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Donald M. Reed. Chief Biologist
William J. Stauber, AICP. Chief Land Use Planner

Special acknowledgment is due David A. Schilling, SEWRPC
Principal Planner, and Heather M. Petre, SEWRPC Planner,
for their contributions to this report.

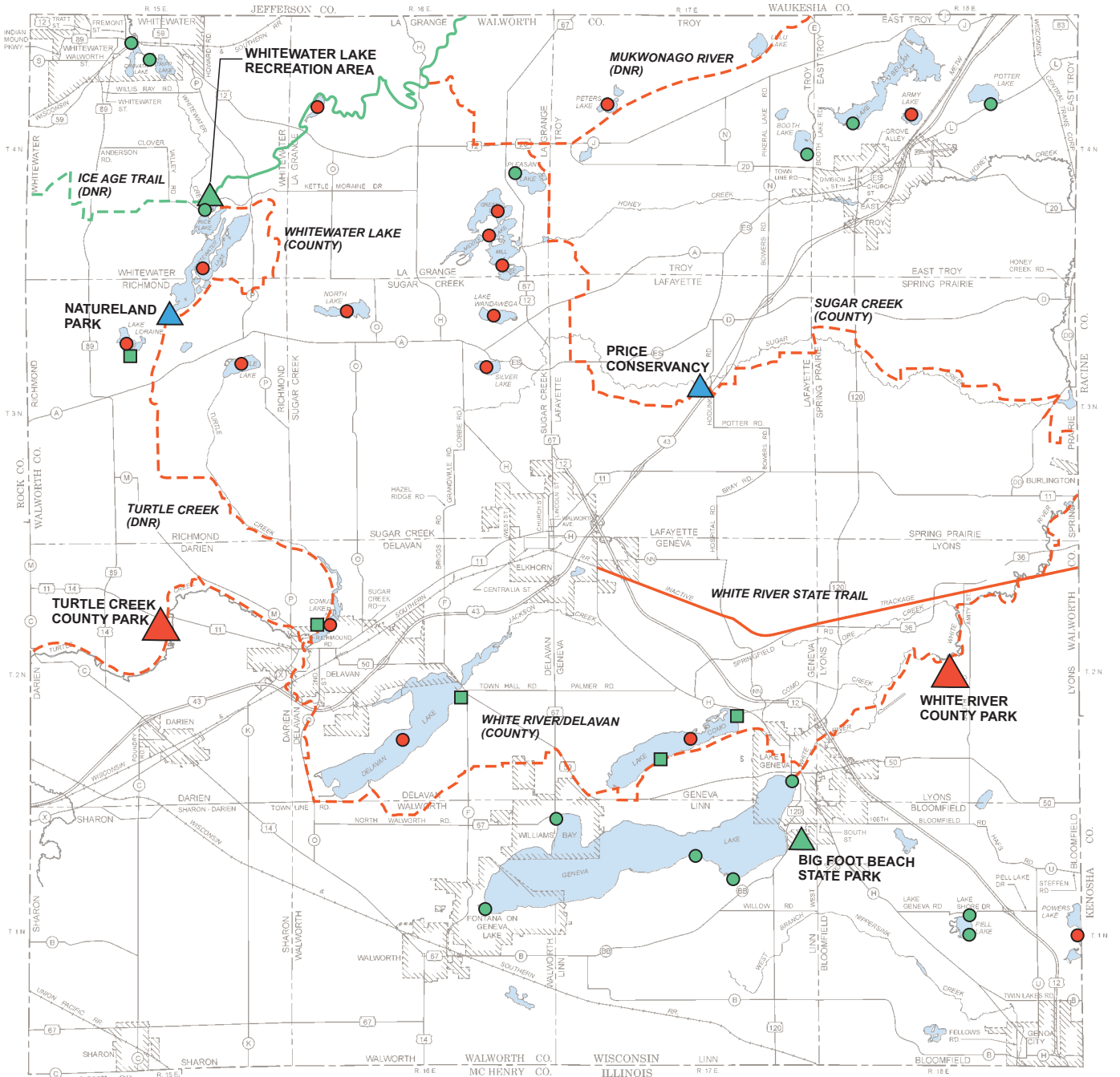
AMENDMENTS TO THE WALWORTH COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

The Walworth County Board of Supervisors adopted a park and open space plan as documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 135 (2nd Edition), *A Park and Open Space Plan for Walworth County*, on September 5, 2000. On September 9, 2004, the Walworth County Board of Supervisors adopted certain amendments to that plan. Those amendments pertain to plan recommendations regarding proposed recreation trails in the northwestern portion of the County, set forth in the outdoor recreation element of the park and open space plan.




A copy of the map of the outdoor recreation element of the Walworth County park and open space plan as amended by the Walworth County Board of Supervisors on September 9, 2004, along with a copy of the related County Board adoption resolution, follows. This map supercedes the previously adopted map as set forth on page 71 of Community Assistance Planning Report No. 135 (2nd Edition).

OUTDOOR RECREATION ELEMENT OF THE WALWORTH COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN: 2020





AS AMENDED: SEPTEMBER 9, 2004






MAJOR PARKS

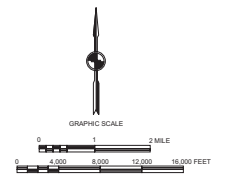
-  STATE
-  COUNTY
-  PROPOSED COUNTY

RECREATION CORRIDORS

-  EXISTING ICE AGE TRAIL
-  PROPOSED ICE AGE TRAIL
-  EXISTING RECREATION TRAIL
-  PROPOSED RECREATION TRAIL

BOAT ACCESS FACILITIES

-  EXISTING FACILITY MEETING DNR STANDARDS
-  EXISTING FACILITY NOT MEETING DNR STANDARDS
-  LAKE NEEDING NEW OR EXPANDED FACILITY



Source: SEWRPC.

Resolution No. 46-09/04

Amending the Outdoor Recreation Element of the Walworth County Park and Open Space Plan: 2020

1 Moved/Sponsored by: County Zoning Agency
2

3 **WHEREAS**, on December 1, 1977, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
4 (SEWRPC) adopted a park and open space plan for Walworth County as part of the first regional
5 park and open space plan as documented in *SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, A Regional Park
6 and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000*; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, in September 2000, the Walworth County Board of Supervisors refined the county
9 park and open space plan when they board adopted *A Park and Open Space Plan for Walworth
10 County*, SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 135 (2nd Edition); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, Map 18 listed on page 71 of *A Park and Open Space Plan for Walworth County*,
13 SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 135 (2nd Edition) defines the outdoor
14 recreation element of the Walworth County Park and Open Space Plan: 2020;
15

16 **WHEREAS**, through the Walworth County Land Use Plan 2020, the Walworth County Board of
17 Supervisors adopted the outdoor recreation element of the Walworth County Park and Open
18 Space Plan: 2020 as defined on page 96 Map A-2, *A Land Use Plan for Walworth County
19 Wisconsin: 2020*, SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 252; and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2004 the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation wrote a letter to the
22 Walworth County Board of Supervisors requesting that the county remove the proposed Ice Age
23 Trail designation from running around the east, west, and south sides of Whitewater Lake; and
24

25 **WHEREAS**, the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation seeks only willing sellers when acquiring
26 land for the National Ice Age Trail; and
27

28 **WHEREAS**, on June 17, 2004 the Walworth County Zoning Agency held a hearing in regard to
29 removing that portion of the proposed Ice Age Trail running around Whitewater Lake; and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, the Walworth County Zoning Agency seeks to work with willing sellers of
32 property in order to complete a trail system throughout Walworth County; and
33


34 **WHEREAS**, on August 20, 2004 the Walworth County Zoning Agency directed staff to propose
35 ordinance language that would direct the acquisition of future parks and trails using willing
36 buyers and willing sellers; and
37


38 **WHEREAS**, the Walworth County Zoning Agency recommends removing the west side of the
39 proposed ice age trail, around Whitewater Lake, from the Walworth County Park and Open
40 Space Plan while leaving the east side of the proposed trail around Whitewater Lake as a
41 proposed county trail;

1
2 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Walworth County Board of Supervisors
3 removes that portion of the proposed Ice Age Trail running along the west side of Whitewater
4 Lake from Natureland Park to Clover Valley Road; and

5
6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Walworth County Board of Supervisors change the
7 designation of the proposed trail running on the east side of Whitewater Lake from Naturland
8 Park to the State of Wisconsin owned land from a "proposed ice age trail" to a "proposed county
9 recreational trail"; and

10
11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Walworth County Board of Supervisors direct the
12 Walworth County Land Use and Resource Management staff to contact SEWRPC to make these
13 changes to *A Park and Open Space Plan for Walworth County* and *A Land Use Plan for*
14 *Walworth County Wisconsin: 2020.*

15
16
17
18
19 
20 Ann Lohrmann
21 County Board Chairperson

20 
21 Kimberly S. Bushey
22 County Clerk

23
24 County Board Meeting Date: September 9, 2004

25
26 Action Required: Majority Vote X Two-thirds Vote _____ Other _____

27
28 **This Resolution/Ordinance was:**

29 **Adopted: Roll Call/U.C./Voice**

30 **Rejected/Referred/Laid Over**

31 **Ayes: Noes: Absents:**

32 **Date** 9-9-04

33 *Supervisors Hilbelink and Burwell voted "No."*

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PLANNING REPORT
NUMBER 108 (2nd Edition)

A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN
FOR WALWORTH COUNTY

Prepared by the

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
P.O. Box 1607
Old Courthouse
916 N. East Avenue
Waukesha, Wisconsin 53187-1607

September 2000

Inside Region \$ 5.00
Outside Region \$10.00

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Chapter I

INTRODUCTION

PLAN CONTEXT

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) is charged by law with the duty of preparing and adopting a comprehensive plan for the physical development of the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region, which includes Walworth County. The regional plan, which is periodically updated, consists of a number of major elements, including land use, transportation, park and open space, and water quality management.

The regional land use plan sets forth the fundamental concepts which are intended to guide the development of the Region. The regional land use plan, the most recent version of which was adopted by the Commission in 1997, is documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 45, *A Regional Land Use Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2020*. That plan was adopted by the Walworth County Board of Supervisors on September 8, 1998.¹ The three most important recommendations contained in the regional land use plan are: 1) the preservation of primary environmental corridors in essentially natural, open uses; 2) the maintenance of the best remaining farmland in long-term agricultural uses; and 3) encouragement of a more compact pattern of urban development, one that can be efficiently served by such essential public facilities and services as centralized sanitary sewerage, water supply, and mass transit. These three recommendations provide

¹*Concurrently with this park and open space planning effort, Walworth County undertook the preparation of a new county land use plan for the year 2020, preparing that plan as a refinement of the year 2020 regional land use plan.*

the basic framework within which other regional plan components, including park and open space plans, are developed.

A park and open space plan for Walworth County was included as part of the first regional park and open space plan,² which was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission on December 1, 1977. That plan identified existing and probable future park and open space needs within the Region and recommended a park system consisting of large resource-oriented parks and smaller nonresource-oriented urban parks, together with attendant recreational facilities. The regional park and open space plan also recommended the development of an approximately 440-mile network of hiking and bicycling trails within natural resource corridors of regional significance, including corridors along the Lake Michigan shoreline, through the Kettle Moraine, and along the riverine areas of the major streams and watercourses of the Region. The regional park and open space plan incorporated the regional land use plan recommendations concerning primary environmental corridors and farmland preservation.

In 1984, the Walworth County Park and Planning Commission requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the County in refining and updating the regional park and open space plan as it applied to Walworth County. The resulting plan is documented in the first edition of this report, SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 135, *A Park and Open*

²*Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, A Regional Park and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000.*

Space Plan for Walworth County, February 1991. The plan, which has a design year of 2000, was adopted by the Walworth County Board of Supervisors on January 14, 1992, and by the Regional Planning Commission on March 4, 1992.

The 1991 County park and open space plan called for the development of two new major parks, for a total of four major parks within the County. One park, known as the Price Conservancy (referred to as the Sugar Creek County Park in the 1991 plan), was to be acquired and developed by Walworth County in the Town of Lafayette, along the proposed Sugar Creek recreation corridor. The second new major park, known as the Turtle Creek County Park, was to be acquired and developed by Walworth County in the Town of Darien, along the proposed Turtle Creek recreation corridor. In addition, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources was to acquire additional land at one existing major park, the Big Foot Beach State Park. To date, 116 acres of a recommended 305 acres have been acquired by the County at the Price Conservancy site.

The 1991 plan also called for a combined total of 77 linear miles of trails in the Ice Age, Mukwonago River, Turtle Creek, and Sugar Creek recreation corridors in the County. To date, there are approximately 11 miles of existing trails associated with natural resource related outdoor recreation corridors. Other recommendations which have not yet been implemented include: that the County acquire 170 acres associated with the Sugar Creek corridor; that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources acquire 149 acres associated with the Ice Age corridor, and 666 acres associated with the Turtle Creek corridor; and that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provide slow boating access facilities at Peter's Lake.

COUNTY REQUEST

On August 30, 1996, Walworth County requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the County in the preparation of a new park and open space plan. The new plan is to be based upon updated information related to land use, population levels and distribution, anticipated growth and development, natural resources, and park and open space acquisition and

development activities within the County. The new plan is further intended to maintain County eligibility to apply for and receive Federal and State aids in partial support of the acquisition and development of park and open space sites and facilities. The new plan is documented in this report. The plan, which is based upon the recommended development pattern set forth in the year 2020 regional land use plan, is designed to extend the recommendations of the existing Walworth County park and open space plan to that design year.

PARK PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The new County park and open space plan was prepared under the guidance of the Walworth County Park Plan Advisory Committee established by the Walworth County Highway Transportation and Parks Committee. The committee consists of representatives of local and county governments, private agencies and citizens within the County. A complete membership list of the Park Advisory Committee is provided on the inside cover of this report. The Park Advisory Committee's recommendations were forwarded to the County Transportation and Parks Committee and the County Board of Supervisors for their consideration.

REPORT FORMAT

The findings and recommendations of the requested park and open space planning effort are set forth in this report. Following this introductory chapter, Chapter II of this report presents information about the County pertinent to park and open space planning, including information on the existing resident population, land use pattern, and natural resource base of the County. Chapter III provides information on existing park sites and facilities and open space lands within the County. Chapter IV presents the park and open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives, principles, and supporting standards which served as the basis for the development of the park and open space plan for the County, and also presents an analysis of park and open space needs in the County. Chapter V sets forth the recommended park and open space plan and identifies the actions required to carry out the recommended plan. A summary of the plan is presented in Chapter VI.

Chapter II

INVENTORY FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

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

DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Population

The area that is now the Southeastern Wisconsin Region was first included in the Federal census in 1850. In that year, the Region had a resident population of about 113,400 persons, or about 37 percent of the total population of the State. By 1990, the year of the most recent decennial census, the Region population was about 1,810,400 persons, also comprising about 37 percent of the total population of the State. Historic population levels within Walworth County, the Region, and the State are provided in Table 1.

Population growth in Walworth County from 1850 to 1990 is graphically summarized by Figure 1. The County population was relatively stable until 1940, when the resident population stood at 33,100 persons. Since then, the County population has grown steadily—increasing by 8,500 persons during the 1940s, 10,800 persons during the 1950s, 11,100 persons during the 1960s, 8,100 persons during the 1970s, and 3,500 persons during the 1980s. The population of the County

stood at 75,000 persons in 1990. The population of Walworth County was estimated at 85,493 persons in 1999—about 10,500 persons, or 14 percent, above the 1990 level—indicating that population growth in the County has rebounded from the reduced rate of growth experienced during the 1980s.

The City of Whitewater is the most populous community in the County, with 10,170 residents, or about 14 percent of the County's population, in 1990. The next most populous communities are the City of Delavan, with 6,073 residents in 1990, and the City of Lake Geneva, with 5,979 residents in 1990, each accounting for about 8 percent of the County's population; and the City of Elkhorn, with 5,337 residents in 1990, or about 7 percent of the County's population.

Households

Trends in the number of households in the County and the Region are shown on Table 2. Both the County and Region experienced significant gains in the number of new households over the time period between 1970 and 1990. The rate of increase in the number of households has exceeded the rate of population increase in both cases. Between 1970 and 1990, the rate of increase in the number of households was 49 percent in the County and 26 percent in the Region, compared to a population increase of 18 percent in the County and 3 percent in the Region. With the number of households increasing at a faster rate than the population, the number of persons per household has decreased.

The number of households is of particular importance in land use and public facility planning, because it greatly influences the demand for converting rural land

Table 1

HISTORIC RESIDENT POPULATION LEVELS IN WALWORTH COUNTY, SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN, AND THE STATE OF WISCONSIN: 1850-1990

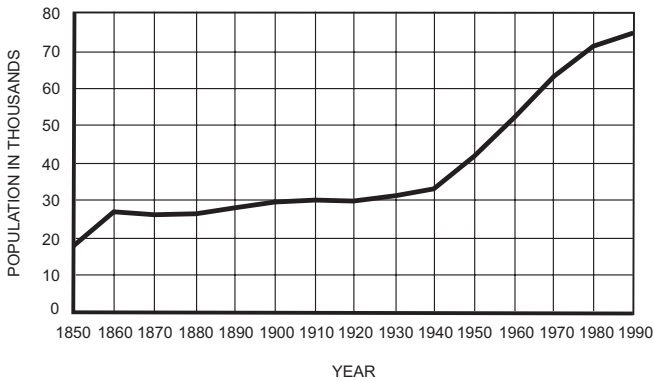
Year	Walworth County			Southeastern Wisconsin			Wisconsin		
	Population	Change from Preceding Census		Population	Change from Preceding Census		Population	Change from Preceding Census	
		Absolute	Percent		Absolute	Percent		Absolute	Percent
1850	17,862	--	--	113,389	--	--	305,391	--	--
1860	26,496	8,634	48.3	190,409	77,020	67.9	775,881	470,490	154.1
1870	25,972	-524	-2.0	223,546	33,137	17.4	1,054,670	278,789	35.9
1880	26,249	277	1.1	277,119	53,573	24.0	1,315,497	260,827	24.7
1890	27,860	1,611	6.1	386,774	109,655	39.6	1,693,330	377,833	28.7
1900	29,259	1,399	5.0	501,808	115,034	29.7	2,069,042	375,712	22.2
1910	29,614	355	1.2	631,161	129,353	25.8	2,333,860	264,818	12.8
1920	29,327	-287	-1.0	783,681	152,520	24.2	2,632,067	298,207	12.8
1930	31,058	1,731	5.9	1,006,118	222,437	28.4	2,939,006	306,939	11.7
1940	33,103	2,045	6.6	1,067,699	61,581	6.1	3,137,587	198,581	6.8
1950	41,584	8,481	25.6	1,240,618	172,919	16.2	3,434,575	296,988	9.5
1960	52,368	10,784	25.9	1,573,614	332,996	26.8	3,951,777	517,202	15.1
1970	63,444	11,076	21.2	1,756,083	182,469	11.6	4,417,821	466,044	11.8
1980	71,507	8,063	12.7	1,764,796	8,713	0.5	4,705,642	287,821	6.5
1990	75,000	3,493	4.9	1,810,364	45,568	2.6	4,891,769	186,127	4.0

NOTE: The State estimated population level of Walworth County in 1999 was 85,493 persons.

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

Figure 1

HISTORIC POPULATION LEVELS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1850-1990



Source: SEWRPC.

to urban use to accommodate additional residential development. It is also an important component in creating demand for transportation and other facilities and services, including parks and recreational facilities.

Age Distribution

The age distribution of the population may be expected to influence the location and type of recreational areas and facilities provided within the County. The age

distribution of the population of the County and Region in 1970, 1980, and 1990 is set forth in Table 3. The total population of the County moderately increased between 1970 and 1990, with significant increases in the number of adults aged 25 to 44 and those 65 and over. There were slight increases in all other age groups except those aged 5 to 17, which decreased in number. This trend is similar to that of the Region as a whole, which experienced significant increases in the number of adults aged 25 to 44 and those 65 and over, and a significant decrease in those aged 5 to 17.

Employment

Trends in job growth in the County and Region are set forth in Table 4. The jobs are enumerated at their location and the data thus reflect the number of jobs within the County and Region, including both full- and part-time jobs. An increase in the number of jobs may be expected to attract additional residents to the County, thus influencing population growth.

As indicated in Table 4, employment growth was significant in the County between 1970 and 1990, with the number of jobs increasing from 26,300 to 40,200.

Table 2

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS IN WALWORTH COUNTY AND THE SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGION: CENSUS YEARS 1970-1990

Year	Walworth County			Southeastern Wisconsin		
	Number of Households	Change from Previous Census		Number of Households	Change from Previous Census	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1970	18,544	--	--	536,486	--	--
1980	24,789	6,245	33.7	627,955	91,469	17.0
1990	27,620	2,831	11.4	676,593	48,638	7.7

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

Table 3

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION OF WALWORTH COUNTY AND THE SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGION: CENSUS YEARS 1970-1990

Walworth County								
Age Group	1970		1980		1990		Change 1970-1990	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total
Under 5	4,889	7.7	4,793	6.7	4,948	6.6	59	1.2
5-17.....	16,104	25.4	14,705	20.6	13,031	17.4	-3,073	-19.1
18-24.....	9,736	15.3	11,298	15.8	10,361	13.8	625	6.4
25-44.....	13,130	20.7	18,261	25.5	22,150	29.5	9,020	68.7
45-64.....	12,177	19.2	13,268	18.6	13,837	18.5	1,660	13.6
65 and Older.....	7,408	11.7	9,182	12.8	10,673	14.2	3,265	44.1
All Ages	63,444	100.0	71,507	100.0	75,000	100.0	11,556	18.2
Southeastern Wisconsin								
Age Group	1970		1980 ^a		1990		Change 1970-1990	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total
Under 5	153,243	8.7	128,085	7.3	138,286	7.7	-14,957	-9.8
5-17.....	472,342	26.9	375,653	21.3	339,722	18.8	-132,620	-28.1
18-24.....	193,211	11.0	234,264	13.3	181,211	10.0	-12,000	-6.2
25-44.....	412,831	23.5	482,615	27.3	590,955	32.6	178,124	43.1
45-64.....	354,845	20.2	349,008	19.8	333,818	18.4	-21,027	-5.9
65 and Older.....	169,415	9.7	195,294	11.0	226,372	12.5	56,957	33.6
All Ages	1,755,887	100.0	1,764,919	100.0	1,810,364	100.0	54,477	3.1

^aThe 1980 regional population of 1,764,919 includes 123 persons who were subtracted from this number after the conduct of the 1980 census but were not allocated to the various age group categories.

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

The 53 percent rate of increase in the number of jobs in the County exceeded the rate of increase in the Region during the same period, which experienced an increase of 283,100 jobs, or about 36 percent. The number of jobs in Walworth County was estimated at 50,700 in 1998, about 10,500, or 26 percent, above the 1990 level.

HISTORIC URBAN GROWTH AND EXISTING LAND USES

Land use is an important determinant of both the supply of, and the demand for, outdoor recreation and related open space facilities. Accordingly, an understanding of

Table 4

**NUMBER OF JOBS IN WALWORTH COUNTY AND THE
SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGION: 1970-1990**

Year	Walworth County			Southeastern Wisconsin		
	Number of Jobs	Change from Previous Time Period		Number of Jobs	Change from Previous Time Period	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1970	26,318	--	--	784,136	--	--
1980	33,361	7,043	26.8	945,186	161,050	20.5
1990	40,185	6,824	20.5	1,067,202	122,016	12.9

NOTE: The estimated number of jobs in Walworth County in 1998 was 50,700.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and SEWRPC.

the amount, type, and spatial distribution of urban and rural land uses within the County, as well as the historic conversion of rural lands to urban use, is essential to the development of a sound park and open space plan. This section presents a description of the historic urban development and existing land uses in the County.

Historic Urban Growth

As shown on Map 1, over the 100-year period from 1850-1950, urban development within the Region occurred in what may be considered to be concentric rings around existing urban centers, resulting in a relatively compact regional settlement pattern. After 1950, there was a significant change in the pattern of urban development in the Region. Between 1950 and 1970, while substantial amounts of development continued to occur adjacent to established urban centers, considerable development also occurred at lower densities in isolated enclaves in outlying areas of the Region. This pattern of development has continued in many areas of the Region through 1995.

From a review of Map 1, it is apparent that, overall, Walworth County has been less affected by the post-1950 pattern of scattered urban development than other areas in Southeastern Wisconsin. For the most part, urban development in Walworth County remains concentrated in and around the County's incorporated cities and villages and lake communities, although some scattered isolated urban enclaves are evident. Large tracts of agricultural and other open space lands remain intact, relatively free of encroachment by urban development. This situation has important implications

for park and open space planning in the County. Given the limited extent of scattered urban development, Walworth County has the opportunity to continue to plan for widespread preservation of agricultural and other space lands—an opportunity no longer available in many other areas of the Region.







Existing Land Uses

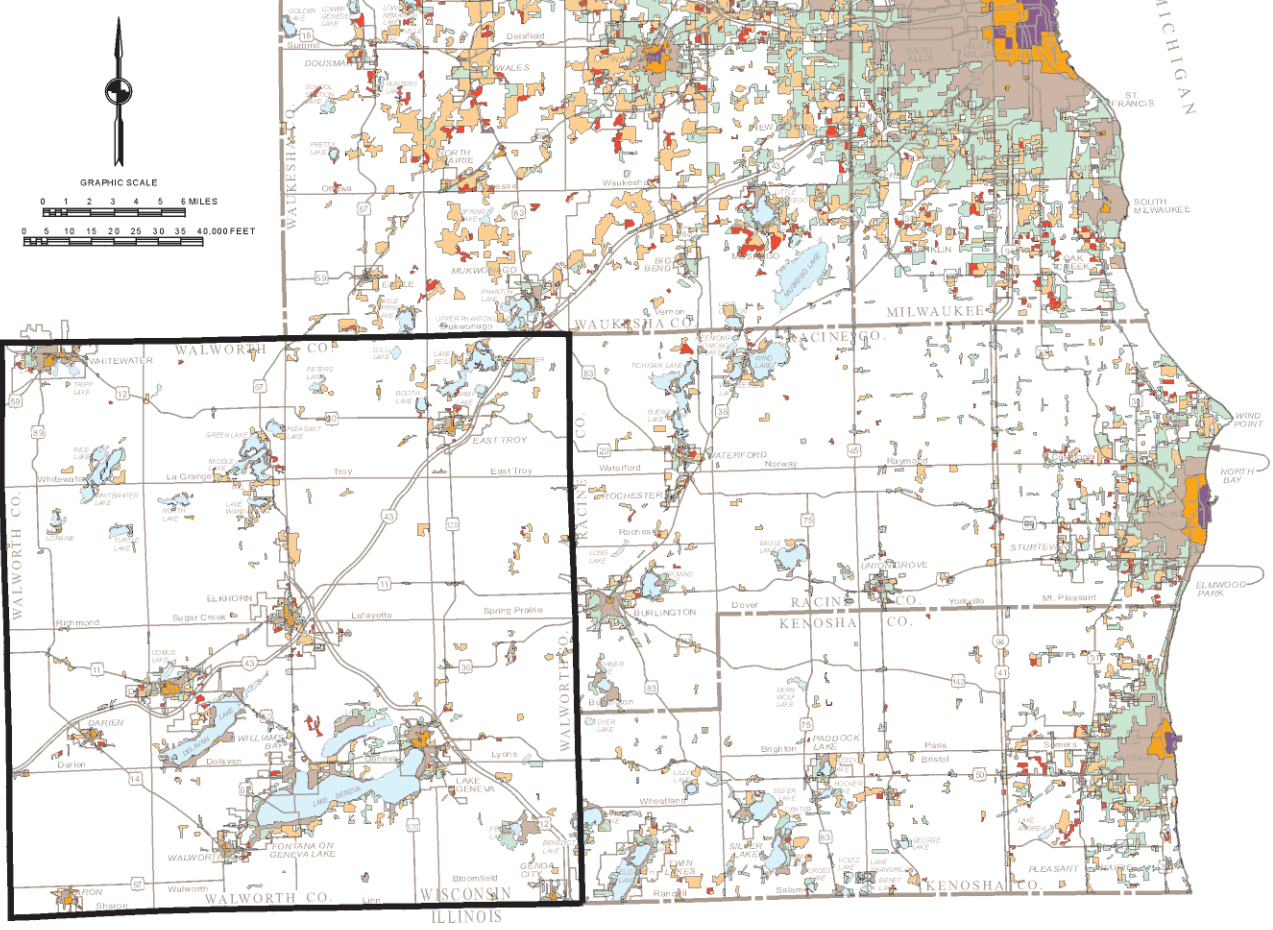
Land uses in Walworth County in 1995 are set forth on Map 2 and in Table 5. In 1995, urban land uses--consisting of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental and institutional, and transportation, communication and utility uses—encompassed about 64.8 square miles, or 11 percent of the total area of the County. Residential land comprised the largest urban land use category, encompassing about 29.8 square miles, or about 46 percent of all urban land use and 5 percent of the total area of the County.

Land uses categorized as transportation, communications, and utilities constituted the second largest urban land use category in 1995, encompassing about 22.5 square miles, or about 34 percent of the area of all urban land and about 4 percent of the total area of the County. Streets and highways occupied about 19.9 square miles, or over 88 percent of the uses in this category. Major arterial highways serving the County include USH 12 and USH 14, which traverse the County in a generally northwest-southeast direction; IH 43, which traverses the County in a generally northeast-southwest direction; and State Trunk Highways 11, 20, 36, 50, 67, 89, and 120. Other uses in the transportation, communications, and utilities

Map 1

**HISTORICAL URBAN GROWTH
IN THE SOUTHEASTERN
WISCONSIN REGION: 1850-1995**

-  1850
-  1900
-  1950
-  1970
-  1990
-  1995



Source: SEWRPC.

Table 5

LAND USES IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1995

Land Use Category	Square Miles	Percent of Subtotal	Percent of County
Urban^a			
Single-Family Residential	28.7	44.3	5.0
Multi-Family Residential ^b	1.1	1.7	0.2
Commercial	1.9	2.9	0.3
Industrial	1.8	2.8	0.3
Governmental and Institutional	2.4	3.7	0.4
Recreational	6.4	9.9	1.1
Transportation, Communications, and Utilities	22.5	34.7	3.9
Subtotal	64.8	100.0	11.2
Rural			
Agricultural	380.5	74.3	66.0
Woodlands	49.2	9.6	8.5
Wetlands	40.7	8.0	7.2
Water	22.6	4.4	3.9
Landfill and Extractive	2.7	0.6	0.4
Other Open Lands	16.0	3.1	2.8
Subtotal	511.7	100.0	88.8
Total	576.5	--	100.0

^aParking lots are included with the associated use.

^bIncludes two-family residential.

Source: SEWRPC.

category within the County include five railway freight service lines, three of which are operated by the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Company, one by the Union Pacific Railroad, and one by the Municipality of East Troy Wisconsin Railroad; and the East Troy Municipal Airport.

Recreational land uses constituted the third largest urban land use category within the County in 1995, encompassing about 6.4 square miles, or about 10 percent of all urban land and about 1 percent of the total area of the County. These figures include only those areas that are developed for intensive recreational use, such as tennis courts, baseball diamonds, playfields, and accessory uses. Areas used for passive recreational purposes, such as hiking and nature study, are generally designated as open lands or woodlands. A description of park and open space sites within the County is presented in Chapter III.

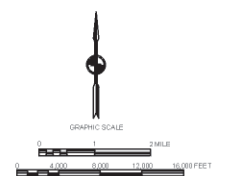
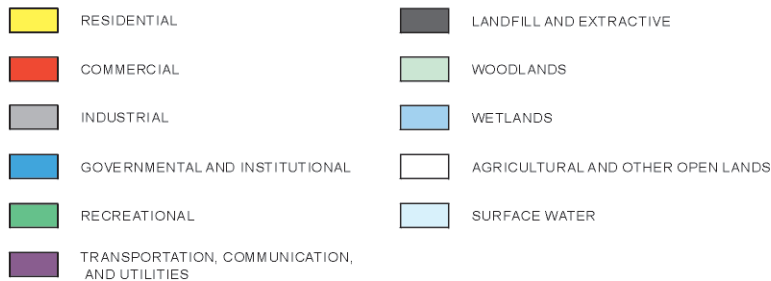
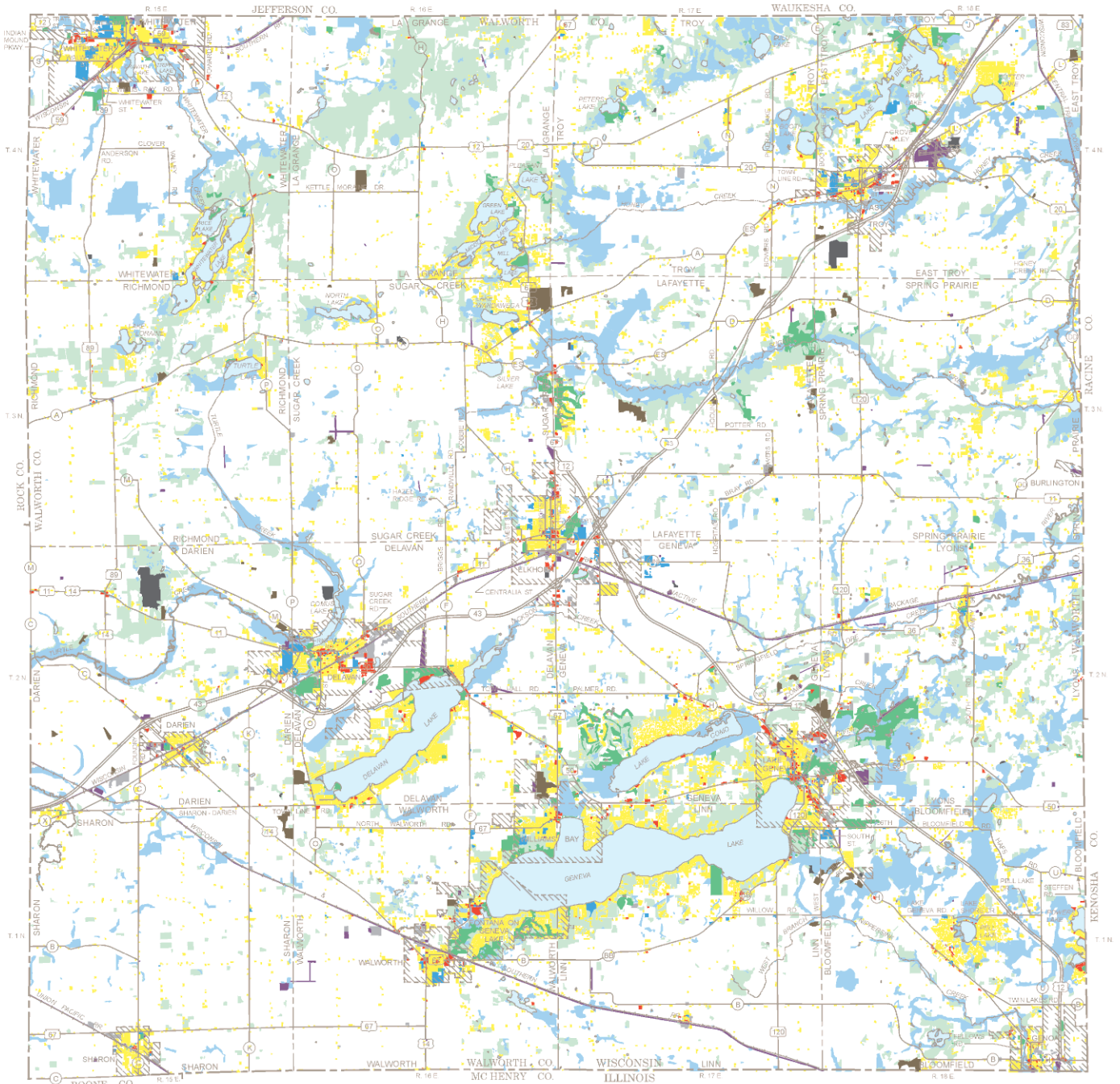
About 511.7 square miles, or about 89 percent, of the approximately 576.5 square miles within the County in 1995 were rural lands, including agricultural lands, wetlands, woodlands, surface water, and other open lands. Agriculture was the largest single land use in the County, accounting for about 380.5 square miles, or about 66 percent of the area of the County.

NATURAL RESOURCES

An important recommendation of the adopted regional land use and park and open space plans is the preservation of the most important elements of the natural resource base of the Region. Since the preparation and adoption of the year 2000 Walworth County park and open space plan in 1991, additional inventory information concerning the location and extent of natural resources has been collected. This section presents such information as it relates to Walworth County.

Map 2

GENERALIZED LAND USE IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1995



Source: SEWRPC.

Surface Water Resources

Surface water resources, consisting of streams and lakes, form a particularly important element of the natural resource base. Surface water resources provide recreational opportunities, influence the physical development of the County, and enhance its aesthetic quality. Major streams and lakes within the County are shown on Map 3.

Lakes and streams are readily susceptible to degradation through improper land use development and management. Water quality can be degraded by excessive pollutant loads, including nutrient loads, which enter from malfunctioning and improperly located onsite sewage disposal systems, from sanitary sewer overflows, from construction and other urban runoff, and from careless agricultural practices. The water quality of lakes and streams may also be adversely affected by the excessive development of riparian areas and by the filling of peripheral wetlands, which remove valuable nutrient and sediment traps while adding nutrient and sediment sources. It is important that existing and future development in riparian areas be managed carefully to avoid further water quality degradation and to enhance the recreational and aesthetic values of surface water resources.

Major streams are defined as those which maintain, at a minimum, a small continuous flow throughout the year except under unusual drought conditions. There are approximately 173 miles of such streams in Walworth County, located within two watersheds: the Fox River and Rock River watersheds. Major streams in the Fox River watershed, which generally includes the area in the eastern half of the County, include the Honey Creek, Nippersink Creek, Sugar Creek, and White River. The major streams in the Rock River watershed, which generally includes the area in the western half of the County, include the Darien Creek, Horton Creek, Ladd Creek, Turtle Creek, and White-water Creek.

There are 25 major lakes—that is, lakes of 50 or more acres—located entirely within Walworth County. Major lakes in the Fox River watershed are Army Lake, Beulah Lake, Booth Lake, Lake Como, Geneva Lake, Green Lake, Lulu Lake, Middle Lake, Mill Lake, North Lake, Pell Lake, Peters Lake, Pleasant Lake, Potter Lake, Silver Lake, and Lake Wandawega. Major lakes in the Rock River watershed are Cravath Lake, Comus Lake, Delavan Lake, Lake LaGrange, Lake Lorraine, Rice Lake, Tripp Lake, Turtle Lake, and Whitewater Lake. Two other major lakes in the Fox River water

shed, Benedict Lake and Powers Lake, are located partially within Walworth County. Together, these major lakes have a combined surface area of about 12,600 acres in Walworth County. The three largest lakes are Geneva Lake, with a surface area of about 5,262 acres; Delavan Lake, with a surface area of about 2,072 acres; and Lake Como, with a surface area of about 946 acres.

Floodlands

Floodlands are the wide, gently sloping areas contiguous to, and usually lying on both sides of, a stream channel. For planning and regulatory purposes, floodlands are normally defined as the areas, excluding the stream channel, subject to inundation by the 100-year recurrence interval flood event. This is the flood that may be expected to be reached or exceeded in severity once in every 100 years, or stated another way, there is a 1 percent chance of this event being reached or exceeded in severity in any given year. Floodland areas are generally not well suited to urban development, not only because of the flood hazard, but also because of the presence of high water tables and, generally, of soils poorly suited to urban uses. Floodland areas often contain important natural resources, such as high-value woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat and, therefore, constitute prime locations for parks and open space areas. Every effort should be made to discourage incompatible urban development on floodlands, while encouraging compatible park and open space uses.

Floodlands, identified by the Commission and by the Federal Emergency Management Agency are shown on Map 3. Approximately 44.3 square miles, or about 8 percent of the total area of the County, were located within the 100-year recurrence interval flood hazard area.

