

Chapter 2 – Inventory Findings



Introduction

The proper formulation of a park and open space plan necessitates the collection and collation of data related to existing demographic and economic characteristics, existing land uses, and natural resources. Such data provide an important basis for determining the need for additional park and open space sites and facilities and for designing a plan to meet those needs.

As further described later in this chapter and in detail within Appendix B, there were 31,821 acres encompassed within park and open space sites in Washington County in 2014. A summary of inventory findings is presented in this chapter. See Appendix B for a detailed description of the Inventory Findings and related maps.



Demographics

Population Trends

As shown in Table 2.1, between 2000 and 2010 the population of Washington County grew by more than 14,000 persons to reach 131,887 persons. As of 2019, it was estimated by the Wisconsin Department of Administration that 137,637 residents lived in Washington County. Looking forward to 2050, it is projected that Washington County’s population will rise to 180,830 residents.

Table 2.1

CHANGE IN POPULATION IN WASHINGTON COUNTY: 2000-2010

Year	Population	Change from Preceding Census	
		Absolute	Percent
2000	117,493	22,165	23.3
2010	131,887	14,394	12.3

See Table B-1 in Section 2 of Appendix B for historic resident population details.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and Washington County.

Household Trends

There were 51,605 households in Washington County in 2010, an increase of 7,762 from 2000. As of 2019, it was estimated by the Wisconsin Department of Administration that there were 58,396 housing units in Washington County. Household projections indicate that the number of households will increase about 44 percent to 74,448 by 2050,



Between 1970 and 2010 in Washington County, the number of households increased at a faster rate than the population and resulted in a decreased number of persons per household.

Employment Trends

Between 2000 and 2010, job growth slowed in Washington County relative to previous decades but still increased by 6 percent while the Region experienced a job loss of almost 3 percent. There were approximately 63,900 jobs in Washington County in 2010. It is expected that by 2050, there will be 87,400 jobs, a nearly 37 percent increase over the 2010 figure.

Land Use¹

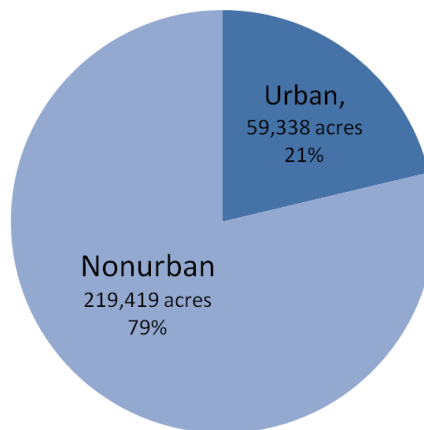
Historic Urban Growth

The period from 1963 to 2010 saw significant urban growth in scattered locations throughout the County, particularly in the southern portion of the County in the Villages of Germantown and Richfield and the Town of Erin. Moderate development in and around the City of West Bend and the other established urban centers in the northern portion of the County also occurred during this period.

Trends and Existing Land Uses

Between 1990 and 2015, the amount of land used for urban uses, including residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation uses, increased by about 20,321 acres, from about 38,082 acres to 59,338 acres, or about 54.7 percent. The amount of land used for non-urban uses decreased by 8.4 percent from 240,748 acres in 1990 to 219,419 in 2015. As displayed in Figure 2.1, in 2015, about 21 percent of the County was in an urban land use and 79 percent was nonurban.

Figure 2.1
SUMMARY OF EXISTING LAND USES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY: 2015



See Table B.7 in Section 3 of Appendix B for land use details.
Source: SEWRPC and Washington County.

On April 10, 2019, the Washington County Board of Supervisors adopted *A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Washington County:2050*. As the County’s population continues to grow, the amount of land used for residential, industrial and commercial uses will continue to increase. Land designated for urban residential is expected to increase by 68 percent as compared to land occupied for such uses in 2015. The amount of land designated for commercial use would increase from 1,834 acres to 7,728 acres, an increase of 321 percent. The amount of land designed for industrial use represents an increase of about 216 percent between 2015 and 2050, from 2,053 acres in 2015 to 6,494 acres in 2050.

¹ See Section 3 of Appendix B for land use details.

Natural Resources²

Since the preparation and adoption of the year 2020 Washington County park and open space plan in 2004, additional inventory information concerning the location and extent of natural resources has been collected. This section presents such information as it relates to Washington County. Since 2014, the Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Washington County 2050 has been adopted. As described in several sections below, updated inventory is available in the comprehensive plan at www.co.washington.wi.us/pln.

Surface Water Resources

Surface water resources, consisting of lakes and streams and their associated wetlands, floodplains, and shorelands, form important elements of the natural resource base of the County.

- There are approximately 220 miles of major streams in Washington County.
- There are 13 major lakes (lakes of 50 or more acres) located entirely within Washington County with a combined surface area of about 2,563 acres.
- The three largest lakes are Big Cedar Lake (957 acres), Pike Lake (469 acres), and Little Cedar Lake (266 acres).



