

Town of Koshkonong Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan 2005-2010

I. Introduction

The Town of Koshkonong Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) guides the development of the park system and maintains grant and funding eligibility.

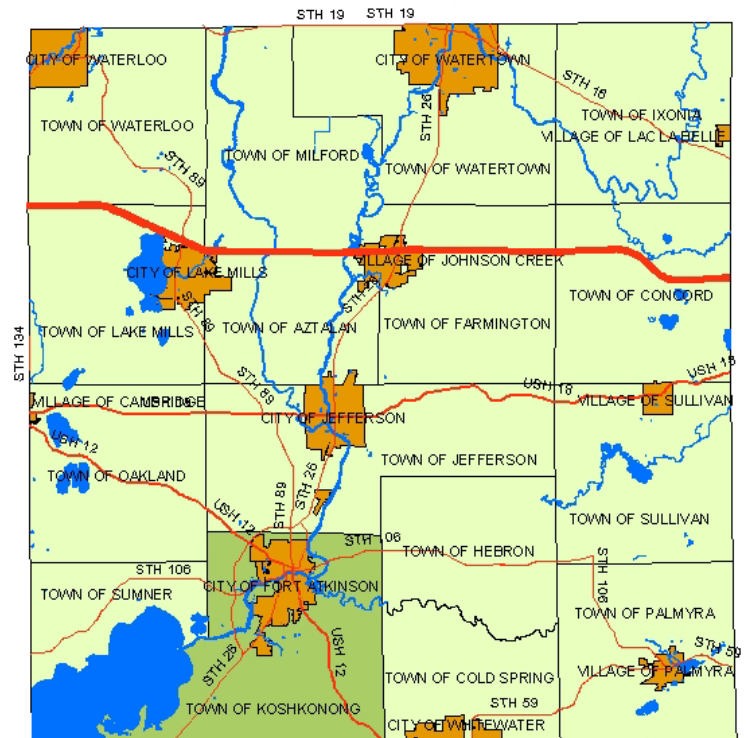
The Town obtains park funding from fees imposed upon developers through the *Town of Koshkonong Land Division and Subdivision Code, Article H, Park and Public Land Dedications*, includes dedication requirements, park development guidelines, calculation of fees-in-lieu of land, and park fund guidelines. Dedications and fees are used to provide adequate open spaces and sites for public use. Wisconsin State Statutes Section 66.0617 defines impact fees and the public facilities needs assessment related to impact fees, which is a part of this CORP. Section 236.29 of the State Statutes goes on to describe land dedications.

II. Statement of Need

The Town of Koshkonong is located on the eastern shore of 10,460-acre Lake Koshkonong in southwestern Jefferson County, Wisconsin. Lake Koshkonong is an impoundment of the Rock River created by a dam at Indianford in Rock County.

The Town surrounds the City of Fort Atkinson, which has a 2004 projected population of 11,943.¹ The Town is developing rapidly on the south side of Fort Atkinson where rural residential lots were platted prior to the 1978 *Jefferson County Zoning Ordinance*. The Town realized a need for comprehensive park planning when developers requested direction from the Town on where to locate parks and trails as required by the *Land Division and Subdivision Code*.

Important natural resources such as Lake Koshkonong, the Bark and Rock Rivers, and Allen Creek (a state-designated Exceptional Resource Water) make the Town an attractive place to live and recreate. Lake Koshkonong is a hub of water-based recreation including motor boating, personal watercraft (jet skis), canoeing and kayaking, sport



Jefferson County

¹ Wisconsin Department of Administration, Demographics Service Center: Municipality Population Estimates by County. http://www.doa.state.wi.us/pagesubtext_detail.asp?linksubcatid=96. August 20, 2004

fishing, ice fishing, and waterfowl hunting. The lake also adds to the scenic character of the Town, is a haven for waterfowl and fish, and attracts summer tourists and residents from in and outside of Wisconsin. The *Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan* provides guidance to protect and improve these natural resources and to provide public recreational opportunities for a growing population.

III. The Planning Process

Description of the Process

The Town of Koshkonong Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission guided the direction of this plan. The consultant gathered inventory and background information on pertinent town, county, and state planning documents, demographic trends, natural, cultural, and historical resources; land use, and agricultural trends. The needs assessment for the plan includes the application of typical park standards, public input comments at Board and Planning Commission meetings, and an inventory of existing parks and facilities. Based on the needs assessment, the Town Board and Planning Commission developed a list of recommended park projects, acquisition and trail possibilities, and potential funding sources to complete the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan.

Amending the Plan

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan will be reviewed and updated every five years to respond to changing conditions and to remain in compliance with grant requirements.

IV. Summary of Past Plans Relating to Outdoor Recreation

Several different plans, which are summarized below, address recreation, open space, and natural resources in the Town of Koshkonong.

Town of Koshkonong Land Use Plan, 1996

Respondents to an open space survey in 1996, conducted during the land use planning process, indicated that the residents did not think additional park and recreation facilities were needed at that time.

Acquisition of natural areas to provide open space was preferred if park facilities were to develop.

Residents stated that they consider farmland as open space and at that time the rural nature of the Town fulfilled the open space need. Some noted that although there may not have been a need for public open space at the time, the Town might need to act in the future to preserve space for parks.

Open space, environmental, and natural resource land use goals listed in the Plan include:

- Protect, preserve and conserve prime soils for agricultural use.
- Protect, preserve and conserve high quality groundwater and protect and improve surface water quality.
- Retain and protect open space for recreation, wildlife habitat, historical and archaeological preservation and conservation.

Objectives include:

- Protect flood plains, wetlands, and the natural drainage systems and encourage watershed level storm water management practices.
- Encourage a network of natural corridors primarily along waterways and interconnecting protected areas to also permit wildlife movement between areas.
- Preserve a sufficient quantity and variety of open space for recreational, aesthetic, and ecological needs of the Town's population.

- Promote environmentally sustainable recreational uses of land in flood plains and areas adjacent to waterways and other natural open space.

The plan also identifies benefits derived from open space including outdoor recreation, preservation of animal and plant habitat, air and water quality improvement, flood and stormwater management, visual and other sensory relief from the built environment, nature education, physical definition of land areas, and economic well-being of the Town.

Town of Koshkonong Code of Ordinances, 1996

General Park and Public Land Dedication Requirements, Article H, Sec. 14-1-80 to 14-1-84

The Town enacted a parkland dedication ordinance in 1996 that requires developers to dedicate developable land for public use (Section 14-1-80) at a rate of 0.05 acres per dwelling unit (Section 14-1-81) or pay a fee-in-lieu of land dedication (Section 14-1-84, \$500 per lot in 2004). Section 14-1-83 describes how the park area should be developed and when. Section 14-1-82 states that when park or public areas are shown in the Master Plan and lie within a proposed development, the owner shall reserve the land for acquisition by the town (after land dedication requirements are met) for a period of one year of final plat approval unless extended by mutual agreement. The fees are placed in a park fund for park development and improvement. Several small open space parcels are scattered in the subdivisions as a result of the land dedication requirements.

Town of Koshkonong Park and Trail Network Plan, 2001

The *Park and Trail Network Plan* identifies potential trail corridors and parklands south of Hackbarth Road, where most of rural residential development is occurring. A site analysis of the area considered topography and drainage, land use and transportation, vegetation and wildlife, and soils. Opportunities are identified in the plan for trail corridors to connect existing and future sub-division development to potential parks and open spaces. A natural buffer along Allen Creek, possibly with trails as shown in the plan, would help protect the high water quality of the creek and form connections to the Glacial River Trail, downtown Fort Atkinson, and the Rock River. Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park, originally identified in this study, has been acquired and bike lane connections to the park from adjacent subdivisions are being implemented; see page 5, Park and Trail Network Map.

Jefferson County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, 1997

The *Jefferson County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan* created a vision for the County Parks Department and System. Central to the plan was the development of 13 “Key Directions” that are the Jefferson County Parks Committee’s priority “Action Planning” recommendations. Several of the “Directions” suggest actions that could be taken in the Town of Koshkonong if desirable land becomes available:

- Acquire valuable natural areas and historic areas of 100 acres or more.
- Consider preserving/acquiring areas having lakes.
- Identify potential lakes for passive/natural activities such as Red Cedar Lake, Hope Lake and Rose Lake.
- Identify 4-6 possible new sites for large natural resource oriented parks – 35 sites identified in the 1998 Jefferson County Park Site Feasibility Study.
- As larger tracts of parkland become available, consider incorporating hiking and other low impact trail use. Camping may also be suitable in these areas.

Jefferson County Park Site Feasibility Study, 1999

The *Feasibility Study* identifies potential sites for large parks and open space. The shores of Lake Koshkonong are identified in the Town of Koshkonong. No parks with public access to Lake Koshkonong have been designated, however, the Town of Koshkonong does have lake access points

along Vinnie Ha Ha Road and in Bingham's Point and the WDNR has two boat launches in the Town; see pages 24-25 for a description. The lake is frequented by fishermen and used for water sports. Over 450 Indian antiquities sites have been documented along the lakeshore and historic duck hunting lodges once dotted the area. The Glacial River Trail runs adjacent to State Road 26, just east of the lake, but currently does not connect to it. Designating a trail corridor through the Lake Koshkonong Marsh Wildlife Area (WDNR) would form a link from the Glacial River Trail to the lake.

Jefferson County Bikeway/Pedestrianway Plan, 1996

The Bikeway/Pedestrianway Plan sets forth methods to increase bicycle and pedestrian modes of travel and to improve safety for these users. This plan identifies bicycle and pedestrian routes within Jefferson County and its communities and recommends links between communities. In the Town of Koshkonong the routes connect Fort Atkinson with Rock County by the Glacial River Trail - a multi-use rails-to-trails project maintained by Jefferson County. An award winning covered bridge, built from salvaged barn timbers, graces the trail. Another route connects Fort Atkinson to Walworth County via Poeppel, McIntyre, and McMillen Roads. Fort Atkinson is connected to Whitewater and Palmyra via Bark River Road. County bike routes have been mapped and marked with signs and cities and villages are implementing the plan as well. Fort Atkinson is extending a paved bike trail from the Glacial River Trail at Farmco Lane to downtown Fort Atkinson.

Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2000-2005 (SCORP)

Outdoor recreation activities are constantly evolving and SCORP identifies trends in broad categories of outdoor recreation. A significant change influencing outdoor recreation is the aging of the "baby boomers" and changing economic and work patterns. Out of state park visitors contribute to the state's economy and create more demand on available recreation resources.

SCORP divides outdoor recreational activities into three tiers based on rates of participation, indicating trends in Wisconsin:

Tier I Activities: Participation Rates between 50 and 90 Percent of those surveyed

Walking and driving for pleasure, swimming, wildlife viewing, and picnicking.

Tier II Activities: Participation Rates between 30 and 50 Percent of those surveyed

Bicycling, hiking, fishing, nature study or bird watching, motor boating, and nature photography.

Tier III Activities: Participation Rates up to 30 Percent of those surveyed

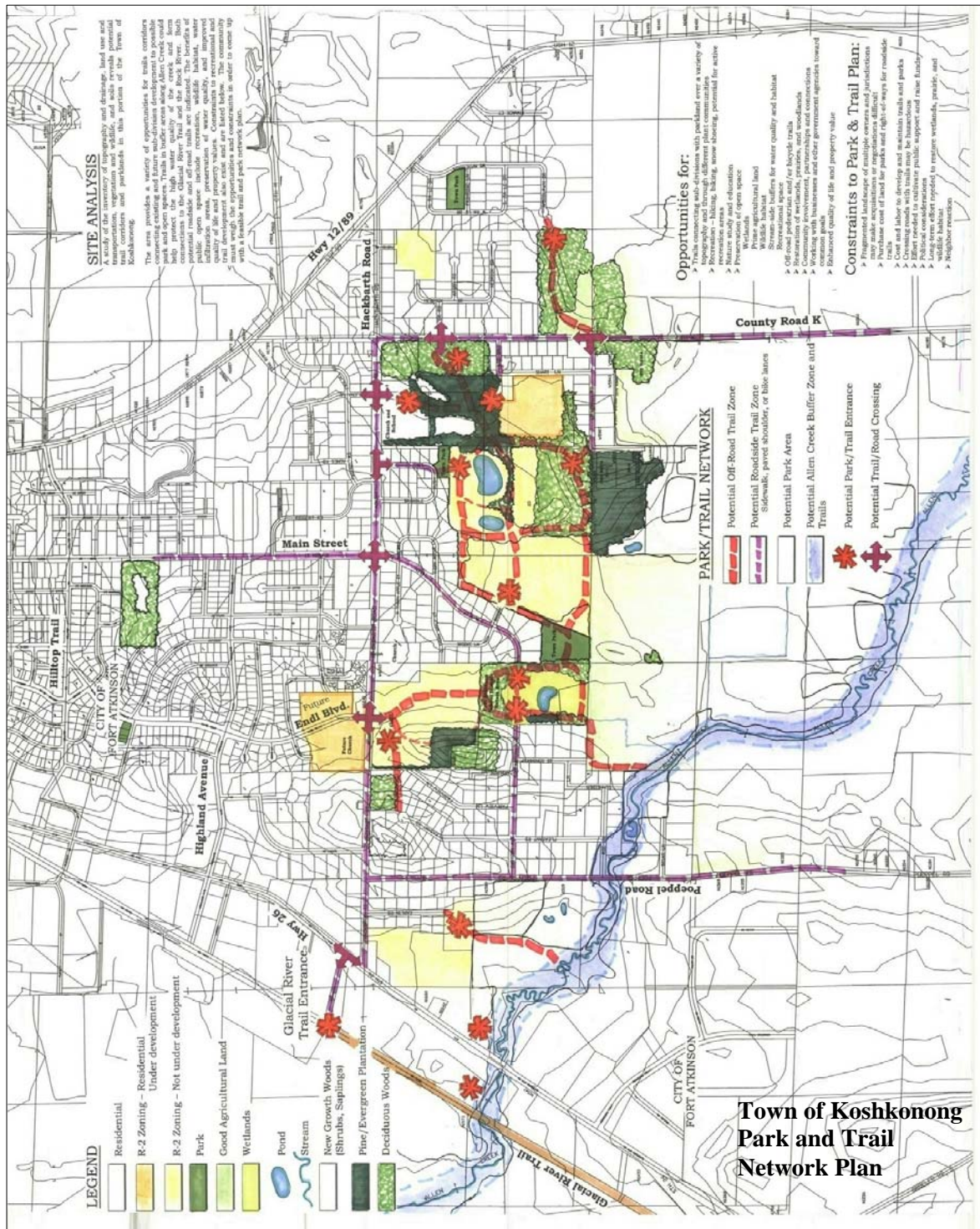
All other activities; golf to windsurfing

Some recreation activities that are growing or changing include mountain biking, in-line skating, jet skiing, ATV riding, RV camping (want electricity and dump stations), hunting (affected by land ownership patterns in rural areas), kayaking, nature study programs, geocaching - finding objects hidden in a park or other public area using a GPS receiver (global positioning system), skateboard parks, target shooting, soccer, horseback riding, motor boating, and golf.

Wisconsin Land Legacy Report, draft 2003

The *Wisconsin Land Legacy Report* assesses the State's protection needs for conservation and recreation lands over the next fifty years. The study focuses on identifying what significant "green infrastructures" remain in need of protection. The places identified in this report are considered important from a statewide or national perspective. The report does not identify how or when these places should be protected nor who should be responsible for protection measures.

Over half the state's population lives within 50 miles of the area bounded by Milwaukee, Madison, Fond du Lac, and Janesville and development pressure is changing the landscape in this region. Participants in public meetings pertaining to the plan indicate that they would like recreational opportunities near where they live. Five Legacy Places in Jefferson County are identified for possible protection in the next 50 years. Among these places in the Town of Koshkonong is the Lake Koshkonong to Kettle Moraine Corridor and the Bark and Scuppernong Rivers. The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board has designated the Crawfish River and Rock River Corridors in western Jefferson County as a priority area for the implementation of the recommendations in this Report.



V. Description Of The Town Of Koshkonong

Social Characteristics

Transportation

The Town of Koshkonong is located in the south central part of Jefferson County between the Milwaukee and Madison metropolitan areas and roughly 80 miles northwest of Chicago, Illinois. These large metro areas influence population growth and land use patterns in the Town of Koshkonong and Jefferson County. The Town also borders Rock County on the southwest and Walworth County on the southeast.

