

Chapter 4 – Utilities and Community Facilities

This section contains an inventory of the public utilities and community facilities as provided within the Town of Watertown. It is intended that this inventory will help identify deficiencies and opportunities relative to meeting the present and future needs of the community.

This inventory includes information regarding: administrative facilities and services; schools; protective services; public buildings, quasi public facilities, parks and open space, solid waste management and recycling; communication and power facilities; sanitary sewer service; public water supply; stormwater management; post office, cemeteries; library; health care; and day care facilities. Map 4-1 identifies the location of existing community facilities and utility service areas within the Town of Watertown.

4.1 Administrative Facilities and Services

The Town of Watertown's town hall and town shop are located at N8302 High Road, which is centrally located in the town. The town hall has adequate meeting and parking space. In total, the town owns approximately 13 acres at the site.

Town administration is handled by a three-member town board, clerk and treasurer. Assessor and building inspector duties are contracted. The town also employs part-time road maintenance crew positions, a custodian and a rental coordinator. The town board meets the second Monday of every month.

4.2 Schools

The Town of Watertown is served by three school districts (See Map 4-2). More details regarding each district is noted below. Enrollment numbers were obtained from the national Center for Education Statistics for the 2015-2016 school year.

Watertown Unified School District

There are six elementary schools located within the City of Watertown (Douglas, Lebanon, Lincoln, Schurz and Webster) providing services to Pre-kindergarten (PK) through grade 5 school age children. Watertown 4 Kids is a community based preschool program for four-year-old children in the Watertown Unified School District (WUSD). Riverside Middle School serves grades 6-8 and Watertown High School and Endeavor High School serves grades 9-12. WUSD also has an eCampus, which is the where WUSD runs its online courses for grades K-12 students. eCampus is not a school in and of itself, but rather an entity that supports online learning opportunities at all levels and in all forms throughout WUSD. eCampus is not a virtual charter school and as such, are not able to take open enrollments for situations involving a solely online learning environment. The WUSD also provides the Alternative Learning Center (ALC) which offers an alternative way to learn while earning their WHS diploma.

In recent years Watertown has changed in ways that are impacting the identity of the community. Growth in the City of Watertown is averaging nearly 1.5% per year, with increasing numbers of students enrolling in school. A growing Spanish speaking population has established in the area. Today, approximately 12% of the student population is Hispanic.

Lake Mills School District

The Lake Mills School District has over 645 students that attend Lake Mills Elementary (grades PK-5), Lake Mills Middle School (grades 6-8), and Lake Mills High School (grades 9- 12).

Johnson Creek School District

The Johnson Creek School District provides educational opportunities for nearly 650 students. Johnson Creek Elementary has 340 students and serves grades PK-4. Johnson Creek Middle School serves students from grades 5-8. Johnson Creek High School serves grades 9-12. Collectively the Middle School and High School serve just under 300 students.

4.3 Protective Services

Police

Police services are provided by Jefferson County. The county has a full-time Sheriff's department which provides 24-hour service. The department is located on Center Avenue in the City of Jefferson. There are also several other divisions or units including, but not limited to, a drug task force, dive team, major accident investigation team (MAIT), snowmobile patrol, K9 Unit, SWAT Team, and community policing. In addition, Jefferson County manages a county jail facility as well.

The Town of Watertown is served by three fire departments and EMS units (Map 4-3).

The Watertown Fire Department is a full service staffed department that serves the northern portion and the majority of the town. The Watertown Fire Department is located at 106 Jones Street. The Department covers 101 square miles in the city of Watertown, as well as parts of the townships of Emmet, Milford, Shields and Watertown. They also provide Emergency Medical Services with transport for the Village of Reeseville and Mutual Aid when requested.

The Village of Johnson Creek Fire Department is located at 120 South Watertown Street. This is a volunteer department with approximately 50 part-time staff. EMT services are provided separately from the fire department. The Department staffs fire equipment and an ALS (Advanced Life Support) ambulance twenty-four hours per day. Services are provided within the Village of Johnson Creek as well as to portions of the townships of Aztalan, Farmington, Milford and Watertown.