There are approximately 220 miles of major streams in Washington County.

Floodplains

The floodplains of a river are the wide, gently sloping areas usually lying on both sides of a river or stream channel. Floodplains are generally not well suited for urban development because of the flood hazard, the presence of high water tables, and/or the presence of wet soils. There are approximately 42,817 acres of floodplains or about 15 percent of the County.

² See Section 4 of Appendix B for natural resource details.

Wetlands

Wetlands generally occur in depressions and near the bottom of slopes, particularly along lakeshores and stream banks, and on large land areas that are poorly drained. Wetlands encompassed about 46,640 acres, or 17 percent of the County, in 2015.

Woodlands

Woodlands are defined as upland areas of one acre or more in area, having 17 or more trees per acre, each deciduous tree measuring at least four inches in diameter 4.5 feet above the ground, and having canopy coverage of 50 percent or greater. In 2015, woodlands encompassed over 26,000 acres, or about 9 percent of the County.



In 2015, woodlands encompassed over 26,000 acres, or about 9 percent of the County.

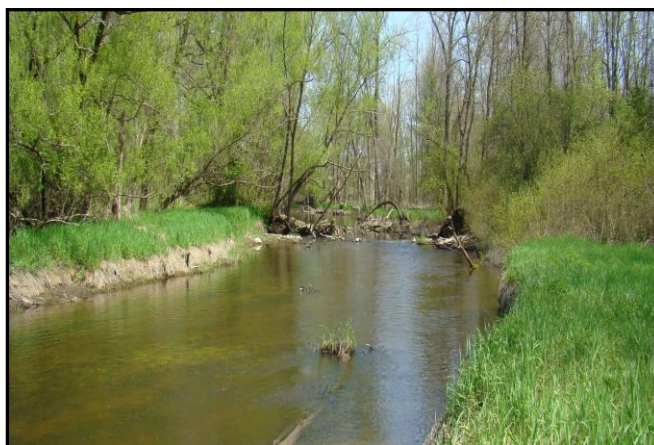
Natural Areas

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 plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the landscape before European settlement.

Natural areas sites are classified into one of three categories: natural areas of statewide or greater significance (NA-1), natural areas of countywide or regional significance (NA-2), and natural areas of local significance (NA-3).

In 2016, a total of 95 natural areas were identified in Washington County and encompassed about 16,906 acres, or about 6 percent of the County.

- 8 were classified as NA-1 sites and encompassed about 3,267 acres
- 28 were classified as NA-2 sites and encompassed about 5,533 acres
- 59 were classified as NA-3 sites and encompassed about 8,106 acres



The preservation of areas in which concentrations of the best remaining elements of the natural resource base occur is essential to both the maintenance of the overall environmental quality of the Region.

Critical Species Habitat and Aquatic Sites

Critical species habitat sites consist of areas outside natural areas that are important for their ability to support rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species. Such areas constitute “critical” habitat considered to be important to the survival of a particular species or group of species of special concern.

A total of 21 sites supporting rare or threatened plant and animal species were identified in Washington County in 2016. These sites encompassed an area of 1,035 acres, or less than 1 percent of the County.

There were 60 aquatic habitat sites supporting threatened or rare fish, herptile, or mussel species in the County, including 200 miles of rivers and streams and 2,749 acres of lake waters.

Geological Sites

Geological sites are tracts of land that include specific glacial features such as eskers and kames, fossil beds, and rock outcrop and exposed bedrock sites of scientific and educational value.

A total of 12 sites of geological importance were identified in the County in 2016. Together, these sites encompass about 40,000 acres in Washington County, with the Kettle Moraine encompassing about 39,500 acres and the remaining 11 sites encompassing about 400 acres.

- 2 sites were of statewide significance (GA-1), the Kettle Moraine and the Friess Lake Crevasse Filling
- 4 sites were of countywide or regional significance (GA-2)
- 6 sites were of local significance (GA-3)



The Kettle Moraine Interlobate Moraine is a geological site of statewide significance and spans nearly 40,000 acres.

Primary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of the most important natural resources and are at least 400 acres in size, two miles long, and 200 feet wide. An isolated concentration of natural resource features, encompassing between five and 100 acres but not large enough to meet the size or length criteria for primary environmental corridors, is referred to as an isolated natural resource area.



More than 60,000 acres were encompassed within primary environmental corridors in Washington County in 2015.

- About 62,691³ acres, comprising about 22 percent of the County, were encompassed within primary environmental corridors in 2015
- About 7,262⁴ acres, or about 2 percent of the County, were encompassed within isolated natural resource areas in 2015

Natural Heritage Sites

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) county data are intended as a general reference for the public, and are presented as a list of rare species (endangered, threatened and special concern) and other sensitive resources – high-quality natural communities and significant natural features – that are known to occur within each township in a county. Table B-16 in Appendix B identifies the Natural Heritage Sites in Washington County.

