

WISCONSIN
**Calumet
County**
Planning and Zoning

Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020-2030



CALUMET COUNTY

FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN

2020-2030

Prepared by the:

Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation
Committee Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Land Information
Department

Major Contributors:

Dena Mooney – Planner
Andy Hess - Land Information Officer
Matthew Payette – Planning, Zoning and Land Information Department Director

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SECTION I

Introduction

Like many communities across Wisconsin, Calumet County's agricultural roots run deep. Agriculture is a \$1.5 billion industry in Calumet County with the majority of its land use in farmland (62.3%). Since the County's last farmland preservation plan in 2010, Calumet County has experienced a 1.8% decline in the amount of farmland. While loss of farmland is never ideal, a less than 2% rate over the course of 11 years (2004-2015) is an achievement considering the development pressure from the Fox Cities Metropolitan Area. It takes leadership, commitment, vision, innovation and most of all community support to fulfill the County's goal of maintaining the operational efficiency and productivity of the County's agricultural areas for current and future generations. While it is not practical or possible to stop all development, it is the best interest of the farming community as a whole to preserve what is practical and possible. This is the County's fourth farmland preservation plan (1980, 1988 and 2010 and 2020).

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to bring awareness to the community about the state of the County's agricultural lands and the people who farm it. It is about having food for the future, retaining rural character and preserving our farming heritage. This plan offers an action plan to help preserve identified areas of farmland so that there is food, rural character and a legacy to pass on to upcoming generations.



Calumet County's Rural Character

Farmland preservation is not just about saving land, feeding people and keeping taxes down. One of the primary goals of farmland preservation is to provide an agricultural land base. Such base allows farmers to improve and expand their operations without fear of being adversely impacted by conflicting and encroaching development. Farmland preservation is important because it strengthens the local agricultural industry by:

- Providing a stable land base
- Providing a venue for the farmer to make a wage
- Guaranteeing a commodity for agribusiness
- Providing productive tax paying open space
- Providing a means to liquidate equity while preserving land
- Protecting high quality and prime soils from development
- Allowing for efficient growth patterns with minimal cost to the taxpayers
- Providing diversity in the landscape
- Helping to protect and buffer natural resource areas
- Reducing conflict between farms and non-farms in the more rural areas of the County

Planning Process

In May 2016, Calumet County applied for and received a Farmland Preservation Planning Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). Receiving this funding allowed the County the opportunity to conduct a survey of the farming community. The Survey Research Center (SRC) at UW-River Falls was hired to assist with the project. The survey was named the Calumet County Farmland Preservation Study, 2018 (Appendix A). This was the first time a farmer's survey was completed for a farmland preservation plan.

Because the questions were farmer/farming related, it was important to create a mailing list that targeted this demographic. A mailing list was developed using the County's Geographic Information System (GIS). The criterion used to formulate the mailing list was fairly simple and included only two data sets: property owners in the unincorporated areas; and an agricultural improvement value of \$50,000 or more. The survey was mailed out January 2018. Response to the survey was outstanding; 446 surveys were mailed and 271 surveys were returned for a response rate of 61%. The responses received indicated value in farmland preservation and farmland preservation zoning thusly supporting the creation of this plan. It indicated that farmers believe there is enough farmland in Calumet County to support the long-term viability of agriculture but that they can't currently find productive/quality farmland to rent or buy in the County. It also shed light on what concerns farmers the most. The SRC noticed three themes:

- Concerns about the current low prices for most agricultural commodities and high cost of land appear to be making producers somewhat pessimistic about the long-term sustainability of agriculture in the County.
- There is a mixed feeling about governmental intervention in agriculture, with many of the opinion that there is too much involvement, while others support such current policies as exclusive agricultural zoning and call for stepped up enforcement of environmental and/or conservation policies.
- There seems to be concerns about on-going consolidation of farms into larger units that, in the estimation of some respondents, is having detrimental impacts on smaller farms, and the environment.

It is enlightening to know what all of the agricultural challenges in Calumet County are so the County can take action, where needed, to address these issues.

The development, review, public comment and approval process for the Farmland Preservation Plan was a multi-year effort. After receiving the planning grant, a farmland preservation plan kick-off meeting was held on May 23, 2017. All towns including the Town of Harrison were invited. The farmer's survey was conducted in January 2018. Planning staff forwarded a draft plan to DATCP for preliminary review on April 2, 2019. The Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee (Committee) reviewed the draft plan on April 4, 2019 and May 2, 2019. A final draft was prepared to include any comments received from the Committee and DATCP. The final draft plan was mailed to all towns and emailed to all cities, villages and East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission on May 16, 2019. Public informational meetings were held at the Calumet County Courthouse on May 22 and 30, 2019. A public hearing was held before the Committee on July 2, 2019. On July 3, 2019, the plan was forwarded to DATCP for certification. The Committee recommended approval of the plan on September 5, 2019. The Calumet County Board of Supervisors adopted the Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020-2030 on September 17, 2019. DATCP's certification takes effect on the date on

which the county adoption of the plan takes effect; therefore, DATCP's certification is September 17, 2019.

Goal, Objectives, Policies and Recommendations

Calumet County remains committed to the goal, objectives, policies and recommendations in its 2010-2020 Farmland Preservation Plan. These also reflect what's included in the Calumet County Year 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Participation in the State of Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Program has been, and will continue to be, effective in accomplishing our goal along with other actions described in Section IV of this plan.

Goal: Maintain the operational efficiency and productivity of the County's agricultural areas for current and future generations.

Objectives:

Agriculture

- Strive to reduce the rate of prime farmland being converted to non-agricultural development.
- Increase awareness of the importance of protecting the viability of the local agriculture industry.
- Actively pursue concepts which could allow farmers and farmland owners an opportunity to secure financial benefits for the preservation of farmland.
- Work with Calumet County local units of government to identify lands where the primary intent is to preserve productive farmland and to protect agricultural investment in land and improvements.
- Manage growth to ensure an adequate supply of land is available for agriculture, and the land with prime soils remains available for crop production and grazing.
- Support land use practices that reduce potential conflicts between agriculture and other land uses.

Natural Resources

- Encourage farmers to follow Best Management Practices to minimize erosion and groundwater and surface water contamination.

Population, Municipal Expansion and Housing

- Increase efforts to promote cost effective residential development.
- Direct residential subdivision development to planned growth areas.
- Support opportunities for multi-family, group housing, and other high-density residential development within existing neighborhoods with established sewer and water services.

Economic Growth and Business Development

- Allow for the opportunity to accommodate creative and unique forms of agriculture.

Utilities, Transportation and Community Facilities

- Balance growth in the County with the cost of providing services.
- Encourage sewerage assessment and policies that promote compact development.
- Encourage development to be located in areas currently served by sanitary sewer systems.
- Focus new areas of growth within or near existing areas of development where adequate public facilities and services exist or are planned for expansion.

- Realize the cost effectiveness of utilizing the existing road network to accommodate most future development.

Policies and Recommendations

- Revise and update the Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan.
- Provide opportunities to allow small and mid-size farming operations to flourish in an efficient and productive manner.
- Designate specific areas within the County suitable for intensive agricultural purposes.
- Update the Calumet County Growth Management Policy in accordance with the



Barn Quilt in Calumet County

- recommendations of the Calumet County comprehensive plan and utilize that policy for managing land divisions in the unincorporated areas of Calumet County.
- The County shall provide technical assistance to farmers to accomplish soil erosion and runoff management goals and objectives listed in the Calumet County Land and Water Resources Management Plan.
- Provide technical and financial assistance, as available from state and federal sources, to farmers to install best management practices.
- Develop and implement educational programs for farmers on soil erosion and runoff and best management practices to control them.
- Existing prime farmland should not be used for future non-agricultural use unless consistent with the comprehensive plan.
- Municipal services should not be extended into farmland areas unless a plan for their immediate use is in place.
- New development on productive agricultural land should be limited in conjunction with site plan review or other mechanisms that would allow building and site development coordination as part of development approval.
- Residential subdivision development should be located in planned growth areas as identified by the comprehensive plan.
- Road development within areas protected for agriculture should be limited to the fullest extent possible.

SECTION II

Population, Municipal Expansion and Housing

Calumet County has been one of the fastest growing counties in the state. In fact, Calumet County was the third fastest growing county in 2015. Then from 2016-2018, Calumet County became the second fastest growing county in Wisconsin (2010 U.S. Census and Wisconsin Department of Administration Demographic Services Center Population Estimates). This growth is no surprise. With its location to the Fox Cities, Lake Winnebago shoreline and rural charm, Calumet County is an ideal place to call home.

Figure 1 displays the population trends of local communities, Calumet County, and the State of Wisconsin from 1980 to 2010.

Figure 1: Population Counts, Calumet County, 1980-2010

Municipality	1980	1990	2000	2010
T. Brillion	1,191	1,300	1,438	1,486
T. Brothertown	1,494	1,409	1,404	1,329
T. Charlestown	1,090	875	789	775
T. Chilton	1,120	998	1,130	1,143
T. Harrison	3,541	3,195	5,756	10,839
T. New Holstein	1,527	1,406	1,457	1,508
T. Rantoul	1,184	895	812	798
T. Stockbridge	1,248	1,317	1,383	1,456
T. Woodville	1,160	1,071	993	980
V. Hilbert	1,176	1,211	1,089	1,132
V. Potter	0	252	252	253
V. Sherwood	372	837	1,550	2,713
V. Stockbridge	567	579	649	636
C. Appleton*	5,484	9,075	10,974	11,088
C. Brillion	2,907	2,840	2,937	3,148
C. Chilton	2,965	3,240	3,708	3,933
C. Kiel*	429	376	321	309
C. Menasha*	0	73	688	2,209
C. New Holstein	3,412	3,342	3,301	3,236
Calumet County	30,867	34,291	40,631	48,971
Wisconsin	4,705,642	4,891,769	5,363,675	5,686,986

*Only includes population located in Calumet County.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 2 displays the number and percent population change for municipalities in Calumet County and the State of Wisconsin.

Figure 2: Population Change, Calumet County, 1980-2010

Municipality	# Change 1980-1990	% Change 1980-1990	# Change 1990-2000	% Change 1990-2000	# Change 2000-2010	% Change 2000-2010	# Change 1980-2010	% Change 1980-2010
T. Brillion	109	9.2%	138	10.6%	48	3.3%	295	24.8%
T. Brothertown	-85	-5.7%	-5	-0.4%	-75	-5.3%	-165	-11.0%
T. Charlestown	-215	-19.7%	-86	-9.8%	-14	-1.8%	-315	-28.9%
T. Chilton	-122	-10.9%	132	13.2%	13	1.2%	23	2.1%
T. Harrison	-346	-9.8%	2,561	80.2%	5,083	88.3%	7,298	206.1%
T. New Holstein	-121	-7.9%	51	3.6%	51	3.5%	-19	-1.2%
T. Rantoul	-289	-24.4%	-83	-9.3%	-14	-1.7%	-386	-32.6%
T. Stockbridge	69	5.5%	66	5.0%	73	5.3%	208	16.7%
T. Woodville	-89	-7.7%	-78	-7.3%	-13	-1.3%	-180	-15.5%
V. Hilbert	35	3.0%	-122	-10.1%	43	3.9%	-44	-3.7%
V. Potter	252	NA	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	253	NA
V. Sherwood	465	125.0%	713	85.2%	1,163	75.0%	2,341	629.3%
V. Stockbridge	12	2.1%	70	12.1%	-13	-2.0%	69	12.2%
C. Appleton*	3,591	65.5%	1,899	20.9%	114	1.0%	5,604	102.2%
C. Brillion	-67	-2.3%	97	3.4%	211	7.2%	241	8.3%
C. Chilton	275	9.3%	468	14.4%	225	6.1%	968	32.6%
C. Kiel*	-53	-12.4%	-55	-14.6%	-12	-3.7%	-120	-28.0%
C. Menasha*	73	NA	615	842.5%	1,521	221.1%	2,209	NA
C. New Holstein	-70	-2.1%	-41	-1.2%	-65	-2.0%	-176	-5.2%
Calumet County	3,424	11.1%	6,340	18.5%	8,340	20.5%	18,104	58.7%
Wisconsin	186,127	4.0%	471,906	9.6%	323,311	6.0%	981,344	20.9%

*Only includes population located in Calumet County.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

According to the Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA) Demographic Services Center, the 2018 estimated population of Calumet County was 52,658, a 7.53% increase from the 2010 Census. It doesn't appear that this growth will be stopping any time soon. Figure 3 projects that Calumet County's population will grow by 31% between 2010 and 2040.

Figure 3: WDOA Population Projections, Calumet County, 2010-2040

Municipality	2010 Census	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	# Change	% Change
T. Brillion	1,486	1,590	1,650	1,705	1,720	1,715	229	15.4%
T. Brothertown	1,329	1,340	1,345	1,340	1,310	1,260	- 69	-5.2%
T. Charlestown	775	795	805	810	795	770	- 5	-0.6%
T. Chilton	1,143	1,195	1,230	1,260	1,260	1,245	102	8.9%
T. Harrison	10,839	1,550	1,740	1,925	2,070	2,185	- 8,654	-79.8%
T. New Holstein	1,508	1,605	1,665	1,715	1,725	1,715	207	13.7%
T. Rantoul	798	805	805	805	785	755	- 43	-5.4%
T. Stockbridge	1,456	1,575	1,640	1,700	1,720	1,720	264	18.1%
T. Woodville	980	990	1,000	1,000	980	945	- 35	-3.6%
V. Harrison*	0	11,760	13,190	14,600	15,700	16,550	16,550	NA
V. Hilbert	1,132	1,170	1,195	1,210	1,200	1,175	43	3.8%
V. Potter	253	255	255	255	250	240	- 13	-5.1%
V. Sherwood	2,713	3,350	3,755	4,155	4,475	4,715	2,002	73.8%
V. Stockbridge	636	645	655	660	650	630	- 6	-0.9%
C. Appleton*	11,088	11,890	12,360	12,770	12,910	12,860	1,772	16.0%
C. Brillion	3,148	3,430	3,575	3,715	3,775	3,780	632	20.1%
C. Chilton	3,933	4,170	4,325	4,455	4,505	4,480	547	13.9%
C. Kaukauna*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
C. Kiel*	309	325	330	335	330	325	16	5.2%
C. Menasha*	2,209	2,840	3,185	3,525	3,800	4,000	1,791	81.1%
C. New Holstein	3,236	3,275	3,305	3,315	3,250	3,145	- 91	-2.8%
Calumet County	48,971	54,555	58,010	61,255	63,210	64,210	15,239	31.1%
Wisconsin	5,686,986	6,005,080	6,203,850	6,375,910	6,476,270	6,491,635	804,649	14.1%

*Only includes population located in Calumet County.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration Demographic Services Center

Most of this growth is occurring in the northwest portion of the County. In fact, pressure to develop agricultural land reached a tipping point in this area. Due to residential development pressures of the adjacent cities of Appleton, Menasha and Kaukauna, the Town of Harrison incorporated and became the Village of Harrison. This incorporation explains the population loss in the Town of Harrison, which wasn't a loss but rather a transfer to the Village of Harrison. When the population projections were calculated in 2013, some Town of Harrison remained. Subsequent annexations and intergovernmental agreements have eliminated the entire town with the exception of one parcel of land. This 6.1 acre parcel is currently uninhabited and is owned by the City of Menasha. Future census counts and population projections will show a 100% decline in population in the Town of Harrison while the Village of Harrison will see the growth. Growth in Sherwood and Menasha will also not be as high since they are now land locked in the County. Because of the incorporation and anticipated growth, no areas within the Village of Harrison are identified for farmland preservation.

Conversely, the Towns of Brothertown, Charlestown, New Holstein, Rantoul and Woodville experienced population loss between 1980 and 2010. Out of those towns, it is projected that only the Town of New Holstein will see a population increase by 2040.

To meet the demand of the expanding population, the number of housing units has drastically increased. Figure 4 details the number of housing units in Calumet County from 1980-2010. Between 1980 and 2010, Calumet County experienced an 89% increase in the number of housing units.



Senior Housing Development in Chilton

Figure 4: Housing Units, Calumet County, 1980-2010

	1980	1990	2000	2010	# Change 1980-2010	% Change 1980-2010
Calumet County	10,428	12,465	15,758	19,695	9,267	88.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The WDOA Demographic Services Center estimated 21,344 housing units in 2018, which is an increase of 1,649 units or 8.4% from 2010. The U.S. Census Bureau classified housing units as a house, apartment, mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied as separate living quarters, or if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall.



Single-Family Housing Development in Chilton



Multi-Family Housing Development in Chilton

Similar to population forecasts, the WDOA Demographic Services Center also develops household projections. Note that projections are for households rather than total housing units. Households are defined as occupied housing units. Figure 5 details the Household Projections for Calumet County.

