetlands, floodplains, upland woods and steeply sloped glacial features.

Goal 7: Protect groundwater and surface water quality.

Goal 8: Discourage development in areas that possess valuable natural resource characteristics and wildlife habitats.

B. The urban and rural landscapes in Jefferson County have land use patterns that are inter-related and function well together. These patterns give structure and form to the region and sustain and add to the livability of Jefferson County. Complementary land use patterns make the area look good and feel good.

- C. Jefferson County Parks reflect the essence of Jefferson County and provide the public opportunities to see and interact with the landscape and natural features such as woodlands, prairies, wetlands, waterways, geological features, scenic views, wildlife; and cultural features such as historic farmsteads and Native American Mounds.
- D. Bicycle and pedestrian trail corridors connect parks with cities, villages, hamlets and other parks. The trail corridors traverse the landscape and allow users to slow down and experience the rural and natural character, undulating topography, and invigorating seasons of Jefferson County.
- G. The Jefferson County Parks Department works with the public, the Jefferson County Historic Site Preservation Commission, the State Historical Society, the Ho-Chunk Nation, universities and colleges, and other cultural groups to respect, protect and preserve cultural icons in County Parks and along trail corridors such as buildings with historical and cultural significance and Native American Mounds.

VISION II

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS BALANCE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

This vision describes what Jefferson County Parks are and do.

Full Text Vision II

Jefferson County Parks provide multiple recreational facilities and activities for all ages and abilities in a way that balances recreation and conservation values.

DETAILS

- A. Multiple activities are offered in large parks for family togetherness and public enjoyment.

- County Park activities may include picnicking, open areas for play, playgrounds, in-park bike paths, fishing, canoeing, camping, scenic drives, community gardens, and cultural and historical sites to explore.
- Other nature-based conservation parks offer primarily silent sport experiences such as hiking, nature study, nature photography, bird watching, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “A”

1. Involve park users and the public when planning park facilities to both encourage their input on park activities and facilities and to educate the public about park natural resources.
2. Continue to implement approved Park Master Plans and the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* to provide recreational opportunities.

PRIORITIES

- Implement the *Dorothy Carnes County Park East Master Plan* (Mason Farm)
 - Implement the recommendations of the *Mason Farm Site Plan* at Dorothy Carnes County Park East.
 - The Holzheuter Farm Park has been purchased by the WDNR. Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the WDNR for park management and master planning.
3. Follow a capital improvement plan that prioritizes new facilities development and seeks innovative funding sources. Periodically review the capital improvement plan.

PRIORITIES

- Appropriately placed and sized park pavilions accommodate indoor and/or sheltered gatherings.
 - Electricity, running water, and customer comfort features are provided at shelters.
 - Picnic areas include playgrounds. Where it is complementary to the park, playgrounds may be made of natural materials and/or feature nature themes.
 - Explore the addition of a four-season facility at Korth County Park.
- Restore and improve historic sites.
 - Renovate the Mason log cabin for historical display.
 - Continue to follow maintenance plans for the Native American Mounds at Dorothy Carnes and Indian Mounds County Parks and the Garman Nature Preserve.
- Continue to improve the Jefferson County Dog Park with the assistance of a Dog Park Friends group.
- Improve water access.
 - Water access is provided by piers and wharfs where feasible.
 - Enhance the Glacial Heritage Area Water Trail System (canoe and kayak trails) on suitable waterways with launches, rest stop areas, paddle-in camping, and informational kiosks.

- Implement the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail in Jefferson County with the Audubon Society, WDNR and other partners.

4. Conduct a public camping feasibility study to assess demand and needed facilities.

B. Jefferson County Parks protect unique and significant natural resource areas as preserves within the Parks System.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “B”

1. Preserve and improve natural areas through acquisition and landscape restoration, which may include removing invasive species, controlled burns, plantings, sowing seed, and wildlife management. Inform and involve the public in stewardship activities.
2. Educate users on natural seasonal changes that may require closing some trails at certain times of the year, such as bird and waterfowl nesting seasons.

C. Jefferson County Parks are places to experience and learn about the natural world and the historical and cultural context of Jefferson County.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “C”

1. Interpretive signs, guided walks, group activities, and school field trips provide educational opportunities within the parks.
2. A volunteer coordinator helps guide educational and volunteer efforts.
3. Friends groups at specific parks offer and coordinate learning experiences.
4. Educational activities may be jointly planned with the Friends of the Glacial Heritage Area when appropriate.

D. The *2010 Jefferson County Bicycle Plan* and trail components of the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* are implemented in a coordinated manner.

PRIORITIZED IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “D”

1. Continue development of the Glacial River Trail in Jefferson County and adjacent Counties.
2. Current planning positions the Watertown-Oconomowoc (Interurban Line), Watertown to Waterloo, and Waterloo to Lake Mills linking trail projects for upcoming grant cycles and implementation.
3. Work with the City of Waterloo to incorporate the Waterloo Regional Trailhead into the Garman Nature Preserve and trails linking Waterloo to Lake Mills and Watertown.

4. Connect the Glacial Drumlin State Trail to the Jefferson County Dog Park and Aztalan State Park where facilities and activities are available.
5. Create destination points, rest areas, and side trips to other activities.
6. Encourage cities and villages to create scenic bicycle and pedestrian trails and connectors.

E. Accessibility to scenic views, special features, and park experiences is offered to the less able wherever possible.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “E”

1. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) recommendations are implemented in all parks.
2. All new park structures are built to be universally accessible.
3. Accessible decks, boardwalks, and interpretive displays immerse the less able in park and natural experiences.
4. Special “golf cart” days or other activities provide access to all parts of the parks.

F. Study and monitor trends in emerging forms of recreation, exercise, and health care and provide for new nature-based outdoor activities in which participation has become more general and substantial.

VISION III

ACQUISITION OF UNIQUE LANDS

Vision III address the quantity of park land that meets recognized standards for population growth and the type of land that the Jefferson County Parks Department will seek.

Full Vision III

Jefferson County continues to acquire unique recreational lands and natural resource areas for public use.

DETAILS

- A. Jefferson County acquires a quantity of high quality nature-based recreational land that meets or exceeds generally recognized standards in order to keep pace with population growth. For Jefferson County Parks the minimum standard is 12 acres per 1000 residents.
- B. Jefferson County Parks complement and enhance the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* vision of a major system of integrated and diverse parks, natural areas, and resource conservation areas serving local and regional needs.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “B”

1. Continue staff participation in the Glacial Heritage Area Implementation Team and committees.
 2. The Glacial Heritage Area Implementation Team prioritizes acquisitions on an on-going basis as properties and funding becomes available.
- C. Potential park lands are identified, prioritized and acquired from willing sellers for new undeveloped conservation parks, for expansion of existing parks, and to preserve biological diversity and the following natural and cultural resources:

- ❖ Lakes
- ❖ Wetlands
- ❖ River corridors
- ❖ High points and drumlins
- ❖ Large woodlands
- ❖ High quality native plant communities
- ❖ Wildlife corridors
- ❖ Native American Mounds and historic sites
- ❖ Groundwater recharge areas

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “C”

1. Acquire sites for large natural resource parks, that have the potential to be 100 acres or greater in size with diverse physical attributes and recreational opportunities as identified in the *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan* and the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan*.

ACQUISITION PRIORITIES

The following eight properties are proposed as conservation parks, if the land becomes available for purchase from willing sellers and a price can be agreed upon.

- **Holzheuter Farm Park:** This scenic property has been purchased by the WDNR as a State Park for mountain bike and trail use and will be managed in partnership with Jefferson County. Purchase of one inholding within the property may be pursued.

- **Cushman Mills:** Drumlins meet the Bark River on the Cushman Farm. This site has spectacular views, oak-hickory and maple-basswood forest, several historic pioneer sites, and canoe/kayak potential.
 - **Oakland Highlands:** A large wooded area on a glacial moraine with spectacular views of Lake Koshkonong and the surrounding area, oak-hickory woods, remnant prairie, and a blue heron rookery.
 - **Red Cedar Lake:** One of the most pristine lakes in southeastern Wisconsin and a State Natural Area with several rare plant communities.
 - **North Shore Moraine:** An area of hilly topography, woods, agricultural land, and wetlands overlooking Rock Lake.
 - **Hope Lake:** An undeveloped fishing lake with a high quality tamarack bog. The bog has been purchased by the Department of Natural Resources.
 - **Scuppernong Valley:** Covering nearly a whole section, this property features remnant prairie, woodlands, high quality wetlands, and wildlife.
 - **Cold Spring:** This drumlin features scenic overlooks, a remnant prairie, and the potential for hiking.
2. Acquire property adjacent or near to existing parks for possible expansion as identified in park master plans or the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan*, if the property becomes available from willing sellers.

EXPANSION PRIORITIES

- Dorothy Carnes County Park
- Korth County Park
- Dr. J. S. Garman Nature Preserve

D. Trail or greenway corridors are acquired in accordance with the *Jefferson County Bicycle Plan* and *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* to link parks and urban areas.

CORRIDOR PRIORITIES

- Waterloo to Watertown.
- Waterloo to Lake Mills via McKay Nursery land.
- Old Interurban Line (WE Energies Corridor) from Watertown to Ixonia and Oconomowoc

E. Land is acquired on and adjacent to lakes and rivers to provide access to water and Glacial Heritage Area Water Trails, to preserve habitat, and to improve water quality consistent with the Glacial Heritage Area River-based Conservation Area component.

ACQUISITION PRIORITIES

- *Glacial Heritage Area Watertrails River-Based Campground Assessment.* The Glacial Heritage Area Watertrails Committee scouted many potential paddle-in camping locations in the Glacial Heritage Area. The following three areas in Jefferson County were chosen as priority areas:

- ❖ Hahn's Lake area on the Rock River near Grelton
 - ❖ Aztalan State Park on the Crawfish River
 - ❖ Cushman Mill on the Bark River
- River Corridors identified in the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* are high quality habitat blocks in riparian zones. Acquisition and protection is recommended in the following three corridors:
 - ❖ Allen Creek Conservation Area/Allen Creek Wetland State Natural Area south of Fort Atkinson.
 - ❖ Lower Bark River Conservation Area just east of Fort Atkinson.
 - ❖ Lower Koshkonong Creek Conservation Area just north of Lake Koshkonong
 - Acquisition for water access, riparian area protection, and wetland protection is also desirable along the following waterbodies if land becomes available:
 - ❖ Rose Lake
 - ❖ Rock Lake
 - ❖ Hope Lake
 - ❖ Red Cedar Lake
 - ❖ Crawfish River
 - ❖ Rock River
 - ❖ Bark River
 - ❖ Allen Creek
 - ❖ Lower Koshkonong Creek

F. Conservation easements are acquired or donated to buffer parks from development, preserve environmental corridors, create linkages and greenways, protect areas for future park expansion, and to preserve agricultural land in conjunction with or adjacent to a park project area.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR "E"

1. Institute a purchase or donation of conservation easement program in the Parks Department and work with the Jefferson County Farmland Conservation Easement Commission, WDNR, GHA, NRCS, non-profit conservation and trail organizations, and private entities to:
 - ❖ Buffer parks and protect environmental corridors.
 - ❖ Create multi-purpose trail corridors.
 - ❖ Retain and enhance rural character.
 - ❖ Separate urban service areas to retain their unique identity and distinctive community character.
 - ❖ Protect critical groundwater infiltration and aquifer replenishment areas.
 - ❖ Protect groundwater quality.
2. Explore multiple funding sources for easement purchases such as state and federal funds, non-profit conservation organizations, zero-coupon bonding and others.

VISION IV

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS MAINTAINS A HIGH STANDARD OF DESIGN, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE.

Vision IV conveys how the Jefferson County Parks Department operates.

Full Text Vision IV

The Jefferson County Parks Department sustains a high standard park design, construction, accessibility, management, safety, and maintenance.

DETAILS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Jefferson County Parks perform several key functions:

- ❖ Grounds and facilities maintenance
- ❖ Vegetation and wildlife management
- ❖ Visitor and staff safety
- ❖ Capital program and large-scale facilities implementation

A. The Jefferson County Parks Department has sufficient trained and engaged staff and the equipment to maintain and improve park properties.

- The Jefferson County Parks Department is a full-time department and has full-time staff.
- Staff positions are sufficient to operate parks seven days a week year-round.
- Operations equipment is available and in good condition to accomplish tasks efficiently.
- Visitor and staff safety is and will continue to be the highest priority.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR "A"

1. The Parks Committee and Operations Staff interact and work collaboratively to design, plan, and implement projects in response to an annual plan of work and capital program.

2. Continue to empower staff and community members to participate in park improvement projects.
3. Collaboration with other County Departments in sharing equipment and resources to accomplish maintenance and construction tasks in a timely manner.
4. Continuing education, seminars, and safety training are available to the Parks Committee and all levels of Staff.
5. Staff participates in park planning activities.

B. Jefferson County Parks staff is trained to maintain and restore native vegetation and manage wildlife.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR "B"

1. Provide staff training sessions on vegetative management, removal of invasive species, and controlled burns.
2. Implement approved hunting and trapping policies for management purposes.

C. The Jefferson County Parks Department establishes a volunteer coordinator position to create a program that assists with maintenance, removal of invasive species, natural resource inventories, educational sessions, and works with Friends Groups.

D. Jefferson County works cooperatively with other entities to accomplish County Park initiatives.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR "D"

1. Jefferson County enters into cooperative agreements with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for mutual benefit.
2. Jefferson County partners with non-profit conservation organizations, community organizations and agencies, the private sector, and Friends groups on park initiatives.
3. Jefferson County coordinates park initiatives with other jurisdictions to limit unnecessary duplication.
4. Jefferson County partners with the health and medical field to provide exercise opportunities for better health.

E. Jefferson County pursues successful funding strategies.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “E”

1. Jefferson County maintains, strengthens, and develops relationships and partnerships with non-profit conservation organizations to obtain state, federal, and local funding.
2. Jefferson County Parks continues the successful approaches that have been used to obtain private, state, and federal grants.
3. Donations are respectfully and sensitively solicited from the private sector for funds to be used for parkland acquisition and development.
4. A formal gift-giving program, called the Endowment Fund, collects and invests funds for park acquisition, maintenance, and park development.
5. Jefferson County seeks corporate contributions to the Endowment Fund and corporate support for special projects and programs.
6. Jefferson County investigates new park revenue sources such as impact fees and naming rights.



VISION V



PROMOTE AWARENESS AND BENEFITS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS AND TRAILS

In Vision V the Jefferson County Parks Department raises awareness of the parks and trails, the benefits of outdoor recreation, and the value of natural resource protection for health, economic prosperity, and quality of life.

DETAILS

A. The Jefferson County Parks Department has in place a communications plan to inform the public and County Board of its initiatives, park locations, natural resources, and recreational activities.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “A”

1. Jefferson County Park initiatives, activities, and the benefits they provide are communicated through a County Board communications plan, a Department web site, educational articles, social media, Courthouse displays, the County’s Speaker’s Bureau, newspaper articles, radio and TV spots, advertising, and promotional articles such as tee shirts.

2. Utilize the new “poster plan” that summarizes the *Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan* in electronic and display copies to further motivate implementation and understanding.

B. The Jefferson County Parks Department engages with the Jefferson County Tourism Council, Chambers of Commerce, and Economic Development Agencies to promote awareness of the Parks System and its direct benefits to communities, residents, the environment, and economic prosperity.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “B”

1. Strong partnerships are formed with businesses that believe in the link between parks and trails and their economic success. Current partnerships include TREK, Fort Health Care, Standard Process, 2 Rivers Bicycle & Outdoors, and Sport and Spine.
2. Attractive and distinctive signage directs citizens to parks, within the Parks, and along bike and walking trails and routes.
3. Signage along city and village bicycle routes is coordinated with the Jefferson County Parks Department to help direct users to parks and points of interest along the routes and trails.
4. Interpretive signs, kiosks, and nature and cultural centers within parks educate visitors about cultural, historical, natural resources, and other community points of interest.

C. The Parks Department works cooperatively with local health care providers to convey to the public the benefits of exercise and experiencing nature for physical and mental health.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “C”

1. The Parks Department partners with health care providers in the media and through recreational events to communicate how an active outdoor lifestyle reduces health care costs for businesses and government.

D. Jefferson County’s planning to enhance a valued rural, cultural, and natural landscape that is connected with thriving small cities, villages and hamlets by trails and waterways becomes a Midwestern model for healthy communities and ecosystems and sustainable economic growth.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR “D”

1. Promote Jefferson County Parks and the Glacial Heritage Area state-wide and nation-wide.

2. Continue to engage the University of Wisconsin and other college and university students and professors in research projects.

COMPLEMENTARY VISION STATEMENTS

Recent plans by Jefferson County and other entities in the region have articulated vision statements that are complementary to those of the *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan*. These plans include the 2010 *Jefferson County Bicycle Plan Update*, the 2009 *Glacial Heritage Area Plan*, the 2012 *Jefferson County Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan Update*, the Rock River Trail Initiative, and the *Wisconsin State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*. Vision statements from those plans are listed below.

JEFFERSON COUNTY BICYCLE PLAN VISION

A. CONNECTIONS AND LINKAGES: We will have a well-connected bicycle transportation system that links a variety of communities and activity generators (e.g. parks, schools, employment centers, restaurants, downtowns, shopping areas) together into a cohesive and safe transportation system.

B. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES: We will have a multi-modal transportation system (bicycling, walking and other forms of transportation) as part of a desirable and livable Jefferson County region for our residents and visitors.

C. HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLES: We will have bicycling facilities that support healthy and active lifestyles.

D. SMALL TOWN LIVING: We will have bicycle facilities that support and enrich our small town lifestyle.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: We will have bicycle facilities that will help grow our existing businesses, contribute to our tourism industry and provide a competitive edge for attracting top talent and companies.

F. ENVIRONMENT: We will have well connected and safe bicycle facilities enabling residents to replace automobile trips with bicycle trips while experiencing the natural resources and scenic beauty of Jefferson County.

GLACIAL HERITAGE AREA PLAN

Visions are not specifically identified in the GHA plan. This list of visionary statements was gleaned from the Executive Summary.

- A coordinated series of parks, preserves, wildlife and natural areas, and other conservation lands that are linked together and to nearby cities and villages with different types of trails like “strings and pearls” that also incorporates significant cultural and historical elements.
- Readily accessible opportunities for residents and visitors to get outdoors to hike, bike, watch wildlife, fish, paddle, hunt, camp, cross country ski, ride horses, and participate in other nature-based activities.
- Protected and restored native grassland, savanna, woodland, and wetland habitats and improved water quality in lakes, wetlands, and rivers.
- Involvement in a cooperative planning effort by a diverse group of people representing local community interests, elected officials, conservation and recreation organizations, and the Department of Natural Resources.
- Protection and management of conservation parks, linking trails, river corridors, and wildlife and natural areas.

JEFFERSON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND LAND USE PLAN

Overall Vision for the Future

Growth and development in a manner that will preserve the rural character; protect the agricultural base and natural resources of the countryside; and contribute to the high quality of life and prosperity of the communities.

Goals (Previously called “Visions and Broad Planning Statements” in the 1999 Plan)

1. Preserve the “rural character” and aesthetic quality of Jefferson County.
2. Coordinate growth and development planning between towns and incorporated municipalities.
3. Provide equity and fairness to owners of land with comparable resource and location characteristics.

ROCK RIVER TRAIL INITIATIVE

Mission Statement

The mission of the Initiative is to establish and interpret a Rock River Water Trail along the 300-mile river course from the headwaters in Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin to the Mississippi River at Rock Island, Illinois and designate a separate Rock River Route on roads within the river corridor to provide access for all to the natural resources, recreational opportunities, scenic beauty and historic and cultural assets of the Rock River Valley.

Key Objectives

1. Establish the Rock river Water Trail and achieve designation as a state and national recreation water trail.
2. Establish a scenic, recreational and historic road route within the river corridor.
3. Promote ecotourism and recreational opportunities throughout the river corridor including safe portage of the dams from Waupun, Wisconsin to Rock Island, Illinois.
4. Protect, preserve, and educate about our Native American peoples, settlement cultural heritages and contributions of the river valley’s industrialists, agriculturalists, statesmen and visionaries to the American experience.
5. Enhance the river ecosystem through natural resource conservation, stewardship and environmental planning and design.
6. Support economic development and revitalization of river communities, and

7. Enhance community recognition using unique signage, markers and public materials to conserve and promote the natural, recreational, scenic, and historic assets of the trail for present and future generations.

WISCONSIN STATE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

1. Goal: Protect, Restore, and Enhance Wisconsin's Natural Resources for Outdoor Recreation.
2. Goal: Continue to Provide and Enhance Public Access to Wisconsin Outdoor Recreational Lands and Waters.
3. Goal: Maintain and Enhance Funding Opportunities for Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation.
4. Goal; Promote Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation as a means to better public health and wellness.
5. Goal: Increase the usage of Wisconsin urban parks and greenways.

II NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A park needs assessment evaluates how well park facilities serve the residents of Jefferson County and what additional acreage or facilities are needed. Three standards were used to assess the availability of parks and recreational activities:

Park Facilities Inventory

Jefferson County offers 16 County Parks on 945 acres, 17 miles of off-road paved bicycle/pedestrian trails and many more miles of bicycle routes on paved road shoulders. The parks are in natural and rural settings and offer outdoor recreation such as hiking, cross-country skiing, fishing, boating, picnicking, playgrounds, Frisbee golf, historic sites, community gardens, space for events as diverse as weddings and cross-country meets, rustic camping, and natural areas restoration. Nearly all parks either have a shelter, restroom, water, and playground or those facilities are planned.

The first section in this chapter provides a description of each park, improvements since 2005 and proposed improvements for 2013-2018. The Parks are well maintained and shelters are very much in demand during the warmer months. The Jefferson County Dog Park is the most heavily used Park.

Public Input and Visioning

Three public input meetings were held during the planning process for this plan. Attendees indicated that they thought it was important to protect and improve natural areas and preserve cultural and historical sites. There were requests for another Dog Park in the Fort Atkinson area, more bicycle trails, ATV trails, equestrian trails, and an orchard at the Mason Farm in conjunction with Hearty Gardens. Numerous newspaper articles and radio spots also informed the public and all Parks Committee meetings have time for public comments.

Application of Recreation Standards

Recreation standards and Level of Service generally apply to urban parks departments. An attempt was made in previous plans to categorize Jefferson County's Parks and determine a "level of service". The same standards are used in this plan.

The "Level of Service" for Jefferson County was established at 12 acres of park land per 1000 population. This is the minimum acceptable standard. As of January 1, 2012, the County's population was estimated at 82,857. Using the standard, the parkland needed to serve the population is 1007 acres. Jefferson County has a shortfall of about 62 acres. By 2030, it is estimated that Jefferson County will need to provide 1113 acres or an additional 168 acres. With the impending addition of Holzheuter Farm State Park, which will be maintained by Jefferson County, the level of service should be exceeded. Jefferson County provides a variety of parks from small waysides to expansive natural areas to historic sites and boat ramps that appeal to a wide variety of users.

Conclusion

The details about each of the "needs assessment" standards follow throughout this chapter. Jefferson County is on target to provide the "Level of Service" established in 1997. A nature-based park system may not provide every type of recreation that the public would enjoy but combined with local municipal systems, residents can partake in a large variety of outdoor activities, recreation, and sports. Attendees at public meetings generally seem satisfied with the offerings of the Parks Department. Citizens always ask for more facilities for their own special recreational interests. The Parks Department is very cognoscente of the desires of the public and is continually monitoring emerging nature-based recreation trends.

EXISTING FACILITIES INVENTORY

The 16 Jefferson County Parks cover over 945 acres (See Figure II-1) and offer active and passive activities in a rural setting. Many are located on or near bike trails and most parks preserve woodlands, prairies, wetlands, or lakes.

Park amenities are listed in Figure II-2. Many parks have picnic and restroom facilities. Park shelters are rented out nearly every weekend in the warmer months with those at Korth and Dorothy Carnes County Parks in the most demand



Kanow County Park Shelter



Map kiosk, Dorothy Carnes County Park

for parties, reunions, and weddings. The Jefferson County Dog Park is the most heavily utilized park.