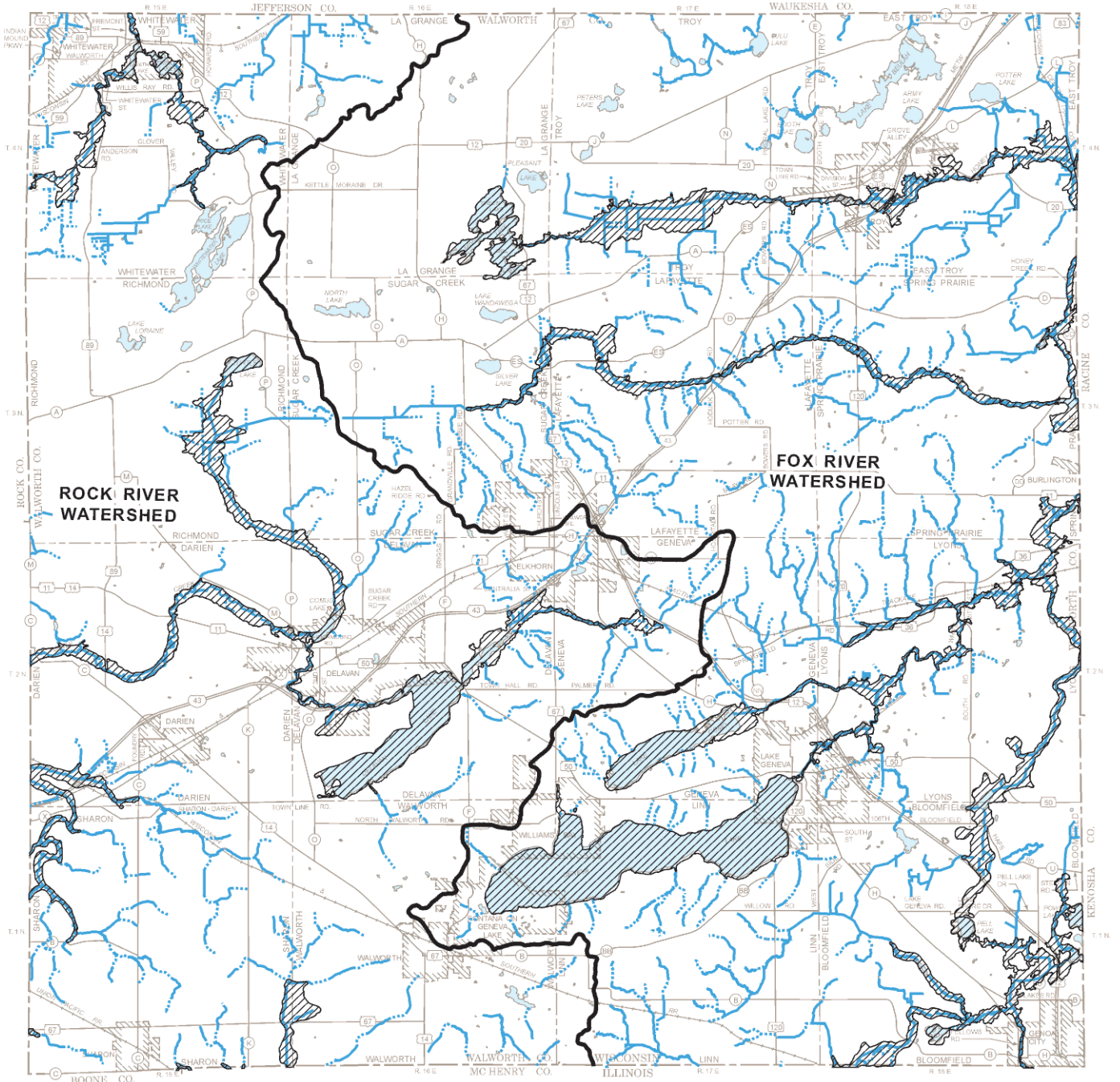
Wetlands






The location and extent of wetlands in the County in 1995, as delineated by the Regional Planning Commission, are shown on Map 2. At that time, wetlands covered about 40.7 square miles, or about 7 percent of the County.

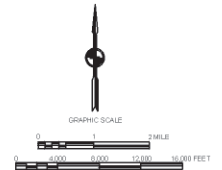
Wetlands are important resources for the ecological health and diversity of the County. They provide essential breeding, nesting, resting, and feeding grounds and provide escape cover for many forms of fish and wildlife. Wetlands also contribute to flood control, because such areas naturally serve to store excess runoff temporarily, thereby tending to reduce

Map 3

SURFACE WATER RESOURCES AND FLOODLANDS IN WALWORTH COUNTY



-  SURFACE WATER
-  PERENNIAL STREAM
-  INTERMITTENT STREAM
-  100-YEAR RECURRENCE INTERVAL FLOODPLAIN
-  WATERSHED BOUNDARY



Source: SEWRPC.

peak flows. Wetlands may also serve as groundwater recharge and discharge areas. In addition, wetlands help to protect downstream water resources from siltation and pollution by trapping sediments, nutrients, and other water pollutants.

In view of the important natural functions of wetland areas, and their recreational value for hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing, continued efforts should be made to protect these areas by discouraging wetland draining, filling, and urbanization, which can be costly in both monetary and environmental terms.

Woodlands

Woodlands are defined as those upland areas one acre or more in size having 17 or more deciduous trees per acre, each measuring at least four inches in diameter at breast height, and having 50 percent or more tree canopy coverage. Coniferous tree plantations and reforestation projects are also classified as woodlands.

Woodlands provide an attractive natural resource of immeasurable value. Under good management, woodlands can serve a variety of beneficial functions. In addition to contributing to clean air and water and regulating surface water runoff, the maintenance of woodlands within the County can contribute to sustaining a diversity of plant and animal life. The existing woodlands in the County, which required a century or more to develop, can be destroyed through mismanagement within a comparatively short time. The deforestation of hillsides contributes to rapid stormwater runoff, the siltation of lakes and streams, and the destruction of wildlife habitat.

Woodlands, as shown on Map 2, occur in scattered locations throughout the County, with some of the largest concentrations found in the Kettle Moraine and along Sugar Creek. In 1995, woodland areas covered about 49.2 square miles, or about 9 percent of the County. These woodlands should be maintained for their scenic, wildlife habitat, recreational, and air and water quality protection values.

Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat, and Geological Sites

A comprehensive inventory of natural and geological resources in the County was conducted by the Regional Planning Commission in 1994 as part of the natural areas and critical species habitat protection and

management plan prepared by the Commission.¹ The inventory systematically identified all remaining high-quality natural areas, critical species habitat, and sites having geological significance within the Region. Recommendations developed through that program for the protection and management of identified natural areas, critical species habitat, and geological sites have been incorporated into this park and open space plan.

Natural Areas

Natural areas are tracts of land or water so little modified by human activity, or sufficiently recovered from the effects of such activity, that they contain intact native plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the landscape before European settlement. Natural areas sites are classified into one of three categories: natural areas of statewide or greater significance (NA-1), natural areas of countywide or regional significance (NA-2), and natural areas of local significance (NA-3). Classification of an area into one of these three categories is based upon consideration of the diversity of plant and animal species and community types present; the structure and integrity of the native plant or animal community; the extent of disturbance from human activity, such as logging, agricultural use, and pollution; the commonness of the plant and animal community; unique natural features; the size of the site; and the educational value.

A total of 77 natural areas, encompassing about 9,165 acres, or about 3 percent of the County, were identified in Walworth County in 1994. Of the 77 identified sites, seven are classified as NA-1 sites and encompass about 1,745 acres, 12 are classified as NA-2 sites and encompass about 2,647 acres, and 58 are classified as NA-3 sites and encompass about 4,773 acres. Map 4 depicts the locations of natural areas identified in 1994. Table 6 sets forth a description of each natural area.

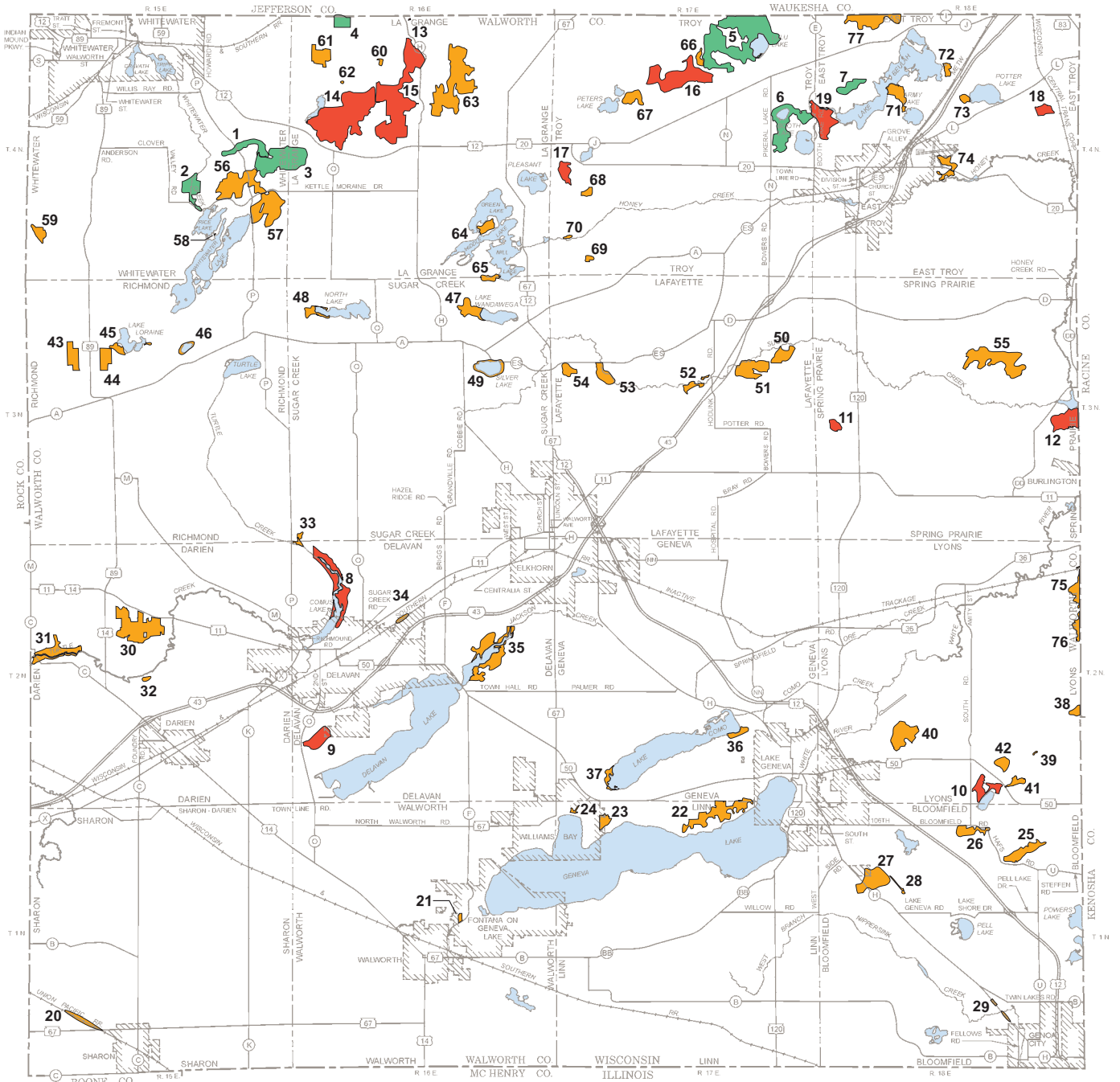
Critical Species Habitat

Critical species habitat sites are those areas, outside of natural areas, where the chief value lies in their ability to support rare, threatened, or endangered species. Such areas constitute "critical" habitat that is important to ensure survival of a particular species or group of species of special concern.

¹ *SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Management and Protection Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997.*

Map 4

NATURAL AREAS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1994



- NATURAL AREA OF STATEWIDE OR GREATER SIGNIFICANCE (NA-1)
- NATURAL AREA OF COUNTYWIDE OR REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE (NA-2)
- NATURAL AREA OF LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE (NA-3)
- 15** REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 6)
- SURFACE WATER

Source: SEWRPC.

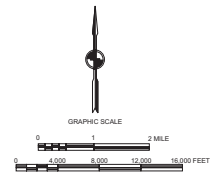


Table 6

NATURAL AREAS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1994

Map 4 Reference Number	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
1	Bluff Creek Fens	NA-1 (SNA, RSH)	T4N, R15E Sections 13, 14, 23, 24 Town of Whitewater	Department of Natural Resources	106	Excellent-quality springs and associated calcareous fens located at intervals along the headwaters of Bluff Creek. Portions of the stream have been ditched. Contains threatened and endangered species
2	Clover Valley Fen State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA, RSH)	T4N, R15E Sections 22, 26, 27 Town of Whitewater	Department of Natural Resources and private	112	Prominent feature is a series of 11,000-year-old peat mounds that rise eight to 10 feet above the surrounding lowland, formed by accumulations of partially decayed vegetation around slowly flowing springs. A large number of characteristic fen plant species are present, including State-designated threatened and endangered ones
3	Bluff Creek Woods	NA-1 (SNA, RSH)	T4N, R15E Sections 13, 24 Town of Whitewater T4N, R16E Sections 18, 19 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources and private	338	Extensive dry-mesic woods on rough glacial terrain, dominated by mature red oaks. Best areas are of good quality, but some parts have been disturbed by trails and past grazing and selective logging
4	Young Prairie State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA, RSH)	T4N, R16E Section 5 Town of LaGrange T5N, R16E Section 32 Town of Palmyra	Department of Natural Resources	53 (plus 9 in Jefferson County)	Very high-quality wet-mesic prairie, among the best and largest prairie remnants of its type in the Region. The showy flora includes State-designated threatened and endangered species. The area, which extends north into Jefferson County, includes old field that is reverting to prairie
5	Lulu Lake and Eagle Spring Lake Wetland Complex and Adjacent Uplands	NA-1 (SNA, RSH)	T4N, R17E Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 Town of Troy T5N, R17E Section 35 Town of Eagle	Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy, and other private	791 (plus 179 in Waukesha County)	Among the most valuable natural areas in the State, containing a large concentration of elements of natural diversity. Uplands support oak woods, oak openings, and dry prairie; lowlands contain one of the State's finest wetland ecosystems, including bog, springs, fen, deep and shallow marsh, sedge meadow, stream, and high-quality lake communities
6	Pickerel Lake Fen State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA, RSH)	T4N, R17E Sections 13, 24 Town of Troy	The Nature Conservancy and other private	273	Large, high-quality calcareous fen and associated seepage springs bordering shallow lake. A number of uncommon species are present, including a large population of the State-designated threatened beaked spike-rush (<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i>)
7	Beulah Bog State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA, RSH)	T4N, R18E Sections 7, 8 Town of East Troy	Department of Natural Resources and private	72	Outstanding acid sphagnum bog communities located in a series of four kettle holes. A small open-water bog lake is surrounded by a quaking mat and tamarack swamp. A wet, open moat separates bog from wooded and pastured uplands
	Subtotal	NA-1	7 sites	--	1,745	--
8	Comus Lake Wetland Complex	NA-2 (RSH)	T2N, R16E Sections 5, 6, 7, 8 Town of Delavan	Private	291	A large wetland complex bordering Comus Lake and Turtle Creek that includes sedge meadow, deep and shallow marsh, shrub-carr, calcareous fens, and seeping and bubbling springs. Some of the fens and springs are of excellent quality, containing such uncommon species as beaked spike-rush (<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i>), a State-designated threatened species
9	Delavan Prairie-Fen	NA-2 (RSH)	T2N, R16E Section 30 Town of Delavan	Private	107	High-quality wet prairie-fen surrounded by sedge meadow and shrub-carr. Uncommon species include tussock bulrush (<i>Scirpus cespitosus</i>), a State-designated endangered species. Disturbances include past ditching attempts
10	Lake Ivanhoe Fen and Sedge Meadow	NA-2 (RSH)	T2N, R18E Sections 34, 35 Town of Lyons	Department of Natural Resources and private	93	Wetland complex on north side of Lake Ivanhoe, consisting of sedge meadow, shallow marsh, and high-quality calcareous fen communities. The fen contains a number of uncommon species, including the State-designated threatened beaked spike-rush (<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i>)

Table 6 (continued)

Map 4 Reference Number	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
11	Spring Prairie Fen	NA-2 (RSH)	T3N, R18E Section 19 Town of Spring Prairie	Private	34	Wetland complex occupying shallow depression, consisting largely of high-quality calcareous fen-meadow, with areas of tamarack relict and shrub-carr. Very good species complement, including Ohio goldenrod (<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>) and common bog arrow-grass (<i>Triglochin maritimum</i>), both State-designated special concern species
12	Honey Lake Marsh and Sedge Meadow	NA-2 (RSH)	T3N, R18E Sections 13, 24 Town of Spring Prairie T3N, R19E Sections 17, 18, 19, 20 Town of Burlington	Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy, and other private	141 (plus 250 in Racine County)	Large, relatively undisturbed wetland complex, primarily consisting of good-quality sedge meadow and deep and shallow marsh, but also with smaller areas containing springs and calcareous fens. Nesting site for sandhill cranes
13	Kestol Dry Prairie	NA-2 (RSH)	T4N, R16E Section 4 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources	1	Good-quality dry hill prairie, containing good native species diversity. Characteristic species include big and little bluestem, prairie dropseed, purple prairie-clover, and yellow flax. Managed by burning
14	LaGrange Oak Woods	NA-2	T4N, R16E Sections 8, 17, 18, 20 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources and private	698	Extensive southern dry forest dominated by large white, red, black, and bur oak on rough kettle moraine topography. One of the largest blocks of upland forest in the Southern Kettle Moraine, and, as such, is important for forest-interior-breeding birds
15	Muir Oak Woods and Duffin Road Fen	NA-2 (RSH)	T4N, R16E Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, 16 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources and private	664	Large complex of lowland and upland communities. The dry, morainal uplands support extensive oak woods and small patches of managed dry prairie. Depressions hold leatherleaf-dominated bogs, shallow marsh, and a high-quality fen along the western border. Important to maintain as a large, intact block
16	Upper Mukwonago River Wetland Complex	NA-2 (RSH)	T4N, R17E Sections 3, 9, 10 Town of Troy	The Nature Conservancy and other private	338	A large, good-quality wetland complex that includes seepage springs, calcareous fen, sedge meadow, shrub-carr, shallow marsh, and tamarack relict. Disturbance has been minimal, mostly confined to the bordering wooded uplands
17	Adams Lake Fen and Marsh	NA-2 (RSH)	T4N, R17E Section 19 Town of Troy	Private	65	Good-quality calcareous fen and seepage springs located at base of uplands on east side of lake. Shallow marsh surrounds lake, on the west side of which is a tamarack relict. Uncommon plant species include swamp agrimony (<i>Agrimonia parviflora</i>), a State-designated special concern species
18	Thiede Road Tamarack Swamp	NA-2	T4N, R18E Section 13 Town of East Troy	Private	48	Good-quality shallow bog lake, bog mat, and tamarack swamp, bordered by shrub-carr and lowland hardwoods
19	Swan Lake Wetland Complex	NA-2 (RSH)	T4N, R18E Section 18 Town of East Troy T4N, R17E Sections 12, 13 Town of Troy	Girl Scouts of Milwaukee Area, Inc., and other private	167	Good-quality wetland complex within an upland matrix of xeric oak woods. Lowland communities include bog, sedge meadow, shallow marsh, lake, and mature tamarack swamp. Contains a good population of showy lady's slipper orchid (<i>Cypripedium reginae</i>), a State-designated special concern species
	Subtotal	NA-2	12 sites	--	2,647	--
20	Salt Box Road Railroad Prairie	NA-3 (RSH)	T1N, R15E Sections 29, 30 Town of Sharon	Private	12	Approximately one-mile-long stretch of railroad prairie representing the best remaining example of mesic prairie in this intensely agriculturalized portion of the Region. Good species diversity. The highest-quality portion of this area is at its extreme eastern end

Table 6 (continued)

Map 4 Reference Number	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
21	Fontana Prairie and Fen	NA-3 (RSH)	T1N, R16E Section 15 Village of Fontana-on-Geneva Lake	Village of Fontana-on-Geneva Lake	10	A moderate-quality calcareous fen and wet-mesic prairie complex that is being actively managed. Several uncommon species are present, including the State-designated threatened beaked spike-rush (<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i>). Disturbances include ground-water-level changes resulting from highway construction
22	Wychwood	NA-3	T1N, R17E Sections 2, 3, 4 Town of Linn T2N, R17E Section 35 Town of Geneva	Private	226	A large tract of dry-mesic hardwoods occupying a terminal moraine on the north side of Geneva Lake. Generally good quality throughout, except for the large estates which occupy much of the woods
23	Peninsula Woods	NA-3 (RSH)	T1N, R17E Sections 5, 6 Town of Linn	Private	39	Dry-mesic hardwood stand on north side of Geneva Lake. Contains American gromwell (<i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>), a State-designated special concern species
24	Williams Bay Lowlands	NA-3 (RSH)	T1N, R17E Section 6 Village of Williams Bay	Village of Williams Bay	8	Moderate-quality complex of sedge meadow, shrub-carr, shallow marsh, wet prairie, and lowland hardwoods. Contains white lady's-slipper orchid (<i>Cypripedium candidum</i>), a State-designated threatened species
25	Hafs Road Marsh	NA-3	T1N, R18E Sections 1, 2, 11 Town of Bloomfield	Private	106	Deep and shallow marsh complex with much open water. Dominated by cattails and bulrushes
26	Lake Ivanhoe Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T1N, R18E Section 3 Town of Bloomfield	Department of Natural Resources and private	71	Moderate- to good-quality wetland complex of sedge meadow, shrub-carr, and tamarack relict
27	Bloomfield Sedge Meadow and Tamarack Relict	NA-3	T1N, R18E Sections 7, 8, 18 Town of Bloomfield	City of Lake Geneva, Department of Natural Resources, and private	171	Large wetland complex of good-quality sedge meadow, with shrub-carr and tamarack relict. Disturbances include past ditching attempts
28	Pell Lake Railroad Prairie	NA-3 (RSH)	T1N, R18E Sections 8, 17 Town of Bloomfield	Private	4	Small remnant of mesic and wet-mesic prairie along abandoned railway right-of-way. Floristically rich, with several regionally uncommon species
29	Bloomfield Prairie	NA-3 (RSH)	T1N, R18E Sections 26, 27 Town of Bloomfield	Private	4	Mesic prairie remnant situated between highway and abandoned railway right-of-way. Characteristic species include prairie dock, golden alexanders, big bluestem, rosinweed, Culver's-root, and prairie cord-grass. One of the best such remnants in this part of the Region
30	Darien Oak Woods	NA-3	T2N, R15E Sections 9, 10, 15, 16 Town of Darien	Private	348	A disturbed xeric oak woods that is included because of its size, which offers nesting habitat for forest-interior-breeding birds
31	Turtle Creek Sedge Meadow and Fen	NA-3 (RSH)	T2N, R15E Sections 17, 18 Town of Darien	Department of Natural Resources and private	159	A large, generally disturbed wetland complex of sedge meadow and shrub-carr, with local areas of higher-quality calcareous fens. A documented queen snake hibernaculum is located here
32	Creek Road Fen	NA-3 (RSH)	T2N, R15E Section 21 Town of Darien	Department of Natural Resources	9	Moderate-quality fen, sedge meadow, and shrub-carr complex within the Turtle Creek lowlands. Disturbances include past ditching attempts
33	CTH P Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T2N, R16E Section 6 Town of Delavan T3N, R16E Section 31 Town of Sugar Creek	Private	18	Moderate-quality sedge meadow and shrub-carr
34	Marsh Road Railroad Prairie	NA-3	T2N, R16E Section 9 Town of Delavan	Private	4	Remnant of dry-mesic prairie along lightly used railway, with some good-quality segments. Characteristic species include leadplant, hoary puccoon, big bluestem, downy phlox, and heart-leaved golden alexanders

Table 6 (continued)

Map 4 Reference Number	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
35	Lake Lawn Wetland Complex	NA-3	T2N, R16E Sections 13, 14, 23 Town of Delavan	Department of Natural Resources and private	276	A large wetland complex along Jackson Creek at the north end of Delavan Lake. Plant communities include deep and shallow marsh and sedge meadow
36	Warbler Trail Wetlands	NA-3	T2N, R17E Sections 26, 27 Town of Geneva	Department of Natural Resources	40	Shallow marsh, shrub-carr, sedge meadow, and lowland hardwoods along east shore of Lake Como
37	Lake Como Wetlands	NA-3	T2N, R17E Section 32 Town of Geneva	Geneva National Real Estate Group	50	Deep and shallow marsh at west end of Lake Como. Has suffered recent disturbance from construction of adjacent resort
38	Tri-County Tamarack Swamp	NA-3	T2N, R18E Sections 24, 25 Town of Lyons T2N, R19E Section 19 Town of Burlington	Private	25 (plus 15 in Racine County)	Medium-aged tamarack swamp surrounded by dense shrub-carr. Extends into Racine County
39	Peterson Fen	NA-3 (RSH)	T2N, R18E Section 26 Town of Lyons	Private	2	Good-quality calcareous fen, shrub-carr, and sedge meadow along Ivanhoe Creek. Contains Ohio goldenrod (<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>) and small fringed gentian (<i>Gentiana procera</i>), both State-designated special concern species
40	Lake Geneva Tamarack Relict	NA-3	T2N, R18E Sections 28, 29 Town of Lyons	Private	160	Large tamarack relict shrub-carr complex with small, shallow lakes in depressions. Adjacent development and past ditching attempts have disturbed the site
41	Ivanhoe Creek Fen	NA-3 (RSH)	T2N, R18E Section 35 Town of Lyons	Private	32	Wetland complex along Ivanhoe Creek, containing shrub-carr, shallow marsh, and good-quality calcareous fen
42	Cranberry Road Bog	NA-3	T2N, R18E Sections 26, 35 Town of Lyons	Private	46	Large bog and marsh complex occupying a shallow depression, dominated by leather-leaf and glossy buckthorn. Young tamaracks are present near center of bog. Species diversity is low, but a large population of pitcher plant is present. This community occurs near the southern limits of its range
43	Lake Loraine Woods-West	NA-3	T3N, R15E Section 8 Town of Richmond	Private	86	Disturbed xeric oak woods on flat-to-undulating topography. North end is lower and somewhat more mesic. Included because of relatively large size
44	Lake Loraine Woods-East	NA-3	T3N, R15E Section 8 Town of Richmond	Private	75	Xeric woods containing scattered, mature oaks, and relatively intact shrub and herb layers. Disturbances include trails and past grazing and selective cutting
45	Lake Loraine Marsh	NA-3	T3N, R15E Sections 8, 9 Town of Richmond	Private	35	Good-quality deep and shallow marsh on developed lake
46	Lake No. 10	NA-3	T3N, R15E Section 10 Town of Richmond	Private	40	Small, undeveloped lake in a kettle depression, containing deep and shallow marsh
47	Lake Wandawega Marsh	NA-3	T3N, R16E Sections 2, 3, 11 Town of Sugar Creek	Private	82	A large deep and shallow marsh at west end of lake, with good complement of aquatic species. Much of lake upland is developed
48	North Lake Marsh	NA-3	T3N, R16E Section 6 Town of Sugar Creek	Private	67	Large marsh on west side of lake, with rich aquatic species complement. Lake upland heavily developed and grazed
49	Silver Lake	NA-3	T3N, R16E Sections 11, 14 Town of Sugar Creek	Private	86	Shallow lake that contains a rich complement of native aquatic species. Good water quality. A small dry prairie remnant is located on the north side of the lake
50	Granzeau Woods	NA-3	T3N, R17E Section 12 Town of Lafayette	Private	78	Good-quality dry-mesic hardwoods embedded in a matrix of more-disturbed woods. Dominated by red and white oaks and sugar maple. Currently threatened by logging activity
51	Pallottine Maple Woods	NA-3	T3N, R17E Sections 11, 14 Town of Lafayette	Pallottine Fathers and other private	153	Moderate-quality mesic and dry-mesic hardwoods with good species diversity. Disturbances include a trail network and past selective cutting

Table 6 (continued)

Map 4 Reference Number	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
52	Sugar Creek Fens, Springs, and Sedge Meadow	NA-3 (RSH)	T3N, R17E Section 15 Town of Lafayette	Walworth County and private	36	Wetland complex along Sugar Creek that has suffered from past and current disturbances. Regionally uncommon species include Ohio goldenrod (<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>) and small fringed gentian (<i>Gentiana procera</i>), both State-designated special concern species
53	Sugar Creek Wetlands	NA-3	T3N, R17E Section 17 Town of Lafayette	Private	74	Shallow cattail marsh and shrub-carr along Sugar Creek. Area has been disturbed by past ditching attempts
54	Abells Corners Sedge Meadow and Tamarack Relict	NA-3 (RSH)	T3N, R17E Section 18 Town of Lafayette	Private	42	Moderate-quality tamarack relict and sedge meadow, disturbed by groundwater-level changes
55	Spring Prairie Lowlands	NA-3	T3N, R18E Sections 10, 11, 14, 15 Town of Spring Prairie	Private	297	Large, basically good-quality wetland complex consisting of shallow marsh, shrub-carr, sedge meadow, and tamarack relict. Area has been disturbed by past ditching attempts
56	Lone Tree Trail Oak Woods	NA-3 (RSH)	T4N, R15E Sections 23, 24, 25, 26 Town of Whitewater	Department of Natural Resources and private	265	Former mosaic of xeric oak forest, open oak woodland, and oak savanna now overgrown with shrubs, situated on upper slopes of rough, gravelly interlobate moraine. Contains the State-designated threatened kittentails (<i>Besseyia bullii</i>)
57	Whitewater Oak Woods	NA-3	T4N, R15E Sections 24, 25 Town of Whitewater	Department of Natural Resources and private	240	Xeric oak woodland that has suffered from fire suppression. Dry prairies on steep south-facing slopes are being actively managed through cutting and burning
58	Rice Lake Dry Prairie	NA-3 (RSH)	T4N, R15E Section 26 Town of Whitewater	Department of Natural Resources	1	Small dry prairie remnant, managed by burning
59	Rock Shrub-Fen	NA-3	T4N, R15E Sections 30, 31 Town of Whitewater	Private	46	Good-quality wetland complex, consisting of sedge meadow, shrub-carr, and small areas of marly fen
60	Duffin Road Prairie	NA-3	T4N, R16E Sections 4, 9 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources	8	Good-quality mix of mesic and wet-mesic prairie and shallow marsh. Dominated by big and little bluestem, prairie dock, and goldenrods. Quality has improved with burn management
61	Big Spring Road Prairie	NA-3	T4N, R16E Sections 6, 7 Town of LaGrange	Private	93	Degraded wet-mesic prairie used as pastures but offering excellent opportunity for prairie and pothole restoration. The small wetlands are good for amphibian breeding and migratory waterfowl
62	Connelly Fen	NA-3 (RSH)	T4N, R16E Section 8 Town of LaGrange	Private	2	Good-quality calcareous fen containing characteristic fen species
63	Nordic Trail Oak Woods	NA-3 (RSH)	T4N, R16E Sections 2, 3, 10, 11, 15 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources and private	483	Large but patchy mixture of disturbed oak woods, shallow lakes, and small areas of dry prairie
64	Island Woods	NA-3	T4N, R16E Section 26 Town of LaGrange	Private	46	Good-quality dry-mesic woods on rough terrain, situated on peninsula in Lauderdale Lakes
65	Baywood Road Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T4N, R16E Section 35 Town of LaGrange T3N, R16E Section 2 Town of Sugar Creek	Private	29	Good-quality sedge meadow and shallow marsh complex with a strong influx of calciphilic species
66	George Williams Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T4N, R17E Sections 3, 10 Town of Troy	George Williams College	27	Sedge meadow-shallow marsh wetland disturbed by ditching along east edge
67	Doyles Lake Wetlands	NA-3	T4N, R17E Sections 8, 9, 16, 17 Town of Troy	Private	68	Undeveloped lake containing shallow marsh. Used by migrating waterfowl

Table 6 (continued)

Map 4 Reference Number	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
68	Lein's Road Fen	NA-3 (RSH)	T4N, R17E Section 30 Town of Troy	Private	22	Degraded shrub-fen, disturbed by past grazing and groundwater-level changes from ditching
69	Troy Fen	NA-3	T4N, R17E Sections 31, 32 Town of Troy	Department of Natural Resources and private	13	Moderate-quality calcareous fen-shrub-carr-sedge meadow wetland. Disturbed by past ditching
70	Honey Creek Fen	NA-3 (RSH)	T4N, R17E Section 31 Town of Troy	Department of Natural Resources and private	7	Moderate-quality wetland complex bordering Honey Creek, consisting of calcareous fen, sedge meadow, and shallow marsh. Contains beaked spike-rush (<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i>), a State-designated threatened species
71	Army Lake Lowlands	NA-3	T4N, R18E Sections 8, 9, 16 Town of East Troy	Private	92	Large deep and shallow marsh northwest of Army Lake
72	East Troy Tamaracks	NA-3	T4N, R18E Sections 9, 10 Town of East Troy	Department of Natural Resources	26	Acid sphagnum-tamarack relict, disturbed by groundwater-level changes from ditching attempts
73	Potter Lake Tamaracks	NA-3	T4N, R18E Sections 10, 15 Town of East Troy	Private	22	Disturbed tamarack relict on west side of Potter Lake
74	Hilburn Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T4N, R18E Sections 21, 22 Town of East Troy	Private	66	Sedge meadow and shallow marsh bordering Honey Creek
75	Burlington Railroad Prairie	NA-3 (RSH)	T2N, R18E Section 1 Town of Lyons T2N, R19E Section 6 Town of Burlington	Private	1 (plus 4 in Racine County)	One-quarter-mile stretch of mesic, dry-mesic, and dry prairie remnants bordering railway right of way
76	Burlington Hills Woods	NA-3 (RSH)	T2N, R18E Sections 1, 12, 13 Town of Lyons T2N, R19E Sections 5, 6, 7, 18 Town of Burlington	Private	80 (plus 557 in Racine County)	Rough morainal ridges occupied by mature and second-growth oak woods, with small, scattered patches of dry hill prairie and disturbed openings. Largest remaining upland woods in Racine County; important for forest-interior-breeding birds. Currently threatened by sand and gravel mine expansion
77	Mukwonago Low Woods	NA-3	T4N, R18E Sections 5, 6 Town of East Troy T5N, R18E Sections 31, 32 Town of Mukwonago	Private	165 (plus 167 in Waukesha County)	Large wooded wetland and upland complex. Extends north into Waukesha County
	Subtotal	NA-3	58 sites	--	4,773	--
	Total	All Natural Areas	77 sites	--	9,165	--

^aNA-1 identifies Natural Area sites of statewide or greater significance.

NA-2 identifies Natural Area sites of countywide or regional significance.

NA-3 identifies Natural Area sites of local significance.

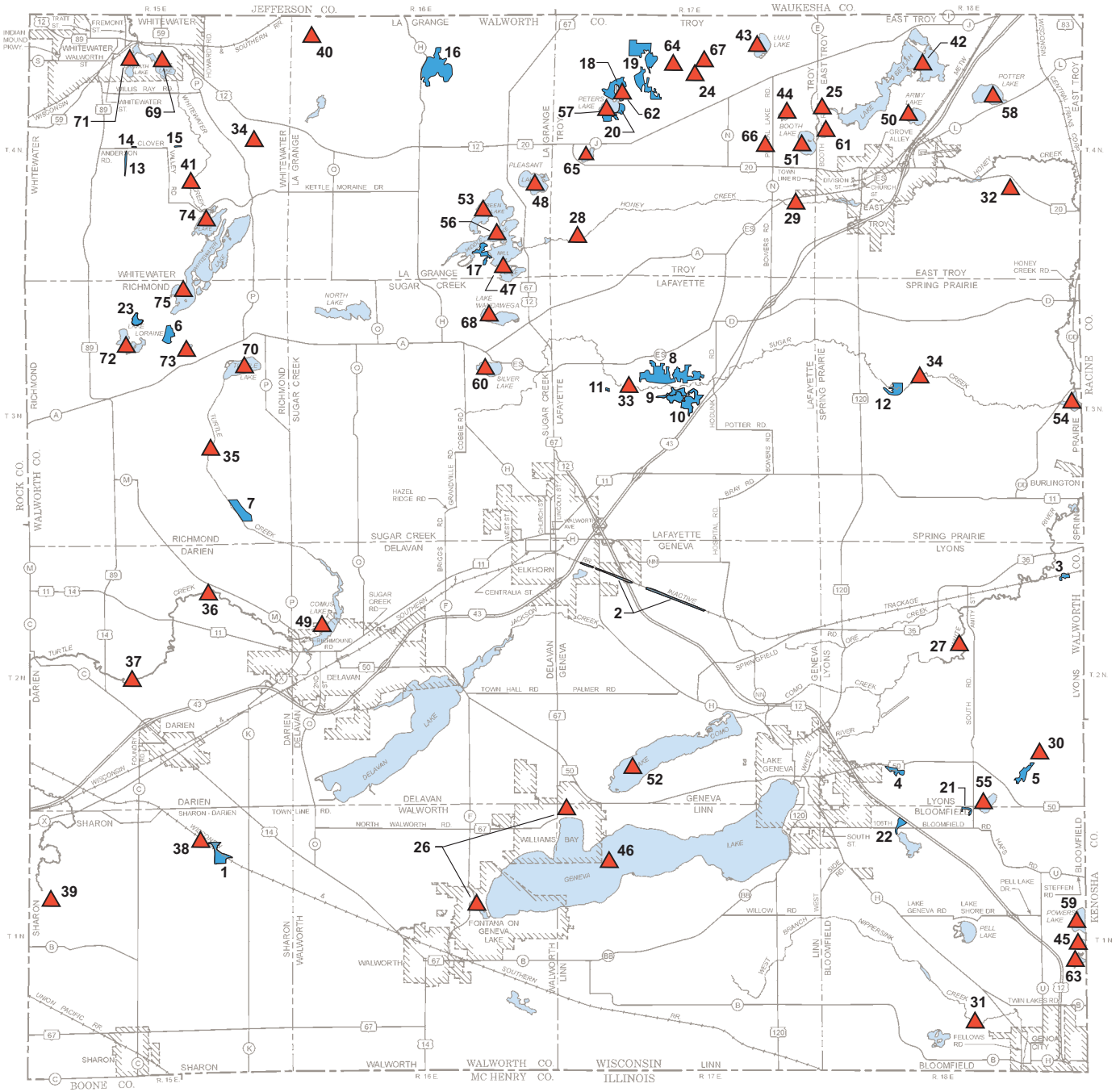
SNA, or State Natural Area, identifies those sites officially designated as State Natural Areas by the State of Wisconsin Natural Areas Preservation Council.

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

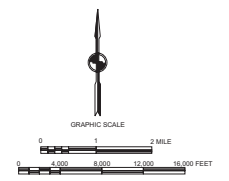
Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

Map 5

CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES AND CRITICAL AQUATIC HABITAT AREAS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1994



- CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT AREA
- CRITICAL AQUATIC HABITAT AREA
- 15** REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 7 AND TABLE 8)
- SURFACE WATER



Source: SEWRPC.

A total of 23 sites supporting threatened or rare plant or bird species have been identified in Walworth County. These sites, which together encompass an area of about 1,297 acres, are shown on Map 5 and described in Table 7. A total of 52 aquatic sites supporting threatened or rare fish, herptile, or mussel species have also been identified in the County (see Map 5 and Table 8). There are 148.7 stream miles and 10,515 lake acres of critical aquatic habitat in Walworth County.

Geological Sites

A total of 13 sites of geological importance, including four bedrock geology sites and nine glacial features, were identified in the County in 1994. The geological sites included in the inventory were selected on the basis of scientific importance, significance in industrial history, natural aesthetics, ecological qualities, educational value, and public access potential. The 13 sites selected in Walworth County include two sites of statewide significance (GA-1), five sites of countywide or regional significance (GA-2), and six sites of local significance (GA-3). Together, these sites encompass about 10,895 acres in Walworth County. Map 6 depicts the locations of geological sites identified in 1994. Table 9 sets forth a description of each site.

Many of the geological features within Walworth County may be attributed to the continental glacier which once covered much of the County. The Kettle Moraine is a dominant physiographic feature in the County, oriented in a generally northeast-southwest direction in the northwest portion of the County, and consisting of kames, or conical-shaped hills; kettles, or depressions formed from melting blocks of glacial ice; and eskers, or narrow ridges of drift deposited in drainage ways located beneath the glacier. The Kettle Moraine is one of the two GA-1 sites within the County; the other is the Lulu Lake Glacial Lake and Crevasse Filling in the Town of Troy.

Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

One of the most important tasks completed under the regional planning program for southeastern Wisconsin has been the identification and delineation of those areas in the Region in which concentrations of the best remaining elements of the natural resource base occur. The preservation of such areas in essentially natural, open uses is vital to maintaining a high level of environmental quality in the Region, protecting

its natural heritage and beauty, and providing recreational opportunities in scenic outdoor settings.

