Urban Growth, Agriculture Analysis and Open Space Inventory

INTRODUCTION

Information on urban growth characteristics, such as population and household characteristics, agricultural trends, and areas of open space provide an essential basis for the analysis of preservation methods for farmland and open space in Washington County. Existing and forecasted population characteristics and changes in farming have a direct influence on the amount of farmland and open space available now and in the future. The inventory findings are presented in this chapter.

URBAN GROWTH

Population

Washington County has experienced significant population growth, growing from 33,902 persons in 1950 to 117,493 persons in 2000 according to the U.S. Census. This is an increase of 246 percent as presented in Table 1.

Table 1:Historic Residential Population Levels in Washington County, Southeastern Wisconsin, and the State of Wisconsin: 1950-2000

| | Was | shington Count | y | South | eastern Wisconsi | n | Wisconsin | | | |
|------|------------|---------------------|---------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------|---------------------------------|----------|---------|--|
| | | Change Preceding | | Change from Preceding Census | | | Change from Preceding Census | | | |
| Year | Population | Absolute | Percent | Population | Absolute | Percent | Population | Absolute | Percent | |
| 1950 | 33,902 | 5,472 | 19.2 | 1,240,618 | 172,919 | 16.2 | 3,434,575 | 296,988 | 9.5 | |
| 1960 | 46,119 | 12,217 | 36.0 | 1,573,614 | 332,996 | 26.8 | 3,951,777 | 517,202 | 15.1 | |
| 1970 | 63,839 | 17,720 | 38.4 | 1,756,083 | 182,469 | 11.6 | 4,417,821 | 466,044 | 11.8 | |
| 1980 | 84,848 | 21,009 | 32.9 | 1,764,796 | 8,713 | 0.5 | 4,705,642 | 287,821 | 6.5 | |
| 1990 | 95,328 | 10,480 | 12.4 | 1,810,364 | 45,568 | 2.6 | 4,891,769 | 186,127 | 4.0 | |
| 2000 | 117,493 | 22,165 | 23.3 | 1,932,908 | 122,544 | 6.8 | 5,363,675 | 471,906 | 9.6 | |

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and SEWRPC.

From 1990 to 2000, Washington County's population grew just over 23 percent, adding approximately 22,000 new residents. Washington County's population increased 29.6 percent from 95,328 in 1990 to 123,587 in 2004¹, ranking Washington County among the top five fastest growing counties in Wisconsin by both population increase and percentage change in population.

Population increases have occurred at all municipal levels. Between 2000 and 2004, the Village of Jackson had the highest rate increase at 14.99 percent, followed by the City of Hartford with an increase of 10.73 percent, thirdly, the Village of Kewaskum at 8.54 percent and fourthly, the Town of Richfield at 7.92 percent. The change in population by municipality is displayed in Table 2.

¹ Wisconsin Department of Administration Population Estimates

Table 2: Resident Population Levels in Washington County: 2000 – 2004

| Municipality | 2000 | 2004 | Numeric | Percentage Change |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|---------|-------------------|
| | Census | Estimate | Change | |
| Town Germantown | 278 | 269 | -9 | -3.24 |
| Town Hartford | 4,031 | 4,023 | -8 | -0.20 |
| Town West Bend | 4,834 | 4,835 | 1 | 0.02 |
| Town Barton | 2,546 | 2,587 | 41 | 1.61 |
| Town Kewaskum | 1,119 | 1,138 | 19 | 1.70 |
| Town Polk | 3,938 | 4,011 | 73 | 1.85 |
| Town Jackson | 3,516 | 3,637 | 121 | 3.44 |
| Town Trenton | 4,440 | 4,595 | 155 | 3.49 |
| City West Bend | 28,152 | 29,204 | 1,052 | 3.74 |
| Town Erin | 3,664 | 3,802 | 138 | 3.77 |
| Village Newburg | 1,027 | 1,066 | 39 | 3.80 |
| Village Germantown | 18,260 | 19,001 | 741 | 4.06 |
| Town Addison | 3,341 | 3,505 | 164 | 4.91 |
| Town Farmington | 3,239 | 3,433 | 194 | 5.99 |
| Village Slinger | 3,901 | 4,143 | 242 | 6.20 |
| Town Wayne | 1,727 | 1,844 | 117 | 6.77 |
| Town Richfield | 10,373 | 11,195 | 822 | 7.92 |
| Village Kewaskum | 3,277 | 3,557 | 280 | 8.54 |
| City Hartford | 10,895 | 12,064 | 1,169 | 10.73 |
| Village Jackson | 4,938 | 5,678 | 740 | 14.99 |
| Washington County | 117,496 | 123,587 | 6,091 | 5.18 |

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration Population Estimates

Washington County's close proximity to Milwaukee's metropolitan area has helped fuel this population increase. The population forecast for Washington County is estimated to be 149,500 in 2025 and $157,300 \text{ in } 2035^2.$

Households

In addition to the population growth, the increase in the number of households affects land use in the County. A household includes all persons who occupy a housing unit – defined by the Census Bureau as a house, apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied or intended for occupancy, as separate living quarters. Persons not living in households are classified as living in group quarters, such as correctional facilities, college dormitories, and military quarters³. The rate of increase in the number of households exceeded the rate of population growth. Between 1970 and 2000, households increased by 152 percent, while the population increased by 84 percent. Growth in the number of households in Washington County and Southeast Wisconsin is shown in Table 3⁴.

² SEWRPC, 2004 ³ SEWRPC, 2004

SEWRPC, 2004

Table 3: Households, Household Population, and Average Household Size in Washington County: 1970-2000

| Washington County | Year | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| vv usmington county | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 ^a | | | |
| Households | 17,385 | 26,716 | 32,977 | 43,843 | | | |
| Household Population | 63,135 | 83,946 | 94,271 | 116,198 | | | |
| Average Household Size | 3.63 | 3.14 | 2.86 | 2.65 | | | |

^a Reflects Census Bureau-approved corrections to initially released 2000 census data for the County Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and SEWRPC and Washington County Planning and Parks Dept.

In 2000, there were 43,843 households in Washington County. This number is expected to grow to 58,800 in 2025 and 62,800 in 2035⁵. Table 4 presents actual and forecasted numbers of households for Washington County.

> Table 4: Actual and Projected Households in Washington County: 2000 – 2035

| | Hi | High Projection | | | ediate Projecti | ion | Lov | w Projection | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|--------------|---------|
| | Change from | | ** | Change from | | ** | Change from | | |
| X. | Households | precedii | ng year | Households | precedii | ng year | Households | precedii | ng year |
| Year | | Absolute | Percent | | Absolute | Percent | | Absolute | Percent |
| Actual Households: 2000 | 43,843 | | | 43,843 | | | 43,843 | | |
| Projected Households | | | | | | | | | |
| 2005 | 48,960 | 5,117 | 11.7 | 47,534 | 3,691 | 8.4 | 46,267 | 2,424 | 5.5 |
| 2010 | 53,154 | 4,193 | 8.6 | 50,864 | 3,330 | 7.0 | 49,055 | 2,789 | 6.0 |
| 2015 | 57,285 | 4,132 | 7.8 | 54,042 | 3,178 | 6.2 | 51,640 | 2,585 | 5.3 |
| 2020 | 61,314 | 4,029 | 7.0 | 57,037 | 2,995 | 5.5 | 53,994 | 2,354 | 4.6 |
| 2025 | 65,148 | 3,833 | 6.3 | 59,769 | 2,732 | 4.8 | 56,050 | 2,056 | 3.8 |
| 2030 | 68,221 | 3,073 | 4.7 | 61,738 | 1,969 | 3.3 | 57,347 | 1,298 | 2.3 |
| 2035 | 70,373 | 2,153 | 3.2 | 62,833 | 1,095 | 1.8 | 57,806 | 459 | 0.8 |
| Change: 2000-2035 | | 26,530 | 60.5 | | 18,990 | 43.3 | 1 | 13,963 | 31.8 |

Source: SEWRPC, 2004

Land Use

Prior to 1950, urban development in Washington County has generally occurred within the sewer service areas of the established communities of Germantown, Hartford, Jackson, Kewaskum, Newburg, Slinger, and West Bend. Between 1950 and 1970, Washington County saw a significant increase in urban development occurring outside of established sewer service areas. This pattern continued to occur in the decades following 1970, as land development for urban uses increased dramatically. Map 1 illustrates the historic urban development of Washington County since 1900. Between 1950 and 2000, a significant amount of prime agricultural land and open space throughout Washington County was converted to residential, commercial, and industrial development. Between 1950 and 1995, the developed urban area of the County increased at an average rate of about 1.0 square mile per year⁶.

In 2000, urban land uses – consisting of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental and institutional, recreational, and transportation, communication and utility uses - encompassed about 78.7 square miles, or 18 percent of the total area of the County. Of the urbanized land uses, residential land

⁵ SEWRPC, 2004

⁶ A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020

comprised the largest urban land use category, encompassing 40.0 square miles, or about 51 percent of all urban land use and 9 percent of the total area of the County. Land uses categorized as transportation, communications, and utilities constituted the second largest urban land use category, encompassing about 24.4 square miles, or about 31 percent of all urban land and 6 percent of the total land in the County. Recreational land uses constituted the third largest urban land use category in the County, encompassing about 4.8 square miles, or about 6 percent of all urban land and 1 percent of the total land in the County. Between 1970 and 1995, urban land uses increased by 28.7 square miles, or about 75 percent. Residential and commercial land uses increased by 125 percent, and industrial land uses increased by 163 percent. (As part of the year 2000 land use inventory, the delineation of existing land use was referenced to real property boundary information not available to prior inventories. As a result of this change, year 2000 land use inventory data are not comparable with earlier inventories.) Urban land uses in Washington County from 1970, 1995, and 2000 are set forth in Table 5.