The Jefferson County Parks Department maintains the Glacial River Trail, a paved bicycle and pedestrian path running from the Rock County line to Fort Atkinson and then north along the STH 26 bypass to Jefferson, Watertown, and Dodge County. Inter-municipal bicycle routes are marked throughout the County and travel on paved road shoulders. The Parks Department offices and maintenance shop are located in Jefferson.



Restroom, Dorothy Carnes County Park

A park design vocabulary that fits particularly well in the rural park settings has been developed. Shelters are wood and utilize heavy timbers and tongue and groove ceilings. Native fieldstone and recycled barn



Split-rail fence

boards are evident in some shelters. All have green or brown shingle roofs. Restrooms complement the shelters. Split-rail fence, in a design developed by Parks Staff, helps define park areas. Heavy wooden benches are provided along trails and some are used as memorials. Most parks have a pump hydrant and some have flowing wells. New park signs are being built that complement the facilities.



Since 2005, ownership of Busseyville County Park has been turned over to the Town of Sumner and McCoy County Park has been turned over to the City of Fort Atkinson.

Figure II-1 Jefferson County Parks System

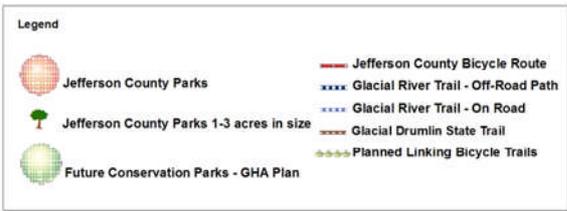
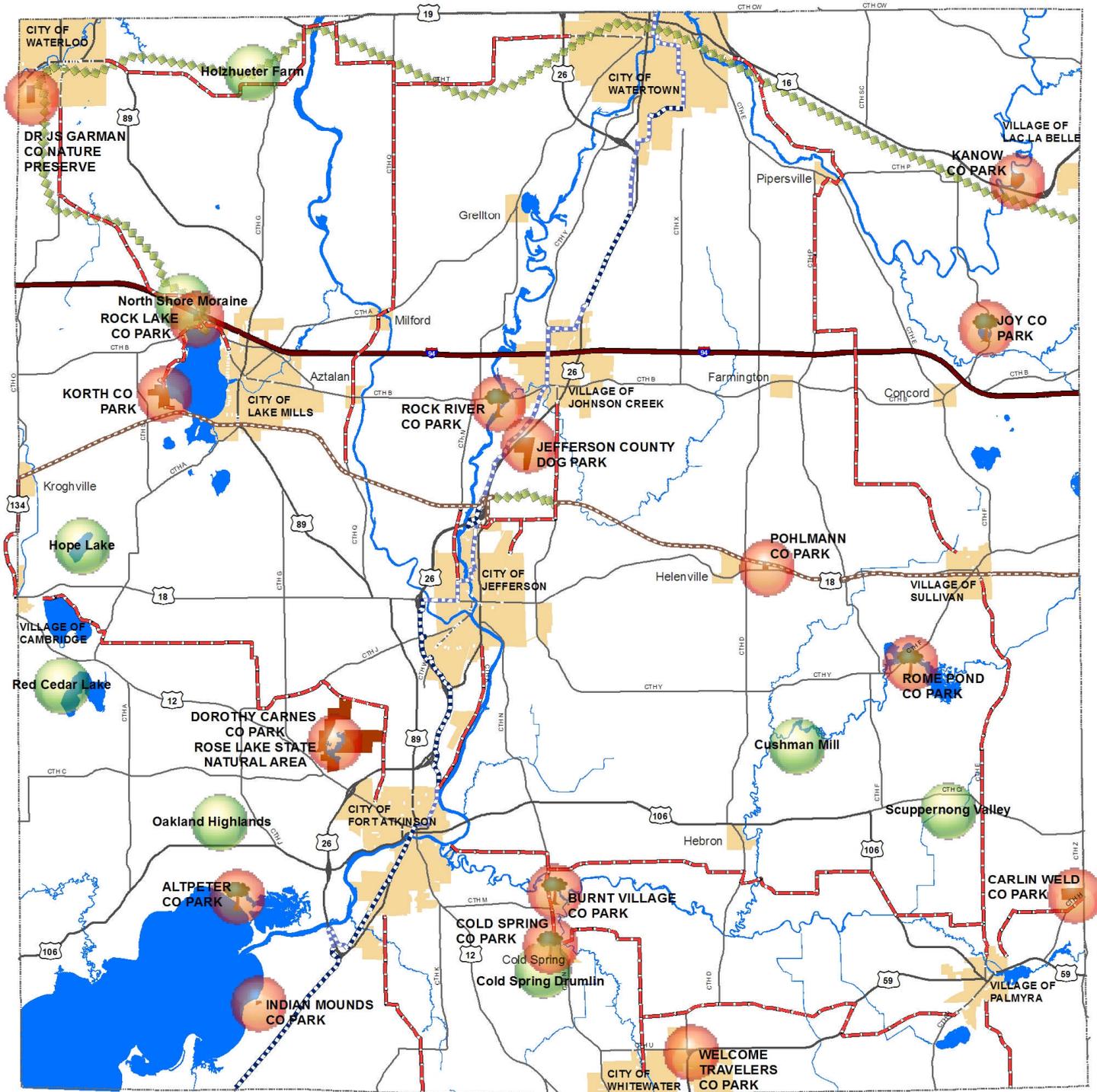


Figure II-2 Jefferson County Park Amenities Inventory

Park	Regular Picnic Tables	Handicap Picnic Tables	Park Shelter	# Trash Cans	# Recycling Cans	Dog Waste Receptacles	Play Ground Equip.	# Grills	Electrical Outlets	Water Pump	Boat Launch	Fishing	Miles of Trails
Altpeter	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burnt Village	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Carlin-Weld	10	2	1	6	5	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	1.5
Cold Spring Creamery	2	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Dog Park	18	0	0	9	5	18	0	0		4	0	0	3
Dorothy Carnes	15	1	1	8	5	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	10
Garman Nature Preserve	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.5
Glacial River Bike Trail	3	0	0	3	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	6
Highway K	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Indian Mounds	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.75
Joy	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Kanow	14	0	1	7	4	0	1	3	0	1	1	1	0
Korth	12	1	1	10	3	1	0	2	4	1	0	1	3.5
Korth, Elm Point	8	1	1	8	5	1	0	2	4	1	0	1	0
Pohlman	3	1	1	5	3	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0.25
Rock Lake, Lower	15	2	1	9	2	1	1	6	2	1	1	1	0.75
Rock Lake, Upper	8	0	1	5	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Rock River	5	0	1	6	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Rome Pond	7	1	1	2	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0
Welcome Travelers	7	0	1	5	3	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0
Total	133	9	13	91	43	24	8	25	10	17	6	10	28.25

The following section describes existing park facilities and proposed improvements. A capital improvement schedule for each is included in Chapter VI.

ALTPETER COUNTY PARK

Town of Sumner, Section 11, 4 acres

Altpeter Park is located in the North Shore area of Lake Koshkonong on Lamp Road, about a block away from the lake. The park is used by nearby residents and visitors and has play equipment, a few picnic tables, a grill, and a large, partially shady grass area for open play. Land has been purchased next to the park for a future parking lot. Severe flooding of Lake Koshkonong periodically since 2008 has precluded any additional park development.



Altpeter Park playground.

The 1997 *Jefferson County Comprehensive Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan* suggested turning over the management of this park to the Town of Sumner as a community park.

Accomplishments since 2005

- No changes have been made since 2005 other than routine maintenance.

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Install new sign
- Install kiosk with park map, history, and park rules
- Install gravel parking lot
- Turn ownership of Altpeter Park over to the Town of Sumner.

BURNT VILLAGE COUNTY PARK

Town of Koshkonong, Section 12, 3.22 acres

Burnt Village Park is located on the east side of Hwy N on the banks of the Bark River. This narrow park is used as a wayside, for fishing, river access for boats and canoes, and relaxing. It was once the site of a Native American village and federal encampment during the Black Hawk War.



Burnt Village County Park driveway and Bark River.

Accomplishments since 2005

- Improved boat ramp
- Added shoreline protection

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Improve fishing access
- Restroom

CARLIN WELD COUNTY PARK

Town of Palmyra, Section 12, 78 acres

Carlin-Weld Park is located near Palmyra and features the rugged topography of the Kettle Moraine with uplands planted to prairie and savanna, steep kettles, a man-made pond, and lowlands with an ephemeral stream. The park is used for picnics, hiking, nature study, sledding, fishing, ice fishing, and relaxing. It is adjacent to a rural subdivision and is used often by the residents. The Park hosts cross-country meets.



Accomplishments since 2005

- Expanded hike/run/ski/snowshoe trails around prairie

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

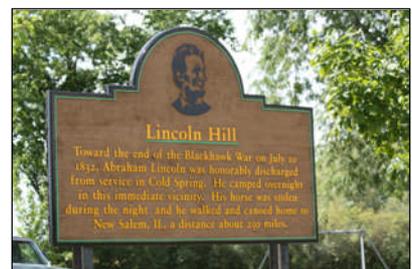
- Pave roadway and parking
- Install information kiosk with park maps, history, and park rules
- Add electrical outlets to shelter
- New park sign
- Frisbee Golf Course
- Potential hunting dog training area
- Connect with bike trail system/GHA/Kettle Moraine State Forest bicycle trails
- Improve trail signage
- Possible area for kite, model airplane, or rocketry flying
- Dredge pond to make deeper
- Fishing pier
- Improve pond shoreline with native plants
- Woodland improvement
- Potential campground



COLD SPRING CREAMERY COUNTY PARK

Town of Cold Spring, Section 18, 0.787 acres

Cold Spring Creamery Park is located just north of the historic hamlet of Cold Spring on County Road N. The park is used as a wayside, for picnicking, and has a historical marker marking the place where Abraham Lincoln's horse was stolen in 1832 while he was camping for the night on his way home from the Blackhawk War. The park features a shelter, small swing set, and a flowing well. It is often used as a staging area for bike rides.



Accomplishments since 2005

- New park sign
- New historical information

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Update current restroom
- Install information kiosk with park maps, history, and park rules

Sign commemorating Lincoln's presence during the Black Hawk War.

DOROTHY CARNES COUNTY PARK

Town of Jefferson, Section 29 & 30, 514 acres



Mason Farm wetland.

Dorothy Carnes County Park is located on Radloff Lane just north of Hwy 12 west of Fort Atkinson and off of Banker Road. The large park also includes the 480 acre Rose Lake State Natural Area. The park features pristine Rose Lake marsh, the home and feeding area for uncommon waterfowl, deciduous woodlands, prairie and savanna restorations, and a wetland scrape.

The park is used for hiking and cross country skiing, nature study, bird watching, picnicking, hunting and dog walking (on-leash only). The 1,800 sq.ft. Carol Liddle Pavilion was built in the western portion of the park in 2003 and received a Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association Excellence in Design Award. An accessible packed limestone trail leads from the shelter to an overlook of the marsh. There are about 3.9 miles of trails on the west side of Rose Lake. The trails are woodchip and mowed grass. A 20-car parking lot, trail map kiosk, and new three season restrooms are found near the shelter.

A Master Plan for the 248 acre Mason Farm portion of the park on the east side of Rose Lake marsh was completed in 2009 and calls for 5.9 miles of trails for pedestrians. Some of the trails may be paved for bicycles. Shelters and overlooks are planned. Hearty Gardens community gardening program has been located at the Mason Farm. A site plan was completed for the Mason farmstead portion of the park in 2011 and is being implemented.

Accomplishments since 2005

- New Master Plan in 2009
- Acquisition of the Rohloff and Kemmeter Properties
- Hearty Gardens at the Mason Farm
- Trails at the Mason Farm
- Informational and educational signage being installed
- Removal of invasive species and prairie, wetland, and savanna restoration
- Master Plan for Mason Farmstead in 2011
- Renovation and some partial removal of Mason Farm buildings
- Started restoration of the Mason log home
- 2 new rustic campsites at the Mason Farm



Dismantling the Mason log home.

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Add parking at the Mason Farm
- Continue trail development
- Add marsh overlook decks according to Master Plan
- Rebuild Mason log home
- Move Hearty Gardens to more suitable location per the Mason Farmstead Plan
- Add shelters to the Mason Farm
- Add trails to the Kemmeter property
- Consider playgrounds made of natural materials

DR. J. S. GARMAN NATURE PRESERVE

Town of Waterloo, Section 7, 40 acres

The Dr. J. S. Garman Nature Preserve was donated to Jefferson County in 2003 and Mrs. Garman would like the park to remain in its natural state with minimal development. The park is a wooded hillside within the City of Waterloo. Steep topography on the west side of the park levels out at the top of the hill where at least 22 Indian Mounds are found. The woods include oak, hickory, maple, and cherry species. Some pines and spruce were planted at one time within the woods and along the north edge. The Yellow Giant Hyssop, a species on the Wisconsin threatened species list is found here.



Skiing at the Garman Nature Preserve.

The park is used for hiking and cross-country skiing, nature study, and study of the Native American mounds. A paved parking lot has been added at the end of Fox Street. Adjacent to the park, the City of Waterloo is creating a shelter and trailhead at Knowlton Field to serve the Glacial Heritage Area.

Accomplishments since 2005

- Master Plan completed in 2007
- Paved parking lot
- Trails
- Benches
- Reshaped Indian mounds to original contours with assistance from the Ho-Chunk Nation and technical advisors.
- Dr. J.S. Garman memorial sign
- Existing shed removed
- Removed invasive species.
- Installed restroom

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Install more visible entrance sign at Fox Street
- Improve trails
- Install interpretive signs, particularly at the mounds
- Install kiosk with maps, history, and park rules
- Timber stand improvement
- Add small shelter
- Connect trails with the adjacent Waterloo Regional Trailhead facility and other Glacial Heritage Area bicycle/pedestrian trails
- Partner to improve Fox Lane.

INDIAN MOUNDS COUNTY PARK

Town of Koshkonong, Section 25, 5 acres

Historic Indian Mounds Park is located on Koshkonong Mounds Road south of Fort Atkinson. Eleven Indian effigy mounds are visible in the park. A trail takes visitors through the woods to all the mounds and includes part of an ancient Indian trail. Jay Toth, a tribal archaeologist with the Ho Chunk Nation, and Leslie Eisenburg, Burial Sites Program coordinator with the Wisconsin Historical Society, assessed

the park in October 2004 and developed a plan to preserve the integrity of the mounds by carefully removing trees and invasive species.

Accomplishments since 2005

- Trees and brush cleared from Native American mounds.
- Bicycle trail connection with Glacial River Trail.
- Benches placed as part of an Eagle Scout project.
- Removed invasive species and updated vegetative management plan



A school class learns about the effigy

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Regravel parking lot
- Install kiosk with maps, history, and park rules
- Install interpretive panels and pictures
- Encourage more school visitation

JEFFERSON COUNTY DOG PARK AND TERRI TINSLEY DOG EXERCISE AREA

Town of Aztalan Section 24 & 25, 109 acres

Formerly called Bicentennial Park, the Jefferson County Dog Park is located on Hwy 26 between Jefferson and Johnson Creek. The northern boundary of the park borders the 20-year Johnson Creek Urban Service Area. The Jefferson County Dog Park opened in November 2003 covering 22 acres and was expanded in 2008 to 59 acres of fenced dog areas. The remainder of the park is an oak-hickory woodland and wetland.



The entrance road was rerouted during construction of the STH 26 bypass and parking for 100 cars was added over three areas. Each of the four separate dog areas has double gated entrances and restrooms. Two small shelters and benches have been added for user comfort. Water hydrants are available and dog agility courses have been installed. The dog exercise areas are named after Terri Tinsley.

The Dog Park is the most popular park with more tags sold each year. 2007-983 tags, 2008-746 tags (major flooding), 2009-1004 tags, 2010-1134 tags, 2011-1234 tags, and 2012-1399 tags.

The WDNR purchased a property just to the south and east of the Dog Park in 2012 to enhance the Glacial Drumlin State Trail and make an off-road connection between CTH Y and STH 26. This connection will facilitate access to the Dog Park for bicyclists wishing to use the facilities.

Accomplishments since 2005

- Master Plan completed in 2007
- Three additional fenced dog areas (37 total acres) added
- Mowed and woodchip trails added
- Relocated gravel park road and added two parking areas



Double gated entrance with restroom.

- Paved entrance road and one parking area
- Maintenance shed built
- Two small shelters added
- Picnic tables and benches available
- Four hand pumps added
- Three restrooms added
- Map kiosks added
- Overlook with benches on high point of property
- Agility equipment added in two locations
- Dog Park attendant (20 hours per week) is removing invasive species

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Finish paving park road and parking
- Install kiosk with maps, history, and park rules
- Lighted parking
- Park entrance attendant kiosk
- Plant prairie and trees

JOY COUNTY PARK

Town of Concord, Section 10, 1 acre

Joy Park is located on County Road F about one mile north of I-94 on the shores of Spence Lake. The park is used as a wayside and for picnicking, fishing, and bird watching. A extends from the mowed area to the lake.

Accomplishments since 2005

- New park sign
- Glacial Heritage Water Trail and sign

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Turn ownership over to the Town of Concord
- Install kiosk with maps, history, and park rules
- Install small shelter with outlets
- Install well and pump
- Install boardwalk or pier



Glacial Heritage Area Water Trail sign at Joy Park.

KANOW COUNTY PARK

Town of Ixonia, Section 23, 45 acres

Kanow Park is located in an oxbow of the Rock River on Rock River Road just north of Hwy 16 about 1.5 miles east of Ixonia. The park is used for picnicking, fishing, active play, relaxing, and as a canoe launch. A hiking trail could be developed along the Rock River and in the lowland woods. Severe flooding in 2008 required relocation of the well.

Accomplishments since 2005

- Canoe launch and GHA Water Trail sign installed
- Shoreline improved for fishing
- Riverbank restoration and erosion control
- New restrooms
- Installed new well but still has flooding problems

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Expand the trail system to take advantage of all 45 acres of the park.
- Install kiosk with maps, history, and park rules



Fishing at Kanow County Park.

KORTH COUNTY PARK

Town of Lake Mills, Section 15, 89.5 acres

Korth Park was purchased in 2000 to protect the water quality and fish habitat of Rock Lake. A packed limestone bicycle trail along the shore of Rock Lake connects Cedar Lane to Elm Point Road. A connecting trail to the Glacial Drumlin State Trail, just to the south, was completed in 2003 on land purchased by the WDNR. This trail connection creates a loop path around Rock Lake.

A paved parking lot, picnic shelter, and restroom are located at the trail connection on Elm Point Road. A large pavilion was built overlooking Rock Lake and is very popular for picnics and weddings. Hundreds of native and evergreen trees were planted in 2002 and 2003. Invasive species are being removed from an 8-acre woodland and shoreline restoration and habitat improvement is taking place along Rock Lake.

Korth County Park is used for hiking, cross-country meets, bird watching and nature study, bicycling, picnics and events, and fishing. A community garden project has been started at the Elm Point shelter

Accomplishments since 2005

- Addition of large picnic shelter and parking
- Community gardens at the Elm Point shelter
- New park sign
- Osprey platform and interpretive sign
- Prairie, woodland, shoreline restorations
- Trees planted to screen neighbors and form groves along trails

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Add playground
- Community gardens need water source
- Add trees in groves along trails
- Install kiosks with maps, history, and park rules
- Add signs from the Glacial Drumlin Trail to guide hikers and bikers to the park.
- Build a third shelter according to the master plan
- Continue prairie, woodland, shoreline restorations



The popular pavilion at Korth County Park.

POHLMANN COUNTY PARK

Town of Jefferson, Section 2, 10 acres

Pohlman Park is on USH 18 between Helenville and Sullivan. It is a delightful park for picnicking and walking. The park is just south of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail.

Among the unique features of the park are the remnant of a silo with a mural of the four seasons, a remnant stone wall, and a walking trail through the woods and along a wetland. A monument commemorates the Pohlmann family who farmed here.



Stone wall laid by previous farming owners.

Accomplishments since 2005

- Sign marking Pine Tree Trail
- New restroom

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- New shelter in 2013
- Restore stone walls
- Plant prairie to minimize mowing
- Install kiosk with maps, history, and park rules
- Install wetland boardwalk or overlook
- Restructure and pave parking
- Repaint silo mural
- Move Pohlmann Family sign to a more prominent place
- Sign pointing to Glacial Drumlin State Trail

ROCK LAKE PARK

Town of Lake Mills, Section 2, 23 acres

Rock Lake Park is on County Road B and Rock Lake Road on the north end of Rock Lake near the City of Lake Mills. The northern section of the park is located at the top of a hill overlooking the lake and has a natural character. The northern portion offers a picnic shelter, a playground, and a looped wooded nature trail.



Boat trailer parking.

Lower Rock Lake Park is on the shore of Rock Lake. The Town of Lake Mills has jurisdiction over the boat ramp, Park Drive, and the shoreline. The park is used for access to Rock Lake, for picnicking, active play, and bird watching. The park itself is on the south side of County Road B and a boat parking lot is on the north side of the road. A tunnel connects the parking lot with the park. The Town of Lake Mills charges \$5 per day for use of the boat ramp or \$20 annually. Swimmers enjoy the rock-based beach.

Accomplishments since 2005

- New boat parking lot and water infiltration devices
- Expanded trail system connecting Upper and Lower Rock Lake Park and erosion control
- New park signage
- Woodland restoration
- Playground in Upper Rock Lake Park
- New information kiosk
- New playground in Lower Rock Lake Park
- Electric outlets in Lower Rock Lake Park shelter



Upper Rock Lake Park

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Park sign on CTH B
- Boat launch parking sign
- More prominent sign on Rock Lake Road at the entrance to Upper Rock Lake Park
- Improve playground drainage in Lower Rock Lake Park
- Install new park sign
- Install kiosks with maps, history, and park rules

Potential Acquisition

- 69 acres to the west of Rock Lake Park. An easement across a neighboring property would be needed to connect Rock Lake Park to this parcel. The property includes a wetland along Rock Lake and a steep hill with spectacular views of all of Rock Lake and the surrounding countryside. This addition could potentially add hiking, cross-country skiing, and hunting areas as well as lake access for fishing.

ROCK RIVER PARK

Town of Aztalan, Section 13, 4 acres

Rock River Park (sometimes called Johnson Creek Park) is located on County Road B about one half mile west of Johnson Creek on the shore of the Rock River. Park users enjoy the boat landing, fishing, picnicking, and a flowing artesian spring. This part of the Rock River gets frequent use by water-skiers and jet skies. People come from miles around with jugs for the spring water. The shelter and restrooms are ADA accessible.

Accomplishments since 2005

- New park sign with native landscaping

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Improve boat launch
- New playground
- Pave parking
- Natural shoreline restoration
- Install kiosks with maps, history, and park rules
- Electrical outlets in shelter



Fishing is fun and the artesian well is fascinating at Rock River Park.

ROME POND

Town of Sullivan, Section 16, 12 acres

Rome Pond Park is on County Road F about 2 miles south of Sullivan and adjacent to the Rome Pond Wildlife Area. The park is leased from the Department of Natural Resources and provides access to a WDNR boat ramp, State Wildlife Area hunting grounds, and a picnic shelter.

Accomplishments since 2005

- Shelter and restroom updated
- Glacial Heritage Area Water Trail PITO (Put-In-Take-Out)



Rome Pond Park during a local event.

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Install kiosks with maps, history, and park rules
- Add electrical outlets to shelter
- Work with WDNR to mark short trails in the Rome Pond Wildlife Area that non-hunters may enjoy

WELCOME TRAVELERS PARK

Town of Cold Spring, Section 24, 8 acres

Welcome Travelers Park is located at the intersection of Hwy 59 and County Roads D and U. The park is heavily used for soccer and picnicking, pick-up games, relaxing, and as a wayside. The City of Whitewater has expressed an interest in taking over the park to expand their soccer program.

Accomplishments since 2005

- ADA compliant restrooms
- Added Frisbee Golf
- New park sign



The shelter at Welcome Travelers is ready for a baby shower.