Identification of environmental corridors is based upon the presence of one or more of the following important elements of the natural resource base: 1) rivers, streams, lakes and associated shorelands and floodlands; 2) wetlands; 3) woodlands; 4) prairies; 5) wildlife habitat areas; 6) wet, poorly drained, and organic soils; and 7) rugged terrain and high relief topography. The presence of elements that are closely related to the natural resource base, including park and open space sites, natural areas, historic sites, and scenic viewpoints, are also considered in the delineation of environmental corridors. Many of the natural resource elements which form the basis for corridor delineation have been described in the preceding sections of this chapter.

The delineation on a map of the natural resource and resource-related elements specified above results in an essentially linear pattern of relatively narrow, elongated areas which have been termed "environmental corridors" by the Regional Planning Commission.² Primary environmental corridors are a minimum of 400 acres in size, two miles in length, and 200 feet in width. Secondary environmental corridors connect with the primary environmental corridors and are at least 100 acres in size and one mile in length. Areas at least five acres in size which contain important natural resource base elements but are separated physically from primary and secondary environmental corridors by intensive urban or agricultural land uses have also been identified and have been termed "isolated natural resource areas". Environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas within Walworth County in 1995 are shown on Map 7. At that time, such areas encompassed about 130 square miles (including about 22 square miles of surface water) or about 22 percent of the County.

In any consideration of environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, it is important to note that the preservation of such resources serves many beneficial purposes in addition to protecting the important natural resources that make up the corridors. Corridor lands provide areas for the storage of flood waters away from homes and other developed

² A detailed description of the process of refining the delineation of environmental corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin is presented in SEWRPC Technical Record, Vol. 4, No. 2 (March 1981), pp. 1-21.

Table 7

CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES LOCATED OUTSIDE NATURAL AREAS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1994

Number on Map 5	Site Name and Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Species of Concern ^b
1	Railroad Lowland (CSH-P)	T1N, R15E Sections 2,11 Town of Sharon	Department of Natural Resources	60	Small fringed gentian(<i>Gentiana procera</i>) (R)
2	Elkhorn Railroad Prairie Remnant (CSH-P)	T2N, R17E Section 6 Town of Geneva	Department of Transportation	1	Sullivant's milkweed(<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>) (T)
3	White River Railroad Prairie (CSH-P)	T2N, R18E Section 1 Town of Lyons	Private	22	White Lady's Slipper(<i>Cypripedium candidum</i>) (T)
4	Radio Station Wetland (CSH-P)	T2N, R18E Section 32 Town of Lyons	Private	30	Small fringed gentian(<i>Gentiana procera</i>) (R)
5	Peterson Property (CSH-P)	T2N, R18E Section 35 Town of Lyons	Private	50	Swamp agrimony(<i>Agrimonia parviflora</i>) (R)
6	Lake Number 10 Open Woods (CSH-P)	T3N, R15E Section 10 Town of Richmond	Private	44	Kittentails (<i>Besseyia Bullii</i>) (T)
7	Island Road Shrub-Carr (CSH-P)	T3N, R15E Section 35 Town of Richmond	Private	64	Small fringed gentian(<i>Gentiana procera</i>) (R)Ohio goldenrod (<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>) (R)
8	Sugar Creek Woods-North (CSH-P)	T3N, R17E Sections 15,16 Town of Lafayette	Private	190	Late coral-root(<i>Corallorhiza odontorhiza</i>) (R)
9	Sugar Creek Wet Woods (CSH-P)	T3N, R17E Section 16 Town of Lafayette	Private	34	Yellow giant hyssop(<i>Agastache nepetoides</i>) (R)
10	Sugar Creek Woods-South (CSH-P)	T3N, R17E Sections 15, 16, 21 Town of Lafayette	Private	122	Late coral-root(<i>Corallorhiza odontorhiza</i>) (R)
11	Abells Corners Fen (CSH-P)	T3N, R17E Section 17 Town of Lafayette	Private	2	Small fringed gentian(<i>Gentiana procera</i>) (R)
12	Hargraves Road Sedge Meadow (CSH-P)	T3N, R18E Section 17 Town of Spring Prairie	Private	45	Small fringed gentian(<i>Gentiana procera</i>) (R)
13	Mills Road Prairie (CSH-P)	T4N, R15E Section 21 Town of Whitewater	Private	1	Sullivant's milkweed(<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>) (T)
14	Anderson Road (CSH-P)	T4N, R15E Section 16 Town of Whitewater	Private	1	Sullivant's milkweed(<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>) (T)
15	Island Road Prairie (CSH-P)	T4N, R15E Section 15 Town of Whitewater	Private	1	Sullivant's milkweed(<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>) (T)
16	LaGrange Campground (CSH-P)	T4N, R16E Section 10 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources	200	Kittentails(<i>Besseyia Bullii</i>) (T)
17	Lauderdale Lakes Woods(CSH-P)	T4N, R16E Section 35 Town of LaGrange	Private	45	Forked Aster (<i>Aster furcatus</i>) (T)Upland boneset (<i>Eupatorium sessilifolium</i>) (R)
18	Harmony Hills Savanna (CSH-P)	T4N, R17E Section 8 Town of Troy	Private	70	Torrey's Sedge(<i>Carex torreyi</i>) (R)
19	Doyles Lake Prairies (CSH-P)	T4N, R17E Sections 8,9 Town of Troy	Private	200	Kittentails(<i>Besseyia Bullii</i>) (T)

Table 7 (continued)

Number on Map 5	Site Name and Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Species of Concern ^b
20	Camp Timberlee (CSH-P)	T4N, R17E Section 17 Town of Troy	Private	65	Swamp agrimony(<i>Agrimonia parviflora</i>) (R)
21	Swift Lake Wetland (CSH-B)	T1N, R18E Section 3 Town of Bloomfield	Private	10	Black tern (R) (colony)(<i>Chlidonias Niger</i>)
22	Section Five Marsh and Pond(CSH-B)	T1N, R18E Sections 4, 5 Town of Bloomfield	Private	18	Black tern (R) (colony)(<i>Chlidonias Niger</i>)
23	Unnamed Wetland (CSH-B)	T3N, R15E Section 4 Town of Richmond	Private	22	Black tern (R) (colony)(<i>Chlidonias Niger</i>)
Total	--	--	--	1,297	--

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

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

Source: SEWRPC.

areas; help to protect water quality by filtering sediment and fertilizer from runoff before it enters surface waters; provide wildlife habitat and corridors for the movement of animals; and contribute to the scenic beauty of the Region. Excluding urban development from environmental corridors helps to prevent problems such as water pollution, wet and flooded basements, and building and pavement failures.

In addition, because of the many interacting relationships between living organisms and their environment, the destruction or deterioration of any one element of the natural resource base may lead to a chain reaction of deterioration and destruction. The draining and filling of wetlands, for example, may destroy fish spawning grounds, wildlife habitat, groundwater recharge or discharge areas, and the natural filtration action and floodwater storage functions which contribute to maintaining high levels of water quality and stable streamflows and lake stages in a watershed. The resulting deterioration of surface water quality may, in turn, lead to the deterioration of the quality of the groundwater which serves as a source of domestic, municipal, and industrial water supply and on which low flows in rivers and streams may depend. Similarly, the destruction of woodland cover may result in soil erosion and stream siltation, more rapid stormwater runoff and attendant increased flood flows and stages, as well as destruction of wildlife habitat. Although the

effects of any one of these environmental changes may not in and of itself be overwhelming, the combined effects will eventually create serious environmental and developmental problems. The need to maintain the integrity of the remaining environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas thus becomes apparent.

Primary Environmental Corridors

As shown on Map 7, the primary environmental corridors in Walworth County are located along the major rivers and their tributaries, around the major lakes in the County, in large wetland areas, and in the Kettle Moraine. In 1995, about 100 square miles, comprising about 17 percent of the total area of the County, were encompassed within the primary environmental corridors.

The primary environmental corridors contain almost all of the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas in the County and are, in effect, a composite of the best remaining elements of the natural resource base. Such areas have immeasurable environmental and recreational value. The protection of the primary environmental corridors from additional intrusion by incompatible land uses, and thereby from degradation and destruction, is one of the principal objectives of this park and open space planning program.

Table 8

CRITICAL AQUATIC HABITAT AREAS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1994

Streams				
Number on Map 5	Stream	Size (stream miles) ^c	Rank ^a	Description ^b and Comments
24	Mukwonago River upstream from Eagle Spring Lake	4.8 miles ^c	AQ-1 (RSH)	Stream of good overall quality; bisects corridor of high quality Natural Area, including Lulu Lake complex
25	Mukwonago River downstream from Eagle Spring Lake to Phantom Lakes	2.3 miles ^c	AQ-1 (RSH)	Excellent overall quality; excellent Biotic Index Rating ^c good water quality and fish population and diversity; bisects high-quality Natural Areas
26	Potawatomi, Van Slyke, and Southwick Creeks	3.1 miles	AQ-2	All cold-water trout streams with good fish populations
27	White River	21.5 miles ^c	AQ-2 (RSH)	Critical fish species and a good assemblage of mussel species
28	Honey Creek-upper reaches	3.8 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish species present
29	Honey Creek-lower reaches	17.4 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish species present
30	Lake Ivanhoe Creek	2.7 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish species present; low streambed sedimentation and low in modifications to channel
31	Nippersink Creek	10.4 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Good mussel species assemblage
32	Spring Creek	2.0 miles ^c	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish species present
33	Sugar Creek and Spring Brook Creek	30.9 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish, herptile, and mussel species habitat; Spring Brook Creek is a Class II and Class III trout stream
34	Bluff Creek	1.9 miles	AQ-1 (RSH)	High-quality fast, hard, cold-water Class I trout stream with springs and spring runs which run through a designated State Natural Area
35	Turtle Creek upstream from Comus Lake	10.2 miles	AQ-2 (RSH)	Critical herptile species habitat
36	Turtle Creek downstream from Comus Lake to STH 11	3.3 miles	AQ-2 (RSH)	Critical herptile species habitat; good mussel species richness, including a "special concern" mussel species, the elktoe
37	Turtle Creek downstream from STH 11 to Walworth-Rock county line	7.1 miles	AQ-2 (RSH)	Critical herptile species habitat
38	Darien Creek	8.8 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish species present
39	LittleTurtle Creek and Ladd Creek	8.6 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish and herptile species habitat
40	Steel Brook Creek	4.0 miles	AQ-3	Class I and II trout stream with good fish population and diversity
41	Whitewater Creek	5.9 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish and herptile species; a portion runs through Clover Valley Fen State Natural Area
	Total (18 stream reaches)	148.7 miles	--	--
Lakes				
Number on Map 5	Lake	Size (acreage)	Rank ^a	Description ^b and Comments
42	Beulah Lake	834 acres	AQ-1 (RSH)	An impounded series of natural drainage lakes serving as an important reservoir for critical fish species, including the endangered starhead topminnow; also serves as a spawning and nursery area for fish and habitat for waterfowl
43	Lulu Lake	84 acres	AQ-1 (RSH)	A drainage lake with excellent overall quality; good water quality with spring seeps from the basin; critical herptile and fish species present; aesthetically outstanding; important component of the Mukwonago river environmental corridor
44	Pickerel Lake	30 acres	AQ-1 (RSH)	A natural drainage lake with spring activity; encompassed by Pickerel Lake Fen State Natural Area; undeveloped shoreline
45	Benedict Lake	20 acres ^c	AQ-2 (RSH)	A drained lake with good overall fish populations; critical fish species present

Table 8 (continued)

Lakes (continued)				
Number on Map 5	Lake	Size (acreage)	Rank ^a	Description ^b and Comments
46	Geneva Lake	5,262 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	A deep spring lake, the largest lake in the Region; critical fish species present; good overall fish diversity
47	Mill Lake	271 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	A drainage lake which is part of the impounded Lauderdale Lakes; critical fish species present; good overall fishery
48	Pleasant Lake	155 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	A spring lake with critical fish species present; migratory waterfowl use the lake
49	Comus Lake	117 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	An impounded drainage lake surrounded by a wetland complex; important critical herptile habitat
50	Army Lake	78 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A shallow spring lake with an adjacent Natural Area, Army Lake Lowlands
51	Booth Lake	113 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A shallow seepage lake with good water quality
52	Lake Como	946 acres	AQ-3	A shallow, impounded seepage lake; adjacent wetlands considered prime wildlife habitat
53	Green Lake	311 acres	AQ-3	A spring lake which is part of the impounded Lauderdale Lakes; good water quality and fish diversity
54	Honey Lake	44 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drainage lake with an adjacent Natural Area, Honey Lake Marsh and Sedge Meadow
55	Lake Ivanhoe	42 acres	AQ-3	A drained lake with an undeveloped shoreline; adjacent Natural Area, Lake Ivanhoe Fen and Sedge Meadow
56	Middle Lake	259 acres	AQ-3	A spring-drainage lake which contains a natural spring area which remains open all winter, giving birds a winter refuge; good water quality
57	Peters Lake	64 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A shallow seepage lake with good wildlife habitat
58	Potter Lake	162 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A shallow seepage lake with wetlands to the west of high value to wildlife
59	Powers Lake	83 acres ^c	AQ-3	A drainage lake with good water quality
60	Silver Lake	85 acres	AQ-3	A seepage lake which is an identified Natural Area
61	Swan Lake	27 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A spring lake with an undeveloped shoreline encompassed by Swan Lake Wetland Complex, an identified Natural Area
62	Swift Lake	19 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A seepage lake with suitable habitat for Blanding's turtle, a threatened species
63	Tombeau Lake	35 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drainage lake with critical fish species present
64	Unnamed Lake (T4N, R17E, Section 9)	19 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drained, undeveloped lake which is a component of the upper Mukwonago River corridor
65	Unnamed Lake (T4N, R17E, Section 10)	10 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	An undeveloped lake surrounded by sedge meadow and marsh; component of the upper Mukwonago River corridor
66	Unnamed Lake (T4N, R17E, Sections 13,14,23,24)	24 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A spring lake located at the headwaters of the stream entering Pickerel Lake
67	Unnamed Lake (T4N, R17E, Section 19)	32 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A shallow lake with suitable habitat for Blanding's turtle, a threatened species
68	Lake Wandawega	119 acres	AQ-3	A shallow, seepage lake with adjacent wetlands considered prime wildlife habitat
69	Tripp Lake	115 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	An impoundment of Whitewater Creek with critical fish and herptile species habitat; wading birds use the lake
70	Turtle Lake	140 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	A spring lake with critical fish and herptile species present
71	Cravath Lake	65 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A shallow impoundment with the only recent regional record of the American eel, a "special concern" fish species
72	Loraine Lake	133 acres	AQ-3	A seepage lake with an adjacent Natural Area, Lake Loraine Marsh
73	Lake No. 10	40 acres	AQ-3	An undeveloped seepage lake which is an identified Natural Area

Table 8 (continued)

Lakes (continued)				
Number on Map 5	Lake	Size (acreage)	Rank ^a	Description ^b and Comments
74	Rice Lake	137 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	An impounded drainage lake with habitat for the bullfrog, a "special concern" species
75	Whitewater Lake	640 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	An impoundment with critical herptile species habitat
	Total (34 lakes)	10,515 acres	--	--

^aAQ-1 identifies Aquatic Area sites of statewide or greater significance.

AQ-2 identifies Aquatic Area sites of countywide or regional significance.

AQ-3 identifies Aquatic Area sites of local significance.

RSH, or Rare Species Habitat, identifies those aquatic areas which support rare, endangered, threatened, or "special concern" species officially designated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

^b"Drainage lakes" are lakes that have both an inlet and an outlet and whose main water source is stream drainage.

"Seepage lakes" are lakes which have no inlet or outlet and whose main source of water is direct precipitation and runoff supplemented by groundwater.

"Drained lakes" are lakes which have no inlet but do have an outlet and which are not groundwater-fed; their primary source of water is from precipitation and runoff from the immediate drainage area.

"Spring lakes" are lakes which have no inlet but do have an outlet and whose main source of water is groundwater flowing directly into the basin and from the immediate drainage area.

^cLake or stream is located partially within Walworth County. Number refers to acreage or stream miles located within the County.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

Secondary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

As shown on Map 7, secondary environmental corridors in Walworth County are located chiefly along the small perennial and intermittent streams within the County. About 15 square miles, comprising about 3 percent of the County, were encompassed within secondary environmental corridors in 1995. Secondary environmental corridors contain a variety of resource elements and are often remnant resources from primary environmental corridors that have been developed with intensive agricultural or urban uses. Secondary environmental corridors facilitate surface water drainage and provide corridors for the movement of wildlife and for the dispersal of seeds for a variety of plant species. Such corridors should be considered for preservation in natural, open use or incorporated as drainage ways, stormwater detention or retention areas, or as local parks or recreation trails, in developing areas.

As also shown on Map 7, isolated natural resource areas within Walworth County include a geographically well-distributed variety of isolated wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife habitat; in 1995, these areas encompassed about 13 square miles, or about 2 percent of the County. Isolated natural resource

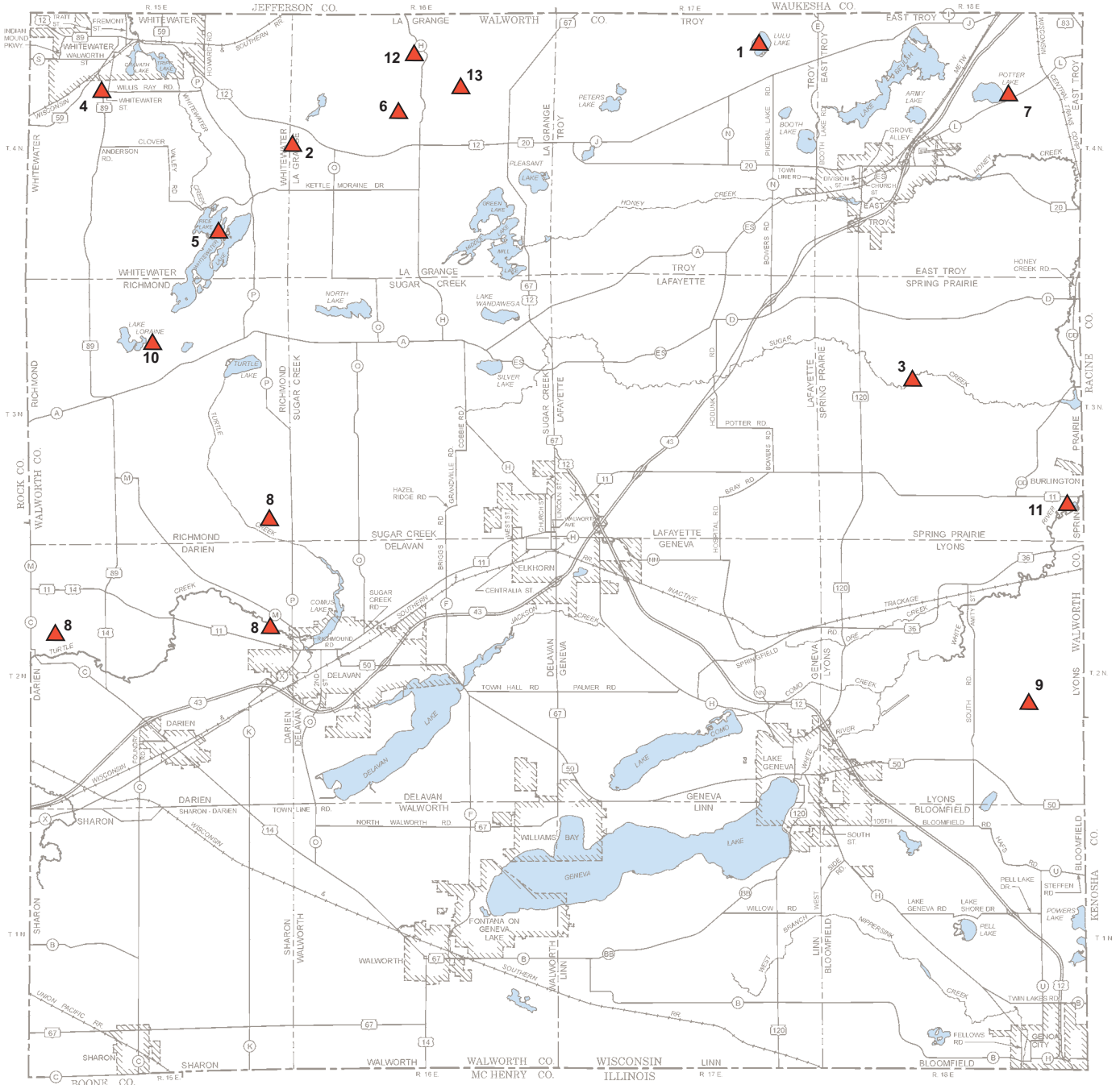
areas may provide the only available wildlife habitat in an area, provide good locations for local parks and nature areas, and lend aesthetic character and natural diversity to an area. Such areas should be preserved in natural open uses insofar as practicable, being incorporated for use as parks and open space reservations or stormwater detention or retention areas where appropriate.



Prime Agricultural Land

In 1995, approximately 381 square miles, or 66 percent of Walworth County, were in agricultural use. For planning purposes, it is useful to distinguish between prime agricultural lands and other farming areas. Prime agricultural lands are those lands, which in terms of soil characteristics, are best suited for the production of food and fiber. Walworth County has defined prime agricultural land as those farmlands that consist largely of Class I, II, and III soils as identified by the U. S. Natural Resources Conservation Service. In 1995, these areas encompassed about 324 square miles, or about 85 percent of all agricultural land, and about 56 percent of the County. Map 8 shows those lands which were identified as prime agricultural land under the Walworth County development plan, and which still met the criteria and remained in agricultural use in 1995.

Map 6

SIGNIFICANT GEOLOGIC SITES IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1994



-  SIGNIFICANT GEOLOGIC SITE
- 15** REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 9)
-  SURFACE WATER

Source: SEWRPC.

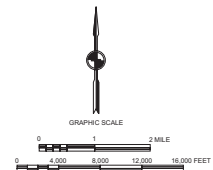


Table 9

SIGNIFICANT GEOLOGIC SITES IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1994

Number on Map 6	Site Name	Classification Code ^a	Site Area (Acres)	Location	Ownership	Description
1	Lulu Lake Glacial Lake and Crevasse Filling	GA-1	103	T4N,R17E Section 2 Town of Troy	Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy, and other private	A near-classic example of kettle lake located on a pitted outwash terrace. It is associated with the end moraine of the Lake Michigan lobe. Also present is a good example of a crevasse filling
2	Kettle Moraine Interlobate Moraine ^b	GA-1	7,138	Northwest portion of County	Department of Natural Resources, and private	Interlobate moraine consisting of a complex system of irregular, knobby ridges, trending northeast-southwest across the northwest portion of the County
3	Sugar Creek Quarry	GA-2	3	T3N, R18E Section 16 Town of Spring Prairie	Private	Small abandoned quarry on south bank of Sugar Creek. Only exposure of geologically important fossiliferous Kankakee Dolomite in Wisconsin
4	Whitewater Quarry	GA-2	2	T4N, R15E Section 8 Town of Whitewater	Private	Old quarry with one of few exposures of Galena Dolomite in region
5	Whitewater Lake-Rice Lake Eskers	GA-2	175	T4N, R15E Sections 26, 35 Town of Whitewater	Department of Natural Resources, and private	Two eskers separating Whitewater Lake from Rice Lake
6	John Muir Trail Kettle Holes	GA-2	28	T4N, R16E Section 9 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources	Large, sphagnum-filled kettle holes
7	Casselman's Quarry	GA-2	2	T4N, R18E Section 11 Town of East Troy	Private	Small quarry excavated in Silurian Mayville Dolomite. One of the few bedrock exposures in Walworth County
8	Turtle Creek Glacial Spillway	GA-3	2,540	T2N, R15E Sections 5-8,11,13,18 Town of Darien T3N, R15E Sections 26, 35, 36 Town of Richmond	Department of Natural Resources, and private	A good example of a glacial spillway
9	Lyons Glacial Deposits	GA-3	637	T2N, R18E Sections 12-15, 21-29 Town of Lyons	Private	Outstanding examples of kettle and kame topography
10	Morainic Triple Point	GA-3	218	T3N, R15E Section 9 Town of Richmond	Private	Point where the interlobate moraine ends, and the Johnstown and Darien terminal moraines begin
11	Voree Quarry	GA-3	16	T3N, R18E Section 36 Town of Spring Prairie	Private	Old, water-filled quarry, exposing unusual Brandon Bridge Formation of dolomite rock
12	Spirits Wash Bowl	GA-3	1	T4N, R16E Section 4 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources	A kettle hole
13	Nordic Trail Kettle Holes	GA-3	32	T4N, R16E Sections 10, 11 Town of LaGrange	Department of Natural Resources, and private	Huge, water-filled kettle holes
Total	--	--	10,895	--	--	--

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

^bIncludes the area within the established project boundary for the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest within Walworth County. The acreage total does not include Natural Areas or Critical Species Habitat Sites within these project boundaries.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, and SEWRPC.

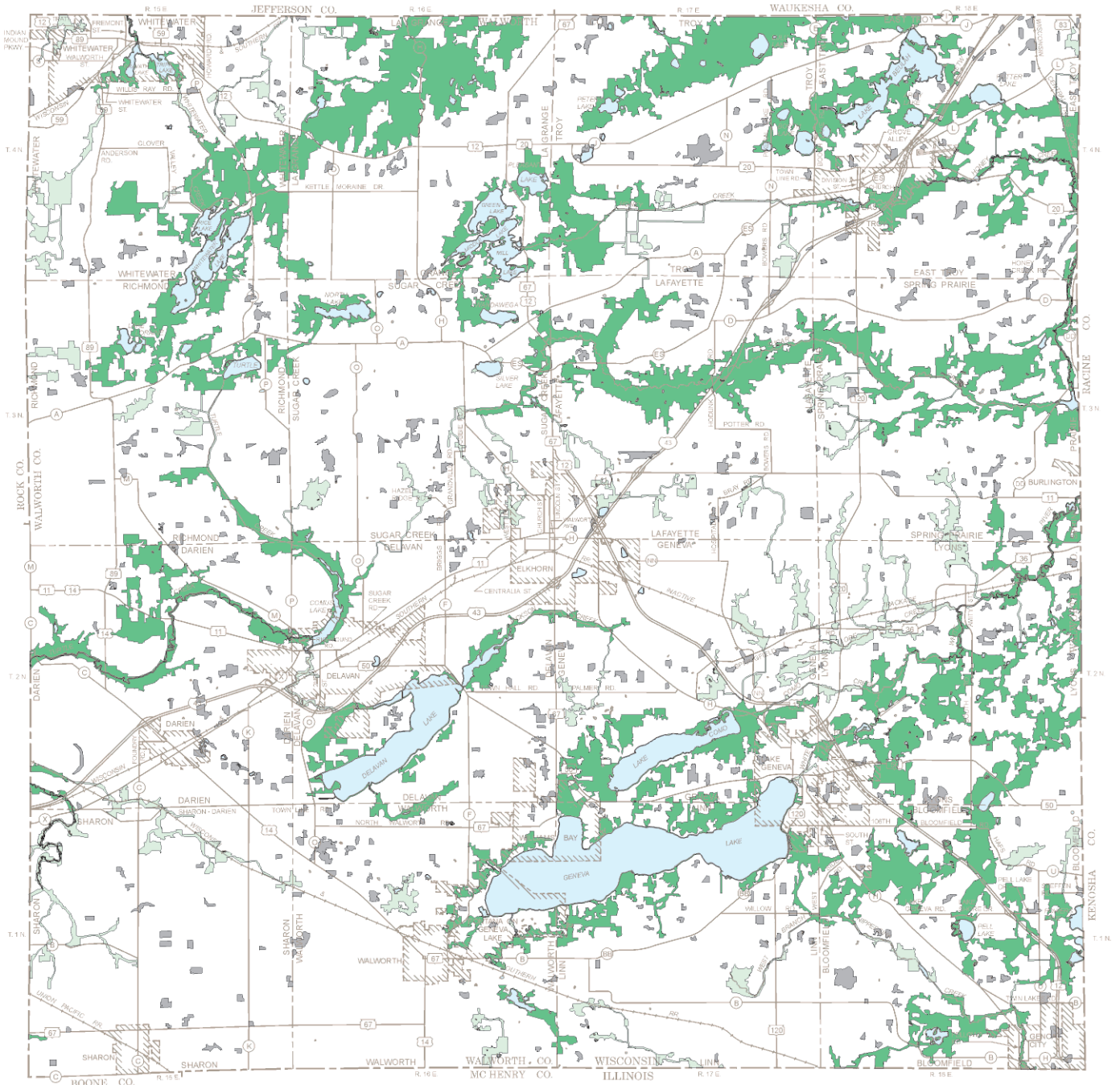
A number of important public purposes are served through the preservation of prime agricultural lands. These include the maintenance of agricultural reserves, the maintenance of open space, the control of public costs for providing urban services, the preservation of the local economic base, and the preservation of a rural lifestyle





SUMMARY

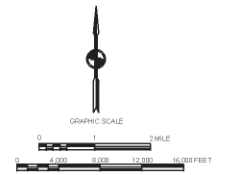
This chapter has presented data related to existing demographic and economic characteristics, land use, and natural resources for Walworth County. The key components of the chapter are as follows:

Map 7

ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1995



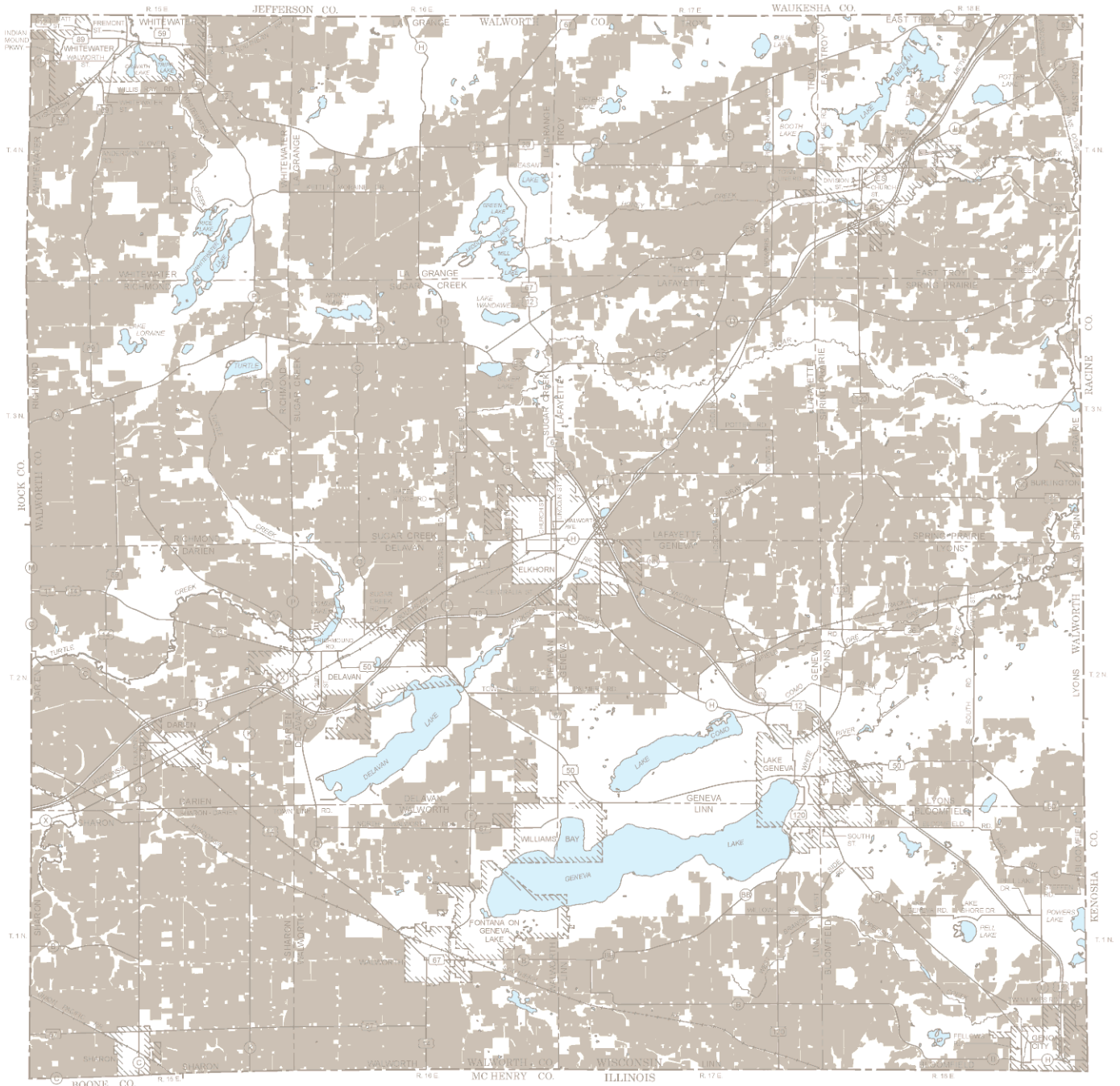
-  PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR
-  SECONDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR
-  ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREA
-  SURFACE WATER





Source: SEWRPC.

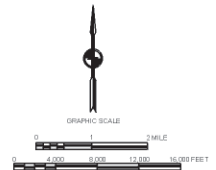
Map 8

PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1995



-  PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS
-  SURFACE WATER

Source: SEWRPC.



1. The resident population of Walworth County in 1990, the year of the most recent U.S. Census, was about 75,000, an increase of 18 percent over 1970. During the same period, households increased by about 9,100, or about 49 percent. With the number of households increasing at a faster rate than the population, the number of persons per household has decreased. The 1999 Walworth County population, based on estimates by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, was about 85,500 persons. This represents an increase of 10,500 persons, or about 14 percent over 1990.
2. An inventory of land use in 1995 indicated 64.8 square miles, or about 11 percent of the County, was developed with urban uses, while the remaining 511.7 square miles, or about 89 percent of the County, was devoted to rural uses.
3. There are 173 miles of major streams and 12,600 acres of major lakes within the County. There are approximately 44.3 square miles, or about 8 percent of the County, located within the 100-year recurrence interval flood hazard area of the major streams.
4. The County encompasses a number of significant natural resource base features including wetland areas which in 1995 occupied about 40.7 square miles, or about 7 percent of the County; and woodlands, which occupied about 49.2 square miles, or about 9 percent of the County. The County also contained 77 sites identified as natural areas—areas which contain native plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the pre-European settlement landscape; and 23 critical species habitat sites—other sites which support rare, threatened, or endangered plants or animals.
5. The most important element of the natural resource base and features closely related to that base—including wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitat, major lakes and streams and associated shorelands and floodlands, and outdoor recreation sites—when combined, result in an essentially linear pattern in the landscape referred to by the Regional Planning Commission as environmental corridors. Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of important natural resource and resource based elements and are, by definition, at least 400 acres in size, two miles long, and 200 feet wide. In 1995, primary environmental corridors encompassed about 100 square miles, or about 17 percent of the County.

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Chapter III

EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

INTRODUCTION

A comprehensive areawide inventory of park and open space sites was conducted in 1973 under the initial regional park and open space planning program,¹ and updated in 1985 for use in preparing the year 2000 County park and open space plan. The inventory of park and open space sites in the County was updated again in 1999 for use in preparing this new County park and open space plan. The findings of the 1999 inventory are presented in this chapter.

The 1999 inventory identified all park and open space sites owned by a public agency, including State, County, or local units of government and school districts. The inventory also included privately-owned resource-oriented outdoor recreation sites such as golf courses, campgrounds, ski hills, boating access sites, swimming beaches, hunting clubs, and group camps such as Scout or YMCA camps, and special use outdoor recreation sites of regional significance. The inventory of private outdoor recreation sites focused on resource-oriented sites because the County park and open space plan is most directly concerned with the provision of sites and facilities for such activities. The inventory also identified such other resources of recreational significance as existing trails and bicycle ways and historic sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

¹ *The regional park and open space plan is documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, A Regional Park and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000, November 1977.*

EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

Park and Open Space Sites Owned by Walworth County

Park and open space sites owned by Walworth County in 1999 are shown on Map 9 and listed on Table 10. In 1999, Walworth County owned three such sites, encompassing a total of 246 acres, or less than 1 percent of the total area of the County.

The three existing County parks are Price Conservancy in the Town of Lafayette, Walworth County Courthouse Park in the City of Elkhorn, and Natureland Park in the Town of Richmond.

Selected outdoor recreation facilities within the County park system in 1999 are listed in Table 11. As indicated in that table, two parks within the County system currently provide picnic areas, and one park provides trails.

Park and Open Space Sites Owned by the State of Wisconsin

As indicated in Table 12 and shown on Map 9, in 1999 there were 41 State-owned park and open space sites in Walworth County, encompassing 10,986 acres, or about 3 percent of the total area of the County. Of these 41 sites, 32 sites encompassing 10,414 acres were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; eight sites encompassing 450 acres were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation;

Table 10

PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES OWNED BY WALWORTH COUNTY: 1999

Number on Map 9	Site Name	Location ^a	Size (Acres)
1	Natureland Park	T3N, R15E, Section 3	122
2	Walworth County Courthouse Park	T3N, R16E, Section 36	8
3	Price Conservancy	T3N, R17E, Section 15	116
--	Total - 3 Sites	--	246

^aIndicates location given in U.S. Public Land Survey Township, Range, and Section.

Source: SEWRPC.

Table 11

SELECTED OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES WITHIN WALWORTH COUNTY PARKS: 1999

Number on Map 9	Site Name	Size (acres)	Playfield	Golf Course	Picnic Area	Swimming Beach	Trails	Boat Launch	Campsites
1	Natureland Park	122	--	--	X	--	X	--	--
2	Walworth County Courthouse Park	8	--	--	X	--	--	--	--
3	Price Conservancy	116	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
--	Total - 3 Sites	246	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Source: SEWRPC.

and one site, encompassing 122 acres, was owned by the University of Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has acquired large areas of park and open space lands in Walworth County for a variety of resource protection and recreational purposes. Sites acquired for natural resource preservation and limited recreational purposes include the Bluff Creek Fishery Area, Beulah Lake Remnant, Delavan Lake Remnant, the Honey Creek Wildlife Area, the southern unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, the Turtle Creek Wildlife Area, the Lulu Lake State Natural Area, 20 wildlife habitat areas, and three state scientific areas. The Department also owns a lake access site at Potter's Lake. Boat launching facilities are available at Whitewater Creek Recreation Area and Potter's Lake Access. Public hunting grounds are provided at Bluff Creek Fishery Area, Potter's Lake Access, at the extensive wildlife habi-

tat areas located in the Town of East Troy, the Town of LaGrange, the Town of Lafayette, and the Town of Lyons, and at the two scattered wildlife areas in the Town of Sharon.

Department-owned sites associated with more intensive recreational activities include Big Foot Beach State Park on the eastern shore of Geneva Lake in the Towns of Linn and Bloomfield, and Whitewater Creek Recreation Area, part of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. Both sites provide swimming, picnicking, camping, and trail facilities.