In 2000, Washington County's nonurban land – consisting of agriculture, woodlands, wetlands, surface water, landfills, extractive areas, and other open lands - encompassed approximately 356.9 square miles. Agricultural land consists of 221.5 square miles. Woodlands, wetlands, and surface water constitute 109.8 square miles, and the remaining nonurban land, 25.6 square miles, is landfill, extractive areas, and other open lands. Nonurban lands decreased by 28.7 square miles, or 7 percent, between 1970 and 1995 as illustrated in Table 69.

Table 5: Washington County Urban Land Uses: 1970, 1995, and 2000

| | | 1970 | | | 1995 | | 1970 | -1995 | 2000 ^a | | |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Land Use Category | Square Miles | Percent of Subtotal | Percent of County | Square Miles | Percent of Subtotal | Percent of County | Change | Percent Change | Square Miles | Percent of Subtotal | Percent of County |
| Urban ^b | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Residential | 15.5 | 40.4 | 3.6 | 34.9 | 52.1 | 8.0 | 19.4 | 125.2 | 40.0 | 50.8 | 9.2 |
| Commercial | 0.8 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 2.7 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 125.0 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 0.5 |
| Industrial | 0.8 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 162.5 | 2.4 | 3.1 | 0.6 |
| Governmental and Institutional | 1.6 | 4.1 | 0.3 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 31.3 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 0.5 |
| Recreational | 2.1 | 5.5 | 0.5 | 4.1 | 6.1 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 95.2 | 4.8 | 6.1 | 1.1 |
| Transportation, Communications, and Utilities | 16.6 | 43.2 | 3.8 | 20.4 | 30.4 | 4.7 | 3.8 | 22.9 | 24.4 | 31.0 | 5.6 |
| Undeveloped Urban | 1.0 | 2.6 | 0.2 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 70.0 | 2.7 | 3.4 | 0.6 |
| Total | 38.4 | 100.0 | 8.8 | 67.1 | 100.0 | 15.4 | 28.7 | 74.7 | 78.7 | 100.0 | 18.1 |

Source: SEWRPC and Washington County Planning and Parks Department

NOTE: Undeveloped urban lands, defined in inventories prior to 2000, are unused lands located within or adjacent to urban areas that are not woodlands, wetlands, or water.

⁹ A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020

^a As part of the year 2000 land use inventory, the delineation of existing land use was referenced to real property boundary information not available for prior inventories. As a result of this change, however, year 2000 land use inventory data are not strictly comparable with data from the 1995 and prior inventories.

^bParking lots are included with the associated use.

⁷ A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020

SEWRPC, 2004

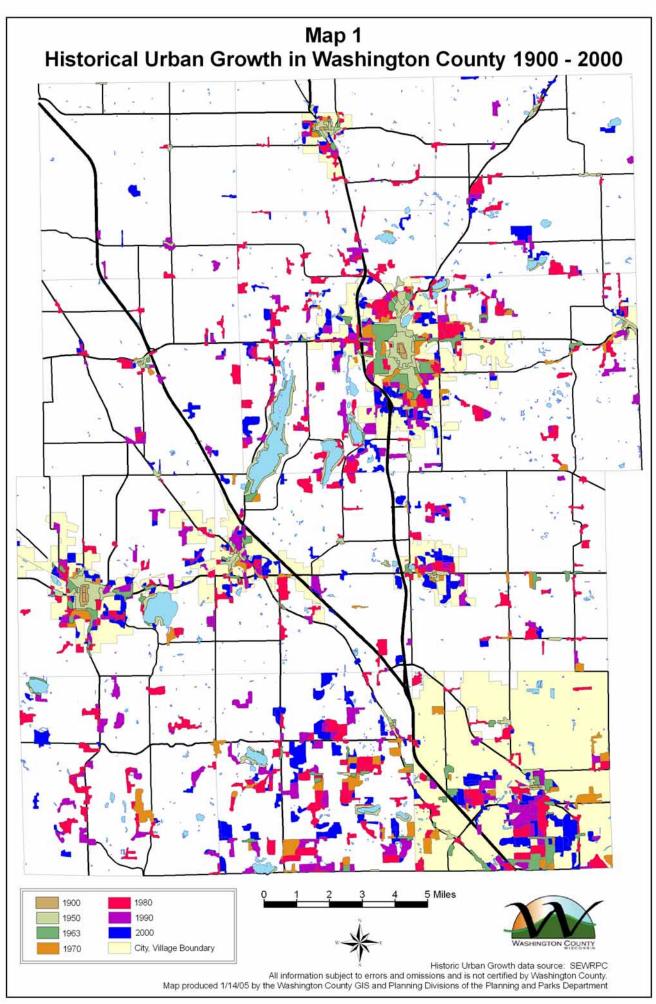


Table 6: Washington County Nonurban Land Uses: 1970, 1995, and 2000

| | | 1970 | | | 1995 | | | 1970-1995 | | 2000 ^a | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Land Use Category | Square Miles | Percent of Subtotal | Percent of County | Square Miles | Percent of Subtotal | Percent of County | Change | Percent Change | Square Miles | Percent of Subtotal | Percent of County | |
| Nonurban | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agricultural | 279.6 | 70.4 | 64.2 | 238.7 | 64.8 | 54.8 | -40.9 | -14.6 | 221.5 | 62.1 | 50.9 | |
| Woodlands | 32.7 | 8.2 | 7.5 | 35.0 | 9.5 | 8.0 | 2.3 | 7.0 | 36.0 | 10.1 | 8.3 | |
| Wetlands | 65.3 | 16.5 | 15.0 | 66.1 | 17.9 | 15.2 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 66.8 | 18.7 | 15.3 | |
| Water | 6.4 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 6.9 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 0.5 | 7.8 | 7.0 | 2.0 | 1.6 | |
| Landfill and Extractive | 1.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 2.1 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 23.5 | 2.0 | 0.5 | 0.4 | |
| Other Open Lands | 11.6 | 2.9 | 2.6 | 19.8 | 5.4 | 4.5 | 8.2 | 70.7 | 23.6 | 6.6 | 5.4 | |
| Total | 397.3 | 100.0 | 91.2 | 368.6 | 100.0 | 84.6 | -28.7 | -7.2 | 356.9 | 100.0 | 81.9 | |

Source: SEWRPC and Washington County Planning and Parks Department

NOTE: Other Open Lands are those unused rural areas not used for agricultural purposes and do not include woodlands, wetlands, or water.

AGRICULTURE

Declining Farmland

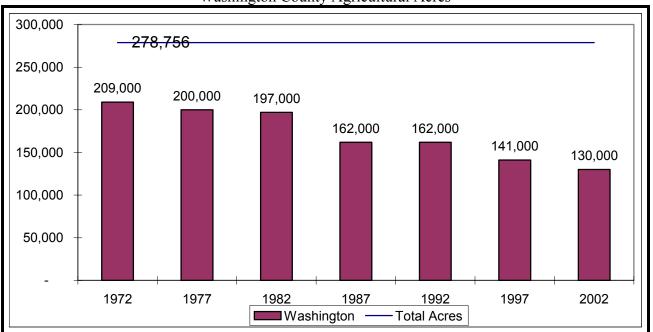
Farming in Wisconsin has undergone considerable change in the last few decades. Wisconsin Agricultural Statistical Service statistics show that Wisconsin saw 15 percent of its farmland taken out of agricultural production between 1980 and 2002. Over the same period, Washington County saw 34 percent of its farmland taken out of agricultural production. Chart 1 illustrates this change. Agriculture is the largest single nonurban land use in the County, compromising about 238.7 square miles, or about 55 percent of the area in the County in 1995¹⁰. Chart 2 presents the reduction in farmland acreage between 1972 and 2002 for Washington County and its neighboring counties. Washington County has the largest decline in agricultural land use as a percentage of total land in the County, dropping 29 percent.



¹⁰ A Parks and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020

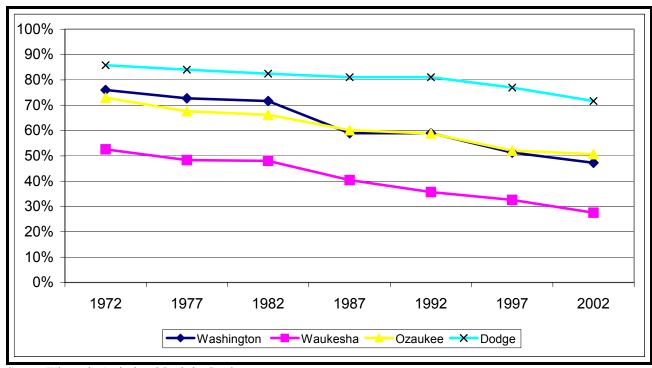
^a As part of the year 2000 land use inventory, the delineation of existing land use was referenced to real property boundary information not available for prior inventories. As a result of this change, however, year 2000 land use inventory data are not strictly comparable with data from the 1995 and prior inventories.

Chart 1: Washington County Agricultural Acres



Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

Chart 2: Percentage of Agricultural Acres vs. Total County Acres



Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

Agricultural Business Trends

Washington County agriculture can be grouped into five categories; dairy, horticulture, cash crops, livestock, and vegetables. The dairy and livestock sectors produce nearly two-thirds of agriculture revenues, followed by crops and horticulture with 36 percent of revenues. Table 7 presents the breakdown of these agricultural sectors in Washington County.

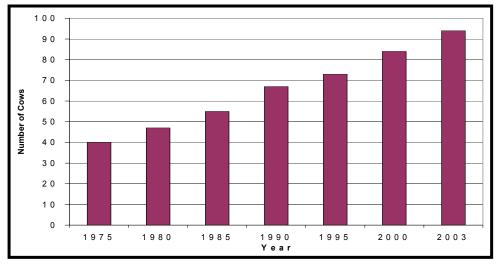
Table 7:Washington County Agricultural Sectors

| Sector | 2002 Sales | % of Total Ag Revenues |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Dairy | \$33,100,000 | 49.1% |
| Horticulture | \$14,000,000 | 20.8% |
| Grains (crops) | \$10,600,000 | 15.7% |
| Cattle & Calves | \$8,100,000 | 12.0% |
| Vegetables | \$1,600,000 | 2.4% |
| Total | \$67,400,000 | 100% |

Source: 2002 Census of Agriculture

Washington County dairy sector is a good example of agricultural change since it makes up nearly half of the revenue generated in Washington County. Although the number of cows has decreased since 1975, the number of cows per dairy farm has increased as illustrated in Chart 3. This increase in cows per dairy farm, in conjunction with the trend of smaller sized farms illustrated in Chart 6, may cause future compatibility problems for dairy farms and development.