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Add electrical outlets to shelter
- Install kiosks with maps, history, and park rules

BLACK HAWK ISLAND FISHING WARF

- A universally accessible fishing warf is planned for 2013 on Black Hawk Island in the North Shore area.

JEFFERSON COUNTY TRAILS

GLACIAL RIVER TRAIL

South of Fort Atkinson - Town of Koshkonong, Sections 17, 19, 20, 30

North of Fort Atkinson – Town of Koshkonong, Section 34, Town of Jefferson – Sections 10, 15, 22, 27

Work began on the Glacial River Trail in 1995. The first section of this multi-modal trail, from the Rock County line to Farmco Lane just south of Fort Atkinson, is about 6.5 miles long and is built on a former railroad bed along Hwy 26. The trail is paved and parking is available at Farmco Lane and County Line Road. Bikers, joggers, walkers, dog walkers and rollerbladers make heavy use of the trail and it is plowed in the winter. The trail passes by farmsteads, prairie flowers, wetlands, woods, over streams, and through an award winning covered bridge. The bridge is used for weddings and professional photography sessions. The City of Fort Atkinson built a connecting trail to downtown and Rock County also plans a connection to Milton and Janesville.



New bicycle trail north of Fort Atkinson.

In 2010 and 2011 the trail was extended from CTH K, just north of Fort Atkinson, to USH 18 in Jefferson along the STH 26 bypass and north of Jefferson to Watertown. WiDOT built the trail with assistance from Jefferson County, the Jefferson County Bicycle Club, and other funders. The trail will eventually extend into Dodge County.

Proposed Improvements 2013-2018

- Extend trail into Dodge and Rock Counties
- Expand off-road trail sections
- Coordinate signage with Glacial Heritage Area and municipalities along the route.

GLACIAL HERITAGE AREA WATERTRAILS



The Glacial Heritage Area Plan features water trails for paddling. Canoeing and kayaking are rapidly increasing in popularity as outdoor sports. Put-in and take-out points have been marked along the navigable streams and rivers in Jefferson County with distinctive blue and green signs (left). A map and guide were published that describe landings and points of interest along the route. More detailed maps with paddling distances are available on the Jefferson County Parks website. Thousands of maps have been distributed through information booths at Canoecopia and the Milwaukee Sport Show.

JEFFERSON COUNTY SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Jefferson County has 183 miles of County snowmobile trails and 290 miles of club trails for a total of 473 miles. County trails are funded by the Wisconsin Snowmobile Grant and Aid Program and maintained by local clubs. A new 425-foot recreation bridge was built in 2010 over the Crawfish River adjacent to the STH 19 bridge near Hubbleton.



New snowmobile bridge near

POTENTIAL EXPANSION OF EXISTING PARKS AND NEW PARK LOCATIONS

BACKGROUND

The 2013 *Jefferson County Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan* furthers the vision to acquire unique recreational lands and natural resource areas for public use. Park land acquisition for new parks may be a joint venture with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as part of the Glacial Heritage Area Plan initiative or Jefferson County may purchase land for parks with a variety of funding sources. Property is purchased only from willing sellers. Figure II-1 depicts the location of current Jefferson County Parks (orange bubbles) and possible future park areas (green bubbles) that may be pursued if land is available from willing sellers.

The Holzheuter Farm between Watertown and Waterloo has been purchased by the WDNR as part of the Glacial Heritage Area. It is considered a State Park. Jefferson County plans to sign a memorandum of understanding with the WDNR to manage the park. The WDNR and Jefferson County are currently developing a master plan.

Other potential park sites were originally selected during the course of the *Jefferson County Park Site Feasibility Study*.¹ Thirty-five park areas were identified through research, recommendations of the 1985 *Department of Natural Resources Jefferson County Natural Areas Inventory*,² and interviews with local residents. This study formed the basis for the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan*.

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARK EXPANSION

The *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* gives detailed information on acquisition of new conservation parks and the potential expansion of several Jefferson County conservation-type parks. The primary purpose of conservation parks is to provide nature-based trail activities, wildlife watching, water access where appropriate, and native habitat restoration.

Park expansions and acquisitions listed in the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* may have access to state Stewardship funding that is set aside for the Glacial Heritage Area. The Glacial Heritage Area Plan proposes 3,801 additional acres in conservation parks in Jefferson County.

The Jefferson County Parks where expansion is possible are listed in Figure II-3 with current acreage, the potential project area, and the potential acquisition goal. The potential project area includes the acreage currently within the park and additional land that may be purchased from willing sellers.

The project areas and acquisition goals are quite large because WDNR funding is available only within delineated project areas and project areas extend to the nearest road. Actual acquisition acres may vary greatly and are dependant on land being offered for sale by willing sellers at an agreeable price and the availability of funding.

¹ Burlingham, Margaret. 1998. *Jefferson County Park Site Feasibility Study*. Jefferson County Parks Committee

² Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 1985. *Jefferson County Natural Area Inventory*. Scientific and Natural Areas Section.

Figure II-3 Jefferson County Parks with the Potential for Expansion

Jefferson County Park	Current Acreage	Potential Project Area	Potential Acquisition Goal
Dorothy Carnes County Park	514 acres	1700 acres	500 acres
Dr. J. S. Garman Nature Preserve	40 acres	120 acres	40 acres
Korth County Park	89 acres	285 acres	110 acres
Cold Spring Creamery Park	1 acre	90 acres	80 acres

Jefferson County may expand some parks that are not listed in the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* if land becomes available from willing sellers. Those parks include:

- Carlin-Weld Park, currently 78 acres
- Kanow Park, currently 40 acres
- Jefferson County Dog Park and Terri Tinsley Exercise Area, currently 109 acres.

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARK ACQUISITION

New conservation park acquisition areas were extensively studied in the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan*. The plan states that new conservation parks will be designated as state parks and management memorandums of understanding with local agencies will be developed on a case by case basis.

The acquisition process is fluid and dynamic. As landowners learn about the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* they are contacting Jefferson County and the WDNR offering land for sale. Jefferson County and the WDNR may be considering, appraising, and making offers on properties that meet the goals of the Glacial Heritage Plan but that are not listed in the Plan. Potential new park acquisition sites in the Glacial Heritage Area Plan are listed below and mapped in Figure II-1. Actual acquisition acres may vary greatly and are dependant on land being offered for sale by willing sellers and the availability of funding.

Figure II-4 Potential Conservation Park Acquisitions

Potential Conservation Park Name	Description	Location	Potential Project Area	Potential Acquisition Goal
Holzhueter Farm	The WDNR has already purchased this farm with fields, wetlands, woods and one of the highest viewpoints in the County. Mountain biking, hiking, picnicking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, cross-country meets, native plant restoration. The DeWitt Property is an inholding within the Holzhueter Farm State Park that consists of a single family home and a shed. This property may be purchased by the WDNR or Jefferson County.	Between Watertown and Waterloo	700 acres	300 acres
Cushman Mill	A historic pioneer settlement along the Bark River with steep, wooded drumlins and farm fields. Bark River access for canoeing/kayaking and fishing, hiking, camping, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, and historical interpretation.	Between Fort Atkinson and Rome	1,355 acres	700 acres

Figure II-4 Continued

Potential Conservation Park Name	Description	Location	Potential Project Area	Potential Acquisition Goal
Hope Lake	A deep natural lake surrounded by farmland. A high quality tamarack bog on the north end is owned by the Madison Audubon Society. Hiking, picnicking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, bicycling, paddling, fishing, native restoration, wildlife viewing.	Between Cambridge and Lake Mills	855 acres	200 acres
North Shore Moraine	Rolling woods and fields cut by streams on the north end of Rock Lake. Hiking, picnicking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, bicycling, equestrian trails/horse camping.	Just west of Lake Mills	2,050 acres	500 acres (200 acres already owned by the UW Board of Regents)
Oakland Highlands	High, hilly area overlooking Lake Koshkonong. Hiking, picnicking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, equestrian trails, camping, restoration, blue heron rookery.	West of Fort Atkinson	1,875 acres	800 acres
Red Cedar Lake	High quality 370 acre lake and associated wetlands. 300 acres owned by WDNR and US Fish & Wildlife. Canoeing/kayaking, hiking, picnicking, native restoration, wildlife viewing.	Between Fort Atkinson and Cambridge	150 acres	100 acres
Scuppernong Valley	Large natural area with woods, high quality wetlands, and native prairie. Hiking, picnicking, equestrian trails, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing.	Between Palmyra and Sullivan	1,550 acres	500 acres

The previous *Jefferson County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan* listed two other potential new park acquisition areas:

- Lake Koshkonong – Jefferson County has no parks on Lake Koshkonong. Many Native American sites and mounds are found surrounding the Lake, as well as extensive wetlands.
- Pipersville Drumlin – an area at the confluence of the Oconomowoc and Rock Rivers with open grasslands and riparian habitat.

HOLZHEUTER FARM STATE PARK

The Holzheuter Farm was purchased by the WDNR in 2009 and it is expected that the Jefferson County Parks Department will manage the property. A Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the WDNR is being negotiated. A master plan for the park needs to be completed.

The property is located between Watertown and Waterloo near Hubbleton and the Crawfish River and associated native prairies.

The Holzheuter Farm is considered a State Park. It encompasses 214 acres with wetlands and uplands and hilltop views that encompass almost the entire county. Holy Hill, Watertown, and even Whitewater are visible on a clear day. TREK Bicycle is very interested in assisting in creating a mountain bike trail system at this park. Deciduous woods and fencelines add to the character of the park. An inholding, a separate property within the park, is recommended for purchase or sale.



Upland trail at the Holzheuter property.

FLOOD MITIGATION PROPERTIES

Jefferson County has been acquiring flood mitigation properties primarily along the Rock River through the federal Flood Mitigation Acquisition Program. These are homes and businesses that flood on a regular basis. All properties are acquired through volunteer sellers. Once acquired, the buildings are removed and the property is returned to a natural state. The Office of Emergency Management handles all aspects of the acquisitions; the Parks Department is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the property once it becomes County property. These properties may provide recreational opportunities for the Parks System that are allowed by grant conditions. A grant has been obtained for a universally accessible fishing pier that is planned for a property on Black Hawk Island in the North Shore area.

POTENTIAL TRAIL EXPANSION

Jefferson County provides two types of bicycle/pedestrian trails: 1) marked Jefferson County bicycle routes along county and town road that connect communities for commuting and recreation and 2) off-road trails, such as the Glacial River Trail, that link parks and municipalities for commuting and recreation. Trail expansion projects are mapped in Figure II-1.

The WDNR manages the Glacial Drumlin State Trail, an off-road bicycle/pedestrian/snowmobile trail that crosses Jefferson County from Waukesha County to Dane County roughly paralleling USH 18. This trail runs through Sullivan, Helenville, and Lake Mills. A property adjacent to the Jefferson County Dog Park was purchased in 2012 to complete an off-road section around the Valero ethanol plant at Jefferson Junction. It is possible that trail users could use some of the facilities at the Dog Park as a side trip.

As recommended in the previous *Jefferson County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan*, expansion of the Glacial River Trail occurred rapidly during the construction of the STH 26 bypass around Jefferson and Watertown. The paved trail is now primarily off-road from the Rock-Jefferson County line through Fort Atkinson to Jefferson. Between Jefferson and Johnson Creek the trail travels on lightly traveled county and town roads. From Johnson Creek to Watertown the trail is both off-road and on lightly traveled roads. The Cities of Jefferson and Watertown and the Village of Johnson Creek are developing their own municipal bicycle routes.

Figure II-6 lists Glacial River Trail distances from Rock County to the Wild Goose Trail in Dodge County, which runs to Fond du Lac.

NEW TRAILS

The Glacial Heritage Area Plan suggests several new linking trails that are being pursued by Jefferson County with the assistance of private grants, WDNR grants, WiDOT funds and grants and other funding sources. The trails link conservation parks to each other and to cities, villages, and hamlets in Jefferson County. The Watertown to Waterloo Trail is in the planning stages, the others are visions for the future.

Figure II-5 Potential New Trails

Trails in Planning Stage	Description	Miles
Watertown to Oconomowoc	On the old Interurban Railway this trail would connect with Waukesha County's trail system. Potential connections to Kanow Park, Lac LaBelle	11
Watertown to Waterloo	New 400' snowmobile, bicycle, pedestrian bridge over the Crawfish River at Hubbleton. Biking, hiking, cross-country skiing. Connection to Garman Nature Preserve, Holzhueter State Park, and the Garman-Knowlton Trailhead.	12
Waterloo to Lake Mills	A trailhead, pavilion, and GHA interpretive center will be built next to Garman Nature Preserve in Waterloo. This trailhead will serve the Waterloo to Lake Mills and Watertown trails. A trail from Waterloo to Lake Mills could potentially travel on McKay Nursery land and cross a varied landscape to Lake Mills to connect with the Glacial Drumlin State Trail.	10
Cambridge to Glacial Drumlin	Three potential routes have been identified for this trail connecting the Village of Cambridge and Cam-Rock County Park in Dane County to the Glacial River Trail and the Zeloski Marsh Wildlife Area. This trail could also connect with Hope Lake.	3

Figure II-6 Glacial River Trail Distances

Jefferson County/Greater Fort to Greater Watertown				
<u>Identified Route (Approx.)</u>				
From County Line Road	0	Glacial River Path	15.0 miles	Glacial River Trail, Jefferson County Portion 31.5 miles
Glacial River	9.1 mi.			
To County K	10.2 mi.			
To Hwy. 18	15.0 mi.			
To Loop at Jefferson Junction	18.0 mi.	Jefferson to Glacial Drumlin	3.7 miles	
To Glacial Drumlin Trail	18.7 mi.			
To County B	22.0 mi.	Glacial Drumlin to Path North of Johnson Creek	5.8 miles	
To Baneck Lane	24.5 mi.			
To Ebenezer Road	27.2 mi.	New Glacial River Path Johnson Creek to Watertown	2.7 miles	
To Church Street at Gateway Drive	28.5 mi.	Watertown Route	4.9 miles	
To Division/Rock Street	31.5 mi.			
To Silver Creek and Water Street (somewhat into Dodge County)	33.6 mi.			
Rock County				
From Townline Janesville to Milton to Jefferson County Townline	7.0 mi.			Glacial River Trail, Rock County Portion 7.0 miles
Dodge County Connection to Wild Goose (Gateway Drive – Division Street 2.1 miles)				
<u>Identified Route (Approx.)</u>				
Silver Creek/Water to Second Street	36.2 mi.		9.6 miles Approx	Glacial River Trail, Dodge County Portion 11.7 miles
To County J/Territorial Road	40.3 mi.			
To Clyman/Main Street Road	41.0 mi.			
To Junction Road/Rail	41.8 mi.			
To Hwy. 60/Wild Good Trail	43.2 mi.			
Total Gacial River Trail (Approx.) 52 miles				

PROPOSED OFF-ROAD TRAILS

The Glacial Heritage Plan suggests several off-road trails connecting parks, trails, and municipalities. Work on these trails will commence as landowners surface that are willing to sell land or agree to an easement to their land for an off-road trail.

Figure II-7 Proposed Off-Road Trails

Proposed Trails	Description	Miles
Whitewater to Fort Atkinson	This trail could connect Whitewater to Fort Atkinson along Whitewater Creek. Potential connections to the Whitewater City trail, Glacial River Trail, Cold Spring Creamery Park and historic Cold Spring.	10
Fort Atkinson to Rockdale and Cambridge	This trail could connect the extensive bicycle, mountain biking, and hiking trails in Cam-Rock County Park, between Cambridge and Rockdale in Dane County, to the City of Fort Atkinson and the Glacial River Trail. In the route area are Dorothy Carnes County Park, Red Cedar Lake, and the proposed Oakland Highlands and Hope Lake Parks. This corridor is also identified for an equestrian trail.	8
Glacial Drumlin State Trail to Aztalan State Park	This short connection could provide Glacial Drumlin State Trail users with an enhanced experience exploring one of the most important Native American sites in Wisconsin. The trail could also connect to the hamlet of Aztalan and the Aztalan Museum.	0.5
Palmyra to Glacial Drumlin State Trail	This trail could connect the Southern Unit of Kettle Moraine State Park, including the Ice Age National Scenic Trail and Horseshoers Campground, to Carlin-Weld County Park and the Glacial Drumlin State trail in the Village of Sullivan area. A potential park site at Cushman Mills could also be connected. Equestrian use would be popular on this trail.	12

WATER TRAILS

Jefferson County and the WDNR are continually assessing potential acquisition sites along GHA Water Trails for improved access, landings, and rustic, paddle-in camping.

ROCK RIVER TRAIL INITIATIVE



Parks Director Joe Nehmer is a member of the Rock River Trail Initiative Council. The Rock River Water Trail runs the entire length of the Rock River, about 320 miles from Fond du Lac County in Wisconsin to the Mississippi River in Illinois. The Jefferson County Board, Parks Department, Economic Development Consortium, and Health Department all expressed support for this trail initiative.

The trail was designated a National Water Trail by the National Parks Service in April, 2013. According to the plan for the trail, the “water trail is a delineated path on the Rock River that connects access sites, resting places and attractions for users of water craft. The trail will enhance public use of the river for recreation with wayfinding and amenities such as restrooms, shelter, parking and camping. While the water trail is primarily designed for use by paddle craft, it also provides significant recreational value to those who enjoy swimming, fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, pleasure boating and river stewardship.”

The Rock River Water Trail Inventory, Analysis, and Plan 2012 gives detailed information and maps about take-out and put-in sites and dam portages as well as public engagement, restoration, and marketing.

Biking, hiking and driving trails are also envisioned along the Rock River Trail Scenic and Historic Route. Trail routes will feature natural areas, historic sites, and local attractions.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT – PUBLIC INPUT

Jefferson County Parks encourage the public to communicate through various means. Parks Committee meetings have a public comment period and public meetings are held during planning phases. The public may also contact the Parks Office with their comments and suggestions.

During this update of the *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan*, three public meetings were held and a new brochure summarizing the plan was developed. Several newspaper articles covered the planning process and parks staff and consultants were interviewed on WFAW.

All public comments received at the meetings are listed in this section.

FIRST PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

January 25, 2012 Watertown Senior Center, Watertown

January 27, 2012 Hoard Historical Museum, Fort Atkinson

Two public input meetings on the update to the *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan* were held in January 2012. Participants at both meetings viewed a presentation that featured past planning, maps of Jefferson County natural resources, and an overview of all sixteen parks and the Glacial River Trail in the context of the Park Department's mission statement, five guiding visions, and examples of the strategies that were implemented to fulfill those visions.

Following the presentation, the attendees were asked to comment on their thoughts and reaction to the planning that has been done and the implementation of that planning in the Jefferson County Parks System.

Three members of the public attended the Watertown meeting and about fifteen attended the Fort Atkinson meeting. Also present were Parks Director Joe Nehmer, UW-EX Community Educator Steve Grabow (at Watertown), Parks Supervisor Kevin Wiesmann and staff member JR Klement, Project Assistant Kim Bucholz (at Watertown), and consultants Margaret Burlingham of LanDesign and Tom Jennings of Jennings & Associates.

Public Comments:

No written comments were received. *Text in italics was the response of Parks staff or consultants to verbal comments.*

Incorporate the role of parks in the local economy into the vision statements. Economic benefits of parks and the rural landscape can be used to maintain the inviting rural atmosphere of Jefferson County.

Promote parks with QR codes, business links, tourism organizations, and business groups/Chambers of Commerce.

Partner with company incentives for bicycle commuting to work.

Improve the trolley trail (Interurban Line from Watertown to Oconomowoc) and open it to the public. *This corridor is currently owned by the electric company. Jefferson County is seeking federal funds to build a trail on this corridor and TREK bicycle has been advocating for it.*

Incorporate horse trails into the system. Bicycle trails could have a horse trail alongside like the Wild Goose Trail and horses could wear apple bags if manure is an issue. Trails could also be incorporated into the larger parks. *The Glacial Heritage Area Plan does include horse trails in the linking trail section. Equestrian trails will need to be a cooperative effort between equestrians, private landowners, and the Parks Department and/or WDNR. A new committee was just formed to study horse trails in the GHA.*

Heard that the WDNR does not want horse trails because they could impact endangered species. *Any kind of park construction activities (trails, building, etc.) must avoid disturbing endangered species but that doesn't mean there can be no changes to the property.*

The County should consider continuing to pay the property taxes on the land they buy.

The Friends of Rose Lake are planning several activities around the Fort Atkinson "Bird City" effort and Dorothy Carnes County Park. They plan on having a speaker and have bird houses for young people to put together and take home. On International Migratory Bird Day they will participate in an event at Blodgett Garden Center. Saturday morning bird walks will also be offered this year and new wood duck houses are being installed in conjunction with the Lake Koshkonong Wetlands Association.

Revealing the Mason log cabin is exciting. It is an enriching opportunity to tie together the history of the land and the farmstead. The diaries of Jeremiah Mason are available at the Hoard Museum and are an insight to daily life in the 1850's.

Does the Parks Department keep track of user rates somehow? *The Department keeps track of dog tags at the Dog Park and shelter rentals. They will be doing vehicle counts this year at the major parks such as the Dog Park, Carnes and Korth to gather baseline data. Shelter users usually are not interviewed or given a comment form.*

Does the Town of Lake Mills pay for maintenance of Rock Lake Park and the boat launch? Seems like there were a lot of mowers there one day. *The Town owns the boat launch and the County owns the boat parking lot and the park. The Town helped pay for reconstruction of the parking lot and the Town receives the boat launch fees.*

Are there any opportunities for another dog park near Fort Atkinson? *There is great demand for another dog park but land would need to be purchased. Most park land has been purchased using WDNR stewardship funds and those contracts prohibit dog parks or dogs off-leash.*

Can dogs go off-leash at Carnes? Most of the time there is no one out there at all. *Dogs must be on leash at all parks except the Dog Park.*

Is Jefferson County working with the surrounding counties on trail linkages? *Yes, Jefferson County is in contact and working with Dodge, Dane, and Rock Counties to link trails. The Glacial River Trail will*

eventually go through Rock County to the Illinois state line and on down the Rock River and up into Dodge County to link with the Wild Goose Trail to Fond du Lac.

Is there a possibility of 4 wheeling trails in the future? *There is a high demand for 4 wheeling trails. The WDNR has looked at a lot of sites but noise is the limiting factor. A private club has developed trails in the Helenville area.*

How much in state grants was used to purchase all the Carnes Park parcels? *About 50% was from the WDNR stewardship fund and there were also significant donations and grants from other partners.*

SECOND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

The second public input opportunity was held March 21, 2013 in the Puerner Room at the Fort Community Credit Union in Jefferson.

Two members of the public attended the public meeting along with Lydia Statz from the Jefferson County Daily Union, Greg Matthews of the DNR, Steve Grabow from UW-Extension, and Director Joe Nehmer, Kim Bucholz, Kevin Wiesmann, and JR Klement of the Jefferson County Parks Department; and Margaret Burlingham of LanDesign.

Margaret Burlingham presented a PowerPoint on the new Jefferson County Parks brochure that summarizes the Parks, Recreation and Open Space update including mission and vision statements, park features, future improvements, and the Glacial Heritage Area.

Public Comments:

Create and make available to the public prairie planting lists for each park and a list of native plants at each park for identification. *Are more species going to be added to the Mason Farm prairie? 800 lbs of prairie seed were collected with the assistance of Mark Martin at Goose Pond. Herbicide application to invasive Canada thistle created some bare patches that will be inter-seeded after burning the prairie. Increasing the density of prairie grasses should help crowd out weeds. The eastern-most hill at the Mason Farm has not been converted to prairie yet and is mostly non-native grasses.*

There should be a sign to Carlin Weld Park at the intersection of County Roads H and Z. There is a sign at STH 59 and County Road H.

I am a fan of public parks and bike trails in general and Jeff Co's in particular. I spend at least 2 hours per week in the parks year round.

I am hoping, with the help of several citizens & e-mail groups, to bring a public-private orchard project to the County. Heart of the city is still interested in helping make this happen.

I hope maintaining some parks that are primarily for habitat protection is in the master plan. I value nesting grounds for birds, and room for wildness in the County.