The Town of Ixonia is a volunteer department which provides fire and EMS services to the eastern portion of the Town of Watertown. The Ixonia Fire Department is located at 8320 North Street in Ixonia.

4.4 Street Maintenance and Snowplowing

The town hires a private contractor to provide road maintenance and snowplowing services to the town. The town also has a person on staff that performs roadside mowing, patching and other street maintenance duties. The town takes pride in executing an aggressive maintenance and resurfacing road improvement program.

4.5 Public Buildings.

The town owns and maintains the town hall and town shop, which are both located at N8302 High Road.

4.6 Parks and Open Space

The Town of Watertown does not own, maintain or operate any parks or open spaces. Residents are dependent upon facilities associated with school districts and the municipal parks located within the City of Watertown and the Village of Johnson Creek, as well as Jefferson County. The town does maintain an open space, south of the town hall.

The City of Watertown and Village of Johnson Creek also provide park, recreation, and open space land available for public use.

4.7 Solid Waste Management and Recycling

Solid waste collection and recycling services are privately contracted for by the town. Resident garbage pickup occurs weekly. Recyclable pickup occurs bi-weekly. Residents of Jefferson County are also able to dispose of hazardous materials such as oil, antifreeze and paint cans through commonly held Jefferson County “Clean Sweep” events.

4.8 Communication and Power Facilities

Gas and electric services are provided by WE Energies. The Wisconsin Electric Power Plant is located within the Town of Watertown, east of CTH E, in close proximity to the City of Watertown. The power plant is a major source of tax income for the town.

Phone service is provided by numerous company cell phone providers.

Broadband services are available to certain areas of the town but not all. However, future expansion of broadband services is a priority for the town with the goal of expanding coverage to the entire town. The pursuit of any programs or opportunities for expansion opportunities are encouraged.

4.9 Sanitary Sewer Service and Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems

Sanitary sewer services are not provided to local residents. Sanitary sewer services are available in the City of Watertown, however you must be a resident of the city to receive this service. Residents of the town rely on private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS).

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Map 4-1 Community and Recreational Facilities

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Map 4-2 School Districts and Voting Wards

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Map 4-3 Utility Service Areas

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4.10 Public Water Supply

The Town of Watertown is not currently served by a public water system. The nearest public service is provided by the City of Watertown. Residents within the town are dependent upon individual wells. It is important that the town monitor future growth and its impacts on groundwater quantity and quality.

4.11 Stormwater Management

The Town of Watertown does not have a storm sewer system. Stormwater is drained through a series of culverts and ditches along town roads. New subdivisions shall address stormwater management as part of the plat approval process.

4.12 Post Office

Residents of the town have their mail delivered by the Watertown Post Office located at 411 Dodge Street in the City of Watertown. Weekday office hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturday office hours are from 9 a.m. to noon. The local resident zip code is 53094.

4.13 Cemeteries

The Town of Watertown has four cemeteries within its boundary, the Ebenezer Church Cemetery, Union Cemetery, Whitney Cemetery, and the Watertown Rural Cemetery on Emerald Drive.

4.14 Library

Local residents of the Town of Watertown are served by two libraries including the Watertown Public Library located at 100 South Water Street and the Johnson Creek Public Library located at 125 Lincoln Street. With the Watertown Public library card, patrons can access over 300 free instructor-led online courses through Gale Courses, including but not limited to accounting, computer applications, legal, and personal development courses. Other services available to library members include Rosetta Stone, Jobnow, Morningstar, Consumer Reports, Exam Proctoring, Badgerlink, and many others. Check each libraries web site for available programs and service hours.