Invasive Species⁵

Invasive species are non-native plants and animals whose introduction cause or are likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Invasive species can alter ecological relationships among native species and can affect ecosystem function and structure, economic value of ecosystems, and human health. Invasive species out-compete native plants, and may degrade fish and wildlife habitat, reduce agricultural yields, and hinder recreational opportunities. The first step towards controlling invasive species in Washington County is to inventory species present in the County.

³ Includes about 3,991 acres of surface water.

⁴ Includes about 100 acres of surface water.

⁵ Washington County Land and Water Resource Management Plan (2nd Revision 2011-2010).

Invasive species can be subcategorized as aquatic or terrestrial and by plant or animal. Table B-17 in Appendix B documents examples of some of the most prevalent or high-profile invasive species found in Washington County in 2014.

Existing Park and Open Space Sites⁶

Park and open space sites are established through simple fee ownership or through protective easements. As described in Table 2.2, 390 park and open space sites encompassing 28,327 acres had been established through fee simple ownership. Coupled with an additional 76 easements encompassing 3,382 acres, there were 466 park and open space sites encompassing 31,709 acres in Washington County.

Owned by Washington County

Park and open space sites owned by Washington County and operated as part of the County Park and Trail System in 2019 are listed in Table 2.3 and shown on Map 2.1. In 2019, Washington County owned 14 such sites, including six major⁷ parks encompassing 1,082 acres; six other park and outdoor recreation sites encompassing 143 acres; one other special outdoor recreation site and one mitigation site, not considered part of the County park system, encompassing 152 acres. In all, these 14 sites encompass 1,377 acres or less than 1 percent of the total area of the County.

The six existing major parks in 2019 were Ackerman’s Grove County Park and Heritage Trails County Park in the Town of Polk, Family Park/Washington County Golf Course in the Town of Hartford, Glacier Hills County Park in

Table 2.2
PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

Method of Establishment	Number of Sites	Total Acres
Fee Simple Ownership		
Washington County (2019)	14	1,377
State of Wisconsin (2017)	38	13,311
Conservation Organizations	67	3,282
Local Governments and Public School Districts	159	3,595
Commercial and Organizational	112	6,762
Subtotal	390	28,327
Protective Easements	76	3,382
Total	466	31,709

Source: Washington County.



Ackerman’s Grove County Park is one of 12 parks owned by Washington County in 2019.

⁶ See Section 5 of Appendix B for existing park and open space site details.

⁷ Major parks are defined as large, publicly owned outdoor recreation sites containing significant natural resource amenities which provide opportunities for such resource-oriented activities as camping, golfing, picnicking, and swimming. Major parks include both Type I, or regional parks, which are those having an area of 250 acres or more, and Type II, or multi-community parks, which are those having an area of generally 100 to 250 acres.

the Village of Richfield, Homestead Hollow County Park in the Village of Germantown and Sandy Knoll County Park in the Town of Trenton. In addition to the existing major parks, the County also owns six other park and outdoor recreation sites which include: Goeden County Park, Henschke Hillside Lake Access, Joseph P. Marx Woods and Nature Preserve, Leonard J. Yahr County Park, Lizard Mound County Park, and Isadore and Lorraine Spaeth County Park. As of October 2019, Joseph P. Marx Woods is for sale. In February 2020 the Washington County Board adopted a resolution to convey Lizard Mound to the State of Wisconsin for anticipated ownership by the Milwaukee Audubon Society. Special outdoor recreation and other open space sites owned by the County, but not part of the County park and trail system, include the Washington County Fair Park in the Town of Polk; and one mitigation site in the Town of Farmington. The Eisenbahn State Trail, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is operated by Washington County.

Table 2.3

PARK, OUTDOOR RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE SITES OWNED BY WASHINGTON COUNTY: 2019

Number on Map 2.1	Site Name	Location	Size (acres)
Major Parks			
1	Ackerman’s Grove County Park	Town of Polk	64
2/3	Washington County Golf Course / Family Park	Town of Hartford	264/15
4	Glacier Hills County Park	Village of Richfield	139
5	Heritage Trails County Park	Town of Polk	234
6	Homestead Hollow County Park	Village of Germantown	104
7	Sandy Knoll County Park	Town of Trenton	262
	Subtotal – 6 Sites		1,082
Other Park and Outdoor Recreation Sites			
8	Goeden County Park	Town of Trenton	4
9	Henschke Hillside Lake Access	Town of West Bend	9
10	Joseph P. Marx Woods and Nature Preserve	Town of Hartford	40
11	Leonard J. Yahr County Park	Town of Farmington	38
12	Lizard Mound County Park	Town of Farmington	32
13	Isadore and Lorraine Spaeth County Park	Town of Jackson	20
	Subtotal – 6 Sites		143
Special Outdoor Recreation and Other Open Space Sites			
14	Washington County Fair Park	Town of Polk	130
15	Mitigation Site	Town of Farmington	22
	Subtotal – 2 Sites		152
Total – 14 Sites			1,377
Trails Operated by Washington County			
	Eisenbahn State Trail	City of West Bend, Town of Barton, Town of Kewaskum, Village of Kewaskum	12 miles

Source: Washington County.