State Highway 26 links Koshkonong to Janesville and Interstate 90 to the south and to Fort Atkinson, Jefferson, Johnson Creek, Watertown, Interstate 94, and Dodge County to the north. The Highway 26 By-Pass around Fort Atkinson was opened in 1995.

U.S. Highway 12 connects Fort Atkinson to Whitewater and Chicago to the southeast and Madison to the west. A Highway 12 By-Pass through the Town of Koshkonong is in the planning stages and may impact the continuity of Town roads, wetlands, agricultural lands, Allen Creek, and some of the designated Rustic Roads. Additional traffic, noise, storm water run-off, loss of farms and historic structures, and potential development are also concerns.

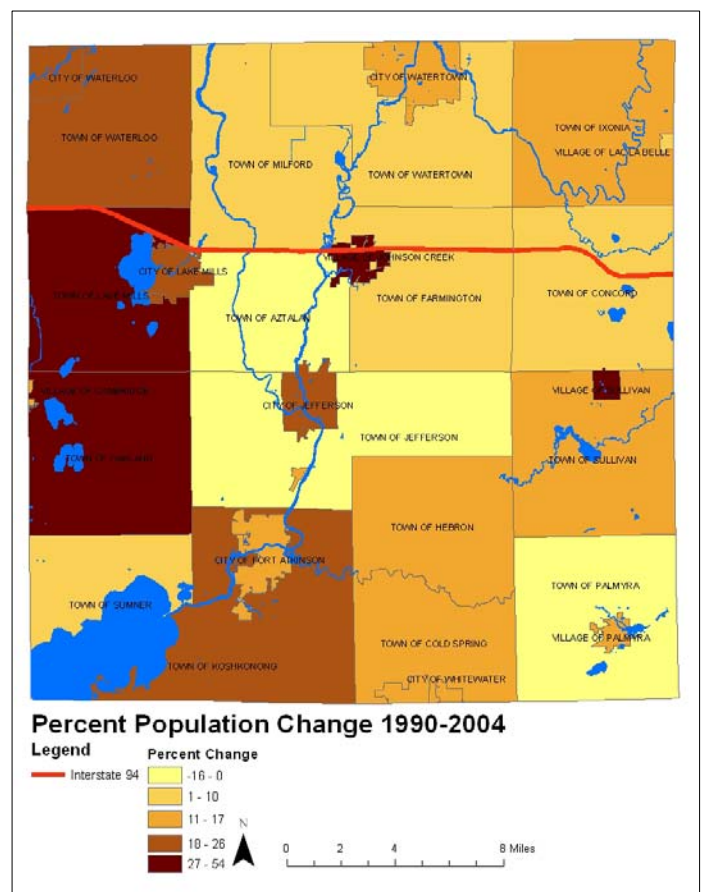
Interstate 94 connects Madison and Milwaukee and passes through Jefferson County. These highway links allow commuters from the Town of Koshkonong to easily access Janesville, Madison, and Milwaukee.

Population Change

The fastest growing communities in Jefferson County are located along I-94 and along the west border with Dane County. From 1990 to 2004 the fastest growing incorporated areas were the Village of Johnson Creek with a 38.5% population increase and the Village of Sullivan with 35.0% population growth. The fastest growing Towns were Oakland (28.7%) and Lake Mills (26.8%), which are adjacent to Dane County. During the same time period the population of the Town of Koshkonong grew from 2984 to 3514, a total of 17.8% or an average of 1.27% per year.

Between 2003 and 2010 the Wisconsin Department of Administration estimates that the Village of Sullivan (14.24% projected population growth), the Village of Cambridge (12.5% growth), and the Town of Oakland (11.17% growth) will be the fastest growing municipalities in Jefferson County, see Jefferson County Population Table on page 7.

Overall, the population of Jefferson County increased 11.8% from 1990 to 2000 to 75,767. In 2004 the population was estimated to be 78,342. The projected population in 2010 is expected to be 82,161, an increase of 4.87% from 2004.



Between 2004 and 2010, the Town of Koshkonong is expected to grow in population from 3514 to 3743 or an increase of 6.5%.

The draft *Wisconsin Land Legacy Report* by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources indicates that over half the state's population lives within 50 miles of the area bounded by Milwaukee, Madison, Fond du Lac, and Janesville. Residents attending public forums related to the report stated the need for more public recreation close to where they live.²

Jefferson County Population Table

Municipality Type and Name	Census 1990	Census 2000	Pct. Change 1990-2000	2004 ³ Estimate	Pct. Change 2000-2004	2010 Estimate	Pct. Change 2004-2010
T. Aztalan	1,476	1,447	-2.0	1,467	1.38	1,435	-2.18
T. Cold Spring	683	766	12.0	774	1.04	795	2.71
T. Concord	1,884	2,023	7.3	2056	1.63	2,127	3.45
T. Farmington	1,404	1,498	6.7	1,522	1.60	1,534	0.78
T. Hebron	975	1,135	16.6	1,143	0.70	1,192	4.28
T. Ixonia	2,789	2,902	4.1	3,190	9.92	3,201	0.34
T. Jefferson	2,687	2,395	-10.8	2,252	-5.97	2,297	2.00
T. Koshkonong	2,984	3,395	13.8	3,514	3.51	3,743	6.52
T. Lake Mills	1,584	1,936	22.2	2,008	3.73	2,179	8.52
T. Milford	1,007	1,055	4.8	1,062	0.66	1,066	0.38
T. Oakland	2,526	3,135	24.1	3,252	3.73	3,594	10.52
T Palmyra	1,176	1,145	-2.6	1,163	1.57	1,168	0.43
T. Sullivan	1,924	2,124	10.4	2,234	5.18	2,416	8.12
T. Sumner	822	904	9.9	902	-0.22	909	0.78
T. Waterloo	694	832	19.9	877	5.41	901	2.73
T. Watertown	1,840	1,876	1.95	1,914	2.03	1,904	-0.52
V. Cambridge	80	87	7.5	89	2.30	99	11.2
V. Johnson Creek	1,259	1,581	25.6	1,744	10.31	1,842	5.62
V. Palmyra	1,540	1,766	14.7	1,779	0.74	1,883	5.84
V. Sullivan	449	688	53.2	691	0.44	786	13.26
C. Fort Atkinson	10,213	11,621	13.8	11,943	2.77	12,655	5.96
C. Jefferson	6,078	7,338	20.7	7458	3.47	7,787	4.41
C. Lake Mills	4,143	4,843	16.9	4,971	2.64	5,281	6.24
C. Waterloo	2,712	3,259	20.2	3,310	1.56	3,569	7.82
C. Watertown	12,388	13,535	9.3	14,217	5.04	14,958	5.21
C. Whitewater	2,466	2,611	5.9	2,808	7.55	2,841	1.17
Jefferson County	67,783	75,767	11.8	78,342	3.4	82,161	4.87

Population Age

Between 2000 and 2030 the fastest growing age group in Wisconsin is expected to be the 65-69 year old group, increasing by 109.1%. In Wisconsin as a whole the 65-plus population will increase slowly up to 2010 and then grow rapidly. In 2000 the state's senior citizens made up 13 percent of the population, by 2030 their proportion is expected to grow to 21 percent. Growth in the age groups between 5 and 49 is

² Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Draft Wisconsin Land Legacy Report. November 2002

³ Wisconsin Department of Administration. Demographic Services Center. August 10, 2004

expected to be under 10%. Recreational activities that are preferred by an older population may need to be considered as the average age of the population increases.

The average age of Wisconsin farmers (52 years) is older than that of the average worker (39 years). Farmer retirement is likely to affect the pace and pattern of land ownership changes in Wisconsin and Jefferson County in the next 15 years. Farmland is likely to change hands and may become available for parks and for development.

Jefferson County Population Age

Age Group	2000 Census	2005 Prediction	2010 Prediction	Pct. Change 2000-2010
0-4	4,695	4,862	5,065	7.88
5-9	5,022	5,061	5,158	2.71
10-14	5,553	5,449	5,391	-2.92
15-19	6,582	6,093	5,963	-9.40
20-24	4,873	5,695	5,256	7.86
25-29	4,688	5,186	6,028	28.58
30-34	5,354	4,921	5,445	1.70
35-39	6,318	5,664	5,221	-17.36
40-44	6,139	6,477	5,816	-5.26
45-49	5,640	6,198	6,539	15.93
50-54	4,789	5,557	6,097	27.31
55-59	3,702	4,639	5,375	45.19
60-64	3,070	3,503	4,387	42.90
65-69	2,444	2,814	3,210	31.34
70-74	2,308	2,162	2,489	7.84
75-79	1,994	1,937	1,821	-8.68
80-84	1,372	1,429	1,393	1.53
85-89	818	861	915	11.86
90-94	333	394	424	27.32
95-99	76	110	140	84.21
100 & Over	14	18	28	100.00
	75,784	79,030	82,161	8.41

Jefferson County Housing Units

An increasing population demands more housing units in cities, villages, and rural areas. Demographers and planners also report that smaller average household size is a contributor to the increasing number of housing units. From 2000-2003 the number of housing units in Jefferson County rose from 30,092 to 31,687, an increase of 5.30%. The New Housing Units table on page 9 gives detailed figures for the years 2002 and 2003 and illustrates the growth in new home construction in Jefferson County. Home sales are also on the increase. 604 homes were sold countywide in 2001, 832 in 2002, and 995 in 2003.

In 2000, Jefferson County had an average population density of 132.9 persons per square mile; the Wisconsin average is 98.8.⁴ Most housing units are located in cities and villages. Of the Towns, Ixonia, Oakland, and Koshkonong have the greatest number of housing units; see Jefferson County Total Housing Units Map below.

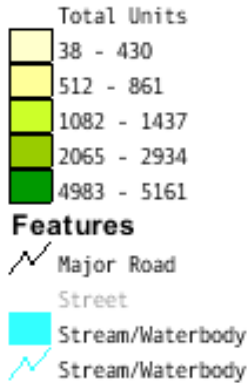
⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing. Land area is based on current information in the TIGER® data base, calculated for use with Census 2000.

Jefferson County New Housing Units⁵

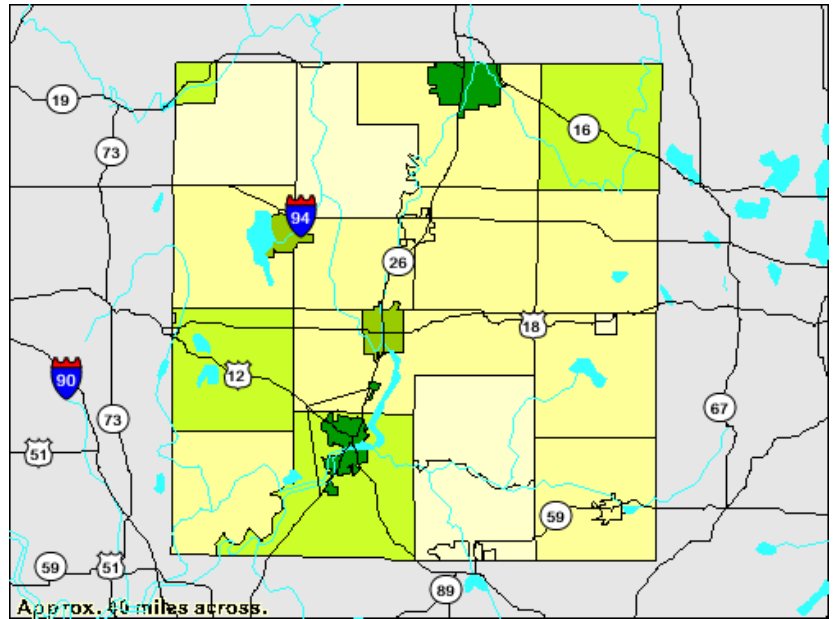
Year	Total Number of New Housing Units	Unincorporated Areas	Incorporated Areas
2002	637	215	422
2003	493	232	261

Jefferson County Total Housing Units

Data Classes



Items in gray text are not visible at this zoom level



Ethnicity and Race

The Hispanic population is the fastest growing ethnic group in Jefferson County increasing from 1160 to 3031 between 1990 and 2000, an increase of 235%. In the Town of Koshkonong the Hispanic population numbered 60 in 2000 or 1.8% of the population, significantly lower than 4.1% of the population of Jefferson County as a whole. Jefferson County and the Town of Koshkonong are predominantly white with other races and ethnicities each making up less than one percent of population; see table on next page.

⁵ Permit Authorized New Residential Construction in Jefferson County. Data from the US Bureau of the Census provided by the Wisconsin Builders Association.

2000 Jefferson County Demographic Characteristics

Census Year	Total Population	White	Black or African American	Native American	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Some Other Race	Two or More Races
1990⁶	67,783	66702	189	176	269	14	1160	429	
%	100%	98.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.02%	1.7%	0.6%	
2000⁷	74,021	71,309	210	249	333	14	3031	1220	686
%	100%	96.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%	4.1%	1.6%	0.9%
2000 Town Koshkonong⁸	1936	1883	5	1	11	0	53	21	15
%	100%	97.3%	0.3%	0.05%	0.6%	0%	2.7%	1.1%	0.8%

Employment and Income

In 2002 Jefferson had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$28,805. This PCPI ranked 20th in the state and was 96 percent of the state average of \$30,050 and 93 percent of the national average of \$30,906.⁹ The 1992-2002 average annual growth rate of PCPI in Jefferson County was 4.5 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 4.3 percent and 4.0 percent for the nation. In Jefferson County in 2002 the median household income was \$48,146, which ranked 12th in the state.¹⁰

The greatest percentage of workers (30%) worked in manufacturing, followed by education, health, and social services (18%) and retail trade (11.6%). In 1999, 3.7 of the families and 5.7 of individuals were in poverty in Jefferson County.¹¹ In 2002 Jefferson County had an unemployment rate of 4.7%¹² compared to 5.5% for the state as a whole.¹³

Cultural Resources

History

The Town of Koshkonong is known for the concentration of Native American conical mounds and effigy mounds in the shape of animals that grace the shores of Lake Koshkonong and the surrounding countryside. Over 450 mounds have been documented. Archaeologists estimate that the mounds were constructed between 800 BC and 1200 AD.¹⁴ Much of what is known about the mounds today comes from a report by two archaeologists in 1908, A.B. Stout and H.L. Skavlem, titled *The Archaeology of the*

⁶ 1990 US Census Data Jefferson County. Database: C90STF1A

⁷ US Census Bureau. Census 2000. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics:2000

⁸ Census 2000.

⁹ Bureau of Economic Analysis <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/bearfacts/action.cfm?FIPS=55055>

¹⁰ Economic Research Service, US Department of Agriculture. County-level Unemployment and Median Household Income for Wisconsin 2002.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/unemployment/RDList2.asp?ST=WI>

¹¹ Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics:2000, Census 2000.

¹² Economic Research Service, US Department of Agriculture. County-level Unemployment and Median Household Income for Wisconsin 2002.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/unemployment/RDList2.asp?ST=WI>

¹³ Economic Research Service, US Department of Agriculture. Wisconsin Fact Sheet 2002, Population, Income, and Employment. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/StateFacts/WI.htm>

¹⁴ Birmingham, Robert. 2000. Indian Mounds of Wisconsin. The University of Wisconsin Press. Madison, WI.

*Lake Koshkonong Region.*¹⁵ They surveyed the mounds at a time when many were untouched. The Jefferson County Indian Mounds and Trail Park on Koshkonong Mounds Road preserves the southern part of the General Atkinson Mound Group, which originally consisted of 72 mounds. An Indian trail, documented by a surveyor in 1835, is also preserved in the park.

The Blackhawk War of 1832 permanently drove Chief Blackhawk and the Sauk and Fox tribes out of the Rock River valley and out of Wisconsin. Fort Koshkonong, named in 1841 after General Henry Atkinson, was built on the south side of the Rock River, in what is now Fort Atkinson, to house the soldiers under General Atkinson's command. The Federal Fort was abandoned when the war ended.

Three years later the first settlers, including Milo Jones, arrived to stake claims in places that appeared to be good mill sites along the Bark and Rock Rivers.¹⁶ Dwight Foster built the first home in Koshkonong next to the Fort in 1836. The settlement of Fort Atkinson grew into a thriving community on the direct routes from Janesville to Watertown and Whitewater to Madison. In 1842 the settlement was organized as the Township of Koshkonong. The village of Fort Atkinson was organized in 1860 and became a city in 1878.