Figure 5: WDOA Household Projections, Calumet County, 2010-2040

Municipality	2010 Census	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	# Change	% Change
T. Brillion	546	610	646	681	700	708	162	29.7%
T. Brothertown	538	567	580	590	588	573	35	6.5%
T. Charlestown	296	317	327	336	336	330	34	11.5%
T. Chilton	416	454	477	499	508	509	93	22.4%
T. Harrison	462	592	677	765	838	897	435	94.2%
T. New Holstein	581	646	683	718	736	742	161	27.7%
T. Rantoul	272	287	292	298	296	289	17	6.3%
T. Stockbridge	581	657	697	738	760	771	190	32.7%
T. Woodville	337	356	366	374	373	365	28	8.3%
V. Harrison*	3,182	4,083	4,667	5,275	5,781	6,178	2,996	94.2%
V. Hilbert	462	499	519	537	543	539	77	16.7%
V. Potter	98	103	105	107	107	104	6	6.1%
V. Sherwood	986	1,272	1,453	1,642	1,802	1,925	939	95.2%
V. Stockbridge	292	309	320	329	331	325	33	11.3%
C. Appleton*	4,225	4,733	5,015	5,291	5,451	5,504	1,279	30.3%
C. Brillion	1,298	1,477	1,569	1,664	1,722	1,747	449	34.6%
C. Chilton	1,687	1,862	1,962	2,054	2,103	2,101	414	24.5%
C. Kaukauna*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
C. Kiel*	129	142	147	152	153	152	23	17.8%
C. Menasha*	793	1,065	1,217	1,376	1,512	1,613	820	103.4%
C. New Holstein	1,394	1,467	1,503	1,530	1,516	1,471	77	5.5%
Calumet County	18,575	21,497	23,223	24,957	26,157	26,844	8,269	44.5%
Wisconsin	2,279,768	2,491,982	2,600,538	2,697,884	2,764,498	2,790,322	510,554	22.4%

*Only includes population located in Calumet County.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration Demographic Services Center

Unlike the population projections, which showed some communities losing population, all communities in Calumet County are predicted to see an increase in households. Furthermore, the number of households in Calumet County is projected to be double of what's expected state-wide, 44.5% compared to 22.4%.

The anticipated population and housing growth is the County's key land use issue. To accommodate this growth, ensure continued agricultural success and maintain land availability, the strategies for farmland preservation identified in Section IV need to be utilized.

Economic Growth and Business Development

Calumet County is located in Northeast Wisconsin on the east side of Lake Winnebago, Wisconsin's largest inland lake, and is surrounded by Brown, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Winnebago and Outagamie counties. Calumet County is small both in size and population compared to the surrounding counties; however, it has a very strong economy and one of the highest household incomes in the state.

Key statistics about Calumet County's economy:

- 72.4% of population is in the civilian labor force (U.S. Census Bureau 2013-2017)
- Unemployment rate is 2.2% (Not seasonally adjusted, December 2018, WI DWD)
- Median household income is \$70,662 (U.S. Census Bureau 2013-2017), 6th highest in Wisconsin
- Calumet County specializes in Manufacturing; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting; and Management of Companies & Enterprises, which employ respectively 2.62; 2.22; and 1.59 times more people than what would be expected in a location of this size (Data USA).
- The most common employment sectors for those who live in Calumet County are Manufacturing, Health Care & Social Assistance and Retail Trade (Data USA).

Value and Economic Impact of Agriculture

According to the 2014 UW Extension Value and Economic Impact of Agriculture Report, agriculture has the following impact on Calumet County's economy:

- Agriculture provides jobs for 4,024 residents (18% of the County's workforce of 23,006) compared to 2,407 in 2004.
- Agriculture accounts for \$1.5 billion in economic activity (37% of the County's total economic activity) compared to \$338.1 million in 2004.
- Agriculture contributes \$318 million to the County's total income (23% of the County's total income) compared to \$68.5 million in 2004.
- Agriculture pays \$19.1 million in taxes compared to \$7.2 million in 2004. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to local schools.

The report also states that agricultural processing is the major agricultural industry in Calumet County contributing \$1.2 billion to the County's economy. The processing of milk into dairy products accounts for \$295.2 million. Cheese, flour milling and malt manufacturing are the main products.

Agricultural Infrastructure

Below are key components of Calumet County's agricultural supply chain. The locations of these components are identified on Figure 6.

Licensed Grain Dealers or Warehouse Keepers

- Briess Industries Inc. – 625 S. Irish Road, Chilton
- Central Garden & Pet Company (a.k.a – Kaytee) – 521 Clay Street, Chilton
- Fox Valley Alfalfa Mill, Inc. - 508 N. 3rd St., Hilbert
- Danes Fairylane Dairy Farms, Inc. - N2556 Honeymoon Hill Road, New Holstein
- Donald Pfister - N3091 County Road T, New Holstein
- Kress Farm Supply (a.k.a. Sherwood Elevator) – N599 Military Road, Sherwood
- Country Visions Cooperative – W2468 County Road E, Chilton

Agricultural Equipment Services and Suppliers

- C.A. Tesch Equipment LLC –W2374 US Highway 10, Brillion
- Vanderloop Equipment – W2834 Dundas Road, Brillion
- D&D Equipment – 820 W. Main Street, Chilton
- Gruett's Power Center - 101 Main Street, Potter

- Pat's Tire Sales & Service – N4040 County Road C, Chilton
- Pomp's Tire Service – N1525 State Highway 57, New Holstein
- Phil's Pumping & Fabrication – W1823 County Road E, Chilton
- Farm & Home – 519 N. Madison Street, Chilton
- Potter Farm Supply – 309 Pheasant Street, Potter
- Ag Electrical Services, LLC. – W1825 Rusch Road, Brillion
- W&W Bagging, LLC. – N9594 County Road PP, Brillion
- GVD Feed Covers, LLC. – W3412 Schmidt Road, Brillion
- The Parts Depot – 521 Vogt Lane, Chilton
- M&H Repair Inc. – W2265 Keller Road, Brillion
- Stanley Schmitz Inc. – N2340 County Road G, Chilton
- LDS Inc. – 946 Progress Way, Chilton

Cooperatives and Related Agricultural Services

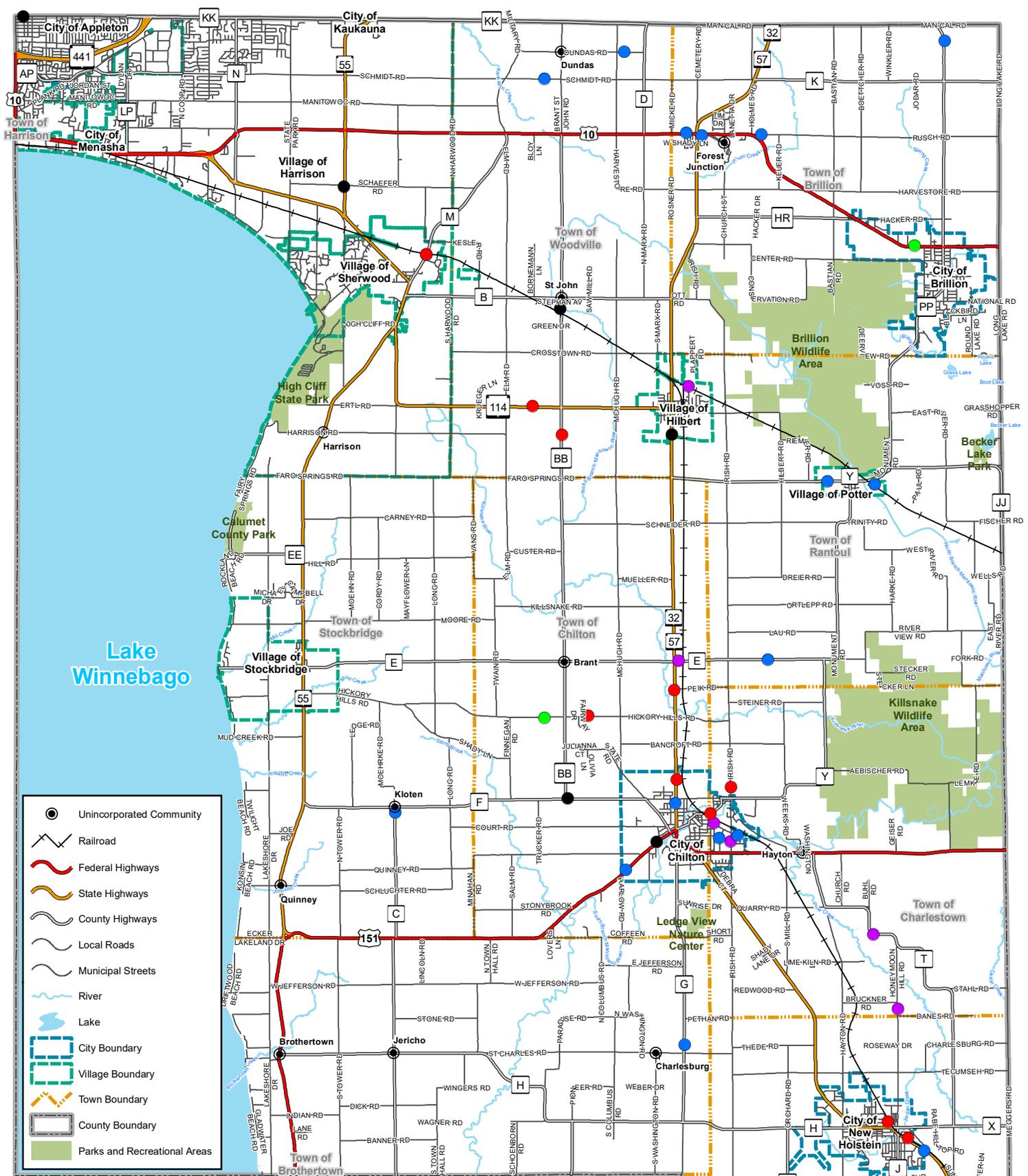
- Sherwood Elevator - N599 Military Road, Sherwood
- Country Visions Cooperative – W2468 County Road E, Chilton
- Calumet Feeds & Supply, Inc. – 2038 Railroad Street, New Holstein
- Kolbe Seed Farm – N4176 Irish Road, Chilton
- Milk Products, Inc. – 435 E. Main Street, Chilton
- Milk Specialties Global – 1310 Milwaukee Drive, New Holstein
- Countryside Aviation, LLC. – W3124 Hickory Hills Road, Chilton
- Roehrig Field Services – N6698 County Road BB, Hilbert
- Forest Brook Seeds, LLC. – N4897 State Highway 57, Chilton
- Degeneffe Brothers Transport, Inc. – 820 N. Madison Street, Chilton
- High Cliff Veterinary Service – W3510 State Highway 114, Hilbert

Meat/Fish/Animal Products

- Hickory Hills Country Meats – W3445 Hickory Hills Road, Chilton
- Roehrborn Meats – 640 W. Ryan Street, Brillion

Milk/Cheese

- BelGioioso Cheese Inc. – N8495 State Highway 55, Menasha
- Ornuia Ingredients North America – N7630 County Road BB, Hilbert
- Sargento Foods Inc. – 460 S. 8th Street, Hilbert
- Land O' Lakes Inc. – 1125 8th Street, Kiel
- Foremost Farms USA – W3286 County Road F, Chilton
- Vern's Cheese, Inc. – 312 W. Main Street, Chilton
- Arthur Bay Cheese Co. – 237 E. Calumet Street, Appleton



Legend

- Unincorporated Community
- Railroad
- Federal Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Municipal Streets
- River
- Lake
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary
- Parks and Recreational Areas

Agricultural Infrastructure

Figure 6

- Agricultural Infrastructure**
- Meat/Fish/Animal Products
 - Cooperatives and Related Agricultural Services
 - Ag Equipment Services and Suppliers
 - Grain Dealers or Warehouse Keepers
 - Milk/Cheese

Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet

St Anna

Map Date: March 2019

Tourism

Agricultural tourism stands out as one means of aiding the local economy while at the same time providing a healthy economic benefit to small- and medium-sized farms and enhancing the rural image of the County. It also provides diversity in the County's agriculturally economy. Below is a list of agricultural tourism destinations located in Calumet County:

- Arthur Bay Cheese Co., 237 E. Calumet Street, Appleton – Cheese store
- Bleating Heart Haven, W1993 Thede Road, New Holstein – Fiber farm and art studio
- Evergreen Valley Fish Farm, W1551 County Road E, Chilton – Fish farm
- Heritage Orchard, N2963 Lake Shore Drive, Chilton – Apple orchard
- Honeymoon Acres, 2600 Ford Drive, New Holstein – Greenhouse
- Meuer Farm, N2564 US Highway 151, Chilton – Farm store, wagon rides, strawberries, peas, corn maze, pumpkins, production and processing of ancient grains, honey and maple syrup
- Mulberry Lane Farm, W3190 County Road B, Hilbert – Petting farm and event barn
- Polly's Pumpkin Patch, N4367 State Highway 57, Chilton – Strawberries, pumpkins, corn maze, farm store
- Quinney Estate Winery, N3332 State Highway 55, Chilton – Estate grown grapes and winery
- Sunrise Valley Organics and Natural Health, W4861 Moore Road, Hilbert – Farm store
- Toasty Oven Bake Shoppe, W2360 Kiel Road, New Holstein – Amish bakery
- Vern's Cheese, Inc., 312 W. Main Street, Chilton – Cheese store

Wisconsin Department of Tourism visitor spending numbers have shown a continued increase in spending in Calumet County. From 2012-2018, visitor spending increased by \$14 million due in large part to these agricultural tourism businesses. Because of the tremendous impact of agricultural tourism on our economy, it is important to not limit the diversity and creativity of businesses with hindering zoning regulations.

Calumet County Tourism has a Barn Art Program that coordinates the installation of barn quilts throughout Calumet County. While the main purpose of the program is to increase visitor spending in the County, it also aids in barn preservation and offers reflection on what the farming community means to Calumet County. These pieces of art tell a story just like any other art piece and often that story is about the farm or the farm owner. There are 26 large (8'x8') quilts and 12 small (4'x4') that have been painted through this program. In addition, Menasha High School and private individuals have painted quilts for Calumet County barns.

Education

Calumet County is home to the Chilton campus of Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC). FVTC, headquartered in the Town of Grand Chute, offers more than 200 associate degree, technical diploma and certificate programs related to 18 apprenticeship trades, in addition to providing services to business and industry. The college serves about 50,000 people annually, more than any other technical college in Wisconsin. Agricultural focused programs offered include:

- Agribusiness Agronomy Technician
- Agribusiness Dairy Technician
- Agribusiness Management Technician
- Agribusiness Science & Technology – Agronomy
- Agribusiness Science & Technology – Animal Science

- Agribusiness/Science Technology
- Agriculture Equipment Service Technician
- Agriculture Power Equipment
- Crop Application Specialist
- Farm Business & Production Management
- Farm Operation
- Precision Agriculture Technician
- Veterinary Technician
- Greenhouse Grower/Plant Propagation Technician
- Horticulture Technician

The southern portion of the County is served by Moraine Park Technical College, headquartered in Fond du Lac. Moraine Park serves over 18,000 students annually. More than 100 associate of applied science degrees, technical diplomas, apprenticeships and certificates are offered in a variety of formats – classroom, online and blended. Moraine Park offers the following agricultural programs:

- Agribusiness Science and Technology
- Agriculture Technician

Utilities, Community Facilities and Transportation

With population, comes the responsibility to provide services to those people. Due to Calumet County's size, the infrastructure network in the County is rather efficient with the municipalities coordinating the vast majority of services. The information contained in this chapter highlights services and service providers in our area.

Utilities

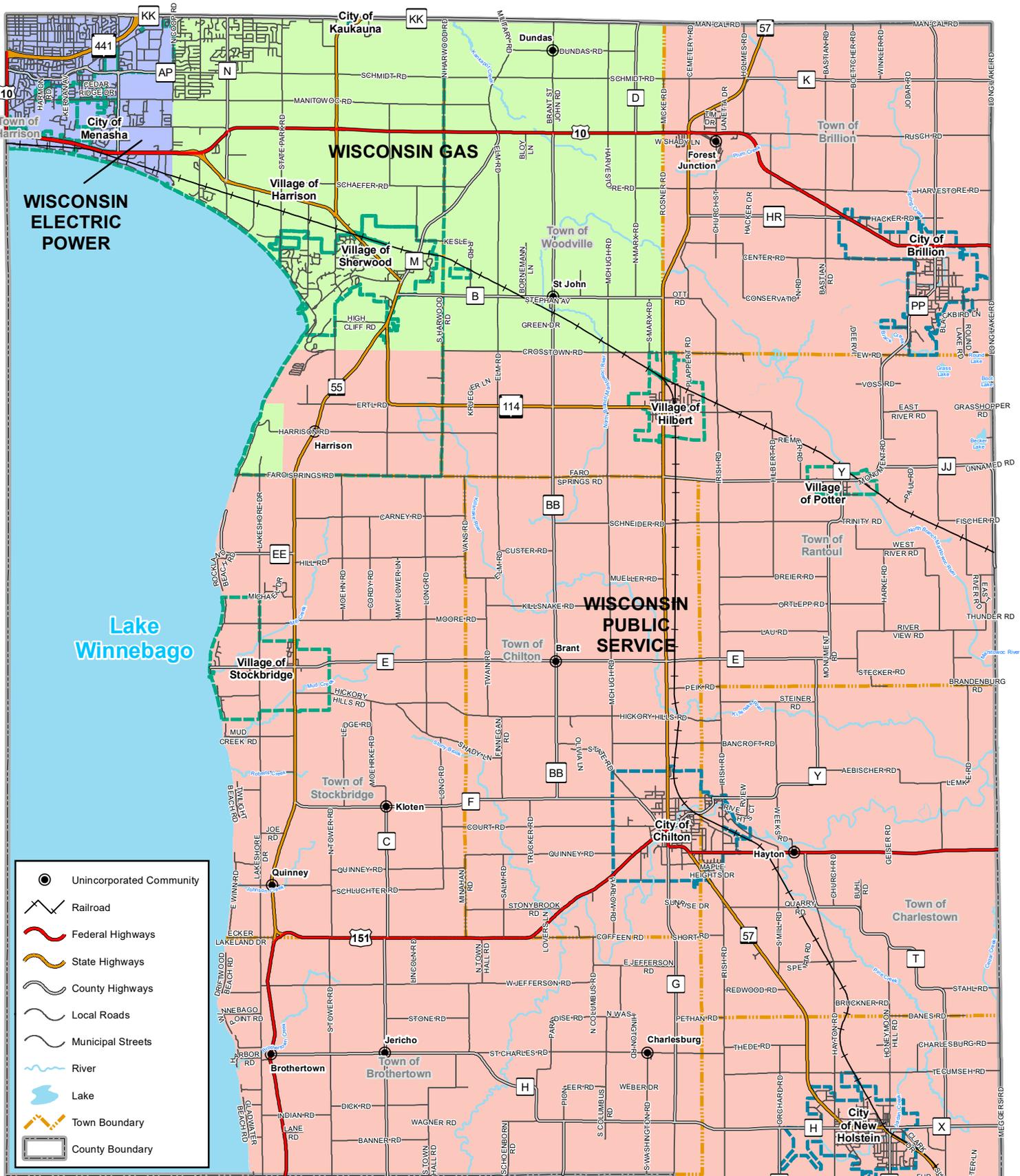
Three utility companies offer natural gas and several provide electric service. Figure 7 identifies natural gas service territories and Figure 8 identifies electric service territories.