Selected outdoor recreation facilities within the County park system in 2019 are listed in Table 2.4. Ten parks within the County system currently provide picnic areas, four parks provide swimming beaches, ten parks provide hiking trails, two parks provide trailered boat launches, and six parks provide carry-in boat launching.

Table 2.4
RECREATION FACILITIES WITHIN WASHINGTON COUNTY PARKS: 2019

	Ackerman's Grove	Family Park	Glacier Hills	Goeden Park	Henschke Hillside Lake Access	Heritage Trails	Homestead Hollow	Isadore and Lorraine Spaeth	Leonard J. Yahr	Lizard Mound	Sandy Knoll
Acreage	75	16	139	4	9	234	104	20	38	32	262
Summer Seasonal (closed November 15 - March 31)		◆		◆		◆		◆		◆	
Reservable Shelter	3	1	4	1		1	4	1	2		4
Heated Reservable Shelter	1		1				1		1		1
Carry-in Boat Launching (no charge)	◆		◆	◆	◆				◆		◆
Trailered Boat Launch (fee required)	◆				◆						
Picnic Area	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Hiking Trails	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆
Snowmobile Trail Access			◆			◆					◆
Fishing	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆		◆		◆
Play Fields											◆
Soccer Fields	◆					◆	◆				◆
Basketball Court			◆				◆				◆
Playground Equipment	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		◆		◆
⁽¹⁾ Sand Volleyball	◆	◆	◆				◆				◆
⁽²⁾ Swimming	◆		◆						◆		◆
Horseshoe Areas							◆				◆
⁽³⁾ Lighted Ice Skating							◆				
⁽⁴⁾ Lighted Sledding Hill			◆				◆				
⁽⁵⁾ Cross-Country Ski Trail	◆		◆			◆	◆		◆		◆
Historical Site			◆							◆	
Water	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆
Flush Restroom Facility (heated)	◆		◆	◆	◆		◆		◆		◆
Non-flush Restroom Facility (not heated)	◆	◆				◆		◆		◆	◆
Lighted Parking Area	◆		◆		◆		◆				◆
Dog Park							◆				
Disc Golf						◆					◆
Foot Golf						◆					
Paved ADA Trails	◆						◆		◆		◆
VRBO			1						1		1
Camping Cabins			4								

⁽¹⁾ Bring own net and ball

⁽²⁾ No lifeguard on duty

⁽³⁾ Only when weather conditions permit

⁽⁴⁾ Glacier Hills Sled Hill not designed for small children

⁽⁵⁾ Trail is not groomed

Source: Washington County.

In 2016-2017, the Washington County Park System converted a shelter and two former park ranger homes into vacation rentals by owner (VRBO). Table 2.5 describes the amenities found in each of the VRBO homes.