Lake Koshkonong was 10,000-acre marsh before the dam at Indianford was built in 1850.¹⁷ The Winnebago word Koshkonong meant "lake we live on". The shallow lake and vast beds of wild rice and celery attracted waterfowl by the thousands. In the 1840's ducks were harvested for the restaurant trade. By the 1880's and 1890's elaborate hunting clubs and resorts sprang up along the lake, including a resort owned by Governor William Dempster Hoard where the Koshkonong Mounds Country Club now stands. The Janesville Electric Company built a new higher dam in 1917 that raised the water to a level at which the marsh plants could not survive. With no food source, the ducks found other feeding grounds.

Agriculture flourished in Koshkonong and by the 1970's this area had more dairy cattle per acre and square mile than any area of comparable size in the United States. W.D. Hoard began publishing Hoard's Dairyman magazine in 1885. The Hoard Farm in the Town of Koshkonong was his experiment in converting Wisconsin from a wheat state to "the dairy state" and is still home to the oldest continuous Guernsey dairy herd in Wisconsin.

Physical Resources

Land Use

The Town of Koshkonong developed a land use plan in 1996. The proposed Land Use Map in the plan identifies three primary land uses: Rural Residential - adjacent to the City of Fort Atkinson and along State Highway 26 south; Agriculture - south, east and northwest of Fort Atkinson; and Wetlands - current wetlands and floodplains.

The following table summarizes the land uses in the Town of Koshkonong, based on information from the Jefferson County Land Information Department; also see Land Use Map, page 18.

¹⁵ Highsmith, Hugh. 1997. *The Mounds of Koshkonong and Rock River*. Fort Atkinson Historical Society. Highsmith Press. Fort Atkinson, WI.

¹⁶ Swart, Hannah. 1975. *Koshonong Country*. W.D. Hoard & Sons Co. Fort Atkinson, WI.

¹⁷ Wanie, Richard. 2002. *Canoeing the Land of Blackhawk*. Richard Wanie.

Land Use	Acres	Percent of Area
Total area	30,995	100%
Agricultural, including cultivated, farm buildings, uncultivated land	18,576	60%
Retail and commercial	43	0.1%
Parks	262	0.6%
Industrial, manufacturing, and agricultural industry	73	0.2%
Wetland	4840	11%
Institutional and government	16	.05%
Surface Water	3,604	12%
Upland Woods	522	1.7%
Residential	1498	5%
Vacant residential lots	206	0.7%
Utilities and communications	5	.01%
Right-of-Way	1350	4.3%

Agricultural Trends

Sixty percent of the land in the Town of Koshkonong is in agriculture. Products produced include dairy, beef, hogs, grains, forage, and specialty crops. Trends in farms and farmland are important to park planning because land acquisitions for large natural resources based parks often involve agricultural land. Agricultural products and processing are an integral part of the Jefferson County economy accounting for \$1.51 billion in economic activity and providing 10,850 jobs in the County.¹⁸ The last USDA census of agriculture was conducted in 2002.¹⁹ Since the previous census in 1997 land in farms in Jefferson County decreased 4 percent from 258,414 acres in 1997 to 247,914 acres in 2002. The average farm size increased 1 percent from 173 acres in 1997 to 174 acres in 2002. The market value of agricultural products sold per farm increased 9% from \$89,948 in 1997 to \$97,621 in 2002.²⁰ The number of farms decreased 5 percent from 1493 in 1997 to 1421 in 2002. The table below shows the increase in number of transactions and the increase in dollars paid per acre for agricultural land in 2002 and 2003.²¹

Agricultural Land Sold in Jefferson County 2002 and 2003

Year	Number of Transactions	Acres Sold	Dollars Per Acre
Agricultural Land Continuing in Agricultural Use			
2002	12	1,044	\$2510
2003	40	2,510	\$4,313
Agricultural Land Being Diverted to Other Uses			
2002	6	257	\$3098
2003	6	250	\$9,214

¹⁸ UW-Extension. 2004. Jefferson County Agriculture: Value and Economic Impact.

¹⁹ United States Department of Agriculture, Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service. 2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile, Jefferson County.

²⁰ University of Wisconsin-Extension. 2004. Value and Economic Impact of Agriculture. Jefferson County Agriculture: Value and economic impact.

²¹ Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service. 2004 Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics. Agricultural Land Sales: Land Without Buildings and Improvements, Wisconsin 2002 table.

Natural Resources

Climate

Jefferson County's climate is continental with warm, humid summers and cold, dry winters.²² Almost two thirds of all precipitation falls during the growing season but droughts are not uncommon. The climate is favorable for dairy production and attracts both winter sports enthusiasts and summer tourists.

Normal high temperatures range from 25.9 degrees F in January to 83 degrees F in July. The average annual temperature is 56.5 degrees F. Normal low temperatures range from 7.5 degrees F in January to 60.5 degrees F in July, with an average annual low temperature of 35.8 degrees F. Normal precipitation ranges from a low of 1.39 inches in January to 4.16 inches in August; average annual precipitation is 33.46 inches. Normal winter snowfall ranges from 0.1 inches in October to 12.5 inches in January with an annual average of 38.2 inches.²³

Glaciation, Elevation and Drainage

The topographical and drainage patterns of Jefferson County stem from the retreat of the Wisconsin glaciation about 12,000 years ago. A prominent glacial feature is the Kettle Moraine in the southeastern corner of the county where Green Bay glacial lobe met the Delavan lobe and deposited stones, gravel, and soil. The Kettle Moraine features sharp hills and pocket valleys called kettles and other glacial remnants such as eskers (narrow, sinuous ridges) and kames (conical hills). Several parallel recessional moraines form arcs of low hills across the County giving it an east-west grain. Moraines (areas of high elevation) were formed where the stalled glacier melted and deposited soil and stones during its retreat.

Geology

The most striking Jefferson County landform feature is the Rock and Crawfish River valley system that exits the County at Lake Koshkonong in the southwestern portion of the Town. The valleys were part of a pre-glacial stream system that cut through Galena-Platteville dolomite and successively older St. Peter Sandstone, Prairie du Chien dolomite, and the youngest Cambrian sandstones. The soils in Koshkonong were formed by glacial activity, wind, and water and were derived from glacial till, outwash deposited by melt water; lake-laid clay, silt and sand, and accumulations of peat and windblown silts.²⁴

A map depicting elevations over 900 feet above sea level in the Town of Koshkonong indicates glacially formed drumlins as oval hills and recessional moraines as large areas of high elevation, see High Elevations Map, page 19. A few drumlins can be found just north and east of Fort Atkinson and depressions between the drumlins often contain wetlands. Southern Koshkonong has moraine elevations up to 980 feet. Areas of high elevation may have steep slopes and offer overlooks and picturesque scenery.

²² Climate of Wisconsin. www.uwex.edu/sco/stateclimate.html

²³ Midwest Regional Climate Center. Historic Climate Data 1971-2000 Averages at Fort Atkinson. <http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu/>

²⁴ Borman, R.G. and L. C. Trotta. 1975. Ground-Water Resources and Geology of Jefferson County, Wisconsin. United States Department of the Interior Geologic Survey. UW-Extension Geological and Natural History Survey.

Soils

The upland soil associations in the Town of Koshkonong include Kidder-McHenry-Rotamer and Fox-Casco-Matherton.²⁵ The upland soils are generally loamy and well to excessively well drained and steep to gently sloping. Most of these soils are suitable for agriculture and some uncultivated areas are used for timber or pasture. The lowland soils, around the lakes and wetlands, are of the Houghton-Adrian soil association and contain organic, poorly drained peat and muck soil types.

Vegetation

The Town of Koshkonong is primarily agricultural with 18,576 acres in agricultural cultivation or uncultivated open land. Wetlands constitute 4840 acres or 11% of the area and upland woods cover 522 acres or 1.7 % of the land area, see Environmental Corridors and Upland Woods Map, page 21 and Water and Wetlands Map, page 22. Prior to European settlement much of the vegetation in the Town of Koshkonong was a mix of white oak-black oak-bur oak openings with occasional groves. Prairie grasses and forbs surrounded the scattered large trees. Wetlands and wet forests of swamp white oak and ash were found along the Bark and Rock Rivers. A maple-basswood forest was growing over parts of Jefferson County where common prairie fires could not jump the rivers into the woods north of the Bark River and east of the Rock River.

Environmental Corridors

The *Jefferson County Agricultural Preservation and Land Use Plan* (1999) defines environmental corridors as any land that meets any of the following criteria:

- Public-owned park, recreation, and conservancy lands.
- Water bodies and wetlands mapped as part of the DNR Wetland Inventory.
- 100-year Floodplains based on Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) maps.
- Contiguous woodlands over 10 acres in size.
- In addition, any land with a slope over 20% should be considered as an environmental corridor.

Significant natural resources, cultural sites, and good agricultural land are often found within environmental corridors. The Land Use Plan suggests that these continuous areas of environmentally sensitive land should be protected from nonagricultural development. Large areas designated as environmental corridor are found along the Rock River, the Bark River, and Allen Creek as well as the wetlands and floodplains adjacent to Lake Koshkonong. About 11,500 acres in the Town are identified as environmental corridors including wetlands, floodplains, and all upland woods over 10 acres in size, see Environmental Corridors and Upland Woods Map, 20.

Lakes

Lake Koshkonong is a prominent feature in the Town of Koshkonong, see Water and Wetlands Map, page 21. The lake is 10,460 acres in size and portions of the lake are in the Town of Koshkonong, Town of Sumner, Dane County, and Rock County.²⁶ It has a maximum depth of 7 feet with a mean depth of 5 feet. A dam at Indianford, once used for hydroelectric power, impedes the flow of the Rock River and forms the lake. Impairments to the water quality of the lake include non-point source pollution, water level

²⁵ Glocker, Carl. 1979. Soil Survey of Jefferson County, Wisconsin. USDA Soil Conservation Service and University of Wisconsin.

²⁶ Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Department. Jefferson County Land and Water Resource Management Plan 2000-2005

fluctuations, turbidity, and nutrient enrichment. The Department of Natural Resources is planning to construct a breakwater along the eastern shore of the lake to create fish and wildlife habitat and reduce erosion from wave action. The Rock-Koshkonong Management District formed in 1999 to manage lake issues. The lake is used extensively for recreation and fishing. Lake Koshkonong is in the Lower Koshkonong Creek watershed.

Mud Lake is located in the slews at the mouth of the Rock River. The lake is 120 acres in size. Various hunting clubs own most of the land around Mud Lake.

Streams

The Town of Koshkonong is in the Lower Koshkonong Creek Watershed. The watershed includes Lake Koshkonong and the Rock River from Fort Atkinson to Indianford.²⁷

The Rock River is a defining feature in Jefferson County. It flows from its headwaters north of Horicon, through Lake Koshkonong and into Illinois. The Lower Rock River is 48 miles in length from Fort Atkinson to the Illinois state line. It is classified as a warm water sport fishery capable of supporting a community of warm water sport fish or serving as a spawning area.

Environmental problems include non-point source pollution; point source-municipal treatment plant and industrial discharge, habitat degradation, heavy metal toxicity, turbidity, nutrient enrichment, general toxicity, stream flow fluctuations, and fish migration interference (dams). Rock River Coalition citizen monitors are testing streams in the Rock River basin to shed light on solutions to these problems. Boaters use the Rock River below Fort Atkinson to access Lake Koshkonong. Fishing, canoeing, kayaking, and snowmobiling on the frozen river are other activities; see Water and Wetlands Map, page 21.

The Bark River joins the Rock River in the Town of Koshkonong. The Bark is 68 miles long and flows from the Oconomowoc Lakes to the Rock River just east of Fort Atkinson. It is classified as a warm water sport fishery. The Department of Natural Resources maintains a fish hatchery at the mouth of the river where sauger, walleye, perch, and northern pike are hatched. Impairments along the course of the river include stream flow fluctuations caused by unnatural conditions, habitat degradation, fish migration interference (dams), and turbidity. Fishing, hunting, canoeing and kayaking are popular on the Bark River; see Water and Wetlands Map, page 21.

Allen Creek, south of Fort Atkinson, is the only “exceptional resource water” in Jefferson County listed in the Wisconsin State Statutes; see Water and Wetlands Map, page 21. The least darter, a fish species on the state special concern list is found in Allen Creek and wetlands along the creek serve as spawning grounds for northern pike. Exceptional resource waters often have excellent water quality and are valued fisheries.

The creek runs north from the Rock County line to the Rock

Wisconsin's Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters Program is designed to maintain the water quality in Wisconsin's cleanest waters. An outstanding resource water is defined as a lake or stream which has excellent water quality, high recreational and aesthetic value, and high quality fishing, and is free from point source or nonpoint source pollution. An exceptional resource water, such as Allen Creek, is defined as a stream which exhibits the same high quality resource values as outstanding waters, but which may be impacted by point source pollution or have the potential for future discharge from a small sewer community.

<http://dnr.wi.gov/landscapes/maps/state/outstandingwaters.htm>

Designated streams are listed in Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 102

²⁷ WDNR. Lower Koshkonong Creek Watershed LR11. <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/gmu/lowerrock/surfacewaterfiles/watersheds/lr11.pdf>

River south of Fort Atkinson. It is 8 miles long and is a warm water forage fish community capable of supporting an abundant, diverse community of forage fish and other aquatic life.

The wetlands around Allen Creek are the home to rare and endangered species. A rare calcareous fen is found along the creek and is under study by the WDNR and the Milwaukee Public Museum. The fen contains at least one species on the Federal Endangered Species list. Rare plants, reptiles, and fish have been reported in the wetlands along the creek and in the creek.²⁸

Sediment loads are reportedly increasing in Allen Creek due to ditching of tributaries, polluted runoff from stream bank pasturing, and steep slopes. Road salt runoff from State Highway 26 also enters the creek. Allen Creek runs through Klement Business Park in the City of Fort Atkinson.

Alternative routes proposed for the U.S. Hwy. 12 Fort Atkinson By-Pass cross Allen Creek. The Town of Koshkonong has expressed concern over the impact that the road and construction may have on the creek and surrounding wetlands. Potential impacts include polluted run-off, erosion and damage to wetlands and the creek during construction, increased salt and heavy metal accumulations, increased traffic and development, impediments to wildlife and recreational corridors, and noise impacting Town parks, recreation facilities, and rural areas. The Rock River Coalition has citizen water quality volunteers monitoring the creek and area residents have formed the Friends of Allen Creek Watershed to study, protect, and advocate for this important natural resource and surrounding watershed.



Allen Creek at Poeppel Road



Wetlands along Allen Creek

Wetlands

About 4840 acres of wetlands are found in the Town of Koshkonong; see Water and Wetlands Map, page 21. Most of the wetlands are located adjacent to the Rock River, Bark River, Allen Creek, and Lake Koshkonong. Wetlands near the mouth of the Rock River are owned by the Department of Natural Resources. Wetlands perform numerous functions such as wildlife habitat, slowing floodwaters, and nutrient and pollutant absorption. Two natural ponds and a wetland that are attractive to waterfowl are located in Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park.

Upland Woods

Upland woods cover about 520 acres of the Town of Koshkonong, see Environmental Corridors and Upland Woods Map, page 20. Most of the large woodland tracts are found alongside wetlands where

²⁸ Martin, Mark. November 11, 2004. Personal conversation. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Endangered Resources.

steep slopes and thin soils were not suitable for cultivation. One such woodlot is located in Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park.

Wildlife

Bird life is abundant in the Town of Koshkonong, particularly waterfowl that frequent the lakes, rivers, and marshes. Waterfowl are not as abundant as when Lake Koshkonong was still a marsh and huge flocks darkened the sky. Common birds along the Rock River and Lake Koshkonong, particularly during spring and fall migration, include geese, sandhill cranes, northern harrier, red-tail hawk, turkey vulture, sora rail, herring and ring-billed gulls, black and Forster's terns, great blue heron, green heron, a multitude of songbirds, and even white pelicans.²⁹ Two American bald eagle nests were reported along Lake Koshkonong in 2004. Deer herds and wild turkey flocks are commonly seen throughout, as are coyote, fox, raccoon, and other typical midwestern mammals.