Map 9 also reflects project boundaries approved by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board for State forests, parks, and wildlife areas within the County. Lands within the approved project boundaries have been identified by the Board as appropriate additions to adjacent forests, natural areas, or wildlife areas and are intended to be acquired by the Department

Table 12

STATE OF WISCONSIN RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE LANDS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1999

Number on Map 9	Site Name	Location ^a	Size (acres)
	Department of Natural Resources Sites		
4	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T1N, R15E, Section 4	70
5	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T1N, R15E, Sections 2, 11	96
6	Big Foot Beach State Park.....	T1N, R17E, Sections 1, 12T1N, R18E, Section 6	272
7	Extensive Wildlife Habitat Area.....	T1N, R18E, Sections 4, 9	456
8	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T1N, R18E, Sections 8, 9	268
9	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T1N, R18E, Sections 3, 10	382
10	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T1N, R18E, Sections 19, 30	128
11	Turtle Creek Wildlife Area.....	T2N, R15E, Sections 2, 3, 10-13, 15-18, 20, 21	731 ^b
12	Delavan Lake Remnant.....	T2N, R16E, Section 14	12
13	Statewide Habitat Area.....	T2N, R17E, Sections 26, 27	176
14	Extensive Wildlife Habitat Area.....	T2N, R18E, Sections 17, 20	135
15	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T2N, R18E, Section 34	30
16	Statewide Habitat Area.....	T2N, R18E, Section 35	66
17	Extensive Wildlife Habitat Area.....	T3N, R17E, Section 6	7
18	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T3N, R17E, Section 7	93
19	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T3N, R17E, Section 8	56
20	Honey Creek Wildlife Area.....	T3N, R18E, Section 24	40 ^b
21	Bluff Creek Fishery Area.....	T4N, R15E, Section 15	40
22	Whitewater Lake Recreation Area.....	T4N, R15E, Sections 22, 26	-- ^c
23	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T4N, R15E, Sections 20, 21, 28, 29	341
24	Scattered Wildlife Area.....	T4N, R15E, Sections 19, 30	190
25	State Scientific Area.....	T4N, R16E, Section 5	53
26	Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit.....	T4N, R15E, Sections 13, 14, 23-27 T4N, R16E, Sections 3, 4, 7-10, 15-21	5,251 ^b
27	Lulu Lake State Natural Area.....	T4N, R17E, Section 1, 2, 3, 11, 12	597
28	Extensive Wildlife Habitat Area.....	T4N, R17E, Section 27	6
29	Extensive Wildlife Habitat Area.....	T4N, R17E, Section 28	70
30	Extensive Wildlife Habitat Area.....	T4N, R17E, Section 29-32	498
31	State Scientific Area.....	T4N, R18E, Sections 7, 8	76
32	Beulah Lake Remnant.....	T4N, R18E, Sections 9, 10	22
33	Extensive Wildlife Habitat Area.....	T4N, R18E, Sections 11, 14	38
34	Potter's Lake Access.....	T4N, R18E, Section 11	1
35	Extensive Wildlife Habitat Area.....	T4N, R18E, Sections 13, 24	213
--	Subtotal- 32 Sites	--	10,414
	Department of Transportation Sites		
36	STH Tourist Information Center.....	T1N, R18E, Section 25, 36	29
37	STH 14 Wayside.....	T2N, R15E, Section 20	2
38	DOT Land.....	T3N, R15E, Section 22, 23, 26, 27, 35	290
39	DOT Land.....	T4N, R15E, Section 15	120
40	Wayside.....	T3N, R17E, Section 11	3
41	Wayside.....	T3N, R17E, Section 14	3
42	Wayside STH 11.....	T3N, R17E, Section 29	2
43	South 12 Wayside.....	T4N, R16E, Section 18	1
--	Subtotal- 8 Sites	--	450
	University of Wisconsin Sites		
44	UW Lawcon Fields.....	T4N, R15E, Section 5	122 ^d
--	Subtotal- 1 Site	--	122
--	Total- 41 Sites	--	10,986

^aIndicates location given in U.S. Public Land Survey Township, Range, and Section.

^bIncludes only lands located in Walworth County.

^cAcreage is included with the Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit.

^dIncludes 106 acres in Jefferson County.

Source: SEWRPC.

of Natural Resources, on a “willing seller-willing buyer” basis, for recreational or open space purposes as funding permits.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation in 1999 owned two sites for wetland mitigation in the Towns of Richmond and Whitewater; one tourist information center in the Town of Bloomfield; and five waysides—one in the Town of Darien, three in the Town of Lafayette, and one in the Town of Lagrange.

University of Wisconsin

In 1999 there was one open space site affiliated with the University of Wisconsin. The UW Lawcon Fields site encompasses about 122 acres (including a portion in Jefferson County) located on the University of Wisconsin Whitewater campus, in the northwest portion of the City of Whitewater. The site includes athletic facilities that are available to the general public on a limited basis.

Park and Open Space Sites Owned by Local Governments or Public School Districts

In addition to the County- and State-owned park and open space sites in Walworth County, in 1999 there was a total of 167 sites owned by local units of government or public school districts. Those sites, listed on Table A-1 and shown on Map A-1 in Appendix A, encompass 2,414 acres, or less than 1 percent of the total area of the County. Local governments own 129 park and open space sites, and public school districts own 38 sites. The acreage attributed to school district sites includes only those portions of the site used for recreational or open space purposes.

Private and Public-Interest Resource-Oriented Park and Open Space Sites

The 1999 inventory of park and open space sites also identified a total of 104 privately-owned resource-orientated recreation sites and six sites owned by private organizations for natural resource protection purposes. Those 110 sites are listed on Table A-2 and shown on Map A-2 in Appendix A. Together they encompassed 10,181 acres, or about 3 percent of the total area of the County.

The 104 privately-owned recreation sites encompass 9,662 acres and include seven hunting clubs, 12 golf courses, 30 boat access sites, 20 group camps, three

family campgrounds, one retreat center, 13 resorts, 10 swimming beaches, five open-space areas, and three special use recreation sites, including the Walworth County Fairgrounds, Wings over Wisconsin, and Rainbow Springs Trout Farm. The six sites owned for resource preservation purposes encompass 519 acres and include the Hoganson Preserve, Peterson Forest Preserve, Pickerel Lake Fen and three Nature Conservancy preserves—Granzeau Woods, Lulu Lake and Eagle Spring Lake Wetland Complex and Adjacent Uplands, and Upper Mukwonago River Wetland Complex.

LAKE AND RIVER ACCESS SITES

Lakes and rivers constitute a particularly valuable part of the natural resource base of the County. Lakes and rivers enhance the aesthetic quality of the County and are focal points for water-related recreational activities, including such active uses as swimming, boating, and fishing, and passive uses such as walking, or viewing along the water’s edge. Boat access sites, both public and nonpublic, provide opportunities for persons who do not own land on a body of water to participate in water-related recreational activities. The regional park and open space plan recommends that rivers and major lakes, defined as lakes with a surface area of 50 acres or more, be provided with adequate public access, including carry-in-boating and motor-boat access, consistent with safe and enjoyable participation in water-related activities. There are 27 major lakes located entirely or partially within the County: Army Lake, Benedict Lake, Beulah Lake, Booth Lake, Lake Como, Comus Lake, Cravath Lake, Delavan Lake, Geneva Lake, Green Lake, Lake LaGrange, Lake Loraine, Lulu Lake, Middle Lake, Mill Lake, North Lake, Pell Lake, Peters Lake, Pleasant Lake, Potter Lake, Powers Lake, Rice Lake, Silver Lake, Tripp Lake, Turtle Lake, Lake Wandawega, and Whitewater Lake.

Publicly-owned access sites for motor-boating purposes in Walworth County were provided at the following lakes: Beulah Lake, Booth Lake, Lake Como, Comus Lake, Cravath Lake, Delavan Lake, Geneva Lake, Green Lake, Lake Ivanhoe, Lauderdale Lake, Lake Loraine, Pell Lake, Pleasant Lake, Potter Lake, Rice Lake, Tripp Lake, and Whitewater Lake. Privately-owned access sites for motor-boating were also provided at Benedict Lake, Beulah Lake, Lake Como, Delavan Lake, Geneva Lake, Green Lake, Middle Lake, Mill Lake, Powers Lake, Turtle Lake, and Whitewater Lake.

TRAILS AND BICYCLE WAYS

The regional park and open space plan, adopted in 1977, recommended the development of an approximately 440-mile network of hiking and bicycling trails. Most of the trails recommended in the regional plan were proposed to be located in areas having natural resource values of regional significance, such as the Lake Michigan shoreline, the Kettle Moraine, and the riverine areas of the Milwaukee, Fox, and Root Rivers. The regional park and open space plan, including the recreation trail component, was subsequently refined through the preparation and adoption of park and open space plans by each of the counties in the Region.

The year 2000 park and open space plan for Walworth County recommended that a total of 77 miles of trails be provided along the Ice Age trail in the Kettle Moraine and along the Turtle Creek and the Mukwonago River by the Department of Natural Resources; and along the Sugar Creek by Walworth County.

Of the 77 miles of trails to be provided, 11 miles currently exist in Walworth County as part of the Ice Age Trail. Other existing trails that were not part of the year 2000 park and open space plan for Walworth County include: the Lake Geneva Trail; the Duck Lake Nature Trail; and marked and signed on- and off-street bicycle routes located in the Cities of Delavan and Lake Geneva, and the Villages of Fontana-on-Geneva Lake and Walworth. Map 10 shows all existing trails in Walworth County.

The regional bicycle and pedestrian plan² adopted by the Commission in 1995 recommends a network of on- and off-street bicycle ways within the County. Map B-1 in Appendix B depicts the regional bicycle and pedestrian plan as that plan pertains to Walworth County.

For purposes of this report, the term “trails” refers to off-street paths and the term “bicycle way” refers to facilities for bicycle travel associated with street rights-of-way, including signed bicycle routes, striped and signed bicycle lanes, and separate bicycle paths within a highway right-of-way. Bicycle paths generally accommodate both foot and bicycle travel, while on-street bicycle routes and lanes generally accommodate bicycle travel only.

² Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 43, A Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin—2010, January 1995.

Bicycle use can and does legally occur on many public roadways in the Region that are not specifically designated for such use. State law permits bicycle use on all public roadways, except expressways and freeways, and on those roadways where the local government concerned has acted to prohibit bicycle use by ordinance.

HISTORIC SITES

Historic sites in Walworth County often have important recreational, educational, and cultural value. A number of inventories and surveys of potentially significant historic sites have been conducted by various units and agencies of government in Walworth County since the completion of the regional park and open space plan in 1977. The results of these inventories and surveys, on file at such agencies as The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, indicate that there are more than 500 historic sites in Walworth County.

Certain sites of known historic significance are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1999, there were 31 individual sites and two historic districts³ within the County listed on the National Register. The location of sites and districts in Walworth County listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1999 are presented on Table 13 and on Map 11, respectively.

SUMMARY

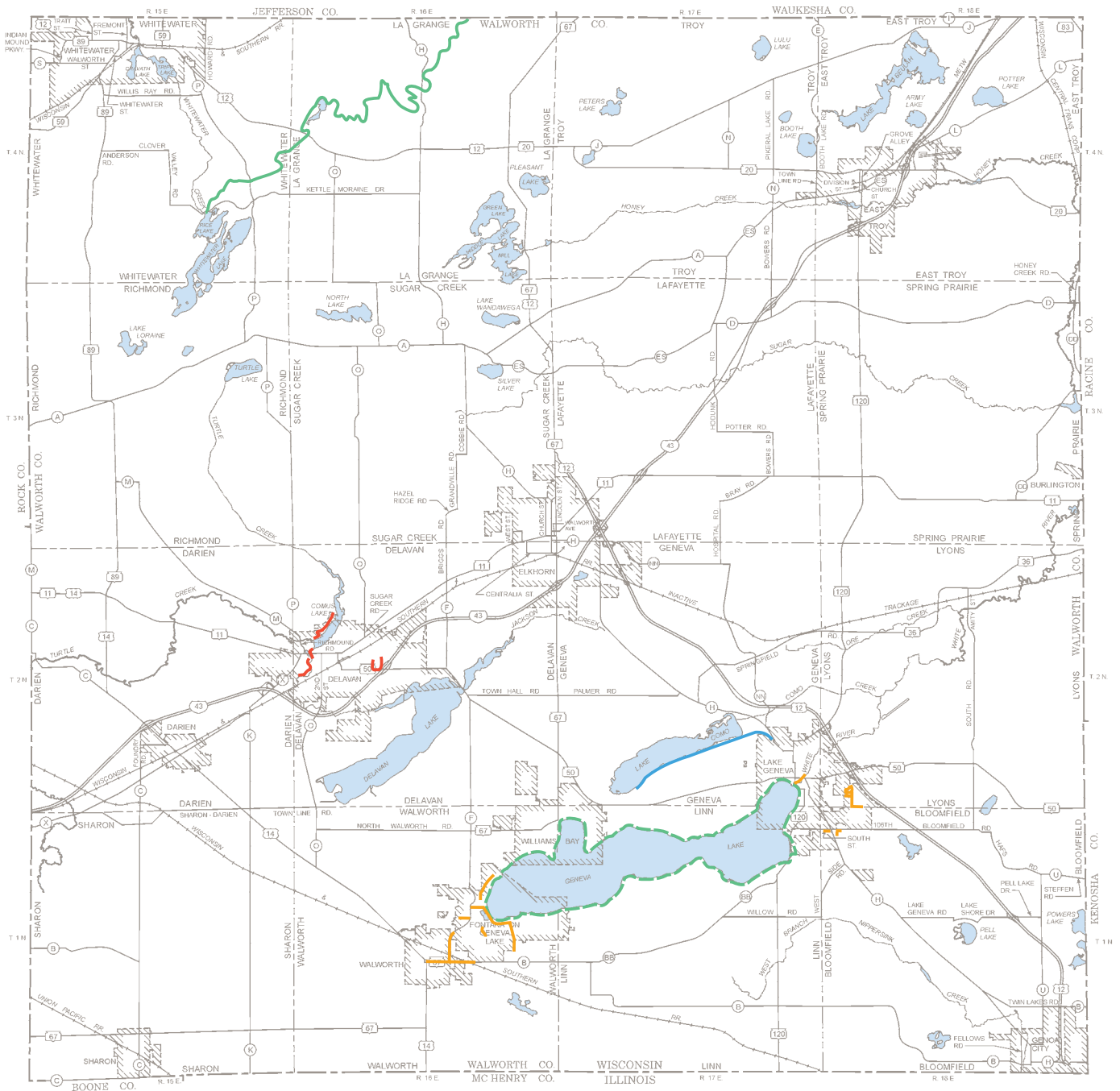
This chapter has presented the findings of an inventory of existing outdoor recreation and open space sites in Walworth County; including existing parks, other open space sites, lake and river access sites, recreation trails and bicycle ways, and historic sites. The key findings are as follows:

1. In 1999, Walworth County owned three park and open space sites, which collectively encompassed 246 acres, or less than 1 percent of the total area of the County.
2. The State of Wisconsin owned 41 park and open space sites, encompassing 10,986 acres, or about 3 percent of the total area of the County. Of these

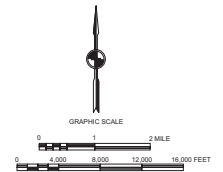
³ A historic district is a geographically definable area, urban or rural, that contains a concentration of significant historic sites or structures from the same period of time.

Map 10

EXISTING TRAILS IN WALWORTH COUNTY



- ICE AGE TRAIL
- LAKE GENEVA TRAIL
- DUCK LAKE NATURE TRAIL
- ON-ROAD MARKED BICYCLE ROUTES
- OFF-ROAD MARKED BICYCLE ROUTES



Source: SEWRPC.

Table 13

HISTORIC SITES ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1999

Number on Map 11	Site Name	Location ^a	Civil Division	Year Listed
1	Joseph Philbrick Webster House	T2N, R16E, Section 1	City of Elkhorn	1972
2	James Jesse Strang House	T3N, R18E, Section 25	Town of Spring Prairie	1974
3	Edward Elderkin House	T3N, R16E, Section 36	City of Elkhorn	1974
4	Horace Loomis House.....	T3N, R18E, Section 6	Town of Spring Prairie	1974
5	Heart Prairie Lutheran Church	T4N, R15E, Section 34	Town of Whitewater	1974
6	Fred B. Jones Estate	T2N, R16E, Section 33	Town of Delavan	1974
7	Mile Long Site	T2N, R16E, Section 21	Town of Delavan	1977
8	Buena Vista House	T4N, R18E, Section 20	Village of East Troy	1978
9	Israel Stowell Temperance House	T2N, R16E, Section 18	City of Delavan	1978
10	Younglands.....	T1N, R17E, Section 1	City of Lake Geneva	1979
11	Meyerhofer Cobblestone House	T2N, R18E, Section 32	Town of Lyons	1980
12	A. P. Johnson House.....	T2N, R16E, Section 33	Town of Delavan	1982
13	T. C. Smith House	T2N, R17E, Section 36	City of Lake Geneva	1982
14	Reynolds-Weed House	T3N, R16E, Section 36	City of Elkhorn	1983
15	Redwood Cottage (the Emily Baker residence)	T2N, R17E, Section 36	City of Lake Geneva	1984
16	East Wing Building (Old Main) UW-Whitewater Campus	T4N, R15E, Section 5	City of Whitewater	1984
17	Halverson Log Cabin.....	T4N, R15E, Section 5	City of Whitewater	1985
18	A. H. Allyn House	T2N, R16E, Section 18	City of Delavan	1985
19	Douglass-Stevenson House	T1N, R16E, Section 15	Village of Fontana-on-Geneva Lake	1986
20	The Riviera	T2N, R17E, Section 36	City of Lake Geneva	1986
21	Bonnie Brae	T1N, R17E, Section 3	Town of Linn	1986
22	Phoenix Hall-WI Inst. for the Ed. of the Deaf and Dumb.....	T2N, R16E, Section 18	City of Delavan	1987
23	Davidson Hall	T1N, R17E, Section 18	Town of Linn	1987
24	Main Street Historical District	T4N, R15E, Section 5	City of Whitewater	1989
25	Metropolitan Block.....	T2N, R17E, Section 36	City of Lake Geneva	1990
26	Maples Mound Group.....	T4N, R15E, Section 6	City of Whitewater	1991
27	Bradley Knitting Company	T2N, R16E, Section 17	City of Delavan	1992
28	Smith & Meadows Store Building	T4N, R18E, Section 20	Village of East Troy	1993
29	Grace & Pearl Historic District.....	T1N, R15E, Section 33	Village of Sharon	1993
30	Black Point	T1N, R17E, Section 8	Town of Linn	1994
31	John and Margaret Bell House	T3N, R18E, Section 23	Town of Spring Prairie	1994
32	Delavan's Vertified Brick Street	T2N, R16E, Section 18	City of Delavan	1996
33	Horticultural Hall	T2N, R17E, Section 36	City of Lake Geneva	1999

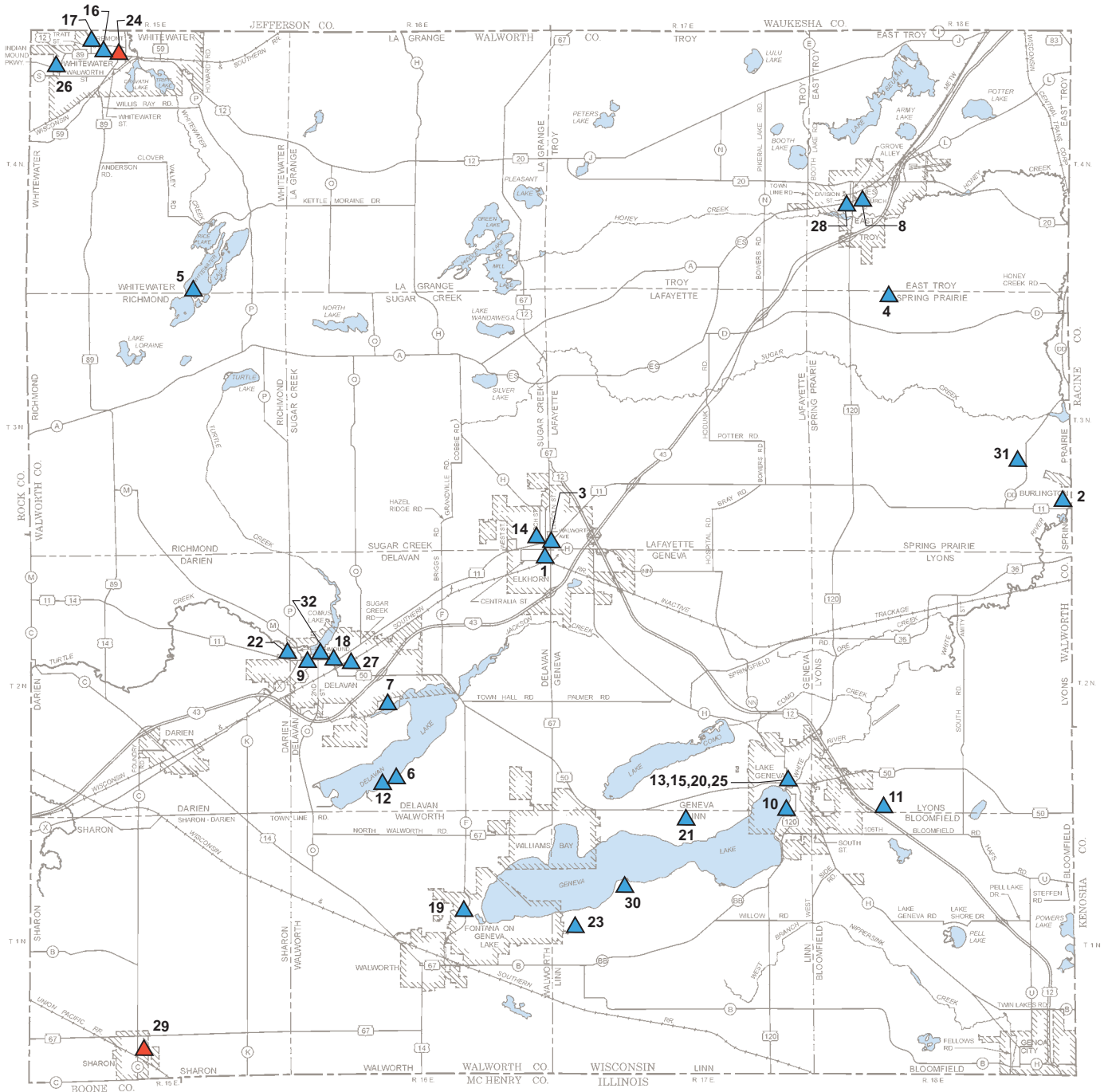
^aIndicates location given in U.S. Public Land Survey Township, Range, and Section.

Source: The State Historical Society and SEWRPC.

- 41 sites, 32 sites encompassing 10,414 acres were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; eight sites encompassing 450 acres were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation; and one site, encompassing 122 acres, was owned by the University of Wisconsin.
3. Local units of government and school districts owned 167 park and open space sites, encompassing 2,414 acres, or less than 1 percent of the total area of the County.
4. In 1999, a total of 110 privately-owned resource-orientated recreation and natural resource protection sites encompassing 10,181 acres were located in Walworth County.
5. Boating access was available on 19 of the 27 major lakes in Walworth County.
6. In 1999, 31 individual sites and two historic districts in Walworth County were listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

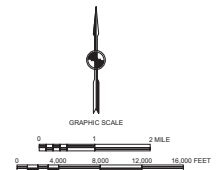
Map 11

HISTORIC SITES IN WALWORTH COUNTY
ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: 1999



- ▲ HISTORIC SITE
- ▲ HISTORIC DISTRICT
- 15** REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 13)

Source: SEWRPC.



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Chapter IV

OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS AND PARK AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

Planning is a rational process for formulating objectives and meeting those objectives through the preparation and implementation of plans. Objectives guide the preparation of plans and, when converted to specific measures of plan effectiveness, termed standards, provide the structure for evaluating how well the plan meets the objectives.

This chapter sets forth the objectives, principles, and standards used in the preparation of this park and open space plan for Walworth County, and applies the standards to the anticipated year 2020 population to help determine the need for major park sites and such outdoor recreation facilities as golf courses, campgrounds, swimming beaches, lake access sites, and hiking and biking trails. Needs identified through the application of the standards are addressed in Chapter V, which sets forth the recommended park and open space plan for Walworth County.

OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS

The Commission Technical and Citizen Advisory Committee on Regional Park and Open Space Planning, as part of the regional park and open space planning program completed in 1977, formulated a set of park and open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives and accompanying principles and standards. The regional standards were based on standards previously developed by the National Recrea-

tion and Park Association. The Advisory Committee compared the national standards to recreational preferences and demands of the Region as determined by surveys of recreation site managers and users, and modified the standards as necessary to meet park and open space demands within the Region.

The regional park and open space preservation objectives, principles, and standards were incorporated directly into the year 2000 Walworth County park and open space plan. Those objectives, principles, and standards have been reaffirmed in this year 2020 Walworth County park and open space plan, with certain modifications. These modifications include: the incorporation of the guidelines set forth in Chapter NR 1.91 of the *Wisconsin Administration Code* relating to the standards for boating access; and the addition of a principle and standard for the preservation of natural areas and critical species habitat sites. The plan objectives are set forth below:

1. To provide an integrated system of public general use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas which will allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in a wide range of outdoor recreation activities.
2. To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.

3. To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.
4. To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities.
5. To provide sufficient access areas to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunities to participate in extensive water-based outdoor recreation activities on the major inland lakes and rivers which are consistent with enjoyable surface water use and the maintenance of adequate water quality.
6. To preserve sufficient high-quality open-space lands for protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well-being and environmental quality of the County.
7. To provide for the efficient and economical satisfaction of outdoor recreation and related open space needs meeting all other objectives at the lowest possible cost.

Each of these objectives, together with its supporting principle and standards, is set forth in Appendix C. Each set of standards serves to facilitate the identification of park and open space needs for plan design and evaluation.

It should be noted that while the attainment of all objectives is considered desirable to provide the residents of the County with needed opportunities for high-quality recreational experiences, the responsibility for providing the necessary parks, open space lands, and associated recreational facilities, is shared among the various levels, units, and agencies of government. Under the adopted regional park and open space plan and the new County plan presented herein, the responsibility for the provision of large resource-oriented parks, resource-oriented recreational facilities, and areawide recreation trails is delegated primarily to the State and County levels of government, while the responsibility for the provision of smaller community and neighborhood parks and associated intensive nonresource-oriented recreational facilities is delegated primarily to local units of government. The protection of important natural resource features, including primary

environmental corridors and natural areas, is considered the responsibility of all levels of government.

PARK AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Existing and Forecast Population Size and Distribution

The need for outdoor recreation sites and facilities within the County is determined by applying the standards set forth in Appendix C for the size, number, and spatial distribution of public parks and outdoor recreation facilities to the existing and anticipated future resident population levels and distribution within the County, and comparing the probable demand for such sites and facilities, as indicated through application of the standards, to the existing supply of recreation sites and facilities.

As noted in Chapter II of this report, the 1999 County population, based on estimates by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, was 85,500 persons. The number of County residents anticipated by the year 2020 based upon forecasts developed by the Regional Planning Commission for the year 2020 regional land use plan would range from 95,000 persons under the adopted regional plan to as high as 131,600 under the high-growth alternative.

It should be noted that these forecasts pertain to the resident population of the County, exclusive of persons who live in Walworth County on a seasonal or other occasional basis. An indicator of the relative magnitude of seasonal population is the number of housing units that are reported in the Federal Census as "held for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use." In 1990, about 7,700 housing units in Walworth County, representing 21 percent of the total housing stock, were reported in the Census as being held for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. This compares to 2 percent for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region and 7 percent for the State. In addition, there are approximately 2,000 units available at hotels and resorts in the County. The relatively large proportion of such units in Walworth County suggests that the total number of persons in the County may significantly increase during portions of the year, particularly in the summer months.

In addition to information on the overall size of the anticipated future population of the County, information on future population distribution is important to a determination of existing and probable future outdoor recreation needs. The regional park and outdoor

recreation standards call for a major park to be provided within four miles of residents of urban areas having a population of 40,000 or greater and within ten miles of residents of smaller urban areas and rural areas. The planned urban service areas delineated in the adopted year 2020 regional land use plan served as the basis for the identification of planned urban areas within the County. The year 2020 regional land use plan, as it applies to Walworth County, is shown on Map 12. Planned urban service areas, which are divided into three levels of residential density on Map 12, are associated with the Cities of Delavan, Elkhorn, Lake Geneva, and Whitewater; the Villages of Darien, East Troy, Fontana-on-Geneva Lake, Genoa City, Sharon, Walworth, and Williams Bay; and larger, unincorporated lake communities, including those around Como Lake, Delavan Lake, Pell Lake, and Potter Lake.

Per Capita and Accessibility Standards

Two types of standards—per capita and accessibility standards—are used to help estimate the number and distribution of outdoor recreation sites and facilities needed to serve the anticipated future population of the County. The per capita standards are intended to help estimate the total number of acres of land needed to satisfy requirements for park and recreational land and related facility requirements based on the anticipated future resident population of the County. In addition, the potential demand for parks and park facilities by the aforementioned seasonal population should also be taken into account.

For purposes of analyzing future park site and future park facility needs, the population level anticipated under the high-growth scenario—131,600 persons—was considered. This recognizes the need to identify and reserve sufficient high-quality sites which may be required under conditions of more rapid population growth through the year 2020, as well as the need to serve the County population beyond the year 2020. Planning for a high-growth scenario is further warranted given the significant seasonal population, which contributes to the overall demand for outdoor recreation sites and facilities in Walworth County.

The accessibility—or service radius—standards are intended to insure that public parks are spatially distributed in a manner that is convenient and efficient for the population they are intended to serve. It should be recognized that in some situations, while per capita standards may be met, a need may still exist for additional sites or facilities because of the relative inaccessibility or distance of an existing site or facility

to some residents of the County. It should also be noted that for certain facilities, the accessibility standard for some residents of the County may be met by facilities located in adjacent counties.

Standards for Major Park Sites

Per capita and service area standards for major parks are set forth under Objective No. 1 in Appendix C. As indicated in Chapter III, major parks are defined as large, publicly owned outdoor recreation sites containing significant natural resource amenities which provide opportunities for resource-orientated activities and which are generally 100 acres or more in size. Application of the per capita standards for major park sites to the existing 1999 and anticipated year 2020 County population levels¹ indicates that there is a need for approximately 460 acres of additional park land in major park sites. This calculation is based on the acreage of the following major parks: Big Foot Beach State Park and Whitewater Lake Recreation Area, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and Price Conservancy and Natureland Park, owned by Walworth County.

Application of the 10-mile service radius standard indicates that the residents of the southwestern and the extreme northeastern portions of the County are not within the recommended service area of a major park. This includes a portion of the City of Delavan; the Villages of Darien and Sharon; the Town of Sharon; and portions of the Towns of Darien, Delavan, East Troy, and Walworth. It should be noted that the area of the Town of East Troy not served by a major park in Walworth County, does fall within the service area of Mukwonago Park, a major park in Waukesha County.

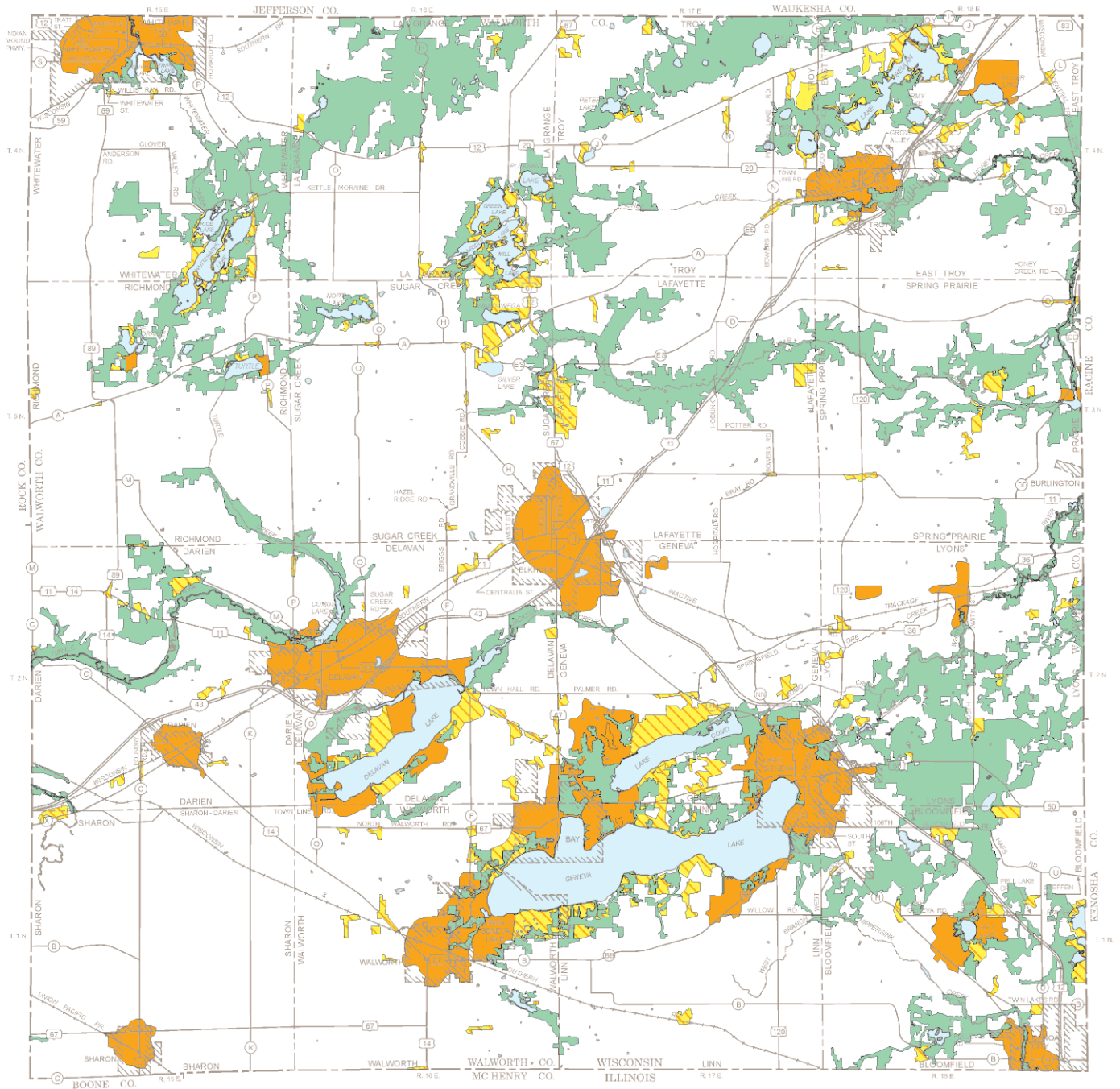
Standards for Intensive Resource-Oriented Recreation Facilities

The standards in Objective No. 3 set forth per capita and service area standards for the provision of such resource-oriented recreational facilities as camping, golfing, picnicking, downhill skiing, and beach swimming. Separate per capita standards have been established for public and nonpublic facilities. The per capita standards were applied to both the 1999 and anticipated year 2020 County population levels, and need estimates were generally prepared for both public and

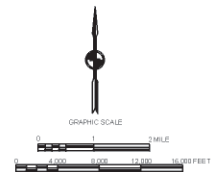
¹ *The determination of per capita facility needs is based upon the application of the per capita standards to the 131,600 persons anticipated under the regional land use plan's high-growth scenario.*

Map 12

REGIONAL LAND USE PLAN AS IT PERTAINS TO WALWORTH COUNTY: 2020



- SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL
- LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL
- PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR
- SURFACE WATER



Source: SEWRPC.

nonpublic facilities. This recognizes that, even though many nonpublic facilities are not available to the general population, the continued provision of such facilities is important because they do meet a significant portion of the overall demand for these recreation facilities which would otherwise have to be met by the public sector.

Service area standards for campsites, golf courses, picnic areas, ski hills, and swimming beaches were applied only to public facilities. This recognizes that all residents should have good access to facilities, which, by virtue of their public ownership, are available for use by all.

Campsites

Public campsites in the County are currently provided at Big Foot Beach State Park and Whitewater Lake Recreation Area. Campsites are also available to the public (for a fee) at the privately owned Scenic Ridge, Snug Harbor, and Meadowlark Acres campgrounds.

Application of the per capita standards for campsites indicates that there is an adequate number of publicly and privately owned campsites to serve both the existing 1999 and anticipated 2020 population. The standards call for public campsites to be located within 25 miles of each County resident. This standard is met by the existing public campgrounds in the County.

Golf Courses

Within the County there is currently one publicly owned 18-hole regulation golf course, Delbrook Golf Course, owned by the City of Delavan and one publicly owned nine-hole golf course, Lauderdale Lakes Country Club, owned by the Lauderdale Lakes Management District. There are ten privately owned courses with 18 holes or more open to the public: Abbey Springs Country Club (18 holes), Alpine Valley Resort (27 holes), Evergreen Country Club (27 holes), Geneva National Resort Golf Course (45 holes), George Williams College (18 holes), Grand Geneva Spa and Resort (36 holes), Hawk's View Golf Course (36 holes), Hillmoor Golf Club (18 holes), Lake Beulah Country Club (27 holes), and Lake Lawn Lodge (18 holes). In addition, there is one privately owned nine-hole golf course in the County open to the public, Country Club Estates Golf Course. There are also three privately owned courses with 18 holes or more not open to the public: Big Foot Country Club, Lake Geneva Country Club, and Whitewater Country Club.

Application of the per capita standard for golf courses to both the existing 1999 and anticipated year 2020 population indicates the need for one additional public golf course in the County. Application of the recommended 10-mile service radius to the existing public golf courses indicates that residents in the northern and eastern portions of the County are beyond the recommended service area for a public golf course. Consequently, there exists a need for a public golf course to serve each area. It should be noted that part of the eastern portion of the County does fall within the service area of Browns Lake Golf Course, a publicly owned golf course in Racine County. The need for private golf courses is met by the existing facilities. It should also be noted that the need for public golf courses could be met by converting private golf courses to public golf courses when the opportunity arises.

Picnicking

Public picnic areas in the County are currently provided at two major parks, Big Foot Beach State Park and Whitewater Lake Recreation Area.

Application of the per capita standard for picnicking facilities at major parks indicates that there is an adequate number of picnic tables at major parks to serve the existing 1999 and anticipated year 2020 population. Application of the recommended 10-mile service radius standard for public picnicking facilities indicates that residents in the northeastern and southwestern portions of the County are not adequately served by picnicking facilities within a major park. It should be noted that the northeastern portion of the County does fall within the service area of Mukwonago Park in Waukesha County and Bushnell Park in Racine County, both of which provide pic-nicking facilities.

Downhill Skiing

There are no existing publicly owned ski hills within the County. There are two private ski hills in Walworth County, Alpine Valley Resort, located in the Town of Lafayette, in the northeast portion of the County; and Grand Geneva Spa and Resort, located in the Town of Lyons, in the southeastern portion of the County. Both of these ski hills are open to the public.

Application of the per capita standard for downhill ski areas to both the existing and year 2020 County population indicates the need for one public ski hill. Provision of one public ski hill would satisfy the public ski hill accessibility standard throughout the County, given the 25-mile service radius attendant

to public ski hills. The need for private downhill skiing facilities is met by the existing facilities.

Swimming Beaches

Publicly owned swimming beaches are provided at Big Foot Beach State Park, Booth Lake Memorial Park, Edgewater Park, Fontana Beach, Green Lake Access, Hillside Drive Boat Access, Library Park, North Lake Subdivision Park, Pleasant Lake Boat Access, Town of Delavan Park, Tripp Park, Troy Memorial Park, Veteran's Memorial Park, Wandewega Subdivision Park, Whitewater Creek Recreation Area, Williams Bay Beach, the Town Park and Lake Access in LaGrange, and the Boat Launch and two Subdivision parks in Bloomfield. There are 21 privately owned beaches in the County; however, these are not accessible to the general public.

Application of the per capita standards for inland swimming beaches indicates that existing publicly and privately owned beaches are adequate to serve the 1999 and the anticipated year 2020 population. Application of the recommended 10-mile service radius indicates the County is adequately served by public swimming beaches in Walworth County.

Standards for Trail Facilities

Objective No. 1 sets forth a standard for the provision by the public sector of sufficient open space lands to accommodate a system of resource-orientated recreation corridors to meet the resident demand for trail-orientated recreation activities. For the purposes of this report, recreation corridors are defined as publicly owned, continuous, linear expanses of land at least 15 miles in length which are located within scenic areas or areas of natural, cultural, or historic interest, and which provide trails marked and maintained for such activities as hiking, biking, horseback riding, nature trails, and cross-country skiing.

Objective No. 4 sets forth recommended per capita standards for the aforementioned trail activities in association with recreation corridors. While segments of potential recreation corridors currently exist in Walworth County in the Kettle Moraine State Forest and along the Turtle Creek, neither area meets the aforementioned definition. Consequently, trails for the various activities should be provided in conjunction with the acquisition and development of a public recreation corridor system. It should be noted that while recreation corridors 15 miles in length or more are most desirable, the development of trail facilities

under 15 miles should also be encouraged to meet local trail needs.

Objective No. 4 includes standards for trails within recreation corridors for hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, nature study, and ski touring. In some cases, particularly in urban areas where they are subject to more intensive use, the trail facilities may be paved. Where they are paved, the trails may also provide opportunities for rollerblading and rollerskiing, as well as opportunities for use by individuals in wheelchairs.

The standards under Objective No. 4 also contain a recommendation for the provision of trails for snowmobiling. Approximately 350 miles of designated trails exist on public lands and on private lands open to the public. This adequately serves both the existing and anticipated 2020 population. Objective No. 4 also contains a recommendation that each county have a public nature study center. A nature study center does not currently exist in Walworth County.

Standards for Lake Access Sites

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, in keeping with State Statutes which seek to assure that all Wisconsin residents have access to publicly owned inland waters, recently adopted revised rules regarding lake access. Those rules, set forth in Chapter NR 1.91 of the *Wisconsin Administrative Code*, require public boating access sites, including boat launching and parking facilities, to be provided on inland lakes, with the number of parking spaces varying depending on the size of the lake. The *Administrative Code* requires that launch facilities and at least one car-trailer parking space, and a combined total of five car-trailer and automobile parking spaces, be provided at boating access sites on lakes 50 acres to 99 acres in size. The required number of car-trailer parking spaces increases as the size of the lake increases. One additional parking space, in addition to the minimum specified in the *Administrative Code*, must also be provided for use by disabled persons. The regulations also specify a maximum number of parking spaces to be provided, which also varies according to the size of the lake, in recognition that too many boats on a lake may threaten both the safety of lake users and the environmental quality of the lake. Table 14 sets forth the requirements for public boating access for major lakes in Walworth County under the Department rules.

Public boating access fails to meet State requirements at Army Lake, Benedict Lake, Lake Como, Comus Lake,

Table 14

BOAT-ACCESS SITE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE^a FOR MAJOR LAKES IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1999

Major Lake ^b	Minimum Number of Parking Spaces	Maximum Number of Parking Spaces	Comment
Army Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Benedict Lake ^c	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Beulah Lake	24 car-trailer spaces	33 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (29 car-trailer spaces at Town of East Troy access site)
Booth Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	Eight car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (15 car-trailer spaces at Town of Troy access site)
Lake Como	27 car-trailer spaces	38 car-trailer spaces	Inadequate public access (2 car-trailer spaces at Town of Lake Geneva access site, 3 car-trailer spaces at WDNR site)
Comus Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	Eight car-trailer spaces	Inadequate public access (4 car-trailer spaces at City of Delavan access site)
Cravath Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (5 car-trailer spaces at City of Whitewater access site)
Delavan Lake	41 car-trailer spaces	69 car-trailer spaces	Inadequate public access (28 car-trailer spaces at Town of Delavan access site)
Geneva Lake	100 car-trailer spaces	167 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (216 car-trailer spaces at multiple sites)
Green Lake	10 car-trailer spaces	21 car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Lake LaGrange	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Lake Lorraine	Five car-trailer spaces	Nine car-trailer spaces	Inadequate public access (3 car-trailer spaces at Town of Richmond access site)
Lulu Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	Access requirements not applicable ^d
Middle Lake	Nine car-trailer spaces	17 car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Mill Lake	Nine car-trailer spaces	18 car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
North Lake	Six car-trailer spaces	13 car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Pell Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (6 car-trailer spaces at Town of Bloomfield access sites)
Peters Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Pleasant Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	10 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (7 car-trailer spaces at Town of LaGrange access site)
Potter Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	11 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (8 car-trailer spaces at Town of East Troy access site)
Powers Lake ^c	15 car-trailer spaces	31 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (16 car-trailer spaces at Town of Randall access site)
Rice Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	Nine car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (12 car-trailer spaces provided at WDNR access site)
Silver Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Tripp Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	Eight car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (15 car-trailer spaces provided at City of Whitewater access site)
Turtle Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	Nine car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Lake Wandawega	Five car-trailer spaces	Eight car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Whitewater Lake	18 car-trailer spaces	33 car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements

^aPublic boating access standards are set forth in Section NR 1.91 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

^bMajor lakes are those having 50 or more acres of surface area.

^cLake is partially within Walworth and Kenosha County. Boat-access site requirements apply to the total acreage of lake.

^dThe Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources typically waives access requirements for lakes associated with sensitive natural areas.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

Delavan Lake, Green Lake, Lake LaGrange, Lake Lorraine, Middle Lake, Mill Lake, North Lake, Peters Lake, Silver Lake, Turtle Lake, Lake Wandawega, and Whitewater Lake.

The *Administrative Code* also requires that public canoeing access points with parking should be provided on major streams every 10 miles. Major streams in Walworth County include Honey Creek, Turtle Creek, and the White River. Public canoe access with parking is not currently provided along these streams.

Standards for Open Space Preservation

Objective No. 6 calls for the preservation of sufficient high-quality open space lands for protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well-being and environmental quality of the County. These high-quality open space lands include primary environmental corridors, natural areas and critical species habitat sites, and prime agricultural lands. The preservation of such lands is based upon the location and composition of existing natural resources, rather than the application of development standards.

Primary environmental corridors contain many of the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas within the County. The standard under Objective No. 6 indicates that primary environmental corridors should be preserved in essentially natural, open use. Although not specifically addressed in Objective No. 6, secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas should be considered for preservation based upon local needs and concerns. While secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas may serve as an attractive setting for well-planned residential developments, they also can serve as economical drainageways, stormwater detention basins, and provide needed open space in developing urban areas.

Natural areas and critical species habitat sites contain rare, threatened, and endangered animal and plant species within the County. The standard under Objective No. 6 indicates that natural areas and critical species habitat sites should be preserved and managed to maintain their natural value.

Prime agricultural lands are lands best suited for the production of food and fiber. In addition to their agricultural value, such lands supply significant wildlife habitat. The standard under Objective No. 6

indicates that prime agricultural lands should be preserved to the extent practicable for agricultural use.

Concluding Remarks

This chapter has presented standards for park sites and recreation facilities, which were developed for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region. Demand for parkland and recreation facilities can vary from county to county, and consequently these standards should be considered minimum standards that may need to be expanded to meet the needs of Walworth County. Recognizing this, as well as the impact of nonresidents on facilities in Walworth County, the Advisory Committee indicated that consideration should be given to developing additional facilities for picnicking and camping, even though application of the standards indicates that there is no additional need for these facilities. Similarly, while the application of the standards does not indicate a need for additional swimming beaches, the Committee indicated that the plan should contain a recommendation for the County to consider the acquisition of lake property, if suitable land becomes available. This recognizes the ever increasing demand for lake access sites in Walworth County.

SUMMARY

This chapter presents a set of park and open space planning principles, objectives, and standards for Walworth County, and identifies existing and probable future park and open space needs within the County. The need for outdoor recreation sites and facilities within the County is determined by applying the standards for the size, number, and spatial distribution of public parks and outdoor recreation facilities to the anticipated future resident population levels and distribution within the County, and comparing the probable future demand for such sites and facilities, as indicated through application of the standards, to the existing supply of recreation sites and facilities. Two types of standards, per capita and accessibility standards, are used to help estimate the number and location of outdoor recreation sites and facilities needed to serve the anticipated future population of the County.

For purposes of analyzing future park site and future park facility needs, the population level anticipated under the high-growth scenario—131,600 persons—was considered. This recognizes the need to identify and reserve sufficient high-quality sites which may be required under conditions of more rapid population growth through the year 2020, as well as the need

to serve the County population beyond the year 2020. Planning for a high-growth scenario is further warranted given the significant seasonal population, which contributes to the overall demand for outdoor recreation sites and facilities in Walworth County. The findings of the recreation site and facility needs analysis are summarized below:

1. Application of the per capita standards for major park sites indicates a need for approximately 460 acres of additional park land in major park sites to serve the anticipated year 2020 population level.
2. Application of the 10-mile service radius standard indicates that the residents of the southwestern and the extreme northeastern portions of the County are not within the recommended service area of a major park.
3. Application of the standards for resource-oriented recreational facilities indicate a need for: two additional public golf courses; one public ski hill; and additional picnicking facilities at major parks.
4. Application of the standards for trails within recreation corridors indicate a need for hiking, biking, horseback riding, nature study, and ski touring trails in conjunction with the acquisition and development of a public recreation corridor system. The standard also indicates a need for a public nature study center in Walworth County.
5. Application of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources lake access standards would require that new or additional access facilities be provided at Army Lake, Benedict Lake, Lake Como, Comus Lake, Delavan Lake, Green Lake, Lake LaGrange, Lake Lorraine, Middle Lake, Mill Lake, North Lake, Peters Lake, Silver Lake, Turtle Lake, Lake Wandawega, and Whitewater Lake.
6. The County park and open space plan objectives also address open space preservation needs. The need to protect the natural resources of the County cannot be related to per capita or accessibility requirements, since the achievement of the open space preservation objective is essentially independent of a population level or distribution, but relates, rather, to the location, character, and extent of remaining natural resources. Standards under Objective No. 6 indicate that primary environmental corridors and natural areas and critical species habitat sites should be preserved for natural uses, while prime agricultural lands should be preserved for agricultural use.

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Chapter V

RECOMMENDED PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This park and open space plan for Walworth County consists of two major elements. The first is an open space preservation element which sets forth recommendations related to the protection of environmental corridors; natural areas and related resources; lands within State parks, forests, and wildlife areas and associated project boundaries; and prime agricultural land. The second element addresses the need for new County parks, park facilities, lake and river access areas and facilities, and trails.

RECOMMENDED OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ELEMENT

The open space preservation element consists of four major components. The first is the preservation of primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, and isolated natural resource areas. The preservation of natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological and archeological areas in accordance with the recommendations set forth in the regional natural areas protection and management plan¹ is the second component. The third component calls for the protection of open space lands located within established Department of Natural Resources project boundaries, which in Walworth County include Big Foot Beach State Park, the Honey Creek Wildlife Area, the Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit, the Lulu Lake State Natural Area, and the Turtle Creek

¹ Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin.

Wildlife Area. The final component calls for the protection of prime agricultural land.

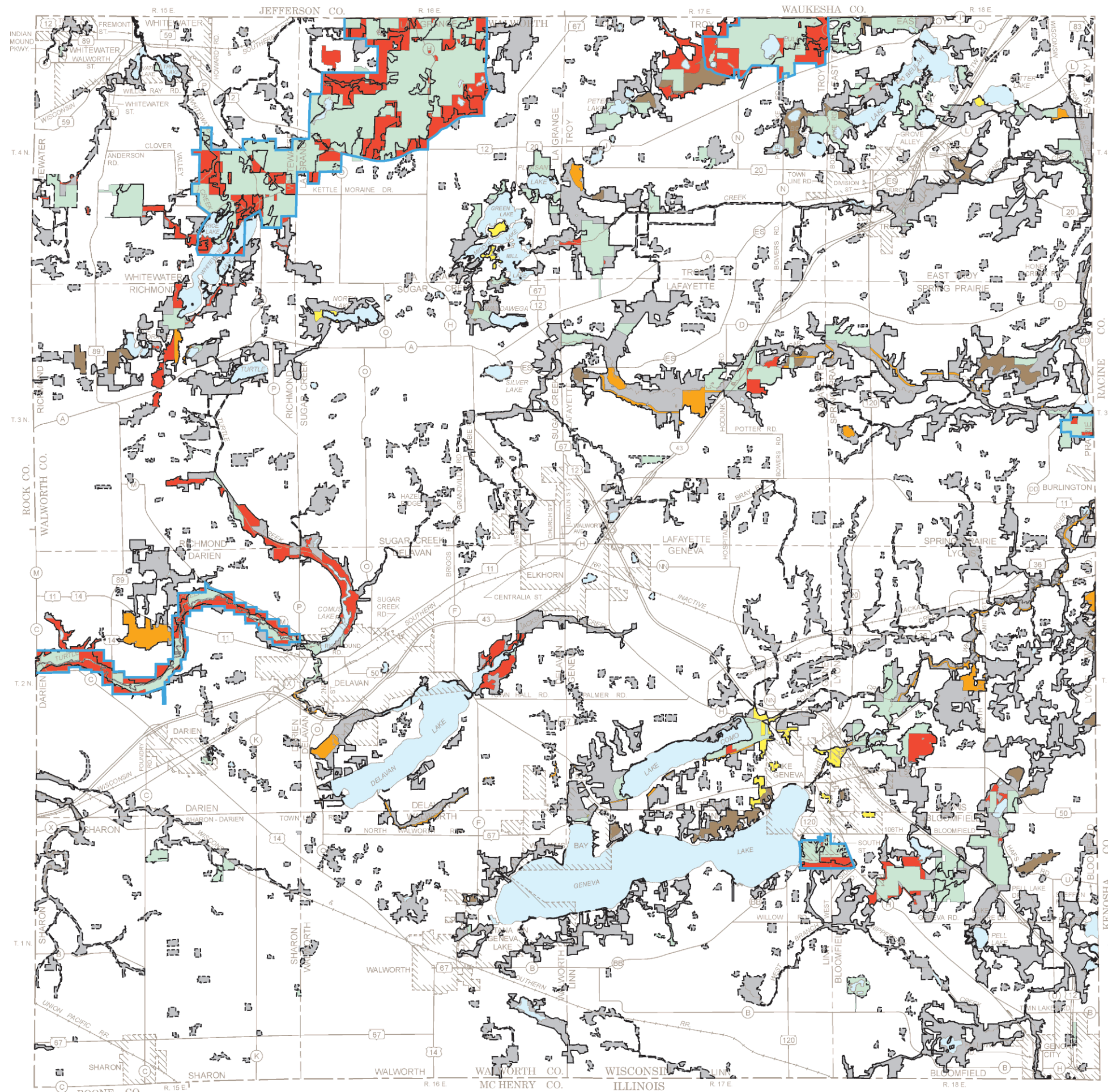
Recommended actions with respect to the preservation of open space lands, other than prime agricultural lands, are graphically summarized on Map 13. It is recommended that a total of 71,858 acres of open space lands, or about 20 percent of Walworth County, be protected through a combination of public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership² or through the application of protective zoning. These 71,858 acres include planned primary and secondary environmental corridors, planned isolated natural resource areas, and areas outside corridors but within the Department of Natural Resources project boundaries. All natural areas and critical species habitat sites recommended to be preserved are contained within the planned primary or secondary environmental corridors or the planned isolated natural resource areas.

Of the total 71,858 acres of recommended open space lands, 15,814 acres, or about 22 percent, were in public ownership, nonprofit conservation organization ownership, or in compatible private outdoor recreation uses

² Public ownership includes lands owned by a federal, state, county, or local unit of government, school districts, or lake districts. Nonprofit conservation organizations owning land in Walworth County include The Geneva Lake Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, and the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation. While not identified, lands on which nonprofit conservation organizations have secured conservation easements should also be considered protected.

Map 13

OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ELEMENT OF THE
WALWORTH COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN: 2020

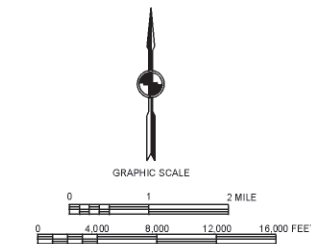


EXISTING PUBLIC INTEREST OWNERSHIP
OF OPEN SPACE LANDS

STATE, COUNTY, LOCAL, NONPROFIT CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION, LAKE OR SANITARY DISTRICT, OR COMPATIBLE PRIVATE OUTDOOR RECREATION OR OPEN SPACE SITES

PROPOSED PUBLIC INTEREST OWNERSHIP
OF OPEN SPACE LANDS

- STATE
- COUNTY
- CITY, VILLAGE, TOWN
- NONPROFIT CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION
- OPEN SPACE LANDS TO BE PROTECTED BY PUBLIC LAND USE REGULATION
- SURFACE WATER
- PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR
- SECONDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR
- ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREA
- PROJECT BOUNDARY ADOPTED BY THE WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD



Source: SEWRPC.

Table 15

**PROPOSED OWNERSHIP OF OPEN SPACE LANDS UNDER
THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR WALWORTH COUNTY^a**

Ownership	Existing ^b (acres)	Plan (acres)	Planned Change (acres)	Estimated Acquisition Cost ^c
State of Wisconsin	11,586	19,272	7,686	\$21,265,700
Walworth County	256	1,876	1,620	2,250,300 ^e
Local Government ^d	335	875	540	1,714,200
Nonprofit Conservation Organization.....	3,108	4,931	1,823	4,553,300
Compatible Private Recreation Use	529	529	0	0
Total	15,814	27,483	11,669	\$29,497,500

NOTE: Cost estimates are expressed in 1999 dollars.

^aIncludes planned primary environmental corridors, planned secondary environmental corridors, planned isolated natural resource areas, and lands within a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources project boundary. These figures do not include associated surface water areas.

^bIncludes existing ownership in 1999.

^cUnit costs used to estimate acquisition costs were \$1,000 per acre of wetlands, \$5,000 per acre of woodlands, and \$2,500 per acre of other open lands.

^dIncludes cities, villages, towns, school districts, and lake and sanitary districts.

^eDoes not include a cost for 767 acres of the 1,620 acres of corridor lands proposed to be acquired by the County. Those 767 acres are located within proposed new or expanded County parks. The costs of acquiring the 767 acres are included in the recommended park and outdoor recreation element of the plan (see Table 20).

Source: SEWRPC.

such as golf courses or camps in 1999. These areas are recommended to be preserved in current ownership or, for lands in compatible private outdoor recreation use, maintained in recreational or open space uses. It is recommended that an additional 11,669 acres, or about 16 percent of proposed open space lands, be acquired by public agencies for natural resource protection and preservation purposes or for public park or trail use. The estimated cost of acquiring such lands is about \$29.5 million. A summary of the existing and proposed public and nonprofit conservation organization ownership of open space lands, and associated acquisition costs, is presented in Table 15.

The remaining 44,375 acres of open space lands should be placed in protective zoning districts to prevent incompatible development. Such protective zoning districts include floodland, lowland conservancy and, for

upland portions of the corridor, upland conservancy which limits development to rural residential development with an overall density of no more than one dwelling unit per five acres. Existing zoning in Walworth County is generally consistent with this recommendation.

Each component of the open space preservation plan element is discussed separately below. There is considerable overlap between these components, and, accordingly, between the acreages cited in conjunction with each component. For example, all of the natural areas and critical species habitat areas identified and recommended for public interest acquisition under the natural areas plan component are also recommended for acquisition under the environmental corridor preservation plan component. The tabular summary of the open space preservation plan element (Table 15)

thus represents the composite of the environmental corridor, natural area, and DNR project area plan components, which are described individually below.

Environmental Corridor and Isolated Natural Resource Area Plan Component

Primary Environmental Corridors

The primary environmental corridors contain almost all of the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, lakes and streams, and associated shoreland and floodland areas remaining in the County. The protection of the primary environmental corridors from additional intrusion by urban development, thereby preserving such lands in natural, open uses for resource protection, scenic value, and outdoor recreation and education purposes, is one of the primary objectives of this plan. The planned extent and location of primary environmental corridors in Walworth County under the adopted 2020 regional land use plan are shown on Map 13. The permanent preservation of the primary environmental corridors in essentially natural, open space uses is most certain when the corridor lands are acquired in the public interest for resource preservation or compatible outdoor recreation uses. The following measures should be taken to protect the primary environmental corridors:

1. Primary environmental corridors that contain natural area sites or critical species habitat sites should be acquired by a public agency or nonprofit conservation organization. Map 13 sets forth recommendations relating to the organization or level of government responsible for acquiring such sites.
2. Primary environmental corridors needed to accommodate parks or trail facilities proposed under the recommended outdoor recreation plan element described later in this chapter should be acquired in public ownership. Map 13 sets forth recommendations relating to the organization or level of government responsible for acquiring such sites.
3. Primary environmental corridors that are in existing private recreational uses should be maintained in such uses.

Primary environmental corridors located outside natural area sites or critical species habitat sites, corridors which are not needed for future park or trail development, and corridors which are developed with compatible recreational uses, should be protected through appropriate zoning.

A total of 49,772 acres of land are encompassed in the planned primary environmental corridors. Map 13 depicts those primary environmental corridors which are currently in, and are recommended to remain in, public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership. Such areas currently encompass a total of 12,500 acres, or about 25 percent of planned primary environmental corridors. Additional such areas recommended for acquisition in the public interest are also shown on Map 13, and encompass a total of 8,291 acres, or about 17 percent of planned primary environmental corridors. An additional 519 acres, or about 1 percent of planned primary environmental corridors, are in compatible private recreational use. The remaining 28,462 acres of planned primary environmental corridors, or about 57 percent, are proposed to be protected through zoning.

In addition to specific recommendations above, the plan includes the following general recommendations with respect to the public acquisition of primary environmental corridors:

1. Should primary environmental corridor lands not specifically recommended for acquisition in this plan become available for acquisition and use for public open space purposes, it is recommended that the appropriate public agency consider the acquisition of such lands.
2. Those primary environmental corridor lands located within the identified urban service areas in the County not recommended for acquisition by the County or State should be acquired for park and open space purposes by the appropriate city or village park agency, as determined in local park and open space plans.
3. Should urban development not proposed or envisioned to occur under this plan threaten to destroy or degrade natural resources located within the primary environmental corridors, an appropriate public agency should consider the acquisition of, or other protective measures for, such lands for resource preservation and open space purposes.

Secondary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

It is recommended that secondary environmental corridors be considered for preservation in natural, open use, or incorporated as drainageways, stormwater detention or retention areas, or as local parks or recreation trail corridors, in developing areas. It is also recom-

mended that isolated natural resource areas be preserved in natural open uses insofar as practicable, being incorporated for use as parks and open space reservations or stormwater detention or retention areas as appropriate. This plan further recommends that all secondary environmental corridors or isolated natural resource areas containing natural area or critical species habitat sites be protected through acquisition by a public agency or nonprofit conservation organization.

A total of 8,943 acres of land are encompassed in the planned secondary environmental corridors, and 8,116 acres are encompassed in the planned isolated natural resource areas, for a combined total of 17,059 acres. Map 13 depicts those secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas which are currently in, and are recommended to remain in, public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership. Such areas currently encompass a total of 709 acres, or about 4 percent of planned secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas. An additional 11 acres, or less than 1 percent of isolated natural resource areas, are in existing compatible outdoor recreation use.

Additional secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas recommended for acquisition in the public interest are shown on Map 13. Such areas encompass a total of 428 acres, or about 3 percent of secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, including 334 acres of planned secondary environmental corridors and 94 acres of planned isolated natural resource areas.

The remaining 15,911 acres, or 93 percent, of planned secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas are not anticipated to be needed for future park or trail development, and do not encompass natural area or critical species habitat sites. These areas may be retained in private ownership, but should be placed in a zoning district that would prevent their conversion to urban use. However, should such lands be needed for local park or recreation purposes or for another public purpose, such as stormwater detention basin, it is recommended that the appropriate public agency consider the acquisition of such lands.

Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan Component

The regional natural areas protection and management plan sets forth a number of recommendations related to the preservation of identified natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and important geological and archeological sites. The plan also set forth recom-

mendations for the reestablishment of tracts of grasslands and forest interior to provide additional bird habitat areas. Pertinent recommendations from that plan have been incorporated into this park and open space plan, and are described in the following paragraphs.

As noted in Chapter II, a total of 77 natural areas were identified in Walworth County in 1994 as part of the regional natural areas management plan. Seven of the sites, encompassing about 1,745 acres, are classified as natural areas of statewide or greater significance (NA-1). An additional 12 sites, encompassing about 2,647 acres, are classified as natural areas of countywide or regional significance (NA-2). The remaining 58 sites, encompassing about 4,773 acres, are classified as natural areas of local significance (NA-3). In addition, a total of 23 critical species habitat sites, located completely or partially outside a natural area, were identified. These sites together encompassed about 1,297 acres.

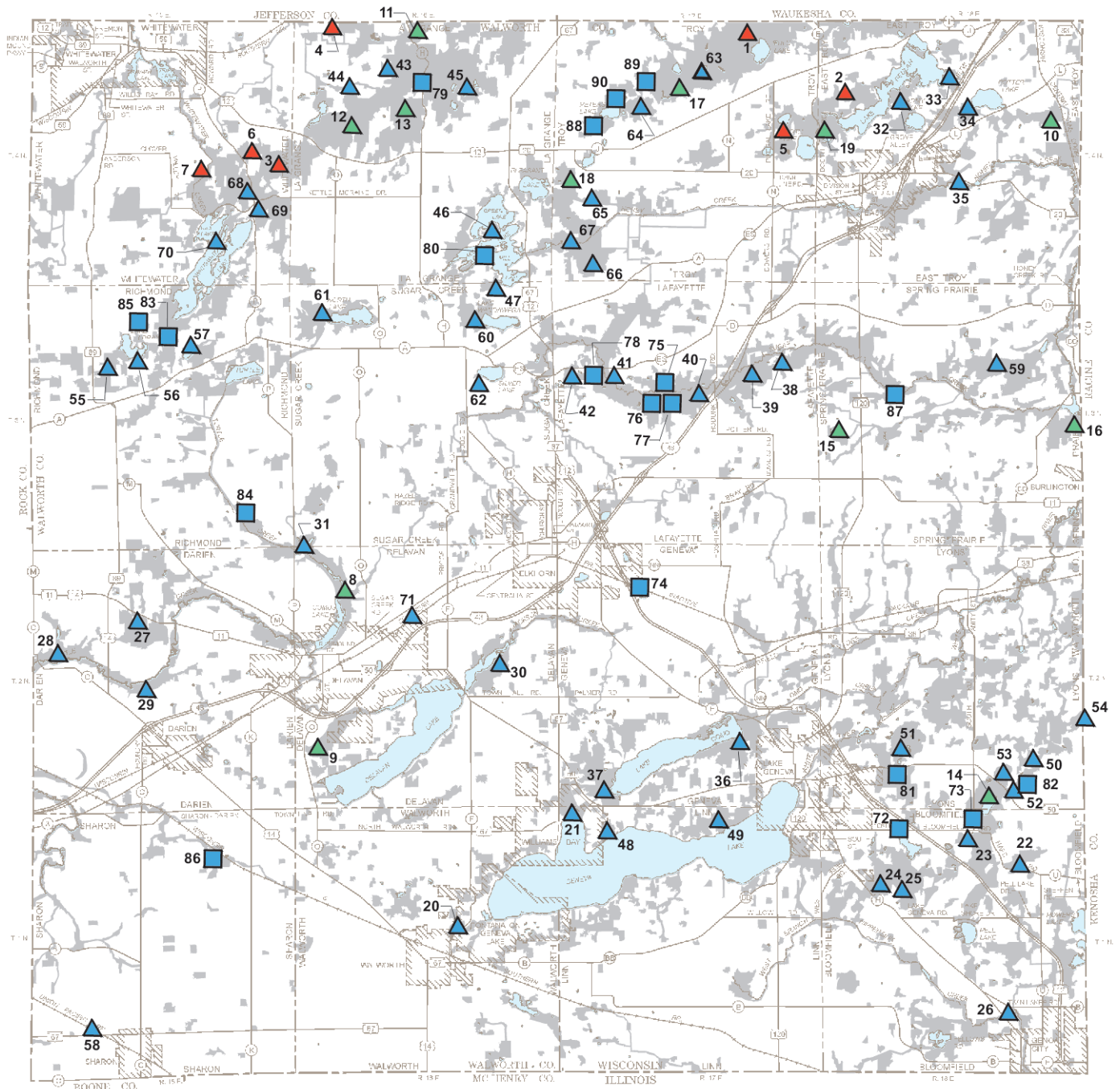
Combined, there are 100 natural areas and critical species habitat sites identified in the County, with a total area of 10,462 acres. It is recommended that 90 of these areas, which encompass 10,410 acres in 71 natural areas and 19 critical species habitat sites, be protected through ownership by public agencies or by nonprofit conservation organizations. Sites proposed to be acquired are shown on Map 14.






Natural areas and critical species habitat sites recommended to be protected through acquisition meet one of the following criteria: 1) the site lies within a primary environmental corridor; 2) the site supports rare, threatened, or endangered plant, bird, or mammal species; and 3) the site is already at least partially in public interest ownership.

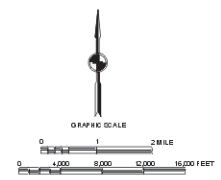
Table 16 lists each natural area site and critical species habitat site proposed to be preserved through protective ownership and the proposed acquisition agency. In all, these sites encompass 10,410 acres, including 9,138 acres within natural areas and 1,272 acres within critical species habitat sites. Of the total 10,410 acres to be preserved, about 4,910 acres, or about 47 percent, are under existing public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership. An additional 5,500 acres, or about 53 percent, are proposed for public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership or management. All of these areas are encompassed by the planned primary or secondary environmental corridor or by planned isolated natural resource areas. The cost of acquiring these areas is included in Table 15.

Map 14

NATURAL AREAS AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES IN WALWORTH COUNTY PROPOSED TO BE PROTECTED THROUGH PUBLIC ACQUISITION



-  PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR, SECONDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR, AND ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREA
-  NATURAL AREA OF STATEWIDE OR GREATER SIGNIFICANCE
-  NATURAL AREA OF COUNTYWIDE OR REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE
-  NATURAL AREA OF LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE
-  CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITE
- 18** REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 17)



Source: SEWRPC.

Table 16

PROTECTION OF NATURAL AREA AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES IN WALWORTH COUNTY

Site Identification				Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
Number on Map 14	Civil Division(s)	Name	Classification ^a	Already under Protective Ownership ^b	Proposed to be Acquired	Total	
1	Town of Eagle Town of Troy ^c	Lulu Lake and Eagle Spring Lake Wetland Complex and Adjacent Uplands	NA-1	726	244	970	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
2	Town of East Troy	Beulah Bog State Natural Area	NA-1	58	14	72	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
3	Town of LaGrange Town of Whitewater	Bluff Creek Woods	NA-1	319	19	338	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
4	Town of LaGrange	Young Prairie State Natural Area	NA-1	53	--	53	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
5	Town of Troy	Pickerel Lake Fen State Natural Area	NA-1	86	187	273	The Nature Conservancy
6	Town of Whitewater	Bluff Creek Fens	NA-1	106	--	106	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
7	Town of Whitewater	Clover Valley Fen State Natural Area	NA-1	93	19	112	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
8	Town of Delavan	Comus Lake Wetland Complex	NA-2	9	282	291	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
9	Town of Delavan	Delavan Prairie-Fen	NA-2	--	107	107	Walworth County
10	Town of East Troy	Thiede Road Tamarack Swamp	NA-2	8	40	48	Walworth County
11	Town of LaGrange	Kestol Dry Prairie	NA-2	1	--	1	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
12	Town of LaGrange	LaGrange Oak Woods	NA-2	685	13	698	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
13	Town of LaGrange	Muir Oak Woods and Duffin Road Fen	NA-2	622	42	664	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
14	Town of Lyons	Lake Ivanhoe Fen and Sedge Meadow	NA-2	58	35	93	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
15	Town of Spring Prairie	Spring Prairie Fen	NA-2	--	34	34	Walworth County
16	Town of Spring Prairie Town of Burlington	Honey Lake Marsh and Sedge Meadow	NA-2	132	259	391	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ^d
17	Town of Troy	Upper Mukwonago River Wetland Complex	NA-2	85	253	338	The Nature Conservancy
18	Town of Troy	Adams Lake Fen and Marsh	NA-2	--	65	65	Walworth County
19	Town of Troy Town of East Troy	Swan Lake Wetland Complex	NA-2	26	141	167	The Nature Conservancy
20	Village of Fontana-on-Geneva Lake	Fontana Prairie and Fen	NA-3	10	--	10	Village of Fontana-on-Geneva Lake
21	Village of Williams Bay	Williams Bay Lowlands	NA-3	8	--	8	Village of Williams Bay
22	Town of Bloomfield	Hafs Road Marsh	NA-3	93	13	106	Private conservancy organization
23	Town of Bloomfield	Lake Ivanhoe Sedge Meadow	NA-3	63	8	71	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
24	Town of Bloomfield	Bloomfield Sedge Meadow and Tamarack Relict	NA-3	129	42	171	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
25	Town of Bloomfield	Pell Lake Railroad Prairie	NA-3	--	4	4	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
26	Town of Bloomfield	Bloomfield Prairie	NA-3	--	4	4	Private conservancy organization

Table 16 (continued)

Number on Map 14	Site Identification			Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
	Civil Division(s)	Name	Classification ^a	Already under Protective Ownership ^b	Proposed to be Acquired	Total	
27	Town of Darien	Darien Oak Woods	NA-3	--	348	348	Walworth County
28	Town of Darien	Turtle Creek Sedge Meadow and Fen	NA-3	124	35	159	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ^e
29	Town of Darien	Creek Road Fen	NA-3	9	--	9	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ^e
30	Town of Delavan	Lake Lawn Wetland Complex	NA-3	35	241	276	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
31	Town of Delavan Town of Sugar Creek	CTH P Sedge Meadow	NA-3	--	18	18	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
32	Town of East Troy	Army Lake Lowlands	NA-3	9	83	92	Private conservancy organization
33	Town of East Troy	East Troy Tamaracks	NA-3	26	--	26	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
34	Town of East Troy	Potter Lake Tamaracks	NA-3	--	22	22	Potter Lake District
35	Town of East Troy	Hilburn Sedge Meadow	NA-3	--	66	66	Private conservancy organization
36	Town of Geneva	Warbler Trail Wetlands	NA-3	33	7	40	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
37	Town of Geneva	Lake Como Wetlands	NA-3	32	18	50	Lake Como Association
38	Town of Lafayette	Granzeau Woods	NA-3	--	78	78	Private conservancy organization
39	Town of Lafayette	Pallotine Maple Woods	NA-3	--	153	153	Private conservancy organization
40	Town of Lafayette	Sugar Creek Fens, Springs, and Sedge Meadow	NA-3	--	36	36	Walworth County
41	Town of Lafayette	Sugar Creek Wetlands	NA-3	--	74	74	Walworth County
42	Town of Lafayette	Abells Corners Sedge Meadow and Tamarack Relict	NA-3	--	42	42	Private conservancy organization
43	Town of LaGrange	Duffin Road Prairie	NA-3	8	--	8	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
44	Town of LaGrange	Connelly Fen	NA-3	--	2	2	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
45	Town of LaGrange	Nordic Trail Oak Woods	NA-3	277	206	483	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
46	Town of LaGrange	Island Woods	NA-3	--	46	46	Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District
47	Town of LaGrange Town of Sugar Creek	Baywood Road Sedge Meadow	NA-3	3	26	29	Private conservancy organization
48	Town of Linn	Peninsula Woods	NA-3	--	39	39	Private conservancy organization
49	Town of Geneva Town of Linn	Wychwood	NA-3	--	226	226	Private conservancy organization
50	Town of Lyons	Peterson Fen	NA-3	--	2	2	Private conservancy organization
51	Town of Lyons	Lake Geneva Tamarack Relict	NA-3	--	160	160	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
52	Town of Lyons	Ivanhoe Creek Fen	NA-3	--	32	32	Private conservancy organization

Table 16 (continued)

Number on Map 14	Site Identification			Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
	Civil Division(s)	Name	Classification ^a	Already under Protective Ownership ^b	Proposed to be Acquired	Total	
53	Town of Lyons	Cranberry Road Bog	NA-3	--	46	46	Private conservancy organization
54	Town of Lyons Town of Burlington	Tri-County Tamarack Swamp	NA-3	--	40	40	Private conservancy organization ^f
55	Town of Richmond	Lake Loraine Woods—East	NA-3	--	75	75	Private conservancy organization
56	Town of Richmond	Lake Loraine Marsh	NA-3	32	3	35	Private conservancy organization
57	Town of Richmond	Lake No. 10	NA-3	40	--	40	Private conservancy organization ^e
58	Town of Sharon	Salt Box Road Railroad Prairie	NA-3	--	12	12	Private conservancy organization
59	Town of Spring Prairie	Spring Prairie Lowlands	NA-3	--	297	297	Private conservancy organization
60	Town of Sugar Creek	Lake Wandawega Marsh	NA-3	50	32	82	Private conservancy organization
61	Town of Sugar Creek	North Lake Marsh	NA-3	61	6	67	North Lake District
62	Town of Sugar Creek	Silver Lake	NA-3	76	10	86	Private conservancy organization
63	Town of Troy	George Williams Sedge Meadow	NA-3	27	--	27	George Williams College ^g
64	Town of Troy	Doyles Lake Wetlands	NA-3	27	41	68	Private conservancy organization
65	Town of Troy	Lein's Road Fen	NA-3	--	22	22	Private conservancy organization
66	Town of Troy	Troy Fen	NA-3	11	2	13	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
67	Town of Troy	Honey Creek Fen	NA-3	--	7	7	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
68	Town of Whitewater	Lone Tree Trail Oak Woods	NA-3	204	61	265	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
69	Town of Whitewater	Whitewater Oak Woods	NA-3	187	53	240	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
70	Town of Whitewater	Rice Lake Dry Prairie	NA-3	1	--	1	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
71	Town of Delavan	Marsh Road Railroad Prairie	NA-3	4	--	4	Wisconsin Department of Transportation ^h
72	Town of Bloomfield	Section Five Marsh and Pond	CSH	--	18	18	Private conservancy organization
73	Town of Bloomfield	Swift Lake Wetland	CSH	--	10	10	Private conservancy organization
74	Town of Geneva	Elkhorn Railroad Prairie Remnant	CSH	1	--	1	Wisconsin Department of Transportation ⁱ
75	Town of Lafayette	Sugar Creek Woods—North	CSH	--	190	190	Walworth County ^j
76	Town of Lafayette	Sugar Creek Wet Woods	CSH	--	34	34	Walworth County
77	Town of Lafayette	Sugar Creek Woods—South	CSH	--	122	122	Walworth County
78	Town of Lafayette	Abells Corners Fen	CSH	--	2	2	Walworth County
79	Town of LaGrange	LaGrange Campground	CSH	200	--	200	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Table 16 (continued)

Number on Map 14	Site Identification			Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
	Civil Division(s)	Name	Classification ^a	Already under Protective Ownership ^b	Proposed to be Acquired	Total	
80	Town of LaGrange	Lauderdale Lakes Woods	CSH	--	45	45	Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District
81	Town of Lyons	Radio Station Wetland	CSH	--	30	30	Private conservancy organization
82	Town of Lyons	Peterson Property	CSH	--	50	50	Private conservancy organization
83	Town of Richmond	Lake Number 10 Open Woods	CSH	--	44	44	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
84	Town of Richmond	Island Road Shrub-Carr	CSH	--	64	64	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
85	Town of Richmond	Unnamed Wetland	CSH	20	2	22	Private conservancy organization
86	Town of Sharon	Railroad Lowland	CSH	43	17	60	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
87	Town of Spring Prairie	Hargraves Road Sedge Meadow	CSH	--	45	45	Walworth County
88	Town of Troy	Camp Timberlee	CSH	--	65	65	Private conservancy organization
89	Town of Troy	Doyles Lake Prairies	CSH	--	200	200	Private conservancy organization
90	Town of Troy	Harmony Hills Savanna	CSH	--	70	70	Private conservancy organization
--	Total	--	--	4,910	5,500	10,410	--

NOTE: This table is a refinement of the recommendations made in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, *A Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin*.

^aNA-1 identifies natural areas of statewide or greater significance, NA-2 identifies natural areas of countywide or regional significance, NA-3 identifies natural areas of local significance, and CSH identifies critical species habitat sites.

^bBased on 1994 data.

^cSite partly located in Waukesha County.

^dIncludes 250 acres in Racine County and 141 acres in Walworth County. A portion of this Natural Area site, although located within a project area approved by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board, is owned by the Nature Conservancy. It is recommended that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources work with The Nature Conservancy to assure that the balance of the Natural Area is acquired.

^eArea in existing protective ownership is surface water. It is recommended that a local conservation group assume responsibility for managing this Natural Area.

^fIncludes 25 acres in Walworth County and 15 acres in Racine County. It is recommended that this entire Natural Area be acquired by a private conservation organization.

^gThe Natural Area is located within the approved project boundary for the Lulu Lake State Natural Area, but is owned and is being managed by George Williams College. It is recommended that the College continue to manage the area in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

^hThe railway right-of-way is currently owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. It is proposed that a local conservation group enter into a cooperative agreement with the Department to manage this Natural Area.

ⁱThe railway right-of-way is currently owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. It is proposed that a local conservation group enter into a cooperative agreement with the Department to manage this Critical Species Habitat site.

^jThe 1st edition Walworth County park and open space plan recommends that 32 acres of this site be acquired for a new major County park.

Source: SEWRPC.

Reestablishment of Grasslands

In addition to setting forth recommendations for the protection of existing areas with important biological resources, the regional natural areas protection and management plan also recommends that efforts be made to reestablish relatively large tracts of grasslands and forest interiors in the Region. Reestablishment of such tracts would serve to provide additional habitat for bird populations, which have been adversely affected by loss of habitat due to development in the Region.