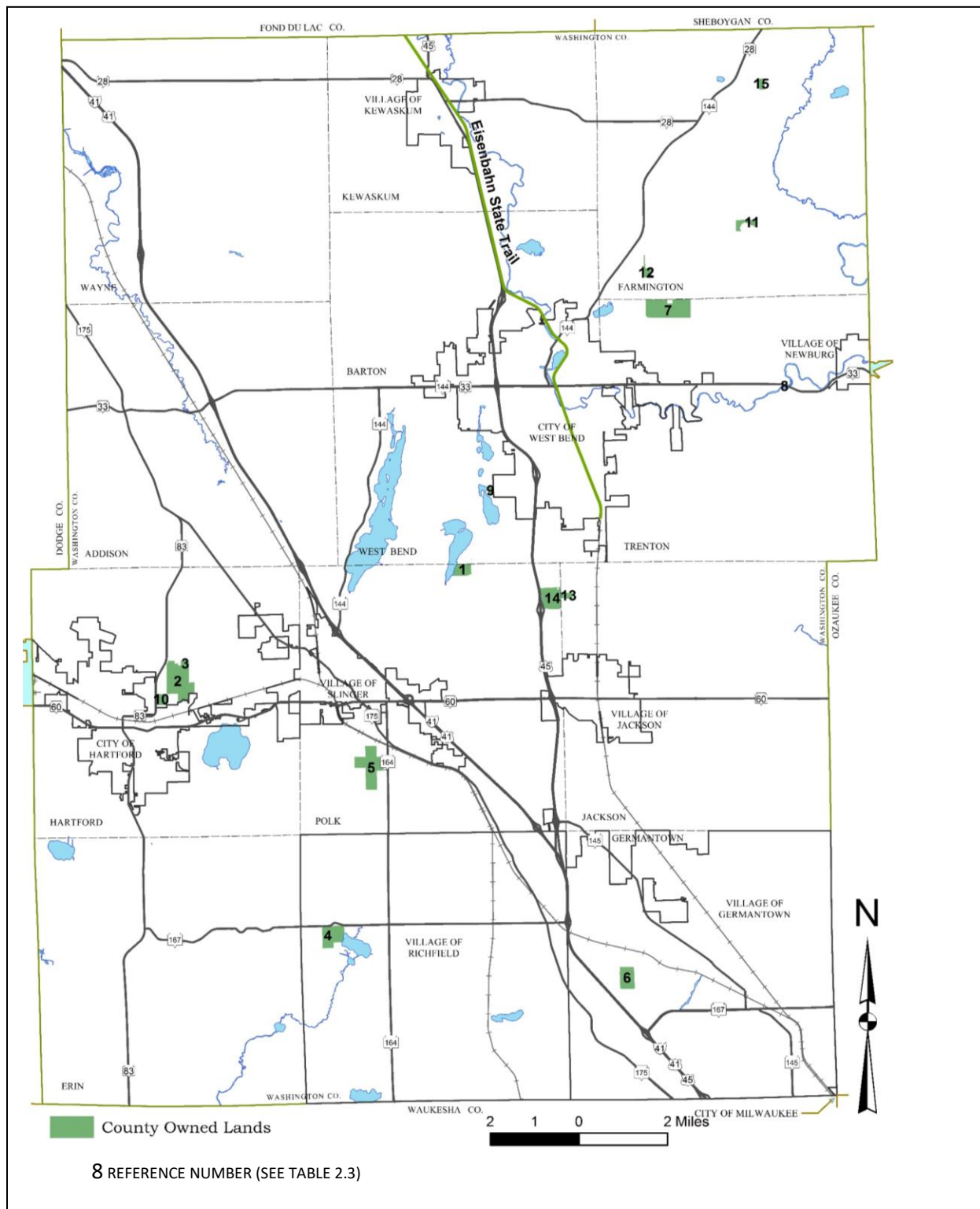
Table 2.5
WASHINGTON COUNTY OWNED VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES: 2019

	Occupancy	Bedrooms	Bathrooms	Garage	Air Conditioning	Internet	Washer/Dryer
Glacier Hills	14	4	1.5	◆	◆	◆	◆
Sandy Knoll	8	3	1.5	◆	◆	◆	◆
Yahr	8	4	2		◆		◆



Leonard J. Yahr County Park

**Map 2.1
 PARK, OUTDOOR RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE SITES OWNED BY
 WASHINGTON COUNTY: 2019**



Owned by the State of Wisconsin

In 2017, there were 38 State-owned park and open space sites in Washington County, encompassing 13,311 acres, or about 5 percent of the total area of the County.

Of these 38 sites:

- 28 sites encompassing 12,829 acres were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- 7 sites, encompassing 419 acres were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation
- 3 sites, encompassing 63 acres, were owned by the University of Wisconsin

Resource Protection Sites Owned by Conservation Organizations

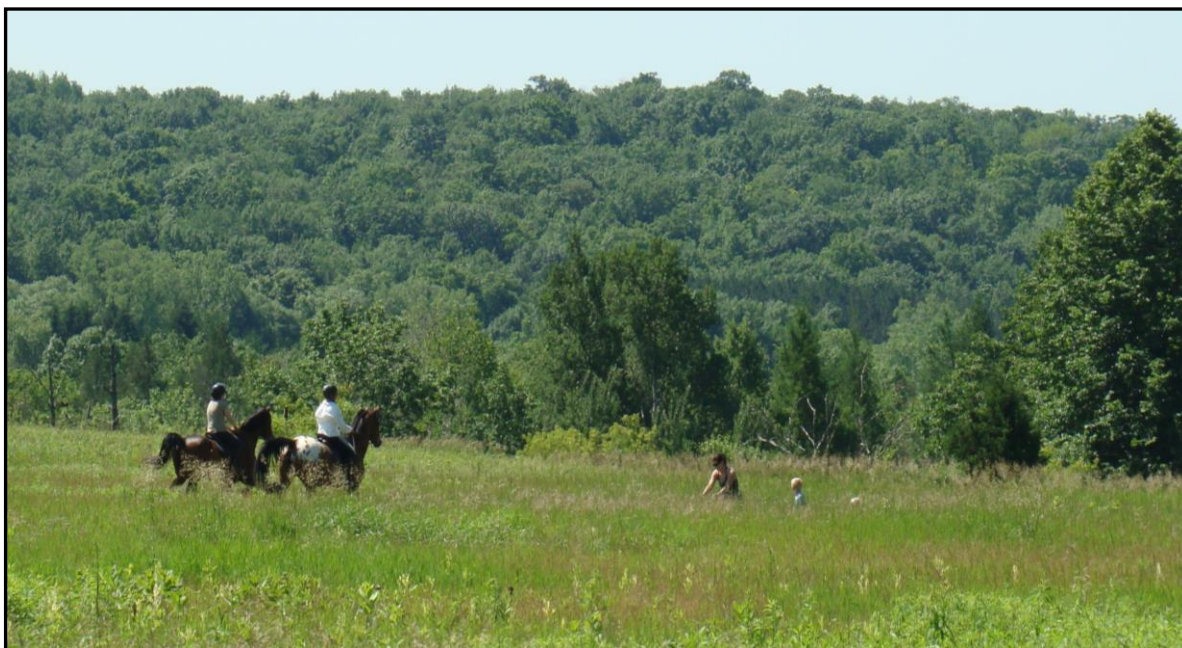
There are a number of conservation organizations active in Washington County that acquire lands for resource protection purposes. As shown in Table 2.5, such organizations owned 67 sites encompassing 3,282 acres in 2014.