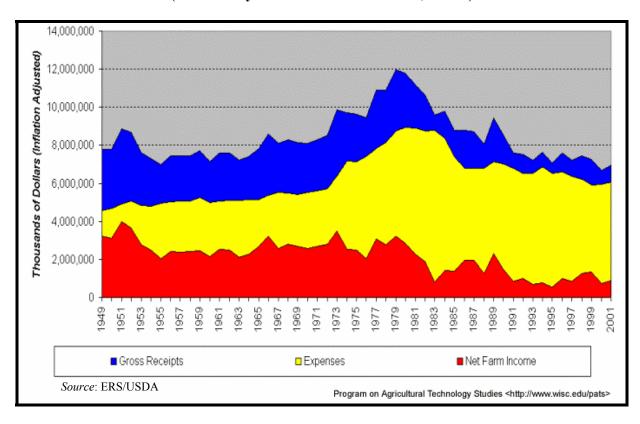
Chart 3:
Average Number of Dairy Cows per Dairy Farm



Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

Chart 4 details aggregate gross receipts, expenses, and net farm income for all farms in Wisconsin from 1949-2001. Starting in the late 1970's, real net farm income declined. The financial situation many farmers experience today is the result of farm commodity prices (receipts) declining in real terms while the cost of production (expenses) has either held steady or increased, resulting in farm expenses consuming a larger percentage of the gross receipts from the farm. Receipts, expenses, and net farm income are adjusted for inflation (to 2000 dollars) in order to portray the real financial situation that farmers experience. The gross receipts (blue section) less total expenses (yellow section) leave the resulting net income (red section). Low profit margins, along with high land prices, resulted in a situation which makes it difficult for new farmers to enter into agriculture and difficult for established farmers to expand, while making selling the farm a financially attractive alternative 11.

Chart 4: Gross Receipts, Farm Expenses, and Net Farm Income, Wisconsin 1949-2001 (Deflated by the CPI All Items Index, 2000\$)

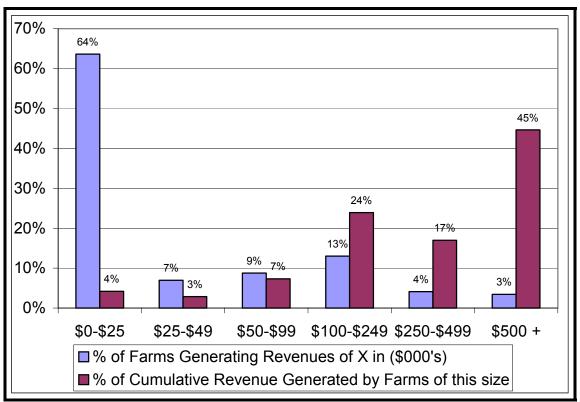


The majority of Washington County's 844 farms, 64 percent, generate less than \$25,000 a year, whereas 3 percent of the farms generated \$500,000 or more a year. This is illustrated in blue in Chart 5. The percentage of cumulative revenue generated by each revenue generation category in Chart 4 is displayed in red. For example, farms that generate \$0-\$25 thousand constitute 4 percent of all revenue generated in farming in Washington County, and farms that generate \$500,000 or more in revenue produced 45 percent of the county's cumulative farm revenue.

Washington County Farmland and Open Space Preservation Tools

¹¹ Linnebur, University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension – Farm Business and Agriculture

Chart 5:
Percentage of Washington County Farms by Revenue Size (\$000's)



Source: 2002 U.S. Census of Agriculture: Table 2 of County Level Data

Economic Impact

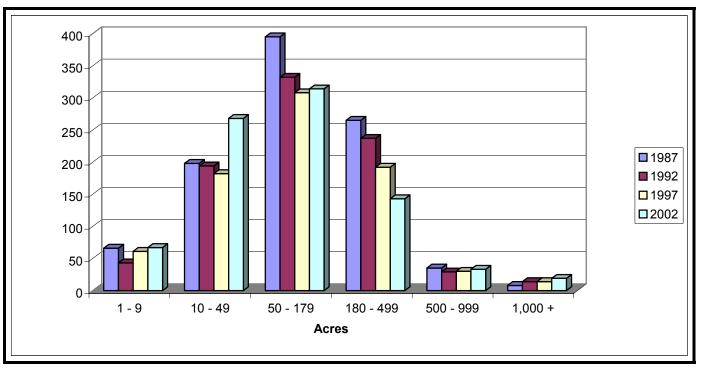
Agriculture plays an important part of Washington County's economy. In 2003, agriculture makes up roughly 10 percent, or \$629 million, of the total economic activity in the County. In addition, the agriculture industry accounts for 8 percent of the county's total employment numbers¹².

Changing Farm Size

Historically, farm size has been broken down into six categories: 0-9 acres, 10-49 acres, 50-179 acres, 180-499 acres, 500-999 acres, and 1,000+acres. Between 1997 and 2002, the number of 10-49 acre farms has increased by 47 percent. Since 1987, the number of farms with 50-179 acres decreased by 20 percent. However, this category of farms has shown a relatively stable number of farms since 1997. The number of farms with 180-499 acres declined steadily, dropping 46 percent from 1987 to 2002. The number of farms with 500 acres of land and more are few, but have been slowly increasing. Chart 6 illustrates the change in number of categorized farm sizes between 1987 and 2002.

¹² Wisconsin and the Agricultural Economy, March 2004

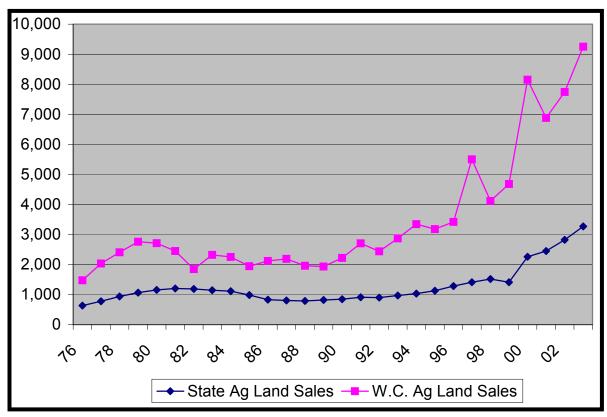
Chart 6: Washington County Farms by Size



Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Services

Land Values

Chart 7: Wisconsin and Washington County Land Price Trends



Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Services

Washington County agricultural land prices nearly doubled in the four years from 1976 to 1979, and then lost 33 percent of that gain by 1982. Land prices were relatively stable from 1982 through 1990. However, since 1990, agricultural land has seen sharp increases, rising at an average annual rate of 12 percent, as illustrated in Chart 7. Washington County land has been more valuable than the average land values for the state. Current land prices, in Washington County, may create a barrier for entry of new farmers and farmers looking to expand, and provide incentives for farmers to sell their land out of agricultural production¹³.

Prime Agricultural Land

Recommendations in *A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020*, is for Washington County and local units of government to preserve to the extent practicable the remaining prime agricultural lands recommended for preservation under the <u>Washington County Farmland Preservation Plan</u>. This plan, adopted by the Washington County Board in September 1981, evaluated farmlands within the County and placed them into one of three classes: primary, secondary, and transitional. The criteria used to classify farmlands are summarized in Table 8¹⁴. Recommended prime agricultural lands to be preserved are shown on Map 2.

Table 8:
Summary of the Criteria Used by
Washington County to Classify Important Farmlands

| | Washington County | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Criterion | Primary Farmland | Secondary Farmland | Transitional Farmland | | | | |
| Soil Type ^a | At least 50% | Less than 50% | No Criteria | | | | |
| | Class I, II, or III | Class I, II, or III | | | | | |
| Minimum Farm Parcel Size | 35 Acres | 35 Acres | 35 Acres | | | | |
| Minimum Farm Block Size | 640 Acres | 100 Acres | 100 Acres | | | | |

Source: Stockham & Vandewalle, Washington County Farmland Preservation Plan, 1981

^aSoil classes refer to ratings developed by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (now the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service)

Note: Table taken from page 11 of A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020

Land Suitable for Cultivation

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, there are three soil classes that are considered to be cultivatable, Class I, II, and III. Soil Class I has few limitations that restrict land use. Soil Class II has some limitations such as wetness, erosion, or droughtiness that require conservation practices. Soil Class III has severe limitations that require conservation practices. These soil class types can be found throughout Washington County, but may not have been included as part of the prime agricultural lands based on the criteria used to determine prime agricultural land as illustrated in Map 2. Map 3 illustrates cultivatable land currently in agriculture with Class I, II, or III soil in Washington County. Agricultural land illustrated in Map 3 differs from Map 2 by not including the minimum size criteria and defined by land use attribute codes from SEWRPC, which includes cropland, pasture, lowland pasture, orchards and nurseries, special agriculture and farming buildings.

¹⁴ A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020

¹³ Linnebur, University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension – Farm Business and Agriculture

NATURAL RESOURCES AND OPEN SPACE

Natural Resources

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), in its regional planning program, identified and delineated areas, "environmental corridors", in the region as those that have concentrations of the prime natural resources. Natural resources consist of rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, woodlands, prairies, wildlife habitat areas, wet and poorly drained soils, and rugged terrain. The following sections briefly describe each of the natural resources. A complete description of these natural resources can be found in *A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020*.