One site in Walworth County was identified for reestablishment of grassland habitat. The general location for this site is shown on Map 15. The specific location and actual boundaries for this site have not yet been determined. It is envisioned that the grassland habitat would eventually encompass about 1,500 acres, with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources being responsible for site acquisition and management.³ As this plan recommendation is refined and implemented, it could result in an enlargement of the primary environmental corridor in this vicinity.

Protection of Geological Areas

The inventory of geological areas identified as part of the regional natural areas protection and management plan and reported in Chapter II identified 13 sites of geological importance in the County, including four bedrock geology sites and nine glacial features. The 13 sites include two sites of statewide significance (GA-1), five sites of regional or county significance (GA-2), and six sites of local significance (GA-3).

Map 16 shows the general location of geological areas recommended to be preserved through public agency or nonprofit conservation organization acquisition. Table 17 lists each site and the proposed acquisition agency. It is recommended that 11 of the 13 geological area sites be preserved. These 11 areas include nine glacial and two bedrock sites. Together, the 11 areas encompass 10,891 acres. Of this total, 6,732 acres are within existing public ownership, with a remaining 4,159 acres, or about 38 percent proposed for acquisition by a public agency or private conservancy organization.

Recommendations relating to the acquisition of geological areas were based on the following

³ *The acreage of the proposed grassland habitat is not included in the acreage recommended for acquisition by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in this chapter.*

considerations. First, some sites overlap in whole or in part with identified natural area sites and critical species habitat sites, and would be protected and preserved under prior recommendations. Second, many geological area sites are either already in public ownership, or would be brought under public ownership upon implementation of existing State, regional, and county plans. Third, some of the sites lie within primary environmental corridors and are deserving of protection and preservation for that reason. Finally, the Kettle Moraine interlobate moraine extends over a large area and includes lands already developed for urban use. Recommended acquisition of the Kettle Moraine was limited to lands lying within established project boundaries for the Kettle Moraine State Forest, the Lulu Lake State Natural Area, and the Turtle Creek State Wildlife Area.

Archeological Sites

The inventory of significant archeological areas completed as part of the regional natural areas protection and management plan identified two such sites in Walworth County, the Maples Mound Group and the Mile Long, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Maples Mound Group is an effigy mound group located in the City of Whitewater. The Mile Long, located in the City of Delavan, is a prehistoric multi-component campsite and village.

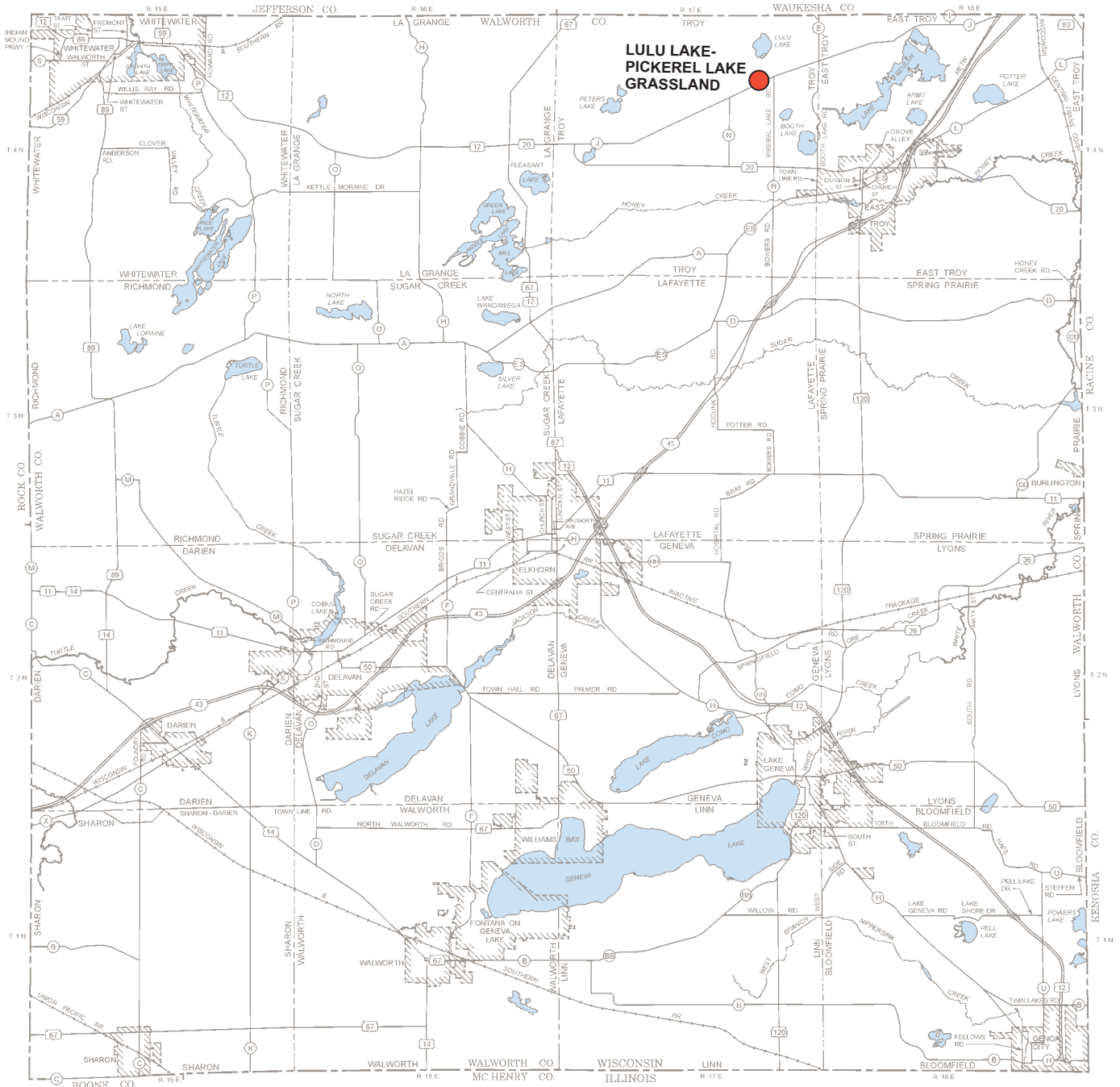
Under the plan, these two sites would be protected and preserved to the maximum extent practicable, without public-interest acquisition, relying largely on protection afforded to National Register sites under Federal and State law and on county and local planning and zoning. Neither site lies within a Natural Area, a Critical Species Habitat site, or a designated Geological Area.

Department of Natural Resources Site Plan Component

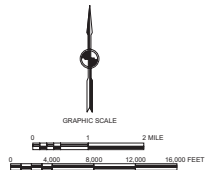
The open space preservation element of this plan includes lands which have been acquired or which are proposed to be acquired by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, within the project boundaries of the Big Foot Beach State Park, the Honey Creek Wildlife Area, the Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit, the Lulu Lake State Natural Area, and the Turtle Creek Wildlife Area. Project boundaries for each of these areas have been approved by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board and are reflected on Map 13. It is recommended that the Department continue to acquire additional land within the approved project boundaries for open space or outdoor recreation

Map 15

LOCATION OF RECOMMENDED SITE TO REESTABLISH GRASSLAND HABITAT IN WALWORTH COUNTY



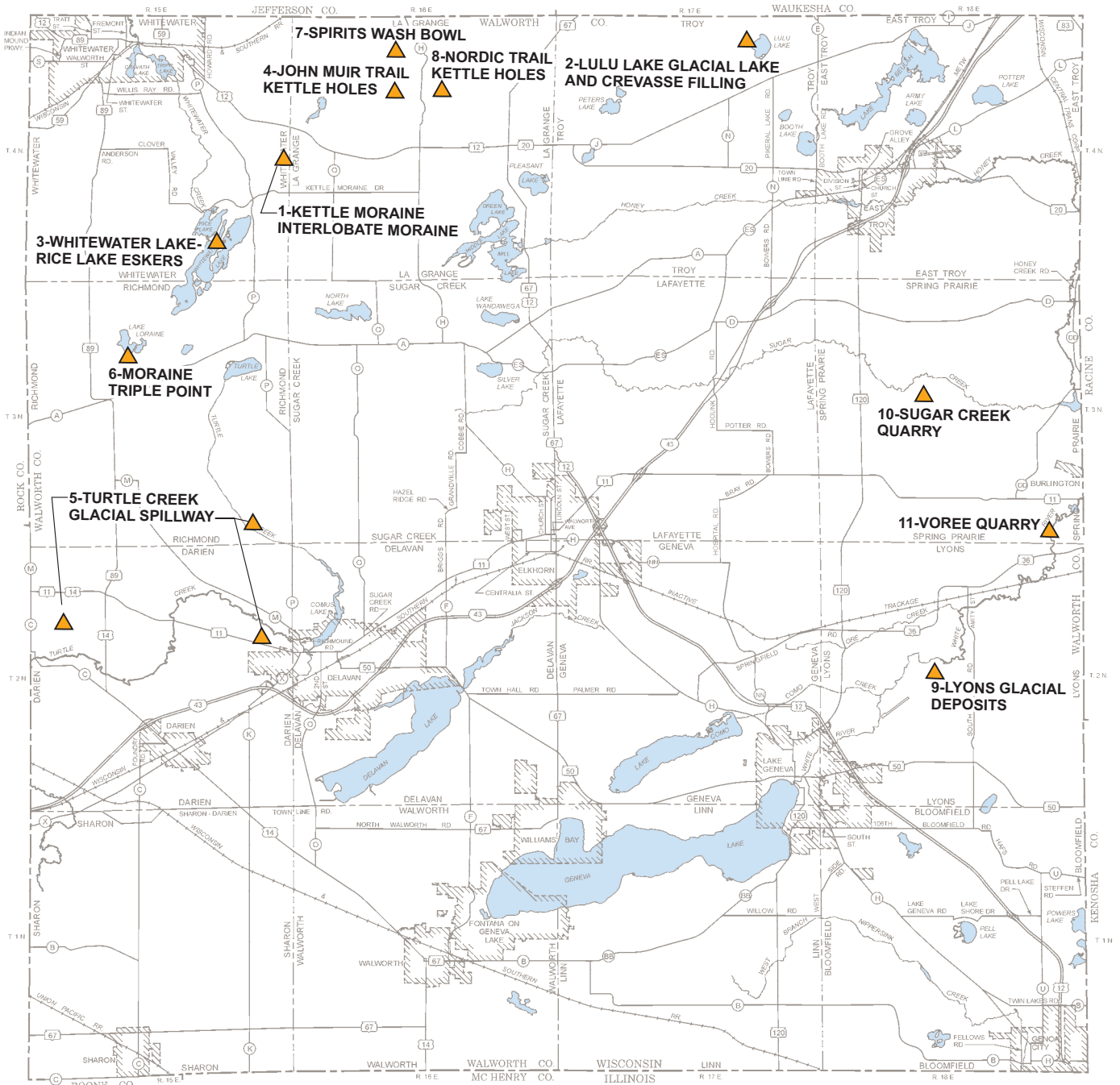
 GRASSLAND HABITAT SITE



Source: SEWRPC.

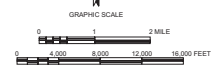
Map 16

RECOMMENDED ACQUISITION AND OWNERSHIP OF
SELECTED GEOLOGICAL AREAS IN WALWORTH COUNTY



 GEOLOGICAL AREA SITE PROPOSED TO BE ACQUIRED FOR PROTECTIVE OWNERSHIP

1 REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 17)



Source: SEWRPC.

Table 17

GEOLOGICAL AREAS IN WALWORTH COUNTY RECOMMENDED TO BE FULLY OR SUBSTANTIALLY PRESERVED THROUGH ACQUISITION

Type of Geological Area	Site Identification				Total Site Area (acres)	Portion of Area to Be Acquired For Protective Ownership	Responsible Agency	Remarks
	Civil Division	Name	Geological Area Class	Number on Map 16				
Glacial	Town of LaGrange Town of Whitewater	Kettle Moraine Interlobate Moraine	GA-1	1	7,138 ^a	1,503 ^a	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	The entire site is within the established project boundary of the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. This area contains four Natural Areas of statewide or greater significance (609 acres), two Natural Areas of countywide or regional significance (1,362 acres), six Natural Areas of local significance (999 acres), and one Critical Species Habitat site (200 acres), for a total of 3,170 acres within such sites
	Town of Troy	Lulu Lake Glacial Lake and Crevasse Filling	GA-1	2	103	--	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	The entire site is within a Natural Area of statewide or greater significance, is in existing state ownership, and is within the Lulu Lake State Natural Area project boundary
	Town of Whitewater	Whitewater Lake-Rice Lake Eskers ^b	GA-2	3	175	62	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	About 175 acres, or 92 percent, of this 191-acre site are within the established project boundary of the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. About 113 acres, or 59 percent, are in existing State ownership
	Town of LaGrange	John Muir Trail Kettle Holes ^b	GA-2	4	28	--	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	The entire site is within the established project boundary of the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest and is in existing State ownership. The entire site is located within a Natural Area of countywide or regional significance
	Town of Darien Town of Richmond	Turtle Creek Glacial Spillway	GA-3	5	2,540	1,710	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	A portion of this site, about 1,745 acres, or 30 percent, is located within the established project boundary of the Turtle Creek State Wildlife Area. About 730 acres, or 12 percent, of the site is within existing Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ownership as part of the Wildlife Area. An additional 100 acres, or about 2 percent of the site, are owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation as part of a wetland mitigation project. That portion of the site outside existing State ownership contains one Natural Area of countywide or regional significance, one Natural Area of local significance, and one Critical Species Habitat site encompassing 373 acres, all of which are to be acquired for protective ownership

Table 17 (continued)

Type of Geological Area	Site Identification				Total Site Area (acres)	Portion of Area to Be Acquired for Protective Ownership	Responsible Agency	Remarks
	Civil Division	Name	Geological Area Class	Number on Map 16				
Glacial	Town of Richmond	Moraine Triple Point	GA-3	6	218	218	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	About 44 acres, or 13 percent, of this site are within an identified Critical Species Habitat site proposed to be acquired for protective ownership. An additional 174 acres are proposed to be acquired as trail corridor in the adopted Walworth County park and open space plan
	Town of LaGrange	Spirits Wash Bowl ^b	GA-3	7	1	--	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	This area is within existing public ownership as part of the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, and is located within a Natural Area of countywide or regional significance
	Town of LaGrange	Nordic Trail Kettle Holes ^b	GA-3	8	32	10	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	This area is within the established project boundary of the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. About 22 acres, or 69 percent of the area, are in existing State ownership. The site is within a Natural Area of local significance
	Town of Lyons Town of Burlington (Racine County)	Lyons Glacial Deposits	GA-3	9	637	637	Private conservancy organization	About 637 acres, or 16 percent, of this area are within an identified Natural Area of local significance proposed to be acquired by a private conservancy organization
Bedrock	Town of Spring Prairie	Sugar Creek Quarry	GA-2	10	3	3	Walworth County	The entire area is located within the Sugar Creek Parkway recommended for acquisition in the County park plan
	Town of Spring Prairie	Voree Quarry	GA-3	11	16	16	Private conservancy organization	--
Total	--	--	--	--	10,891	4,159	--	--

^aIncludes the area within the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest within Walworth County.

^bThis Geological Area lies within that portion of the Kettle Moraine Interlobate Moraine Geological Area proposed to be acquired for protective ownership.

Source: SEWRPC.

purposes. Currently, the Department owns about 2,054 acres outside planned primary or secondary environmental corridors or isolated natural resource areas, but within the approved project boundaries. An additional 2,865 acres of such areas are proposed to be acquired.

It should be noted that four natural areas are located partially within or adjacent to existing State project boundaries. These sites are listed on Table 18, and encompass about 65 acres. It is recommended that the Department of Natural Resources consider expanding

Table 18

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONS TO WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PROJECT BOUNDARIES

Number on Map 14	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Project	Location	Area (acres)	Comment ^a
1	Lulu Lake State Natural Area	T4N, R17E Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 Town of Troy	35 ^b	Expansion is recommended to include that portion of the Lulu Lake and Eagle Spring Lake Wetland Complex and Adjacent Uplands (NA-1) which currently lies partially outside the existing project boundary
7	Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit	T4N, R15E Sections 22, 27 Town of Whitewater	3 ^c	Expansion is recommended to include that portion of the Clover Valley Fen (NA-1) which currently lies partially outside the existing project boundary
69	Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit	T4N, R15E Section 25 Town of Whitewater	16 ^d	Expansion is recommended to include that portion of the Whitewater Oak Woods (NA-3) which currently lies partially outside the existing project boundary
28	Turtle Creek Wildlife Area	T2N, R15E Sections 17, 18 Town of Darien	11 ^e	Expansion is recommended to include that portion of the Turtle Creek Sedge Meadow and Fen (NA-3) which currently lies partially outside the existing project boundary
Total	--	--	65	--

^aNA-1 identifies a Natural Area of statewide or greater significance, NA-2 identifies a Natural Area of countywide or regional significance, and NA-3 identifies a Natural Area of local significance.

^bAn additional 935 acres of the natural area are located within the existing project boundary. The natural area is about 970 acres in total.

^cAn additional 109 acres of the natural area are located within the existing project boundary. The natural area is about 112 acres in total.

^dAn additional 224 acres of the natural area are located within the existing project boundary. The natural area is about 240 acres in total.

^eAn additional 148 acres of the natural area are located within the existing project boundary. The natural area is about 159 acres in total.

Source: SEWRPC.

existing project boundaries to include these sites when the master plans for the applicable State forest units and wildlife areas are updated. In cases where the natural areas are located within a larger primary environmental corridor, the Department should consider including the entire primary corridor within the project boundary.

Prime Agricultural Land Plan Component

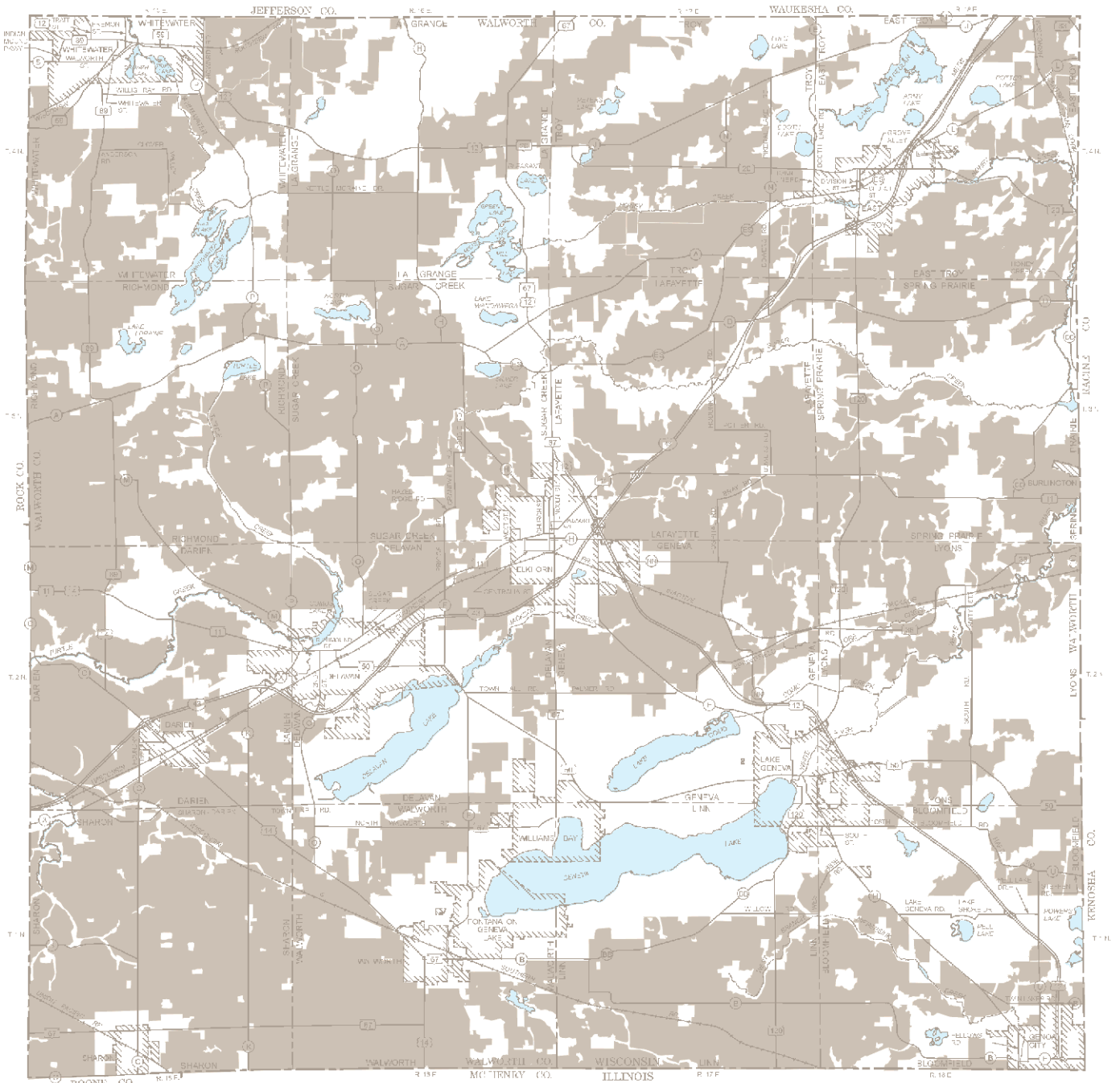
Under this plan, it is recommended that Walworth County and local units of government protect existing prime agricultural lands. Specifically, it is recommended that all prime agricultural lands identified in the Walworth County development plan be maintained in agricultural use. Prime agricultural lands recommended to be preserved are shown on Map 17, and encompass about 304 square miles, or about 53 percent of the County.



Prime agricultural lands should be placed in an exclusive agricultural zoning district to help assure their protection. The exclusive agricultural zoning district should specify a minimum parcel size of 35 acres for a residence or farm operation and prohibit structures or improvements on the land unrelated to agricultural use.

Planning for the preservation of agricultural lands and protection of such lands through zoning received impetus in 1977 with the passage of the Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Program, a program that combines planning and zoning provisions with tax incentives for the purpose of ensuring the preservation of farmland. The program is intended to help counties and local units of government preserve farmland through local plans and zoning and to provide tax relief,

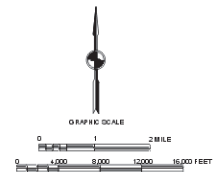
Map 17

PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 2020



-  PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS
-  SURFACE WATER

Source: SEWRPC.



in the form of State income-tax credits, to farmland owners who participate in the program.

It is important to note that the exclusive agricultural zoning required as a condition for receipt of tax credits under the Farmland Preservation Program does not ensure the preservation of land held by participating farmers. Landowners can petition the concerned county or local unit of government for a change in zoning to accommodate development, although those who have claimed a tax credit would be liable to pay back at least a portion of the credits. Thus, even with the Farmland Preservation Program, the effectiveness of preserving farmland through exclusive agricultural zoning is dependent upon the level of commitment of the county and local units of government to such zoning.

In 1995, the Wisconsin Legislature took an additional action to lessen the property tax burden on farmers by mandating the “use-value” assessment of agricultural land. Under this system, agricultural land will be assessed based solely on its value for farming, without regard for its development potential. The legislation froze the assessed value of agricultural land at 1995 levels through 1997, and provided for a phased reduction to “use” values over a ten-year period. In 1999, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue adopted an emergency rule which fully implements use-value assessments beginning in 2000.

Under the 1995 legislation, agricultural land will be assessed at use-value, regardless of existing zoning. Landowners who sell their land after owning the land for less than five years will be required to pay a modest penalty to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, an amount equal to five percent of the difference between the sale price and the use-value during the last year of ownership. Thus, while the new program may be expected to provide substantial property tax relief to owners of farmland, it will do so without attaching any additional restrictions to the land, so that there is no guarantee that the land will not be converted to urban use.

RECOMMENDED PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION ELEMENT

The outdoor recreation sites and trail facilities recommended under the County park and open space plan are shown on Map 18. The sites and facilities proposed to be provided include major parks and resource-oriented recreational facilities, trails, and boat access facilities. The recommended recreation sites and

facilities are intended to meet the need for such sites and facilities in the County through the year 2020, as identified in Chapter IV. A description of the recommended sites and facilities follows.

Major Parks

Under the park and open space plan for Walworth County, six major parks would be provided. Of the six major parks, four are existing parks and two would be new parks to be acquired and developed by Walworth County. The four existing major parks are: Big Foot Beach State Park and Whitewater Lake Recreation Area, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and Price Conservancy and Natureland Park, owned by Walworth County.

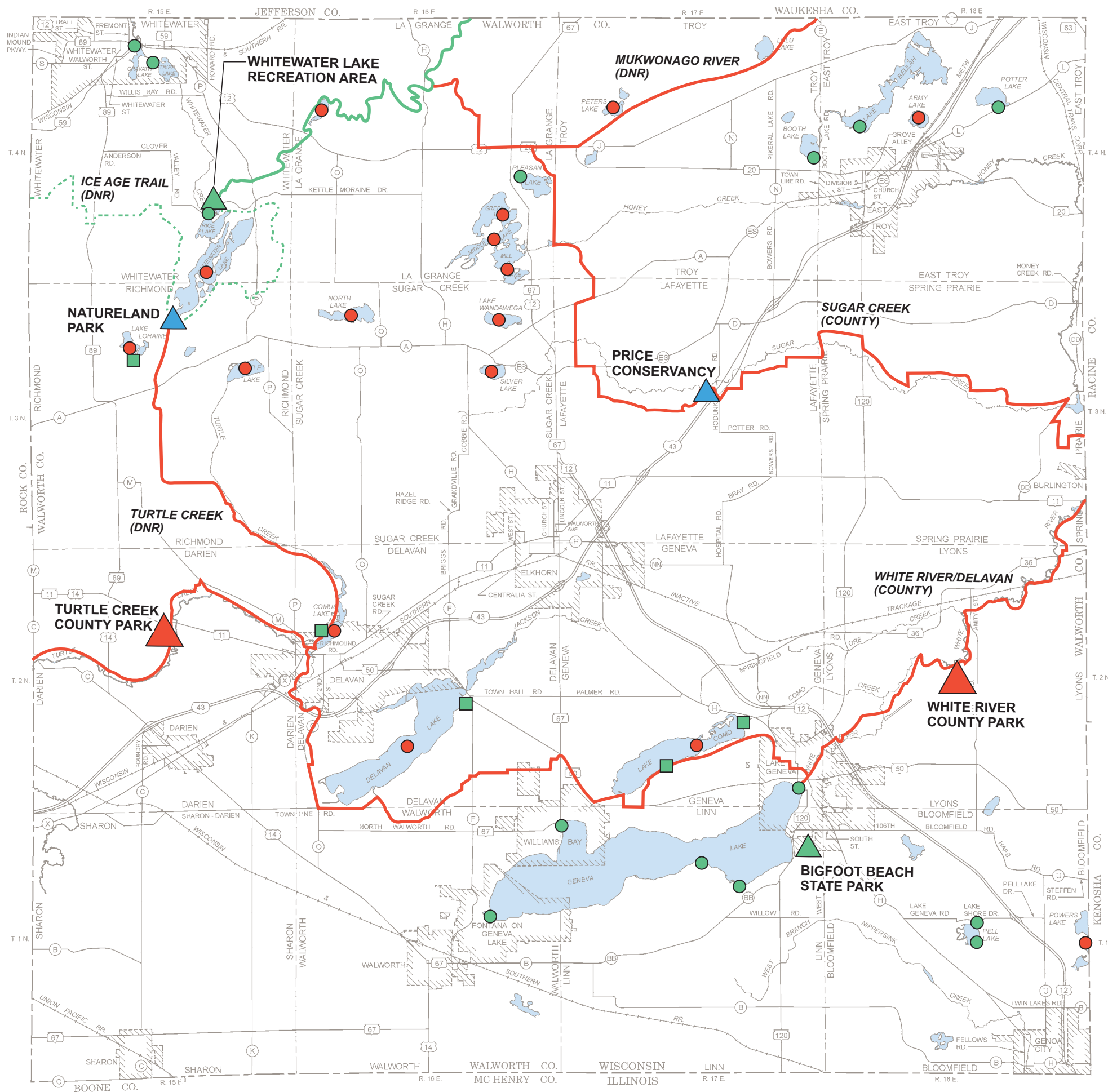
Under this plan, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources would maintain Whitewater Lake Recreation area and would continue to acquire lands at Big Foot Beach State Park. Walworth County would be responsible for the provision of two new major parks in the County. These two major parks would be acquired and developed by the County, including a 375-acre park in the western portion of the County along the Turtle Creek, and a 220-acre park in the eastern portion of the County along the White River. The County would continue to acquire lands at Price Conservancy and Natureland Park.

Major recommendations for outdoor recreational facilities at the County parks include the development of a nature study center at Price Conservancy; the development of family camping facilities at the proposed Turtle Creek and White River County parks; and the development of formal picnic areas at the Price Conservancy, Natureland Park, and the proposed Turtle Creek and White River County parks.

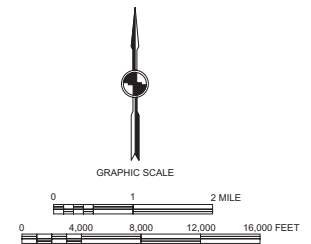
In addition, the application of the per capita and accessibility standards for golf courses as described in Chapter IV identified the need for additional public golf course facilities in the County. The County should consider providing additional public golf course facilities in the County through acquisition of an existing private site should one become available. The needs analysis in Chapter IV also identified the need for one public ski hill based on per capita and accessibility standards for ski areas. Consequently, the development of a ski hill at a public park site should be considered at the White River County park.

Map 18

**OUTDOOR RECREATION ELEMENT OF THE
WALWORTH COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN: 2020**



- MAJOR PARKS**
- STATE (Green triangle)
 - COUNTY (Blue triangle)
 - PROPOSED COUNTY (Red triangle)
- RECREATION CORRIDORS**
- EXISTING ICE AGE TRAIL (Solid green line)
 - PROPOSED ICE AGE TRAIL (Dashed green line)
 - PROPOSED RECREATION TRAIL (Solid red line)
- BOAT ACCESS FACILITIES**
- EXISTING FACILITY MEETING DNR STANDARDS (Green circle)
 - EXISTING FACILITY NOT MEETING DNR STANDARDS (Light green circle)
 - LAKE NEEDING NEW OR EXPANDED FACILITY (Red circle)



Source: SEWRPC.

Specific recommendations for each of the major parks are presented below. With respect to the two proposed new County park sites, the red triangle on the plan map indicates a need for additional park lands in the area so designated and further indicates that the site so designated is suitable for development as a park. The location of the triangle represents a general site location and should not be construed as definitive. There may be other sites in the area that are also suitable for development as a park. The actual acquisition of each proposed site should be accomplished through negotiations between a “willing buyer” and a “willing seller”; that is, between the County and the property owner.

- **Price Conservancy**

Price Conservancy, an undeveloped park located in the Town of Lafayette, presently consists of 116 acres. Under the plan, it is recommended that the County acquire an additional 189 acres and provide the following facilities: picnic areas with necessary support facilities, a nature center, and trail and stream access facilities along the proposed Sugar Creek recreation corridor.

- **Natureland Park**

Natureland Park presently consists of 122 acres, and is located in the Town of Richmond along Whitewater Lake. The plan recommends that the County acquire an additional 158 acres and provide picnic areas and necessary support facilities. Natureland Park would also provide the trail connection between the proposed Ice Age Trail and proposed Turtle Creek recreation corridor trail described later in this chapter.

- **Proposed Turtle Creek County Park**

Under the plan, it is recommended that the County acquire a new park site along Turtle Creek in the western portion of the County. It is recommended that about 375 acres of land be acquired. Proposed facility development at this site includes family camping facilities, picnic areas and necessary support facilities. This site would also include trail and canoe access facilities along the proposed Turtle Creek recreation corridor.

- **Proposed White River County Park**

Under the plan, it is recommended that the County acquire a new park site along the White River, in the eastern portion of the County. It is recommended that about 220 acres of land be acquired and that the site include family camping facilities, picnicking and necessary support

facilities, and stream access. This site would be located along the proposed White River/Delavan recreation corridor, with a portion of the related trail traversing the site.

- **Big Foot Beach State Park**

Big Foot Beach State Park, located in the southeastern portion of Walworth County, presently consists of 272 acres. Under the plan, it is recommended that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources acquire an additional 57 acres. Additional facilities for resource-orientated outdoor recreation facilities would be provided as needed.

- **Whitewater Lake Recreation Area**

Whitewater Lake Recreation Area, located in the Town of Whitewater, presently consists of 75 acres. Under this plan, it is recommended that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources continue to maintain and provide additional facilities for resource-orientated outdoor recreation facilities as needed.

Acquisition and Development Costs—County Parks

The acquisition and development costs related to the four major County-owned parks envisioned under the plan are presented in Table 19. As indicated in Table 19, such costs are estimated at about \$4.7 million. Of this amount, about \$3.8 million, or about 83 percent, would be required for the acquisition of additional park lands; and about \$ 0.9 million, or about 17 percent, would be required for development of those lands.

Areawide Recreation Trails

Under the recommended plan, about 111 miles of recreation trails would be provided to enable participation in such activities as bicycling, hiking, nature study, and ski touring. The recommended trails, which are shown on Map 18, are part of a larger, region-wide trail system. The recommended trail system within Walworth County is comprised of five trails, including 11 miles of existing trails and 100 miles of proposed new trails. The trail locations shown on Map 18 are general in nature and are subject to refinement based on detailed facility planning and on negotiations with landowners to purchase land for the trails.

Of the recommended 111-mile trail system within Walworth County, about 57 miles, or about 53 percent, would be provided by Walworth County as part of the following trails: the Sugar Creek Corridor, which would connect with the Honey Creek Wildlife Area in Racine

Table 19

**ESTIMATED ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS FOR
COUNTY PARKS AS SET FORTH BY THE RECOMMENDED PARK PLAN**

County Park	Proposed Acquisition (acres)	Acquisition Cost	Proposed Facility Development	Development Cost	Total Cost
Major Parks					
Price Conservancy	189	\$ 699,000	Picnicking Nature center Canoe access General development ^a	\$ 25,000 400,000 15,000 59,000	\$1,198,000
Natureland Park	158	563,000	Picnicking Construct nature trails	25,000 9,000	597,000
Proposed Park Turtle Creek County Park	375	1,700,000	Picnicking Canoe access Family camping facilities General development ^a	25,000 15,000 100,000 59,000	1,899,000
Proposed Park White River County Park	220	831,000	Picnicking Canoe access Family camping facilities General development ^a	25,000 15,000 100,000 59,000	1,030,000
Subtotal – 4 Sites	942	\$3,793,000	--	\$ 931,000	\$4,724,000
Trails					
Sugar Creek Recreation Corridor	-- ^b	-- ^b	27 miles of trails	\$1,426,000	\$1,426,000
White River Recreation Corridor	-- ^b	-- ^b	30 miles of trails	1,609,000	1,609,000
Subtotal - 2 Corridors	--	--	--	3,035,000	3,035,000
Total	942	\$3,793,000	--	\$3,966,000	\$7,759,000

NOTE: Cost estimates are expressed in 1999 dollars.

^aGeneral development includes landscaping, parking areas and access drives, trails, and such furnishings as benches, waste containers, and signs.

^bThe Sugar Creek and White River recreation corridors are generally proposed to be developed within primary environmental corridor lands. The cost for acquiring such lands is included in Table 16.

Source: SEWRPC.

County on the east and with the Ice Age corridor in Walworth County on the west; and the White River/Delavan Corridor, which would connect with the Fox River recreation corridor in Racine County on the east and with the Turtle Creek Corridor on the west.

The Department of Natural Resources would be responsible for about 54 miles (including 11 existing miles) or about 47 percent of the recommended trail system, including: a segment of the Ice Age trail, which would connect with the Ice Age trail segments in Jefferson and Waukesha Counties on the north and with Rock County on the west; the Mukwonago River corridor, which would connect with the Mukwonago River corridor in Waukesha County; and the Turtle

Creek Corridor, which would connect with the Ice Age corridor on the north and could be extended along the Turtle Creek in Rock County on the west.

It is recommended that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Ice Age Trail and Park Foundation continue efforts to complete that portion of the Ice Age Trail within Walworth County. At the end of 1999, 11 miles of the planned 25-mile length of trail within the County had been completed. The trail is located in the Kettle Moraine area in the northwestern portion of Walworth County, and connects with the Ice Age Trail in Jefferson and Waukesha County. The trail provides opportunities for hiking and ski-touring. Biking is not permitted on the trail.

The development of 100 miles of trails in the Sugar Creek, Ice Age trail, Mukwonago River, Turtle Creek and White River/Delavan corridors within the County is estimated to cost about \$5.2 million; with Walworth County responsible for approximately \$3 million; and the Department of Natural Resources and the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation responsible for about \$2.2 million.

Lake and River Access

Boat access sites, both public and nonpublic, provide opportunities for individuals who do not own land contiguous to a body of water to participate in such water-related recreation activities as motor boating, waterskiing, fishing, and canoeing. The regional park and open space plan recommends that rivers and major lakes—lakes with a surface area of 50 acres or more—be provided with adequate public boat access consistent with safe and enjoyable participation in various boating activities. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, in keeping with State Statutes and regulations which seek to assure that all Wisconsin residents have access to publicly owned inland waters, recently adopted revised rules regarding lake access, and surveyed all the major lakes in the State to determine if adequate public access to each was provided and maintained. Table 14 in Chapter IV lists the major lakes in the County and indicates whether or not public access is provided which meets Department requirements. As indicated in the table, in 1999, the following major lakes in Walworth County had inadequate or no access provided which met Department standards: Army Lake; Benedict Lake; Lake Como; Comus Lake; Delavan Lake; Green Lake; Lake LaGrange; Lake Lorraine; Middle Lake; Mill Lake; North Lake; Peters Lake; Silver Lake; Turtle Lake; Lake Wandawega; and Whitewater Lake. Under this plan, then, as shown on Map 18, it is recommended that public boat access sites at the aforementioned lakes be expanded or acquired and developed as appropriate by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The total estimated acquisition and development cost for the recommended lake access sites is about \$4.0 million.

It is recommended that public canoe access points with parking should be provided on major streams every 10 miles in Walworth County. Major streams in Walworth County include Honey Creek, Turtle Creek, and the White River. Public canoe access with parking is not currently provided along these streams, but is recommended in the plan in the development of the

Price Conservancy, Turtle Creek and White River park sites.

In addition to boating and canoeing, the County park plan recognizes the popularity of such activities as beach swimming, shore fishing, and other lake-orientated activities and the need for general public access to lakeshore areas for such pursuits. Undeveloped lakeshore areas capable of accommodating outdoor recreational use have become increasingly scarce in Walworth County, given their desirability for development as homesites. As lakeshore property becomes available in the years ahead, Walworth County should evaluate their recreational potential and consider their acquisition for public recreational use as appropriate.

Local Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan Element

In addition to meeting resource-oriented outdoor recreation needs, a park plan must seek to provide sites and facilities for nonresource-oriented activities, such as baseball, tennis, and playground activities. In comparison to the resource-oriented outdoor recreation sites and facilities, sites and facilities for non-resource-oriented activities rely less heavily on natural resource amenities; generally meet a greater need in urban than rural areas; and have a relatively small service radius. For these reasons, responsibility for providing such sites and facilities generally rests with city, village, and town governments.

Within urban areas of the County, it is recommended that a full range of community and neighborhood park sites and facilities be provided. Recommendations for the provision of local park sites and facilities should be identified through the preparation and adoption of local park and open space plans. As of the end of 1999, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, which certifies local park and open space plans for purposes of reviewing applications for state Stewardship Fund and other recreational grant programs, had certified local park and open space plans for the Cities of Delavan, Lake Geneva, and Whitewater, the Villages of Walworth and Williams Bay, and the Town of East Troy.

Within the rural areas of the County, it is generally recommended that one town-owned park and associated outdoor recreation facilities be provided in each town to serve the needs of town residents for local civic events and for organized recreational activities, such as softball and picnicking. As the community recreational

facility, the town park should be located in conjunction with another community facility that serves as a focal point for town residents, such as a town hall, school, or fire station. Towns which currently lack park and outdoor recreation facilities should have the opportunity to acquire and develop, with available Federal and State grant-in-aid support, one town park and associated recreation facilities.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The recommended park and open space plan for Walworth County consists of an outdoor recreation element providing recommendations for parks and other outdoor recreation sites and facilities, and an open space preservation element providing recommendations for the protection of important natural resources. The recommended plan described in the preceding sections of this chapter provides a design for the attainment of the park acquisition and development objectives and the open space preservation objectives presented in Appendix C of this report. In a practical sense, however, the recommended park and open space plan for the County is not complete until the steps required to implement the plan have been specified. This section is intended to serve as a guide for use in the implementation of the recommended plan, including a description of those actions required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and by Walworth County. Also included is a description of the acquisition and development costs and priorities associated with the implementation of the recommended plan.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has authority and responsibility for park development, natural resource protection, water quality control, and water use regulations. Because of this broad range of authority and responsibility, certain Department functions have particular importance in the implementation of the County park and open space plan. The Department has the obligation to prepare comprehensive statewide conservation and water resource plans; the authority to protect, develop, and regulate the use of state parks, forests, fish and game, lakes and streams, certain plant life, and other resources; and the authority to acquire conservation and scenic easements. The Department also has the obligation to establish standards for floodplain and shoreland zoning and the authority to adopt, in the absence of satisfactory local actions, shoreland and floodplain zoning ordinances. The Department also has the authority to administer the Federal grant program known as the Land and Water

Conservation (LAWCON) Fund program within the State, and administers the State Stewardship Fund, which provides funding for county and local park and open space land acquisition and development.

It is important that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources: 1) approve and certify the Walworth County park and open space plan in order to maintain the eligibility of the County to receive available State and Federal outdoor recreation grants in support of plan implementation; 2) use available regulatory authority to guide urban development in a way that protects important natural resources; 3) be directly responsible for the maintenance of existing State-owned recreation and open space sites in the County; 4) be responsible for the acquisition and development of lands within established State project boundaries in the County; 5) be responsible for the acquisition of resource preservation sites, including natural areas and critical species habitat sites as recommended in this plan; 6) be responsible for the acquisition and development of boat access sites; 7) be responsible for the acquisition and development, in cooperation with the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation, of the Ice Age Trail; and 8) be responsible for the acquisition and development of the Turtle Creek recreation corridor. A summary of the costs associated with recommendations directed to the Department is included in Table 20.

It should be noted that in 2000 the Department was conducting a Turtle Valley Wildlife Area Feasibility Study relating to a proposed State project area. The proposed project area includes lands along the Turtle Creek in the Town of Richmond as well as adjacent farmlands in the Towns of Richmond and Sugar Creek which include a Wisconsin Department of Transportation wetland mitigation site and property that is enrolled in the 30-year federal Wetland Reserve Program. This project area, when refined and detailed, will facilitate the implementation of the County park and open space plan as it relates to the Turtle Creek recreation corridor.

Walworth County

The authority and responsibility for the provision of areawide resource-oriented park and open space sites and facilities in the County rests primarily with the Walworth County Transportation and Parks Committee and the County Board of Supervisors. A summary of the park acquisition and development and open space preservation recommendations for the County is also included in Table 20.

Table 20

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED OWNERSHIP OF PARK AND OPEN SPACE LAND AND ESTIMATED ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS UNDER THE RECOMMENDED WALWORTH COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Ownership	Planned Open Space Acquisition		Planned Park Land Acquisition		Total Planned Acquisition		Development Cost	Total Acquisition and Development Cost
	Area (acres)	Cost	Area (acres)	Cost	Area (acres)	Cost		
State of Wisconsin	7,686	\$21,265,700	--	--	7,686	\$21,265,700	\$2,173,100	\$23,438,800
Walworth County	853	2,250,300	942	\$3,793,000	1,795	6,043,300	3,966,000	10,009,300
Local Governments ^a	540	1,714,200	-- ^b	--	540	1,714,200	--	1,714,200
Nonprofit Conservation Organizations	1,823	4,553,300	--	--	1,823	4,553,300	--	4,553,300
Total	10,902	\$29,783,500	942	\$3,793,000	11,844	\$33,576,500	\$6,139,100	\$39,715,600

NOTE: Cost estimates are expressed in 1999 dollars.

^aIncludes city, village, and town governments, school districts, and lake and sanitary districts.

^bAdditional local government park lands should be determined through the preparation and adoption of local park and open space plans.

Source: SEWRPC.

Under the recommended park and open space plan presented in this chapter, Walworth County should: 1) acquire additional land and develop additional facilities, at two existing major park sites—Price Conservancy and Natureland Park; and 2) acquire and develop two proposed new major county parks. It is further recommended that Walworth County pursue the acquisition and development of lands to provide the opportunity for public lake access for other recreational activities, such as beach swimming, shore fishing, and other passive uses, as opportunities become available.

Under the open space plan element recommendations, the County should acquire additional land to assure the preservation of important natural resources in the County, including the acquisition of an additional 1,517 acres of primary environmental corridors, about 88 acres of secondary environmental corridors, and about 15 acres of isolated natural resource areas. In addition to woodlands, wetlands, and other natural resources, the land recommended to be acquired by the County contain natural areas and critical species habitat sites providing habitat for rare plant and animal species.

The plan recommends the development by the County of about 27 miles of trail along the Sugar Creek. The proposed trail would connect with the Ice Age Trail and the Honey Creek Wildlife Area in Racine County. It is also recommended that Walworth County develop about 30 miles of trail along the White River. The

proposed trail would connect with the Fox River recreation corridor in Racine County and the proposed Turtle Creek corridor. Walworth County should work cooperatively with the associated communities to identify and establish appropriate on- and off-street routes to connect these trails, including the implementation of the year 2010 regional bicycle and pedestrian plan as shown in Appendix B, and provide proper signing and improvements such as safe drainage grates and improved railway crossings where necessary.

As noted in Chapter I, concurrently with this park and open space planning effort, Walworth County undertook the preparation of a new county land use plan for the year 2020. As that plan is developed, the Park Plan Advisory Committee would encourage and support any implementation measures that provide for the protection and preservation of open space in Walworth County such as park impact fees, land dedication in lieu of park fees, and conservation subdivision designs.

Local Units of Government

While the provision of major parks, areawide trails, water access facilities, and certain important natural resource features are proposed to be County or State responsibilities, local units of governments should consult with the State and County to identify specific lands required for areawide park and open space preservation purposes. Once such lands are identified, local units of government should utilize their zoning and

official map powers to reserve the needed lands for park and open space use. Further, it may be appropriate for local units of government to accept in dedication certain lands identified for State or County acquisition as the land subdivision process proceeds, and then transfer ownership of such lands to the County or State. Similarly, it would be appropriate for the County or State to assume the responsibility for the development of trail facilities in local park lands, as needed, to assure continuity and uniformity in the proposed continuous regionwide system of recreation trails.

In addition to maintaining and developing local park sites and facilities, local units of government should also support efforts relating to preservation of historic sites as identified in Chapter III.

ACQUISITION CONSIDERATIONS

It is the intent of the plan that all land acquisitions occur on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis and that landowners receive fair market value for their property. Each transaction should follow the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources acquisition procedures, which include an appraisal by the Department for all acquisitions undertaken by governmental units using Department grants.

The recommended acquisition may occur in full fee simple interest or in less-than-fee-simple interest, such as through the purchase of conservation easements. Where a conservation easement is utilized, the landowner retains title to the property; the easement typically precludes mowing or other disturbance of the area by the owner and provides access for site management purposes, such as the removal of woody vegetation which may shade out desired plant species and removal of other nuisance vegetation.

The recommended acquisition may also occur through land subdivision dedication as well as through donations of fee simple title or of conservation easements. Donations may yield income-tax advantages to those who donate, since the value of the land or easement donated generally may be deducted from taxable income as an itemized deduction for Federal income-tax purposes and may be considered in calculating the itemized deduction credit for State income-tax purposes.

As already noted, the associated costs for the acquisition and development of County park and open space sites, as set forth in Table 20, are estimated at about

\$10.0 million. This amount distributed over the 21-year planning implementation period would approximate an expenditure of about \$477,000 per year. Under the assumption that the population of the County would approximate 131,600 persons by the year 2020, the average annual acquisition and development costs would be about \$4.40 per capita per year.⁴ It should be noted that, to the extent that such costs are reduced through the use of alternative methods of land acquisition, and through the use of available State funds for acquisition and development, the costs to the County could be significantly reduced.

ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES FOR WALWORTH COUNTY

Priorities for the park and open space acquisition and development projects proposed for implementation by Walworth County are presented in this section. It is necessary to establish priorities for park and open space acquisition and development because public financial resources available for acquisition and development are limited, and because implementation of the recommended plan will, as a practical matter, occur gradually over time.

It is recommended that the County give top priority to acquiring land specifically for park and recreational purposes, and also land for open space preservation purposes. Land acquisition is particularly important given the increasing urbanization occurring within the County. As urbanization occurs, development pressures inevitably cause an increase in property values, thus making land acquisition significantly more costly. Walworth County should establish a fund to acquire park and open space lands at a reasonable cost before their development for urban uses. It is recommended that priority for land acquisition be given first to lands needed for new major parks or for expanding existing County parks; followed by acquisition of lands within the Sugar Creek and White River/Delavan recreation corridors; and then by acquisition of other environmental corridor lands.

⁴ *The average annual per capita costs were estimated by dividing the estimated average annual costs by the average annual population over the 21-year plan implementation period. The average population was determined by calculating the average of the 1999 population estimate by the Wisconsin Department of Administration of about 85,500 persons and the plan design year 2020 population of about 131,600 persons, which is 108,500 persons.*

It is recommended that priority also be given to the construction of picnicking and the development of nature trails at existing major County parks. A summary of recommended acquisition and development activities for Walworth County parks during the 21-year period between 1999 and 2020 are set forth in Table 19. These actions would allow the County to meet its long term goals of providing sites and facilities for outdoor recreation and for preserving important natural resource areas in Walworth County.

It is also recommended that the County maintain the County Park Advisory Committee, or similar committee, that would have the responsibility of detailing plan recommendations and implementation. This could range from the identification of specific parcels to be acquired to guidance in site and trail design and development.

Maintenance Impact

In addition to recommendations relating to the provision of new park sites and facilities, this plan anticipates the maintenance in continued recreational use of existing publicly owned recreation sites within the County. Maintenance activities at these sites should include, as necessary, such activities as the provision, paving, and resurfacing of parking lots and walkways; resurfacing of volleyball, basketball, and tennis court areas; provision, repair, or replacement of such support facilities as park benches, picnic tables, and drinking fountains; provision, repair, or replacement of restroom facilities, water supply facilities, maintenance buildings, and picnic shelters; and the maintenance of lawns and other landscape plantings. Maintenance activities also include, importantly, the retrofitting of facilities where necessary to accommodate access by persons with disabilities.

The Federal Americans with Disabilities Act, adopted by the U.S. Congress in 1990, requires that “reasonable accommodation” be made to provide persons with disabilities equal opportunities for access to jobs, transportation, public facilities, and services—including access to recreational facilities. All new or renovated park and recreation facilities within the County must be designed and constructed to comply with the requirements of the Act. Existing public park and recreation facilities should be evaluated by the unit of government concerned to determine if improvements are needed to meet Federal accessibility requirements.

In addition to maintenance costs for continued use of existing facilities as described above, the plan also

recognizes the costs associated with the acquisition of park and open space lands consistent with the plan recommendations as described earlier in this chapter. As part of the County land use planning process, a countywide public opinion survey was conducted in 1999 to identify perspectives on a range of issues related to land use in the County. Of particular interest in the development of this plan were questions in the survey relating to natural resource, park and open space protection. Respondents to the survey indicated that natural resource features, including existing and future park lands are highly valued and their protection is strongly supported. Almost all (95.6 percent) say that the natural environment positively influences their decision to live in Walworth County. A clear majority (over 90 percent) say the County should actively pursue the protection of woodlands, wetlands, park land and other open space lands; and of these, about 57 percent would be willing to support a property tax increase to carry out a program to protect such lands.

SUMMARY

This Chapter has presented the recommended park and open space plan for Walworth County, consisting of an open space preservation element and an outdoor recreation element. The key recommendations of these plan elements are summarized below.

Open Space Preservation Element

The open space preservation element consists of four major components: preservation of primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, and isolated natural resource areas; preservation of natural areas and critical species habitat sites; protection of open space lands located within the Department of Natural Resources project boundaries for the Big Foot Beach State Park, the Honey Creek Wildlife Area, the Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit, and the Turtle Creek Wildlife Area; and protection of prime agricultural lands.

- Overall, the open space plan element recommends the preservation of environmentally significant open space lands encompassing a total of 71,858 acres—including primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, isolated natural resources, and certain adjacent lands. Of this total, 15,814 acres, or about 22 percent, were in public ownership, nonprofit conservation organization ownership, or in compatible private outdoor recreation use in 1999, and are recommended to be preserved in current ownership. It is

recommended that an additional 11,669 acres, or about 16 percent of proposed open space lands, be acquired by public agencies for natural resource protection or open space preservation purposes or for public park or trail use. Of the total of 11,669 acres, 7,686 acres would be acquired by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; 1,620 acres by Walworth County; 540 acres by local governments; and 1,823 by non-profit conservation organizations.

- The plan recommends that 44,375 acres of environmentally significant lands be placed in protective zoning districts to prevent incompatible development. Such protective zoning districts include floodland, lowland conservancy, and upland conservancy with an overall density of no more than one dwelling unit per five acres.
- The open space preservation element incorporates the recommendations of the regional natural areas protection and management plan as it applies to Walworth County. Thus, the open space element recommends the preservation, through public-interest ownership, of 71 natural areas, 19 critical species habitat sites, and 11 geological areas.
- The open space preservation element also envisions the continued acquisition of land by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for natural resource protection and recreational purposes—including lands located outside planned primary or secondary environmental corridors or isolated natural resource areas, but within approved project boundaries for Big Foot Beach State Park, the Honey Creek Wildlife Area, the Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit, the Lulu Lake State Natural Area, and the Turtle Creek Wildlife Area.
- Under this open space preservation element, it is further recommended that the County and local units of government protect existing prime agricultural lands. Specifically, it is recommended that all prime agricultural lands identified in the Walworth County Development Plan be maintained in agricultural use, except as needed to accommodate expanding planned urban service areas. Prime agricultural lands proposed for preservation encompass about 304 square miles, or about 53 percent of the County.

Outdoor Recreation Element

The outdoor recreation plan element seeks to provide sites and facilities needed to meet anticipated outdoor recreation site and facility needs in the County throughout the year 2020.

- Under the outdoor recreation element of the plan, six major parks would be provided within Walworth County. Of the six major parks, four are existing parks and two would be new parks to be developed by Walworth County. The four existing major parks are: Big Foot Beach State Park and Whitewater Creek Recreation Area, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and Price Conservancy and Natureland Park, owned by Walworth County. The two proposed parks are the Turtle Creek County Park and the White River County Park.
- In addition to the need for new parks to serve the residents of the County, the County should consider providing an additional public golf course in the County through acquisition of an existing private site should one become available. The development of a ski hill at a public park site should also be considered, provided the park site could accommodate such development. The plan also recommends the development of a nature study center at the Price Conservancy, and family camping at the proposed Turtle Creek and White River County Parks. Stream access is proposed to be located at the Price Conservancy and the proposed Turtle Creek and White River County Parks. Nature trails and picnicking are proposed for development at all four of the major County parks.
- Under the recommended plan, a 111-mile system of recreation trails would be provided within the County to enable participation in such activities as bicycling, hiking, nature study, and ski touring. A total of 54 miles of this system would be provided by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; including 25 miles as part of the Ice Age Trail; seven miles as part of the Mukwonago recreation corridor; and 22 miles as part of the Turtle Creek recreation corridor. A total of 57 miles would be provided by Walworth County; including 27 miles as part of the Sugar Creek recreation corridor and 30 miles as part of the White River/Delavan recreation corridor.

- The plan also recommends the development of boat access points on major lakes and streams to provide opportunities for those individuals who do not own land contiguous to a body of water to participate in such water-related recreation activities as motor boating, waterskiing, fishing, and canoeing. Under the plan, it is recommended that public boat access sites be expanded or acquired and developed by the Department of Natural Resources on the following lakes: Army Lake; Benedict Lake; Lake Como; Comus Lake; Delavan Lake; Green Lake; Lake LaGrange; Lake Lorraine; Middle Lake; Mill Lake; North Lake; Peters Lake; Silver Lake; Turtle Lake; Lake Wandawega; and Whitewater Lake.
- In addition to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources providing boat access to the major lakes in the County, facilities for other recreation activities, such as beach swimming, shore fishing, or other passive recreation uses, should also be provided. It is recommended that Walworth County pursue opportunities to provide lake access for other recreation activities, as such opportunities become available.

Plan Implementation

- Implementation of the County park and open space plan would involve the acquisition by public agencies and nonprofit conservation organizations of a total of about 11,844 acres of land. Of this total, 7,686 acres, or 65 percent,

would be acquired by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; 1,795 acres, or 15 percent by Walworth County; 540 acres, or 5 percent, by local units of government in the County; and 1,823 acres, or 15 percent, by nonprofit conservation organizations (see Table 20).

- The total cost of implementing the park and open space plan is estimated to be \$39.7 million, including \$33.6 million for land acquisition and \$6.1 million for recreational facility development. Of the total plan implementation cost, about \$23.4 million, or 59 percent, would be borne by the Department of Natural Resources; \$10.0 million, or 25 percent, would be borne by Walworth County; \$1.7 million, or 4 percent, would be borne by local units of government; and \$4.6 million, or 12 percent, would be borne by nonprofit conservation organizations.
- The total cost to Walworth County of \$10.0 million includes \$6.0 million for land acquisition and \$4.0 million for facility development. This amount distributed over the 21-year plan implementation period would approximate about \$477,000 per year. These costs may be offset through grants provided for recreational and open space purposes by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The acquisition and development costs for recreational and open space lands and facilities may also be offset by donations, land dedications, or by revenues generated by existing parks and recreational facilities.

Chapter VI

SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

A park and open space plan for Walworth County was included in the 1977 park and open space plan for the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region. That plan called for a system of large parks with natural resource amenities, such as lakes and wooded areas, to provide hiking trails and swimming beaches, as well as to accommodate uses such as camping, picnicking, and golfing. The plan also called for the development of smaller community and neighborhood parks for more intensive recreational activities, such as baseball, basketball, and tennis and for playgrounds. Under the regional park plan, responsibility for acquiring and developing large, resource-oriented parks was assigned to the state and county levels of government, and responsibility for acquiring and developing community and neighborhood parks was assigned to cities, villages, and towns.

In addition to a system of parks, the regional park plan also recommended a network of recreational trails along major rivers, the Lake Michigan shoreline, and the Kettle Moraine; and further recommended that areas with concentrations of important natural resources, which are referred to as primary environmental corridors, be preserved through a combination of protective zoning and public ownership. The plan also recommended that adequate public access to major lakes and streams for boating and fishing be provided.

In 1984, the Walworth County Park and Planning Commission requested that SEWRPC assist the County in refining and updating the regional park and open

space plan as it applied to Walworth County. The resulting plan was documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 135, *A Park and Open Space Plan for Walworth County*, February 1991. That plan, which has a design year of 2000, was adopted by the Walworth County Board of Supervisors on March 4, 1992.

On August 30, 1996, Walworth County requested the assistance of the SEWRPC in the preparation a new County park and open space plan. This plan is designed to extend the recommendations of the existing Walworth County park and open space plan to the design year 2020. The plan is based on updated information related to land use, population levels and distribution, anticipated growth and development, natural resources, and park and open space acquisition and development activities within the County. The plan is further intended to maintain County eligibility to apply for and receive Federal and State aids in partial support of the acquisition and development of park and open space sites and facilities.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

A description of the population and employment levels, natural resources, land use, and land use regulations within Walworth County is presented in Chapter II. A summary of existing conditions in the County follows.

Population and Employment Levels

The population of the County in 1990, the most recent year for which data from the U.S. Census are available, was about 75,000. The population level increased by about 10,500 persons, to a level of 85,500

persons in 1999, about 14 percent greater than the 1990 level, according to State population estimates.

In 1990, there were about 27,600 households in Walworth County, representing an increase of about 49 percent, from 1970. With the number of households increasing at a faster rate than population, the number of persons per household has decreased.

There were about 40,200 employment opportunities, or jobs, in Walworth County in 1990. The County has experienced a 53 percent increase in employment over the past two decades, with the number of jobs increasing by about 13,900 between 1970 and 1990.

Natural Resource Base

The location and extent of various elements of the natural resource base, including wetlands, woodlands, and surface water resources and associated shorelands and floodplains, were inventoried and mapped under the planning program. The most significant of these features lie within areas referred to as environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas.

Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of important natural resource and resource-related elements and are, by definition, at least 400 acres in size, two miles in length, and 200 feet in width. Primary environmental corridors are located throughout the County. Such corridors in 1995 encompassed about 100 square miles, or about 17 percent of the County. The preservation of these corridors in essentially natural, open use is important to the overall quality of the environment and natural beauty of Walworth County. Since these corridors are generally poorly suited for urban development, their preservation also helps to avoid the creation of new environmental and developmental problems.

Secondary environmental corridors, often remnants of primary corridors that have been partially converted to intensive urban or agricultural use, also contain a variety of resource elements. By definition, secondary environmental corridors are at least one mile long and 100 acres in area. In 1995, these corridors encompassed about 15 square miles, or about 3 percent of the County. Maintenance of these corridors in open uses can facilitate natural surface water drainage, and provide corridors for the movement of wildlife.

Isolated natural resource areas represent smaller concentrations of natural resource features that have been separated from the environmental corridors. Such

areas, which are by definition at least five acres in size, in combination encompassed about 13 square miles, or about 2 percent of the County, in 1995. These areas sometimes serve as the only available wildlife habitat in an area, and may function as storm water retention areas.

Land Use

In 1995, urban land uses—consisting primarily of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental and institutional, and transportation, communication, and utility uses—encompassed about 65 square miles, or about 11 percent of the total area of the County. Residential land comprised the largest share of the urban land area, encompassing 30 square miles, or about 46 percent of all urban land and 5 percent of the total area of the County.

In 1995, nonurban land uses—including agricultural lands, wetlands, woodlands, surface water, and other open lands—encompassed about 512 square miles, or about 89 percent of the County. Agricultural land comprised the largest share of the nonurban land area, accounting for about 381 square miles, or about 66 percent of the total area of the County.

INVENTORY OF PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

An inventory of existing public park and open space sites in Walworth County in 1999 found that the County owned a total of three park and outdoor recreation sites encompassing 246 acres. There are an additional 41 park and open space sites, encompassing 10,986 acres, owned by the State of Wisconsin, and 167 sites, encompassing 2,414 acres, owned by local units of government and school districts for outdoor recreation or natural resource preservation purposes. An additional 104 sites, encompassing 9,662 acres, are developed for private resource-oriented outdoor recreational use, and six sites, encompassing 519 acres, are owned by nonprofit conservation organizations for resource protection purposes.

Public access for motor-boating purposes is provided at Beulah Lake, Booth Lake, Lake Como, Comus Lake, Cravath Lake, Delavan Lake, Geneva Lake, Green Lake, Lake Ivanhoe, Lauderdale Lake, Lake Loraine, Pell Lake, Pleasant Lake, Potter Lake, Rice Lake, Tripp Lake, and Whitewater Lake.

Existing recreation trails in Walworth County include an 11-mile segment of the Ice Age trail in the southern unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. The Ice Age trail has been developed cooperatively by the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Existing segments of that trail are open to pedestrian travel only.

RECOMMENDED PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

The recommended park and open space plan for Walworth County is intended to guide the acquisition and development of lands to protect existing natural resources and to provide sites and facilities for outdoor recreation. The plan consists of two elements, an open space preservation element and an outdoor recreation element.

Open Space Preservation Element

The open space preservation element consists of four components: 1) The preservation of primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, and isolated natural resource areas; 2) the preservation of natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological and archeological areas in accordance with the recommendations set forth in the regional natural areas protection and management plan;¹ 3) the protection of open space lands located within established Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources project boundaries, which in Walworth County include Big Foot Beach State Park, the Honey Creek Wildlife Area, the Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit, the Lulu Lake State Natural Area, and the Turtle Creek Wildlife Area; and 4) the protection of important agricultural lands.

It is recommended that a total of 71,858 acres of open space lands, or about 20 percent of Walworth County, be protected through a combination of public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership, or through the application of protective zoning. These 71,858 acres include planned primary and secondary environmental corridors, planned isolated natural resource areas, and areas outside corridors but within the Department of Natural Resources project boundaries. All natural areas and critical species habitat sites recommended to be preserved are contained within

the planned primary or secondary environmental corridors or the planned isolated natural resource areas.

Of the total 71,858 acres of recommended open space lands, 15,814 acres, or about 22 percent, were in public ownership, nonprofit conservation organization ownership, or in compatible private outdoor recreation use in 1999, and are recommended to be preserved in such ownership. It is recommended that an additional 11,669 acres, or about 16 percent of proposed open space lands, including 767 acres within proposed new or expanded major County park sites, be acquired by public agencies for natural resource protection or open space preservation purposes or for public park or trail use. The remaining 44,375 acres of open space lands should be placed in protective zoning districts to prevent incompatible development. Such protective zoning districts include floodland and lowland and upland conservancy zoning. Upland conservancy zoning should limit residential development to an overall density of no more than one dwelling unit per five acres, in areas outside steep slopes.

Prime farmlands are identified in the Walworth County farmland preservation plan as areas consisting predominantly of Class I, II, and Class III soils, as classified by the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service. Approximately 304 square miles of prime farmland are recommended to be protected in agricultural use.

Outdoor Recreation Element

The outdoor recreation element of the plan recommends new major park sites and facilities, and improvements at existing major parks; new or expanded boat access facilities to major lakes; and the development of areawide trails.

Under the outdoor recreation element of the plan, six major parks would be provided within the County. Of the six major parks, four are existing parks and two would be new parks to be developed by Walworth County. The four existing major parks are: Big Foot Beach State Park and Whitewater Lake Recreation Area, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and the Price Conservancy and Natureland Park, owned by Walworth County.

Under the new County park plan, the existing major County parks would be maintained and improved. It is recommended that both of the existing major County parks be expanded to include adjacent lands with important natural resource values. Additional facilities

¹ Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997.

are also recommended to be developed at both existing major County parks.

In addition to maintaining and improving the two existing major County parks, Walworth County would be responsible for acquiring and developing two new major parks, the Turtle Creek and White River County parks. The new parks would serve County residents that are currently not being conveniently served by an existing major park. Recommended facilities at the new park sites include development of family camping, picnicking, stream access, and trail facilities.

The plan also recommends that five major trails be provided within the County. About 57 miles would be provided by Walworth County: the Sugar Creek Corridor, which would connect with the Honey Creek Wildlife Area in Racine County on the east and with the Ice Age corridor in Walworth County on the west; and the White River/Delavan Corridor, which would connect with the Fox River recreation corridor in Racine County on the east and with the Turtle Creek Corridor on the west. The Department of Natural Resources would be responsible for about 54 miles (including 11 existing miles), including: a segment of the Ice Age trail, which would connect with the Ice Age trail segments in Jefferson and Waukesha Counties on the north and with Rock County on the west; the Mukwonago River corridor, which would connect with the Mukwonago River corridor in Waukesha County; and the Turtle Creek Corridor, which would connect with the Ice Age corridor on the north and could be extended along the Turtle Creek in Rock County on the west.

The plan also recommends the development of boat access points on major lakes in accordance with State policy to provide public motor boat access to lakes of 50 acres or more. Such access provides opportunities for those individuals who do not own land contiguous to a body of water to participate in such water-related recreation activities as motor boating, waterskiing, fishing, and canoeing. Under the plan, it is recommended that public boat access sites be expanded or acquired and developed as appropriate by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on the following lakes: Army Lake; Benedict Lake; Lake Como; Comus Lake;

Delavan Lake; Green Lake; Lake LaGrange; Lake Lorraine; Middle Lake; Mill Lake; North Lake; Peters Lake; Silver Lake; Turtle Lake; Lake Wandawega; and Whitewater Lake.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The primary purpose of the park and open space plan for Walworth County is to guide the acquisition and development of lands and facilities needed to satisfy the outdoor recreation needs of the existing and probable future year 2020 resident population of the County, and to protect existing natural resources. Implementation of the recommended plan would assure the protection and preservation of important natural resources within environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas in the County. The plan is also designed to provide a variety of park and open space sites and facilities geographically well distributed throughout the County to meet the existing and probable future recreation needs of County residents.

Under the plan, 11,844 acres, representing about 3 percent of the total area of the County, would be acquired for park and open space purposes at an estimated cost of \$33.6 million. Walworth County would be responsible for acquiring about 1,795 acres of that total, at an estimated cost of \$6.0 million. Development costs would total about \$6.1 million, with Walworth County responsible for about \$4.0 million of that amount.

The total estimated cost for implementing the County park and open space plan, is about \$39.7 million. The estimated cost to Walworth County is about \$10.0 million, or about 25 percent of the total. The costs associated with implementation of the County park plan may be off-set through grants provided for recreational and open space purposes by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The acquisition and development costs for recreational and open space lands and facilities may also be offset by donations, land dedications, or by revenues generated by existing parks and recreational facilities. Finally, it is recommended that Walworth County establish a fund for acquiring land for park and open space purposes to facilitate the implementation of the recommended plan over the 21-year planning period.

APPENDICES

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Appendix A

Table A-1

**PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES OWNED BY CITIES, VILLAGES,
TOWNS, OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1999**

Number on Map A-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
1	Union Park.....	06	011506	3
2	Goodland Memorial Park.....	05	011533	6
3	Sharon Community School.....	08	011533	3
4	Ray-Mar Lions Memorial Park.....	05	011533	7
5	Frost Park.....	05	011601	1
6	Williams Bay Elementary School.....	08	011601	10
7	Williams Bay School.....	08	011601	15
8	Duck Pond Recreation Area.....	05	011610	109
9	Mohr Public Park.....	05	011614	1
10	Pioneer Park.....	05	011614	1
11	Reid Park.....	05	011614	4
12	Fontana Beach.....	05	011614	6
13	Fontana Marine Service.....	05	011614	1
14	Boat Access.....	05	011614	1
15	Fontana School.....	08	011615	4
16	Big Foot Nature Study Area.....	05	011615	5
17	Fontana Fen.....	05	011615	10
18	Village of Fontana Park.....	05	011615	3
19	Triangle.....	05	011611	3
20	Hwy 67.....	05	011615	1
21	Hwy B.....	05	011623	40
22	Village Square.....	05	011621	1
23	Walworth School.....	08	011621	3
24	Village Athletic Field.....	05	011622	7
25	Big Foot High School.....	08	011622	40
26	Rotary Park.....	04	011622	1
27	Rushwood Park.....	04	011701	3
28	Edgewater Park.....	05	011706	2
29	Williams Bay Beach.....	05	011706	22
30	Linn Pier.....	06	011709	1
31	Hillside Drive Boat Access.....	06	011711	1
32	Traver School.....	08	011715	4
33	Reek School.....	08	011716	4
34	Town of Linn Park.....	06	011716	160
35	Shadow Drive Lake Access.....	06	011718	1
36	Boat Launch.....	06	011803	1
37	Badger High School.....	08	011806	19
38	Lake Geneva Middle School.....	08	011806	41
39	Four Seasons Nature Preserve.....	04	011807	64
40	Subdivision Park.....	06	011815	1
41	Subdivision Park.....	06	011815	1
42	Star Center School.....	08	011816	4
43	Bloomfield Community Park.....	06	011821	2
44	Genoa City Veterans Memorial Park.....	05	011835	10
45	Brookwood School.....	08	011835	3
46	Prime Park.....	06	011835	5
47	Village of Genoa City Middle School.....	08	011836	20
48	Dr. Miller Park.....	05	011836	25
49	Delavan-Darien High School.....	08	021513	50
50	Phoenix School.....	08	021513	27
51	Gordon Yadon Park.....	04	021513	14
52	Salas Park.....	05	021527	2
53	Bruce Park.....	05	021527	2
54	Village of Darien West Park.....	06	021527	38
55	Darien Elementary School.....	08	021527	4
56	Wildwood Park.....	05	021527	26
57	Sunset Park.....	04	021601	21

Table A-1 (continued)

Number on Map A-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
58	Rotary Soccer Complex.....	04	021612	20
59	Deckert Park.....	04	021617	1
60	Gormley Park.....	04	021617	1
61	Latimer Park.....	04	021617	1
62	Wileman School.....	08	021617	10
63	Congdon Park.....	04	021617	50
64	Tower Park.....	04	021618	1
65	Delavan Memorial Arboretum.....	04	021618	25
66	Robert H. Miller Park.....	04	021618	11
67	Veteran's Memorial Park.....	04	021618	25
68	Horton Park.....	04	021618	3
69	Terrace Park.....	04	021618	8
70	Springs Park.....	04	021618	36
71	Phoenix Park.....	04	021618	4
72	Delbrook Golf Course.....	04	021619	192
73	Delavan Fest Park.....	04	021620	14
74	Lauterbach Park.....	04	021620	12
75	Town of Delavan Park.....	06	021622	15
76	Kirkpatrick Memorial Park.....	06	021632	3
77	Williams Bay Athletic Field.....	05	021636	26
78	"Babe" Mann Park.....	04	021706	34
79	Jackson Creek Conservancy.....	04	021707	16
80	Oak Hill Tot Lot.....	04	021725	1
81	Moss Park.....	04	021725	1
82	Park Row Boulevard.....	04	021725	1
83	Olive Longland Park.....	04	021725	1
84	Edgewood Subdivision Park.....	04	021726	3
85	Duck Lake Nature Trail.....	06	021727	22
86	Town Boat Access.....	06	021727	1
87	Kishwaukee.....	05	021731	230
88	Woods School.....	08	021733	2
89	Westgate Tot Lot.....	04	021735	1
90	Cobb Park.....	04	021735	5
91	Dunn Field.....	04	021736	13
92	Flat Iron Park.....	04	021736	3
93	Eastview Grade School.....	08	021736	2
94	Mill Park.....	04	021736	1
95	Potawatomi Trail.....	04	021736	2
96	Donian Park.....	04	021736	4
97	Library Park.....	04	021736	10
98	Denison School.....	08	021736	1
99	Maple Park.....	04	021736	3
100	City Boat Access.....	04	021736	1
101	Seminary Park.....	04	021736	3
102	Baker Park.....	04	021736	1
103	Lyons School.....	08	021810	7
104	Riverview Park.....	06	021810	5
105	Veterans Park.....	04	021831	25
106	Business Park.....	04	021831	3
107	Edward's Boulevard.....	04	021831	2
108	Boat Access.....	06	031509	1
109	Richmond Community Park.....	06	031509	8
110	Town of Richmond Boat Landing at Turtle Lake.....	06	031511	1
111	Lake Wandawega Subdivision Park.....	06	031602	1

Table A-1 (continued)

Number on Map A-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
112	North Lake Subdivision Park.....	06	031605	1
113	Boat Launch.....	06	031605	1
114	Tibbets Community School	08	031612	3
115	Northwest Basin.....	04	031625	7
116	Northside Playground	04	031636	1
117	Tasch Park	06	031636	2
118	Lakeland Special School	08	031636	4
119	Westside School	08	031636	5
120	Elkhorn Area Middle School	08	031731	3
121	Harris Park	04	031731	10
122	Elkhorn Area High School	08	031731	37
123	Industrial Park	04	041503	5
124	Moraineview.....	04	041503	43
125	Hospital Hill	04	041504	7
126	Public Works Grounds.....	04	041504	3
127	Washington Elementary.....	08	041504	9
128	Birge Fountain Park	04	041504	1
129	Starin Park	04	041504	40
130	Cravath Lake Park	06	041504	2
131	Mill Race Park.....	04	041504	1
132	Tripp Park	04	041504	24
133	Ward Park	04	041505	3
134	Lincoln Elementary School	08	041505	5
135	Whitewater Middle School.....	08	041505	23
136	Center Street Park	08	041505	1
137	Indian Mounds	04	041506	16
138	Optimist Turtle Mounds Park.....	04	041506	1
139	Whitewater High School	08	041508	70
140	Lakeview School	08	041534	7
141	Town Park and Lake Access.....	06	041624	3
142	Pleasant Lake Boat Access	06	041624	1
143	Green Lake Access.....	06	041626	2
144	Lauderdale Lakes Country Club.....	06	041636	51
145	LaGrange Lauderdale Launch.....	06	041636	1
146	Booth Lake Memorial Park.....	05	041724	13
147	Prairie View School.....	08	041725	10
148	Town of East Troy Park	06	041803	22
149	Potters Lake Conservancy	06	041810	22
150	Stone Elementary School.....	08	041811	4
151	Salvation Army Park	06	041817	66
152	East Troy Boat Trailer Parking	05	041817	1
153	East Troy Nature Park.....	06	041818	1
154	Public Boat Access.....	06	041818	1
155	East Troy High School	08	041819	32
156	East Troy Middle School	08	041819	15
157	East Troy Amusement Park.....	05	041819	9
158	Playmore Park	05	041819	1
159	Mitchell Park.....	05	041819	15
160	East Troy Elementary School.....	08	041819	4
161	Chester Byrnes Elementary School.....	08	041819	1
162	Lyndale Playground.....	05	041820	1

Table A-1 (continued)

Number on Map A-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
163	Pullium Nature Center and Thomas Drive Nature Center	05	041820	27
164	Airport Park	05	041821	2
165	East Troy Village Square	05	041829	1
166	Brookstone Nature Area	05	041830	25
167	Whitewater Creek Nature Area	04	051533	11
--	Total: 167 Sites	--	--	2,414

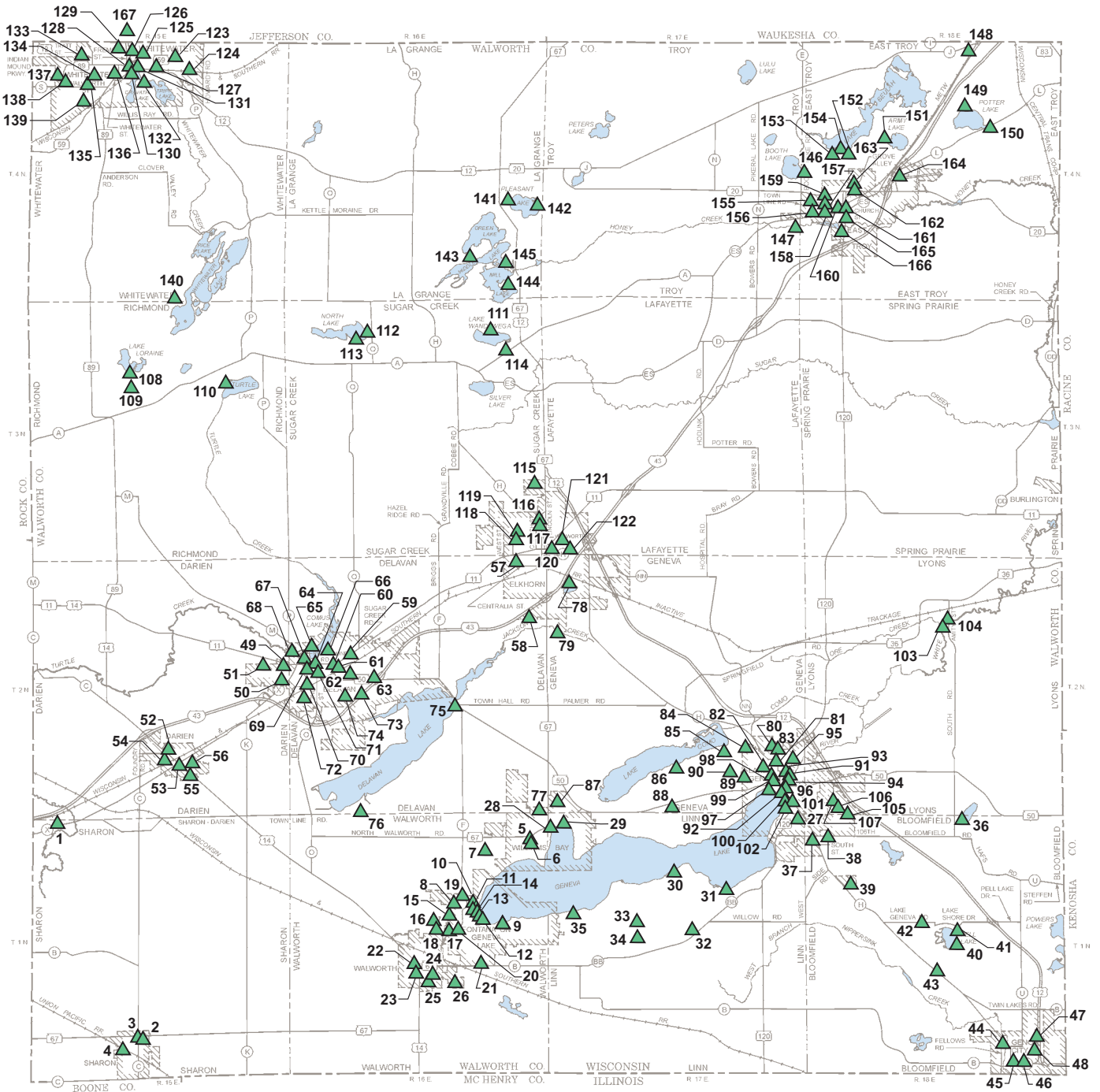
^aThe ownership code numbers signify the following: 04-City, 05-Village, 06-Town, and 08-School District.