4.15 Health Care

Health care services are provided by Watertown Regional Medical Center located at 125 Hospital Drive in the City of Watertown. There are a number of medical services available at the hospital including, but not limited to, kidney dialysis, Mealmobile which delivers food to the elderly, surgical care, pain management center, rehab and sports medicine services, urgent care and emergency/urgent services, bone and joint, and chemotherapy. A professional counseling center, OB-Gyn clinic and occupational health care center are also available near the hospital in Watertown.

Other clinics and medical facilities are available in Johnson Creek, Lake Mills, Oconomowoc, Beaver Dam and Fort Atkinson. Other regional medical and specialty services are available in Madison and Milwaukee.

4.16 Day Care Facilities

There are no commercial daycare facilities located within the Town of Watertown. Wisconsin Statutes allow for in-home daycare for up to eight children in residential zones. These facilities are licensed and inspected by the State of Wisconsin, however, they are not considered commercial daycare centers and may not be easily identified within the town.

Commercial daycare service is available within the City of Watertown, Village of Johnson Creek, City of Lake Mills and other surrounding communities.

4.17 Utilities and Community Facilities Goals and Objectives

Goals

Community goals are broad statements expressing public preferences for the long term (20 years or more). They specifically address key issues, opportunities and problems that affect the community. Goals are value-based statements that are not necessarily measurable.

Objectives

Objectives **are** narrower than goals and are measurable statements usually attainable through direct action and strategic planning. The accomplishment of objectives contributes to fulfillment of the goal.

"A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the local governmental unit such as sanitary sewer service, storm water management, water supply, solid waste disposal, on- site wastewater treatment technologies, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunication facilities, power-generating plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, child care facilities and other public facilities such as police, fire, and rescue facilities, libraries, schools and other governmental facilities."

Wastewater Treatment

Goal UCF-1: Ensure proper disposal of wastewater to protect ground and surface water.

Supporting Objectives:

UCF-1.1 Coordinate wastewater facility planning and the location of future private onsite septic systems with the town's preferred land use plan, environmental considerations, economic development and growth management objectives.

Water Supply

Goal UCF-2: Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the town's ground and surface water features.

Supporting Objectives:

UCF-2.1 Facilitate the reduction of point and non-point pollution sources through both regulatory and non-regulatory approaches.

- UCF-2.2 Evaluate the potential impacts of development proposals on groundwater quality and quantity.
- UCF-2.3 Pursue partnerships for technical assistance and funding among town, state, county and individual landowners to address known water quality problems.
- UCF-2.4 Support data collection and monitoring efforts that further the understanding of factors influencing the quality, quantity and movement of ground and surface water features.
- UCF-2.5 Promote clean-up and beautification of the Rock River.

Stormwater *Management*

Goal UCF-3: Ensure that all areas are reasonably protected from flooding.

Supporting Objectives:

- UCF-3.1 Encourage and support the preservation of natural open spaces that minimize flooding such as wetlands and floodplains.
- UCF-3.2 Work with the county to develop a stormwater management ordinance to ensure proper drainage and retention of stormwater.

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facilities

Goal UCF-4: Promote effective solid waste disposal and recycling services that protect the public health, the natural environment, and land use quality.

Supporting Objectives:

- UCF-4.1 Increase town involvement and promote education in decisions involving the type, location and extent of land disposal of solid waste produced by local residents.

Schools

Goal UCF-5: Promote quality schools and access to educational opportunities for everyone.

Supporting Objectives:

- UCF-5.1 Coordinate local planning efforts with the School District in order to allow them to anticipate future growth and to provide appropriate facilities.

Parks and Recreation

Goal UCF-6: Promote a variety of recreational opportunities within the Town of Watertown.

Supporting Objectives:

- UCF-6.1 Identify areas and provide for increased recreational and public access to the river within the town.
- UCF-6.2 Enhance recreational facilities that provide multi-use recreational opportunities.
- UCF-6.3 Recognize the need to accommodate all age groups and abilities in recreational pursuits.
- UCF-6.4 Maintain existing and improve public access to waterways.
- UCF-6.5 Explore parkland options.

Utilities

Goal UCF-7: Ensure the provision of reliable, efficient, and well-planned utilities to adequately serve existing and future development.

Supporting Objectives:

- UCF-7.1 Cooperate in the planning and coordination of utilities with other agencies and jurisdictions in order to efficiently serve local and regional growth.
- UCF-7.2 Determine the use, location, and capacity of existing and future public utilities in order to efficiently serve existing and planned service areas.
- UCF-7.3 Actively pursue the highest levels of service from natural gas, electrical, telephone, cable, telecommunications and other technology providers offering services to the town.
- UCF-7.4 Promote "green energy" and other alternative technologies.
- UCF-7.5 Look for opportunities to expand broadband service within the Town.
- UCF-7.6 Work with Jefferson County to be creative with zoning to accommodate on-site energy generation and use.

Other Governmental Services

Goal UCF-8: Maintain high quality town services and facilities.

Supporting Objectives:

- UCF-8.1 Continually monitor the demographics of the town's population to determine the need for new or expanded services.

4.18 Utilities and Communities Facilities Policies

Policies identify the way in which activities are conducted in order to achieve fulfillment of the goals and objectives. Policies that direct action using the words "will" or "shall" are advised to be mandatory and regulatory aspects of the implementation of the *Town of Watertown Comprehensive Plan*. In contrast, those policies that direct policy using the word "should" are advisory and intended to serve as a guide. According to town survey results completed at the beginning of the planning process, the current level of services offered by the town are adequate to meet the needs of local residents. The following policies have not been scheduled according to a specific timetable.

1. The town should continually monitor the needs and desires of local residents for a town park. Park and recreation planning efforts should be coordinated with Jefferson County.
2. Telecommunication towers shall be sited and reviewed relative to impacts on surrounding residential properties, the potential for collocation, setbacks from highways and other structures, visual impacts, antenna location and property access, lighting and security so as not to be accessible by the general public.
3. The town and city should address the phasing and extension of public utilities within the Planned Transition area through the development of a boundary agreement.
4. The town should continually review staffing and professional service needs relative to planning, ordinance development/enforcement and other governmental services.
5. Stormwater management shall be addressed as a requirement of all subdivision approvals.
6. The town should encourage conservation subdivisions so that services such as snowplowing, school bus routes, and emergency services can be provided in a cost effective manner.
7. The town should work with neighboring municipalities to consolidate, share and improve local service delivery.

4.19 Utilities and Community Facilities Programs

The following programs are available to the Town of Watertown with regard to utilities and community facilities. The following list is not all inclusive and subject to change. For specific information a program representative should be contacted.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction offers several grants, programs and aid to communities with respect to school facilities, services and education improvement. Through the DPI web-site, www.dpi.state.wi.us, a link titled *Grant Information* offers a comprehensive listing of available grants (ordered alphabetically with their respective ID number, description and type of grant). Links are provided to pages with grant details, special requirements, and contact information.

Wisconsin Department of Administration

- **Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development (CDBG-ED).** CDBG-ED grant funds are awarded to local governments to assist businesses to create or retain jobs for individuals with low and moderate income. Additional information regarding the CDBG-ED program can be found at their website.
- **CDBG Public Facilities Funds (CDBG-PF).** CDBG-PF funds help support infrastructure and facility projects for communities. Some examples of eligible projects include streets, drainage systems, water and sewer systems, sidewalks, and community centers. Additional information regarding the CDBG-PF program can be found at their website.
- **CDBG Planning Funds.** CDBG Planning grant funds support community efforts to address improving community opportunities and vitality. Grants are limited to projects that, if implemented, are CDBG eligible activities. Additional information regarding the CDBG Planning funds program can be found at their website.
- **CDBG Public Facility -Economic Development (CDBG PF-ED).** CDBG PF-ED grants are awarded to local government for public infrastructure projects that support business expansion or retention. Additional information regarding the PF-ED funds program can be found at their website.
- **COBG Emergency Assistance (EAP).** The CDBG-EAP program assists communities to recover from a recent natural or manmade disaster. Eligible activities include repair of disaster related damage to dwellings, assistance to purchase replacement dwellings, and repair and restore public infrastructure and facilities.
- **Venture Capital Investment Program.** The venture capital investment program was created as part of 2013 Wisconsin Act 41. This program will help create jobs and promote economic growth in Wisconsin by identifying new investors for Wisconsin, bringing new capital to Wisconsin investments, and cultivating Wisconsin entrepreneurship.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

- **Acquisition & Development of Local Parks (Stewardship)**
Eligibility & Purpose: Helps to buy land or easements and develop or renovate local park and recreation area facilities for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes (e.g., trails, fishing access and park support facilities). Applicants compete for funds on a regional basis. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.
- **Friends of State Lands (Stewardship)**
Eligibility & Purpose: Grants from this program help improve facilities, build new recreation projects and restore habitat on state properties. This grant program is part of Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program
- **Habitat Area (Stewardship)**
Eligibility & Purpose: Protects and restores important wildlife habitat in Wisconsin in order to expand opportunities for wildlife-based recreation such as hunting, trapping, hiking, bird watching, fishing, nature appreciation and wildlife viewing. This grant

program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

- **Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) - State Program**

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

Maximum grant amount: Varies

Match requirement: 50 percent

Contact: 608-264-6138

Deadline: May 1 each year (application included with Stewardship Local Assistance application booklet)

- **Recreational Trail Aids (RTA/RTP)**

Eligibility & Purpose: Counties, towns, cities, villages, WI Tribes, and incorporated organizations may apply for grant funding for development and maintenance of recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses. Funds from this program may be used in conjunction with the state snowmobile or ATV programs and Stewardship development projects.

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

Match requirement: 50 percent

Contact: 715-635-4130

Deadline: May 1 each year (application included with Stewardship Local Assistance application booklet)

- **State Trails (Stewardship)**

Eligibility & purpose: Applications for grants under this subprogram must be for properties identified as part of the State Trail system. It is possible for sponsors to nominate additional trails for state trail designation. The Streambank Protection Program protects water quality and fish habitat in Wisconsin by establishing buffers along high-priority waterways. This grant program is part of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Grant (Clean Sweep)**

Funds are available to municipalities to create and operate local "clean sweep" programs for the collection and disposal of household hazardous waste. Any type of program for the collection and disposal of household hazardous wastes, including permanent collection programs, is eligible. The program is offered from the WDNR, Bureau of Community Financial Assistance.

- **Well Compensation Grant**

Funds are available for the replacement of contaminated private water supply wells. Wells serving commercial establishments only are not eligible. Persons whose annual family income is more than \$65,000 are not eligible. Cost sharing is provided at 75% but not more than \$9,000. The amount of the grant is reduced by \$.30 for each \$1.00 of the applicant's annual family income over \$45,000. Eligible types of projects include

reconstruction of an existing well, drilling a new well, connecting to an uncontaminated private or public water supply, state approved treatment units and temporary bottled or trucked water. Contact the WDNR for further information.

Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (State Trust Fund Loans)

Since 1871, BCPL has made loans to municipalities and school districts for public purpose projects including economic development, local infrastructure, capital equipment and vehicles, building repairs and improvements, and refinancing existing liabilities to reduce future borrowing costs.

BCPL is among the largest public investors in economic development projects and local infrastructure projects within the State of Wisconsin. Over the past 10 years, they have invested over \$1.15 billion in communities throughout Wisconsin.

BCPL offers fixed rate loans with interest rates that are competitive with the bond market and other financial institutions. The application process is extremely simple and borrowers pay no application fees, prepayment penalties, or any other fees. The best part of the loan program is that interest earned is distributed annually to fund public school library materials throughout Wisconsin.