Natural Gas

- Wisconsin Electric Power Company
- Wisconsin Gas
- Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

Electricity

- Wisconsin Electric Power Company
- Wisconsin Public Service Corporation
- New Holstein Public Utilities
- Menasha Electric & Water Utilities
- Kiel Utilities
- Wisconsin Power & Light



Natural Gas Service Territories **Figure 7**

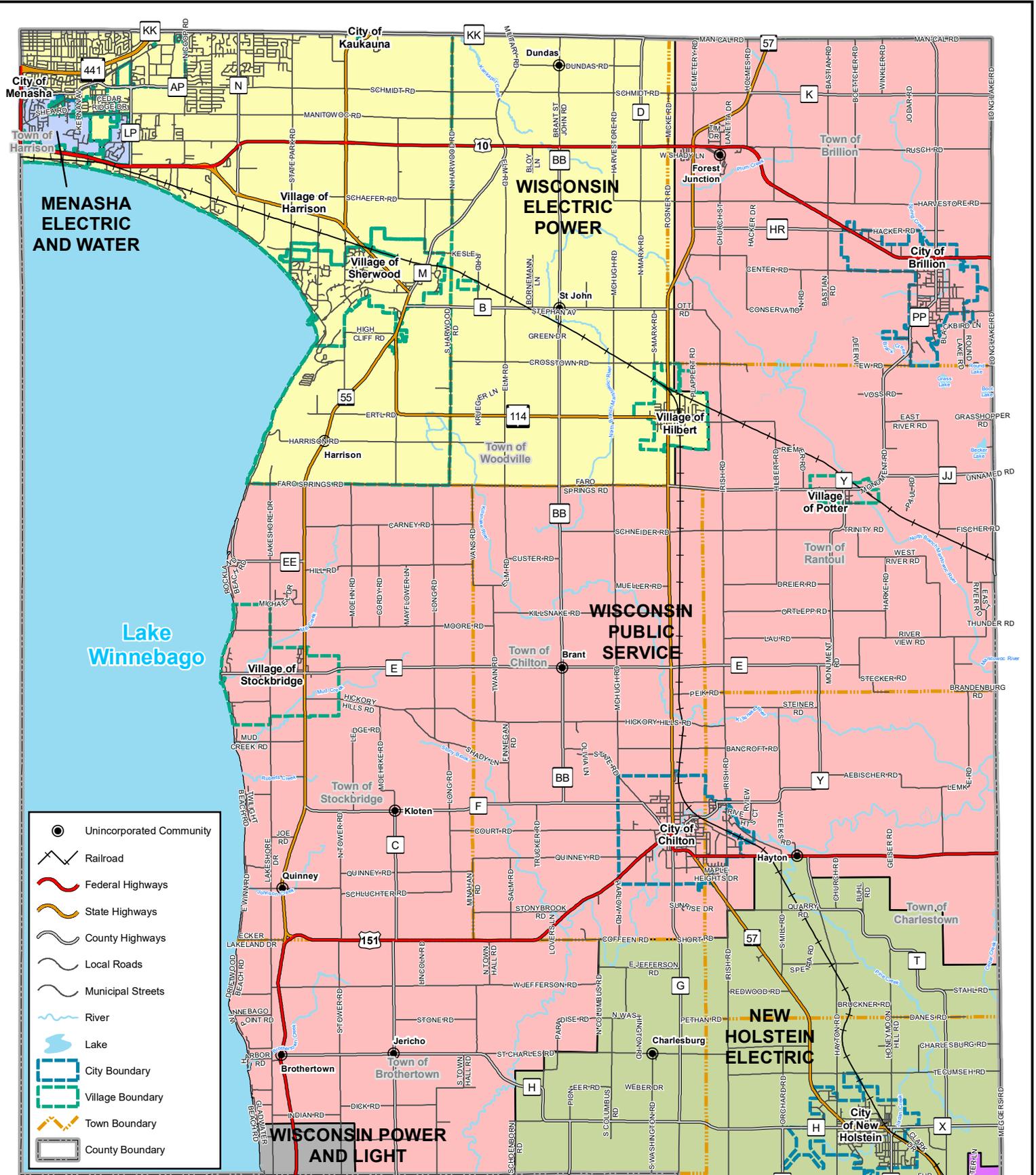
- Wisconsin Electric Power
- Wisconsin Gas
- Wisconsin Public Services



1 inch = 12,633 feet



Map Date: March 2019



Electric Service Territories

Figure 8

- Kiel Utilities
- Menasha Electric & Water Utilities
- New Holstein Public Utilities
- Wisconsin Electric Power Company
- Wisconsin Power & Light
- Wisconsin Public Service Corporation



1 inch = 12,633 feet

Map Date: March 2019

Energy

The Hickory Meadows Landfill in Hilbert has a 4,800 kilowatt electrical landfill gas-to-energy plant that provides power to the local electric grid powering homes or businesses in the neighborhood or transmitted via power lines all over the region.

Three Calumet County CAFOs have anaerobic digesters that produce energy that is sold to Wisconsin Public Service Corporation. Due to a drop in energy purchase rates, the likelihood of new digesters is low.

Waste Management

Calumet County has no involvement in solid waste or recycling collection, handling and disposal. Local municipalities are responsible for providing these services or individual residents contract for service privately.

The following are Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) licensed solid waste facilities in Calumet County:

- Advanced Disposal Hickory Meadows Landfill LLC (W3105 Schneider Road, Hilbert)
 - Landfill > 500,000 Cu Yd (asbestos, contaminated soil, demolition, dredging, foundry, garbage, industrial, noncombustible, paper mill sludge, refuse, shredder fluff)
 - Solid Waste Processing Solidification Contaminated Soil Treatment
 - Solid Waste Processing Waste Solidification (non-hazardous waste)
- Appleton Coated LLC (W4385 Hwy 10, Menasha)
 - Landfill > 500,000 Cu Yd – Monofill
- New Holstein City Wood Burning Site (Monroe St, New Holstein)
 - Solid Waste Woodburning Site (bark/brush, wood matter)
- Chilton City Yard Waste Compost Site (Short Rd/Hwy G, Chilton)
 - Solid Waste Residuals Composting <20,000 Cu Yd (yard)
- New Holstein City Compost Site (Taft Ave, New Holstein)
 - Solid Waste Residuals Composting <20,000 Cu Yd (yard)
- Brillion City Yard Waste Compost Facility (Hwy 10, Brillion)
 - Solid Waste Residuals Composting <20,000 Cu Yd (bark/brush, wood matter, yard)
- Hilbert Village (422 N. Third St)
 - Solid Waste Residuals Composting <20,000 Cu Yd (bark/brush, yard)
- Harrison Compost Site (W4476 Merbach Rd, Menasha)
 - Solid Waste Residuals Composting <20,000 Cu Yd (bark/brush, yard)
- Mid-Shores Disposal (1802 Roosevelt Ave, New Holstein)
 - Solid Waste Processing Facility (construction material, demolition, refuse, scrap iron)

Calumet County does coordinate free household hazardous waste disposal events on various dates throughout the year. In addition to hazardous waste collection, events for electronics and tire recycling are also held. Medication drop-off sites are located at the Calumet County Courthouse, New Holstein Police Department and Brillion Police Department.

Communications and Cable

For telephone, the majority of the County is served by Frontier Communications of WI, followed by Telephone and Data Systems Inc. and AT&T respectively. There are multiple companies who offer wireless and internet service. According to broadbandnow.com, approximately 7,000 people do not

have access to 25 mbps wired broadband and fiber optic internet is available to just 1% of Calumet County residents. Spectrum is the only cable provider. The continued improvement and accessibility of these items is crucial as technologies become more common in agriculture (e.g. robotics, herd management software, Global Positioning System).

Community Facilities and Services

Community facilities and services, such as sewage systems, public water systems, parks, libraries, governmental buildings and schools are all critical components to a healthy, efficient community. In general, community facilities and services are administered through the local units of government within Calumet County, or in the case of some sewage and water systems, an autonomous district or authority. Calumet County provides county-wide services such as social services, rural highway maintenance/plowing, emergency dispatch, criminal justice and land records management.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

There are two state trails located in Calumet County, the Friendship State Trail, which runs along Highway 10 between Forest Junction and Brillion, and the Fox River State Trail, which runs along Highway 32/57 between Ott Rd (north of Hilbert) to Green Bay (Figure 10). Both trails are managed by the Calumet County Parks Department. A crushed limestone surface allows for uses such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, and snowmobiling. Parks such as High Cliff State Park, Calumet County Park and Ledge View Nature Center and state wildlife areas such as the Brillion State Wildlife Area also have trail systems. Municipal trails and sidewalks add to the variety of facilities available for transportation.

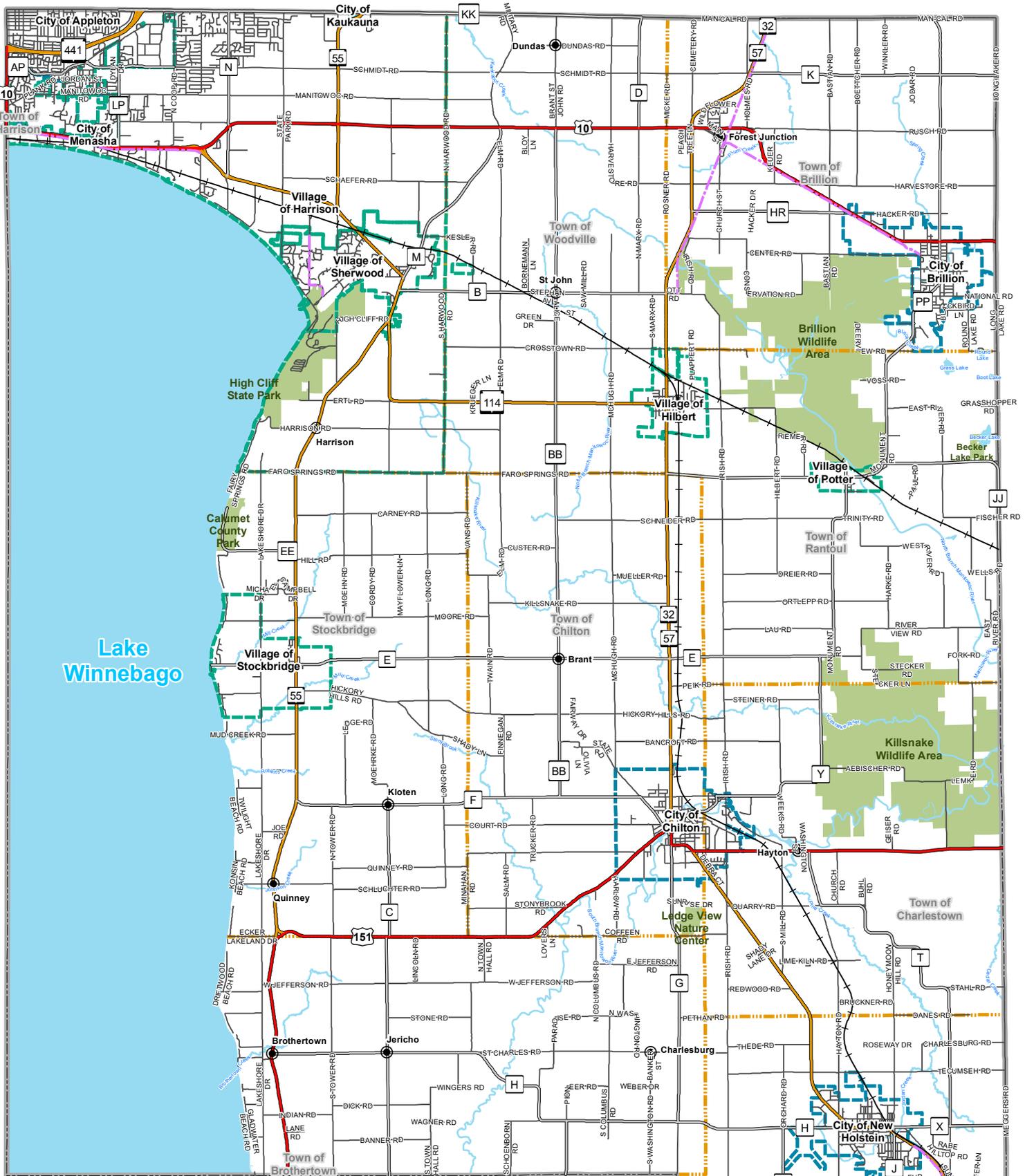
Due to the low traffic volume on many of our roads, there are no designated bike routes in the unincorporated areas of the County although local municipalities may have posted bike routes. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation does maintain a Wisconsin Bicycle Map. Figure 9 is the Calumet County portion of that map.

Figure 9: Wisconsin Bicycle Map, Calumet County



Road Network

Calumet County is located in between Interstates 41 and 43. While the interstate system is not located within the County, US Highways 10 and 151, which are, connect the two. In addition, there are three state highways (Highways 32/57, 55 and 114) and the rest of the road network is made up of county highways and local roads. Figure 10 depicts the County’s road network.



Road Map

-  Unincorporated Community
-  Trails
-  Railroad
-  Federal Highways
-  State Highways
-  County Highways
-  Local Roads
-  Municipal Streets
-  River
-  Lake
-  City Boundary
-  Village Boundary
-  Town Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Parks and Recreational Areas

Figure **10**



Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet



Bus Transit

The urbanized portion of Calumet County is served by Valley Transit. Based out of Appleton, Valley Transit's service area covers 117 square miles and serves a population of 216,154. They offer fixed-route service, paratransit and demand response services to a wide range of customers.

Rail Service

Canadian National owns and operates the two rail lines in Calumet County. The County's service comes from Menasha and/or the east and then runs south towards Kiel. Companies that currently use rail are as follows:

- Kiel: Land O'Lakes, Country Visions Cooperative
- New Holstein: Milk Specialties, Calumet Feeds and Supplies Inc.
- Chilton: Worthington Industries, Kaytee, Briess Industries, Country Visions Cooperative
- Hilbert: Fox Valley Alfalfa Mill
- Sherwood: Sherwood Elevator

Air Service

The only airport in Calumet County is located in New Holstein. The New Holstein Airport has a paved runway of 3600 feet and a turf runway of 3000 feet. It does not offer commercial passenger service. At the present time, the airport has eighteen hangars leased for private planes, with additional lots available for new hangars. In 2013, the New Holstein Airport opened its state of the art terminal which features a pilot's lounge, FBO office, four showers and a community room.

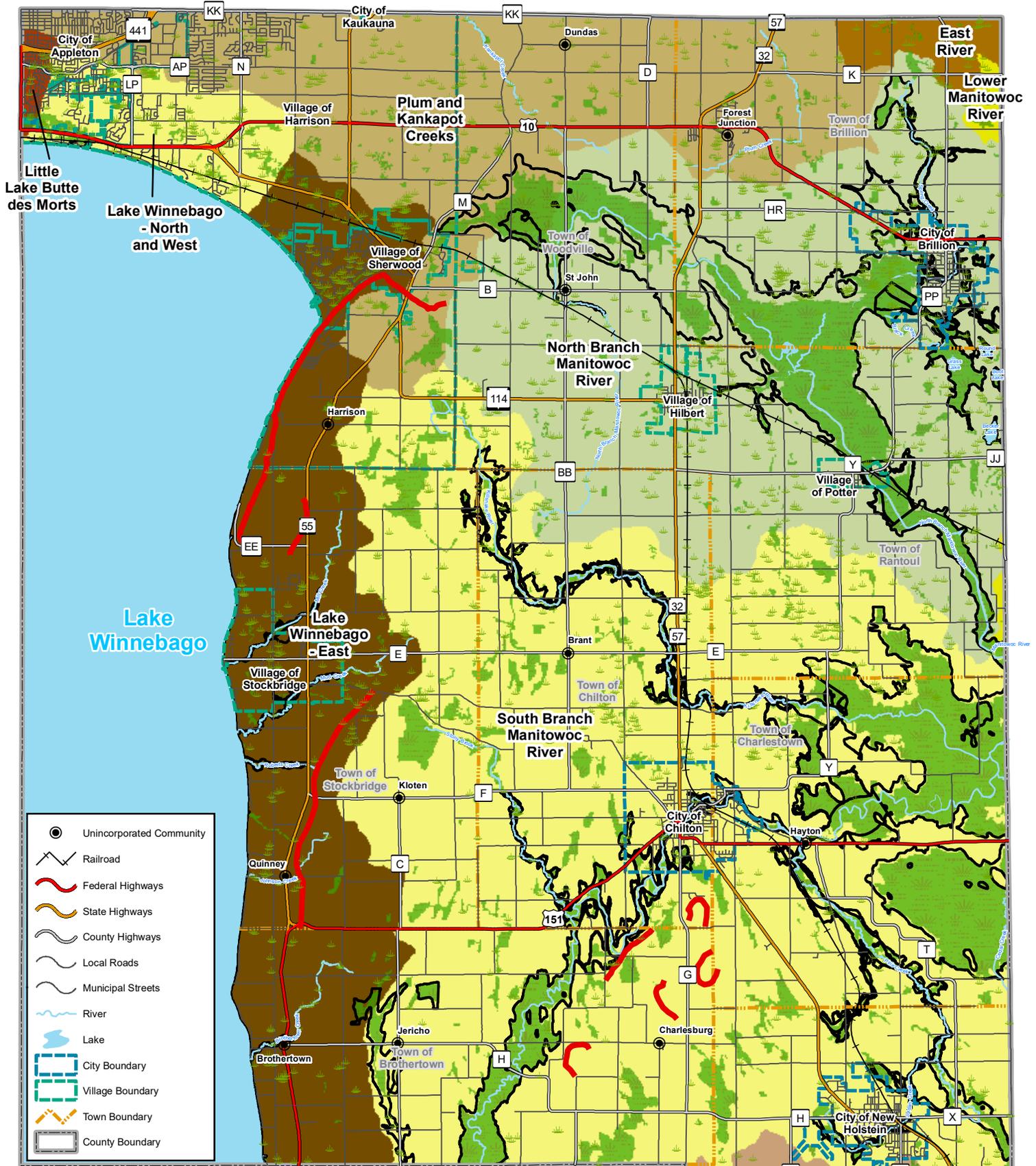


New Holstein Airport Terminal

Environmental Preservation

Farmers work closely with the environment to jointly produce and raise the healthiest crops and herds possible. They have a symbiotic relationship where Mother Nature provides the resources to the farmer, trusting he will take care of her resources and return them in good condition. The healthier the resources, the more productive and higher yield to the farmer. Figure 11 depicts Calumet County's environmental and water features.

Environmental stewardship is a way of life in farming. It is also a strong component in the state's farmland preservation program. Nutrient management planning and following best management practices are an integral part of the state's program. Managing land appropriately helps preserve farmland in a sound manner.



Environmental Features

Figure 11

- Wetlands Under 2 Acres
 - Niagara Escarpment Lines
 - Floodplains
 - Wetlands
- Watersheds**
- East River
 - Lake Winnebago - East
 - Lake Winnebago - North and West
 - Little Lake Butte des Morts
 - Lower Manitowoc River
 - North Branch Manitowoc River
 - Plum and Kankapot Creeks
 - Sheboygan River
 - South Branch Manitowoc River

Calumet County
Land Information Office
1 inch = 12,633 feet



Surface Water

Calumet County has a variety of named water bodies including:

- Lakes: Lake Winnebago, Round Lake, Boot Lake, Becker Lake and Grass Lake
- Millponds: Chilton Millpond and Hayton Millpond
- Marshes: Brillion State Wildlife Area, Killsnake State Wildlife Area and Kiel State Wildlife Area
- Streams: Garners Creek, Kankapot Creek, Plum Creek, East River, North Branch Manitowoc River, Spring Creek, Black Creek, Killsnake River, Mill Creek, Mud Creek, Roberts Creek, Johnson Creek, Brothertown Creek, South Branch Manitowoc River, Jordan Creek, Pine Creek, Cedar Creek, Sheboygan River and Stony Brook.



Fishing on Lake Winnebago

Many other seasonal streams, channels, ponds, flooded quarries and drainage ditches exist in the County. Surface water bodies encompass approximately 1.2% without or 20.4% with Lake Winnebago of the total area within Calumet County. All streams in the County drain to Lake Michigan either indirectly via Lake Winnebago and the Fox River into Green Bay or directly into Lake Michigan via the Manitowoc and Sheboygan Rivers.

The WDNR has divided Wisconsin into three large watersheds or basins. Calumet County falls entirely within the Lake Michigan Basin. The WDNR has further subdivided these watersheds into 23 smaller watersheds, geographic management units called sub-basins. The sub-basins are used for management and planning purposes, as well as to define work areas for staff. Calumet County falls into the following four management units or sub-basins.

- Upper Fox River Basin
- Lower Fox River Basin
- Lakeshore Basin
- Sheboygan River Basin

The WDNR has further divided these four management units within Calumet County into nine smaller watersheds (Figure 11). Each of these watersheds drains to a major stream in the County and is named after it. All of the watersheds have boundaries that reach outside of Calumet County. The watersheds, listed by sub-basins, are:

- Upper Fox River Sub-basin – Lake Winnebago East, Lake Winnebago North and West;
- Lower Fox River Sub-basin – Plum Creek, East River;
- Lakeshore Sub-basin – Lower Manitowoc River, North Branch Manitowoc River and South Branch Manitowoc River; and
- Sheboygan River Sub-basin – Sheboygan River

The federal Clean Water Act requires states to issue water quality status reports every two years for surface water bodies within their state boundaries. As part of these reports, each state must list water bodies that do not meet or are not expected to meet state water quality standards. These polluted or degraded waters are put on an impaired water list, otherwise known as a 303(d) list. All of the larger rivers and all of the lakes except Grass Lake in Calumet County are on the 303(d) list.

Some residents of Calumet County, as well as businesses and industries, rely on surface water as their source of water for drinking and other purposes. The Cities of Appleton and Menasha, the Village of Sherwood and a portion of the Village of Harrison use Lake Winnebago water for their water source. Some private residences along and near the Lake Winnebago shoreline use springs and small streams flowing out of the Niagara Escarpment for their water sources. The quality of water in Lake Winnebago is impacted by nonpoint pollution and must be filtered and treated before consumption and use.

Groundwater

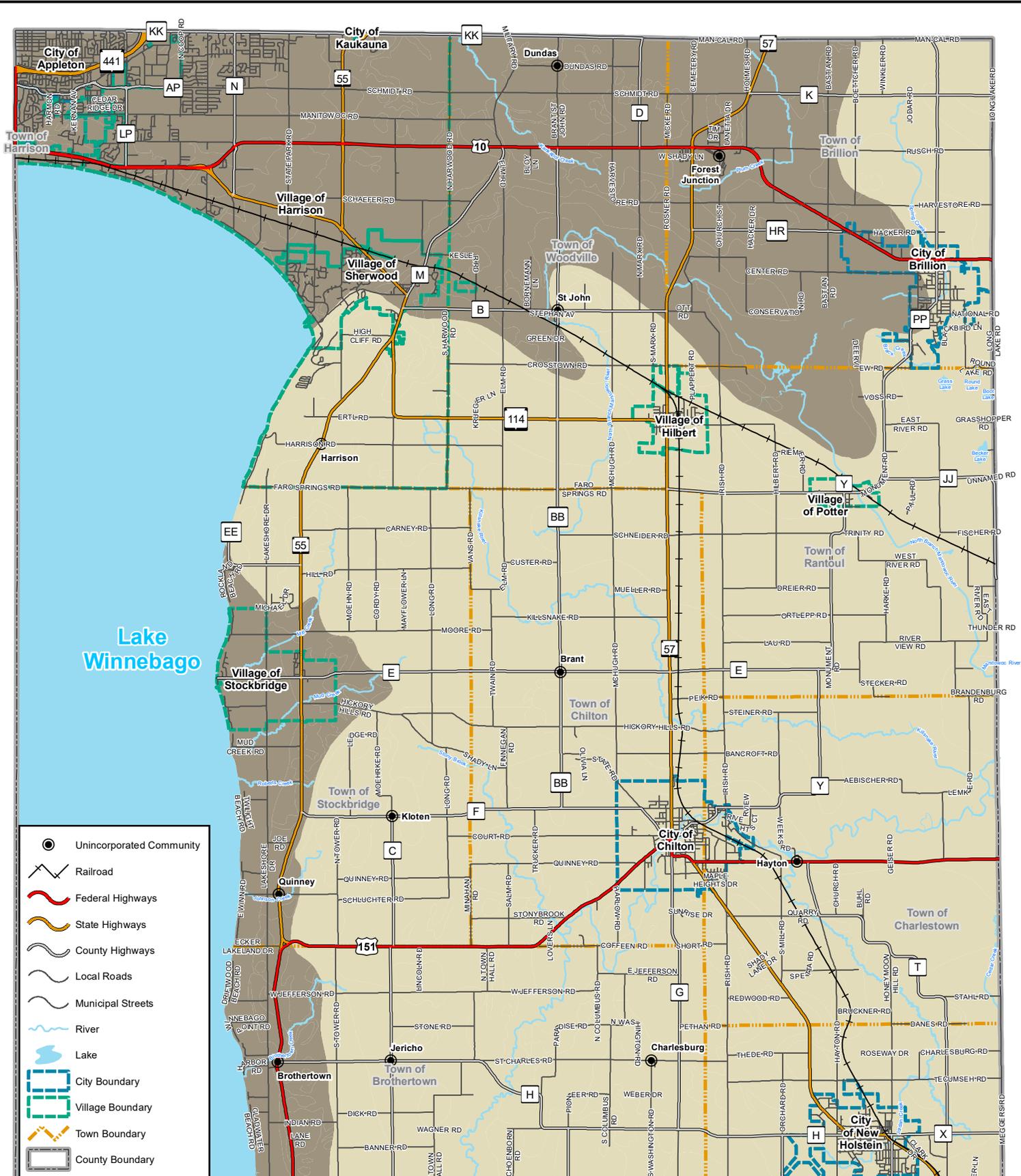
The majority of Calumet County residents rely on groundwater as their sole source of water. Farms, businesses and industries also rely on it. There are three major aquifers in Calumet County; the Silurian, Sand & Gravel, and Sandstone aquifers, with the majority of the wells drawing from the Silurian aquifer (Figure 12). This aquifer is made up of Niagara dolomite bedrock, which tends to be highly fractured. These fractures act like underground pipes and transmit water very rapidly. Water quality problems are common in the Silurian aquifer due to the proximity of the aquifer to the surface and the shallow depth (less than 200 feet) of many wells.

The Sand & Gravel aquifer is the surface aquifer covering the remainder of the County. Soil and glacial sediments make up this aquifer. This aquifer was historically the main source of water for homes and farms in the northern reaches of the County. However, it commonly has water quality problems because groundwater can become easily contaminated from land uses at the surface. Many households, farms and most municipalities in sand and gravel aquifer areas now choose to draw their water from a much deeper aquifer of sandstone bedrock.



Sinkhole in Calumet County

The Sandstone aquifer underlies the entire county. It is separated from the surface aquifers by a layer of rock called the Maquoketa Shale, which protects it from most contamination from the surface. Water from the sandstone aquifer can be salty and mineral laden, especially along Lake Winnebago. These minerals can make the water aesthetically unpleasing and troublesome to plumbing. In very deep portions of the sandstone aquifer, radon and boron naturally leach from the sandstone and unsafe levels of them have been found in the groundwater. Declining water levels and high arsenic levels can also be problems.



Aquifers

- Sand and Gravel Aquifer
- Silurian Aquifer

Figure 12



Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet

Surface Water and Groundwater Pollution

Most streams and lakes and much of the groundwater in Calumet County are negatively impacted by polluted runoff and non-point pollution from various land uses. Polluted runoff is created by rain and snowmelt flowing across the land surface, picking up and carrying away natural and man-made pollutants. If the polluted runoff enters lakes, streams, wetlands or groundwater, it is called non-point source pollution. Non-point source pollution differs from point pollution in that it does not come from a single point source.

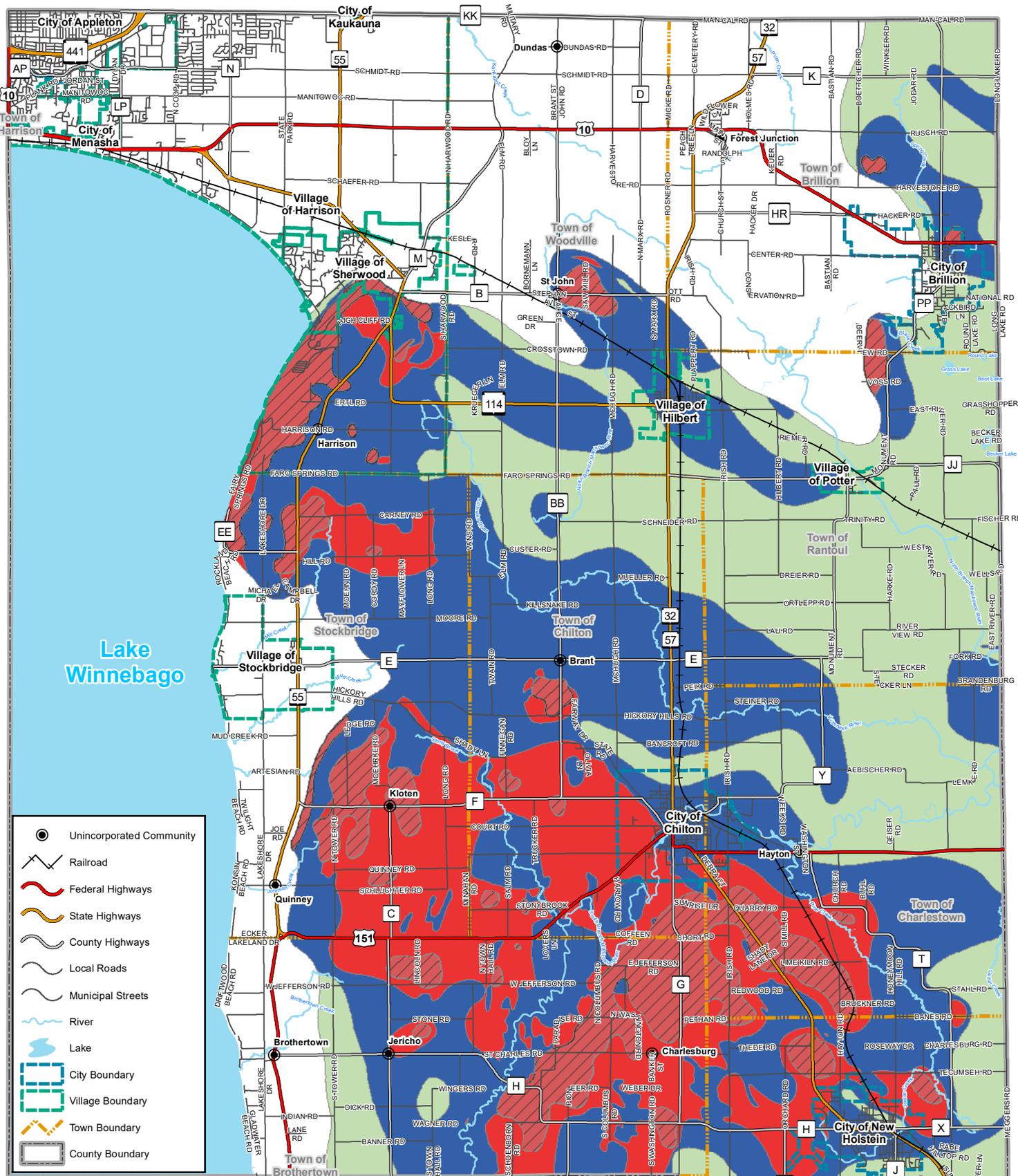


Blue-Green Algae Bloom on Boot Lake

Pollutants found in runoff come from a variety of land uses, both agricultural and urban. The pollutants can include soil particles from cropland and construction site erosion, fertilizers from cropland and lawn applications, animal waste from manure applications and pets, pesticides from cropland and lawn applications and other toxic materials. Soil particles cloud water and make it difficult for fish and aquatic life to find food and breathe. As the particles settle out, they bury habitat and breeding grounds for aquatic life. Fertilizers and animal wastes add excess nutrients to surface waters, creating algae blooms and excess plant growth. As the algae and plants die, the decomposition process depletes the oxygen levels in the water causing fish kills. Nitrogen and bacteria can make our groundwater unsafe to drink. Toxic materials in runoff may poison our surface waters and groundwater.

Groundwater can also become contaminated through direct conduits to groundwater from the land surface. A direct conduit to groundwater works like a pipe through which polluted surface runoff can reach groundwater without being filtered by soil. Karst features are prime examples of direct conduits to groundwater. Karst features include sinkholes and exposed bedrock. Polluted surface runoff enters these features, contaminating groundwater. Karst features are found in areas of Calumet County where the Niagara dolomite (Silurian aquifer) is present and near the surface. Poor groundwater quality is often found in these areas. Figure 13 identifies the areas susceptible to contamination. Old unused wells can also serve as direct conduits for polluted runoff to enter groundwater. As a result of the containments reaching the groundwater through these features, the water tested from private wells has shown the presence of unsafe levels of nitrates and bacteria. These unsafe levels are a concern in that high or elevated levels can cause illness and in some cases, death. Figure 14 depicts where high nitrates have been found and Figure 15 shows where high levels of bacteria have been found in the County.

Polluted runoff can be reduced or eliminated with conservation practices, such as conservation tillage to control soil erosion and nutrient management planning to control and reduce runoff of nutrients. The land use and type of pollutant determines which practices can and should be used. The use of these practices is promoted through education of and incentives for land users. Use of conservation practices may also be required by County ordinances. More information regarding Calumet County's efforts to reduce polluted runoff and, in particular agricultural runoff, can be found in the Calumet County Land and Water Resource Management Plan.



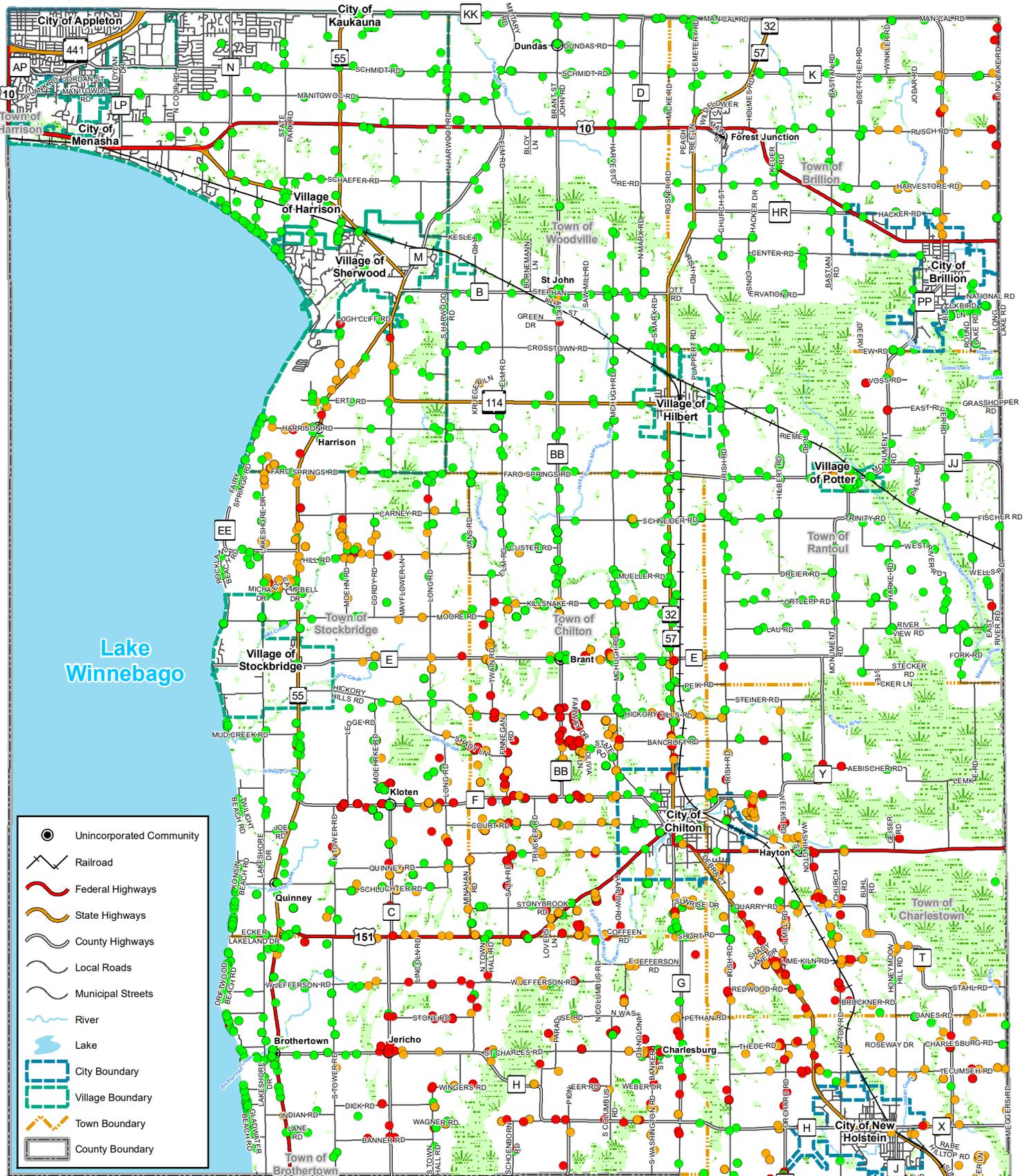
Aquifer Susceptibility

- High Susceptibility
- Moderate Susceptibility
- Thin Soil + High Susceptibility
- Low Susceptibility

Figure **13**

Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet



Nitrates in the Groundwater

- NITRATES (2004-2018)**
- Natural (<math>< 2.0\text{ ppm}</math>)
 - Elevated ($2.0 - 9.99\text{ ppm}$)
 - Unsafe (>math>10.0\text{ ppm}</math>)



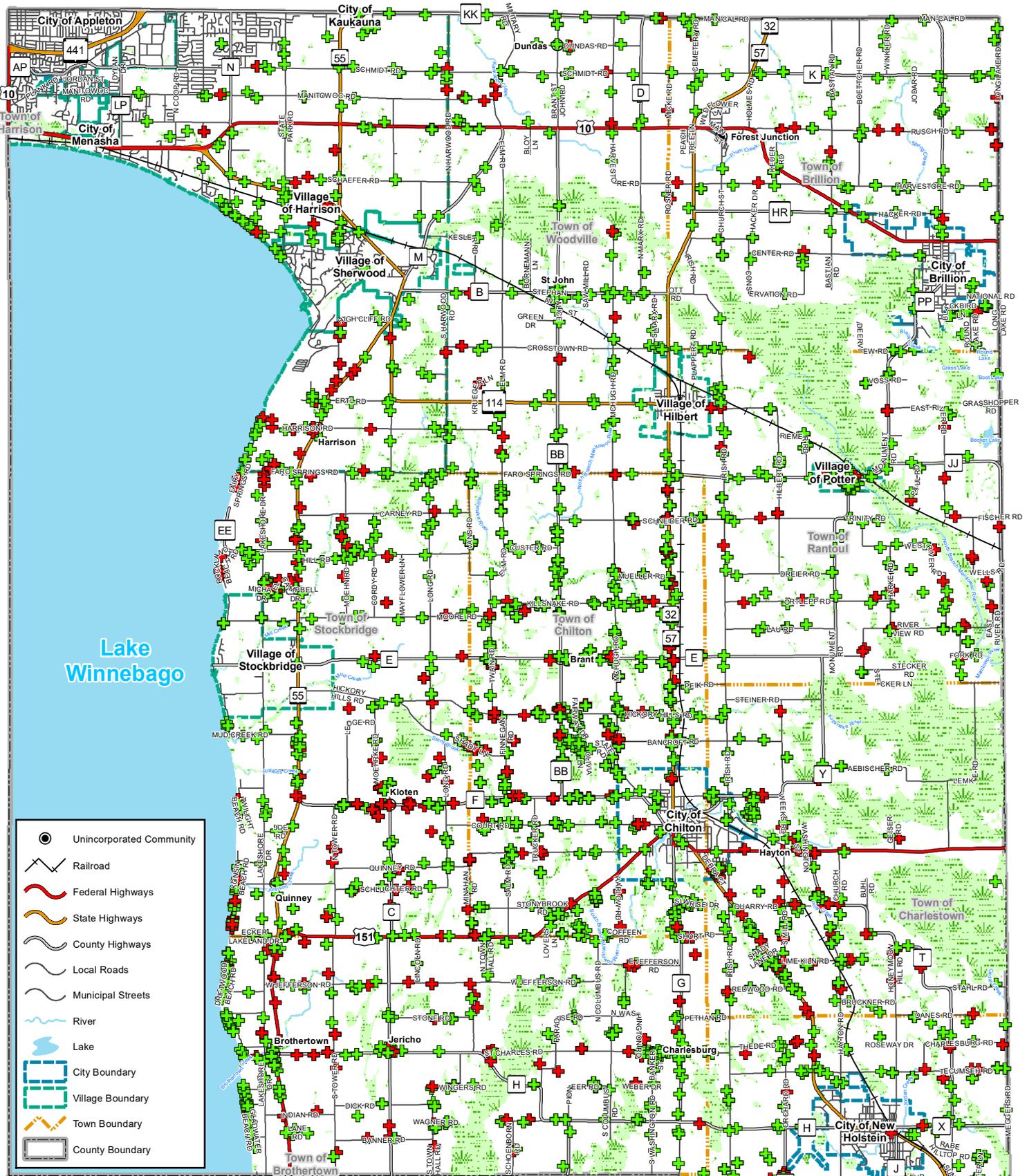
Figure 14



Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet

Map Date: March 2019



Bacteria in the Groundwater

BACTERIA (2004-2018)



Wetlands

Safe

Unsafe

Figure 15



Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet

St Anna

Map Date: March 2019

Soils

To make informed decisions about agricultural planning, knowledge of the location of the different soils across the landscape is needed. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS – formerly Soil Conservation Service) published the Soil Survey of Calumet and Manitowoc Counties in 1980. There are seven major soil associations found in Calumet County that contain multiple soil types, grouped into associations that can be used to compare the suitability of large areas for general land uses. Soil associations are groupings of soils that share a distinctive pattern of soils, relief, and drainage.

- Kewaunee-Manawa-Poygan

These soils are the most dominant in Calumet County. These soils were formed from glacial till and are nearly level to sloping, well drained to poorly drained, and have a dominantly clayey subsoil and substratum. These soils are well suited to cropland, however many areas require surface drainage and/or subsurface drainage to produce high yields. Controlling water erosion, improving drainage, and maintaining tillage and fertility are the major management concerns. These soils are not well suited to development. Roads are subject to frost heaving during winter months. Percolation rates are slow and many areas are saturated with water at less than five feet during wet periods causing severe limitations for septic tank absorption fields.

- Hochheim-Lamartine-Mayville

These soils were also formed from glacial till and are generally found in the southern and western areas of the County. These soils are the second most common in the County. They are characterized as being nearly level to moderately steep, well drained to somewhat poorly drained, and loamy throughout. This association is well suited to cropland. Erosion control practices are needed on the uplands and drainage is needed in the lower areas to produce high yields. The uplands of these soils are well suited to community development.

- Granby-Oakville-Tedrow

These soils are only found in the extreme northwest corner of the County, primarily in the City of Menasha. Soils are identified as nearly level to sloping, well drained to poorly drained, and are dominantly sandy throughout. These soils have a poor potential for crops. Most of the soils are used as woodland and wildlife habitat. Controlling blowing soil, improving drainage, and maintaining fertility are the major management concerns for these soils.

- Channahon-Whalan-Kolberg

These soils are located along the Lake Winnebago shoreline from the Village of Sherwood south to the Village of Stockbridge. These soils are gently sloping, well drained, loamy soils, with a dolomite substratum. They have fair to poor potential for cropland use and good potential for woodland use.

- Wasepi-Plainfield-Boyer

These soils, similar to the Channahon-Whalan-Kolberg association, are also primarily located along the Lake Winnebago shoreline from the Village of Sherwood south to the Village of Stockbridge. A small portion of this soil type is also located in the northeast corner of the County. These soils are nearly level to moderately steep, excessively drained to somewhat poorly drained, and are sandy and loamy soils.

- Houghton-Palms-Willette

These soils are generally found along the County's eastern and southern border. They're identified as being nearly level, very poorly drained organic soils. This association is not well suited to cropland. Wet soils and a short growing season caused by late spring and early fall frosts restrict the type of crops that

can be grown. This association is not well suited to community development because of wet soil conditions and flood hazards.

- Pella-Mundelein-Shiocton

These soils are exclusively located along the western border of the City of Brillion. They are identified as nearly level and gently sloping, somewhat poorly to poorly drained, and are dominantly loamy throughout. These soils, if drained, have good potential for cultivated crops such as corn and hay. Some undrained soil is used for pasture or as wildlife habitat.

Prime Farmland Soils

While suitable soils for agriculture vary greatly within each of these associations, Figure 16 shows where Prime Farmland, Prime if Drained/Not Flooded and Non-Prime Farmland soils are located in the County and what soils fit into those classifications. Approximately 82% of the soil in Calumet County is Prime Farmland or Prime if Drained/Not Flooded. Prime farmland soils are the most critical to preserve.

Nutrient Management

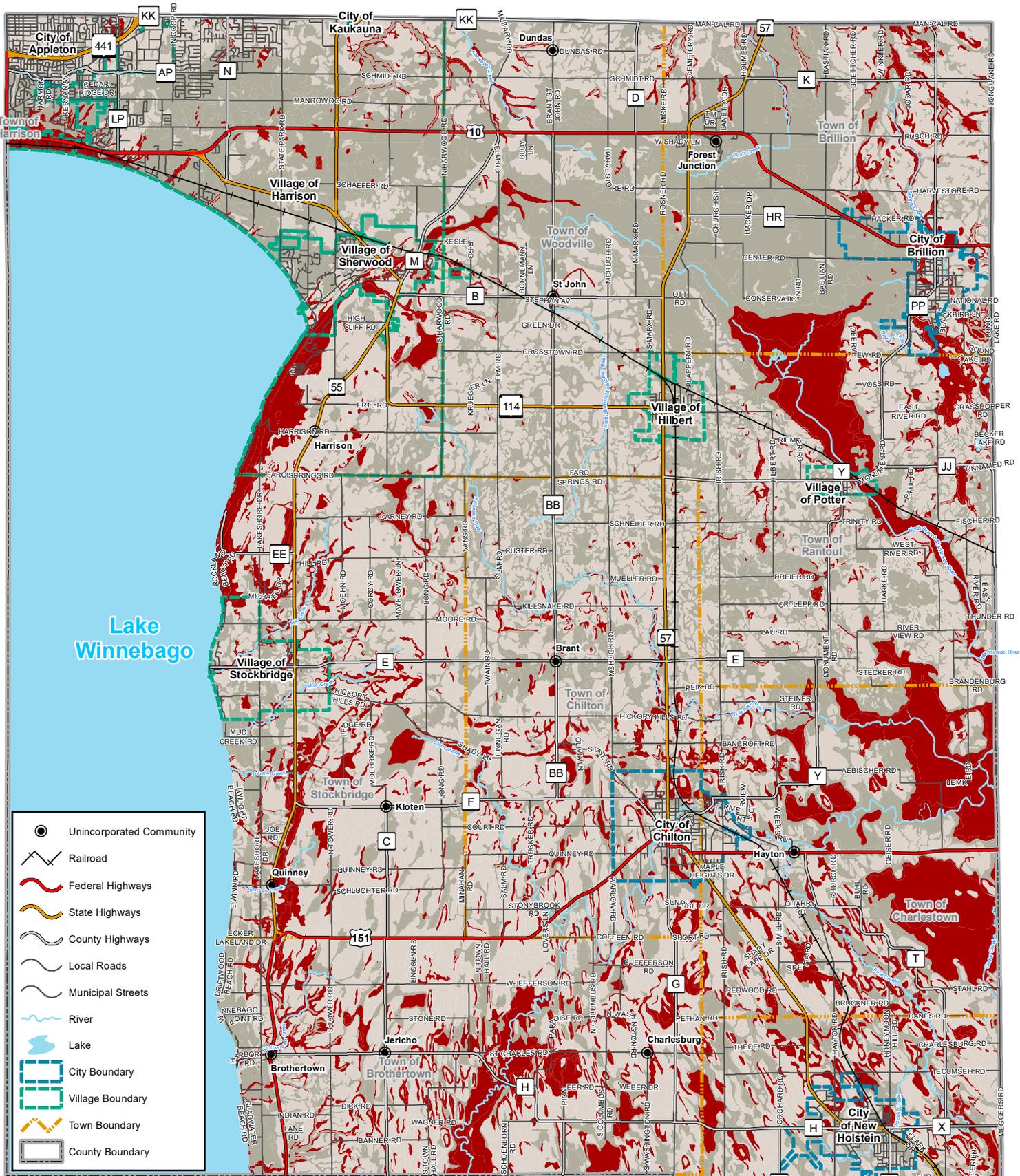
According to DATCP, nutrient management refers to the use of manure and other fertilizers to meet crop nutrient needs, while reducing the potential for them to run off fields to lakes, streams and groundwater. It helps assure that crops get the right amount of nutrients -- nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, often referred to as N-P-K -- at the right time and place. This benefits the farmer by improving crop yields and reducing costs, and benefits the environment by keeping nutrients on fields and preventing them from running off to streams or down to groundwater.

Nutrient management planning requires testing both soil and manure to learn what the nutrient content is. Nutrient management plans (NMPs) must meet requirements:

- In ATCP 50, which is a state regulation that lays out how farmers meet standards, administered by DATCP;
- In NR 151, a state regulation that sets performance standards, enforced by the WDNR; and
- Wisconsin NRCS 590 Standard, set by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and state conservation agencies, serving as the basis for a nutrient management plan.

Calumet County began tracking NMPs in 2010 after amending its zoning ordinance in late 2009 to include the NMP requirement of Chapter 91, Wis. Stats. In 2010, Calumet County had 40,563 acres with NMPs (Figure 17). By the end of 2018, that amount more than doubled to 88,128 acres (Figure 18).

At the Farmland Preservation Plan kickoff meeting, there was a concern that most of the tax credit received goes towards paying for the development of an NMP. A question regarding this was included in the Calumet County Farmland Preservation Study. The results were that 54% felt the tax credit was reasonable and the same percentage felt the required conservation practices are reasonable. Twenty-one percent did not agree that the tax credit was reasonable and 19% did not agree that the required conservation practices are reasonable. In DATCP's 2018 Farmland Preservation Program Landowner Survey Report, survey respondents expressed a similar sentiment that the tax credit does not offset the cost of compliance especially because the tax credit has not changed since 2010 but costs involved with compliance have. Adjusting the tax credit may help address this problem.



Soils

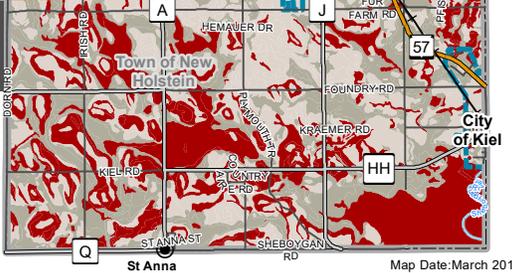
- Prime**
-  Prime Farmland
-  Prime if Drained/Not Flooded
-  Not Prime Farmland

Figure **16**

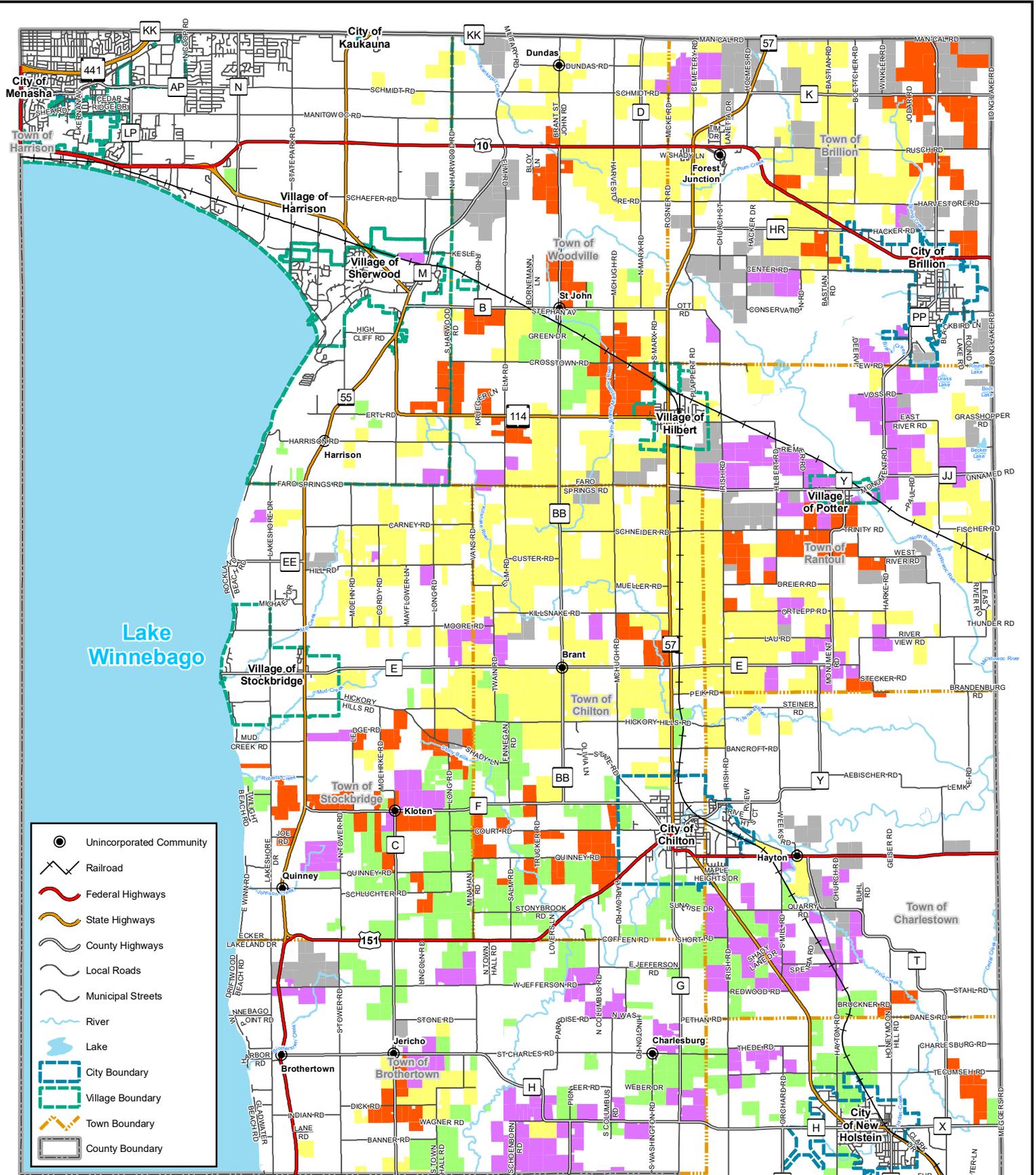


Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,623 feet



Map Date: March 2019



- Unincorporated Community
- Railroad
- Federal Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Municipal Streets
- River
- Lake
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary

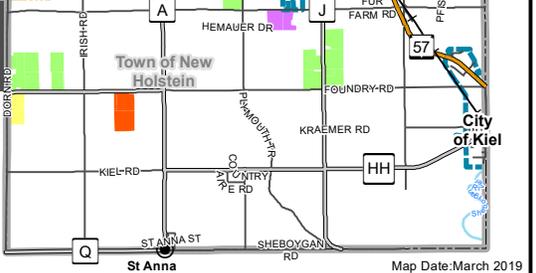
Nutrient Management 2010

Figure 17

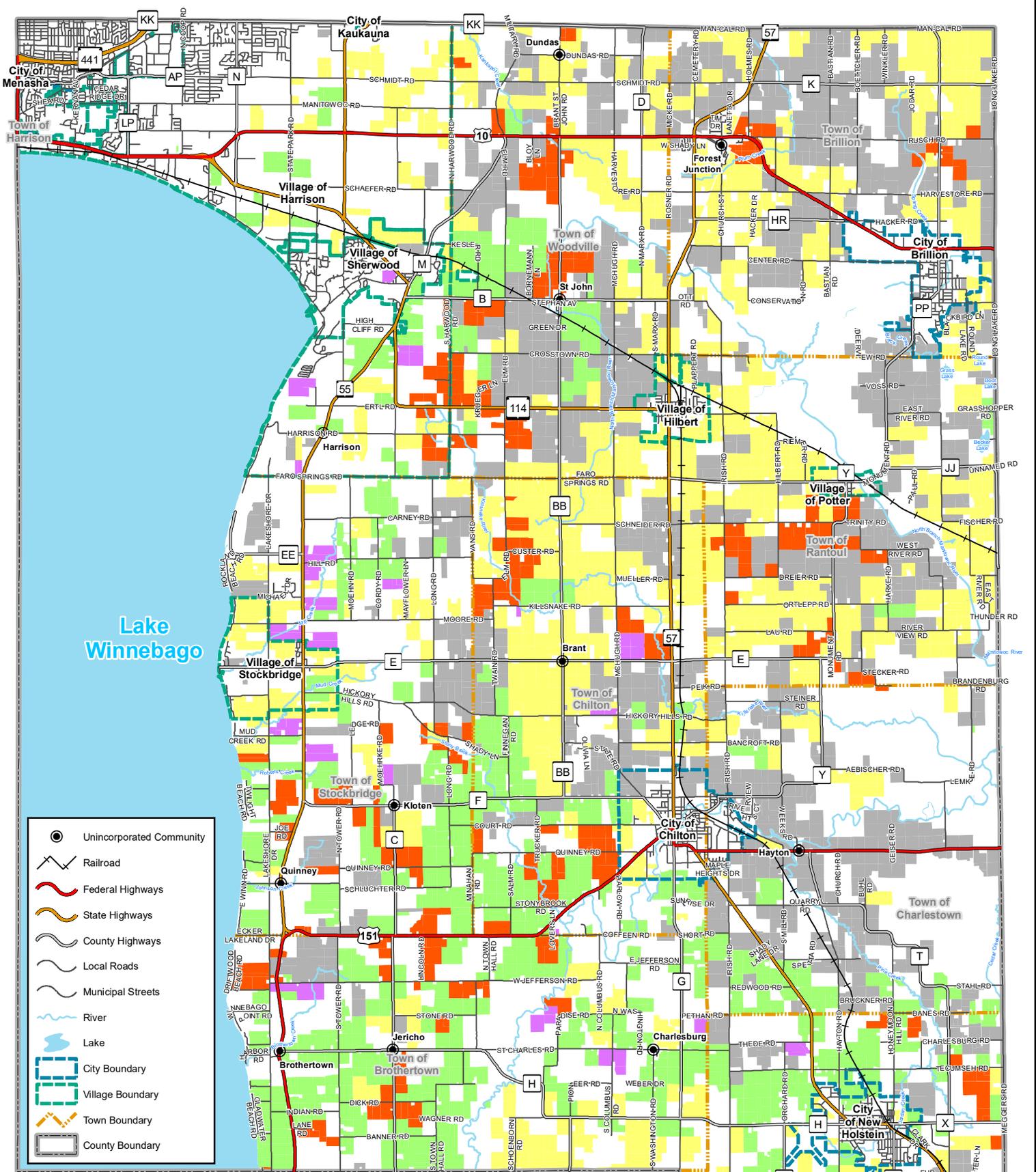
- Cost Shared Through DATCP
- Manure Storage Ordinance
- CAFO
- Other
- Tax Credits

Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet



Map Date: March 2019



Nutrient Management 2018

- Cost Shared Through DATCP
- Manure Storage Ordinance
- CAFO
- Other
- Tax Credits

Figure **18**



Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet

St Anna

Map Date: March 2019

Natural Areas

The changing topography and vegetative communities in Calumet County are prime habitat for a large variety of upland and wetland wildlife species, including mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, and fish. The combinations of trees, shrubs, grasslands, cropland, open water areas, and marshes provide a wide variety of food and cover, allowing many species to thrive. Whitetail deer and wild turkey are common in the areas of cropland. The Niagara Escarpment, with caves and cool micro-environments, supports a variety of rare land snails and hibernating bats.

Large wetland areas serve as resting grounds for migrating water and shore birds and as homes for countless amphibians, reptiles, and fish. Lake Winnebago and connected lakes are home to the largest self-sustaining population of lake sturgeon in the world.



A wild turkey takes flight in a Calumet County field.

Woodlands

Approximately 13.2% of the total land area of the County, or 27,009 acres, is currently in woodland. Much of this woodland area is located on WDNR owned public lands; including the Brillion, Killsnake, and Kiel Marsh Wildlife Areas, Stockbridge Ledge Natural Area, and High Cliff State Park. Another large portion occurs on privately owned wetland areas and along the corridors of major streams in the County. The rest of the woodlands occur on small, discontinuous and privately owned tracts of land.

Wetlands

About 13% of the land area in the County is wetlands. Most of these wetlands are located on WDNR owned public lands in the Brillion, Killsnake, and Kiel Marsh Wildlife Areas. Scattered large areas are privately owned such as the Hayton Marsh on the eastern edge of the County, Aebischer's Marsh along the Killsnake River, and contiguous floodplains along the South Branch of the Manitowoc River in the Town of Brothertown. Other smaller and discontinuous wetland areas occur along stream corridors, in glacial potholes, and in small internally drained areas.

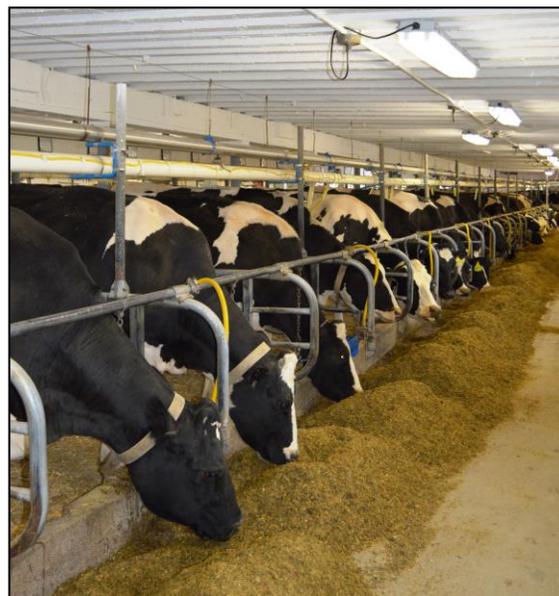


Sunset over the Killsnake Wildlife Area

SECTION III

Agricultural Overview

Agriculture is a way of life for much of Calumet County, contributing to its economy, cultural heritage, land use characteristics, development patterns, and rural atmosphere. This section highlights Calumet County’s past, present and future regarding agriculture.



Dairy Farm in Calumet County

Land Use Trends

According to the 2004 Calumet County Existing Land Use Inventory (Figure 19), 64.1% of the County is agricultural (farmsteads and non-irrigated cropland). In comparison, the 2015 Calumet County Land Use Inventory (Figure 20) identifies 62.3% of the land use as agricultural, a decrease of 1.8%.

Figure 19: 2004 Existing Land Use, Calumet County

	Farmsteads and Non-Irrigated Cropland	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Institutional	Transportation/Utilities	Woodland	Open/Other Land	Recreational	Water Feature	Total
T. of Brillion	14,232.8	393.0	74.3	91.4	25.1	708.8	2,098.1	815.7	2,639.3	220.4	21,298.8
T. of Brothertown	15,865.7	373.9	21.1	123.1	65.3	647.5	3,647.4	2,610.4	1.4	210.9	23,566.8
T. of Charlestown	9,179.3	210.0	4.2	59.3	7.3	501.8	4,351.7	1,082.0	4,568.5	308.2	20,272.3
T. of Chilton	16,054.5	303.6	48.4	33.1	9.5	776.9	1,506.6	1,662.5	235.2	218.0	20,848.3
T. of Harrison	12,598.4	1,823.1	101.0	83.8	77.1	1,240.1	2,544.0	970.8	1,082.3	154.4	20,674.8
T. of New Holstein	13,181.4	558.9	23.0	35.4	16.5	728.1	3,856.5	1,646.7	57.4	232.0	20,335.8
T. of Rantoul	13,801.8	157.7	3.1	15.6	7.5	537.4	1,542.2	1,438.2	2,806.7	540.9	20,850.9
T. of Stockbridge	15,041.0	552.4	14.9	69.8	12.9	681.9	3,366.0	1,412.9	235.6	161.3	21,548.5
T. of Woodville	16,931.6	204.9	15.9	10.3	21.5	693.0	2,085.6	855.8	8.9	178.3	21,005.7
V. of Hilbert	321.6	146.1	18.7	17.8	18.2	104.9	8.5	49.8	23.7	4.9	714.3
V. of Potter	141.4	53.4	17.4	9.1	2.8	26.3	5.9	54.2	11.4	8.7	330.5
V. of Sherwood	560.1	454.7	30.9	52.0	27.4	223.3	143.4	189.0	431.4	60.5	2,172.6
V. of Stockbridge	1,307.6	176.6	28.8	21.1	8.1	93.8	172.9	204.3	37.4	22.4	2,072.9
C. of Appleton	396.4	868.0	91.2	0.2	34.2	439.1	27.4	142.3	57.0	5.8	2,061.6
C. of Brillion	360.6	337.7	48.1	160.4	83.3	214.9	112.6	237.0	138.9	19.1	1,712.6
C. of Chilton	811.6	468.5	133.8	182.0	132.3	272.9	98.2	335.8	109.8	40.1	2,584.8
C. of Kiel	77.0	36.2	8.2	36.1	0.3	27.6	9.8	46.6	2.6	1.0	245.2
C. of Menasha	119.0	210.2	25.5	4.7	3.8	117.4	87.1	322.2	54.0	38.2	981.9
C. of New Holstein	301.0	341.0	74.3	99.8	53.2	380.0	74.2	120.0	97.5	9.3	1,550.3
Calumet County	131,282.7	7,669.7	782.7	1,104.9	606.0	8,415.6	25,737.9	14,196.2	12,598.8	2,434.1	204,828.6

Source: East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Note: The 2004 Land Use data included in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan and 2010-2020 Farmland Preservation Plan was incorrect. Recreational land was not accounted for in the T. of Charlestown. The data was updated to reflect this omission.

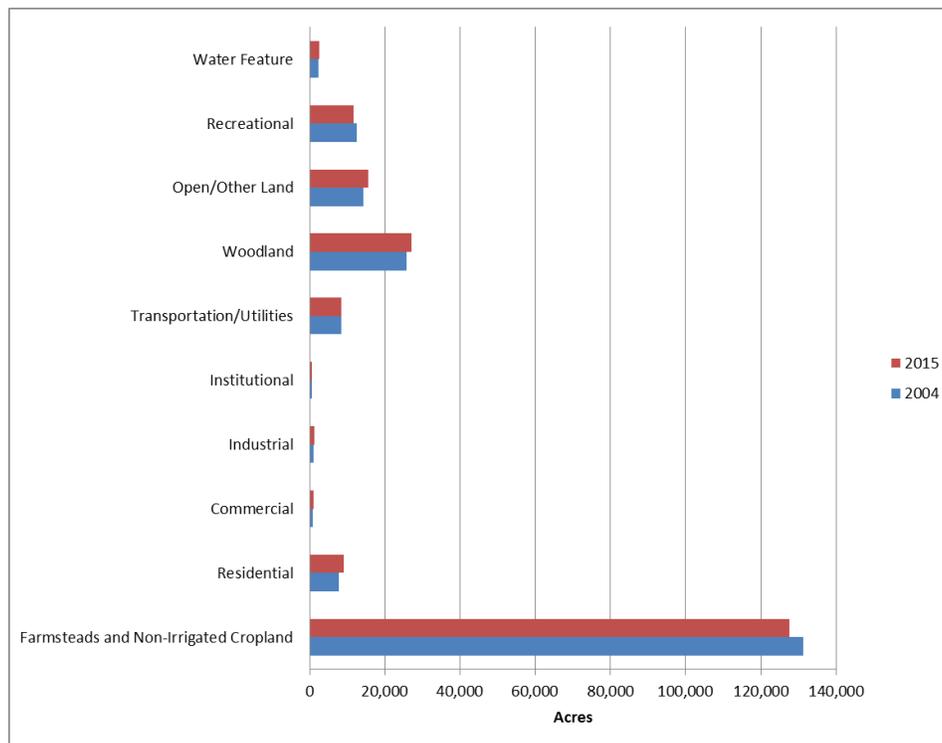
Figure 20: 2015 Existing Land Use, Calumet County

	Farmsteads and Non-Irrigated Cropland	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Institutional	Transportation/Utilities	Woodland	Open/Other Land	Recreational	Water Feature	Total
T. of Brillion	13,836.7	446.6	57.9	50.3	27.5	711.6	2,181.7	1,164.0	2,496.7	261.0	21,234.0
T. of Brothertown	16,132.5	431.5	18.7	196.0	18.7	643.1	4,195.4	1,772.9	3.1	159.9	23,571.8
T. of Charlestown	9,494.5	264.9	6.5	87.2	11.4	501.2	4,044.6	1,495.2	4,078.4	385.1	20,369.2
T. of Chilton	15,293.6	358.4	81.2	49.3	12.4	693.9	1,898.1	1,794.3	278.5	211.6	20,671.3
T. of Harrison	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2
T. of New Holstein	12,652.4	701.1	5.2	17.4	22.0	705.9	4,051.1	1,899.4	15.7	207.7	20,277.8
T. of Rantoul	13,580.4	197.7	0.9	13.6	9.5	557.3	1,293.8	2,070.6	2,596.5	404.8	20,725.0
T. of Stockbridge	14,660.7	726.1	26.8	65.7	13.4	682.8	3,614.3	1,420.9	194.0	120.0	21,524.6
T. of Woodville	16,439.1	274.6	32.7	12.0	20.8	686.6	2,089.7	1,202.2	7.9	162.2	20,927.7
V. of Harrison	11,298.5	2,193.1	179.6	133.7	99.2	1,272.3	2,710.0	1,351.7	1,052.1	155.8	20,445.9
V. of Hilbert	418.3	152.9	40.6	43.3	20.3	106.6	24.5	58.6	25.0	7.0	897.1
V. of Potter	133.4	55.6	27.9	0.0	4.4	24.4	5.9	56.8	15.2	136.7	460.4
V. of Sherwood	524.9	466.1	36.7	43.1	27.6	220.0	161.3	201.9	483.3	70.4	2,235.3
V. of Stockbridge	1,314.2	186.2	14.4	30.9	7.9	89.3	243.8	144.0	37.9	14.3	2,082.9
C. of Appleton	267.5	923.8	143.3	7.7	39.2	497.0	31.0	125.9	55.7	25.1	2,116.0
C. of Brillion	339.3	367.6	45.8	204.8	116.5	171.2	121.4	228.1	132.3	18.7	1,745.8
C. of Chilton	810.3	488.8	141.7	144.4	125.1	270.2	130.2	250.8	153.7	102.3	2,617.4
C. of Kaukauna	8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.0
C. of Kiel	40.0	42.6	11.6	57.7	5.3	38.2	12.8	63.6	3.4	2.2	277.4
C. of Menasha	121.4	341.1	43.6	4.7	3.7	126.5	140.0	180.2	17.9	49.4	1,028.4
C. of New Holstein	280.4	368.7	66.6	106.6	99.1	377.1	53.6	98.5	85.2	9.3	1,545.0
Calumet County	127,646.1	8,987.4	981.7	1,268.4	683.8	8,376.2	27,009.3	15,579.5	11,732.5	2,503.5	204,768.3

Source: East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Figures 21 and 22 demonstrate how the land uses changed between 2004 and 2015. While seeing an increase in residential and commercial land uses with a loss in agriculture is expected, some undeveloped uses such as open/other lands and woodlands increased.

Figure 21: 2004 and 2015 Land Use Comparisons, Calumet County



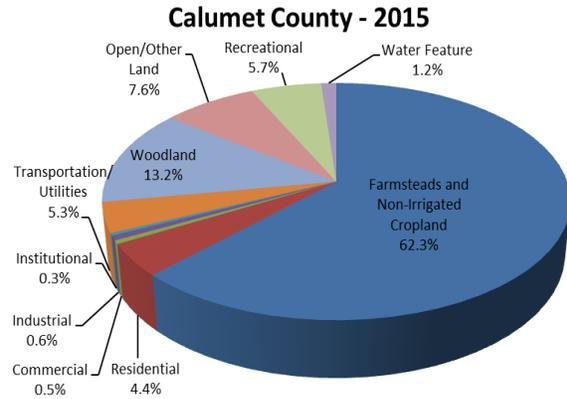
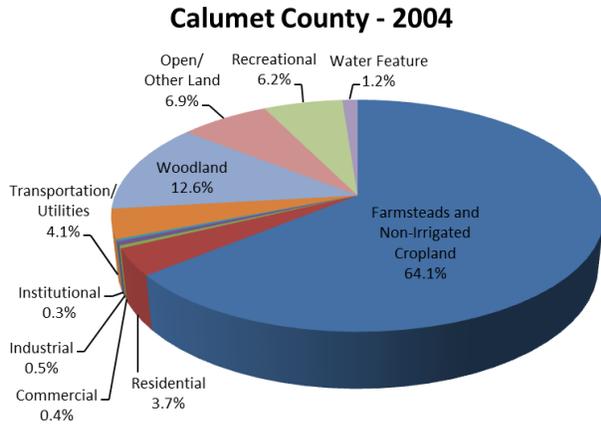
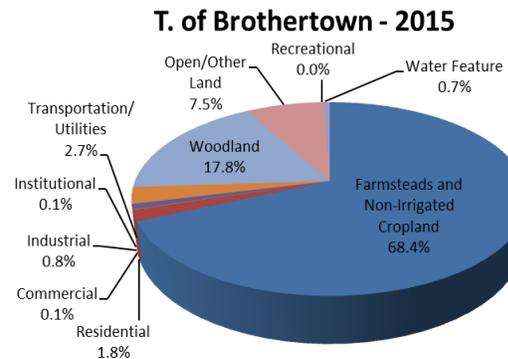
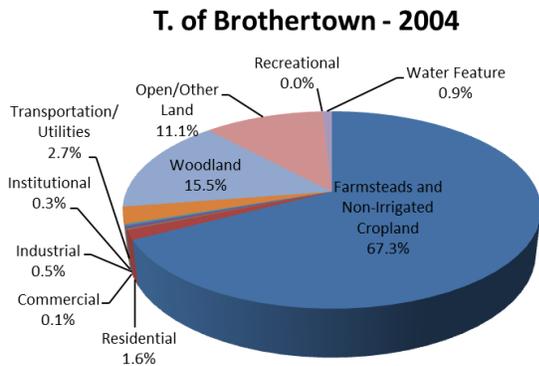
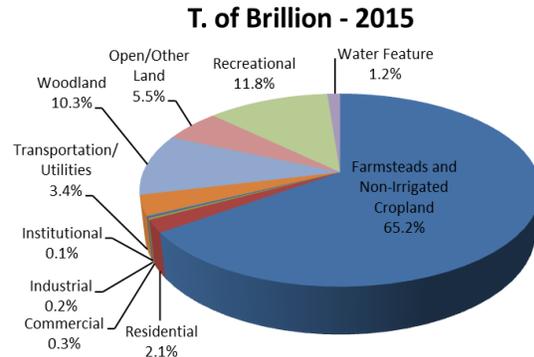
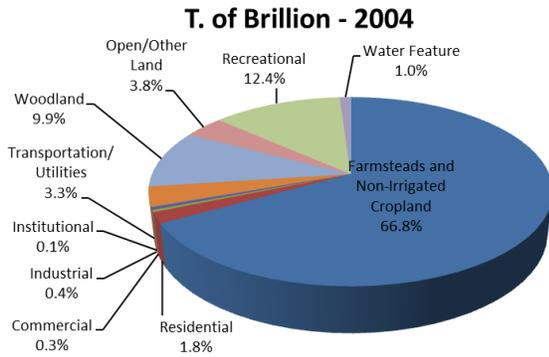
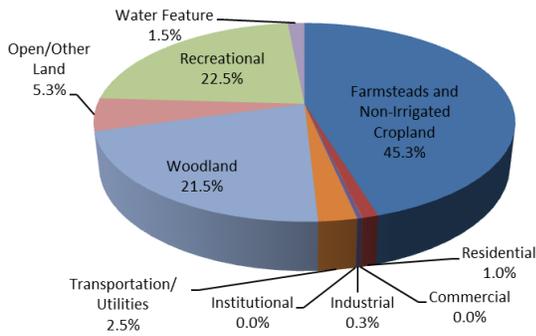


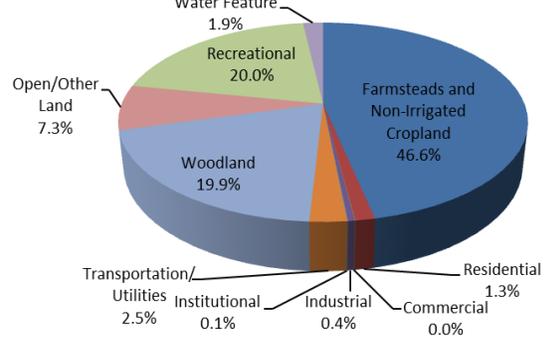
Figure 22: 2004 and 2015 Land Use Comparisons by Town and Village of Harrison