Table 2.6

RESOURCE PROTECTION SITES OWNED BY CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY: 2014

Organization Name	Number of Sites	Total Acres
Ozaukee Washington Land Trust	12	839
Ice Age Trail Alliance	3	148
Cedar Lakes Conservation Organization	28	1,102
Friends of Nature Association	1	17
Big Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	3	149
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (Greenseams)	18	768
Friends of Wisconsin Preservation	1	172
Cedar Lake Partners	1	87
Total	67	3,282

See Table B.19 in Section 5 of Appendix B for resource protection site details. Source: Various conservation organizations and Washington County.



The Kettle Moraine State Forest – Loew Lake Unit provides recreational opportunities for hikers and horseback riders.

Lands Under Protective Easements

As shown in Table 2.6, there were 76 sites encompassing 3,382 acres under protective easements in Washington County in 2014. These easements are typically voluntary contracts between a private landowner and a land trust or government agency that limit, or in some cases prohibit, future development of the parcel.

DNR and Land Trust Focus Areas

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board has approved project boundaries for State forests and wildlife areas in the County. Lands within the approved project boundaries are intended to be acquired in fee-simple ownership on a “willing seller-willing buyer” basis and through a combination of public ownership and conservation easements. The Ozaukee Washington Land Trust works throughout Washington County to preserve important natural resource areas.

Lands Owned by Local Governments and Public School Districts

There were 159 park and open space sites owned by local governments and public schools in Washington County in 2014. Those sites encompassed about 3,595 acres, or about 1 percent of the County. Local governments owned 126 of the park and open space sites and public schools owned 33 of the sites.

Commercial and Organizational Park and Open Space Sites

In 2014, 112 park and open space sites owned by organizations and/or owned for commercial purposes encompassed about 7,531 acres, or about 3 percent of the County. These sites

Table 2.7

SUMMARY OF LANDS UNDER PROTECTIVE EASEMENTS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY: 2014

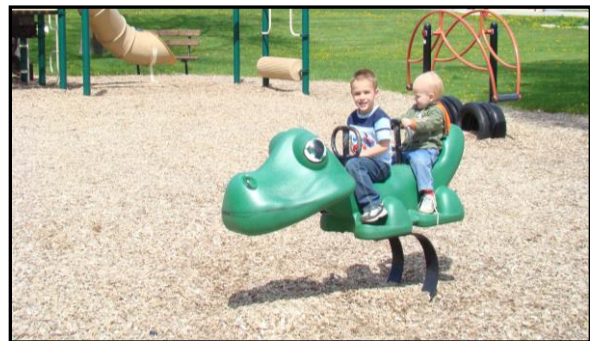
Easement Holder	Number of Sites	Total Acres
Ozaukee Washington Land Trust	22	1,620
WI Department of Natural Resources	37	953
Tall Pines Conservancy	1	325
Statewide Non-Point Easement Program	1	1
Cedar Lakes Conservation Organization	7	209
Big Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	1	5
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (Greenseams)	7	269
Total	76	3,382

See Table B.20 in Section 5 of Appendix B for lands under protective easement details.

Source: Various easement holders and Washington County.



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has an adopted project boundary for the Kettle Moraine State Forest - Pike Lake Unit.



Local governments owned 126 park and open space sites in the County in 2014.

include privately-owned golf courses, schools, subdivision parks, hunting clubs, campgrounds, boat access sites, horse stables, and soccer parks.