Surface Water Resources

Surface water resources, consisting of streams and lakes, form an important element of the natural resource base. Major streams are defined as those, which maintain, at a minimum, a small continuous flow throughout the year except under unusual drought conditions. There are approximately 220 miles of such streams in Washington County. There are 13 major lakes, that is, lakes of 50 or more acres – located entirely in Washington County. These major lakes have a combined surface area of about 2,634 acres in Washington County.



Floodlands

Floodlands are wide, gently sloping areas contiguous to both sides of a stream channel. These areas often contain several resources such as woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, these areas are located within the 100-year flood hazard area, covering approximately 64.8 square miles or about 15 percent of the County.

Wetlands

Wetlands are important to the environmental health of the County. They provide habitat for wildlife and act as a flood control by temporarily storing storm water runoff. Wetlands cover approximately 66.1 square miles or 15 percent of the County. Wetlands increased by 0.8 square miles between 1970 and 1995.

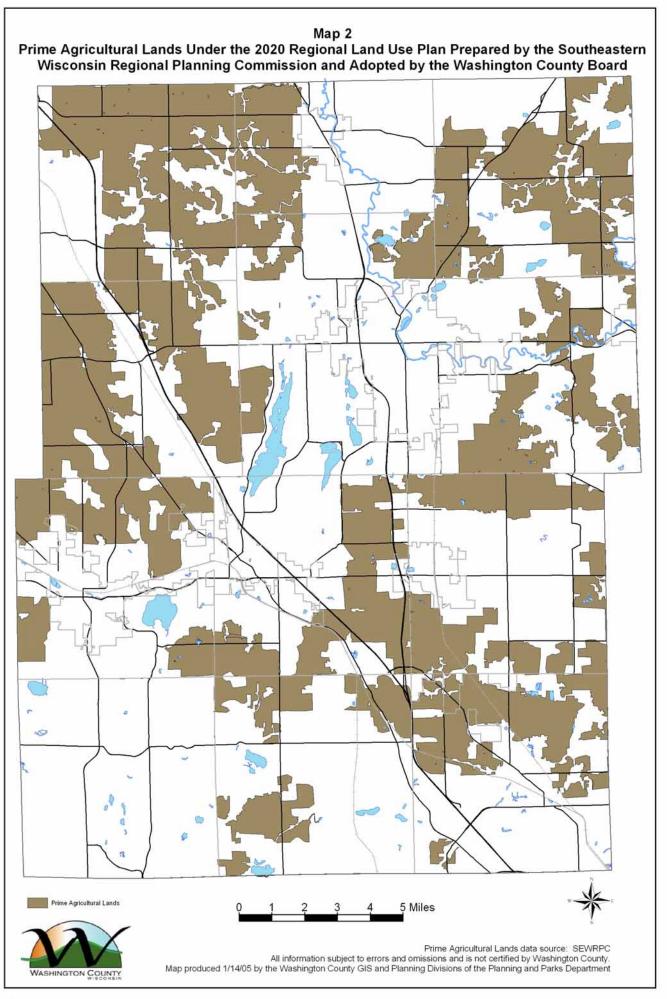
Woodlands

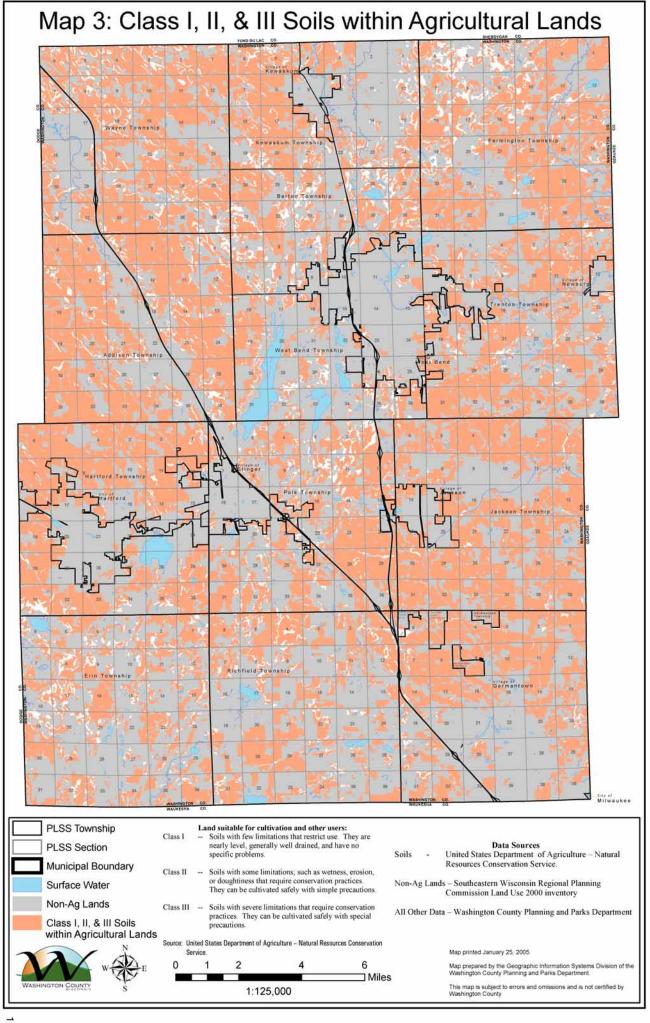
Woodlands are defined as upland areas one acre or more in size having 17 or more deciduous trees per acre, each measuring at least 4 inches in diameter at breast height, and having 50 percent tree canopy coverage. Woodlands cover approximately 35.0 square miles, or 8 percent of the County. Woodlands increased by 2.3 square miles, or about 7 percent between 1970 and 1995¹⁵.

Natural Areas

Natural areas are tracts of land or water so little modified by human activity, or sufficiently recovered from the effects of such activity, that they contain intact native plan and animal communities believed to be representative of the landscape before European settlement. A total of 91 natural areas, encompassing about 15,970 acres, or about 6 percent of the County, were identified in Washington County in 1994.

¹⁵ A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County, 2020





Environmental Corridors

Environmental corridors contain one or more natural resource elements, which were mentioned earlier in this chapter. These corridors are separated into two categories, primary and secondary environmental corridors. Primary corridors are defined as areas that contain one or more natural resource elements, which cover a minimum of 400 acres, 2 miles in length, and 200 feet in width which occupy about 94.0 square miles or 22 percent of the County. Secondary environmental corridors consist of the same natural resources but usually are found contiguous to primary corridors and are smaller. They are at least 100 acres in size and 1 mile in length and occupy about 15.5 square miles or about 3 percent of the County. If an area is smaller than the secondary corridor, and at least 5 acres in size, the area is termed an "isolated natural resource area". These areas occupy 10.2 square miles or about 2 percent of the County. Environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas encompass about 119.7 square miles or about 27 percent of the County. These corridors are illustrated on Map 4.

Critical Species Habitat

Critical species habitat sites are those areas, outside of natural areas, where the chief value lies in their ability to support rare, threatened, or endangered species. Such areas contribute "critical" habitat that is important to the survival of a particular species or group of special concern. A total of 13 sites supporting threatened or rare plant or bird species have been identified in Washington County. These sites encompass an area of about 332 acres. A total of 60 aquatic sites supporting threatened or rare fish, reptile, or mussel species have also been identified in the County. There are 187.9 stream miles and 2,760 lake acres of critical aquatic habitat in Washington County. These critical species habitat sites are identified on Map 5 and Table 9.

Geological Sites

A total of 11 sites of geological importance, including 4 bedrock geology sites and 7 glacial features, were identified in the County in 1994. These sites encompass about 5,949 acres in Washington County, with the Kettle Moraine Interlobate Moraine accounting for the vast majority of the area. These geological sites are identified on Map 5.

Open Space

Open space, as defined in *A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020,* consists of the following: primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, isolated natural resource areas, natural areas, critical species habitat sites, geological and archeological areas, and prime

agricultural land. In addition, open space includes lands located within established Department of Natural Resources project boundaries, which in Washington County include the Loew Lake, Northern, and Pike Lake Units of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, the North Branch Milwaukee River Wildlife and Farming Heritage Area, and the Allenton Marsh, Jackson Marsh, and Theresa Marsh Wildlife Areas. Map 5 illustrates the



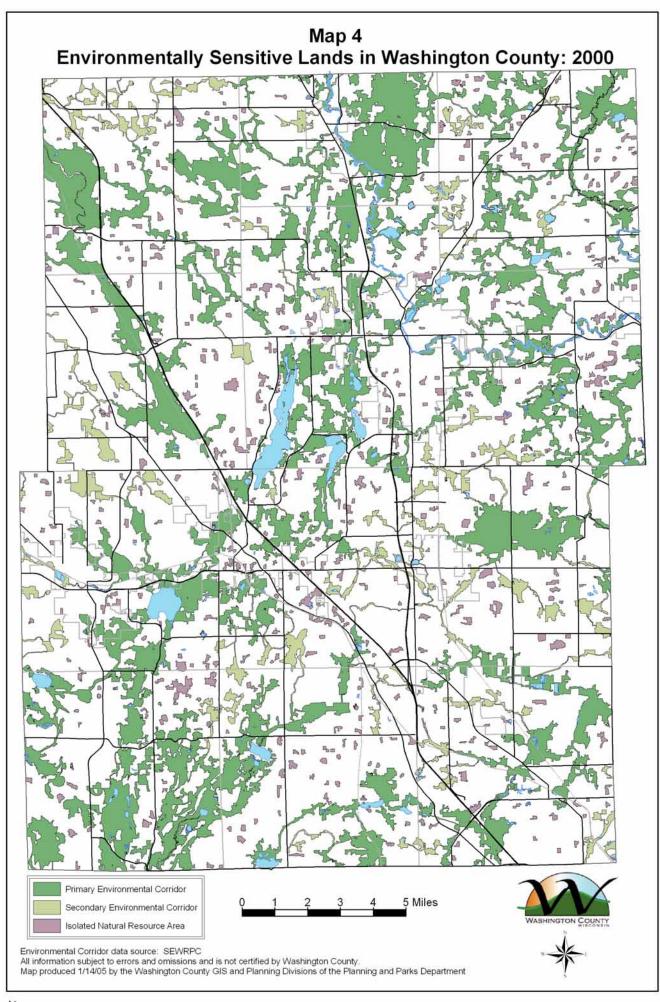
amount of open space, geological sites, natural areas, and critical species habitat sites as defined by *A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County: 2020*. Table 9 lists each natural area site, geological site, and critical species habitat sites.