The Koshkonong Wetlands Association has submitted greater Lake Koshkonong for the Wisconsin Important Bird Area designation. This is a global program to protect key habitat for all birds. It aims to identify and protect areas that are important to birds at any stage of their life cycle. The site must meet one or more of the following criteria: site is important to one or more species listed as endangered or threatened in Wisconsin, the site is important to one or more species identified as high conservation priorities in Wisconsin, the site harbors an assemblage of species associated with a habitat type that is representative, rare, or threatened in Wisconsin, and the site is important for long term research and/or monitoring projects that contribute substantially to ornithology, bird conservation and/or education.³⁰

Rare Species

The Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Inventory notes that rare aquatic and terrestrial species have been found in the Town of Koshkonong in the wetlands and waters of the Rock and Bark Rivers and Allen Creek.

Summary

The natural resources of the Town of Koshkonong are influenced by the glacial topography that includes wooded uplands in the south, an extensive system of wetland, rivers, streams, and Lake Koshkonong. Allen Creek is the only "Exceptional Resource Water" in Jefferson County. Land use in the town is primarily agricultural with an expanding residential base.

²⁹ Wanie, Richard. 2002. Canoeing the Land of Blackhawk. Richard Wanie.

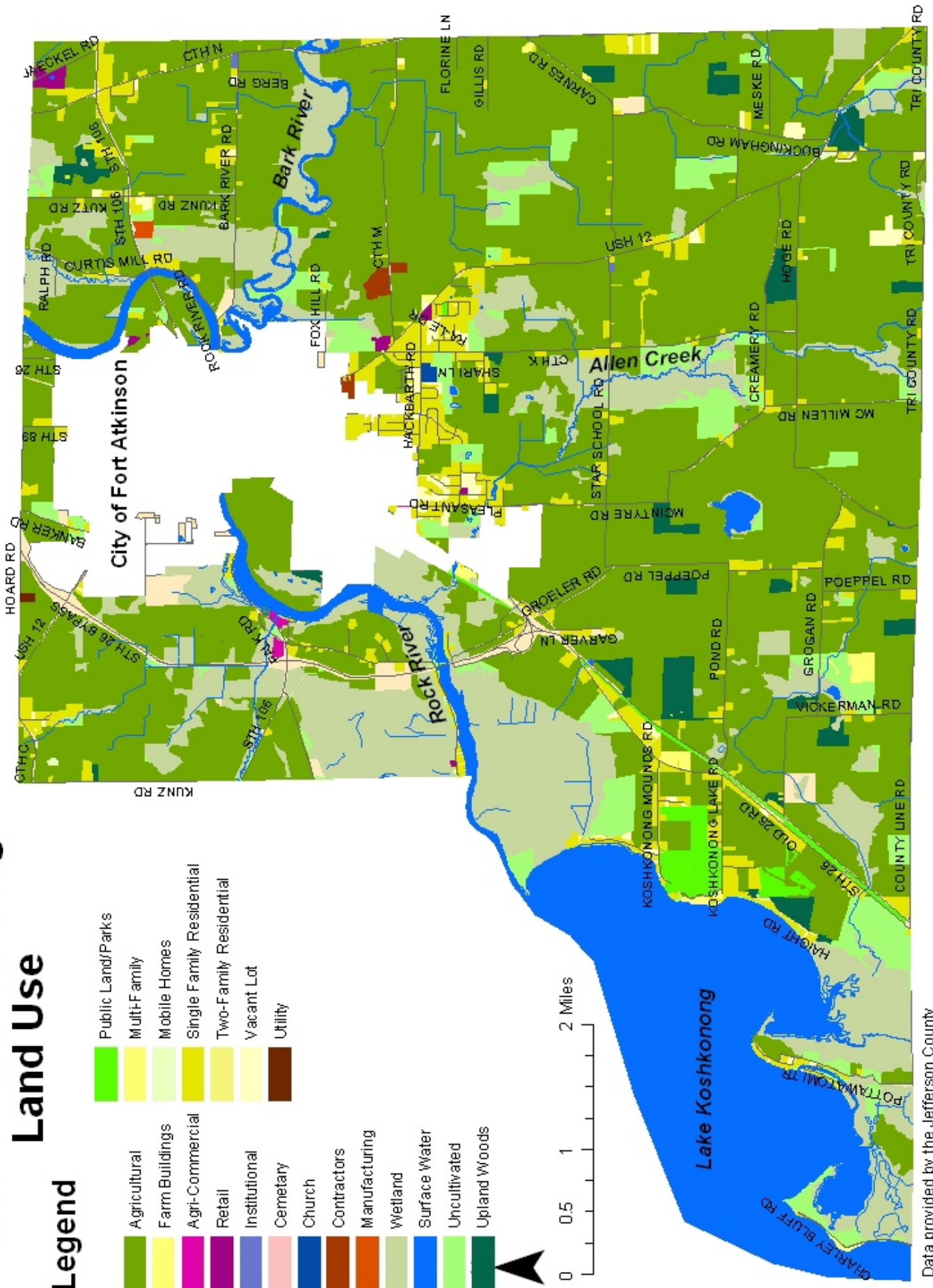
³⁰ Wisconsin Important Bird Areas. <http://www.wisconsinbirds.org/IBA/>, September 20, 2004

Town of Koshkonong

Land Use

Legend




- Public Land/Parks
- Multi-Family
- Agricultural
- Farm Buildings
- Mobile Homes
- Single Family Residential
- Retail
- Two-Family Residential
- Institutional
- Vacant Lot
- Utility
- Cemetery
- Church
- Contractors
- Manufacturing
- Wetland
- Surface Water
- Uncultivated
- Upland Woods

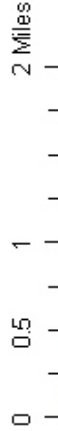


Data provided by the Jefferson County Land Information Department

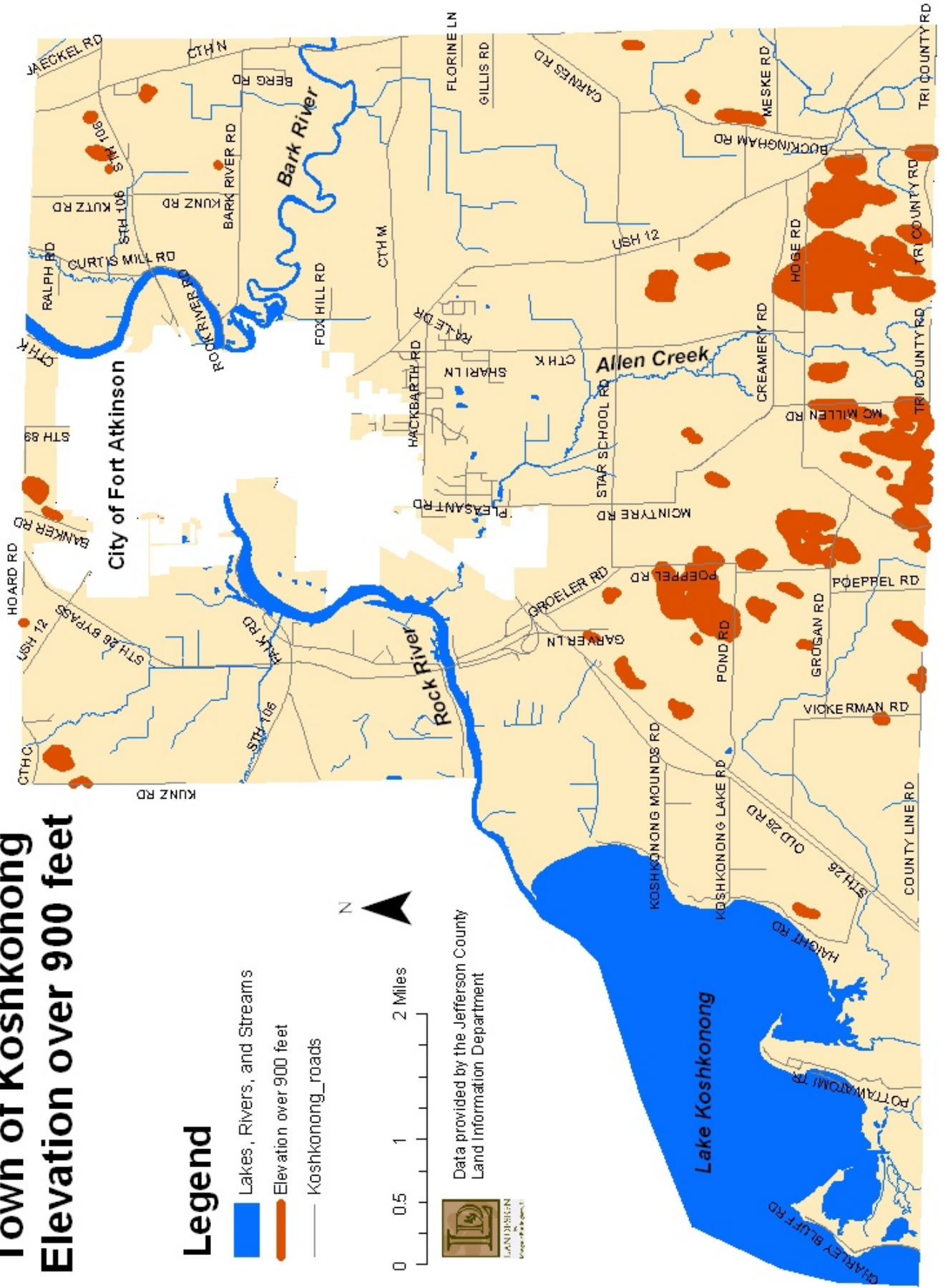
Town of Koshkonong Elevation over 900 feet

Legend





-  Lakes, Rivers, and Streams
-  Elevation over 900 feet
-  Koshkonong_roads



Data provided by the Jefferson County
Land Information Department

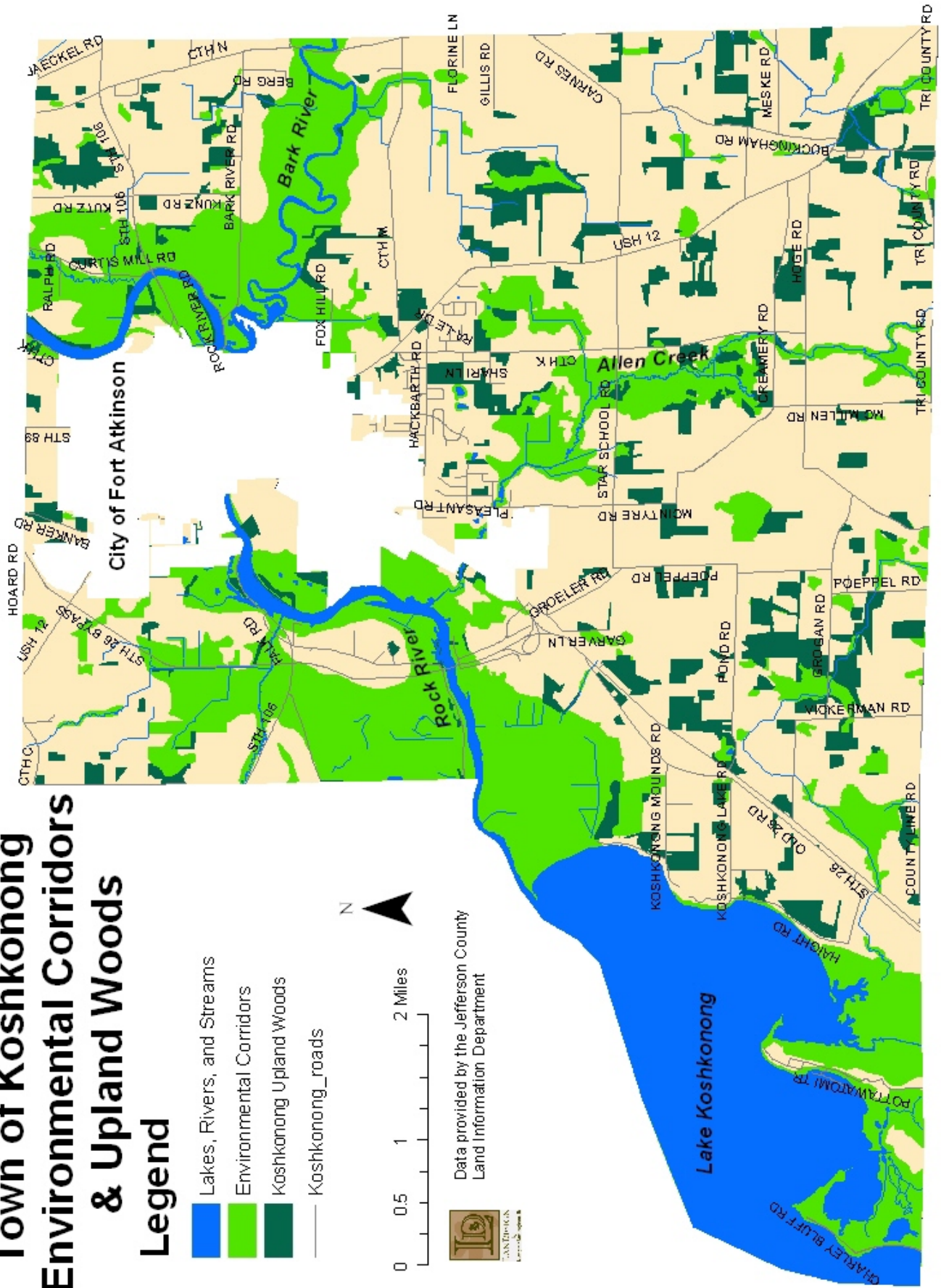


Town of Koshkonong Environmental Corridors & Upland Woods Legend

-  Lakes, Rivers, and Streams
-  Environmental Corridors
-  Koshkonong Upland Woods
-  Koshkonong_roads





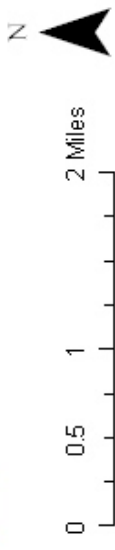
Data provided by the Jefferson County
Land Information Department



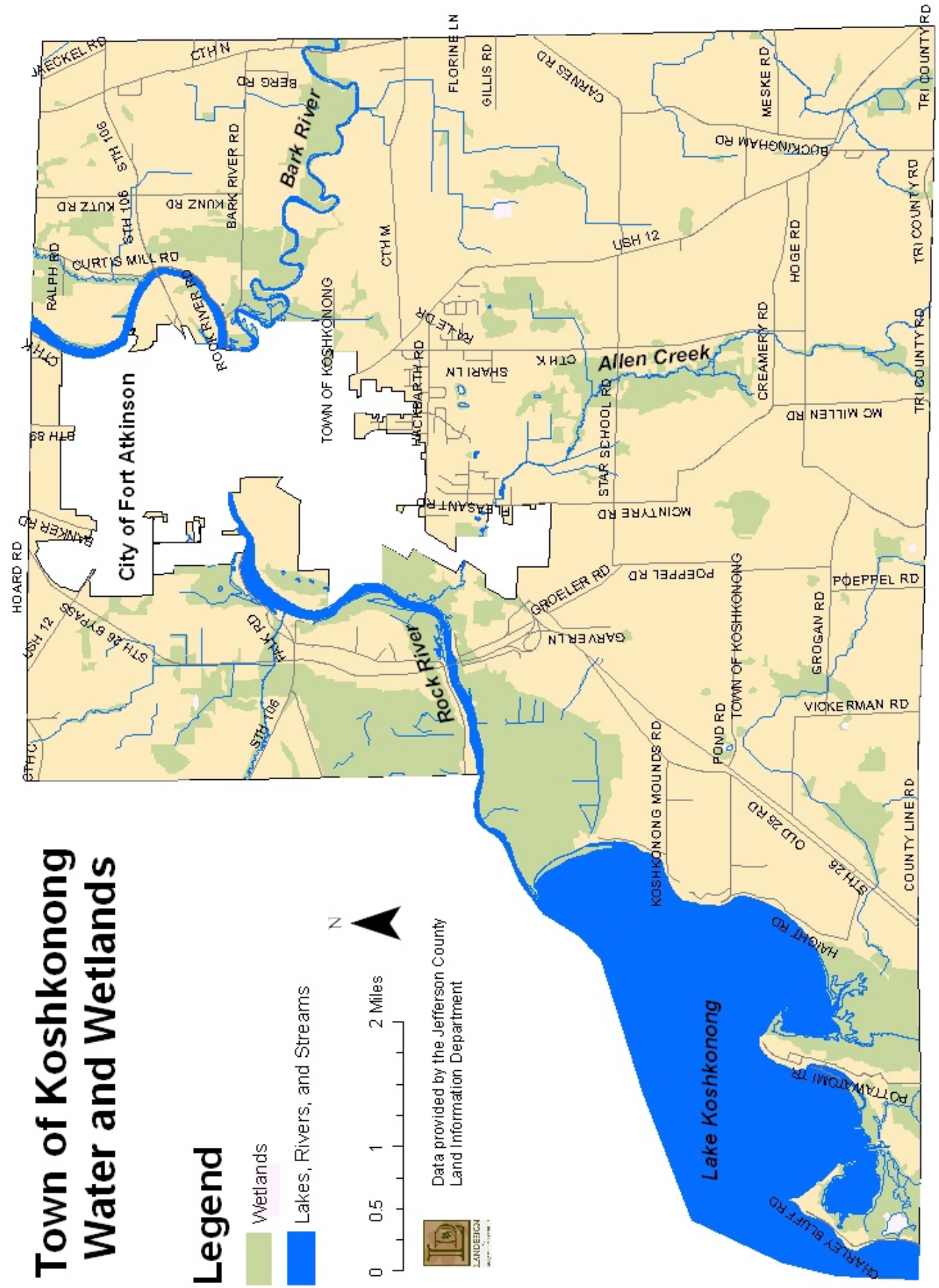
Town of Koshkonong Water and Wetlands

Legend

-  Wetlands
-  Lakes, Rivers, and Streams



Data provided by the Jefferson County
Land Information Department



Parks

The Town, Jefferson County, and the WDNR manage a variety of parks and open space in the Town of Koshkonong. A parkland dedication ordinance was enacted in 1996 that requires developers to dedicate developable land for public use at a rate of 0.05 acres per dwelling unit or pay a fee-in-lieu of land dedication. As a result, several small open space parcels are scattered in subdivisions in three areas of the Town, see Town of Koshkonong Existing Park Areas Map, page 28

Town of Koshkonong Parks and Trails

The following section describes the parks owned and managed by the Town of Koshkonong and lists existing facilities and potential improvements. The parks are identified on the Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Hackbarth Area Map on page 29, the Vinnie Ha Ha Area Map on page 30, and the Bingham's Point Area Map on page 31.

Woodlawn Subdivision

This 2.26-acre neighborhood park is located between West Ra-Le Drive and Woodlawn Drive on Primrose Lane and is a commons-type area that also serves as a drainage basin; see Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Hackbarth Area Map, page 29.



Existing Facilities

- Welcome to Woodlawn sign
- 2 aging swing sets
- Unused flag pole
- Mature park trees around perimeter
- Open play area

Possible Upgrades and New Activities

- None planned

Briarwood Village 3rd Addition

A 6.539-acre park is located off of Brooke Lane near the end of Main Street. This undeveloped park is adjacent to the Joint School District #6 Forest and nature area (22.28 acres) and is in natural vegetation; see Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Hackbarth Area Map, page 29.



Existing Facilities

- Natural wetland area

Possible Upgrades and New Activities

- Trails within the park
- Trails to Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park

Bramble Bush Lane

A 0.492-acre public park is located on Bramble Bush Lane adjacent to the new Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park. This area has a backstop and a lawn for open play. An easement connects the park to Hackbarth Road on the north; see Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Hackbarth Area Map, page 29.



Existing Facilities

- Unused backstop
- Open area

Possible Upgrades and New Activities

- Trails to Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park
- Trail to Hackbarth Road

Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park

This new park was purchased in 2003 and was the first parkland acquisition for the Town of Koshkonong. Patricia Raddatz won the “Name the Park” contest with Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park, which is a combination of Chippewa words that reflect the natural characteristics of the park:

Koshkonong was known as Kosh-Ko-Ming

A prairie was called Mush-Go-Day

A marsh or swamp was called Mush-K-Gonk

A natural meadow was called Mush-Ko-Se-Wang-Ing

The park is about 52 acres in size and has 20 acres of wetlands with two natural ponds, 18 acres of upland oak woods, and 14 acres of agricultural land that was planted to prairie in October 2004. Mush-Ko-Se-Day adjoins the small Town Park on Bramble Bush Lane. The park features hiking trails and opportunities for nature study. A small parking lot is available on Aspen Drive. Bike lanes have been added to Aspen Drive to access the Park. Volunteers are revitalizing the woodlands, wetlands, and planting prairie, see Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Hackbarth Area Map, page 29.



Existing Facilities

- Nature trails
- 2 ponds, wetlands, and woods
- Woodland restoration in progress
- Parking lot
- Prairie planting 10/29/2004

Possible Upgrades and New Activities

- New trails
- Park signs
- Birdhouse, park bench, wetland overlook

Vinnie Ha Ha

Three public Lake Koshkonong access points are located on Vinnie Ha Ha Road. These areas are designated as public roads; see Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Vinnie Ha Ha Area Map, page 30.



A designated public road creates public access to Lake Koshkonong adjacent to N971 Vinnie Ha Ha Road.



This Lake Koshkonong public access point is called Indian Mound Street and is located between N1055 and N1059 Vinnie Ha Ha Road.



This Lake Koshkonong public access point is called Indian Trail and is located between N1091 and N1097 Vinnie Ha Ha Road.



Access to the Koshkonong Wildlife Area is provided between N1056 and N1064 Vinnie Ha Ha Road, which is across the road from the Indian Mound Street lake access point.

Bingham's Point

Two public Lake Koshkonong access points and a small nature area are located on Bingham's Point; see Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Bingham's Point Map, page 31.



A 0.281-acre public park is designated in Bingham's Point on Black Hawk Bluff Drive and provides Lake Koshkonong access between N519 and N527.



A 0.75 acre wooded natural area is located on Pottowatomi Trail in Bingham's Point.



A Lake Koshkonong access point is located on South Oxbow Drive between N309 and N321. The Town of Koshkonong would like to improve this parcel for use as a cold weather lake rescue staging area.

Bike Routes and Paths

- Bike Lanes will be incorporated in the Maxwell Way subdivision design leading from Hackbarth Road to the School District Forest land, see map on page 29.
- A bike trail will be incorporated into the Twin Knolls subdivision to access the Glacial River Trail and maintained by Jefferson County, see map on page 30.
- Bike lanes have been added to Aspen Drive to access Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park, see map on page 29.



Aspen Drive was designed with bike lanes to Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park.

Rustic Roads

Three Rustic Roads have been designated by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation at the petition of Town residents; see Town of Koshkonong Recreational Areas Map, page 32.



- **Rustic Road 84** is 2.2 miles long and travels east from the Rock River on Bark River Road. Highlights along this road are the Rock River, lowland woods on a bend in the Bark River, an artesian drinking fountain, agricultural scenery, and wildlife.
- **Rustic Road 87** is 6.8 miles long and includes portions of Creamery, McIntyre, Poeppel, and Pond Roads from State Road 26 to U.S. Hwy 12. The road traverses hilly, active farmland, and travels through tunnels of trees, past orchards, and Mustang Manor, the only riding stable in the country featuring adopted wild mustangs.³¹ The road passes the historic South Koshkonong Cemetery where a stone marker across from the cemetery reads "This Tablet marks the site of the Baptist Church 1860-1890".
- **Rustic Road 88** is 3.5 miles long on Cold Spring Road from Carnes Road to US Hwy 12. Cold Spring Road forms the boundary between the Towns of Koshkonong and Cold Spring for part of its length. Beautiful Victorian farmhouses and unique barns can be seen along the road as well as rolling countryside, farm fields, and woods. St. John's Church in Cold Spring was built in 1884 and a historical marker in Cold Spring commemorates Abraham Lincoln's service in the Black Hawk War at Fort Atkinson and the spot where his horse was stolen as he camped on his way home to Illinois. Cold Spring Union Cemetery, a tree-studded cemetery chosen by the early settlers, is a landmark and towers above Cold Spring on a glacial hill. Abram Brink, the founder of Cold Spring, was buried there in 1848 at the age of 35.



Jefferson County Parks and Trails

Indian Mounds Park

Eleven Indian effigy mounds are visible in the park. A trail takes visitors through the woods to all the mounds and an ancient Indian trail, see Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Map Vinnie Ha Ha Area on page 29.

Burnt Village Park

Burnt Village Park is located on the east side of Hwy N on the banks of the Bark River. This narrow park is used as a wayside, for fishing, river access for boats and canoes, and relaxing. Historically the site of the park was a large permanent Winnebago Indian village; see Town of Koshkonong Recreational Areas Map, page 32.³²

Glacial River Trail

The Glacial River Trail is 6.7 miles long and is a multi-modal trail built on a railroad bed along State Road 26. Trailheads and parking are located at Farmco Lane and County Line Road. The trail stretches from the south side of Fort Atkinson to the Rock County line. About one third of the trail is paved. Bikers, joggers, walkers, dog walkers and rollerbladers make heavy use of the trail. The trail passes by farmsteads, prairie flowers, wetlands, woods, over streams, and through an award winning covered bridge. The City of Fort Atkinson is building a paved connecting trail to downtown. Rock County also

³¹ Wisconsin Department of Transportation. www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/scenic

³² Swart, Hannah. 1975. Koshkonong Country. W.D. Hoard & Sons Co. Fort Atkinson, WI.

plans to connect Janesville and Milton with the Glacial River Trail; see Town of Koshkonong Recreational Areas Map on page 32.

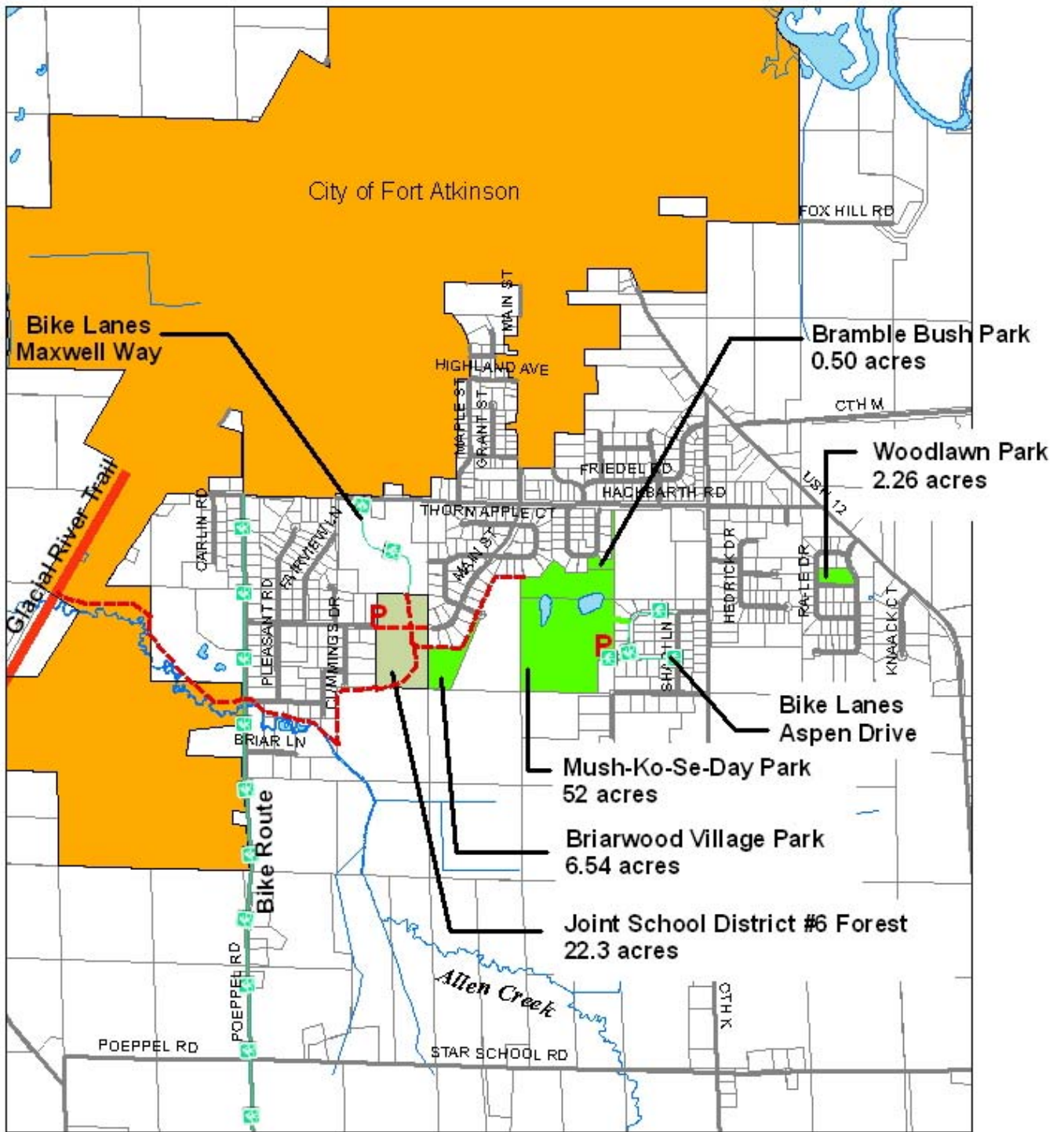
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Lake Koshkonong Marsh Wildlife Area

The Wildlife Area is a large marsh is just west of State Road 26 along mouth of the Rock River. It encompasses 844 acres and is home to waterfowl, deer, turkey, pheasants, grassland songbirds, and sandhill cranes. A boat ramp is available on Groeler Road under the State Road 26 Bridge. Snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, and bird watching are other activities. The WDNR also has a boat ramp and a small natural area on Vinnie Ha Ha Road providing access to the Wildlife Area. Another parking lot and access point with prairie interpretive signs is located on Koshkonong Mounds Road; see Town of Koshkonong Recreational Areas Map, page 32.

Conservation Clubs

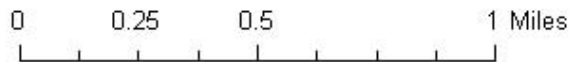
Several conservation and hunting clubs maintain private preserves and hunting grounds in the marshes around Lake Koshkonong.



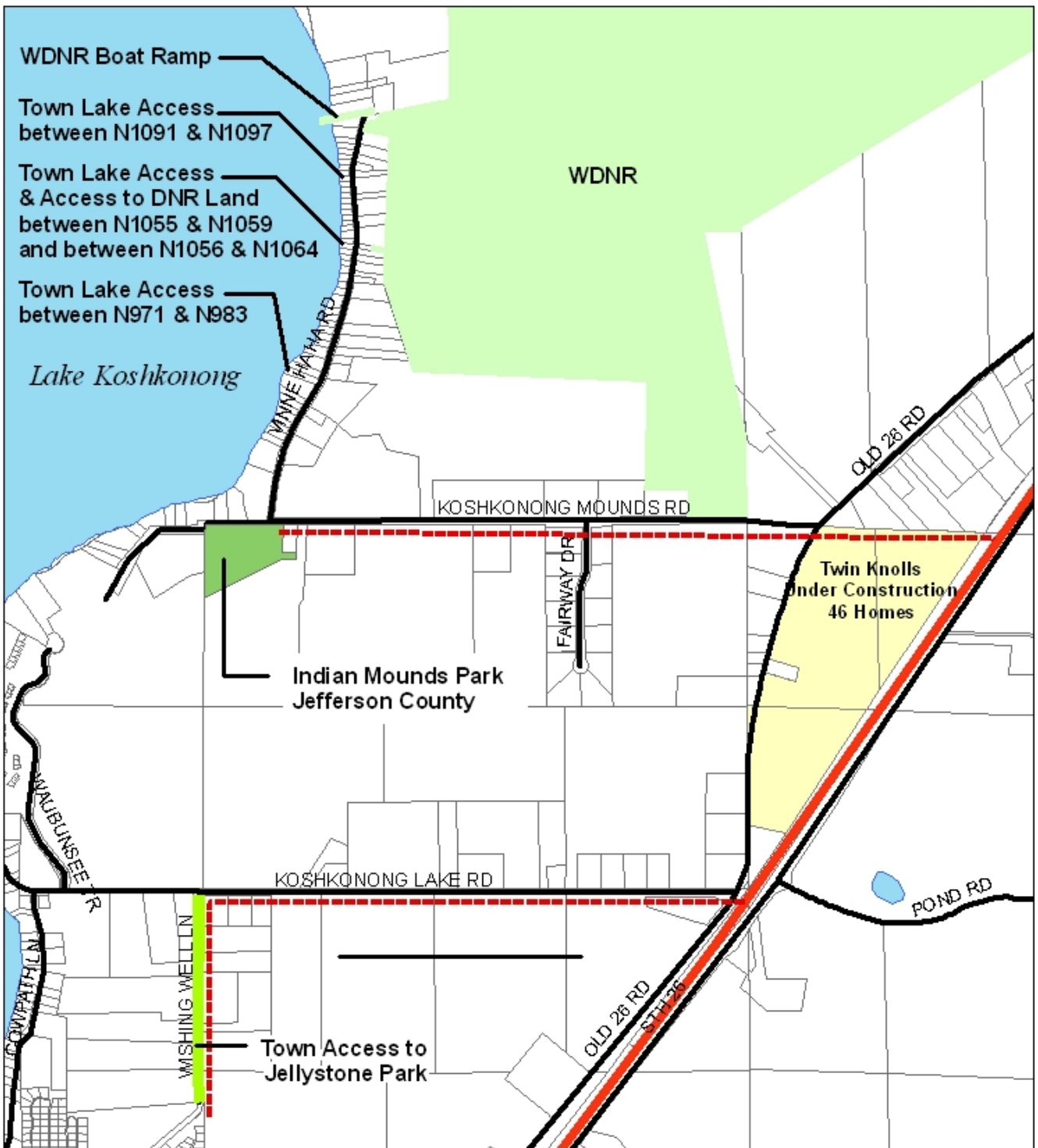
Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Hackbarth Area July 20, 2004

Legend

- School District Forest
- Potential New Trails
- Bike Routes
- Potential Park Parking
- Glacial River Trail
- Streams
- Town Parks



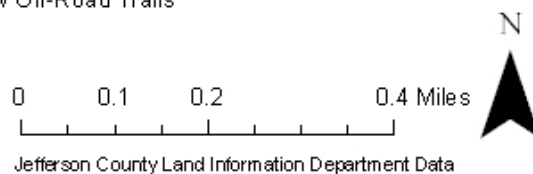
Jefferson County Land Information Department Data

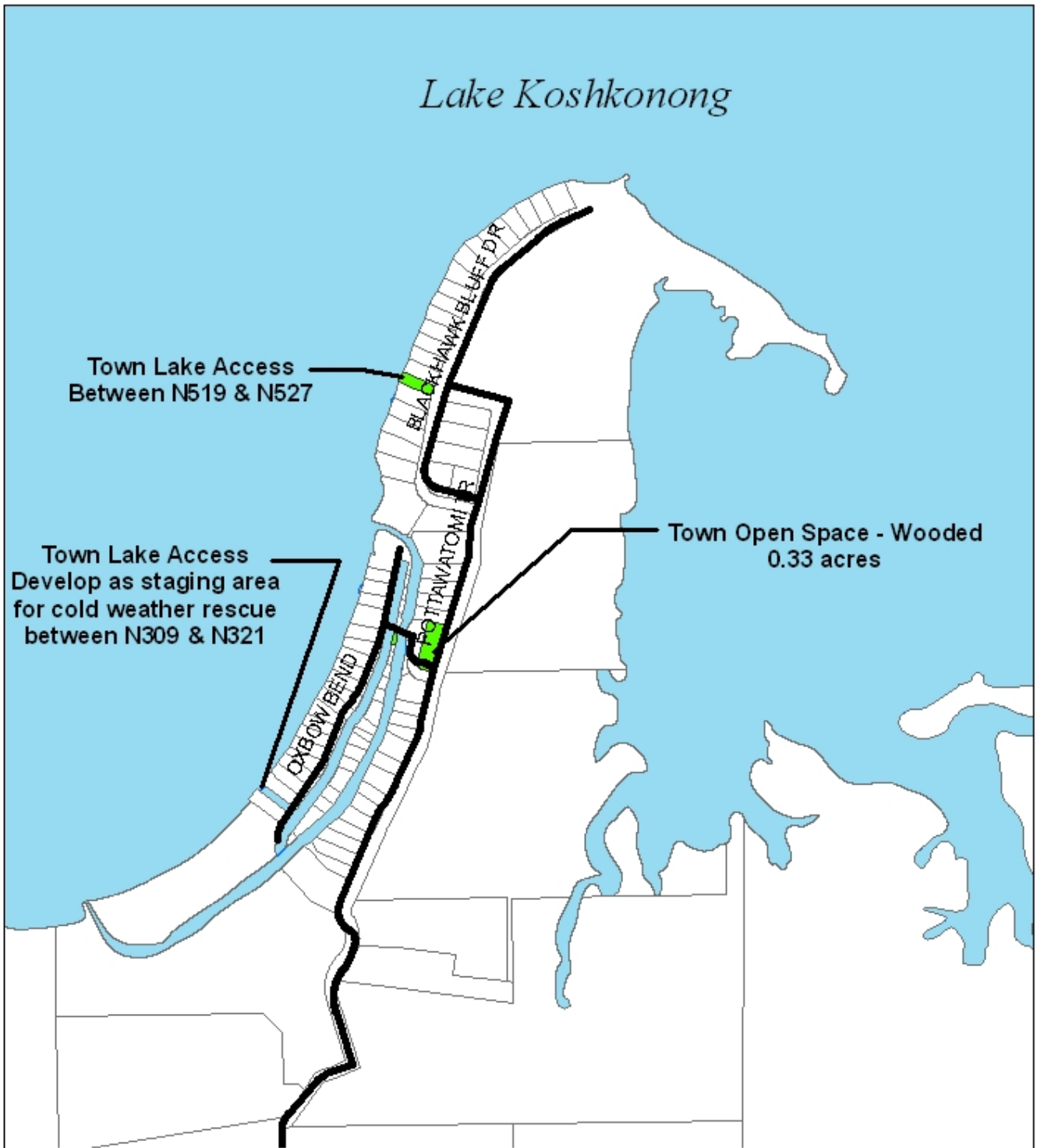


Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space

Vinnie Ha Ha Area August 6, 2004

- Indian Mounds Park
- Glacial River Trail
- Town of Koshkonong
- WDR
- Lake Koshkonong
- Maxwell Way Subdivision
- Potential New Off-Road Trails

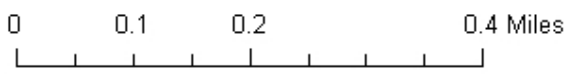




Town of Koshkonong Parks and Open Space Bingham's Point August 6, 2004

Legend

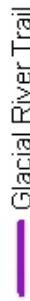
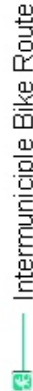
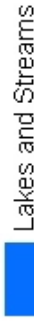
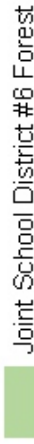

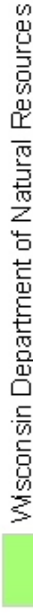
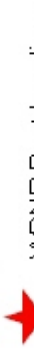

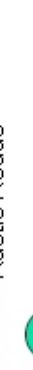
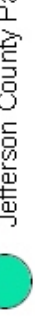
Town of Koshkonong Lake Access and Parks



Jefferson County Land Information Department Data

Town of Koshkonong Recreational Areas

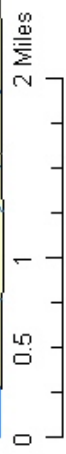
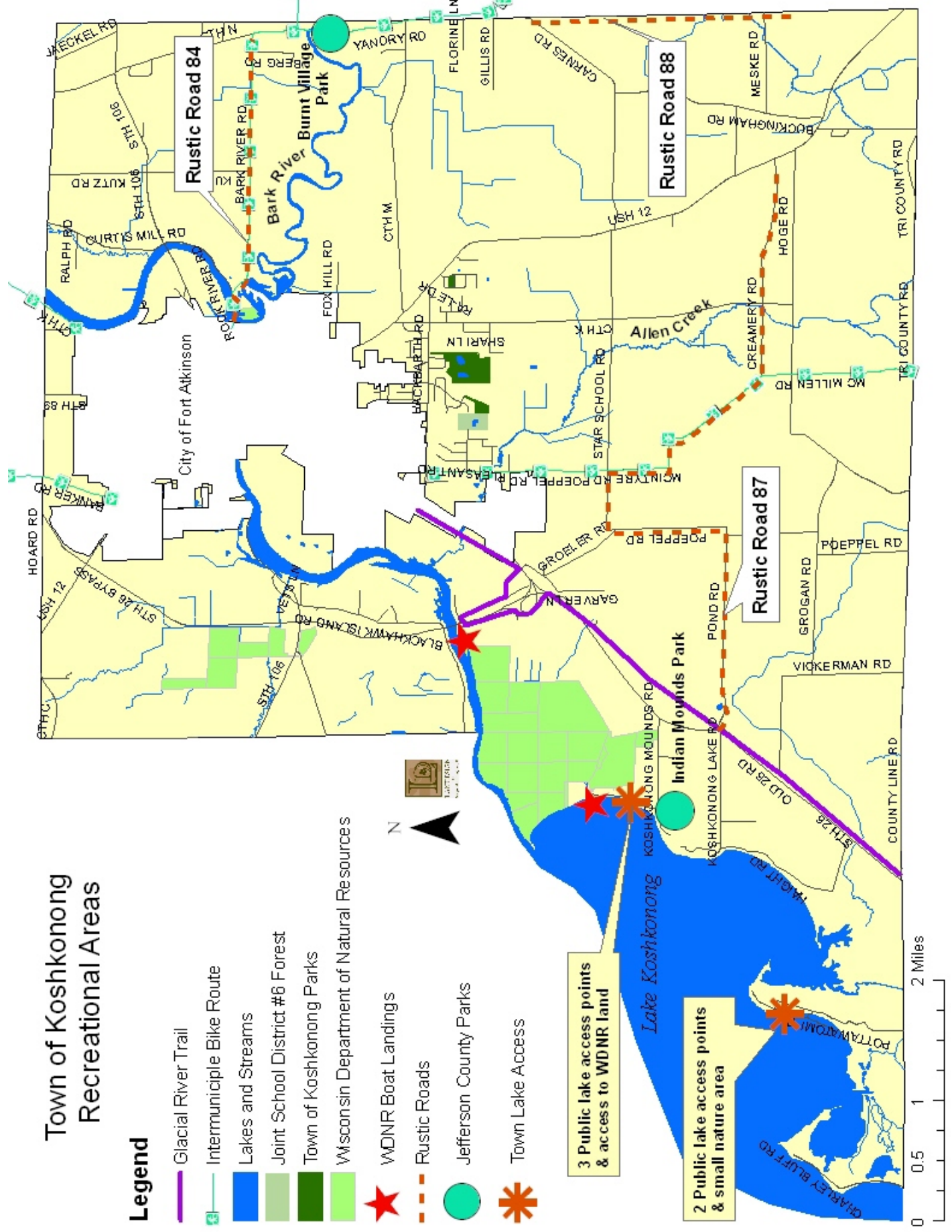
Legend

-  Glacial River Trail
-  Intermunicipal Bike Route
-  Lakes and Streams
-  Joint School District #6 Forest
-  Town of Koshkonong Parks
-  Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
-  WDNR Boat Landings
-  Rustic Roads
-  Jefferson County Parks
-  Town Lake Access



3 Public lake access points & access to WDNR land

2 Public lake access points & small nature area



VI Needs Assessment and Outdoor Recreation Facilities Inventory

Park and recreation land standards are used to determine the need for park acreage and facilities and to guide parks to underserved locations. A complete needs analysis involves looking at open space standards, actual usage figures, and public needs and desires. Actual usage figures are not available for Town of Koshkonong Parks. This document considers open space standards, Level of Service, and public input in the needs assessment.

Level of Service

Level of Service Standards (LOS) are used to determine future parkland requirements and facilities in proportion to the estimated future population at a desired level of park and facility quality. Level of Service is usually expressed as acres of parkland per 1000 population. The citizens of the Town may want to consider establishing a local level of service standard for parks and recreation facilities.

Only acreage that is used for fairly active recreation is considered in these LOS figures. Wetlands and natural resource areas that are used primarily for passive recreation pursuits or are conservancy areas are not figured into the equation. The National Recreation and Park Association has established standard guidelines for the provision of parks. The recommended standard ranges from 6.25 acres to 10.5 acres of parkland per 1000 persons.³³ These figures should be used simply as a guide. Local conditions, desires, and other factors need to be considered for each community.

Several entities maintain public parkland and open space in the Town of Koshkonong. The Town owns about 64.25 acres of parkland. Jefferson County owns the multi-use Glacial River Trail in the Town of Koshkonong, Indian Mounds Park, and Burnt Village Park. The WDNR owns about 818 acres in the Koshkonong Marsh Wildlife Area and parcels west of Hwy 26, an 11-acre DNR fish hatchery property located at the confluence of the Bark and Rock Rivers along Bark River Road, a Lake Koshkonong boat launch on Vinnie Ha Ha Road, and a Rock River launch on Groeler Road under the Hwy 26 bridge.

The Fort Atkinson School District owns a 22-acre school forest that is open to the public for hiking. The total acreage of public land available for recreation in the Town of Koshkonong is currently about 946 acres plus the Glacial River Trail. Several private hunting clubs own marshland around Lake Koshkonong.

The City of Fort Atkinson provides eleven parks in various parts of the city. Fort Atkinson is in the process of building a multi-use trail from the north side of the City to the Glacial River Trail, connecting downtown to the Town of Koshkonong.

The chart on the next page indicates that types of facilities that are available in Town parks. The parks are generally natural areas for passive use, open space for unstructured play, or Lake Koshkonong public access points. The Town does not provide active structured recreation at this time.

³³ Mertes, James D. James T. Hall. 1995. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. National Recreation and Park Association and American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration.

Facilities Available	Mush-Ko-Se-Day & Bramble Bush Parks	Woodlawn Area Park	Briarwood Village Park	Bingham Point Access	Vinnie Ha Ha Access
Parking	X				
Hiking Trails	X				
Natural Area	X		X	X	
Playground		X			
Pedestrian Lake Access				X	X
Marked Bicycle Access	X				
Open Play Area	X	X			

NRPA Classifications

The National Recreation and Parks Association provides the following park classifications to aid communities in providing open space and recreational opportunities.

Mini- Parks

Mini-Parks address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs and are between 2500 sq. ft. and 5 acres in size. Mini-parks serve a 0.25 mile radius. Woodlawn Park and Bramble Bush Park may be considered a mini-park or neighborhood parks.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks serve recreational and social needs of a neighborhood and serve an area within .25 to 0.50 miles of the park. Five acres is considered the minimum size and between 7 and 10 acres is optimal.

Community Parks

Community parks provide community based recreation needs and preserve unique landscapes and open space. They usually serve more than one neighborhood and 0.50 to 3-mile distance. Community parks are usually between 20 and 50 acres in size. Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park could be considered a community park or natural resource area.

Special Use

Special use parks are oriented to a single purpose such as boat landings, historic or archaeological sites, or other unique features. The lake access points could be considered special use areas as could Jefferson County's Indian Mounds Park.

Natural Resource Areas

Natural resource areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual buffering. These parks are located where resources are available and the size is variable. Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park, the Town park on South Main Street, the woods on Potawatomi Trail, the DNR properties, and the Joint School District Forest are natural resource areas.

Greenways

Greenways tie the park system together to form a continuous park environment. They are developed where natural resources are found and opportunity presents itself. The Town has developed a Park and Trail Network Plan for the areas south of Hackbarth Road that has the characteristics of a greenway.

The following chart shows the types of parks that are available in the Town of Koshkonong, the acres available in each category, and the acres per 1000 persons based on a 2003-estimated population of 3,481:

Type of Park	Town Park Facilities & Joint School District Forest		County Park Facilities		WDNR Lands		City of Fort Atkinson		Total Acres per 1000 Persons
	Total Acres	Acres/1,000 Persons	Total Acres	Acres/1000 Persons	Total Acres	Acres/1000 Persons	Total Acres	Acres/1000 Persons*	
Mini	2.4	0.67							<i>Not including the City of Fort Atkinson</i> .67
Neighborhood							17.1	1.1	
Community							99.1	6.4	
Special Use	0.6	0.17	5.0	1.4			26.2	1.7	1.57
Natural Resource	83.5	24.0	3.2	0.9	857	246.2	131.5	8.5	271.1
Multi-Use Trail			26.4	7.6					7.6
Total	86.5	24.84	34.62	9.9	857	246.2	273.9	17.7	280.94

*City of Fort Atkinson Parks are available to the residents of the Town of Koshkonong. Under the City of Fort Atkinson Column, Acres/1000 Persons was figured on a combined 2003-estimated population of 11,926 for Fort Atkinson plus 3481 for the Town of Koshkonong or a total of 15,407.

Currently the Town of Koshkonong has a total of 280.94 acres of public parkland per 1000 persons from all sources. Town parks and the Joint School District Forest provide 24.8 acres/1000 persons. Jefferson County provides 9.9 acres/1000 persons and the WDNR provides 246.2-acres/1000 population of recreational land and natural resource areas. The City of Fort Atkinson provides 17.7 acres/1000 persons for the combined population of 15,407 for Fort Atkinson and the Town of Koshkonong. The parks provided by the Town are all passive use. The DNR lands are wildlife areas that allow hunting, fishing, boat ramps, and unmarked trails.

Lake Koshkonong provides many opportunities for public recreation. Pleasure boating, personal watercraft, fishing, and waterfowl hunting are popular activities.

The City of Fort Atkinson provides numerous parks with active recreation such as ball fields, an aquatic center, and organized team sports. Residents of the Fort Atkinson school district may use these facilities. Fort Atkinson residents make use of the Glacial River Trail in the Town and also visit Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park and the Joint School District Forest. Active recreation is also available in Whitewater.

In summary, the Town of Koshkonong provides ample passive use recreational areas for its population and recreational visitors. The Town and City of Fort Atkinson may consider joint projects to provide active recreation.

Pathway Classifications

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

Park Trails

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

- Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park – Type III Nature Trail
- Indian Mounds County Park – Type III Nature Trail

- Glacial River Trail – Type II Multi-purpose hard surfaced Trail

Connector Trails

Connector trails are multi-purpose trails that provide safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the community. Connector trails by type are Type I: Separate/single purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists and in-line skaters located in an independent right-of-way. Type II Separate/single purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists/in-line skaters within the road right-of-way. The Jefferson County-Wide Bicycle System is a Type II connector trail.

- Aspen Drive Bike Route – Type II
- Twin Knolls Bike Route – Type II (proposed)
- Maxwell Way Bike Route – Type II (under construction)

On-Street Bikeways

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

Other Pathway Classifications

Cross-Country Ski Trails: Trails for traditional skiing are available at Dorothy Carnes County Park on the west side of Fort Atkinson, weather permitting. Skiers can also utilize the trails at Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park and the Glacial River Trail.

Other Trails and Pathways: Other pathway designations could include all-terrain bike and vehicle trails, snowmobile trails, and equestrian trails. Jefferson County has a snowmobile trail system that is maintained by local clubs.

Public Input Assessment

Public input on the Comprehensive Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan was gathered at the Town of Koshkonong Annual Meeting on April 13, 2004. The minutes from the meeting read as follows:

Chairman Swart informed residents about the (Town's Comprehensive Park) plan. Residents offered ideas and suggestions for the plan. Ideas included opening a dog park, bike trail connections, bike trails off main roads, purchase larger parcels of land for parks rather than more smaller parcels, have donations collected prior to purchase of parklands, acquire more natural areas for recreation with little maintenance required.

VII Recommendations for Outdoor Recreation Provision

Natural Resource Rich Areas – Potential Park, Trail or Conservancy Areas

The Town of Koshkonong is rich in natural resources, especially wetlands, lakes, and rivers. There are a variety of landscapes to be found. The Town may consider future park land acquisition in each of the three major landscape types described below if the opportunity arises, see Town of Koshkonong Landscape Zones Map, page 39.

Landscape Types

Lakes and Marshes – Lake Koshkonong dominates the west side of the Town and is attractive for fishing, hunting, boating, water recreation, and vacation homes. Most of the marshland around the mouth of the Rock River and along the shore of Lake Koshkonong is either owned by the WDNR as a wildlife area or by private hunting clubs, which allow their members to hunt and fish. The Town provides some access points in the subdivisions along the lake and the DNR provides 2 boat landings. Jefferson County and Federal agencies are purchasing and removing flood-prone residences and businesses on Blackhawk Island, part of which is located in Koshkonong.



Lake Koshkonong



Wetlands along Allen Creek

Woods and Uplands – The southern part of the Town of Koshkonong, along the Rock County Line, features an upland area with elevations over 900 feet. Large wooded parcels and wetlands can be found among the hills. Most of the land is agricultural and this is an attractive area for homebuilders because of the superb views.



McIntyre Road Woods



McMillan Road, View looking southeast

Creek and River Corridors – The Bark River flows into the Rock River in the eastern portion of the Town of Koshkonong and the Rock enters Lake Koshkonong just west of Fort Atkinson. The winding Bark has potential as a canoe trail. The wetlands and farm fields along the river attract waterfowl during migration and throughout the summer. Allen Creek is the only “Exceptional Resource Water” in Jefferson County and flows north through the central portion of the Town. Buffering the banks of this creek and protecting the adjacent wetlands would protect the high water quality and perhaps create a corridor for hiking trails.



The Rock River



Allen Creek along Hwy K










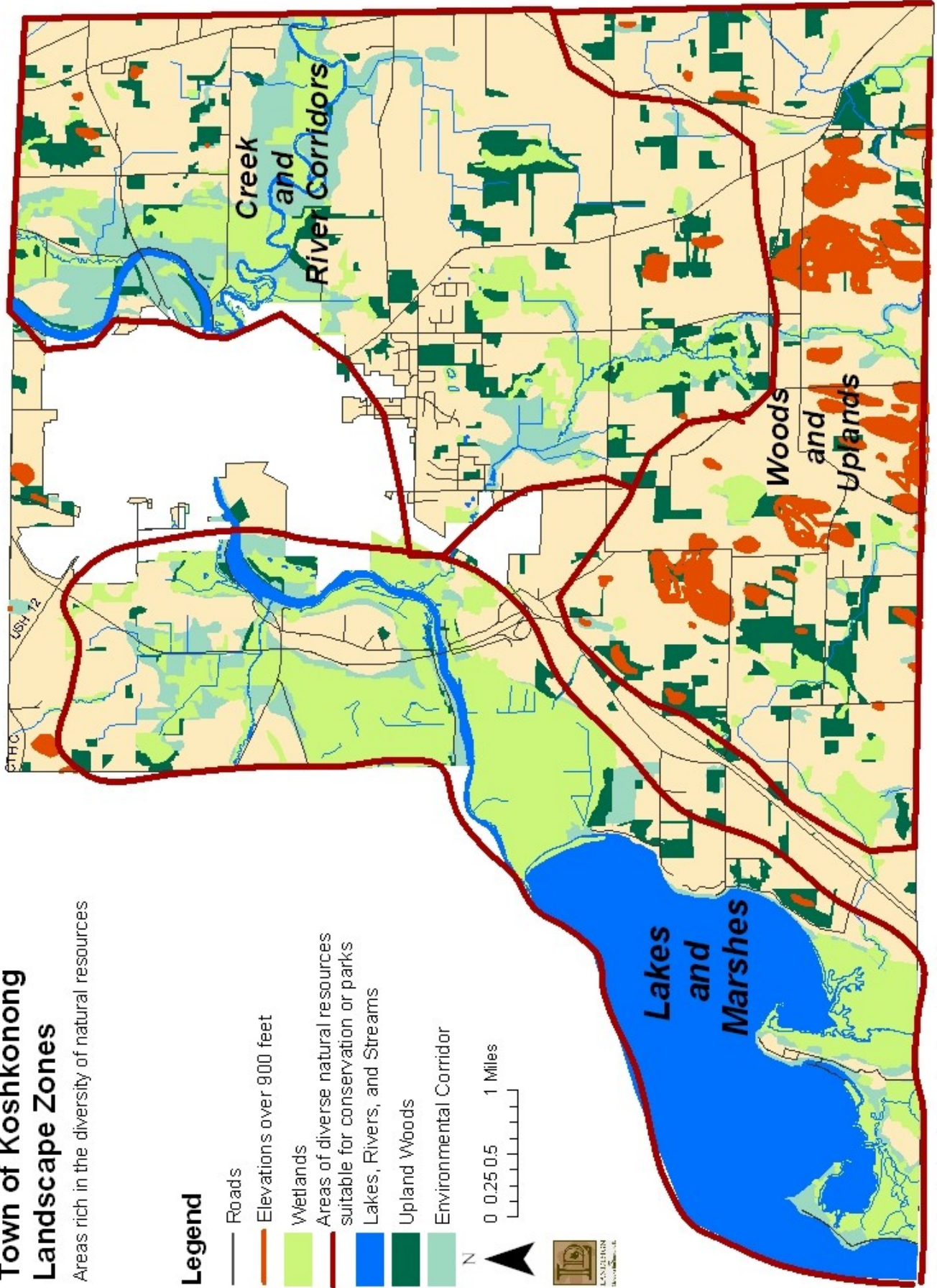
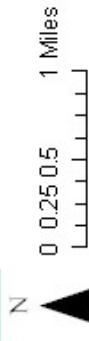
The Bark River at Burnt Village Park

Town of Koshkonong Landscape Zones

Areas rich in the diversity of natural resources

Legend

-  Roads
-  Elevations over 900 feet
-  Wetlands
-  Areas of diverse natural resources suitable for conservation or parks
-  Lakes, Rivers, and Streams
-  Upland Woods
-  Environmental Corridor



Proposed Projects in Existing Parks

- Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park
 - Continue to develop, improve, and maintain the park.
 - Prairie, wetland, and woodland restorations are in progress and will continue.
 - Install park signage.
 - Install seating benches.
 - Construct an observation platform for the ponds.
 - Involve the residents from the new sub-division east of the park in park projects.
 - Connect the park with Brooke Lane and South Main Street by a trail easement if possible.
 - A neighbor will continue to mow the trails.
 - Multi-generational volunteers are active in Saturday restoration workdays and fund-raising. This park has really brought the community together.
- Neighborhood volunteers have adopted the other small parks and Lake Koshkonong access points and will continue to maintain them.
- Improve the Lake Koshkonong access from South Oxbow Bend into a staging area for cold weather and winter rescues.

Future Park Projects

Trails

The Town would like to develop more trails connecting sub-divisions to parks and natural features such as Allen Creek, Lake Koshkonong, the Rock River, and the Bark River (see Town of Koshkonong Potential Park Acquisition Areas & Trail Corridors Map, page 42).

- Connect South Main Street and Brooke Lane to Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park by a trail easement or acquisition. Residents are already making a path (Hackbarth Area Map, page 29).
- Connect Eastern Avenue to Maxwell Way and South Main Street through the School District Forest. Make the trail wide enough for a snowplow. Provide a parking lot for the school district forest (Hackbarth Area Map, page 29).
- Develop a trail along Allen Creek and through the Industrial Park along an existing utility easement jointly with the City of Fort Atkinson and connect with the Glacial River Trail (Hackbarth Area Map, page 29).
- Develop a trail from the new Twin Knolls Sub-division to the Glacial River Trail. Jefferson County will maintain this dedicated easement (Vinnie Ha Ha Area Map, Page 30).
- Acquire easements for trails connecting Hwy 26, Hwy 12, Lake Koshkonong, and the Bark River. There is an easement from Lake Koshkonong to Hwy 26 through the Koshkonong Wildlife Area that has trail potential (Town of Koshkonong Potential Park Acquisition Areas & Trail Corridors Map, page 42).
- Develop grade separated bike trails along the roads and plan for bike trails when developing roads.
- Connect Bark River Road (a rustic road) with Hwy M by a pedestrian/bike/snowmobile trail bridge over the Bark River (Town of Koshkonong Potential Park Acquisition Areas & Trail Corridors Map, page 42).
- Connect Indian Mounds Park and Jellystone Park with the Glacial River Trail by an off-road trail.

Potential Acquisitions

The Town may consider acquisition of unique or rare lands for parks and open space. Allen Creek is the only State designated “Exceptional Resource Water” in Jefferson County. The stream runs through the Town of Koshkonong and the City of Fort Atkinson Klement Industrial Park. The high water quality of Allen Creek deserves protection; see Town of Koshkonong Potential Park Acquisition Areas & Trail Corridors Map, page 42.

- Connect existing parks by trails by acquiring land, easements, or leases.
- Connect Lake Koshkonong to the Bark River and Fort Atkinson by trails.
- Buffer parkland from new roads and development to maintain the quiet quality of the parks.
- Acquire unique lands with rare features.
- Acquire land or land preservation agreements to buffer Allen Creek.
- Consider the property on the NW corner of Koshkonong Lake Road and Old Hwy 26 for a park – features wooded kettles.
- Consider wooded property on McIntyre Road.

Other Potential Park Initiatives

- Plan for growth, greenspace, and active recreation together with the City of Fort Atkinson. Fort Atkinson is running out of open space for ball fields and active recreation.
- Develop boat slips on the lagoon off of Blackhawk Island Road where boats can land out of the Rock River channel.
- The closed Superior Meadows landfill could be considered for a park or oak savanna restoration.
- Jefferson County and the Federal government are buying out flood prone properties on Blackhawk Island. It is assumed that those properties will become property of the DNR with the potential for public recreation.
- Work with the WiDOT to protect wetlands, unique lands, Allen Creek, open space, and high quality agricultural land, and preserve current drainage patterns.
- Designate bike trails when planning and constructing the Hwy 12 By-Pass in the Town of Koshkonong.

Community Strengths Associated with Parks and Recreation

The Town of Koshkonong has come together to purchase, maintain, and improve Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park. The Town Board noted the following values and community strengths during the acquisition and development process.

- Supportive local businesses, residents, and foundations.
- Working to raise funds and develop Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park has brought the community together.
- Many generations work together on the Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park restoration.
- Dedicated volunteers maintain and improve existing parks and lake access points.
- Energetic – some volunteers and their families participate in every workday on the restorations at Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park.
- Support by local organizations and the neighboring church.
- Support by the Town Board
- Successful fundraising events for Mush-Ko-Se-Day Park.
- Local newspaper and radio coverage.

FUNDING SOURCES

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
FEDERAL GRANTS			
State Wildlife Grant Program Federal	Assist States by providing federal funds for the development and implementation of programs that benefit wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished. Both planning and implementation of programs are permitted. State must have comprehensive wildlife conservation plans by October 1, 2005. \$70 million for wildlife conservation grants to States and Territories, and \$6 million was provided to Tribes for 2004. Wisconsin received just over \$1.1 million.	State must apply.	The Division of Federal Aid FederalAid@fws.gov Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Partnership for Wildlife Federal	The purpose of the Partnerships for Wildlife Act is to establish a partnership among the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (Foundation), designated State agencies, and private organizations and individuals to preserve and manage all nongame fish and wildlife species. Game species, Endangered or Threatened Species, and Marine Mammals would not qualify for funding.		The Division of Federal Aid FederalAid@fws.gov http://federalaid.fws.gov/pw/partwld.html Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources US Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration	A parallel program for management, conservation, and restoration of fishery resources.	The Sport Fish Restoration program is funded by revenues collected from the manufacturers of fishing rods, reels, creels, lures, flies and artificial baits, which pay an excise tax on these items to the U.S. Treasury. Appropriate State agencies are the only entities eligible to receive grant funds. \$8.9 million available to Wisconsin in 2004.	http://federalaid.fws.gov/sfr/fasfr.html#A Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act	Funding for the selection, restoration, rehabilitation and improvement of wildlife habitat, wildlife management research, and the distribution of information produced by the projects. The Act was amended October 23, 1970, to include funding for hunter training programs and the development, operation and maintenance of public target ranges.	\$6 million available to Wisconsin for 2004	The Division of Federal Aid FederalAid@fws.gov
Land and Water Conservation Fund	The LWCF program provides matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.	States must apply.	Governmental Relations Department of Natural Resources P.O. Box 7921 Madison, WI 53701 Tel: 608-267-0497
EPA Five Star Wetland Restoration Program	The Five Star Restoration Program brings together students, conservation corps, other youth groups, citizen groups, corporations, landowners and government agencies to provide environmental education and training through projects that restore wetlands and streams. The program provides challenge grants, technical support and opportunities for information exchange to enable community-based restoration projects. \$10,000 is the average amount awarded per project.	Applications due in early March of each year	http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star/ EPA Contact: Myra Price USEPA Wetlands Division Room 6105 (4502 T) 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC price.myra@epa.gov
EPA Environmental Education Grants	The Grant Program sponsored by EPA's Office of Environmental Education supports environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. Since 1992, EPA has received between \$2 and \$3 million in grant funding per year and has awarded over 2,500 grants.	Apply January 1. Grant applications available at http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html	http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Pulling Together Initiative	Grants to help local communities effectively manage invasive weeds. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the National Park Service provide funding. Each agency has it's own funding priorities for this program	October 29, 2004 Non-Federal partners must match awards on a 1:1 basis.	http://www.nfwf.org/programs/pti.htm
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program	Modest financial assistance on a competitive basis to support community-based wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration projects that build partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach, and training activities	March 1, 2005	http://www.nfwf.org/programs/5star-rfp.htm
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	A variety of grant programs for conservation and wildlife habitat	Varies by program	http://www.nfwf.org/programs/pti.htm
USDA PROGRAMS			
National Natural Resources Conservation Foundation	Research and promote innovations for the conservation of natural resources on private land. Cooperative agreements available with Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies, and public and private organizations to grant monies for conservation activities	To be announced	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmland/2002
Farmland Protection Program	Matching funds to State, Tribal or local governments and nongovernmental organizations with existing farmland protection programs to purchase conservation easements or other interests in land	Apply through the Natural Resources Conservation Service	Jefferson County NRCS Office 134 West Rockwell Jefferson, WI 53549 920-674-2020 http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmland/2002
Wetland Reserve Program	Provides technical and financial assistance to landowners to restore, enhance, and protect wetlands through permanent easements or restoration cost-share agreements	Apply through the Natural Resources Conservation Service	Jefferson County NRCS Office 134 West Rockwell Jefferson, WI 53549 920-674-2020 http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmland/2002

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
Town and Country Resource Conservation and Development Program	Plan and carry out projects for resource conservation and community development leading to sustainable communities, prudent land use, and the sound management and conservation of natural resources	Apply to the Town and Country RC&D	http://townandcountryrcd Diane Georgetta, Coordinator 333 East Washington Street, Suite 3500 West Bend, WI 53095 262-335-4855 Phone 262-335-4855 Fax tacrcd@townandcountryrcd.org
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program	Encourages the creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance	Apply through the Natural Resources Conservation Service	Jefferson County NRCS Office 134 West Rockwell Jefferson, WI 53549 920-674-2020 http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmland/2002
Conservation Innovation Grants	A voluntary program to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production.	50% cost sharing available. Funding is announced each year through a RFP. Funds for projects ranging from 1-3 years will be awarded through a nationwide competitive grants process. Projects may be watershed-based, regional, multi-State, or nationwide. A Grant Review Board will make recommendations to the NRCS Chief, who will make final selections.	RFP will be published in the Federal Register and at www.grants.gov , or http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig . Applications must be mailed to the NRCS National Office.
Community Facilities Direct Loans and Grants (Administered by the Rural Housing Service)	Applicants are public bodies. Provide funding for essential community facilities such as municipal buildings, centers for the handicapped, schools, libraries, and other community buildings	Grant funds provided shall not exceed 75% of the cost of developing the facility. Grant recipients must have a median household income below \$24,001. Applicants other than municipalities must show broad based community support.	http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wi/programs/rbs/cfdirect.htm
STATE GRANTS			
Targeted Runoff Management (TRM)	Government units, planning commissions, and special purpose districts can be reimbursed up to 70% of eligible costs with installing Best Management Practices to limit or end nonpoint source water pollution in an agricultural or urban area. Grant awards up to \$150,000 with a 2 year implementation time frame. Projects can include detention ponds, shoreline restoration, constructed wetlands and more	Applications are available in January and are due on April 15. Applicants must pay 100% of project costs, then request reimbursement for the eligible portion	Bureau of Watershed Management Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EF/NPS/nonpoint.html Ruth Johnson, Nonpoint Source Coordinator 920-387-7869 Ruth.Johnson@dnr.state.wi.us Kathy Thompson – grant applications 608-267-7568 Kathleen.Thompson@dnr.state.wi.us http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/nps/grants/npsprogram.html

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
Urban Nonpoint Source & Stormwater Management	<p>Government units, planning commissions, and special purpose districts can apply in urban areas to control polluted runoff in urban project areas. The grant period is 2 years. The project must be in an area with residential population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile, have commercial or industrial use, or be privately or municipally-owned industrial site.</p> <p>70% cost share is available for stormwater management planning and education, ordinance and utility district development, and enforcement up to \$85,000. 50% cost share is available for infiltration systems, detention ponds, and shoreline and streambank stabilization and design up to \$150,000.</p>	<p>Applications are available in January and are due on April 15.</p> <p>Applicants must pay 100% of project costs, then request reimbursement for the eligible portion.</p>	<p>Bureau of Watershed Management Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EF/NPS/nonpoint.html Ruth Johnson, Nonpoint Source Coordinator 920-387-7869 Ruth.Johnson@dnr.state.wi.us Kathy Thompson – grant applications 608-267-7568 Kathleen.Thompson@dnr.state.wi.us http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/nps/grants/npsprogram.html</p>
Urban Forestry Grant Program	<p>Tree management, operations, and education within cities, villages and other concentrated development. Eligible projects may include inventories, staff training, public education, urban forest management plants, training materials, public information fliers, planting, pruning or removal of trees, celebrating Arbor Day and other activities</p>	<p>Apply by July 1 to receive grant application packet for that year. Wisconsin cities, villages, towns, counties tribal governments, and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations may apply.</p>	<p>Kristina Skowronski Urban Forestry Coordinator 3911 Fish Hatchery Road Fitchburg, WI 53711 608-275-3227 Phone 608-275-3338 Fax kristina.skowronski@dnr.state.wi.us</p>
River Planning Grant Program	<p>Grants can assist with building capacity in river organizations, inform and educate the public, assess water quality, evaluate sources of pollution. Counties, cities, towns, villages, tribes, qualified conservation and river management organizations may apply for 75% reimbursement up to \$10,000 state share.</p>	<p>Apply by May 1</p>	<p>Bob Hansis, River Program Coordinator (608) 275-3304 Robert.Hansis@dnr.state.wi.us</p> <p>Stefanie Brouwer, Community Service Specialist (608) 275-3218 Stefanie.Brouwer@dnr.state.wi.us</p> <p>Pat Sheahan, Environmental Grant Specialist and Outreach Supervisor (608) 275-3315 Patrick.Sheahan@dnr.state.wi.us</p>

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
River Management Grant Program	Grants for acquisition, easements, local ordinance development, streambank restoration. Counties, cities, towns, villages, tribes, qualified conservation and river management organizations may apply for 75% reimbursement up to \$25,000 to \$50,000 state share.	Apply by May 1	Bob Hansis, River Program Coordinator (608) 275-3304 Robert.Hansis@dnr.state.wi.us Pat Sheahan, Environmental Grant Specialist and Outreach Supervisor (608) 275-3315 Patrick.Sheahan@dnr.state.wi.us
Lake Planning Grant Program	Grants to gather information about lakes, develop plans for lake protection or rehabilitation, educate the public about lake quality issues. Counties, cities, towns, villages, tribes, qualified conservation and river management organizations may apply for 75% reimbursement up to \$10,000 state share.	February 1 and August 1	Susan Graham, Lakes Program Coordinator (608) 275-3329 Susan.Graham@dnr.state.wi.us
Lake Protection Grant Program	Counties, towns, cities, villages, tribes, qualified lake associations, public inland lake districts, qualified nonprofit conservation organizations, town sanitary districts, and other local governmental units are eligible for funding to protect and improve the water quality of lakes and their ecosystems. Funding up to 75 percent of project costs, maximum grant amount \$200,000. Purchase of land or conservation easements or restoration of wetlands and shore lands are limited to \$100,000. Some special wetland incentive grants of up to \$10,000 are eligible for 100 percent funding if identified in comprehensive land use plan. Development of local regulations or ordinances limited to \$50,000.	May 1	Susan Graham, Lakes Program Coordinator (608) 275-3329 Susan.Graham@dnr.state.wi.us

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
Land Acquisition Program	Acquire land and easements for natural areas, habitat areas and fisheries, stream bank protection, and rare and endangered species.	May 1	http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/lr/stewardship/landacq.html
Aids For The Acquisition And Development Of Local Parks (ADLP)	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. Funds are allocated on a regional basis with 70% distributed on the basis of each county's proportionate share of the state population and 30% distributed equally to each county.	May 1	http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/lr/stewardship/assistance.html
Urban Rivers Grants (UR)	Helps to buy land on or adjacent to rivers flowing through urban or urbanizing areas to preserve or restore the scenic and environmental values of river ways for nature-based outdoor recreation. The Urban Rivers Program has a cap per applicant based on 20% of the total funds allocated to the program each fiscal year. Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis.	May 1	http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/lr/stewardship/assistance.html
Acquisition Of Development Rights Grants (ADR)	Helps to buy development rights (easements) for the protection of natural, agricultural, or forestry values, that would enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis.	May 1	http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/lr/stewardship/assistance.html
Urban Green Space Grants (UGS)	Helps to buy land or easements in urban or urbanizing areas to preserve the scenic and ecological values of natural open spaces for nature-based outdoor recreation, including non-commercial gardening. Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis.	May 1	http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/lr/stewardship/assistance.html

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
County Conservation Aids	Carry out fish or wildlife management projects and to improve fish or wildlife habitat or projects related to hunter/angler facilities.	50% of eligible activities	Stefanie Brouwer, Community Service Specialist (608) 275-3218 Stefanie.Brouwer@dnr.state.wi.us
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	Development and maintenance of recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized trail uses.	50% of total project costs	Stefanie Brouwer, Community Service Specialist (608) 275-3218 Stefanie.Brouwer@dnr.state.wi.us
Local Water Quality Management Planning Grants	To assist planning agencies with the development and implementation of area-wide water quality management plans including local and regional water resource management and watershed planning activities and identification and protection of water quality sensitive areas known as environmental corridors	November 30. Project proposals may be submitted through regional DNR watershed management planning staff on a continuous basis.	Chuck Ledin, WT/2 Department of Natural Resources PO Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707 608-266-1956 http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/financial/html
Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act	DNR may contract and use agreements with counties, villages, and towns to facilitate the construction of boat landings and fishing piers and public access to waterways. 75% cost share.		Stefanie Brouwer, Community Service Specialist (608) 275-3218 Stefanie.Brouwer@dnr.state.wi.us
WDNR Environmental Damage Compensation Program	This program provides habitat restoration and improvement funding from fines paid by violators of environmental rules for restoring damaged resources, habitat work to improve fisheries or water quality, access acquisition and development related to the restoration of the damaged resources, cost sharing best management practices, purchase of buffer strips and critical areas to insure their protection. The funding is 100%	DNR Basin Leaders put together a request to the DNR Central Office for funding of a project. Contact Basin Leaders	Ken Johnson, Lower Rock River Basin Leader 608-275-3243 Kenneth.Johnson@dnr.state.wi.us Jim Congdon, Upper Rock River Basin Leader James.Congdon@dnr.state.wi.us Ruth Johnson, Water Resources Management Specialist Ruth.Johnson@dnr.state.wi.us Program Manager waterd@dnr.state.wi.us
Local Transportation Enhancements (TE) Program	Funds projects that increase multi-modal transportation alternatives and enhance communities and the environment. Projects include bicycle or pedestrian facilities, landscaping or streetscaping, and the preservation of historic transportation structures.	Federal funds administered through this program provide up to 80% of costs for a wide variety of projects. Projects costing \$100,000 or more that involve construction and non-construction projects of \$25,000 or more are eligible. Projects solicited in even numbered years, applications available in January and due in April.	John Duffe Wisconsin Department of Transportation 608-264-8723 john.duffe@dot.state.wi.us

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
Surface Transportation Discretionary Program (STP-D)	Projects that foster alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips such as facilities for pedestrian and bicycles.	80% cost sharing. Local governments with taxing authority and a population of 5,000 or more are eligible. Projects costing \$100,000 or more that involve construction and non-construction projects costing \$25,000 or more are eligible. Projects are solicited in even numbered years with applications available in January and due in April.	John Duffe Wisconsin Department of Transportation 608-264-8723 john.duffe@dot.state.wi.us
FOUNDATIONS			
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's mission is to improve the health and health care of all Americans. The Foundation in partnership with the Active Living Network created an entire suite of programs to address the problem of physical inactivity in the United States and the resulting health outcomes. Active living is a way of life that integrates physical activity into daily routines.	Unsolicited proposals may be submitted anytime. Average award is \$550,000.00	http://www.rwjf.org/applying/whatWeFund.jhtml Also see the Active Living by Design at http://www.activelivingbydesign.org/
The Conservation Fund	Since 1985, The Conservation Fund has worked closely with local, state and federal agencies to protect our nation's outdoor heritage – our National Parks and Monuments, Wildlife Refuges and Recreation Areas. The Fund helps its public partners achieve their specific land conservation goals by providing risk capital, effective negotiation, legal skills and leverage of limited funding. This partner-driven approach enables us to act quickly and effectively to meet the agency's needs.	Contact the Conservation Fund for application procedures	http://www.conservationfund.org/?article=2016 Meg McCants Real Estate Department 703.525.6300

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
Kodak Grants Program	Kodak, The Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society, provide small grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America. Awards will primarily go to local, regional, or statewide nonprofit organizations. Although public agencies may also apply, community organizations will receive preference.	Apply March 1 – June 1 The maximum grant is \$2,500. However, most grants range from \$500 to \$1,500.	American Greenways Program Coordinator 1800 North Kent Street, Suite 1120 Arlington, Virginia 22209-2156 703-525-6300 Fax 703-525-4610 greenways@conservationfund.org http://www.conservationfund.org/?article=2372
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	Ensure the future of elk, other wildlife and their habitat, land protection, habitat stewardship, elk restoration, and conservation education.	State-based Project Advisory Committees (PAC) annually allocate approximately 30 percent of big game banquet proceeds raised in respective elk states. In non-elk states, 30 percent goes into a national PAC for national priority projects. An additional three percent is allocated via an RMEF state grants program that typically funds conservation education projects across the country.	Kevin Wallenfang, Southern Wisconsin Regional Director 5102 Sunrise Ridge Trail Middleton, WI 53562 608-798-0169 kwallenfang@charter.net www.elkfoundation.org 1-800-225-5355
Ducks Unlimited	Ducks Unlimited oversees, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.	Contact Regional Office for potential grants	Great Lakes Regional Office 331 Metty Drive, Suite #4, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 734-623-2000 Bob Hoffman, Director of Operations
Pheasants Forever	Pheasants Forever is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and enhancement of pheasant and other wildlife populations in North America through habitat improvement, land management, public awareness, and education.	Contact Jefferson County Chapter for potential project assistance.	Jefferson County Chapter David Waldmann (920) 648-3608 http://www.jcpf200.com/
The Joyce Foundation	The Foundation supports the development, testing, and implementation of policy-based, prevention-oriented, scientifically sound solutions to the environmental challenges facing the region, especially those that center on water.	Grant proposals are reconsidered at the Foundation's Board of Directors Meetings. 2005 submission deadlines are: April 15, 2005, August 16, 2005, and December 12, 2005 http://www.joycefdn.org/pdf/2005_Guidelines.pdf	The Joyce Foundation Margaret H. O'Dell (Program Manager) 70 West Madison Street Suite 2750 Chicago, Illinois 60602 Phone: (312) 782-2464 Fax: (312) 782-4160

Name	Purpose	Due Date	Contact
The Natural Resources Foundation Besadny Conservation Grants	Besadny grants provide financial support for natural resources projects and programs that support the Foundation's mission at a small-scale, local level. Applicants must be a private or public organization or a government agency and use funds for a small-scale project or program that benefits the public; involves management and restoration of Wisconsin's natural resources; and /or contributes to knowledge about Wisconsin's natural resources through education. Recipients must match the requested funds on a 1:1 basis with funds or in-kind services.	Applications due January 15 \$1,000 maximum award with 1:1 matching funds required.	Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin PO Box 2317 Madison, WI 53701-2317 608/266-1430 or e-mail conservation@nrfwis.org .