Lake and River Access⁸

Access to Waterbodies

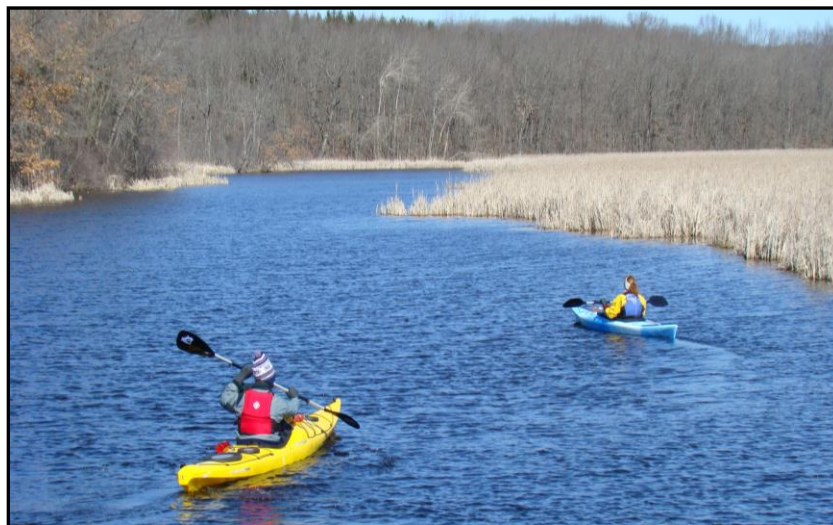
Washington County contains at least 66 documented waterbodies that encompass approximately 3,100 acres. Of these, 13 are major lakes located entirely within Washington County: Bark Lake, Barton Pond, Big Cedar Lake, Druid Lake, Friess Lake, Green Lake, Lake Twelve, Little Cedar Lake, Lucas Lake, Pike Lake, Silver Lake, Smith Lake, and Wallace Lake. An additional major lake, Lake Five, is located partially within Waukesha County.

- Publicly-owned boat access sites in Washington County are provided at the following major lakes: Big Cedar Lake, Little Cedar Lake, Druid Lake, Pike Lake, Silver Lake, and Wallace Lake.
- Privately-owned boat access sites on major lakes are also provided at Big Cedar Lake, Friess Lake, Little Cedar Lake, and Pike Lake.
- Public access to major lakes for carry-in boating is provided on Barton Pond and Pike Lake.

On the 66 documented waterbodies in Washington County, it is estimated that some form of public accessibility is offered on 25 of them through 12 trailered boat launches, 20 carry-in boat access sites, seven fishing piers, 17 shore fishing areas, and four swimming beaches.

Access to Waterways

Carry-in watercraft access to the Milwaukee River is provided at a number of locations in the County. There are also numerous other sites that provide access for carry-in boating, fishing, and passive enjoyment to minor lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams in Washington County.



Carry-in watercraft access is available at numerous locations in Washington County.

⁸ See Section 6 of Appendix B for lake and river access details.

Trails and Bikeways⁹

Hiking Trails

Ice Age National Scenic Trail

The Ice Age National Scenic Trail is a continuous footpath that extends approximately 1,200 miles across the State of Wisconsin along the terminal moraine formed during the Wisconsin Glaciation. The Ice Age Trail provides a natural corridor for wildlife and habitat, is an educational resource for people to learn about the cultural and geological history of Wisconsin, and provides quiet places for people to form a connection with the landscape. About 35 miles of completed footpath has been built in Washington County. The trail is designated for walking and hiking only. In areas where there is not yet a designated footpath, the Ice Age Trail uses roads as connectors.



The Ice Age Trail is planned to extend approximately 1,000 miles across the State of Wisconsin.

Water Trails

Water trails are recreational routes on waterways with a network of public access points supported by broad-based community partnerships and provide both conservation and recreational opportunities.¹⁰ There are numerous publicly accessible carry-in watercraft access points on the Milwaukee River and many other rivers and streams throughout Washington County.

Snowmobiling Trails

There were approximately 12,000 snowmobiles registered in Washington County in 2014. Through a combined effort, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Washington County Association of Snowmobile Clubs, and 14 local snowmobile clubs, approximately 300 miles of snowmobile trails in Washington County are marked, managed, and maintained during winter months and are open to snowmobile travel when conditions permit.



Snowmobiling on Eisenbahn Trail

⁹ See Section 7 of Appendix B for trail details.

¹⁰ National Parks Service, National Water Trails System.

Bikeways and Bike Trails

- ***Eisenbahn State Trail*** – Beginning at Rusco Drive on the south side of the City of West Bend, the trail runs north with a paved surface for five miles within the City of West Bend. The surface transitions to crushed gravel on the north side of the City of West Bend as the trail continues 7.7 miles through the Village of Kewaskum and an additional 12 miles north to the Village of Eden in Fond du Lac County for a total of 24 miles. The trail passes through farmland, industrial and residential areas and near scenic waterways.

The former railroad grade is level and open for bicycling, hiking, dog walking on a leash and other non-motorized uses in summer. Various winter activities are allowed including snowmobiling outside the City of West Bend when conditions permit. See Map 2.1.