I request that campsites at Dorothy Carnes (Mason side) stay primitive. Love the skiing at Mason Farm! What a treat.

Please continue as many controls on terrestrial invasive species/AIS (aquatic invasive species) as possible. Contact TACRCD (Town and Country RC&D) 920-541-3208 if there is any wherewithal to create a CWMA (Cooperative Weed Management Area) in this county – or breathe life into the one we have.

SUMMARY

The public generally seems pleased with the work of the Jefferson County Parks Department. The majority of comments spoke to maintaining and improving natural areas, a variety of trail uses, and suggestions for the Mason Farm portion of Dorothy Carnes County Park.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT - RECREATION STANDARDS

Several types of park and recreation land standards are used to determine the need for park acreage and facilities. Standards can also guide parks to underserved locations. A complete needs analysis involves looking at accepted open space standards, actual usage figures, and public needs and desires. Except for shelter rentals and Dog Park tags, usage figures are not available for Jefferson County. The following standards should be considered minimum standards to achieve, not maximum goals.

LEVEL OF SERVICE ACREAGE STANDARD

A ‘Level of Service’ for the Jefferson County Park System, expressed as the desirable number of acres of parkland per 1000 residents of Jefferson County, was established at **12 acres per 1000 population** in the 1997 *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan*. This standard is used to determine future parkland requirements in proportion to forecast population growth at a desired level of quality.³ This plan will use the same standard to maintain consistency. This acreage standard is *the minimum acceptable standard* and only one part of the information that is used to develop park and acquisition policy.

The January 1, 2012 Jefferson County population was estimated at 83,857. Using the 12 acres/1000 standard, the parkland need is 1007 acres. In 2013 the Parks System has 945 acres. In 2004 the Parks System contained 553 acres.

By 2030, the Wisconsin Department of Administration estimates that the population of Jefferson County will be 92,832. Using the same standard, 1,113 acres of parkland will be the minimum.

PARK CLASSIFICATION

National Recreation and Park Association park, open space, and pathway classifications provide guidance to local communities in facility types, size criteria, and level of service standards. Providing parks in several different classifications introduces variety and flexibility into the parks system.

³ Mertes, James D. Ph.D., CLP, Hall, J. R. 1996. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. National Park and Recreation Association.

The NRPA classifications primarily apply to city and municipal park departments. Active recreation facilities, such as ball fields, organized team play, swimming pools, and skateboard parks are generally provided by city parks in Jefferson County. The County Parks provide opportunities for passive, nature-based recreation in rural areas and rural bicycle/pedestrian trails.

The location of a county park may be determined by the countywide need for a park, quality and suitability of the site, availability and opportunity to acquire the site, and resources of the site. Standards recommend that county parks should be a minimum of 40 acres.

Jefferson County has 16 County Parks that fall into the following size and use classifications developed for this Plan:

Very Small Parks: Very small parks address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs and are between 2500 sq. ft. and 5 acres in size. The following parks are very small parks:

- Cold Spring Creamery
- Burnt Village
- Rock River
- Joy

Smaller Parks: Smaller parks serve recreational and social needs of a smaller geographic service area. Five acres is considered the minimum size and between 7 and 10 acres is optimal. These parks provide typical neighborhood recreation or play activities

- Altpeter
- Welcome Travelers – serves a wider area than the standard

Community Parks: Community parks provide for broader recreation needs and preserve unique landscapes and open space. They usually serve a regional geographic service area. Community parks are usually between 20 and 50 acres in size. Jefferson County Parks of this size do not serve a particular community and are located in rural areas.

- Pohlmann
- Rome Pond
- Rock Lake

Special Use Parks: Special use parks are oriented to a single purpose or unique use or a significant historic or cultural attribute.

- Indian Mounds
- Jefferson County Dog Park

Conservation Parks: Natural resource areas are set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual buffering. These parks are located where resources are available and are planned in some cases for expansion up to 400-600 acres with a county-wide and beyond geographic service area. They typically provide significant picnicking opportunities, passive recreation, and multiple trail opportunities. Parks that could be classified natural resource oriented parks are:

- Korth
- Dorothy Carnes
- Carlin Weld
- Kanow
- Dr. J.S. Garman Nature Preserve
- Holzheuter Farm (a State Park that will be managed by Jefferson County)

Greenways: Greenways tie the park system together to form a continuous park environment. They are developed where natural resources are found and opportunity presents itself. Through the Glacial Heritage Area initiative, Jefferson County is implementing greenway and bicycle/pedestrian trail connections between parks and urban areas and along river corridors.

PATHWAY CLASSIFICATIONS

The pathway classification is intended to encourage communities to plan for light transportation in a comprehensive manner. Planning in a system-wide manner, a path system could emerge that is tied to park, open space, and general land use/transportation system within the county, adjacent communities and regions.

Park Trails: Park trails are multi-purpose trails within greenways, parks, and natural areas that focus on recreational value and harmony with nature. Trails can be Type I: separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, and in-line skaters; Type II Multi-purpose hard-surfaced trail for pedestrians, bicyclists, and in-line skaters; or Type III Nature trails for pedestrians, hard or soft surface. Park trails are available at:

- Dorothy Carnes – Type III
- Korth – Type II and Type III
- Indian Mounds – Type III
- Carlin-Weld – Type III
- Rock Lake Park – Type III
- Dr. J.S. Garman Nature Preserve – Type III
- Jefferson County Dog Park (Bicentennial Park) – Type III
- Pohlmann – Type III

Walking and hiking Trails could be developed at:

- Kanow

Connector Trails: Connector trails are multi-purpose trails that provide safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the community.

Type I: Separate/single purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists and in-line skaters located in an independent right-of-way.

- Glacial River Trail – 17.4 miles paved off-road trail in Jefferson County, 50 miles total Glacial River Trail when completed from Milton in Rock County to the Wild Goose Trail in Dodge County.
- Glacial Drumlin State Trail

Type II Separate/single purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists/in-line skaters within the road right-of-way.

- Jefferson County Inter-municipal Bicycle System
- Glacial River Trail – about 17 miles of marked trail on paved road shoulders.

On-Street Bikeways: The *Jefferson County Bicyclway/Pedestrianway* Plan maps on-street bikeways within communities. Bikeways provide transportation and safely separate bicyclists from vehicular traffic as a bike route or bike lane.

Other Pathway Classifications:

All-Terrain Bike Trails: Off-road trails for all terrain bikes (mountain bikes) may be considered in appropriate parks such as Holzheuter.

Cross-Country Ski Trails: Trails for traditional and skate-style skiing are available at Dorothy Carnes, Korth, Carlin-Weld County Parks, and Garman Nature Preserve.

Equestrian Trails are developed for horseback riding. The Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest provides equestrian trails. The Glacial Heritage Area Plan has an equestrian trail component.

Snowmobile Trails: Off-road County and local winter trails for snowmobiles are maintained by local snowmobile clubs and stretch for 182 miles.

PARK COVERAGE

Using the standard of a 10-mile radius from the larger parks as the service area, all parts of the County are within a 10-mile drive of a larger County Park. A thirty-minute drive time to a county park is suggested by NPRA. Certain parks with unique features may attract users from a greater distance.

III PLANNING CONTEXT

This chapter provides short summaries of the most pertinent planning documents from recent years. The most far-reaching plan is the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* that was developed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under the direction of the Glacial Heritage Area External Advisory Team. After participating in the WDNR's Land Legacy project, Joe Nehmer, Director of the Parks Department and Steve Grabow, UW-Extension Community Development Educator, became champions of creating a string of conservation parks in Jefferson County linked to each other and municipalities by off-road trails. The resulting Glacial Heritage Area covers parts of four counties and 26 Townships.

Master Plans for the following Parks and Trails have been completed:

- Dorothy Carnes County Park
- Korth County Park
- Dr. J.S. Garman Nature Preserve
- Jefferson County Dog Park
- Watertown to Waterloo Bicycle Trail

PLAN SUMMARIES

Jefferson County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan 2005-2010

The purpose of the 2005 *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan* was to identify countywide recreational needs and new opportunities, to guide the development of outdoor recreational facilities, to identify potential park acquisition areas, and to qualify for federal, state, and local grants and funding. This plan provided planning guidance and a fresh vision for the years 2005-2010 and beyond.

The Jefferson County Parks Committee reviewed the 13 Key Directions from the *1997 Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan* and developed a mission statement that defines the purpose of the Parks:

The mission of the Jefferson County Parks Department is to preserve natural resources for public use and conservation, to operate and maintain a parks system with resource oriented recreation, trails, and specialty parks; and to expand the parks system for environmental and land use benefits and the health and enjoyment of Jefferson County residents.

The following values express the core beliefs of the Parks Department:

- Pride in our accomplishments.
- Respect by and for others.
- Reputation for excellence.
- Teamwork to reach goals.

The visions that arose during the comprehensive plan process look to the future and express what the Parks Department and System will look like and provide.

Vision I: Jefferson County Parks provide multiple recreational facilities and activities for all ages and abilities in a way that balances recreation and conservation values.

Vision II: Jefferson County continues to acquire unique recreational lands and natural resource areas for public use.

- Vision III: Jefferson County's system of large parks, extensive trails, and natural areas gives form to our community and rural landscapes. As part of this landscape, the Parks System is fundamental in creating special places to live with nature-based rural character, vital and distinctive communities, and working farms.
- Vision IV: Jefferson County sustains a high standard in the design, construction, accessibility, maintenance, safety, and management of the Parks.
- Vision V: Jefferson County promotes an awareness of parks and the benefits of outdoor recreation and preservation of natural resources.

The plan identified future capital and expansion projects for each of the existing parks and potential new parks.

Jefferson County Park Site Feasibility Study, 1998

The *Feasibility Study* identified thirty-five potential new park areas and developed a decision making matrix and rating system for park site selection. Dorothy Carnes County Park and Korth County Park, among the top ten sites, have been acquired as County Parks. The Holtzheuter Farm has been acquired by the WDNR and is a state park under development.

Glacial Heritage Area Plan

(Text from the *Jefferson County Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan*)

Owing to a rich natural resource base, Jefferson County is within a region that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has designated as a high priority location to expand and enhance natural resource-oriented trails, parks, and open spaces. Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) project will link parks, reserves, wildlife and natural areas, and other conservation lands to nearby cities and villages with different types of trails (Figure III-1). This designation and associated efforts position the County to capitalize on the growing recreation and tourism economies. The GHA Plan is, in essence, implementation of the 2005-2010 *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan*.

Preservation of natural resource lands through the GHA effort can complement and support agricultural operations by limiting less compatible uses, such as housing developments, that are often attracted to these areas. WDNR intends to work with agricultural agencies and organizations to maintain and protect lands adjacent to proposed acquisition areas (and also buffer parks from urban land uses). Lands incorporated into such areas could buffer working farmlands from adjacent development, which may lead to fewer public trespass issues and complaints about farm practices. The following four types of places are proposed to make up the GHA network:

Conservation Parks. The primary purpose of the conservation parks is to provide high quality opportunities for residents and visitors to engage in a range of outdoor activities. In particular, the parks are intended to offer hiking, biking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing trails and associated facilities such as picnic areas and places to watch wildlife. A total of ten parks and preserves currently exist in the area. The GHA plan proposes to expand five of these and to establish seven new parks to provide a broader range of outdoor experiences. Most conservation parks are proposed to eventually range from 200 to 700 acres.

Linking Trails. Approximately 100 miles of linking trails are proposed to meander through the countryside and connect the conservation areas to the nearby cities and villages. The linking trails would offer longer distance biking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing opportunities on relatively flat lands, either off-road or separated from vehicle traffic, and suitable for people with a range of abilities, including children and seniors. Most trails would be within narrow corridors with surfaces of packed gravel, asphalt, or grass or a mix for different trail users.

Wildlife and Natural Areas. The GHA plan proposes to expand the eleven State Wildlife Areas and create a Red Cedar Lake State Natural Area to protect and restore additional native habitats, provide better public access and more recognizable boundaries, increase public hunting and trapping opportunities, and provide additional opportunities for rustic outdoor recreation. The plan also proposes to establish one new property – the Crawfish

Prairie Habitat Area – which would provide critically needed habitat for grassland birds and other species. In addition, the plan proposes to buffer many of the Wildlife Areas with farming dominated areas, referred to as Rural Landscape Protection Areas.

River-based Conservation Areas. Two types of lands along rivers and creeks would be part of the GHA. First is a set of 5 to 10 acre sites, and potentially one or two larger sites, to provide access for boaters, paddlers, and shore anglers. These areas might include parking, boat launches, picnic areas, pit toilets, and other simple facilities. The larger sites could provide rustic campsites accessible only from the water. The second component would focus on natural resource protection: high-quality wetlands and floodplain forests along the Bark River, Koshkonong Creek, and Allen Creek.

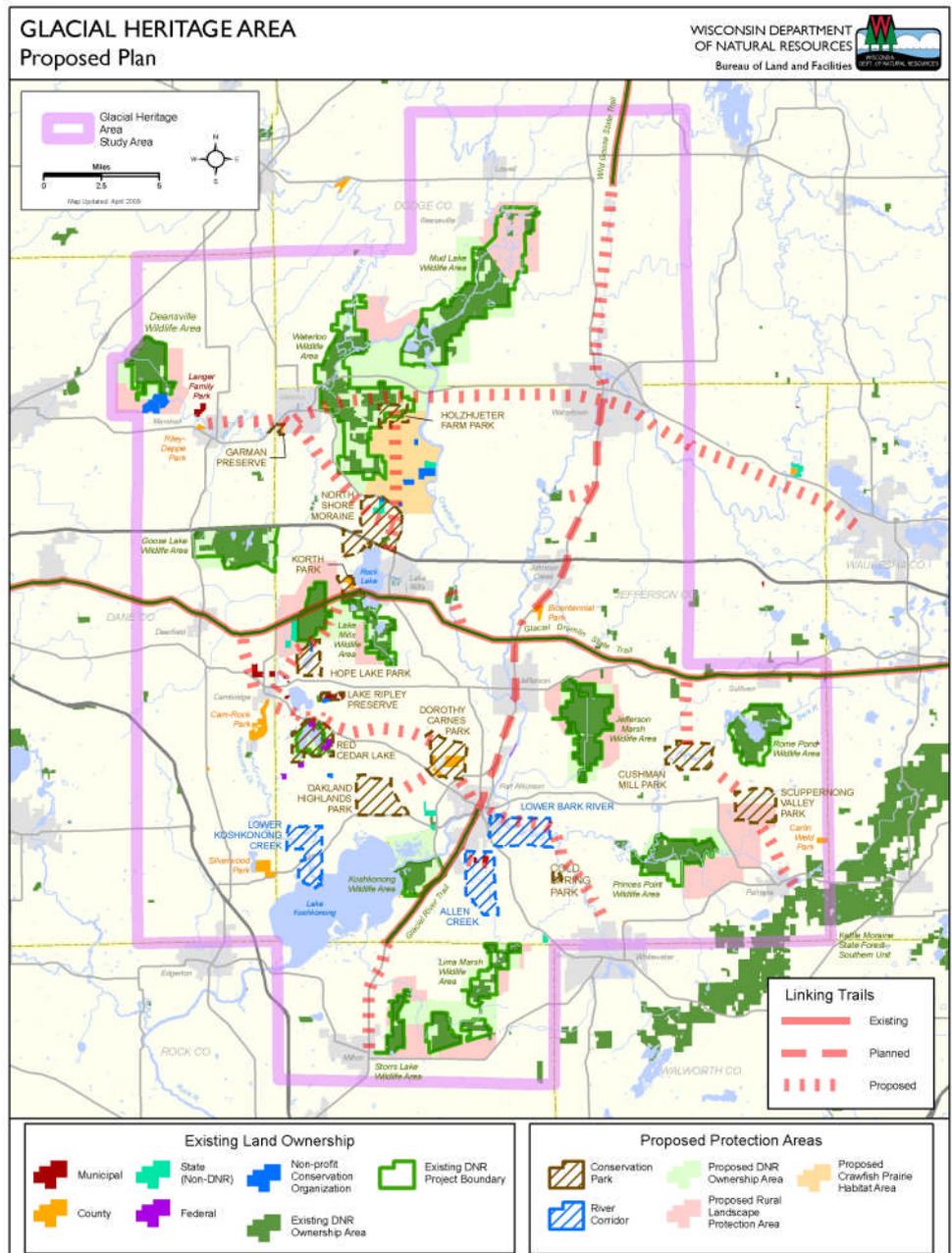
These areas harbor diverse native communities and populations of several rare plant and animal species.

To date, as a result of the *Glacial Heritage Area Plan*, two projects are underway: the Holzheuter Farm State Park near Waterloo was purchased by the WDNR as a conservation park with proposed mountain bike trails; and the Glacial River Trail off-road bicycle and pedestrian trail was expanded along the STH 26 bypass between Fort Atkinson and Jefferson and on-road sections to Watertown have been marked. The trail will be maintained by Jefferson County.

Land has been purchased to complete an off-road section of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail north of Jefferson.

Canoe/kayak Put-In-Take-Out sites are posted on Glacial Heritage Area Watertrails and some streams, such as portions of the Bark River and Koshkonong Creek, have been cleared of debris for more pleasurable paddling. This plan has

Figure III-1



been the impetus for expanding recreational activities and economic development in Jefferson County.

The *Glacial Heritage Area Plan* is an implementation of recommendations of the *Wisconsin Land Legacy Report*. This report assessed the State's protection needs for conservation and recreation lands over the next fifty years. The study focused on identifying what significant "green infrastructures" remain in need of protection. The places identified in this report are considered important from a statewide or national perspective.

Five Legacy Places in Jefferson County were included in the *Land Legacy Report*. Those places include the Crawfish River-Waterloo Drumlins, the Jefferson Marsh, the Lake Koshkonong to Kettle Moraine Corridor, the Bark and Scuppernong Rivers, and the Upper Rock River.

Over fifty percent of Wisconsin's population lives within 50 miles of the area bounded by Milwaukee, Madison, Fond du Lac, and Janesville and development pressure is changing the landscape in this region. Participants in public meetings pertaining to the plan indicate that they would like recreational opportunities near where they live.

Jefferson County Bicycle Plan Emphasis Summary

Bicycle and pedestrian trails expanding rapidly in Jefferson County since approval of the Glacial Heritage Area Plan. This update to the 1996 *Jefferson County Bicycleway/Pedestrianway Plan* assesses the existing bicycle routes within Jefferson County and its communities and addresses route effectiveness, connectivity to key destinations, and safety. Off-road bike trails are identified that link to primary Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) destinations, and estimated costs and funding sources for future implementation of recommended improvements are also identified.

The Rock River Trail Initiative

This trail initiative began in 2010 and was joined by public and private partners in Wisconsin in 2011. The mission is to establish and interpret a Rock River water trail along the 320-mile river course from the headwaters in Fond du Lac and Dodge counties to the Mississippi River at Rock Island in Illinois. The group is also looking to create a separate Rock River route on roads within the river corridor to provide access to the natural resources, recreational opportunities, scenic beauty and historic and cultural assets of the Rock River Valley. The Rock River Trail has been designated part of the National Water Trail System by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and is promoted by the National Parks Service.

2011-2016 State of Wisconsin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

The newest SCORP builds on President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative for the 21st Century, which has three main goals:

1. Reconnect Americans, especially children, to America's rivers and waterways, landscapes of national significance, ranches, farms and forests, great parks, and coasts and beaches by exploring a variety of efforts.
2. Build upon State, local, private, and tribal priorities for the conservation of land, water, wildlife, historic, and cultural resources, creating corridors and connectivity across these outdoor spaces, and for enhancing neighborhood parks....through public private partnerships and locally supported conservation strategies.
3. Use science-based management practices to restore and protect our lands and waters for future generations

SCORP assessed population, economic, employment, land use, and recreation trends. Region 9, which includes Madison, the State's second largest city, has very little public conservation land compared to the rest of the State. Only about 5 percent of the land is available for public recreation, compared to 23 percent of the land in the state as a whole. Land values are also higher than the state average, except for wetlands. Land parcelization is also high throughout the region. The chance to acquire land for recreation may be diminishing due to high land values and increasingly smaller parcels.

SCORP examines trends in outdoor recreation participation between 2005 and 2009, both state-wide and regionally, assessing which activities have the highest participation rate and also which activities have the greatest increase or decrease in participation. The following tables assess trends in recreation in Region 9, which includes the following Counties: Jefferson, Dane, Dodge, Columbia, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Rock and Sauk. Recreation demand is defined "according to the reported desires of users of outdoor recreational facilities within the region".

Recreation Demand for Nature-Based Activities in Region 9

Rank	Nature-Based Recreational Uses	Region (%)	State (%)
1	Picnicking	62.5%	56.6%
2	Boating	48.5%	47.6%
3	Visit a beach	43.4%	47.3%
4	Swimming in Lakes, Streams, etc.	42.7%	45.8%
5	Snow/ice activities (any type)	40.8%	44.4%
6	Visit a wilderness or primitive area	39.9%	38.3%
7	Day hiking	38.0%	35.0%
8	Freshwater fishing	35.1%	40.7%
9	Motor boating	32.0%	36.4%
10	Developed camping	31.4%	32.3%

State-wide spending on recreation is topped by camping and fishing. All of the activities in the top ten chart are typical of recreational opportunities in Jefferson County. Outdoor recreation contributes over \$9.7 billion to the economy annually.

Outdoor Recreation Spending in Wisconsin

Rank	Recreation Use	Amount
1	Camping	\$3.9 billion
2	Fishing	\$778 million
3	Wildlife Viewing	\$668 million
4	Bicycle	\$541 million
5	Hunting	\$511 million
6	Paddle Sports	\$406 million
7	Snow Sports	\$305 million
8	Trail	\$298 million

Not only State residents use recreational facilities. In 2004 the Wisconsin Department of Tourism surveyed Chicago and Minneapolis-St. Paul market areas to gauge out-of-state recreation demand. The five most popular activities for Region 9 are below.

Out-of-State Recreation Demand in Region 9 Wisconsin Department of Tourism Survey of Recreation

Rank	Chicago DMA	Twin Cities DMA
1	Downhill Skiing	Sightseeing
2	Sightseeing	Birdwatching
3	Picnicking	Hiking
4	Camping	Picnicking
5	Hiking	Camping

Nature-based recreational supply shortages in Region 9 were identified using regional demand, regional supply, local park and recreation plans, and public input.

Regional Recreation Supply Shortages

Nature Based

- Backcountry/Walk-In Camping
- Carry-In Boat Launches
- Natural Areas
- Parks
- Public Water Access
- Trails – Hiking
- Trails – Horseback Riding

Developed Based

- Boat Launches – Trailerable
- Camps – Educational
- Nature Centers
- Picnic Areas
- Sailboat Clubs/Rentals

The WDNR and UW Applied Population Laboratory evaluated 228 areas identified in the *Land Legacy Report* to prioritize places for recreational potential. This analysis considered potential visitors, population/development

pressure, cost of land acquisition, conservation significance value, and recreational potential. Recreational potential received more weight than the other elements. The study listed five priority areas state-wide for recreation opportunities that should be targeted for protection before development pressures or land costs make purchases or preservation impractical.

Priority Areas for Recreation Opportunities

Rank	Area
1	Crawfish River-Waterloo Drumlins – Jefferson County
2	Baraboo Hills
3	Lower Wisconsin River
4	Blue Mound State Park
5	Lake Koshkonong to Kettle Moraine – Jefferson County

Jefferson County Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan, 2012

In 2010 a comprehensive plan update with an economic emphasis identified three visions for the economic health of Jefferson County: home grown businesses, enterprising agriculture, and small town magnetism. The *Jefferson County Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan* was updated in 2012 and focuses on preserving productive farmland and implements new State land use directives. Changes that may pertain to parks include updates to the mapping criteria for environmental corridors and the purpose of environmental corridors:

- Protect and preserve an environmental corridor system consisting of wetlands, floodplains, and steeply sloped glacial features.
- Protect groundwater and surface water quality.
- Discourage development in areas that possess valuable natural resource characteristics and wildlife habitats. (A development density not greater than one residence per 10 acres is allowed within the environmental corridor overlay.)
- Identify certain areas that are being farmed today, which also have natural resource features or limitations.

Because parks and farming are compatible land uses, the plan recommends partnering in Glacial Heritage Area initiatives and with parks departments to preserve farmland adjacent to parks and State Wildlife Areas in order to buffer parks and wildlife areas from development and to buffer farms from development.

Jefferson County Lake Enhancement Project

This document makes several recommendations for lakes that might be considered from a park planning perspective including:

- Increase water quality monitoring on lakes
- Reduce the incidence of shoreline vegetation cutting
- Restoration of native shoreline buffers
- Education on exotic and invasive species
- Monitoring for exotic and invasive species
- Controlling non-point source pollution
- Developing a booklet of lake recreation

Jefferson County Land and Water Resources Plan 2011-2020

The *Land and Water Resources Plan* makes recommendations for protecting productive soils in Jefferson County and improving water quality and habitat along water bodies. These goals refer to Park initiatives and management:

- Achieve measurable progress on protecting the resources in Jefferson County through implementation of conservation practices and conservation plan development.
- Ensure compliance with the Agricultural Performance Standards and Prohibitions – could apply to land within parks that is currently farmed.
- Adequately address the water resource issues facing Jefferson County, including protect the natural areas encompassing rivers and streams.
- Protect and restore identified natural areas.
- Preserve and enhance woodland areas.
- Work with the Department of Natural Resources to implement various wildlife programs.

IV DEMOGRAPHICS

Jefferson County is located in south-central Wisconsin between the two largest cities in the state, Milwaukee and Madison, and roughly 100 miles northwest of Chicago, Illinois.

These large metropolitan areas are connected by Interstate I-94, which travels east and west across County (Figure IV-1). The Interstate and STH 26 provide easy access to Jefferson County from adjacent metro-centers and urbanizing counties, thus influencing population and economic growth.

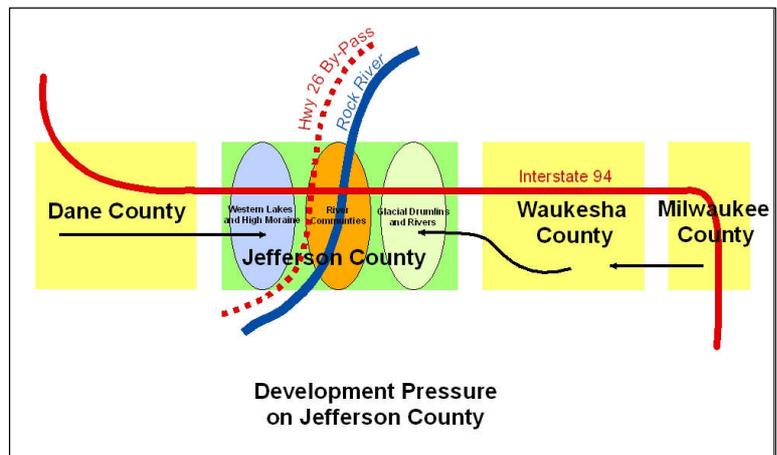


Figure IV-1 Development Pressure

Portions of Jefferson County are less than an hour commute to Madison, Waukesha, Milwaukee, and Janesville. Conversely, residents of those urban areas have quick access to public recreation and natural areas in rural Jefferson County. The Glacial Heritage Area was centered on Jefferson County because half of Wisconsin's population lives within 50 miles of Jefferson County.

Though the population of Jefferson County is steadily increasing at a rate of just over 1 percent per year, the County retains its rural roots and heritage with small towns surrounded by farmland, wetlands, and woodlands creating a green corridor between large urban areas.

The following sections illustrate population, household, and housing growth in Jefferson County and the surrounding region.

POPULATION AND HOUSING UNITS

The population of Jefferson County in the Census Year of 2010 was 83,686, an increase of 7,919 persons or 10.5 percent since 2000. Of the increase, 3,947 were due to the natural increase of births minus deaths and 3,972 were due to people moving into Jefferson County. Estimates for January 1, 2012 put the population at 83,857. Jefferson County was the tenth fastest growing county in Wisconsin between 2000 and 2010. The population of the State as a whole increased 6.0 percent during the same ten year time period. Recently, between 2010 and 2012, the state's population increased 0.29 percent over the two years to a 2012 population of 5,703,525.

Jefferson County and the surrounding Counties of Dane, Dodge, Waukesha, Walworth, and Rock contributed over 37 percent of the State's population growth from 2000 to 2010 with a total 2010 population of over 1.3 million (Figure IV-3).

Considering population growth within individual Towns, Cities, and Villages, the Village of Johnson Creek's population grew 73 percent, the largest percent population growth (Figures IV-2). The town that grew the most in residents was the Town of Ixonia, with the addition of 1,485 persons, which is an increase of over 50%. The Town of Ixonia and Village of Johnson Creek are located on or near I-94 in

the northern half of Jefferson County with easy access to Waukesha, Milwaukee and Madison. Both are growing through rural subdivisions and industrial/commercial parks with municipal sewer service. Between 2010 and 2012 these two civil divisions were still the fastest growing in percent population change.

The fastest growing City is the small portion of the City of Whitewater that is in Jefferson County with a population increase of over 24 percent.

Several Towns in central Jefferson County have actually lost population between 2000 and 2010, including Cold Spring, Farmington, Hebron, Jefferson, Oakland, and the Village of Sullivan. This decrease may be due to annexation of town land by cities, the current downturn in the economy, or more deaths than births.

The change in the number of housing units mirrors the change in population with the greatest increase in the Village of Johnson Creek, Town of Ixonia, and City of Whitewater (Figure IV-6). Between 2000 and 2010 the number of housing units county-wide increased by 5,038 to 35,147, an increase of 16.7 percent. In 2012 the Wisconsin Department of Administration estimates that there were 35,380 housing units in the County.

The latest future population projections by the Wisconsin Department of Administration were conducted in 2008, prior to Census 2010 (Figure IV-4). The projections indicate that the most growth may occur in the Village of Johnson Creek, the Town of Ixonia, the City of Lake Mills, and the Village of Waterloo. Previous projections underestimated the 2010 County population by 4,828 people, as determined by Census 2010.

Figure IV-2

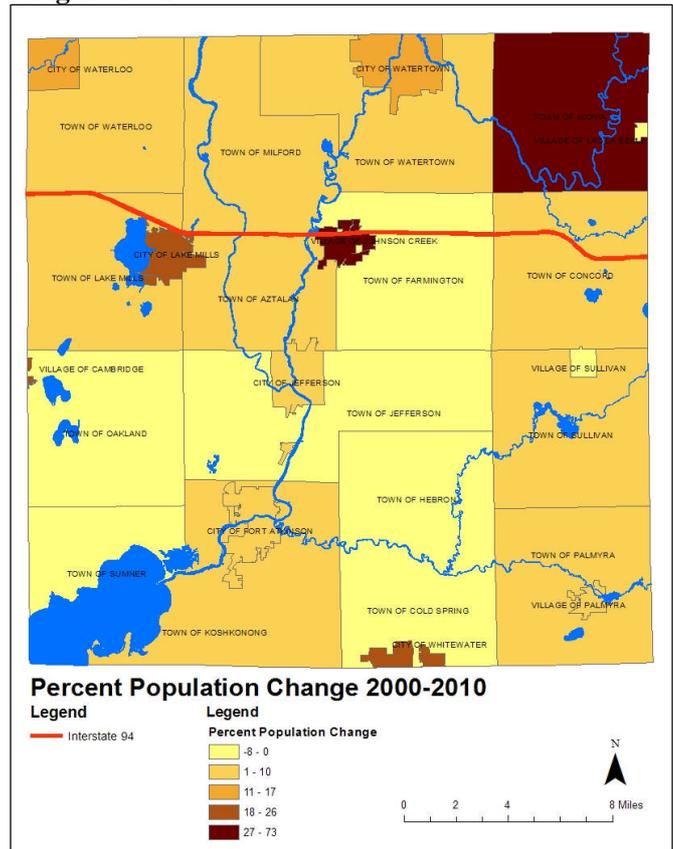


Figure IV-3 Regional Population Change 2000-2010					
County	2000 Population	2010 Population	Number Change	Percent Change	State Rank for Percent Change
Dane	426,526	488,073	61,647	14.4	3
Walworth	92,013	102,228	10,215	11.1	9
Jefferson	75,767	83,686	7,919	10.5	10
Waukesha	360,767	389,891	29,124	8.1	18
Rock	152,307	160,331	8,021	5.3	29
Dodge	85,897	88,759	2,862	3.3	41
Region (all above Counties)	1,193,277	1,312,968	119,691	10.0	
State of Wisconsin	5,363,715	5,686,986	323,271	6.0	

Figure IV-4 Jefferson County Population Projections 2005-2030 (Based on Analysis in 2008)									
Municipality	Census 2000	2005 Estimate	2010 Estimate	2015 Estimate	2020 Estimate	2025 Estimate	2030 Estimate	Numeric Change	Percent Change
T Cold Spring	766	785	809	835	863	888	910	144	18.8%
T Concord	2023	2075	2130	2196	2266	2329	2383	360	17.8%
T Farmington	1498	1524	1558	1585	1615	1641	1658	160	10.7%
T Hebron	1135	1147	1172	1204	1236	1266	1291	156	13.7%
T Ixonia	2902	3336	3567	3818	4077	4325	4555	1653	57.0%
T Jefferson	2395	2214	2074	1943	1815	1680	1537	-858	-35.8%
T Koshkonong	3395	3556	3696	3849	4005	4153	4282	887	26.1%
T Lake Mills	1936	2021	2126	2242	2363	2478	2582	646	33.4%
T Milford	1055	1065	1074	1088	1104	1117	1126	71	6.7%
T Oakland	3135	3264	3454	3664	3879	4085	4274	1139	36.3%
T Palmyra	1145	1190	1213	1244	1275	1303	1325	180	15.7%
T Sullivan	2124	2265	2389	2527	2668	2804	2927	803	37.8%
T Sumner	904	898	898	904	910	915	915	11	1.2%
T Waterloo	832	901	952	1009	1067	1123	1173	341	41.0%
T Watertown	1876	1922	1943	1974	2009	2038	2057	181	9.6%
V Cambridge	87	88	91	95	99	103	106	19	21.8%
V Johnson Creek	1581	1929	2157	2413	2673	2928	3170	1589	100.5%
V Lac La Belle	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0.0%
V Palmyra	1766	1775	1820	1876	1933	1986	2030	264	14.9%
V Sullivan	688	679	717	760	803	845	882	194	28.2%
C Fort Atkinson	11621	12054	12555	13138	13736	14303	14808	3187	27.4%
C Jefferson	7208	7593	8020	8493	8978	9443	9867	2659	36.9%
C Lake Mills	4843	5169	5494	5850	6215	6566	6889	2046	42.2%
C Waterloo	3259	3315	3459	3623	3791	3952	4094	835	25.6%
C Watertown	13535	14423	15083	15826	16592	17318	17972	4437	32.8%
C Whitewater	2611	2751	2848	2964	3084	3196	3295	684	26.2%
Jefferson County	72,042	75,874	78,858	82,594	86,349	89,821	92,832	20,790	28.9%

AGE

A chart of the age of Jefferson County residents in 2010 shows two spikes, one between the ages of 15 and 19 and another at 45 to 55 years (Figure IV-5).

There are more men in each age group up to age 60, when women begin to outnumber men.

As baby-boomers age, they may have more time to spend on outdoor activities and may also need more universally accessible features in parks.

Figure IV-5 Jefferson County Age Groups

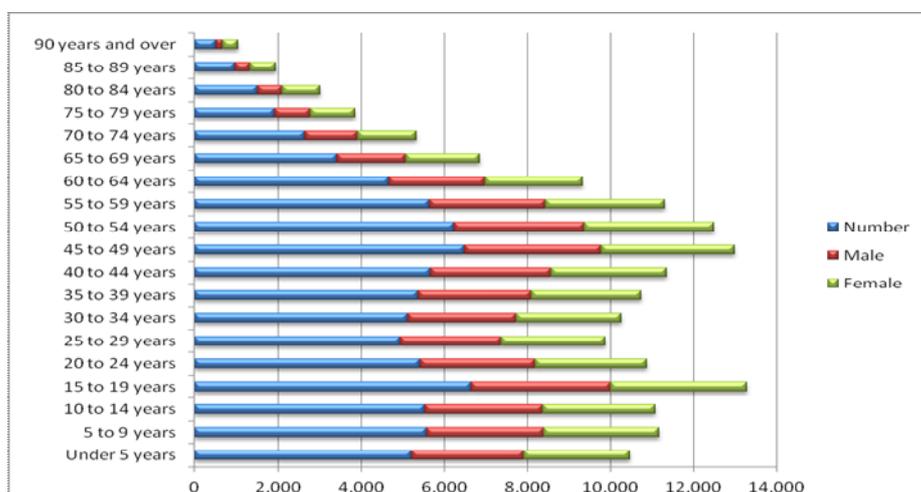


Figure IV-6 Jefferson County Population and Housing Unit Change 2000-2010

Municipality	2000 Population	2010 Population	Change	% Change	Housing Units 2000	Housing Units 2010	Numerical Change	Percent Change
Aztalan town	1,447	1,457	10	0.7%	553	564	11	2.0%
Cambridge village	87	109	22	25.3%	38	45	7	18.4%
Cold Spring town	766	727	-39	-5.1%	278	294	16	5.8%
Concord town	2,023	2,072	49	2.4%	770	848	78	10.1%
Farmington town	1,498	1,380	-118	-7.9%	561	556	-5	-0.9%
Fort Atkinson city	11,621	12,368	747	6.4%	4,983	5,429	446	9.0%
Hebron town	1,135	1,094	-41	-3.6%	410	440	30	7.3%
Ixonia town	2,902	4,385	1,483	51.1%	1,082	1,719	637	58.9%
Jefferson city	7,338	7,973	635	8.7%	2,934	3,378	444	15.1%
Jefferson town	2,265	2,178	-87	-3.8%	793	895	102	12.9%
Johnson Creek village	1,581	2,738	1,157	73.2%	659	1,118	459	69.7%
Koshkonong town	3,395	3,692	297	8.7%	1,421	1,625	204	14.4%
Lac La Belle village		1				1		
Lake Mills city	4,843	5,708	865	17.9%	2,065	2,776	711	34.4%
Lake Mills town	1,936	2,070	134	6.9%	812	923	111	13.7%
Milford town	1,055	1,099	44	4.2%	411	456	45	10.9%
Oakland town	3,135	3,100	-35	-1.1%	1,437	1,621	184	12.8%
Palmyra village	1,766	1,781	15	0.8%	725	769	44	6.1%
Palmyra town	1,145	1,186	41	3.6%	512	606	94	18.4%
Sullivan village	688	669	-19	-2.8%	321	328	7	2.2%
Sullivan town	2,124	2,208	84	4.0%	861	966	105	12.2%
Sumner town	904	832	-72	-8.0%	555	538	-17	-3.1%
Waterloo city	3,259	3,333	74	2.3%	1,293	1,409	116	9.0%
Waterloo town	832	909	77	9.3%	312	365	53	17.0%
Watertown city	13,535	15,402	1,867	13.8%	5,161	6,069	908	17.6%
Watertown town	1,876	1,975	99	5.3%	715	798	83	11.6%
Whitewater city	2,611	3,240	629	24.1%	447	611	164	36.7%
Jefferson County Total	75,767	83,686	7,919	10.5%	30,109	35,147	5,038	16.7%

ETHNICITY AND RACE

Jefferson County's population is becoming more diverse. The percentage of the population that is white and not Hispanic decreased from 96.2 percent to 90.4 percent. Residents of

Figure IV-7 Race and Ethnicity

Race and Ethnicity	2000 Percent Population	2011 Percent Population ¹	Change
White Persons	96.20%	96.80%	0.60%
Hispanic or Latino Origin	4.10%	6.90%	2.80%
Black	0.39%	0.90%	0.51%
American Indian or Native Alaskan	0.33%	0.40%	0.07%
Asian	0.47%	0.70%	0.20%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	.020%	<0.05%	0.23%
Two or more ethnicities	0.92%	1.10%	0.18%
White persons not Hispanic	N/A	90.40%	

¹ US Census Bureau. Jefferson County, Wisconsin QuickFacts.

Hispanic or Latino origin, regardless of race, increased from 4.1 percent of the population to 6.9 percent (Figure IV-7).

EMPLOYMENT

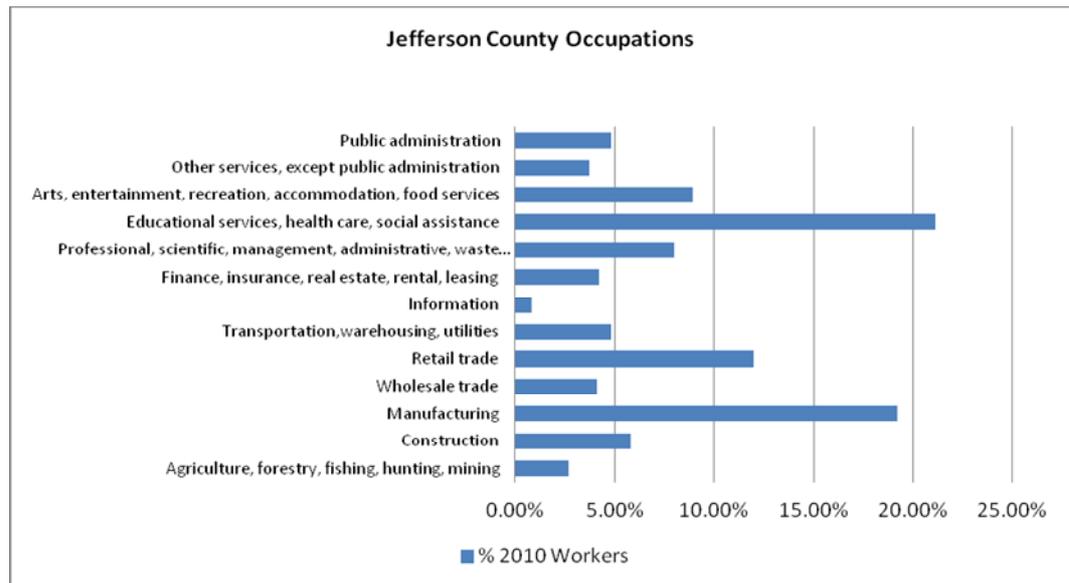
During 2012, 41,604 persons were in the Jefferson County labor force with an unemployment rate of 7.3 percent.² Not seasonally adjusted unemployment in February 2013 stood at 8.7 percent, up from 6.8 percent in 2009 and up sharply from 2.8 percent in 2008.³ Jefferson County ranked 40th out of 72 counties in degree of unemployment in February 2013.

According to Census 2011, driving alone or carpooling was used by 91.4 percent of Jefferson County workers to get to work. 4 percent worked at home and 2.6 percent walked. Public transportation other than taxi was used by 0.10 percent and 1.9 percent used other means, which could include bicycling. The mean travel time to work was 22.8 minutes.

Nearly half, 47 percent, of employed Jefferson County residents work outside of Jefferson County.⁴ This high percentage may be partially due to two cities located on County boundaries, Watertown, and Whitewater, where workers could live in the city in one county but work in the same city in another county.

Leading occupations within Jefferson County in 2010 include educational services, health care, and social assistance with over 20 percent of the workforce. Manufacturing employed just fewer than 20

Figure IV-8



percent of the workers, and 12 percent of the workforce worked in retail trade with (Figure IV-8). Arts, food service entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and employed 8.9 percent, up from 7.6 percent in 2009.

Primary employers in the County are Fort HealthCare, Jefferson County, TREK Bicycle Corporation, and Wal-Mart.

² Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. Labor Statistics for Local Areas, Jefferson County.

³ Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. Wisconsin Unemployment Rates January 2013, Jefferson County.

⁴ Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. January 2010. Jefferson County Workforce Profile 2011.

V NATURAL RESOURCES OVERVIEW

Jefferson County is rich with natural resources. Protecting those valuable natural resources for recreation, health and food and is vital due to the potential expansion of the three large metropolitan areas surrounding Jefferson County.

CLIMATE

Jefferson County's climate is continental with warm, humid summers and cold, dry winters.¹ Almost two thirds of all precipitation falls during the growing season but droughts are not uncommon. Parks are active through all four seasons.

Normal high temperatures range from 25.9 degrees F in January to 83 degrees F in July. The average annual temperature is 56.5 degrees F. Normal low temperatures range from 7.5 degrees F in January to 60.5 degrees F in July, with an average annual low temperature of 35.8 degrees F. Temperature records range from 102 degrees F to -33 degrees F.

Normal precipitation ranges from a low of 1.39 inches in January to a high of 4.16 inches in August; average annual precipitation is 33.46 inches. Normal winter snowfall ranges from 0.1 inches in October to 12.5 inches in January with an annual average of 38.2 inches.²

The median date for the last 32 degree frost is May 5th and the first frost is October 3rd. Based on 32 degrees, the median length of the growing season is 151 days.



Skiing at the Dr. J.S. Gaman Nature Preserve. The Preserve is on a wooded drumlin. Glacial boulders from Canada can be seen here.

GEOLOGY

Platteville-Galena dolomite bedrock underlies Jefferson County and is at or near the surface in some places. Cambrian sandstone underlies parts of the western half of the county from Jefferson to Lake Koshkonong. Precambrian rock called Waterloo quartzite forms outcrops in northwestern Jefferson County, an important area for groundwater infiltration. Unconsolidated (loose) deposits include glacial till, outwash deposited by melt water; lake-laid clay, silt and sand; and accumulations of peat and windblown silts.

GLACIATION, ELEVATION AND DRAINAGE

The topographical and drainage patterns of Jefferson County were created, beginning about 12,000 years ago, by the retreat of a glacier that covered most of Wisconsin. A prominent glacial feature is the Kettle Moraine in the southeastern corner of the County. Here the Green Bay glacial lobe met the Delavan lobe and pushed up a mound of soil between them that formed what is called a moraine. The Kettle Moraine features sharp hills and steep conical valleys called kettles and other glacial remnants such as eskers (narrow, sinuous ridges) and kames (conical hills). Parallel recessional and end moraines form arcs of

¹ Climate of Wisconsin. www.uwex.edu/sco/stateclimate.html

² Midwest Regional Climate Center. Historic Climate Data 1971-2000 Averages at Fort Atkinson. <http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu/>

low hills across the County giving it an east-west grain. These moraines formed where the glacier stopped in its retreat and melted, depositing mounds of gravel, soil, stones, and boulders. A feature called a ground moraine forms a gently undulating plain across most of the County. Hills elongated in the direction of the glacial movement, called drumlins, are found within the ground moraine. The northern third of the county has one of the three classic drumlin fields in the United States.

Figure V-6, Jefferson County High Elevation and Upland Woods, depicts elevations over 900 feet above sea level and indicates the drumlins as oval hills and the recessional moraines as large areas of high elevation. Depressions between the drumlins often hold wetlands. A large undulating outwash plain, where lighter soil particles deposited by melt water eventually formed good agricultural soils, is found between Lake Mills and Lake Ripley. Palmyra, Cold Spring, Hebron, and Sullivan Townships were once a large glacial lake basin.³

The highest point in the County, at 1040 feet above sea level, is Bald Bluff in the Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest just south of Palmyra along County Road H. Hills with relatively high elevations, scenic views, and rugged topography are located just west of Lake Mills, Jefferson and Fort Atkinson; in the Palmyra area, and in the drumlin fields running east and south from Watertown to the Town of Sullivan. These high points are also areas of ground water infiltration and recharge and are very important to the water supply, which is all drawn from wells.

The many large and small streams that cross the County were created by melt water channels cutting through glacial ice and drift. Marshes and shallow lakes, such as Rose Lake at Dorothy Carnes County Park, formed where melt water did not cut channels. The lowest elevations, around 780 feet above sea level, occur along the lower reaches of the Crawfish, Rock, and Bark Rivers, and along Lake Koshkonong and its associated wetlands.

Jefferson County is located in the Rock River Basin. The hills of the Southern Kettle Moraine and Johnstown terminal moraine send the natural water flow toward the Rock River and eventually the Mississippi River. The major tributaries of the Rock River are the Crawfish, Bark, Scuppernong, and Oconomowoc Rivers, and Whitewater, Kohskonong, and Deer Creeks.

SOILS

Most soil types in Jefferson County were formed from parent material that was influenced by glaciation. The soil types fall into one of seven major soil associations:⁴

- Houghton-Adrian: Very poorly drained, level organic soils, formed in old glacial lake basins.
- Fox-Casco-Martherton: Poorly to excessively well drained, nearly level to very steep soils with loamy subsoil underlain by sand and gravel. Occurrence is on outwash plains and terraces, kames, eskers, and terrace escarpments.
- Palms-Keowns-Milford: Nearly level, poorly drained soils that are organic or have loamy or clayey subsoil. Their location is on terraces and in depressions in old lake basins.
- Waucousta-La martine-Theresa: Silty or loamy soils that are poorly to well drained and level to sloping. They are located on till plains, drumlins, terraces in old lake basins, and in low areas between drumlins.
- Rodman-Moundville-Casco: Excessively to moderately well drained soils that are nearly level to very steep with a loamy to sandy texture. These are soils of outwash plains and terraces in the Kettle Moraine area.
- Kidder-McHenry-Rotamer: Well drained and moderately well drained soils on gently sloping to steep till plains and drumlins with a silty or loamy texture over sandy loam glacial till.

³ Glocker, C.L. 1979. Soil Survey of Jefferson County, Wisconsin. Nation Cooperative Soil Survey

⁴ Glocker, C.L. 1979. Soil Survey of Jefferson County, Wisconsin. Nation Cooperative Soil Survey

- Whalan-Kidder: Well drained to moderately will drain gently sloping to steep soils on side slopes and ridge tops of glaciated uplands.

ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

The *Jefferson County Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan* defines environmental corridors as land that meets any of the following criteria:

- Wisconsin DNR delineated wetlands.
- Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) designated 1 percent annual chance flood (100-year flood).
- All publicly-owned land designated as public parks or conservation areas.
- Contiguous upland woods of over 10 acres in area.
- Slopes of 20 percent or greater as determined by the USDA Soil Survey GIS map.

Significant natural resources, cultural sites, and good agricultural land often lie within environmental corridors. The *Jefferson County Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan* suggests that these continuous areas of environmentally sensitive land should be protected from non-agricultural development.

LAND COVER AND LAND USE

The following chart from the *Jefferson County Land and Water Resources Plan 2011-2020* illustrates the variety of land uses in Jefferson County (Figure V-5). Farmland is the largest land use, covering 55.5 percent of the 372,938 acres under County jurisdiction.

Figure V-1 Jefferson County Land Uses (data from 2008 aerial Photos)

Land Use	Acres	% of Total Acres
Agriculture (cropland, orchards, tree nurseries, etc.)	206,914	55.5%
Wetlands (designated by DNR)	56,277	15.1%
Urban and Roadway Corridors (developed urban land and all road right of ways)	26,614	7.1%
Upland Woods (wooded areas in both rural and urban areas, not in wetlands)	25,192	6.8%
Rural Developed (rural homesteads, farm buildings, churches, cemeteries, government facilities, etc.)	23,294	6.2 %
Surface Water	17,440	4.7%
Rural Open (rural uncultivated, vacant lots 5 or more acres, landfills)	12,024	3.2%
Commercial and Industrial (retail shops, manufacturing, machine shops, rail right of ways, communication facilities, utilities, etc.)	3,079	0.8%
Recreation (public parks, golf courses, gun clubs, and non-public campgrounds)	2,104	0.6%
Totals	372,938	100%

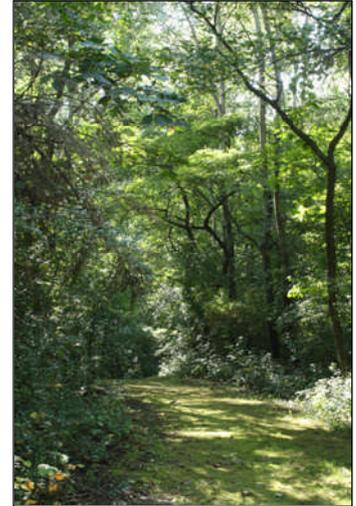
WOODLANDS

About 6.8 percent or 25,192 acres of Jefferson County is covered with upland woods (Figure V-6). This acreage figure does not include woodlands in wetlands. Jefferson County has extensive lowland forests along rivers and marshes, including uncommon tamarack swamps and bogs.

Previous to European settlement in the 1830's about half of Jefferson County, the area east of the Crawfish River and north of the Bark River, was heavily wooded. The rivers impeded frequent prairie fires that were set by lightning or Native Americans to create grazing lands. Fires were moved to the northeast by the prevailing southwesterly winds. A fire-intolerant mature sugar maple and basswood forest evolved on the east and north riverbanks. The timber provided raw materials for the early settlers who built sawmills on the rivers of eastern Jefferson County.

The remainder of the County, south and west of the major rivers, was a stand of open grown oak savanna mixed with tall prairie grass, tamarack bog, and marsh. Prairies and savannas had almost entirely disappeared prior to restoration efforts at State Wildlife Areas and County Parks during the last thirty years. Faville and Snapper prairies, along the Crawfish River south of Hubbleton, are examples of the original native prairies.

The woods were cleared for farming and today most of the upland woods that remain are located on rough, stony, steep, or poorly drained land, unsuitable for agriculture other than pasturing cattle. Woodlots are sought for rural residential development, further fragmenting the already scattered woods.



Upland woods at Upper Rock Lake County Park.

WETLANDS AND FLOOD PLAINS

In 2008 Jefferson County had 56,277 acres of wetlands or 15.1 percent of the County surface area (Figure V-7). Half of Wisconsin's original wetlands have been lost to agricultural crop production, highways, and urban development. Through the USDA Wetland Reserve Program and the WDNR, hundreds of acres of wetlands have recently been restored in Jefferson County; primarily on three former muck farms that raised vegetables.



Rose Lake Marsh at Dorothy Carnes County Park.

Two such places are the Jefferson Marsh, now called the Jefferson Marsh Wildlife Area and Jefferson Tamarack Marsh State Natural Area (1,594 acres) and the Zeloski Unit of the Lake Mills Wildlife Area (1,618 acres) near Lake Mills.

Wetlands have a water table at or near the land surface, thus water may flow out of the ground. Characteristics of wetlands are hydric (waterlogged) soils, standing water at least part of the year, and wetland vegetation. Wetlands generally occur along lakeshores, streams, and large poorly drained areas. Wetlands trap sediment and pollutants, hold and remove nutrients, aid in improving or maintaining water quality, attenuate (hold and slow down) flood waters, and provide habitat for many species

of waterfowl, wildlife, and plants. Rose Lake marsh, a deep-water marsh at Dorothy Carnes County Park, may have the greatest bird diversity in Jefferson County.

Wetlands run in concentric bands in Jefferson County, formed by the low areas between moraines and drumlins. Wetland complexes are found along the Bark and Oconomowoc Rivers in eastern and southern Jefferson County and in a zone from Waterloo to Lake Koshkonong in the western part of the County.

100 year flood plains are mapped in Figure V-7. The flood plain map was updated in 2009 and is being updated in 2013. In any given year, there is a 1/100 chance of flooding in these areas. Some places, such as Blackhawk Island at the mouth of the Rock River, flood so frequently that Jefferson County, in conjunction with federal programs, is purchasing property and removing residences. This land will become public.

LAKES AND RIVERS

There are 17,440 acres of surface water in Jefferson County within thirteen watersheds.⁵ Major rivers include the Rock, Crawfish, Bark, Maunasha, Oconomowoc, and Scuppernong (Figure V-2, Map Figure V-7).

Allen Creek, in the Town of Koshkonong, has been designated an “Exceptional Resource Water” in the Wisconsin State Statutes due to its high water quality and uncommon species. A State Natural Area (SNA) has been designated around Allen Creek and the first 16 acre parcel in the SNA was purchased by the WDNR in 2012.

There are 25 lakes in Jefferson County with 14,587 acres of surface area (Figure V-3). Two of the lakes, Lake Koshkonong and Golden Lake share shorelines with adjacent counties. Nineteen lakes are naturally formed and dams create 6 lakes.



Fishing on the Rock River at Rock River County Park.

⁵ Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Department. Jefferson County Land and Water Resources Plan 2011-2020.

Figure V-2 Jefferson County Streams

Jefferson County Streams	Length (miles)	Existing Use
Allen Creek ¹	8	WWSF
Ashippun River ¹	0 – 31.8	WWSF
Bark River ¹	68	WWSF
Battle Creek	0-2.1	WWFF
Crawfish River ¹	49.5	WWSF
Deer Creek	0-2	WWSF
	2-12	LFF
Duck Creek	11	WWSF
Galloway Creek ¹	5	WWFF
Johnson Creek	17.5	WWSF
Koshkonong Creek Lower ¹	24	WWSF
Maunasha River ¹	32	WWSF
Mud Creek	8	LFF
Oconomowoc River ¹	40	WWSF
Otter Creek ¹	16	WWSF
Rock Creek	0 – 1.5	LFF
	1.5 – 4.9	WWSF
Rock River ¹	56	WWSF
Scuppernong River	0 – 13	WWSF
Spring Creek ¹	5	WWFF
Steel Brook ¹	0 – 1.7	WWFF
	1.7 – 6	COLDIII
Stoney Brook ¹	15	WWSF
Whitewater Creek ¹	0 – 14	WWSF
	14 – 16	WWSF

Existing Use – indicates the biological use that the stream supports.

COLD – waters capable of supporting a community of Cold Water Fish and other aquatic life or that serve as a spawning area for Cold Water Fish species

COLD I – Cold Water Community, high-quality stream where populations are sustained by natural reproduction

COLD II – Cold Water Community, stream has some natural reproduction but may need stocking to maintain a desirable fishery

COLD III – Cold Water Community, stream has no natural reproduction and requires annual stocking of legal-size fish to provide sport fishing LFF – Limited Forage Fishery; waters capable of supporting only a limited community of tolerant forage fish and aquatic life; waters of limited capacity due to low flow, naturally poor water quality or poor habitat

LFF – Limited Forage Fishery; waters capable of supporting only a limited community of tolerant forage fish and aquatic life; waters of limited capacity due to low flow, naturally poor water quality or poor habitat

WWSF – waters are capable of supporting community of Warm Water Sport Fish or serving as a spawning area for these fish

WWFF – waters capable of supporting an abundant, diverse community of Warm Water Forage Fish and other aquatic life

1. Part of stream is located in another county.

Figure V-3 Characteristics of Jefferson County Lakes

Name	Surface Area (acres)	Max Depth (feet)	Mean Depth (feet)	Shoreline Length (miles)	Watershed Area (sq. miles)	Public Access	Lake Type
Bean Lake	33	6		0.87	1.3	T	SE
Blue Spring Lake*	141	26	7	2.7	2.0	BR	SP
Golden Lake	250	46	13	3.6	2.0	BR	SP
Goose Lake	143	4		2.24	6.0	NO	DG
Hahns Lake	88	10	2	1.83	998.3	NW	DG
Haumerson Pond	4	3		0.5	342.6	R	SE
Hoopers Millpond*	21	6		1.23	21.7	R	DG
Hope Lake	126	24	5.4	1.97	2.1	BR	SE
Kurtz Pond	4	3		0.33	0.1	NO, S	DG
Lake Koshkonong*	10,460	7	5	27.3	2,543.7	BR	DG
Lake Ripley	418	44	18	4.1	7.3	BR	DG
Lower Spring Lake*	109	11	4	3.18	27.1	BR	DG
Mud Lake, Sumner	318			7	4.1	NW	
Mud Lake, Sullivan	0.3			0.09	2.2	NO	
Mud Lake, Lake Mills	95	22	7.4	1.67	8.3	BR, T	DG
Mud Lake, Concord	8	6		0.42	0.5	NO, S	DG
Perch Lake	5	7		0.46	0.1	NO, S	SE
Red Cedar Lake	336	6		4.96	2.3	BR, T	SE
Rock Lake	1,371	56	16	11.9	15.1	BR	DG
Rome Mill Pond*	448	7	2	13.63	111.7	BR	DG
Rose Lake	140	10		3.37	1.7	T	SE
Round Lake	2	3		0.26	0.1	NO, S	SE
SindonWeegs Pond	10	12		0.6	0.2	NO, S	DG
Spence Lake	33	6		1	0.4	T	
Upper Spring Lake*	24	11	4	1.78	25.0	NO	DG

* Impoundment

Lake Table Key Public Access

BR – Boat ramp

NO – No access

NW – Navigable water access to lake

Lake Hydrologic Types

R – Roadside access

T – Walk-in trail

X – Access not specified

Drainage Lake (DG): Impoundments and natural lakes with the main water source from stream drainage. Has at least one inlet and one outlet. Spring Lake (SP): Seldom has an inlet but always has an outlet of substantial flow. Water supply is dependent upon groundwater rather than surface drainage. Seepage Lake (SE): Landlocked. Water level maintained by groundwater table and basin seal. Intermittent outlet may be present.

WILDLIFE

Sport fish in Jefferson County lakes include walleye, northern pike, bluegill, white bass, muskie, crappie, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass. The most common river fish found in Jefferson County are catfish, walleye, northern pike, white bass, sauger, panfish, crappie, and perch.

Jefferson County provides habitat for a variety of game animals, furbearers, birds, raptors, small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. Hunting is a very popular year-round activity.

Wetlands and water resources provide food and nesting for waterfowl and feeding and breeding habitat for fish species. Waterfowl frequent the County Parks and Wildlife Areas in Jefferson County during migration. Deer herds and wild turkey flocks are commonly seen, as are coyote, fox, raccoon, opossum, rodents, turkey vultures, and a large variety of songbirds.

In Jefferson County the Greater Lake Koshkonong Important Bird Area (IBA), designated by the Audubon Society, encompasses 80,000 acres including all of Lake Koshkonong and the Koshkonong State Wildlife Area, Red Cedar Lake State Natural Area, and Rose Lake State Natural Area. The IBA program is dedicated to identifying the most critical habitats for birds in Wisconsin using science-based criteria, and maintaining and improving those habitats through voluntary collaborative conservation and stewardship actions.



Bird watching at Dorothy Carnes County Park.

Lake Koshkonong continues to harbor large concentrations of waterfowl of over 20 species during both migratory periods. Recent surveys recorded over 20,000 ducks during spring migration, with especially large numbers of ruddy duck and other divers.

The wetlands support herons and bitterns, blue-winged teal, yellow-headed blackbird, and significant numbers black tern and marsh wren. Sightings of American white pelican have been increasing in recent years, particularly at Dorothy Carnes County Park. Bald eagles are seen more

frequently along the rivers and Lake Koshkonong. Floodplain forests support Acadian flycatcher, eastern wood-pewee, and prothonotary Warbler. Cerulean warblers have been recorded in this area in the past.⁶

Also in partially in Jefferson County, the South Kettle Moraine provides habitat for about 100,000 adult birds of 137 species (including 103 land bird species) during the breeding season.

RARE, THREATENED OR ENDANGERED SPECIES

The following tables list the rare, threatened, or endangered species included in the Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory and that are known to have occurred or do occur in Jefferson County. These species are often clustered around water bodies.⁷

⁶ Audubon Society. Important Bird Areas.

<http://iba.audubon.org/iba/viewSiteProfile.do?siteId=3656&navSite=state>

⁷ Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Natural Heritage Inventory. Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Plants and Animals and Native Natural Communities in Jefferson County.

Figure V-4 Rare, Threatened or Endangered Species in Jefferson County

State Status: THR - Threatened, END - Endangered, SC - Special Concern, SC/P - Fully protected, SC/N - No protection, SC/H - Take regulated by open/closed seasons, SC/FL - Federally protected as endangered or threatened, SC/M - Protected by Migratory Bird Act.

Federal Status (in Wisconsin): LE - Listed as Endangered,

LT - Listed as Threatened, C - Candidate for listing.

Group Name: A ~ indicates an aquatic/wetland element

Animals

Scientific Name	Common Name	State Status	Federal Status	Group
<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>	Lake Sturgeon	SC/H		Fish~
<i>Acris crepitans</i>	Northern Cricket Frog	END		Frog~
<i>Aflexia rubranura</i>	Red-tailed Prairie Leafhopper	END		Leafhopper
<i>Ammocrypta clara</i>	Western Sand Darter	SC/N		Fish~
<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	Upland Sandpiper	SC/M		Bird
Bird Rookery	Bird Rookery	SC		Other~
<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	Black Tern	SC/M		Bird~
<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	Trumpeter Swan	SC/M		Bird~
<i>Cymbiodyta toddi</i>	A Water Scavenger Beetle	SC/N		Beetle~
<i>Dendroica cerulea</i>	Cerulean Warbler	THR		Bird
<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	Acadian Flycatcher	THR		Bird
<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Blanding's Turtle	THR		Turtle~
<i>Enallagma basidens</i>	Double-striped Bluet	SC/N		Dragonfly~
<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>	Lake Chubsucker	SC/N		Fish~
<i>Etheostoma microperca</i>	Least Darter	SC/N		Fish~
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon	END		Bird
<i>Flexamia prairiana</i>	A Leafhopper	SC/N		Haliaeetus
<i>leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	SC/P		Bird~
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Least Bittern	SC/M		Bird~
<i>Lythrurus umbratilis</i>	Redfin Shiner	THR		Fish~
<i>Moxostoma carinatum</i>	River Redhorse	THR		Fish~
<i>Moxostoma valenciennesi</i>	Greater Redhorse	THR		Fish~
<i>Notropis anogenus</i>	Pugnose Shiner	THR		Fish~
<i>Notropis texanus</i>	Weed Shiner	SC/N		Fish~
<i>Noturus exilis</i>	Slender Madtom	END		Fish~
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Black-crowned Night-Heron	SC/M		Bird~
<i>Oporornis formosus</i>	Kentucky Warbler	THR		Bird
<i>Opsopoeodus emiliae</i>	Pugnose Minnow	SC/N		Fish~
<i>Papaipema beeriana</i>	Liatris Borer Moth	SC/N		Moth~
<i>Papaipema silphii</i>	Silphium Borer Moth	END		Moth~
<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	Prothonotary Warbler	SC/M		Bird~
<i>Regina septemvittata</i>	Queensnake	END		Snake~
<i>Thamnophis proximus</i>	Western Ribbonsnake	END		Snake~
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl	END		Bird
<i>Venustaconcha ellipsiformis</i>	Ellipse	THR		Mussel~
<i>Wilsonia citrina</i>	Hooded Warbler	THR		Bird

Figure V-4, Continued

Plants

Scientific Name	Common Name	State Status	Federal Status	Group
Agastache nepetoides	Yellow Giant Hyssop	THR		Plant
Agriemonia parviflora	Swamp Agrimony	SC		Plant~
Artemisia frigida	Prairie Sagebrush	SC		Plant
Asclepias purpurascens	Purple Milkweed	END		Plant
Asclepias sullivantii	Prairie Milkweed	THR		Plant
Besseyia bullii	Kitten Tails	THR		Plant
Cacalia tuberosa	Prairie Indian-Plantain	THR		Plant
Calylophus serrulatus	Yellow Evening Primrose	SC		Plant
Carex suberecta	Prairie Straw Sedge	SC		Plant~
Cypripedium candidum	Small White Lady's-slipper	THR		Plant~
Drosera linearis	Slenderleaf Sundew	THR		Plant~
Eleocharis compressa	Flat-stemmed Spike-rush	SC		Plant~
Eleocharis quinqueflora	Few-flowered Spike-rush	SC		Plant~
Epilobium strictum	Downy Willow-herb	SC		Plant~
Gentiana alba	Yellow Gentian	THR		Plant
Liatrix spicata	Marsh Blazing Star	SC		Plant~
Nuphar advena	Yellow Water Lily	SC		Plant~
Platanthera flava var. herbiola	Pale Green Orchid	THR		Plant
Platanthera leucophaea	Prairie White-fringed Orchid	END	LT	Plant~
Polygala incarnata	Pink Milkwort	END		Plant~
Tofieldia glutinosa	Sticky False-asphodel	THR		Plant~
Triphora trianthophora	Nodding Pogonia	SC		Plant
Zigadenus elegans var. glaucus	White Camas	SC		Plant

Communities

- Calcareous fen Community~
- Dry prairie Community
- Emergent marsh Community~
- Floodplain forest Community~
- Lake--hard bog Community~
- Lake--shallow, hard, drainage Community~
- Lake--shallow, hard, seepage Community~
- Northern wet forest Community~
- Oak opening Community
- Open bog Community~
- Shrub-carr Community~
- Southern dry forest Community
- Southern dry-mesic forest Community
- Southern mesic forest Community
- Southern sedge meadow Community~
- Springs and spring runs, hard Community~
- Stream--slow, hard, warm Community~
- Tamarack (rich) swamp Community~
- Wet prairie Community~
- Wet-mesic prairie Community~



Yellow Giant Hyssop, a species on the Threatened list, at the Dr. J.S. Garman Nature Preserve.

Figure V-5 Jefferson County Land Use and Cover

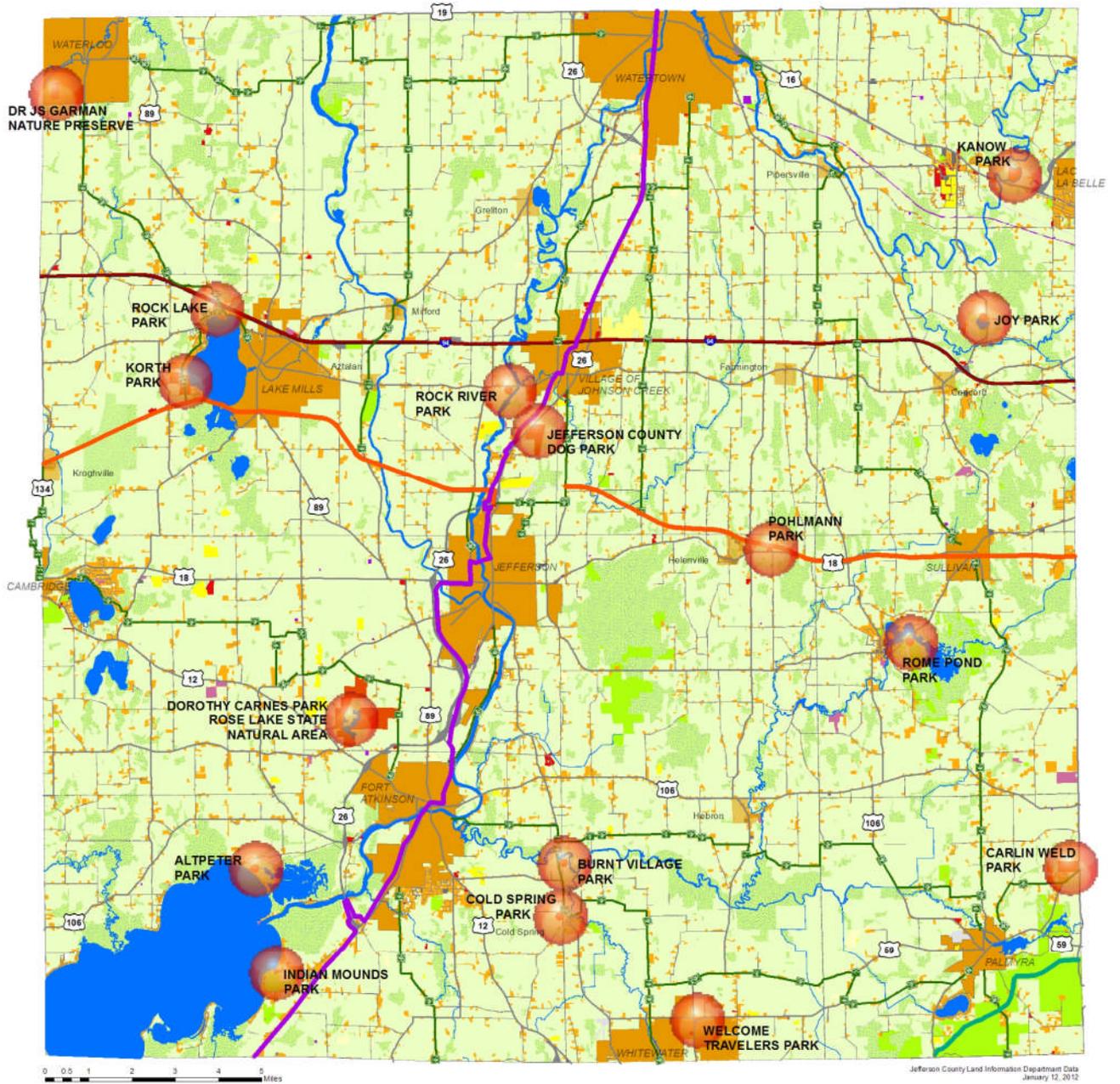
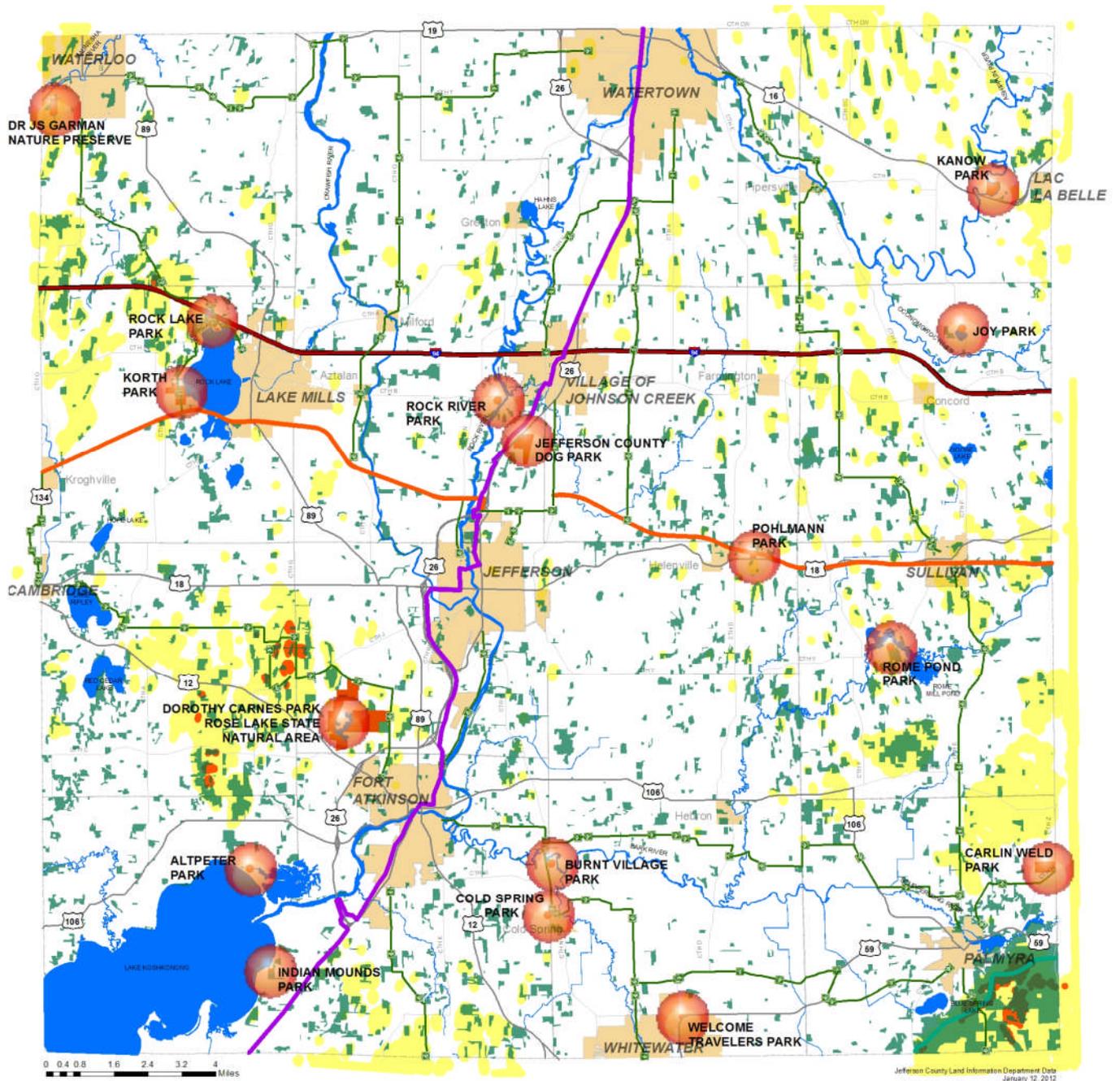


Figure V-6 Jefferson County High Elevation and Upland Woods



Legend

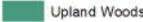
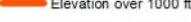
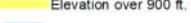
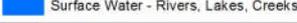
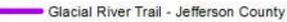
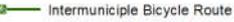
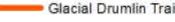
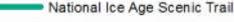
-  Jefferson County Parks
-  Upland Woods
-  Elevation over 1000 ft.
-  Elevation over 900 ft.
-  Surface Water - Rivers, Lakes, Creeks
-  Glacial River Trail - Jefferson County
-  Intermunicipal Bicycle Route
-  Glacial Drumlin Trail
-  National Ice Age Scenic Trail

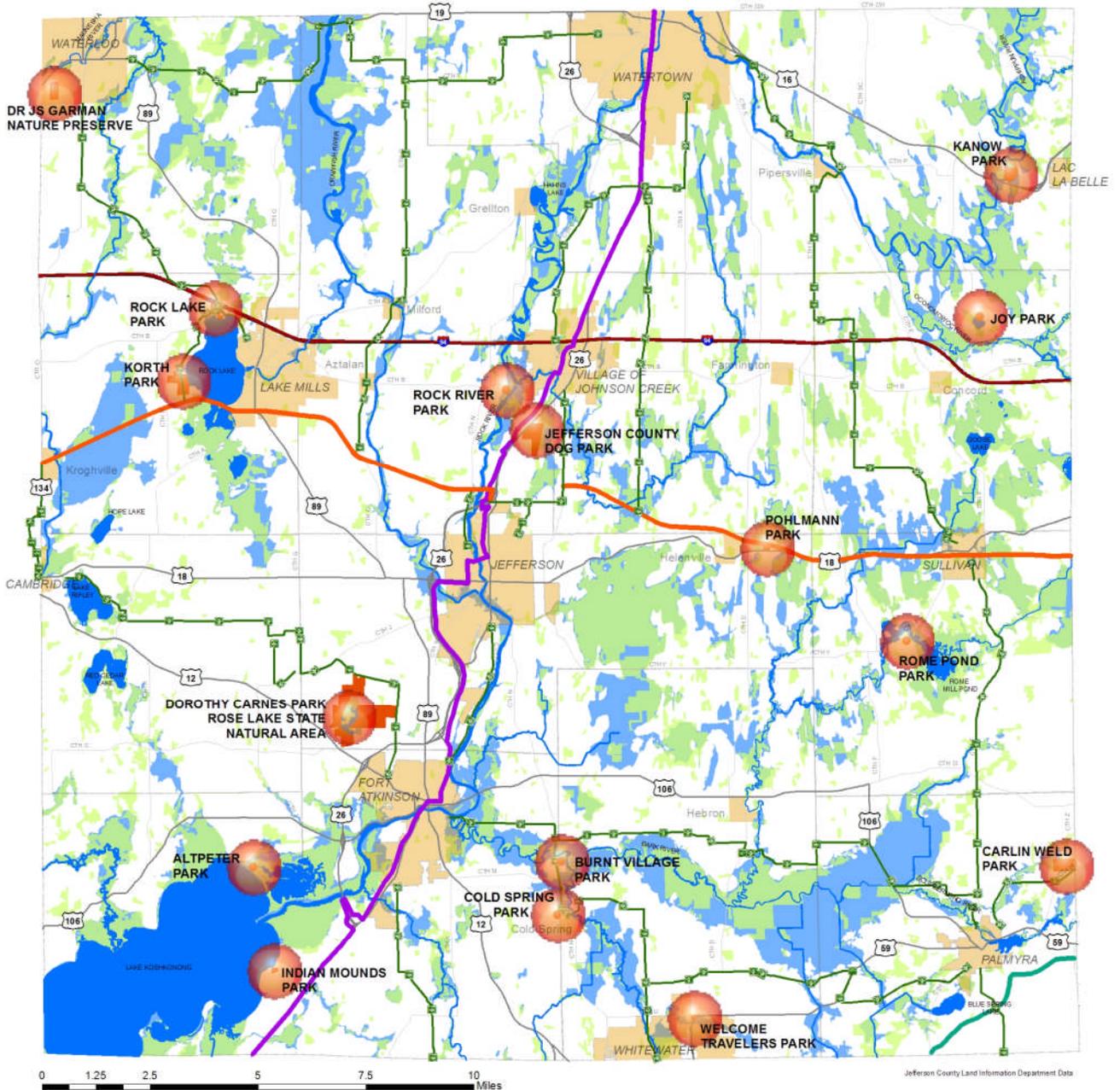








Figure V-7 Jefferson County Water, Wetland and 2009 Floodplain



Legend

-  Jefferson County Parks
-  Wetlands
-  Surface Water - Lakes, Rivers, Creeks
-  100 Year Flood Plain, 2009
-  Glacial River Trail
-  Inter-Municipal Bicycle Route
-  Glacial Drumlin State Trail
-  National Scenic Ice Age Trail



JEFFERSON COUNTY
PARKS



GLACIAL
HERITAGE AREA





LANDESIGN
by Margaret Doolingham, LLC

VI CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE 2013-2018				
Park	Proposed Improvement	Quantity	Unit Cost	Estimated Total Cost
Altpeter				
	Map/Info Kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
	Gravel Parking Lot	5 car	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Dog Park				
	Finish paving entrance drive		\$1.85/sq.ft.	\$40,000.00
	Park identification sign along STH 26	1	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
	Covered Benches	4	\$400.00	\$1,600.00
	Replace catch pen in lower Dog Park	1		\$10,000.00
Burnt Village				
	Restroom	1	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00
Carlin Weld				
	Pave roadway and parking		\$1.85/sq.ft.	\$50,000.00
	Frisbee golf course	18 holes		\$24,000.00
	Dredge pond			\$8,000.00
	Fishing pier	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
	Woodland management plan			\$20,000.00
Cold Spring Creamery				
	Replace restroom	1	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00
	Map/info kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
Dorothy Carnes				
	Parking at Mason Farm	20 cars		\$50,000.00
	Map/info kiosks	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
	Marsh overlooks	2	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00
	Rustic Camping Sites	2	\$12,000.00	\$24,000.00
	Restore and display log cabin	1		\$90,000.00
	Natural playground	1		\$50,000.00
	Improve Kemmeter wetlands & woodlands	3 acres	\$7,500.00	\$22,500.00
	Wildlife viewing blinds		\$750.00	\$3,000.00

Park	Proposed Improvement	Quantity	Unit Cost	Estimated Total Cost
Garman Nature Preserve				
	Entrance sign at Fox Lane	1	\$150.00	\$150.00
	Install small shelter	1	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00
	Install new well	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Indian Mounds				
	Map/Info Kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
Joy				
	Map/info kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
	Small shelter with outlets	1	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
	Well and pump	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Kanow				
	Map/info kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
Korth				
	Playground at large shelter	1	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
	Well for community gardens	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
	Trees in groves along rails	40	\$250.00	\$10,000.00
	Sign at Glacial Drumlin State Trail	1	\$500.00	\$500.00
	Build four season shelter	1	\$2,500,000.00	\$2,500,000.00
Pohlmann				
	Replace shelter	1	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
	Map/info kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
	Restructure and pave parking	3,300 sq.ft.	\$1.85/sq.ft.	\$6,500.00
	New park sign	1	\$150.00	\$150.00
	Signage pointing to Glacial Drumlin State Trail	1	\$150.00	\$150.00
	Plant prairie to minimize mowing	1 acre	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

Park	Proposed Improvement	Quantity	Unit Cost	Estimated Total Cost
Rock Lake Park				
	Park sign on CTH B	1	\$150.00	\$150.00
	Park sign for Upper Rock Lake Park	2	\$150.00	\$300.00
	Map/info kiosk	2	\$250.00	\$250.00
	Disc golf putting green	1	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Rock River Park				
	New boat launch	1		\$30,000.00
	Pave parking lot	14,500 sq. ft.	\$1.85/sq.ft.	\$53,245.00
	Map/info kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
Rome Pond				
	Map/info kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
Welcome Travelers				
	Map/info kiosk	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
GHA Watertrails				
	Improve Put-In-Take-Out Points	Unknown		
	Install rustic paddle-in camping sites (may require land acquisition)	2	\$14,000.00	\$28,000.00
Glacial River Trail				
	Signs for entire trail	100	\$25.00	\$2,500.00
	Benches for entire trail	50	\$150.00	\$7,500.00
Waterloo to Watertown Bicycle Trail				
	Implement Master Plan			
Waterloo to Lake Mills Bicycle Trail				
	Master Plan	1		\$25,000.00
Watertown to Oconomowoc Bicycle Trail				
	Easement needed			

Park	Proposed Improvement	Quantity	Unit Cost	Estimated Total Cost
Holzheuter Farm State Park				
	Finish Master Plan	1		WDNR
Flood Mitigation Properties				
	Management/Use Plan for properties	1		\$30,000.00
	Install Handicapped Fishing Warf	1		

APPENDIX I GRANTS AND FUNDING SOURCES

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This list of potential grants has been gathered from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources website and the publication *Funding for Wisconsin Trails* PUB-PR-64 by the WDNR.

WDNR South Central Region Grant Contacts:

Local Government Contact

Renee Sanford
3911 Fish Hatchery Rd.
Fitchburg, WI 53711
Phone 608-275-3213
Fax 608-275-3338
Renee.Sanford@Wisconsin.gov

NCO Contact

Stefanie Brouwer
3911 Fish Hatchery Rd.
Fitchburg, WI 53711
Phone 608-275-3218
Fax 608-275-3338
Stefanie.Brouwer@Wisconsin.gov

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES KNOWLES-NELSON STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM GRANTS (AS OF MARCH 1, 2013)

Local Units of Government Application Process

Contact: Mary Rothenmaier

3911 Fish Hatchery Road
Fitchburg WI 53711 Phone 608-275-3322 Fax: 608-275-3322

Local units of government (LUGs) are eligible applicants for four Stewardship grant programs and two related federal programs. The annual application deadline is **May 1** for the grant programs listed below. Nonprofit

conservation organizations (NCOs) are eligible to apply to the Stewardship Local Assistance Grant Program for land acquisition projects.

"Nature based outdoor recreation" means hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking, cross country skiing and other activities where the primary focus or purpose is the appreciation or enjoyment of nature. These other activities may include, but are not limited to, hiking, bicycling, wildlife or nature observation, camping, nature study, fishing, hunting, picnicking, cross-country skiing, canoeing and multi-use trail activities.

Support facilities for these activities may include, but are not limited to, access roads, parking areas, camping facilities, support facilities for swimming in a natural water body, habitat restoration, utility and sanitation systems, sanitary and shelter buildings, signs, interpretive items, fencing and lighting for the protection of users and other features that enhance nature-based outdoor recreation and/or improve disabled accessibility.

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship local assistance grant programs

- Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)
- Urban Green Space (UGS) grants
- Urban Rivers (UR) grants
- Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR)

Federal recreation grant programs

- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Recreational Trails Act (RTA)

Eligible Projects

Stewardship grant programs require that all land acquisition and development projects must provide public access for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes. Department of Natural Resources decisions as to whether a particular project activity is nature-based outdoor recreation are made on a case-by-case basis.

Examples of eligible projects include:

1. Land purchases:

- for public outdoor park and recreation area purposes
- to preserve scenic or natural areas, including areas of physical or biological importance and wildlife areas (These areas shall be open to the general public for outdoor recreation use to the extent that the natural attributes of the areas will not be seriously impaired or lost.)
- within urban areas for such uses as open natural space, bicycling trails, walking and horseback riding trails, and day-use picnic areas
- that preserve or restore urban rivers or riverfronts for the purposes of economic revitalization and nature based outdoor recreation activities

Development and renovation projects for the purpose of nature-based outdoor recreation (i.e., trails, camping areas, picnic areas, playground areas, water recreation areas and educational facilities where there is a permanent professional naturalist staff and the facilities are for nature interpretation, etc).

2. Trails – the federal Recreational Trails Act Program:

- maintenance and restoration of existing trails
- development and rehabilitation of trail side and trailhead facilities and trail linkages
- construction of new trails (with certain restrictions on federal lands)
- acquisition of property for trails

3. Development and renovation of support facilities for the above (e.g., access roads, parking areas, restroom facilities, utility and sanitation systems, permanent landscaping, park signs, fences and lighting for the protection of park users, etc.)

4. In the Urban Rivers Program: development or habitat restoration projects that serve public recreation or resource conservation purposes, including river riparian buffer rehabilitation - establishment of native vegetation and

control of exotic species, shoreland enhancements following dam removal, and shoreline stabilization as part of an overall urban rivers recreation project.

5. In the Urban Greenspace Program: purchase of land for noncommercial gardening in urban areas.
6. A note about development projects on leased or eased land: The DNR may award grants for development projects on property not owned by the sponsor provided the sponsor can satisfy specific requirements that vary by grant program but that are necessary for carrying out post-project compliance obligations. For example:
 - For the Stewardship program the sponsor must have a lease/land use agreement of 25 years or more and with sufficient time remaining to justify the grant investment or a permanent easement from the landowner and through the provisions have oversight and control of the property.
 - For the federal Land and Water Conservation Program, the sponsor must have a permanent easement or if the landowner is a governmental entity the landowner must be willing to apply for the grant with the project sponsor.
 - Land use agreement and easement provisions associated with development projects must be approved by the DNR before executing the agreement or easement and before a grant award may be made. To ensure that your project is eligible for a grant, contact your DNR region CSS to discuss your project and the requirements prior to executing any agreement.
7. A note about brownfield site properties. You may be able to obtain financial assistance for acquisition or development of contaminated property for recreation purposes. However, because of the complex nature of contaminated property in relation to the grant program requirements, discuss your project early on with the DNR regional CSS to determine the feasibility of grant assistance for the project. These grant programs do not reimburse cleanup costs.

LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT STEWARDSHIP GRANTS

Acquisition & Development of Local Parks (Stewardship)

Eligibility & Purpose: Helps to buy land or easements and develop or renovate local park and recreation area facilities for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes (e.g., trails, fishing access, and park support facilities). Applicants compete for funds on a regional basis. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Acquisition of Development Rights (Stewardship)

Eligibility & Purpose: Helps to buy development rights (easements) for the protection of natural, agricultural or forestry values that would enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

County Forest Acquisition (Stewardship)

Eligibility & Purpose: This program is meant to expand nature-based recreational opportunities by adding to lands in the county forest system. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Friends of State Lands (Stewardship)

Eligibility & Purpose: Grants from this program help improve facilities, build new recreation projects and restore habitat on state properties. This grant program is part of Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. Eligible friends groups must be nonstock, nonprofit corporations described under Section 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code and exempt from taxation under section 501(a). In addition, the group must have formed to raise funds for a state property and also have a written friend's agreement with the DNR.

Deadline - November 15th

Habitat Area (Stewardship)

Eligibility & Purpose: Protects and restores important wildlife habitat in Wisconsin in order to expand opportunities for wildlife-based recreation such as hunting, trapping, hiking, bird watching, fishing, nature appreciation and wildlife viewing. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Eligibility & Purpose: This is a Federal program administered in all states that encourages creation and interpretation of high-quality outdoor recreational opportunities. Funds received by the DNR for this program are split between DNR projects and grants to local governments for outdoor recreation activities. Grants cover 50 percent of eligible project costs.

Maximum grant amount: Varies

Match requirement: 50 percent

Contact: [Lavane Hessler](#), 608-267-0497 or 715-839-3709

Natural Areas (Stewardship)

Eligibility & purpose: Stewardship Natural Area grants compliment the State Natural Areas (SNA) Program, which are dedicated to the preservation of Wisconsin's native landscapes. Lands purchased with Natural Area funds must be within an existing SNA boundary or meet the criteria for inclusion in the SNA program. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Recreational Trail Aids (RTA)

Eligibility & Purpose: Municipal governments and incorporated organizations are eligible to receive reimbursement for development and maintenance of recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses. Eligible sponsors may be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the total project costs. This program may be used in conjunction with the state snowmobile or ATV programs and Stewardship development projects.

Deadline: May 1 each year.

Maximum grant amount: \$45,000 (\$200,000 every third calendar year)

Match requirement: 50 percent

Contact: Dana White-Quam, 608-275-3302

State Trails (Stewardship)

Eligibility & purpose: Applications for grants under this subprogram must be for properties identified as part of the State Trail system. It is possible for sponsors to nominate additional trails for state trail designation.

Streambank Protection (Stewardship)

Eligibility & Purpose: The Streambank Protection Program protects water quality and fish habitat in Wisconsin by establishing buffers along high-priority waterways. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Urban Green Space (Stewardship)

Eligibility & Purpose: These grants help buy land or easements in urban areas to preserve the scenic and ecological values of natural open spaces for nature-based outdoor recreation, including non-commercial gardening. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Urban Rivers (Stewardship)

Eligibility & Purpose: These grants help buy land on rivers flowing through urban or urbanizing areas to preserve or restore the scenic and environmental values of riverways for nature-based outdoor recreation. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

WDNR GRANTS (NON-STEWARDSHIP)

Stamp Funds - Wild Turkey, Pheasant and Waterfowl

Eligibility & purpose: To provide funding to support the development, maintenance, preservation, restoration, and maintenance of each species and its associated habitat in Wisconsin. All non-profit conservation organizations and units of government are eligible to apply.

Maximum grant amount: turkey - \$1.5 million; pheasant - \$600,000; waterfowl - \$1.1 million

Match requirement: None required, but strongly recommended.

Contact: Krista McGinley, 608-261-8458

State Wildlife Grants

Eligibility & purpose: To provide funding for conservation actions that benefit Species of Greatest Conservation Need. State agencies, local units of government, Native American Tribes, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, industry groups and private individuals are eligible to apply.

Maximum grant amount: \$30,000

Match requirement: Not required, but strongly encouraged.

Contact: Tara Bergeson, 608-264-6043

Deadline: Every two years, depending on availability of funds. Next request for proposals will be fall of 2013.

Urban Wildlife Damage Abatement and Control (UWDAC) Grants

Eligibility & purpose: To help urban areas develop wildlife plans, implement specific damage abatement and/or control measures for white-tailed deer and/or Canada geese. They are available to any town, city, village, county or tribal government in an urban area.

Maximum grant amount: \$5,000 per grant; \$25,000 available annually for all grants

Match requirement: 50 percent

Contact: Brad Koele, 608-266-2151, or Kari Beetham, 608-264-9207

Deadline: October 1 through December 1 each year

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program

Eligibility & purpose: To provide damage abatement assistance and partial compensation to commercial agricultural producers for damages from white-tailed deer, black bear, turkey, Canada geese and/or elk. This is a state program that is administered through participating counties. Currently all counties participate in the program with the exception of Kenosha and Menominee.

Maximum grant amount: \$10,000

Match requirement: None

Contact: Brad Koele, 608-266-2151

Sport Fish Restoration (SFR)

Eligibility & Purpose: Used to construct fishing piers and motorboat access projects.

Match requirement: Usually 50%

Contact: Your DNR regional community service specialist

Deadline: Application materials may be submitted at anytime.

County Conservation Aids

County conservation grants provide financial assistance to enhance county fish and wildlife programs.

This **Fish and Wildlife Management Grant Program** was created to assist counties in the improvement of the fish and wildlife resources. The fund was established by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1965 as an alternative to bounty payments on coyote, foxes and bobcats. Every year since the bounty program was cancelled, a state allocation equal to the average annual bounty payment has been earmarked as matching money for a growing list of county sponsored fish and wildlife habitat projects. After the state budget is approved, funds are allocated to each county in proportion to the ratio of the size of each county to the total area of the state..

Contact: Sandy Chancellor, phone: (608) 275-7760, email: Sandra.Chancellor@Wisconsin.gov

Conservation Capacity: Assistance for Private Conservation Activities

Eligibility & purpose: This two-year grant is awarded to an organization that utilizes private contributions to protect and enhance the state's natural resources with a special focus on conservation of endangered resources.

Eligible applicants must be 501(c)(3) organizations.

Maximum grant amount: \$84,100 per year

Match requirement: 25 percent

Contact: Pamela Foster Felt, 608-266-0868

Deadline: Application materials for the next grant cycle will be available in January 2013.

County Forest Administration

Eligibility & Purpose: Any county employing a professional forester in the capacity of county forest administrator or assistant county forest administrator can receive up to 50 percent of its employee's annual salary and fringe benefit costs. In addition, funding is available for up to 50 percent of the dues to a non-profit organization that provides counsel to the county forest administrator and that serves as an organizational liaison for DNR.

Maximum Award: No grant maximum. The dues portion is capped at \$50,000 statewide.

Match: None

Contact: Jeffrey Barkley, 608-264-9217

Deadline: Applications must be submitted by January 31 of each year.

County Forest Sustainable Grant

Eligibility & Purpose: Counties with lands enrolled in the County Forest Law are eligible to apply for grants to be used for special, short term or unanticipated projects that promote sustainable forestry. Projects cannot include land acquisition, surveying, paying of permanent staff or upgrades to existing computer software or hardware.

Award amounts: Minimum - \$1,000; Maximum - 25 percent of available funding (\$61,500 based on FY12 funding).

Match: None

Contact: Jeff Barkley, 608-264-9217

Deadline: Applications are accepted on August 15 and December 1

County Forest Wildlife Habitat Grant

Eligibility & Purpose: Funds are available to finance county forest wildlife habitat management with emphasis on forest wildlife habitat improvement, inventories and wildlife education. Funding is available at \$.05/acre for

counties that have lands in the county forest program.
Maximum grant: \$.05/acre of land entered into the County Forest program.
Match required: None
Contact: Jeff Barkley (608-264-9217) or Jane Riley (608-2661-0774)

Gypsy Moth Suppression Program

Eligibility & Purpose: To reduce outbreaks of the gypsy moth species populations below the level at which they can cause heavy defoliation. Counties are eligible to apply for grants to fund their participation in the program, provided they have designated a local coordinator. Tribal, federal and state lands apply through their county's program. The suppression program consists of an aerial insecticide treatment. Landowners within the proposed block that object to treatment may have their property excluded from the spray block.

Maximum grant amount: Expenses directly relevant to the suppression program, aerial spray and administrative costs will be cost-shared based on the amount of funding received from the US Forest Service.

Match requirement: Privately owned lands under 500 acres per owner may be cost-shared up to 50 percent. Privately owned lands of over 500 acres per owner may be cost-shared up to 33 percent. Publicly owned lands may be cost shared up to 25 percent.

Contact: Cathy Burrow, 608-267-0494

Deadline/funding cycle: Applications are due December 1. Expense worksheets due January 7 and July 15. Log sheets, payments for total cost of aerial spray and telephone contacts are due April 1.

Urban Forestry Grant & Urban Forestry Catastrophic Grants

Eligibility & Purpose: To fund projects that improve a community's capacity to manage its trees and projects that help conserve, protect, expand or improve the urban forest resource. The grants are intended to support new projects, not to subsidize current, ongoing operations or replace existing funds. Catastrophic grants are available following a catastrophic storm event for which the governor has declared a state of emergency.

Maximum grant amount: \$5,000 for start up grants; \$25,000 for regular grants.

Match requirement: 50 percent

Contact: See Urban Forestry Grant page

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control Grants

Eligibility & Purpose: Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grants help prevent and control the spread of aquatic invasive species in the waters of the state.

Maximum grant amount: Education, Prevention and Planning projects = \$150,000; Established Population Control projects = \$200,000; Early Detection and Response projects = \$20,000; Research and Development = annual funding limit of \$500,000; Maintenance and Containment = permit fee reimbursement

Match Requirement: 25 percent

Contact: DNR Regional Lake Coordinator or Kathleen Hanson, 608-266-9426

Deadline: February 1 (spring grant cycle) and August 1 (fall grant cycle) for all projects except Early Detection and Response and Research and Demonstration projects, which are accepted year-round.

Lake Classification and Lake Protection Grants

Eligibility & Purpose: To help develop and implement local land and water management programs that are targeted to specific classes of lakes in response to various development and recreational use pressures. Lake Protection Grants improve or protect the quality of water in lakes or the quality of natural ecosystems, implement protection activities for the lakes based on their classification and implement the recommendations of a lake management plan.

Maximum grant amount: Classification = \$50,000; Protection = \$200,000

Match Requirement: 25 percent

Contact: DNR Regional Lake Coordinator or Kathleen Hanson, 608-266-9426

Deadline: May 1

Lake Management Planning - Large and Small Scale Lakes

Eligibility & Purpose: Funding for qualifying local governments and tribes to collect and analyze information needed to protect and restore lakes and their watersheds.

Maximum grant amount: Small scale projects = \$3,000; Large scale projects = \$25,000

Match Requirement: 33 percent

Contact: DNR Regional Lake Coordinator or Kathleen Hanson, 608-266-9426

Deadline: February 1 (spring grant cycle) and August 1 (fall grant cycle)

River Protection Planning & River Protection Management Grants

Eligibility & Purpose: River Protection Planning grants assist in the formation of a qualified river management organization or in strengthening an existing organization; protection or improvement of rivers and their ecosystems; river improvement education projects; assessments and plan development. River Protection Management grants are available for purchasing land or conservation easements, local ordinance development, installation of nonpoint source pollution control practices and river restoration activities. They may also be used for education, planning and design activities necessary for completion of a management project.

Maximum grant amount: Planning = \$10,000; Management = \$50,000

Match requirement: 25 percent

Contact: DNR Regional River Coordinator or Kathleen Hanson, 608-266-9426

Deadlines: May 1

Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program

Eligibility & Purpose: Tier 1 is designed for smaller projects that add transient boating infrastructure to the area.

Tier 2 grants are awarded to larger projects, and are competitively judged at the national level.

Grant range: Tier 1 - up to \$100,000 per state; Tier 2 - varies depending on national competition and other factors.

Awarded projects are fully funded as long as funds are available.

Match requirement: 25 percent

Contact: Kari Beetham, 608-264-9207

Deadlines: June 1 through September 21

Recreational Boating Facilities

Eligibility & Purpose: These grants may be used by counties, towns, cities, villages, tribes, sanitary districts, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts and qualified lake associations for recreational boating facility projects.

Match requirement: 50 percent or greater.

Contact: Diane Conklin, 715-822-8583

Deadline: Applications accepted year-round.

Boat Enforcement Patrol

Eligibility & Purpose: Issued to Wisconsin counties and municipalities that participate in boating enforcement efforts.

Grant range: \$1.2 million - \$1.4 million, shared with all participating patrols up to 75 percent reimbursement.

Match requirement: None

Contact: Roy Zellmer, 608-264-8970

Deadline: Various

ATV Trails

Eligibility & Purpose: Counties, towns, cities, villages and tribes can apply for funds to acquire, insure, develop and maintain ATV trails, areas and routes.

Maximum grant amount: None

Match requirement: None

Contact: Diane Conklin, 715-822-8583

Deadline: Applications are due April 15

ATV Enhancement

Eligibility & Purpose: Annual grant to a non-profit organization that promotes the safe and wise use of ATVs, ATYV riding and ATV education.

Maximum grant amount: \$297,000

Match requirement: None

Contact: Gary Eddy, 608-267-7455

Deadline/funding cycle: Annually beginning July 1 of each year

UTV Trail Aids

Eligibility & Purpose: This is a companion program to ATV Trail Aids. Counties, towns, cities, villages and tribes can apply for funds for maintenance of trails, minor development, gates and signing.

Contact: Diane Conklin, 715-822-8583 or Your regional Community Service Specialist [PDF]

Deadline: April 15

Snowmobile Trail Aids

Eligibility & Purpose: Counties and tribes can apply for funding to provide a statewide system of well-signed and well-groomed snowmobile trails for public use and enjoyment.

Contact: Diane Conklin, 715-822-8583

Deadline: April 15

Snowmobile Patrols

Eligibility & Purpose: Wisconsin county sheriff departments that participate in snowmobile enforcement efforts.

Maximum grant amount: \$396,000, shared with all participating patrols.

Match requirement: None

Contact: Gary Eddy, 608-267-7455

Deadline: April 1 through September 1 of each year

Shooting Range Grant Program

Eligibility & purpose: Counties, cities, villages, townships, other governmental agencies or units, clubs or organizations, businesses or corporations and educational institutions can apply for assistance in outdoor shooting range construction, including: backstops and berms, target holders, shooting benches, baffles, protective fencing, signs, trenches, gun racks, platforms, restrooms and other items considered essential for the project by the department. Indoor ranges may be eligible as well, including classroom, storage and restroom facilities.

Match requirement: 50 percent

Contact: Keith Warnke, 608-576-5243

STEWARDSHIP NONPROFIT CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION APPLICATION PROCESS

Nonprofit conservation organizations (NCOs) may apply for funding from eight Stewardship grant subprograms to help fund the acquisition of land and conservation easements.

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship NCO grant programs

The next application deadlines for these grant subprograms are **Friday, February 1, 2013 and Thursday, August 1, 2013.**

- Natural areas
- Habitat areas
- Streambank protection
- State trails

Those are "no later than" deadlines after which department staff will evaluate all complete applications received by each date. Applicants are encouraged to submit complete applications anytime during the year; it is helpful to grant staff to spread out application evaluation.

Stewardship Local Assistance Grants

Mary Zickerman

3911 Fish Hatchery Road
Fitchburg WI 53711
608-275-3218
Fax: 608-275-3218

NCOs may apply to for local assistance grants to fund land acquisition (NCOs are not eligible applicants for recreational development projects). Local assistance grants have an annual deadline of May 1st. Application material for those grants can be found with local government application information.

- Aids for the acquisition and development of local parks (ADLP)
- Urban rivers grants (UR)
- Urban green space grants (UGS)
- Applications for acquisition of development rights (ADR)

Stewardship grant application, review and approval is a long process. Applicants should expect 8-12 months between submitting an application and receiving funds. Eligible applicants, referred to as project sponsors, work with DNR regional community services specialists (CSS) to plan projects, follow program requirements and complete grant applications. Before completing application forms, please read the following description of the life-cycle of a Stewardship grant application.

FEDERAL GRANTS

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants (NAWCA)

NAWCA provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife. There is a Standard and a Small Grants Program. Both are competitive grants programs and require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. Funds from U.S. Federal sources may contribute towards a project, but are not eligible as match.

The Standard Grants Program supports projects that involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats. The Small Grants Program supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the U.S. Standard Grants Program. However,

project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars. Grant requests may not exceed \$75,000, and funding priority is given to grantees or partners new to the Act's Grants Program.

Contact: Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, (703) 358-1784, dbhc@fws.gov.

Website: <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm>

Deadline: U.S. Standard Grants Deadlines: March 1, 2013 and July 26, 2013. U.S. Small Grants Deadlines: October 31, 2013. See website above in subsequent years.

Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program – National Parks Service

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

Contact: Angie Tornes, 414-297-3605, angie_tornes@nps.gov

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANTS

WDOT Regional Office Contact:

Marilyn Daniels

2101 Wright St.

Madison, WI 53704

608-246-3864

marilyn.daniels@dot.state.wi.us

Programs for Local Government Website:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federal-aidessentials/catmod.cfm?category=overview>

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program (BFPF)

BFPF funds projects that construct or plan for bicycle or bicycle/pedestrian facilities. Per state statute, BFPF cannot fund exclusively pedestrian projects or streetscaping projects even if they include some bicycle and pedestrian elements. Because the TE program also extensively funds bicycle and pedestrian facilities, the two programs share the same application, review and selection process.

Match Requirements: Federal funds will provide up to 80% of project costs, while the sponsor must provide at least the other 20%.

Contact Information: statewide contact is Renee Callaway, 608-266-3973, renee.callaway@dot.wi.gov

Contacts by Region: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/docs/te-contacts.pdf>

Website: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/aid/bike-ped-facilities.htm>

Deadline: Application cycle every two years, next cycle expected in 2013 – check websites above.

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

Funding is provided for safety projects designed to reduce the number and severity of crashes on all state and local highway systems (including interstate). Typical eligible projects include an intersection safety improvement (including installing/modifying traffic signals, roundabouts and channelization/turning radii improvements), straightening isolated curves or hills, improving sight distance, access modifications, constructing turning, bypass or other auxiliary lanes, an improvement for pedestrian or bicyclist safety or safety of the disabled where there are crashes, constructing a traffic calming feature, eliminating a roadside obstacle, installing countdown pedestrian signals, installing a priority control system for emergency vehicles at signalized intersections, installing guardrails, barriers and crash, and installing signs, delineators, flashing warning lights (including fluorescent, yellow-green

signs) at pedestrian-bicycle crossings, in school zones and other problem areas. The emphasis of the HSIP Program will be on stand-alone projects, but elements of larger projects will still be considered as long as they meet the same criteria and compete successfully with other stand-alone HSIP projects. For an operational item (e.g., signals, ITS, signs, pavement marking) to be funded as a HSIP project with state match dollars in the SHR improvement program, it has to be incidental to a larger construction project.

Eligible Project Costs: Preliminary engineering (design) including state review; real estate; and construction and installation, including construction engineering and contingencies.

Match Requirements: 10% local match

Website: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/highways/hsip.htm>

Deadline: 2014-2017 application available 02/06/2013.

Safe Routes to School

Funding is provided for planning, infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects within two miles of an elementary or middle school that support creating safer, easier and more enjoyable walking and biking routes to school to encourage students to choose walking and biking as their main mode of transportation.

Eligible Project Costs: Planning, infrastructure and non-infrastructure related costs that support the program's 5 E's (engineering, encouragement, education, enforcement, and evaluation).

Match Requirements: None

Contact Information: Tressie Kamp, tressie.kamp@dot.wi.gov, Phone: (608) 266-3973

Website: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/aid/saferoutes-applications.htm>

Deadline 2013-2014 application period now closed. Check website above for updates.

Safe Routes to School Mini-Grants

The National Center for Safe Routes to School funds a local \$1,000 mini-grant program that supports the goal of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs, which is to enable and encourage children to safely walk and bicycle to school. SRTS programs are implemented nationwide by parents, schools, community leaders, and local, state, and tribal governments. Mini-grants may fund activities ranging from the nuts and bolts that help start or sustain a program to new ideas that explore the range of benefits of safe walking and bicycling. The National Center invites student and adult leaders to consider their school's needs and interests and to propose solutions that are also part of a broader safe walking/bicycling to school effort.

Eligible Project Costs: Examples of items that may be funded include promotional materials, educational materials, safety items (e.g., reflective vests and bands, bicycle helmets/bicycle lights), bicycle racks, bicycles that benefit groups of students, bicycle rentals, digital camera rental, video camera rental, helmet camera rental, and professional services (e.g., safety trainers).

Agency: National Center for Safe Routes to School

Contact Information: info@saferoutesinfo.org

Website: <http://minigrants.saferoutesinfo.org/>

Deadline: Possible application period in fall 2013

Surface Transportation Program-Urban

Urban areas with a population over 5,000 are eligible for funding under this program for resurfacing, reconditioning and reconstruction of urban arterial streets and highways. Funds can also be used for transit, ridesharing and bicycle/pedestrian projects. Eligible Project Costs: Engineering, bridge work, and drainage systems needed to carry street/highway runoff, construction to state standards (including bicycle lanes and sidewalks built as part of the project), minor landscaping, installation of standard street lighting and installation of traffic signals where warrants are met.

Contact Information: Robert Schmidt, robert1.schmidt@dot.wi.gov, phone: (262) 548-8789

Website: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/highways/stp-urban.htm>

Deadline: WisDOT began accepting applications in January 2013 for the 2013-2018 program cycle.

Transportation Enhancements (Statewide Multimodal Improvement Program--SMIP)

Funding is provided for projects that increase multi-modal transportation alternatives and enhance communities and the environment. Eligible Project Costs: Pedestrian and bicycle facilities; safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists; acquisition of scenic easements or historical sites; scenic or historic highway programs; tourist and welcome centers; landscaping and other scenic beautification; historic preservation; rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation facilities; preservation of abandoned railway corridors; control and removal of outdoor advertising; archaeological planning and research; mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff or reduction of vehicle-caused wildlife mortality; and establishment of transportation museums.

Match Requirements: Up to 80% federal funding is provided; sponsor must provide at least a 20% match.

Agency: Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation

Contact Information: Tressie Kamp, tressie.kamp@dot.wi.gov, Phone: (608) 266-3973

Website: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/aid/te.htm>

Deadline: No program cycle listed at this time, check website above.

Wisconsin Transportation Facilities Economic Assistance and Development (TEA)

State grants are provided to governing bodies, private businesses and consortiums for road, rail, harbor and airport projects that help attract employers to Wisconsin, or encourage business and industry to remain and expand in the state. The businesses cannot be speculative and local communities must assure that the number of jobs anticipated from the proposed project will materialize within three years from the date of the project agreement and remain after another four years. Eligible Project Costs: Engineering, construction, reconstruction, prorated storm sewer, utility relocation, real estate underlying the right-of-way, business and residential relocation, sidewalk, landscaping, lighting, and environmental testing and remediation and stormwater control as it relates to the right-of-way of the project.

Match Requirements: 50% local match

Agency: Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation

Contact Information: Dennis Leong, 608-266-9910, Dennis.Leong@dot.wi.gov

Website: <http://www.dot.state.wi.us/localgov/aid/tea.htm>

Deadline: Ongoing – application available 2/2013.

Highway Safety Improvement Program

Bicycle and pedestrian projects are eligible for this program. The program focuses on projects intended for locations that have a documented history of previous crashes. Contact Wisconsin DOT Region coordinators for more details, or Chuck Thiede, Statewide Coordinator, (608) 266-3341.

Incidental Improvements

Bicycle and pedestrian projects are eligible for funding from most major federal-aid programs. One very cost-effective way of facilitating bicycle and pedestrian accommodations is to incorporate them as part of larger reconstruction, new construction, or repaving project. The same source of funding can usually be used for the bicycle and pedestrian accommodation as for larger highway improvements. The bicycle and pedestrian accommodation must be incidental in scope and cost to the overall project. Most bicycle and pedestrian accommodations in Wisconsin are made as incidental improvements.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION GRANTS

Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin - C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant Program

[http://www.wisconservation.org/index.php?page=About the Program](http://www.wisconservation.org/index.php?page=About%20the%20Program)

The C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant Program promotes the responsible stewardship of Wisconsin's natural resources at the local level by providing matching grants for small-scale, natural resource projects and programs. The grant program is named after C.D. "Buzz" Besadny, former head of the Department of Natural Resources and Natural Resources Foundation co-founder, in honor of his dedication to the conservation of Wisconsin's natural resources. For more information, contact the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, (866) 264-4096, info@wisconservation.org.

Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin - Norma and Stanley DeBoer Quiet Trails Fund

<http://www.wisconservation.org/>

The Norma and Stanley DeBoer Quiet Trails Fund was created by Carla and Neal Butenhoff of Elm Grove, Wisconsin as a donor-advised fund in support of quiet (non-motorized) trails on public lands. For more information, contact the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, (866) 264-4096, info@wisconservation.org.

Bikes Belong

Funding of up to \$10,000 is available to organizations and municipalities for facility projects. Municipalities are encouraged to align with their local bicycle coalitions, associations, and clubs whenever possible. Bicycle advocacy groups may apply for advocacy projects. All projects should encourage ridership growth, promote bicycling, build political support, leverage funding, and support bicycle advocacy. Eligible construction cost projects include bike paths, trails, routes, lanes, parking, and transit; mountain bike facilities; BMX facilities; and innovative and unique high-profile projects. Grants are not awarded for feasibility studies, environmental assessments, or planning documents of any kind. Match Requirements: Bikes Belong cannot be the sole provider of funds, does not pay 100% of the project. No specific match percentage designated.

Contact Information: Zoe Kircos, 303-449-4893 x5, zoe@bikesbelong.org

Website: <http://www.bikesbelong.org>

American Greenways Kodak Awards Program

<http://www.conservationfund.org/node/245>

Eastman Kodak, the Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society provide small grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America. This program provides grants of \$500 to \$2500 to local greenways projects. Grants can be used for almost any activity that serves as a catalyst for local greenway planning, design or development. Contact the American Greenways Program at the Conservation Fund, (703) 525-6300; kodakawards@conservationfund.org.

American Hiking Society – National Trails

Deadline: May 24, 2013 for Community Partnership Grants, see website above. These grants are designed to foster and support partnerships between city or county governments, non-profit organizations, and local businesses and to improve the environment for bicycling in the community. Grants will primarily fund the construction or expansion of bicycle facilities such as bike lanes, trails, and paths as well as advocacy projects that promote bicycling as a safe and accessible mode of transportation. Grant range \$2000-\$10,000.

General Mills Champions for Healthy Kids

The General Mills Foundation awards 50 grants of \$10,000 each to community-based groups that develop creative ways to help youth adopt a balanced diet and physically active lifestyle. Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, not-for-profit organizations 501 c (3) and 509 (a), health departments, government agencies, schools and school districts and Native American tribes.

Match Requirements: There is no match requirement.

Agency: General Mills Foundation

Website:

http://www.generalmills.com/Responsibility/Community_Engagement/Grants/Champions_for_healthy_kids.aspx

Deadline: Check website above for next round.

International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA)

<http://www.imba.com/resources/grants/index.html>

IMBA creates, enhances, and preserves trail opportunities for mountain bikers worldwide, and helps with trail design. IMBA encourages low-impact riding, volunteer trail work participation, cooperation among different trail user groups, and innovative trail management solutions. Visit the IMBA website for a listing of funding opportunities.

REI

<http://www.rei.com/aboutrei/grants02.html>

REI offers two kinds of grants. One focuses on conservation and the other on recreational activities.

Unsolicited grant requests will not be accepted. REI employees must make nominations. Contact your nearest REI store for information. Two REI stores are located in Wisconsin.

REI, Brookfield Store
13100 West Capitol Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53005
(262) 783-6150

REI, Madison Store
7483 West Towne Way
Madison, WI 53719
(608) 833-6680

Our Town Grants

Our Town grants will support creative placemaking projects that contribute toward the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful, and sustainable places with the arts at their core. Our Town will invest in creative and innovative projects in which communities work together with arts and design organizations and artists work to livability. Partnerships involving a minimum of two organizations (one a nonprofit design or cultural organization, and one a governmental entity) are required of all applications. Additional partners are welcomed. Grants will range from \$25,000 to \$250,000. The Arts Endowment anticipates awarding approximately 35 grants, based on the availability of funding. Organizations must request a grant amount at one of the following levels: \$25,000, \$50,000, \$100,000, \$150,000, \$200,000, or \$250,000.

Match Requirements: All grants require a nonfederal match of at least 1 to 1.

Agency: National Endowment for the Arts

Contact Information: 202-682-5091, OT@arts.gov

Website: <http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/OurTown/index.html>

Deadline: 2013 deadline was in January 2013. See website above for further information.

National Endowment for the Arts – Design Arts Program

<http://arts.endow.gov/grants/apply/Design.html>

The Design Arts Program of the National Endowment for the Arts funds projects that promote excellence in urban design, historic preservation, planning, architecture and landscaped planning. Contact the staff: Room 265, Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Madison Audubon Society
Ducks Unlimited
Pheasants Forever
Fort Wisconsin Club
The Nature Conservancy
Fort Community Foundation
Quirk Foundation
Fort Health Care
Bell Helmets (Bicycle)
Friends of the Glacial Heritage Area
Friends of the Dog Park
Jefferson County Farmland Conservation Easement Commission
Corporations and Businesses
Trail groups
Land Trusts