^bThe location numbers represent the U.S. Public Land Survey Township, Range, and Section numbers in which the site is located.

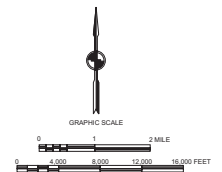
Source: SEWRPC.

Map A-1

PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES OWNED BY CITIES, VILLAGES, TOWNS, OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1999



- ▲ RECREATION OR OPEN SPACE SITE
- 15 REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE A-1)



Source: SEWRPC.

Table A-2

PRIVATE OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1999

Number on Map A-2	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
1	George Williams College	12	011601	79
2	Inspiration Center	10	011602	160
3	Conference Point Camp	10	011612	21
4	George Williams Camp	12	011612	13
5	Bar Camp	10	011612	14
6	Abbey Springs Country Club.....	12	011613	152
7	Chuck's Lakeshore Inn	12	011614	1
8	The Abbey.....	11	011614	70
9	Big Foot Country Club.....	12	011614	231
10	Jerry's Marine.....	11	011614	1
11	Gordy's Marine.....	11	011614	1
12	Kokopeli Golf Range	11	011615	14
13	Country Club Estates Golf Course	11	011623	80
14	Elgin Club	12	011704	1
15	Hansen's Pier	11	011706	1
16	Oakwood Launch.....	12	011706	1
17	Lake Geneva Country Club	11	011710	118
18	Emma Fleck Memorial Park.....	12	011711	1
19	Lake Geneva Beach	12	011711	3
20	Majestic Hills Subdivision	12	011717	183
21	Lake Geneva Yacht Club	12	011718	3
22	Geneva Lake Boat Company	11	011718	4
23	Big Foot Archers, Inc.....	10	011723	40
24	Harbor Lite	11	011813	1
25	Oakland Manor Estates.....	11	011813	4
26	Private Boat Launch	12	011824	1
27	Recreation Camp	12	011835	89
28	Corporate Park.....	11	011836	15
29	Delavan Sportsman's Club	12	021501	40
30	Lake Lawn Lodge.....	11	021621	250
31	Delavan Assembly Grounds Park	12	021621	5
32	Subdivision Park Tot Lot.....	12	021621	1
33	Reed's Marina	11	021622	3
34	Harbor Inn	11	021622	1
35	Delavan Lake Yacht Club	12	021628	2
36	Delavan Lake Marina.....	11	021628	1
37	Subdivision Park.....	12	021631	7
38	House-in-the-Woods Camp	10	021631	29
39	Highlands Subdivision Park	12	021631	3
40	Commercial Lake Access	11	021632	1
41	Commercial Lake Access	11	021632	1
42	South Shore Manor Subdivision	12	021632	1
43	Royal Glen Woodland Park.....	12	021722	8
44	Hawk's View Golf Course	11	021724	335
45	Property Owner's Association.....	12	021728	5
46	Schroeder's Resort.....	11	021728	3
47	Geneva National Resort Golf Course.....	11	021729	720
48	Geneva National Hunt Club.....	11	021731	13
49	Mars Resort.....	11	021733	2
50	Lake Geneva YMCA Camp.....	10	021734	17
51	Covenant Harbor Bible Camp and Retreat Center.....	10	021735	56
52	Leatherlips Watersports.....	11	021736	1
53	Marina Bay Boat Rentals	11	021736	1
54	Grand Geneva Spa and Resort.....	11	021829	1,182
55	Hillmoor Golf Club	11	021831	111
56	Scenic Ridge Campground.....	11	031502	81
57	Snug Harbor Campground	11	031511	67
58	McIntyre's Resort	11	031513	3

Table A-2 (continued)

Number on Map A-2	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
59	Turtle Inn.....	11	031513	3
60	Turtle Creek Sportsman Club.....	12	031536	130
61	Lake Wandewega Subdivision Park.....	12	031611	1
62	Interlaken Subdivision Park.....	12	031611	11
63	Willow Creek Resort.....	12	031613	72
64	Nature Conservancy Preserve.....	10	031712	18
65	Alpine Valley Resort.....	11	031712	345
66	Hidden Valley-All Seasons Resort.....	11	031714	190
67	Evergreen Country Club.....	11	031718	300
68	Walworth County Fairgrounds.....	11	031731	97
69	Happy Hollow Girl Scout Camp.....	10	031807	280
70	Deer Trail Hunting Club.....	10	031811	200
71	Honey Lake North Beach.....	12	031813	8
72	Hoganson Preserve.....	10	031824	194
73	Meadowlark Acres.....	11	031834	55
74	Wings Over Wisconsin.....	10	031836	106
75	Whitewater Country Club.....	11	041508	82
76	Camp Joy Baptist Camp.....	10	041526	46
77	JNT's Marina.....	11	041534	1
78	Oak Terrace Resort.....	11	041534	2
79	Krahn Dr. Access.....	12	041534	1
80	Scattered Oaks Subdivision Beach.....	12	041535	1
81	Parkside Marina.....	11	041535	3
82	Rainbow Springs Trout Farm.....	11	041606	10
83	Singing Hills Camp.....	10	041623	166
84	Juniper Knoll Camp.....	10	041624	197
85	Camp Pottowattomie Hills.....	10	041625	105
86	Lutherdale Camp.....	10	041625	53
87	Peterson Forest Preserve.....	12	041626	33
88	Cool Hill Park.....	12	041634	2
89	Lauderdale Marina.....	11	041636	2
90	Sterlingworth.....	11	041636	4
91	The Nature Conservancy.....	10	041702	114
92	George Williams College.....	12	041703	200
93	Chapman Hills Girl Scout Camp.....	10	041704	112
94	Nature Conservancy Preserve.....	10	041709	120
95	Pickrel Lake Fen.....	10	041713	40
96	Camp Alice Chester.....	10	041713	442
97	Timber Lee Church Camp.....	10	041717	515
98	Badger Council Girl Scout Camp.....	10	041722	81
99	Lake Beulah Country Club.....	11	041804	191
100	Burr Oaks-Beber Camp.....	10	041805	324
101	Rainbow Springs Golf Course.....	11	041806	411 ^c
102	Triangle Sportsman's Club.....	10	041807	47
103	Society of Divine Word Seminary.....	10	041808	213
104	Dockside Grog and Gally.....	11	041809	1
105	Camp Edwards.....	10	041809	126
106	Miramar Beach.....	11	041811	1
107	Southeastern Rod and Gun Club.....	10	041813	48
108	Salvation Army Camp.....	10	041816	46
109	Fred's Tap Boat Rental.....	11	041818	1
110	Sally's Marsh Hunting Club.....	11	041826	178
--	Total: 110 Sites	--	--	10,181

^aThe ownership code numbers signify the following: 10-Organizational; 11-Commercial; 12-Private.

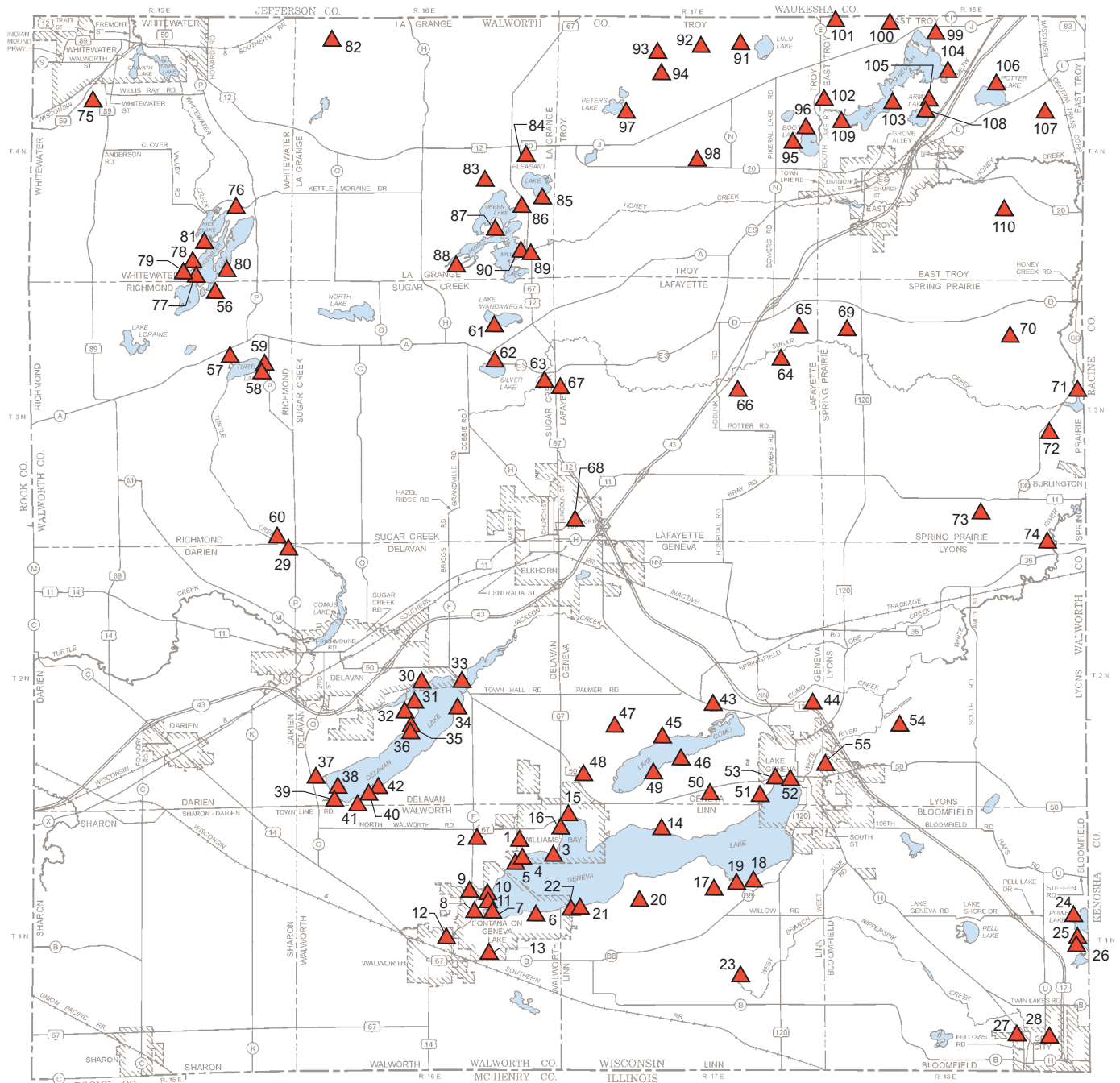
^bThe location numbers represent the U.S. Public Land Survey Township, Range, and Section numbers in which the site is located.


^cDoes not include portion in Waukesha County.

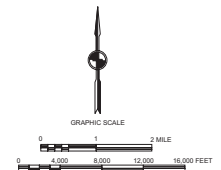
Source: SEWRPC.

Map A-2

PRIVATE OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN WALWORTH COUNTY: 1999



-  RECREATION OR OPEN SPACE SITE
- 15 REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE A-2)

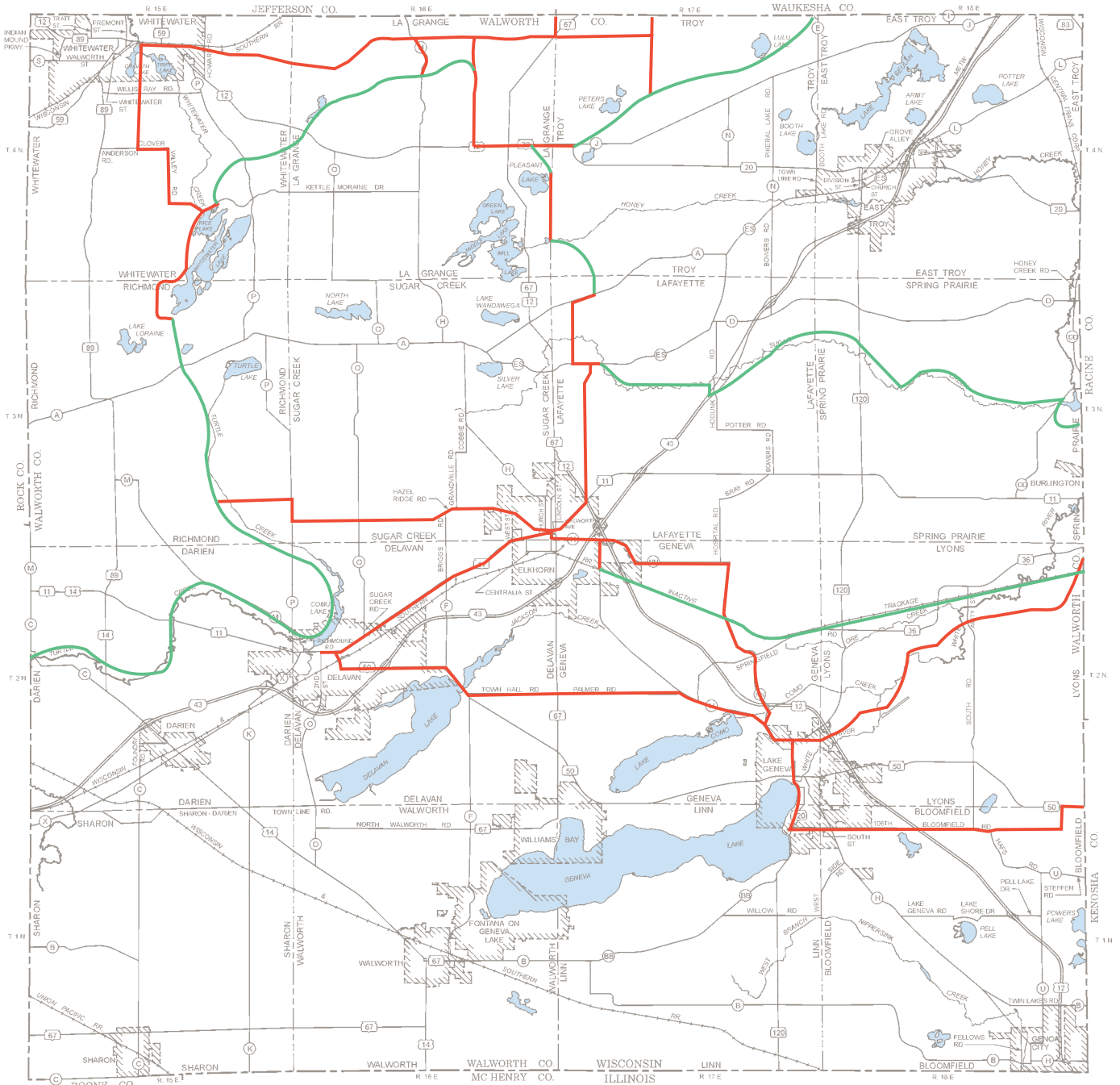


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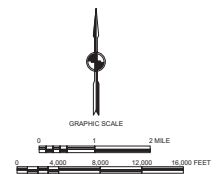
Appendix B

Map B-1

ADOPTED YEAR 2010 BICYCLE WAY SYSTEM PLAN FOR SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AS IT RELATES TO WALWORTH COUNTY



- PROPOSED BICYCLE WAYS ASSOCIATED WITH NATURAL RESOURCE OR UTILITY CORRIDORS
- PROPOSED BICYCLE WAYS ASSOCIATED WITH STREET OR HIGHWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY



Source: SEWRPC.

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Appendix C

OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS FOR WALWORTH COUNTY

OBJECTIVE NO. 1

The provision of an integrated system of public general-use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas which allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in a wide range of outdoor recreation activities.

PRINCIPLE

Attainment and maintenance of good physical and mental health is an inherent right of all residents of the County. The provision of public general use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas contributes to the attainment and maintenance of physical and mental health by providing opportunities to participate in a wide range of both intensive and extensive outdoor recreation activities. Moreover, an integrated park and related open space system properly related to the natural resource base, such as the existing surface water network, can generate the dual benefits of satisfying recreational demands in an appropriate setting while protecting and preserving valuable natural resource amenities. Finally, an integrated system of public general use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas can contribute to the orderly growth of the County by lending form and structure to urban development patterns.

A. PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES

PRINCIPLE

Public general use outdoor recreation sites promote the maintenance of proper physical and mental health both by providing opportunities to participate in such athletic recreational activities as baseball, swimming, tennis, and ice-skating—activities that facilitate the maintenance of proper physical health because of the exercise involved—as well as opportunities to participate in such less athletic activities such as pleasure walking, picnicking, or just rest and reflection. These activities tend to reduce everyday tensions and anxieties and thereby help maintain proper physical and mental well being. Well designed and properly located public general-use outdoor recreation sites also provide a sense of community, bringing people together for social and cultural as well as recreational activities, and thus contribute to the desirability and stability of residential neighborhoods and therefore the communities in which such facilities are provided.

STANDARDS

- The public sector should provide general use outdoor recreation sites sufficient in size and number to meet the recreation demands of the resident population. Such sites should contain the natural resource or man-made amenities appropriate to the recreational activities to be accommodated therein and be spatially distributed in a manner which provides ready access by the resident population. To achieve this standard, the following public general use outdoor recreation site requirements should be met as indicated below:

Site Type	Size (gross acres)	Publicly Owned Park and School Sites							
		Parks				Schools ^a			
		Minimum Per Capita Public Requirements (acres per 1,000 persons) ^d	Typical Facilities	Maximum Service Radius (miles) ^b		Minimum Per Capita Public Requirements (acres per 1,000 persons) ^f	Typical Facilities	Maximum Service Radius (miles) ^c	
		Urban ^e	Rural			Urban ^e	Rural		
i ^g Regional	250 or more	5.3	Campsites, swimming beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hill, ski-touring trail, boat launch, nature study area, playfield, softball diamond, passive- activity area ^h	10.0	10.0	--	--	--	--
ii ⁱ Multi-Community	100-249	2.6	Campsites, swimming pool or beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hill, ski-touring trail, boat launch, nature study area, playfield, softball and/or baseball diamond, passive- activity area ^h	4.0 ^j	10.0 ^j	--	--	--	--
iii ^k Community	25-99	2.2	Swimming pool or beach, picnic areas, boat launch, nature study area, softball and/or baseball diamonds, soccer fields and other playfields, tennis courts, passive-activity area ^h	2.0 ^l	--	0.9	Playfield, baseball diamond, softball diamond, tennis court	0.5-1.0 ^m	--
iv ⁿ	Less than 25	1.7	Wading pool, picnic areas, softball and/or baseball diamonds, soccer fields and other playfields, tennis court, playground, basketball goal, ice-skating rink, passive-activity area ^h	0.5-1.0 ^o	--	1.6	Playfield, playground, baseball diamond, softball diamond, tennis court, basketball goal	0.5-1.0 ^m	--

2. Public general use outdoor recreation sites should, as much as possible, be located within the designated primary environmental corridors of the County.

B. RECREATION RELATED OPEN SPACE

PRINCIPLE

Effective satisfaction of recreation demands within the County cannot be accomplished solely by providing public general use outdoor recreation sites. Certain recreational pursuits such as hiking, biking, pleasure driving, and ski touring are best provided for through a system of recreation corridors located on or adjacent to linear resource-oriented open space lands. A well designed system of recreation corridors offered as an integral part of linear open space lands can also serve to physically connect existing and proposed public parks, thus forming a truly integrated park and recreation related open space system. Such open space lands, in addition, satisfy the human need for natural surroundings, serve to protect the natural resource base, and ensure that many scenic areas and areas of natural, cultural, or historic interest assume their proper place as form determinants for both existing and future land use patterns.

STANDARDS

The public sector should provide sufficient open space lands to accommodate a system of resource-oriented recreation corridors to meet the resident demand for extensive trail-oriented recreation activities. To fulfill these requirements the following recreation-related open space standards should be met:

1. A minimum of 0.16 linear miles of recreation related open space consisting of linear recreation corridors^p should be provided for each 1,000 persons in the County.
2. Recreation corridors should have a minimum length of 15 miles and a minimum width of 200 feet.
3. The maximum travel distance to recreation corridors should be five miles in urban areas and 10 miles in rural areas.
4. Resource-oriented recreation corridors should maximize the use of:
 - a. Primary environmental corridors as locations for trail-oriented recreation activities.
 - b. Outdoor recreation facilities provided at existing public park sites.
 - c. Existing trail-type facilities within the County.

OBJECTIVE NO. 2

The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.

PRINCIPLE

Participation in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities including basketball, baseball, ice-skating, soccer, playfield and playground activities, softball, pool swimming, and tennis provides an individual with both the opportunity for physical exercise and an opportunity to test and expand his or her physical capability. Such activities also provide an outlet for mental tension and anxiety as well as a diversion from other human activities. Competition in the various intensive nonresource-related activities also provides an opportunity to share recreational experiences, participate in team play, and gain understanding of other human beings.

STANDARD

A sufficient number of facilities for participation in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the County. To achieve this standard, the following per capita requirements and design criteria for various facilities should be met as indicated below:

Minimum per Capita Facility Requirements ^Q				Design Standards					Service Radius of Facility (miles) ^X
Activity	Facility	Owner	Facility per 1,000 Urban Residents	Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Total Land Requirement (acres per facility)	
Baseball	Diamond	Public Nonpublic Total	0.09 0.01 0.10 ^S	Types II, III and IV general use site	2.8 acres per diamond	Parking (30 spaces per diamond) Night lighting [†] Concessions and bleachers [‡] Buffer and landscape	0.28 acre per diamond -- 0.02 acre minimum 1.40 acres per diamond	4.5	2.0
Basketball	Goal	Public Nonpublic Total	0.91 0.22 1.13	Type IV general use site	0.07 acre per goal	--	--	0.07	0.5
Ice-Skating	Rink	Public Nonpublic Total	0.15 ^U -- 0.15	Type IV general use site	0.30 acre per rink minimum	Warming house	0.05 acre --	0.35 minimum	0.5
Soccer Fields or Playfields	Playfield	Public Nonpublic Total	0.39 0.11 0.50	Type IV general use site	1.0 acre per playfield minimum	Buffer area	0.65 acre minimum	1.65 minimum	0.5
Playground Activities	Playground	Public Nonpublic Total	0.35 0.07 0.42	Type IV general use site	0.25 acre per playground minimum	Buffer and landscape	0.37 acre	0.62 minimum	0.5
Softball	Diamond	Public Nonpublic Total	0.53 0.07 0.60	Type II, III, and IV general use site	1.70 acre per diamond	Parking (20 spaces per diamond) Nighttime lighting [†] Buffer	0.18 acre per diamond -- 0.80 acre per diamond	2.68	1.0
Swimming	Pool	Public Nonpublic Total	0.015 ^V -- 0.015	Type II and III general use site	0.13 acre per pool minimum	Bathhouse and concessions Parking (400 square feet per space) Buffer and landscaping	0.13 acre minimum 0.26 acre minimum 0.70 acre minimum	1.22 minimum	3.0 3.0
Tennis	Court	Public Nonpublic Total	0.50 0.10 0.60	Type II, III, and IV general use site	0.15 acre per court	Parking (2.0 spaces per court) Nighttime lighting [†] Buffer	0.02 acre per court -- 0.15 acre per court	0.32	1.0

OBJECTIVE NO. 3

The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.

PRINCIPLE

Participation in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities including camping, golf, picnicking, downhill skiing, and stream and lake swimming provides an opportunity for individuals to experience the exhilaration of recreational activity in natural surroundings as well as an opportunity for physical exercise. In addition, the family can participate as a unit in certain intensive resource-oriented activities such as camping, picnicking, and beach swimming.

STANDARD

A sufficient number of facilities for participation in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the County. To meet this standard, the following per capita requirements and design criteria for various facilities should be met as indicated below:

Minimum per Capita Facility Requirement ^W				Design Standards						Service Radius of Facility (miles) ^X
Activity	Facility	Owner	Per Capita Requirements (facility per 1,000 residents)	Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Total Land Requirements (acres per facility)	Resource Requirements	
Camping	Campsite	Public Nonpublic Total	0.35 1.47 1.82	Type I and II general use sites	0.33 acre per campsite	Rest rooms-showers Utility hookups Natural area backup lands	-- -- 1.5 acres per campsite	1.83	Ungrazed wooded area Presence of surface water Suitable topography and soils	25.0
Golf	Regulation 18-hole course	Public Nonpublic Total	0.013 0.027 0.040	Type I and II general use sites	135 acres per course	Clubhouse, parking, maintenance Practice area Woodland or water areas Buffer	8.0 acres per course 5.0 acres per course 35.0 acres per course 2.0 acres per course	185.0	Suitable topography and soils Presence of surface water Form-giving vegetation desirable	10.0
Picnicking	Tables	Public Nonpublic Total	6.35 ^Y 2.39 8.74	Type I, II, III, and IV general use sites	0.07 acre per table minimum	Parking Shelters and grills Buffer and parking overflow	0.02 acre per table (1.5 space per table) -- 0.02 acre per table	0.11	Topography with scenic views Shade trees Presence of surface water desirable Suitable soils	10.0
Skiing	Developed slope (acres)	Public Nonpublic Total	0.010 0.090 0.100	Type I, II, III general use sites	1.0 acre per acre of developed slope	Chalet Parking Ski tows (and lights) Buffer and maintenance Landscape	0.13 acre minimum 0.25 acre per acre of slope 0.40 acre per acre of slope 0.40 acre per acre of slope 0.35 acre per acre of slope	2.1	Suitable topography and soils (20 percent slope minimum) North or northeast exposure	25.0
Swimming	Beach (linear feet)	Public Nonpublic Total	Major Inland Lakes 6 12 18 Lake Michigan 16 -- 16	Type I, II, III general use sites	40 square feet per linear foot (average)	Parking Bathhouse-concessions Buffer areas	0.2 acre per acre of beach 0.10 acre minimum 10 square feet per linear foot	-- ^Z	Natural beach Good water quality	10.0

OBJECTIVE NO. 4

The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities.

PRINCIPLE

Participation in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities including biking, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, pleasure driving, ski-touring, and snowmobiling provides opportunity for contact with natural, cultural, historic, and scenic features. In addition, such activities can increase an individual's perception and intensify awareness of the surroundings, contribute to a better understanding of the environment, and provide a wider range of vision and comprehension of all forms of life both as this life may have existed in the past and as it exists in the present. Similar to intensive resource-oriented activity, the family as a unit also can participate in extensive land based recreation activities; such participation also serves to strengthen social relationships within the family. For activities like biking, hiking, and nature study, participation provides an opportunity to educate younger members of the family in the importance of environmental issues which may become of greater concern as they approach adulthood.

STANDARD

A sufficient number of facilities for participation in land-based outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the County. Public facilities provided for these activities should be located within the linear resource-oriented recreation corridors identified in Objective No. 1. To meet this standard, the following per capita standards and design criteria should be met as indicated below:

Minimum per Capita Public Facility Requirements ^{aa}			Design Standards				
Activity	Facility	Per Capita Requirements (linear mile per 1,000 residents)	Typical Location of Facility	Minimum Facility Requirements (acres per linear mile)	Suggested Support Facilities and Backup Lands	Minimum Support Facility Requirements (acres per linear mile)	Resource Requirements
Biking	Route Trail	-- ^{bb} 0.16	Scenic roadways Recreation Corridor	-- 1.45	Route markers Backup lands with resource amenities	-- 24.2	-- Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography (5 percent slope average maximum) and soils
Hiking	Trail	0.16	Recreation corridor	0.73	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography and soils
Horseback Riding	Trail	0.05	Recreation corridor Type I general use site	1.21	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography and soils
Nature Study	Center	1 per county	Type I, II, III general use sites Recreation corridor	-- 	Interpretive center building Parking	-- 24.2	Diversity of natural features, including a variety of plant and animal species Suitable topography and soils
	Trail	0.02	Type I, II, III general use sites	0.73	Backup lands with resource amenities		Diversity of natural features, including a variety of plant and animal species Suitable topography and soils
Pleasure Driving	Route	-- ^{cc}	Scenic roadways recreation corridor	--	Route markers	--	--
Ski-touring	Trail	0.02	Recreation corridor Types I and II general use sites	0.97	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Suitable natural and open areas Rolling topography
Snowmobiling	Trail	0.11	Private lands (leased for public use)	1.45	Backup lands, including resource amenities and open lands	24.2	Suitable natural and open areas Suitable topography (8 percent slope average maximum) and soils

OBJECTIVE NO. 5

The provision of sufficient access areas to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in extensive water-based outdoor recreation activities on the major inland lakes and rivers and on Lake Michigan which are consistent with enjoyable surface water use and the maintenance of adequate water quality.

PRINCIPLE

The major inland lakes and rivers of the County and Lake Michigan accommodate participation in extensive water-based recreation activities, including canoeing, fishing, ice fishing, motorboating, sailing, and water-skiing, which may involve unique forms of physical exercise or simply provide opportunities for rest and relaxation within a particularly attractive natural setting. Participation in extensive water-based recreation activities requires access to the major inland lakes and rivers and Lake Michigan and such access should be available to the general public.

STANDARDS

1. Access sites available for use by the general public on streams and major lakes, that is, lakes of 50 acres or larger, should be provided in accordance with the requirements established by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in Sections NR 1.90 and NR 1.91 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

2. Access sites providing parking should be provided on major streams throughout the County. The maximum interval between access points on major canoeable streams^{dd} should be 10 miles.

OBJECTIVE NO. 6

The preservation of sufficient high-quality open-space lands for protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well-being, environmental quality, and biodiversity^{ee} of the County.

PRINCIPLE

Ecological balance and natural beauty within the County are primary determinants of the ability to provide a pleasant and habitable environment for all forms of life and to maintain the social and economic well being of the County. Preservation of the most significant aspects of the natural resource base, that is, primary environmental corridors, natural areas and critical species habitat sites, and prime agricultural lands, contributes to the maintenance of ecological balance, natural beauty, and economic well being of the County.

A. PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

PRINCIPLE

The primary environmental corridors are a composite of the best individual elements of the natural resource base including surface water, streams, and rivers and their associated floodlands and shorelands; woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitat; areas of groundwater discharge and recharge; organic soils, rugged terrain, and high relief topography; and significant geological formations and physiographic features. By protecting these elements of the natural resource base, flood damage can be reduced, soil erosion abated, water supplies protected, air cleansed, wildlife population enhanced, biological diversity preserved, and continued opportunities provided for scientific, educational, and recreational pursuits.

STANDARD

1. All remaining nonurban lands within the designated primary environmental corridors in the County should be preserved in essentially natural open uses.

B. NATURAL AREAS AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES

PRINCIPLE

Natural areas and critical species habitat sites contain rare, threatened, and endangered animal and plant species which are important components of the biodiversity of the County. Maintenance of this biodiversity requires the preservation of the habitats concerned.

STANDARDS

1. All natural areas of Statewide or greater significance (NA-1) should be preserved and managed to maintain their natural value.
2. All natural areas of Countywide or regional significance (NA-2) and natural areas of local significance (NA-3) lying within primary environmental corridors or containing Federal or State-designated rare, threatened, or endangered animal or plant species habitat should be preserved and managed to maintain their natural value.
3. All critical species habitat sites within primary environmental corridors should be preserved and managed to maintain their natural value.

C. PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS

PRINCIPLE

Prime agricultural lands constitute the most productive farm lands in the County and, in addition to providing food and fiber, contribute significantly to maintaining the ecological balance between plants and animals; provide locations close to urban centers for the production of certain food commodities which may require nearby population concentrations for an efficient production-distribution relationship; provide open spaces which give form and structure to urban development; and serve to maintain the natural beauty and unique cultural heritage of Walworth County.

STANDARDS

1. All prime agricultural lands should be preserved for agricultural use.
2. All agricultural lands should be preserved that surround adjacent high-value scientific, educational, or recreational sites and are covered by soils rated in the regional detailed operational soil survey as having very slight, slight, or moderate limitations for agricultural use. These lands should be considered for preservation to provide a buffer between such resources and urban development.

OBJECTIVE NO. 7

The efficient and economical satisfaction of outdoor recreation and related open space needs meeting all other objectives at the lowest possible cost.

PRINCIPLE

The total resources of the County are limited, and any undue investment in park and open space lands must occur at the expense of other public investment.

STANDARD

The sum total of all expenditures required to meet park demands and open space needs should be minimized.

Footnotes

^aIn urban areas facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented recreational activities are commonly located in Type III or Type IV school outdoor recreation sites. These facilities often provide a substitute for facilities usually located in parks by providing opportunities for participation in intensive nonresource-oriented activities. It is important to note, however, that school outdoor recreation sites do not generally contain natural areas which provide space for passive recreational use.

^bThe identification of a maximum service radius for each park type is intended to provide another guideline to assist in the determination of park requirements and to assure that each resident of the County has ready access to the variety of outdoor recreation facilities commonly located in parks, including space and facilities for both active and passive outdoor recreational use.

^cThe identification of a maximum service radius for each school site is intended to assist in the determination of active outdoor recreation facility requirements and to assure that each urban resident has ready access to the types of active intensive nonresource-oriented facilities commonly located in school recreation areas.

^dFor Type I and Type II parks, which generally provide facilities for resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities for the total population of the County, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the total resident population of the County. For Type III and Type IV sites, which generally provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities primarily in urban areas, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the resident population of the County residing in urban areas.

^eUrban areas are defined as areas containing a closely spaced network of minor streets which include concentrations of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, or institutional land uses having a minimum total area of 160 acres and a minimum population of 500 persons. Such areas usually are incorporated and are served by sanitary sewerage systems. These areas have been further classified into the following densities: low-density urban areas or areas with 0.70 to 2.29 dwelling units per net residential acre, medium-density urban areas or areas with 2.30 to 6.99 dwelling units per net residential acre, and high-density urban areas or areas with 7.00 to 17.99 dwelling units per net residential acre.

^fFor public school sites, which generally provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the resident population of the County residing in urban areas.

^gType I sites are defined as large outdoor recreation sites with a multi-county service area. Such sites rely heavily for their recreational value and character on natural resource amenities and provide opportunities for participation in a wide variety of resource-oriented outdoor recreation pursuits.

^hA passive activity area is defined as an area within an outdoor recreation site which provides an opportunity for such less athletic recreational pursuits as pleasure walking, rest and relaxation, and informal picnicking. Such areas are generally located in parks or in urban open space sites, and usually consist of a landscaped area with mowed lawn, shade trees, and benches.

ⁱType II sites are defined as intermediate size sites having a countywide or multi-community service area. Like Type I sites, such sites rely for their recreational value and character on natural resource amenities. Type II parks, however, usually provide a smaller variety of recreational facilities and have smaller areas devoted to any given activity.

^jIn general, each resident of the County should reside within 10 miles of a Type I or Type II park. It should be noted, however, that within urban areas, having a population of 40,000 or greater, each urban resident should reside within four miles of a Type I or Type II park.

^kType III sites are defined as intermediate size sites having a multi-neighborhood service area. Such sites rely more on the development characteristics of the area to be served than on natural resource amenities for location.

^lIn urban areas the need for a Type III park is met by the presence of a Type II or Type I park. Thus, within urban areas having a population of 7,500 or greater, each urban resident should be within two miles of a Type III, II, or I park.

^mThe service radius of school outdoor recreation sites, for park and open space planning purposes, is governed primarily by individual outdoor recreation facilities within the school site. For example, school outdoor recreation sites which provide such facilities as playfields, playgrounds, and basketball goals typically have a service radius of one-half mile, which is the maximum service radius assigned to such facilities (see standards presented under Objective 2). As another example school outdoor recreation sites which provide tennis courts and softball diamonds typically have a service radius of one mile, which is the maximum service radius assigned to such facilities (see standards presented under Objective 2). It is important to note that areas which offer space for passive recreational use are generally not provided at school outdoor recreation sites and therefore Type III and Type IV school sites generally do not meet Type III and Type IV park accessibility requirements.

Footnotes (continued)

ⁿType IV sites are defined as small sites which have a neighborhood as the service area. Such sites usually provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities and are generally provided in urban areas. Recreation lands at the neighborhood level should most desirably be provided through a joint community-school district venture, with the facilities and recreational land area required to be provided on one site available to serve the recreation demands of both the school student and resident neighborhood population. Using the Type IV park standard of 1.7 acres per thousand residents and the school standard of 1.6 acres per thousand residents, a total of 3.3 acres per thousand residents or approximately 21 acres of recreation lands in a typical medium-density neighborhood would be provided. These acreage standards relate to lands required to provide for recreation facilities typically located in a neighborhood and are exclusive of the school building site and associated parking area and any additional natural areas which may be incorporated into the design of the park site such as drainageways and associated storm water retention basins, areas of poor soils, and floodland areas.

^oThe maximum service radius of Type IV parks is governed primarily by the population density in the vicinity of the park. In high-density urban areas, each urban resident should reside within 0.5 mile of a Type IV park; in medium-density urban areas, each resident should reside within 0.75 mile of a Type IV park; and in low-density urban areas, each resident should reside within one mile of a Type IV park. It should be noted that the requirement for a Type IV park also is met by a Type I, II, or III park within 0.5-1.0 mile service radius in high-, medium-, and low-density urban areas, respectively. Further, it should be noted that in the application of the service radius criterion for Type IV sites, only multi-use parks five acres or greater in area should be considered as satisfying the maximum service radius requirement. Such park sites generally provide areas which offer space for passive recreational uses, as well as facilities which provide opportunities for active recreational uses.

^pA recreation corridor is defined as a publicly owned continuous linear expanse of land which is generally located within scenic areas or areas of natural, cultural, or historical interest and which provides opportunities for participation in trail-oriented outdoor recreational activities especially through the provision of trails designated for such activities as biking, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, and ski-touring.

^qFacilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities generally serve urban areas. The minimum per capita requirements for facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities, therefore, apply to the total resident population in each urban area of the County.

^rFor each facility for intensive nonresource-oriented activity, the service radius indicates the maximum distance a participant should have to travel from his or her place of residence to participate in the corresponding activity.

^sEach urban area having a population of 2,500 or greater should have at least one baseball diamond.

^tSupport facilities such as night lighting, concessions, and bleachers generally should not be provided in Type IV sites. These sites typically do not contain sufficient acreage to allow an adequate buffer between such support facilities and surrounding neighborhood residences.

^uEach urban area should have at least one ice-skating rink.

^vEach urban area having a population of 7,500 or greater should have one public swimming pool or beach.

^wFacilities for intensive resource-oriented activities serve both rural and urban residents of the County. The minimum per capita requirements for facilities for intensive resource-oriented activities, therefore, apply to the total resident population of the County.

^xParticipants in intensive resource-oriented recreational activities travel relatively long distances from their home. The approximate service radius indicates the normal maximum distance a participant in the respective resource-oriented activity should have to travel from his or her place of residence to participate in the corresponding activity.

^yThe allocation of the 6.35 picnic tables per thousand residents to publicly owned general-use sites is as follows: 3.80 tables per thousand residents of the County to be located in Type I and Type II parks to meet the resource-oriented picnicking needs of the County and 2.55 tables per thousand residents of urban areas in the County to be located in Type III and Type IV parks to meet local picnicking needs in urban areas of the County.

^zA picnic area is commonly provided adjacent to a swimming beach as a support facility. Thus, the total amount of acreage required for support facilities must be determined on a site-by-site basis.

^{aa}Both urban and rural residents of the County participate in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities. Thus, minimum per capita requirements for trails for extensive land-based activities apply to the total resident population of the County.

^{bb}Bike routes are located on existing public roadways; therefore, no requirement is indicated.

^{cc}Pleasure-driving routes are located on existing public roadways; therefore, no requirement is provided. However, a recreation corridor may provide a uniquely suitable area for the development of a system of scenic driving routes.

^{dd}Major canoeable streams are defined as those streams which have a minimum width of 50 feet over a distance of at least 10 miles.

Footnotes (continued)

^{ee}*Biodiversity refers to the number and abundance of animal and plant species, their genetic composition and variability, and the ecological connection between and among species.*

Source: SEWRPC.