- ***West Bend Riverwalk*** – The Trail begins in West Bend just southeast of the intersection of Roosevelt Drive and Taylor Lane and follows the Milwaukee River to the northeast corner of Quaas Creek Park. The trail is open for walking, jogging, biking, and in-line skating, and features six West Bend parks beginning with Riverfront Parkway in the north followed by Regner Park, Old Settlers Park, Veterans Memorial Park, Riverside Park, and finally Quaas Creek Park in the south.
- ***Pike Lake Bike Trail*** – The Trail begins in the City of Hartford at the intersection of East Sumner Street and South Wilson Avenue and travels southeast for 3.1 miles along STH-60. The trail enters the Pike Lake Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest and is used for walking, jogging and biking. A Wisconsin State Trail Pass is not required for use of this trail.
- ***Rubicon River Trail*** – The trail follows the Rubicon River through the City of Hartford extending 2.1 miles from Liberty Avenue to Kettle Moraine Drive and connects to the Pike Lake Bike Trail.



The Eisenbahn State Trail is the longest bikeway in Washington County

Pedestrian Facilities

A comprehensive inventory of pedestrian facilities, such as sidewalks, has not been completed for Washington County. However, SEWRPC has developed a pedestrian facilities policy, which applies to facilities in the County, as documented in the *Amendment to the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2020*.

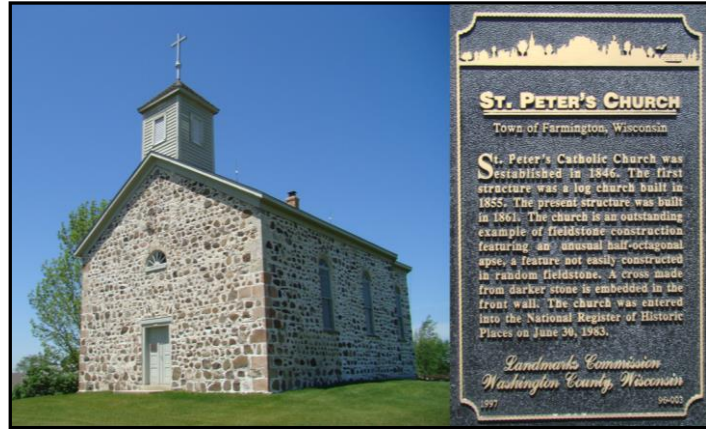
Cultural Resources¹¹

The term cultural resource encompasses historic buildings, structures and sites; archeological sites; and museums.

Historical Resources

National and State Register of Historic Places

In 2016 there were 27 historic places and districts in the County listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register of Historical Places. In most cases, historic places or districts listed on the National Register are also listed on the State Register.



St. Peter's Church in the Town of Farmington was one of 27 historic places and districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register of Historical Places in Washington County in 2014 and is a Washington County landmark.

Of the 27 historic places and districts listed on the National and State Registers, 21 are historic buildings or structures, five are historic districts, and one is a historic site. Sites and districts listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places have an increased measure of protection against degradation and destruction.

State Historical Markers

The County is also home to five Wisconsin State Historical Markers through a program administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society's Division of Historic Preservation.



Lizard Mound was the first site in Washington County listed on the National Register of Historical Places; listed in 1970.

¹¹ See Section 9 of Appendix B for cultural resource details.

Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory

The 27 historic sites and districts listed on the National and State registers of historic places are only a small fraction of the buildings, structures, and districts listed in the Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory.¹² In 2014, there were 2,887 properties in Washington County included in the Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory.

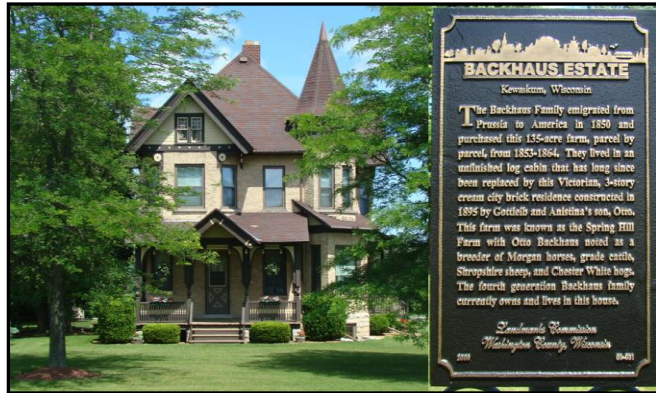
Local and County Landmarks

County and local governments may designate landmarks once a landmarks commission or historic preservation commission has been established by ordinance and certified by the State Historical Society.

Local Historical Societies and Museums

Local historical societies affiliated with the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in the County include:

- The History Center – Washington County
- Erin Historical Society
- Farmington Historical Society
- Germantown Historical Society
- Hartford Historical Society
- Jackson Historical Society
- Kewaskum Historical Society
- Richfield Historical Society



The Backhaus Estate is a Washington County landmark located in the Town of Kewaskum.



The Wisconsin Automotive Museum is located in the City of Hartford.

Many of the historical societies in Washington County maintain historic sites or facilities such as museums that contain items of historical or archaeological significance as well as historical records.

Other museums in Washington County include the Wisconsin Automotive Museum in the City of Hartford and the West Bend Art Museum in the City of West Bend.

¹² The inventory can be accessed through the State of Wisconsin Historical Society website at www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi.