

SUMMARY OF MAPS AND DATA AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

OVERVIEW

The following maps and data are available to local governments from the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Regional plan recommendations and digital data are typically provided at no cost to local governments. Data requests that require preparing a base map tailored to the local government may involve a fee based on the cost of the time and materials incurred by Commission staff to design and produce the base map and requested thematic maps and data (e.g., maps of existing land uses, environmental corridors, or floodplains). Note that many mapping datasets have been digitized and made available through the Commission's Interactive Mapping Application at www.sewrpc.org/Regional-Mapping.

REGIONAL PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission, as the areawide planning agency for Southeastern Wisconsin, is responsible for making and adopting a master plan for the physical development of the Region, including the use of land and supporting transportation and utility facilities. To accomplish this, the Commission prepares individual plan elements that together comprise the Region's comprehensive plan.

- A summary of the land use recommendations from VISION 2050
- Map of VISION 2050 Regional Land Use Component as it pertains to a local government
- Map of VISION 2050 Transportation Elements (Arterial Streets and Highways, Public Transit, Bicycle, and Freight Transportation) as they pertain to a local government
- Map of the adopted County Park and Open Space Plan as it pertains to a local government where the county plan was prepared by the Commission
- Map of the Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan as it pertains to a local government
- Map of the Planned Sanitary Sewer Service Area as it pertains to a local government (if applicable)
- A summary of data and recommendations from the Regional Water Supply Plan pertaining to a local government
- A summary of data and recommendations from the Regional Housing Plan pertaining to a local government

LAND USE INVENTORY

- The Commission's Regional Land Use Inventory delineates existing land uses using over 60 detailed land use categories, which can be combined into basic categories (e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, institutional, transportation, communication and utilities, agricultural, and other open land). Land use data were adjusted to orthophotos and property boundaries beginning with the 2000 land use inventory. Year 2020 land use maps and data are available for the entire Region and may be accessed at www.sewrpc.org/Regional-Mapping.
- Map of Historical Urban Growth in the Local Government and Environs (1900-2010). Information through the year 2010 is available.

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY

Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

The Commission's Environmental Corridor Inventory identifies environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, which are areas in the landscape that contain concentrations of important natural resource base elements. Under the inventory, "primary" and "secondary" environmental corridors and "isolated natural resource areas" are identified.

- Information and maps of year 2015 environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas are available for the entire Region and may be accessed at www.sewrpc.org/Regional-Mapping. Year 2020 inventories are underway and may be available (contact Commission staff for the most recent available inventory).
- Planned (Year 2050) Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas maps and data are available for the entire Region.

Natural Areas

This inventory is available for the entire Region, and identifies the following:

- "Natural Areas," defined as tracts of land or water that contain native plant and animal communities representative of the pre-European landscape (updated annually).
- "Critical Species Habitat (CSH) Areas," which are land or water areas that are important insofar as they support endangered, threatened, or rare plant or animal species. The CSH inventory includes aquatic areas (lakes and streams) that support critical species (updated annually).
- "Significant Geological Areas" identified in 1993 as part of the Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan.

Wildlife Habitat

This inventory identifies wildlife habitat areas and places them into one of three classes, based upon their inherent habitat value. This inventory was last updated on a regional basis in 1985. An inventory update is on hold pending funding from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR).

Soils-Related Information

Soils data can be obtained from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service at datagateway.nrcs.usda.gov. This site provides tabular and spatial soils data suitable for preparing soil interpretation maps. Soils data can also be accessed at www.sewrpc.org/Regional-Mapping.

Wetlands

Wetland data can be obtained from the WDNR at dnr.wi.gov/topic/wetlands/inventory.html.

Floodplains

Floodplain data can be obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at msc.fema.gov/portal.

SOCIOECONOMIC DATA AND FORECASTS

Regional Data and Forecasts

- Year 2010 population, household, and employment levels are available by quarter section, county, and region. See the description of the "Regional Employment Inventory" below for additional information about the employment data.
- Year 2050 forecasts of population, household, and employment levels are available by quarter section, county, and region. These forecasts use data for the year 2010 as a base.

Census Population and Housing Data

The U.S. Census Bureau is a key source of information on population, households, and housing units. The most important information is available for areas as small as census blocks. In intensively developed areas, census blocks often conform to city blocks.

Status: All data from the 2020 Census are available. Data from the American Community Survey (ACS) are also available.

Federal and State Employment Data¹

County-level information on employment levels, or the number of jobs, is available through the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), which prepares annual estimates of total employment by major employment category. Employment-level data are also available from the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), but these data pertain only to jobs covered by unemployment compensation.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis reports county-level employment data annually, but there is a two-year time lag in the data that are reported. DWD county-level employment data are released quarterly, with an approximately one-year time lag in the data that are reported.

- BEA data can be found online at www.bea.gov/data/economic-accounts/regional; choose "Employment by County, Metro, and Other Areas"
- DWD data can be found online at jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy; choose "Data Tools"

¹ All references to employment data here pertain to the number of jobs by place of work (i.e., where jobs are located).

Regional Employment Inventory

The Commission periodically conducts an inventory of employment, resulting in estimates of the number of jobs by six major categories,² which is available for counties, urban (sewer) service areas, and local governments outside urban service areas. Year 2010 and projected 2050 employment levels are currently available.

PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

Digital (GIS) and tabular data from the regional park and open space site inventory are available. The inventory includes the location, size, and ownership of park and open space sites owned by units of government (federal, State, county, city, village, or town), nonprofit conservation organizations, special-purpose units of government (such as school and lake districts), and privately owned sites.

The list is updated annually for sites owned by the WDNR and land trusts. Information on other park and open space sites is updated periodically as part of the update of county park and open space plans.

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE AREA PLAN MAPS

Maps showing the extent of planned sanitary sewer service areas, adopted as part of the Regional Water Quality Management Plan, are available in a series of Commission Community Assistance Planning Reports documenting local sewer service areas.

Local sewer service area plans are comprehensively revised or revised through minor amendments at the request of the community.

AERIAL PHOTOS

The Commission has prepared aerial photography for the seven-county Region going back to the 1960s. Year 2022 digital orthophoto images are available through the Commission's Interactive Mapping Application at www.sewrpc.org/Regional-Mapping.

CADASTRAL AND TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS

Digital cadastral mapping (maps showing parcel boundaries, street rights-of-way, and similar information) and topographic maps are available from each county in the Region. In Milwaukee County, contact Milwaukee County Land Information Office (MCLIO) at county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Administrative-Services/Land-Information-Office to request cadastral and topographic maps. Contact each county planning department for cadastral and topographic maps in Kenosha, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha Counties.

² The six major categories are: 1) industrial (manufacturing, construction, and wholesale trade); 2) retail trade and food service; 3) services (other than food service); 4) transportation, warehousing, and utilities; 5) government; and 6) agricultural and other (unclassified). See SEWRPC Technical Record No. 10, 5th edition, The Economy of Southeastern Wisconsin, April 2013, for more information.