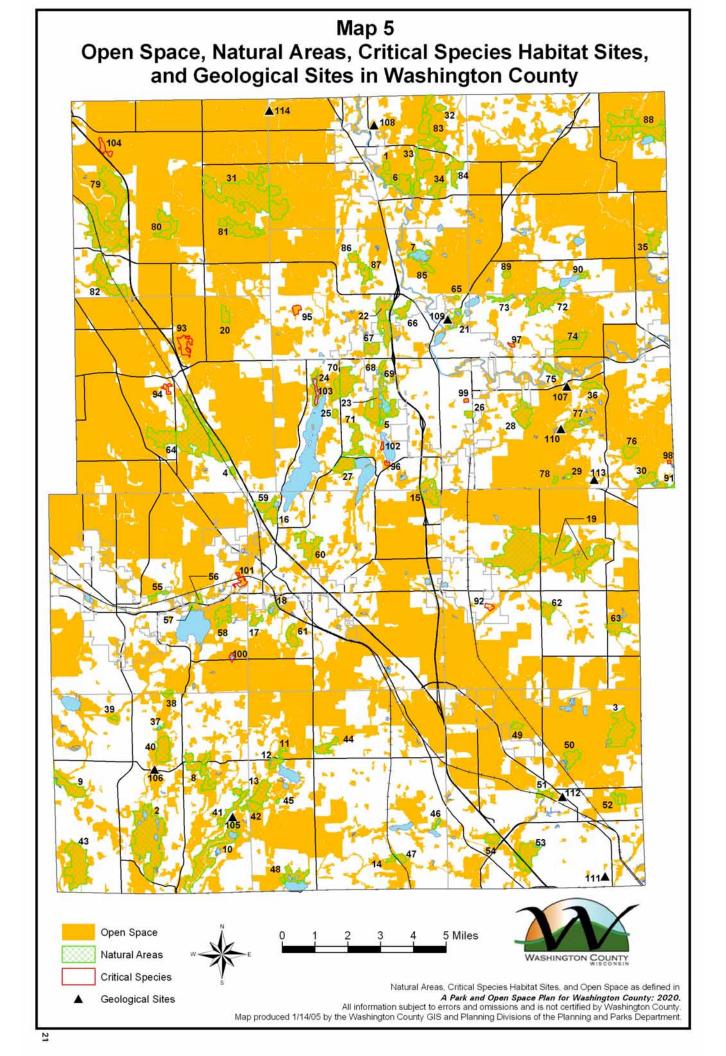
¹⁶ A Park and Open Space Plan for Washington County, 2004

SUMMARY

This chapter has presented data relating to existing demographics, agricultural trends, open space, and natural areas in Washington County. The key findings are as follows:

- Washington County has seen a household increase of 152 percent and a population increase of 84 percent since 1970.
- Land use has seen dramatic changes over the decades. Specifically, residential and commercial land uses, which have increased by 125 percent between 1970 and 1995.
- Farm acreage has decreased steadily, losing 68,000 acres (34 percent) since 1980.
- Since 1970, farm net income has decreased substantially as a result of declining profit margins.
- Low profit margins, along with high land prices, make it difficult for new farmers to enter into agriculture and difficult for established farmers to expand and provide incentives for farmers to sell their land out of agricultural production.
- In Washington County, the dairy sector generates 49 percent of the revenue generated by the entire County's agriculture industry.
- Washington County agricultural land prices have seen sharp increases in value throughout the 1990's and up to current 2003 data.
- Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas in Washington County occupy approximately 119.7 square miles, or about 27 percent, of the County in 2004.
- Natural areas consisting of wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitats, major lakes and streams, and associated shorelands, floodlands, and outdoor recreation sites, when combined, result in an essentially linear pattern in the landscape referred to by the Regional Planning Commission as environmental corridors.





OPEN SPACE AND GEOLOGICAL, NATURAL AREA AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

Table 9

| | | | | • | | |
|----------|--|--------------------|---|--|---------|--|
| Number | | Classification | | | Size | |
| on Map 4 | Area Name | Code ^a | Location | Ownership | (acres) | Description and Comments |
| 1 | Kewaskum Maple-Oak Woods State Natural Area | NA-1 (SNA, RSH) | T12N, R19E Sections 10, 15 Town of Kewaskum | Department of Natural Resources and private | 86 | An extremely rich and relatively undisturbed southern mesic and dry-mesic forest, located just east of the Milwaukee River on undulating morainal topography. The northern two-thirds constitute a designated State Natural Area, which consists of two tracts separated by pine plantation. A number of regionally uncommon species are present. Kettle depressions hold water part of the year |
| 2 | Murphy Lake-McConville Lake Wetland Complex | NA-1 (RSH) | T9N, R18E Sections 21, 22, 27, 28, 33, 34 Town of Erin | The Nature Conservancy; Boy Scouts of America, Milwaukee County Council; and other private | 890 | Large wetland complex surrounding undeveloped hard-water seepage lakes that are located in a large glacial basin. The variety of plant communities includes shrub-carr, alder thicket, lowland hardwoods, sedge meadow, deep and shallow marsh, and both young and mature tamarack forest. Good to excellent quality overall |
| 3 | Germantown Swamp | NA-1 | T9N, R20E Sections 1, 12 Village of Germantown | Village of Germantown and private | 374 | Located along the headwaters of the Menomonee River, this is a large low-lying woods that has apparently suffered only minimal human disturbance, although ditching near the perimeter has had some effect. This is predominantly a southern lowland hardwoods of silver and red maple, green ash, American elm, and basswood, but with substantial inclusions of northern wetmesic forest of yellow birch, tamarack, and white cedar. At the north end is an upland stand of sugar maple and beech. The ground flora contains a mixture of northern and southern elements. The large size of the woods, together with its relatively undisturbed nature and unique combination of species, makes this a valuable site. A severe windstorm in late June 1991 toppled a large number of trees, mostly yellow birch and silver maple |
| 4 | Aurora Road Fen | NA-1 (RSH) | T11N, R18E Section 35 Town of Addison | Private | 22 | High-quality calcareous fen, with sedge meadow and tamarack relict associated with cold trout stream that is tributary to the Rock River. Location of swamp metal-mark, a State-designated threatened butterfly species. Threatened by surrounding incompatible land use |
| 5 | Paradise Lake Fen | NA-1 (RSH) | T11N, R19E Sections 22, 27 Town of West Bend | Private | 22 | Undeveloped nine-acre lake with good-quality calcareous sedge mat and deep and shallow marsh |
| 6 | Milwaukee River Floodplain Forest State Natural Area | NA-1 (SNA) | T12N, R19E Sections 14, 15 Town of Kewaskum | Department of Natural Resources and private | 135 | One of the best riverine forests remaining in the Region. Quality varies, but some areas are relatively undisturbed. Upland "islands" contribute to a rich and diverse ground flora |
| 7 | Smith Lake and Wetlands | NA-1 (RSH) | T12N, R19E Sections 26, 35 Town of Barton | Private | 130 | Shallow lake rich in aquatics bordered by sedge meadow, tamaracks, and good-quality calcareous fens on northeast and east sides |
| | Subtotal | NA-1 | 7 sites | | 1,659 | |
| 8 | Holy Hill Woods | NA-2 | T9N, R18E Sections 2, 11, 14 Town of Erin | Carmelite Fathers and other private | 256 | Moderate- to good-quality, medium-aged southern mesic and dry- mesic woods located on gently sloping to steep interlobate kettle moraine topography. Dominated by sugar maple, red oak, red maple, white ash, white oak, and basswood. Total wooded area is large, but dissected by highways. However, it remains as one of the larger, better-quality upland hardwood forests locally |
| 9 | Toland Swamp | NA-2 | T9N, R18E Sections 18, 19, 20 Town of Erin | Private | 193 | Large, wooded wetland mixture of shrub-carr, lowland hardwoods, and tamarack relict, with a history of disturbance |

| | | Classification | | Γ | | |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|--|--|-----------------|--|
| Number on Map 4 | Area Name | Code ^a | Location | Ownership | Size (acres) | Description and Comments |
| 10 | Loew Lake Wetland Complex | NA-2 (RSH) | T9N, R18E Sections 24, 25, 26, 34, 35 Town of Erin | Department of Natural Resources and private | 481 | Undeveloped drainage lake and wetland corridor associated with the upper Oconomowoc River. The diverse wetland communities are in generally good condition, and include sedge meadow, lowland hardwoods, emergent aquatics, shrub-carr, and tamarack swamp. Swamp metalmark butterfly and queen snake have been documented |
| 11 | Daniel Boone Bogs | NA-2 (RSH) | T9N, R19E Sections 7, 8 Town of Richfield | Daniel Boone Conservation Club | 21 | A pair of good-quality, relatively undisturbed sphagnum bogs located within a dry-mesic forest matrix. A number of uncommon species are present, including common bog arrowgrass (<i>Triglochin maritimum</i>), a State-designated special concern species |
| 12 | Glacier Hills Park Bogs and Upland Woods | NA-2 (RSH) | T9N, R19E Sections 7, 17, 18 Town of Richfield | Washington County and private | 60 | Steep, interlobate kettle moraine topography supporting two good- quality bogs in kettle hole depressions. Southern mesic and dry-mesic hardwood forest covers the surrounding uplands, with small stands of dry hill prairie containing the State- designated threatened kittentails (Besseya bullii) |
| 13 | Friess Lake Tamarack Swamp | NA-2 | T9N, R18E Section 24 Town of Erin T9N, R19E Sections 18, 19 Town of Richfield | Private | 228 | Large, mostly wooded, wetland complex, consisting of young to medium-aged tamarack swamp, shrub-carr, and shallow marsh South portion divided by high east-west crevasse fill |
| 14 | Colgate Fen-Meadow | NA-2 (RSH) | T9N, R19E Sections 26, 35 Town of Richfield | Private | 23 | Good-quality fen-sedge meadow complex, with tamarack relict, bordering the headwaters of the Bark River |
| 15 | Mud Lake Swamp | NA-2 (RSH) | T10N, R19E Section 1 Town of Polk T11N, R19E Section 35 Town of West Bend | Private and Wisconsin Department of Transportation | 186 | Good-quality, undeveloped calcareous head-water lake surrounded by lowland hardwoods and tamarack swamp. Fen and bog floral elements are present. Adversely affected by construction of USH 45 |
| 16 | Big Cedar Lake Bog | NA-2 | T10N, R19E Section 6 Town of Polk | Private | 89 | Good-quality, relatively large sphagnum bog, surrounded by a tamarack fringe. Regionally uncommon species are present. Some past attempts at ditching |
| 17 | Mud Lake Upland Woods | NA-2 | T10N, R19E Section 19 Town of Polk | Private | 54 | Relatively undisturbed southern dry-mesic woods on rolling morainal topography. Dominated by red and white oaks, with ar admixture of red maple, sugar maple, basswood, and white ash. Few exotics present. Threatened by encroaching residential development. A good example of this forest type |
| 18 | Mud Lake Meadow | NA-2 (RSH) | T10N, R19E Section 19 Town of Polk | Private | 59 | Good-quality open meadow to the east and north of a small, shallow, alkaline seepage lake. Dominated by wire-grass sedges. Fen elements are present, as well as a few scattered patches of tamaracks. A site of unusual species composition |
| 19 | Jackson Swamp | NA-2 (RSH) | T10N, R20E Sections 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17 Town of Jackson | Department of Natural Resources and private | 1,571 | Large forested wetland, consisting mainly of disturbed lowland hardwood swamp with green ash and red and silver maples. There are smaller, higher-quality inclusions of white cedardominated northern wet-mesic forest. Changes in hydrology have allowed reed canary grass to invade canopy gaps. The large forest interior is invaluable for a number of native breeding birds |
| 20 | St. Anthony Beech Woods | NA-2 | T11N, R18E Section 2 Town of Addison | Private | 68 | An old-growth remnant of the once-extensive mesic woods, dominated by mature beech and sugar maple. Located on a moderate, east-facing slope. Not undisturbed, but in good condition |

| | | Classification | | | | |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|--|--|-----------------|---|
| Number on Map 4 | Area Name | Code ^a | Location | Ownership | Size (acres) | Description and Comments |
| 21 | Lac Lawrann Conservancy Upland Woods and Wetlands | NA-2 (RSH) | T11N, R19E Sections 1, 12 Town of Barton | City of West Bend and private | 101 | A good-quality wet- and dry-mesic hardwood forest, with a deep and shallow marsh, shrub-carr, and floating sedge mat around a pond. The area contains a good example of kame and esker formation. Location of the State-designated threatened forked aster (Aster furcatus) |
| 22 | Blue Hills Woods | NA-2 (RSH) | T11N, R19E Section 3 City of West Bend, Town of Barton Section 10 Town of Barton | City of West Bend, Department of Natural Resources, and private | 266 | Relatively large, good-quality mesic and dry mesic woods on glacial topography of significant relief. Recovering from past grazing and selective cutting. Recently disturbed by construction of USH 45 along east edge |
| 23 | Silverbrook Lake Woods | NA-2 (RSH) | T11N, R19E Sections 15, 21, 22, 27 Town of West Bend | Girl Scouts of Milwaukee Area, Inc., Washington County, Cedar Lakes Conservation Foundation, and other private | 404 | A large area surrounding Silverbrook Lake, consisting mainly of good-quality southern mesic to dry-mesic hardwoods. Fairly diverse ground flora. Low area contains tamaracks and lowland hardwoods. Residences are beginning to encroach on south and west. Important to preserve as an intact block of relatively contiguous woods |
| 24 | Gilbert Lake Tamarack Swamp | NA-2 | T11N, R19E Sections 17, 20 Town of West Bend | Cedar Lakes Conservation Foundation and other private | 130 | A lightly developed lake surrounded by a wetland complex of tamarack swamp, bog, sedge meadow, and cattail marsh |
| 25 | Hacker Road Bog | NA-2 | T11N, R19E Section 20 Town of West Bend | Department of Natural Resources | 25 | Good-quality sphagnum bog, bordered by sedge meadow, shallow marsh, and shrub-carr |
| 26 | Muth Woods | NA-2 (RSH) | T11N, R19E Section 24 City of West Bend | Private | 30 | A good-quality, medium-aged stand of southern mesic hardwoods, with an exceptionally rich and diverse ground flora that includes some uncommon species. A depression near the center of the woods contains lowland hardwoods |
| 27 | Little Cedar Lake Wetlands | NA-2 | T11N, R19E Sections 32, 33 Town of West Bend | Cedar Lakes Conservation Foundation | 137 | Extensive wetlands at west end of Little Cedar Lake, containing good-quality deep and shallow marsh, sedge meadow, shrubcarr, tamarack relicts, and lowland hardwoods |
| 28 | Schoenbeck Woods | NA-2 | T11N, R20E Sections 20, 29 Town of Trenton | Private | 195 | Relatively large, moderate- to good-quality forested tract, consisting of lowland hardwoods, shrub-carr, southern mesic forest, and southern dry-mesic forest |
| 29 | Bellin Bog | NA-2 | T11N, R20E Section 33 Town of Trenton | Private | 17 | A good-quality sedge mat and tamarack swamp, with many fen elements, that border a shallow, undeveloped pond |
| 30 | Reinartz Cedar Swamp | NA-2 | T11N, R20E Sections 35, 36 Town of Trenton | Private | 119 | Good-quality northern wet-mesic forest, dominated by white cedar, tamarack, yellow and paper birch, red maple, and black ash. A number of species with more northerly affinities are present. Uplands to the east support a disturbed mesic woods |
| 31 | Wayne Swamp | NA-2 | T12N, R18E Sections 13, 14, 23, 24 Town of Wayne T12N, R19E Sections 18, 19 Town of Kewaskum | Private | 1,126 | A large depression in rolling moraine supports several wetland communities, including second-growth lowland hardwoods, northern wet-mesic forest, shrub-carr, and tamarack-fen, with southern mesic forest on isolated uplands |
| 32 | Kettle Moraine Drive Bog | NA-2 | T12N, R19E Section 1 Town of Kewaskum | Department of Natural Resources and private | 39 | A good-quality forested bog of tamarack and lack spruce over a layer of ericads, with yellow and paper birch established in older areas. A number of regionally uncommon species are present |
| 33 | Glacial Trail Forest | NA-2 | T12N, R19E Sections 11, 14 Town of Kewaskum | Department of Natural Resources and private | 223 | One of the largest intact tracts of contiguous southern mesic and dry-mesic forest remaining in the Region. Located on steep, irregular kettle moraine topography. Good overall quality; recovering from past selective cutting. Important to maintain as intact as possible |

| Number on Map 4 | Area Name | Classification Code ^a | Location | Ownership | Size (acres) | Description and Comments |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------|--|
| 34 | St. Michael's Woods | NA-2 | T12N, R19E Sections 13, 14, 24 Town of Kewaskum | Department of Natural Resources and private | 84 | Rolling interlobate moraine supporting southern mesic to dry- mesic hardwoods, dominated by sugar maple, red oak, and basswood. Moderately rich ground flora. Relatively recent selective logging |
| 35 | North Branch Woods | NA-2 | T12N, R20E Section 25 Town of Farmington | Private | 96 | Good-quality wooded tract bordering the North Branch of the Milwaukee River. Consists of southern mesic and wet-mesic hardwoods. Threatened by future logging operations |
| 36 | Myra Wetlands | NA-2 | T11N, R20E Section 15 Town of Trenton | Private | 69 | Good-quality wetland complex of shallow lake, marsh, sedge meadow, shrub-carr, and lowland hardwoods |
| | Subtotal | NA-2 | 29 sites | | 6,350 | |
| 37 | Hults Bog and Marsh | NA-3 | T9N, R18E Sections 3, 10 Town of Erin | Private | 14 | Small, moderate-quality sphagnum bog-tamarack swamp and associated shallow marsh. Marsh is stopover spot for migrating waterfowl |
| 38 | CTH E Wetlands | NA-3 | T9N, R18E Section 3 Town of Erin T10N, R18E Section 34 Town of Hartford | Private | 28 | Wetland complex of shrub-carr, sedge meadow, and shallow marsh that has suffered from past disturbance |
| 39 | Erin Sedge Meadow | NA-3 | T9N, R18E Sections 4, 5 Town of Erin | Private | 17 | Moderate-quality sedge meadow |
| 40 | Thompson Swamp | NA-3 | T9N, R18E Section 10 Town of Erin | Private | 182 | Large but disturbed wetland complex of lowland hardwoods, shrub-carr, sedge meadow, and tamarack relict. Contains some northern species, including white pine |
| 41 | Donegal Road Woods | NA-3 | T9N, R18E Sections 13, 24 Town of Erin T9N, R19E Section 18 Town of Richfield | Department of Natural Resources and private | 137 | Large, irregularly shaped dry-mesic woods on steep, southeast- facing slopes |
| 42 | St. Augustine Road Sedge Meadow | NA-3 | T9N, R18E Section 24 Town of Erin | Private | 11 | Good-quality southern sedge meadow |
| 43 | Mason Creek Swamp | NA-3 | T9N, R18E Sections 30, 31 Town of Erin | University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and private | 432 | Large lowland hardwoods area |
| 44 | CTH J Swamp | NA-3 | T9N, R19E Section 9 Town of Richfield | Kettle Moraine Audubon Society and other private | 100 | Moderate- to good-quality complex of shrub-carr, lowland hardwoods, and mesic hardwoods, with scattered spring seepages |
| 45 | Hubertus Road Sedge Meadow | NA-3 | T9N, R19E Section 19 Town of Richfield | Private | 7 | Good-quality southern sedge meadow bordering the Oconomowoc River |
| 46 | Amy Bell Lake and Lowlands | NA-3 | T9N, R19E Sections 24, 25 Town of Richfield | YMCA | 20 | Small, undeveloped lake with a narrow bog fringe, associated with a tamarack relict and shrub-carr that have suffered from past disturbance |
| 47 | Colgate Shrub-Carr | NA-3 | T9N, R19E Sections 26, 35 Town of Richfield | Private | 38 | Shrub-carr surrounding small, shallow lake; disturbed by access road |
| 48 | Lake Five Woods | NA-3 (RSH) | T9N, R19E Sections 31, 32 Town of Richfield | Private | 152 | Low- to moderate-quality mesic, dry-mesic, and xeric woods on steep kettle moraine terrain on north side of Lake Five. Depression contains small seepage pond and disturbed wetland plant communities. Small patches of dry hill prairie are located within the xeric woods and contain the Statedesignated threatened kittentails (Besseya bullii). Threatened by surrounding development |
| 49 | Faber-Pribyl Woods | NA-3 | T9N, R20E Sections 4, 9 Village of Germantown | Private | 39 | Small but good-quality remnant of mesic woods which still exhibits characteristics of an old-growth forest. Dominated by sugar maple and basswood, with some beech. Adjoining wet-mesic woods to north are of lesser quality |

| | | | | , | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------|---|
| Number on Map 4 | Area Name | Classification Code ^a | Location | Ownership | Size (acres) | Description and Comments |
| 50 | Hoelz Swamp | NA-3 | T9N, R20E Sections 10, 11, 14, 15 Village of Germantown | Private | 109 | A moderate-quality lowland hardwoods within the headwaters area of the Menomonee River. Dominated by silver and red maple and yellow birch, with some northern forest understory elements. Valuable for watershed protection |
| 51 | Lake Park Swamp | NA-3 | T9N, R20E Sections 21, 22 Village of Germantown | Village of Germantown and private | 54 | A disturbed silver maple-dominated lowland hardwood forest, important for protection of two intermittent streams tributary to the Menomonee River |
| 52 | Schoessow Woods | NA-3 (RSH) | T9N, R20E Section 24 Village of Germantown | Private | 51 | A relatively small but good-quality mix upland and basswood, are of medium-age, Very good species diversity, including two State-designated special concern species: American gromwell (<i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>) and goldenseal (<i>Hydrastis canaden-sis</i>). Threatened by residential subdivisions |
| 53 | USH 41 Swamp | NA-3 | T9N, R20E Sections 28, 33 Village of Germantown | Private | 228 | An extensive floodplain forest dominated by silver maple, with green ash, black ash, and American elm. Due to Dutch elm disease, dissection by USH 41-45, a logging history, and artificial drainage, its ecological value is low. Important for protection of Menomonee River tributaries |
| 54 | Kleinman Swamp | NA-3 | T9N, R20E Section 29 Village of Germantown | State of Wisconsin and private | 71 | Lowland hardwood forest of silver maple and some yellow birch. Low ecological value |
| 55 | Rubicon Lowlands | NA-3 | T10N, R18E Sections 15, 21, 22 Town of Hartford | Washington County and private | 30 | Moderate-quality southern sedge meadow along the Rubicon River |
| 56 | STH 60 Swamp | NA-3 | T10N, R18E Sections 14, 23 Town of Hartford | Private | 32 | Lowland hardwood swamp of moderate quality, containing some northern elements. Dominated by yellow birch and black ash |
| 57 | Pike Lake Sedge Meadow | NA-3 (RSH) | T10N, R18E Section 23 Town of Hartford | Wisconsin Department of Transportation and private | 14 | Good-quality southern sedge meadow and shallow marsh at north end of Pike Lake |
| 58 | Pike Lake Woods | NA-3 | T10N, R18E Section 24 Town of Hartford | Department of Natural Resources | 131 | Low- to medium-quality dry-mesic woods that has suffered from past disturbance, including grazing and selective logging. The irregular kettle moraine topography includes a prominent wooded kame at the southeast corner |
| 59 | Mueller Woods | NA-3 | T10N, R19E Section 6 Town of Polk | State of Wisconsin and private | 97 | Relatively large dry-mesic woods of moderate quality, located on rolling moraine with some deep kettle holes. Evidence of past grazing and selective logging. Site has recently been disturbed by road and residence in interior, and highway construction along western border |
| 60 | Slinger Upland Woods | NA-3 | T10N, R19E Sections 8, 9 Town of Polk | Private | 196 | Relatively large area of disturbed southern mesic and dry-mesic hardwoods on kettle and kame topography |
| 61 | Heritage Trails Bog | NA-3 | T10N, R19E Sections 20, 29 Town of Polk | Washington County and private | 94 | Relatively undisturbed tamarack bog within an interlobate morainal depression. Other associated communities include lowland hardwoods and shrub-carr |
| 62 | Kowalske Swamp | NA-3 | T10N, R20E Section 22 Town of Jackson | Private | 83 | Young to medium-aged northern wet-mesic hardwoods, disturbed by past selective cutting and windthrow. The ground flora is relatively diverse. A knoll at the northeast corner supports upland mesic woods |
| 63 | Sherman Road Swamp | NA-3 | T10N, R20E Section 25 Town of Jackson | Private | 96 | A lowland hardwood swamp dominated by red maple, green ash, and American elm on level terrain |
| 64 | Allenton Swamp | NA-3 | T11N, R18E Sections 22, 26, 27, 28, 35 Town of Addison | Department of Natural Resources and private | 1,091 | Large, disturbed wetland complex along the Rock River, including southern sedge meadow, lowland hardwoods, shrub-carr, emergent aquatics, and relict tamaracks |

| Number on Map 4 | Area Name | Classification Code ^a | Location | Ownership | Size (acres) | Description and Comments |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------|---|
| 65 | Newark Road Wetland | NA-3 | T11N, R19E Section 1 Town of Barton | Private | 9 | A kettle-hole wetland |
| 66 | Sunset Park Wetlands | NA-3 | T11N, R19E Sections 2, 3 City of West Bend | Private | 85 | Disturbed wetland complex containing shallow marsh, fresh (wet) meadow, and a good stand of tag alder (<i>Alnus rugosa</i>) |
| 67 | Albecker Park Wetlands | NA-3 | T11N, R19E Sections 9, 10 City of West Bend | Washington County and private | 91 | Shallow marsh and disturbed fresh (wet) meadow complex with some shrub-carr and scattered lowland hardwoods. Disturbances include water-level changes due to past draining efforts and filling |
| 68 | Silver Creek Marsh | NA-3 | T11N, R19E Section 15 City of West Bend | Washington County and private | 27 | Good-quality deep and shallow marsh and sedge meadow |
| 69 | University Fen | NA-3 (RSH) | T11N, R19E Section 15 City of West Bend | University of Wisconsin Center- Washington County | 1 | A small, moderate-quality calcareous fen and lowland hardwood forest recently disturbed by adjacent highway construction |
| 70 | CTH Z Upland Woods and Wetlands | NA-3 (RSH) | T11N, R19E Sections 16, 17, 20, 21 Town of West Bend | Cedar Lake Conservation Foundation and other private | 281 | Mature mesic hardwood forest on rough interlo-bate moraine, dominated by sugar maple, red oak, beech, and basswood. The moderately rich herb layer includes several uncommon species. Threatened by ongoing logging operations. Adjacent large wetland complex of shrub-carr, sedge meadow shallow marsh, and tamarack relict is divided by CTH Z |
| 71 | Ziegler Woods | NA-3 | T11N, R19E Section 28 Town of West Bend | Private | 170 | Large tract of southern mesic to dry-mesic hard- woods, dominated by sugar maple and red oak, on irregular glacial terrain. Past disturbance includes grazing and selective logging; more recently, wide horse and all-terrain-vehicle trails have degraded the site, allowing a number of exotic species to invade |
| 72 | Sandy Knoll Swamp | NA-3 | T11N, R20E Sections 4, 5 Town of Trenton T12N, R20E Section 33 Town of Farmington | Washington County and private | 339 | Large, patchy lowland hardwood forest with areas of tamarack. Some portions contain good-quality wet-mesic forest ground flora. Past disturbances include selective cutting and clear- cutting, and water-level changes due to ditching |
| 73 | Sandy Knoll Wetlands | NA-3 | T11N, R20E Sections 5, 6 Town of Trenton | Washington County and private | 47 | A small but good-quality wetland complex containing tamaracks, lowland hardwoods, shrub-carr, shallow marsh, and sedge fen associated with a spring-fed stream |
| 74 | Poplar Road Lacustrine Forest | NA-3 | T11N, R20E Sections 9, 10 Town of Trenton | Private | 177 | A disturbed lowland hardwoods stand |
| 75 | Fellenz Hardwood Swamp | NA-3 | T11N, R20E Section 16 Town of Trenton | Private | 58 | A southern wet to wet-mesic hardwood forest, located within the Milwaukee River floodplain. Disturbances include selective cutting and excessive siltation |
| 76 | Paradise Drive Tamarack Swamp | NA-3 (RSH) | T11N, R20E Sections 26, 35 Town of Trenton | Washington County and private | 81 | Northern wet-mesic forest, tamarack swamp, and shrub-carr of moderate quality |
| 77 | Camp Wowitan Wetlands | NA-3 (RSH) | T11N, R20E Sections 21, 22, 27,28 Town of Trenton | YMCA and other private | 109 | Relatively undeveloped lake and wetland complex with a well- developed esker. A good-quality calcareous fen, tamarack swamp, and mesic forest occur on the site |
| 78 | Schalla Tamarack Swamp | NA-3 | T11N, R20E Section 33 Town of Trenton | Private | 16 | A tamarack swamp |
| 79 | Theresa Swamp | NA-3 | T12N, R18E Sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30 Town of Wayne | Department of Natural Resources and private | 944 | Lowland hardwood forest bordering the Rock River, composed of large silver maple, plus black ash, green ash, American elm, and swamp white oak. Canopy has been opened by Dutch elm disease |

| Number | | Classification | | | Size | |
|----------|-------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|--|---|
| on Map 4 | Area Name | Code ^a | Location | Ownership | (acres) | Description and Comments |
| 80 | Wayne Creek Swamp | NA-3 | T12N, R18E Sections 21, 22, 27, 28 Town of Wayne | Private | 178 | Disturbed lowland hardwood forest along Wayne Creek. Openings in canopy from Dutch elm disease |
| 81 | Stockcar Swamp | NA-3 (RSH) | T12N, R18E Sections 23, 24, 25, 26 Town of Wayne | Private | 240 | Forested wetland of northern lowland hardwoods, tamarack-fen, shrub-carr, and alder thicket, of moderately good quality. A number of uncommon species are present |
| 82 | Rock River Marsh | NA-3 | T12N, R18E Sections 30, 31, 32 Town of Wayne | Department of Natural Resources and private | 326 | Shallow marsh within the Rock River floodplain, dominated by cattails. Bisected by railway right-of-way |
| 83 | Kettle Moraine Drive Woods | NA-3 (RSH) | T12N, R19E Sections 2, 11, 12 Town of Kewaskum T13N, R19E Section 35 Town of Auburn | Department of Natural Resources | 287 (plus 30 in Fond du Lac County) | Long, north-south-trending, irregularly shaped southern mesic and dry-mesic forest that is recovering from past grazing and selective cutting. Located on steep-sided, gravelly ridges of the interlobate kettle moraine. Forest is mostly second-growth. Important as linkage between other large forest blocks to the north and south |
| 84 | STH 28 Woods | NA-3 | T12N, R19E Sections 12, 13 Town of Kewaskum | Private | 145 | Good-quality southern mesic hardwoods, dominated by sugar maple, ironwood, and basswood, located on kettle moraine topography. Recent cutting, roads, trails, and new homesite construction are threatening the integrity of the woods |
| 85 | Smith Lake Swamp | NA-3 | T12N, R19E Section 35 Town of Barton | Private | 38 | Mixed lowland hardwood and conifer swamp bordering Smith Lake |
| 86 | Lange Hardwoods | NA-3 | T12N, R19E Section 28 Town of Barton | Private | 53 | Good-quality southern mesic hardwood forest on steep kettle moraine topography |
| 87 | Wildwood Hardwood Swamp | NA-3 | T12N, R19E Sections 33, 34 Town of Barton | Private | 98 | A lowland hardwood forest area |
| 88 | Milwaukee River Swamp | NA-3 | T12N, R20E Sections 1, 2, 11, 12 Town of Farmington | Private | 546 | A large but disturbed wetland complex of lowland hardwoods, northern wet-mesic forest, shrub-carr, and sedge meadow bordering the Milwaukee River |
| 89 | Lizard Mound Woods | NA-3 | T12N, R20E Sections 31, 32 Town of Farmington | Washington County | 28 | Mature dry-mesic hardwoods dominated by sugar maple, red oak basswood, white ash, beech, and white oak. Contains Indian effigy mounds of statewide significance |
| 90 | Green Lake Bog | NA-3 | T12N, R20E Section 34 Town of Farmington | Private | 19 | Small but good-quality undeveloped bog lake bordered by sphagnum mat, conifer swamp, and mesic hardwoods |
| 91 | Cedar-Sauk Low Woods | NA-3 | T11N, R20E Section 36 Town of Trenton T10N, R21E Sections 5, 6 Town of Cedarburg T11N, R21E Sections 31, 32 Town of Saukville | Private | 14 (plus 204 in Ozaukee County) | Lowland hardwood forest of silver maple, green and black ash, and American elm, with evidence of abundant past disturbances, including grazing, power-line right-of-way, and two highways. Stream flows through area from Cedarburg Bog |
| | Subtotal | NA-3 | 55 sites | | 7,961 | |
| | Total | All Natural Areas | 91 sites | | 15,970 | |

RSH, or Rare Species Habitat, identifies those sites which support rare, threatened, or endangered animal or plant species officially designated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

^aNA-1 identifies Natural Area sites of statewide or greater significance.
NA-2 identifies Natural Area sites of countywide or regional significance.
NA-3 identifies Natural Area sites of local significance.
SNA, or State Natural Area, identifies those sites officially designated as State Natural Areas by the State of Wisconsin Natural Areas Preservation Council.

| Number on | Site Name and | | Site Area | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Map 5 | Classification Code ^a | Location | (acres) | Ownership | Species of Concern ^b |
| 92 | Jackson Woods (CSH-P) | T10N, R20E, Section 20 | 24 | Village of Jackson and private | American gromwell (<i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>) (R) |
| 93 | St. Anthony Maple Woods (CSH-P) | T11N, R18E, Section 10 | 90 | Private | American gromwell (<i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>) (R) |
| 94 | Doll Woods (CSH-P) | T11N, R18E, Section 16 | 22 | Private | American gromwell (<i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>) (R) |
| 95 | Riesch Woods (CSH-P) | T11N, R19E, Section 6 | 34 | Private | American gromwell (Lithospermum latifolium) (R) |
| 96 | Silver Lake Swamp (CSH-P) | T11N, R19E, Section 34 | 10 | Private | Showy lady's slipper (<i>Cypripedium</i> reginae) (R) |
| 97 | Cameron Property (CSH-P) | T11N, R20E, Section 8 | 12 | Private | Small yellow lady's slipper (Cypridpedium parviflorum) (R) |
| 98 | Fechters Woods (CSH-P) | T11N, R20E, Section 36 | 6 | Private | Golden seal (Hydrastis canadensis) (R) |
| 99 | High School Woods (CSH-P) | T11N, R19E, Section 24 | 7 | West Bend School District | Ginseng (Panax quinquefolius) (R) |
| 100 | Unnamed Wetland (CSH-B) | T10N, R18E, Section 25 | 17 | Private | Black tern (R) (Colony) |
| 101 | Unnamed Wetland (CSH-B) | T10N, R18E, Section 13 | 40 | Private | Black tern (R) (Colony) |
| 102 | Silver Lake (CSH-B) | T11N, R19E, Section 27 | 7 | Private | Red-shouldered hawk (T) |
| 103 | Gilbert Lake (CSH-B) | T11N, R19E, Sections 17, 20 | 10 ^C | Private | Black Tern (R) (Colony) |
| 104 | Unnamed Wetland (CSH-B) | T12N, R18E, Section 7 | 53 | Private | Great egret (T) |
| Total | Critical Species Habitat Sites | | 332 | | |

^aCSH-P identifies a critical plant species habitat site; CSH-B identifies a critical bird species habitat site.

^b"R" refers to species designated as rare or special concern; "T" refers to species designated as threatened.

^CAbout 100 acres of this 110 acre site are within the Gilbert Lake Natural Area.

| Number | Site Name | Classification | Site Area | Location | Ownership | Description |
|----------|---|----------------|-----------|--|---|--|
| on Map 5 | | Codea | (Acres) | | | |
| 105 | Freiss Lake (Hogsback) Crevasse Filling | (GA-1) | 25 | T9N, R19E Section 19 Town of Richmond | Private | Excellent example of a crevasse filling |
| 106 | Erin Esker | (GA-2) | 192 | T9N, R18E Sections 10, 15, 16, 21 Town of Erin | Private | A good example of an esker, easily demonstrated on an agricultural landscape. Some development impacts |
| 107 | Myra Esker | (GA-2) | 16 | T11N, R20E Sections 15, 16 Town of Trenton | Private | A well-developed, little-disturbed east-west trending esker covered by natural vegetation |
| 108 | Kewaskum Kame | (GA-2) | 47 | T12N, R19E Section 3 Town of Kewaskum | Private | A well-developed, isolated conical kame which serves as the "gateway" to the Northern Unit of the Kettle Moraine Forest |
| 109 | Lac Lawrann Kame and Esker | (GA-3) | 12 | T11N, R19E Section 1 City of West Bend | City of West Bend | Good example of kame and esker formation |
| 110 | Camp Wowitan Esker | (GA-3) | 57 | T11N, R20E Sections 27, 28 Town of Trenton | YMCA & Private | Well-developed northeast-southwest trending esker |
| 111 | Little Menomonee River Reef District | (GA-2) | 10 | T9N, R20E Sections 35, 36 Village of Germantown | Private | Silurian Racine Dolomite reef rock exposures. Considerable importance in scientific research. Contains a wide variety of reef features |
| 112 | Germantown Roadcut | (GA-3) | 5 | T9N, R20E Section 22 Village of Germantown | Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation | Roadcut providing excellent cross-section through Racine Dolomite, revealing fossils and rock types |
| 113 | Trenton Quarry and Lime Kiln | (GA-3) | 3 | T11N, R20E Section 34 Town of Trenton | Private | Small quarry exposing massive Silurian dolomite. Primitive, relatively undisturbed kilns |
| 114 | Kewaskum Quarry and Lime Kiln | (GA-3) | 5 | T12N, R19E Section 6 Town of Kewaskum | Private | Old quarry and lime kiln expose dolomite containing abundant brachiopod fossils. Relatively undisturbed lime-burning operation |
| Total | Geological Sites | | 372 | - | - | - |

^aGA-1 identifies Geological Area sites of statewide or greater significance; GA-2 identifies Geological Area sites of countywide or regional significance; and GA-3 identifies Geological Area sites of local significance.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, SEWRPC, and Washington County Planning and Parks Department