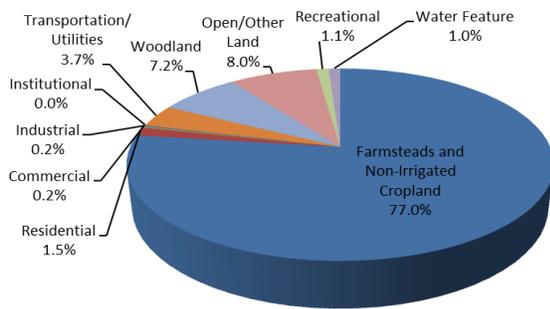
T. of Charlestown - 2004



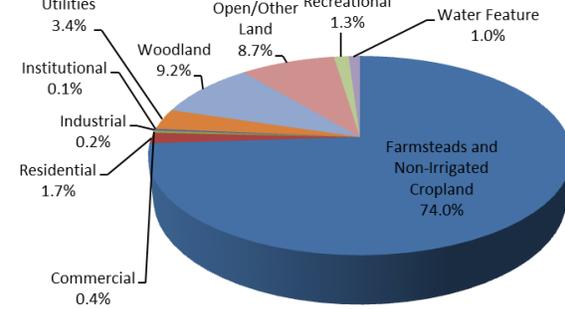
T. of Charlestown - 2015



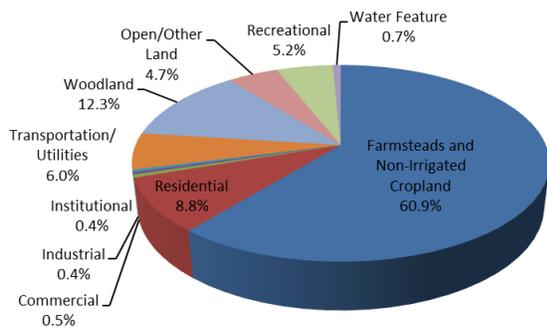
T. of Chilton - 2004



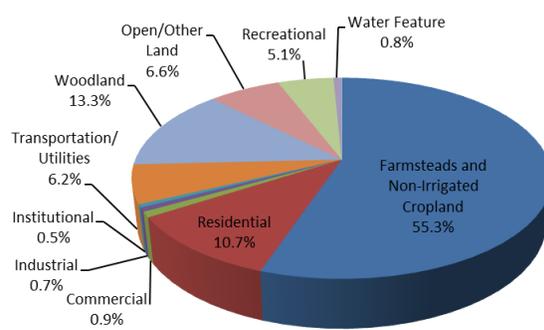
T. of Chilton - 2015



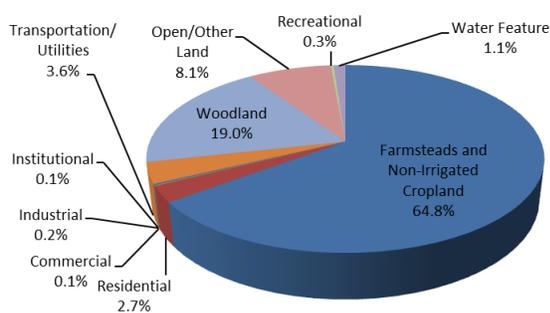
T. of Harrison - 2004



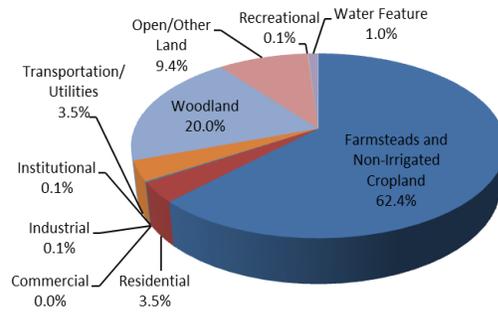
V. of Harrison - 2015



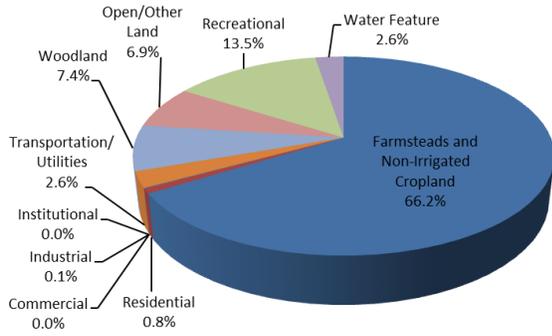
T. of New Holstein - 2004



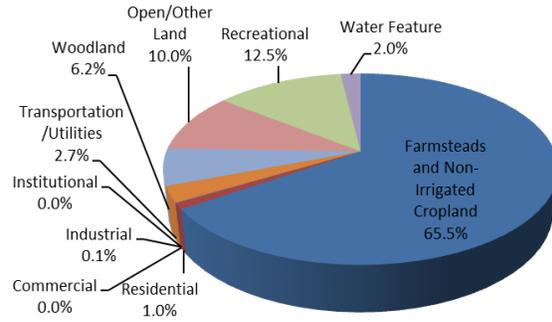
T. of New Holstein - 2015



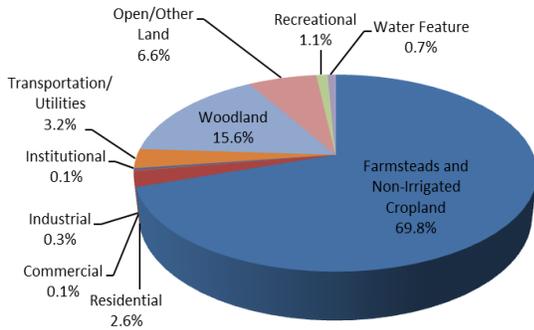
T. of Rantoul - 2004



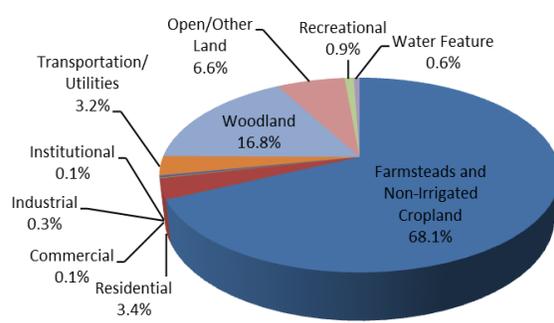
T. of Rantoul - 2015



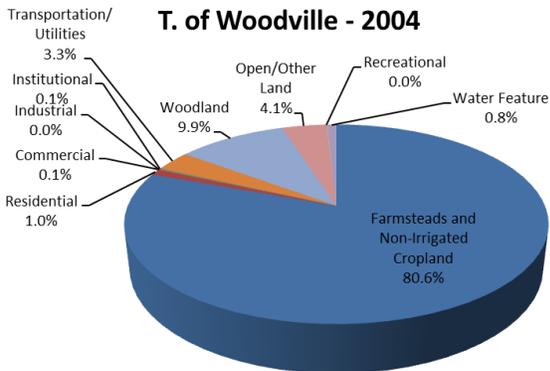
T. of Stockbridge - 2004



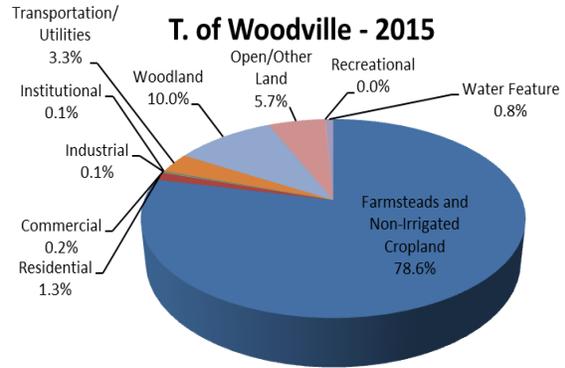
T. of Stockbridge - 2015

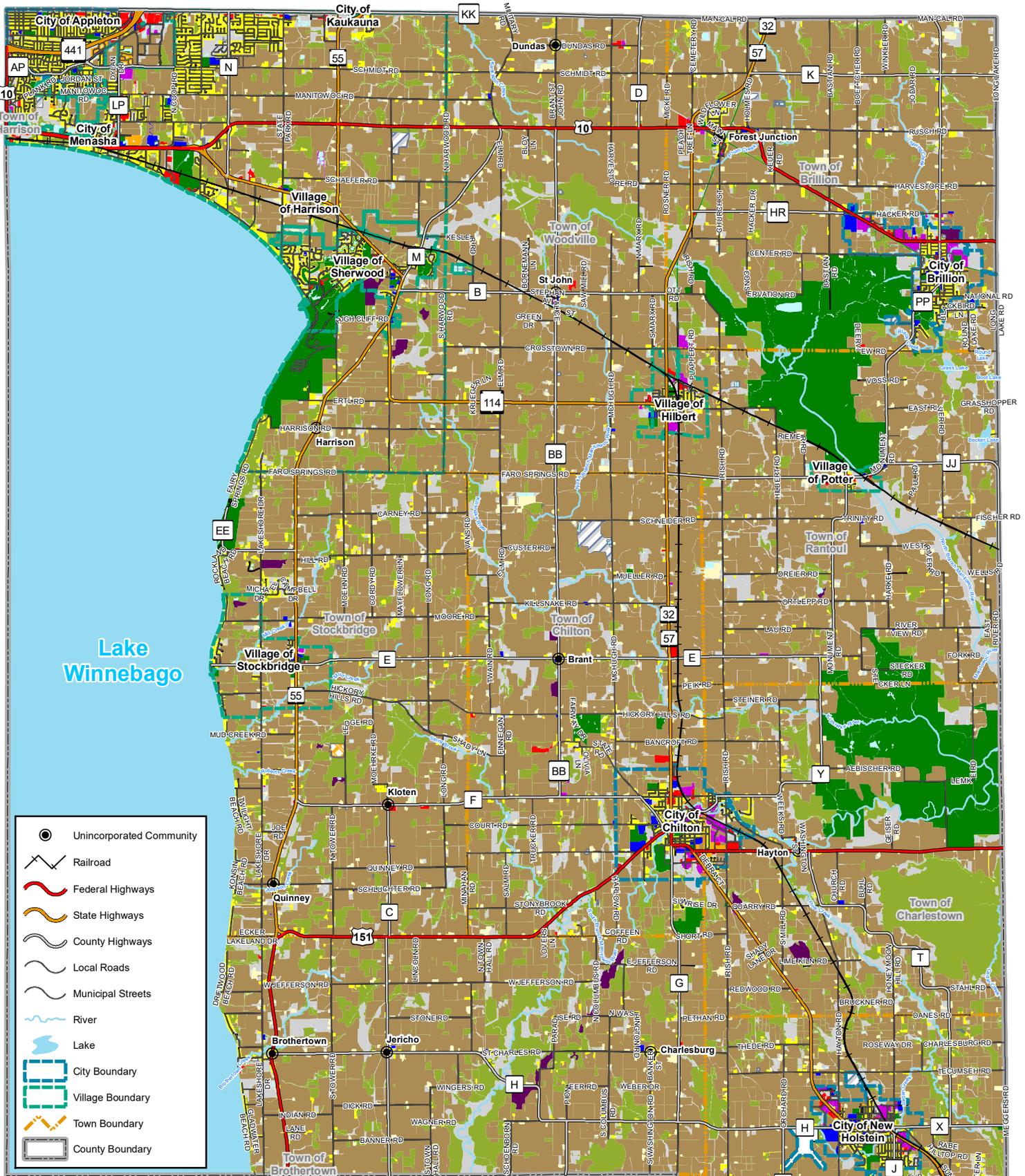


T. of Woodville - 2004



T. of Woodville - 2015





2015 Existing Land Use Figure 23

Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet

Map Date: March 2019

Agriculture and Land Value Trends

According to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service Census of Agriculture reports (Figure 24), the number of farms was the only decrease seen in Calumet County between 2007 and 2017. These estimates state that Calumet County lost 48 farms or 6.6%. Similarly, the state also experienced a loss but at a much faster rate (17.4% loss). Farms that cease are typically purchased by other farms causing the average size of farms to increase. This is true for the state with an average farm size increase of 27 acres or 14% and Calumet County with an increase of 18 acres or 8.7%.

An interesting shift for Calumet County compared to the state is the amount of land in farms. According to the data below, the amount of land in farms has increased by 2,199 acres or 1.4% in Calumet County but decreased by 872,174 acres or 5.7% state-wide. While an increase in the amount of farmland seems great, it may mean that marginal lands or natural areas are being converted to agricultural production. This differs with the existing land use data from the previous section, which showed a decline of 1.8% between 2004 and 2015. For purposes of this plan, the existing land use data (Figure 20) has been chosen as the preferred and more accurate method for determining the amount of farmland in the County.

In 2017, the estimated market value of land and buildings in the County was over \$1.2 billion with the average value of a farm being over \$1.7 million. This is a 109% increase since 2007. While there is no doubt that farmers are making significant investments in their operations, high land values in the County are more than likely the reason behind these increases. Land values are discussed further in this section.



New Machine Shed

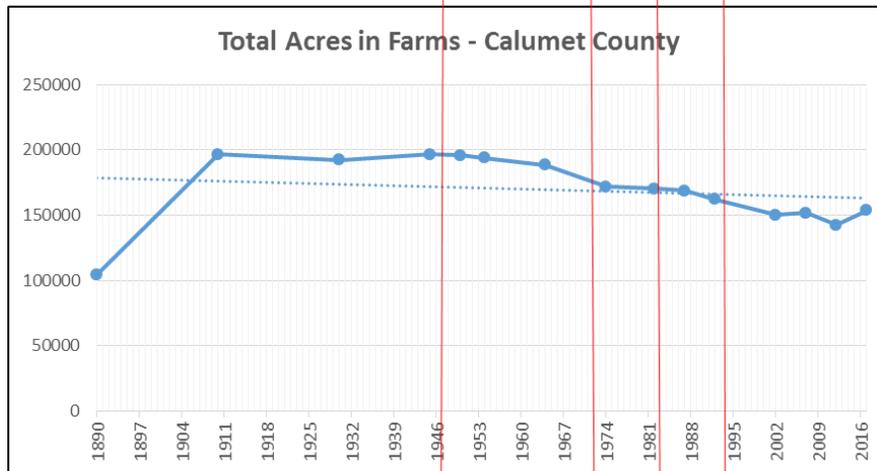
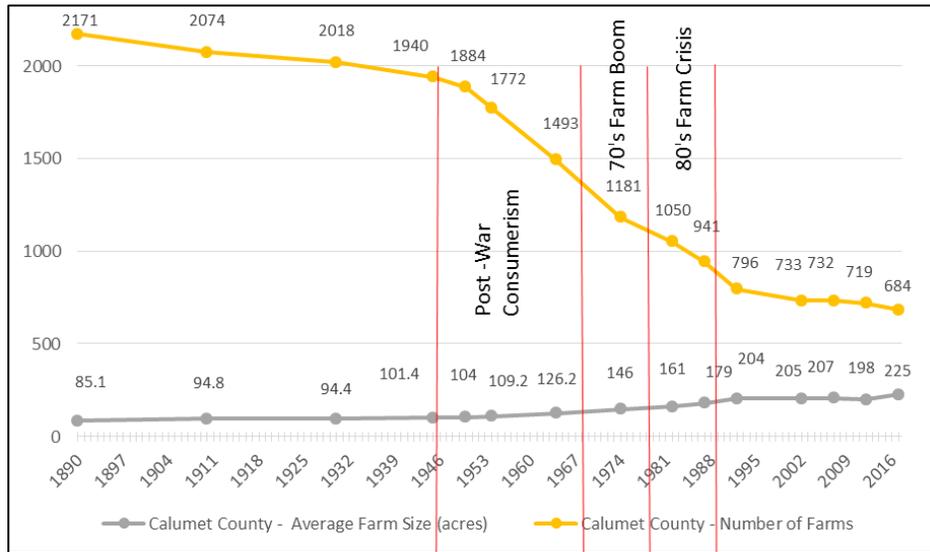
Figure 24: 2007, 2012 and 2017 Census of Agriculture Data, Calumet County

	2007		2012		2017		# Change		% Change	
	Calumet County	Wisconsin	Calumet County	Wisconsin	Calumet County	Wisconsin	Calumet County	Wisconsin	Calumet County	Wisconsin
Number of Farms	732	78,463	719	69,754	684	64,793	-48	-13,670	-6.6%	-17.4%
Average size of farm (acres)	207	194	198	209	225	221	18	27	8.7%	13.9%
Land in Farms (acres)	151,659	15,190,804	142,374	14,568,926	153,858	14,318,630	2,199	-872,174	1.4%	-5.7%
Total estimated market value of land and buildings	\$579,506,000	\$48,994,488,000	\$785,853,000	\$57,166,991,000	\$1,211,499,000	\$70,212,318,000	\$631,993,000	\$21,217,830,000	109.1%	43.3%
Average per farm	\$791,675	\$624,428	\$1,092,980	\$819,551	\$1,771,197	\$1,083,640	\$979,522	\$459,212	123.7%	73.5%
Average per acre	\$3,821	\$3,225	\$5,520	\$3,924	\$7,874	\$4,904	\$4,053	\$1,679	106.1%	52.1%

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

A decrease in number of farms is nothing new for Calumet County. In fact, this decrease has been occurring since 1890. Figure 25 takes a historical look at this data and what influenced these trends. It remains to be seen if 2012 was an anomaly regarding average farm size. The trend is indicating that as farm numbers decrease, farm size increases, which differs from what happened in 2012.

Figure 25: Historical Trends, Calumet County, 1890-2017



Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

The greatest number of farms (approximately 24%) has a market value of land and buildings between \$200,000 and \$499,999 (Figure 26).

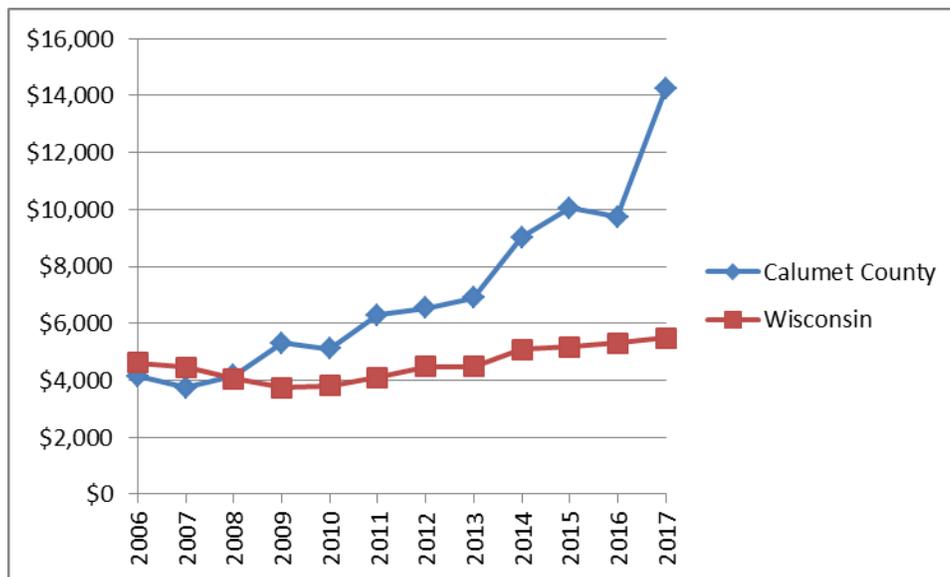
Figure 26: 2017 Farm Values, Calumet County

2017 Value of Farmland and Buildings	Number of Farms
\$1 to \$49,999	34
\$50,000 to \$99,999	39
\$100,000 to \$199,999	101
\$200,000 to \$499,999	163
\$500,000 to \$999,999	121
\$1,000,000 to \$1,999,999	75
\$2,000,000 to \$4,999,999	79
\$5,000,000 to \$9,999,999	50
\$10,000,000 or more	22

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

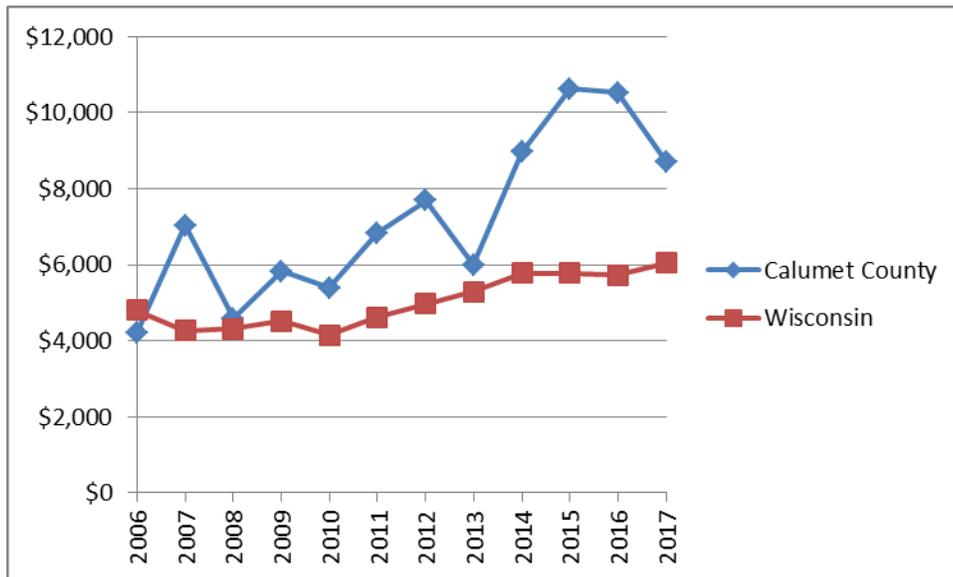
From 2006 to 2017, the value of farm land (without buildings) and farm real estate (which includes farm buildings) in Calumet County has surpassed the state-wide average as shown in Figures 27 and 28. In contrast, values are more in line with state averages when it comes to cash rents. In 2017, the average cash rent for Calumet County was \$134 and for Wisconsin it was \$133 (USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service).

Figure 27: Ag Land without Buildings Values per Acre, 2006-2017



Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

Figure 28: Ag Land with Buildings Value per Acre, 2006-2017



Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

Livestock and Crop Trends

With the number of farms in Calumet County decreasing, it’s natural that farms with livestock would also decrease. Only beef and milk cow numbers are increasing despite fewer farms with them. Figure 29 demonstrates this trend.

Figure 29: 2007, 2012 and 2017 Livestock, Calumet County

	Farms			Number		
	2007	2012	2017	2007	2012	2017
Cattle and Calves	386	289	268	60,705	71,336	69,784
Beef Cows	85	79	98	1,032	1,265	1,653
Milk Cows	198	144	80	28,222	30,166	30,260
Hogs and Pigs	39	23	14	907	363	211
Sheep and Lambs	16	19	14	530	203	173

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

According to the WDNR, Calumet County has nine concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). All nine are dairy operations. A map depicting the general location of current CAFOs in Calumet County is depicted in Figure 30. The map shows 11 farms but three of the farms, Holsum Dairies LLC - Elm, Irish and Drumlin, are on the same permit.



CAFOs

● Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO)

Figure **30**



Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet

Map Date: March 2019

Forage was the most prominent crop in 2017 followed by soybeans for beans and corn for silage or greenchop. Figure 31 shows the crop data for 2007, 2012 and 2017.

Figure 31: 2007, 2012 and 2017 Crops, Calumet County

	2007		2012		2017	
	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres
Corn for grain	366	32,745	311	28,103	203	23,378
Corn for silage or greenchop	256	18,205	231	19,542	174	24,045
Wheat for grain (all)	223	11,076	181	8,748	120	6,598
Oats for grain	84	1,778	37	725	38	875
Barley for grain	16	209	18	307	6	124
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	1	Data withheld	8	115	13	533
Soybeans for beans	262	21,305	274	23,438	310	29,574
Forage (hay, haylage, grass silage, greenchop)	457	37,644	417	34,164	402	34,634
Vegetables harvested for sale	45	2,537	60	2,254	56	2,809
Land in orchards	5	36	11	54	8	33

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

Specialty Agriculture

While traditional dairy cow operations and forage crops are the most prevalent agricultural products in Calumet County, some farmers are doing things a little different. Calumet County has become the unofficial Dairy Goat Capital of the United States. According to Nutrient Management Plans, there are approximately 16,620 goats with most of the goats being at Drumlin Dairy and Chilton Dairy in the Town of Brothertown. Other farms have turned to agricultural tourism as their niche. These attractions include corn mazes, a petting farm, pumpkin patches, fruit and vegetable crops, an event barn, a fiber studio, a fish farm and winery. Agricultural tourism was previously discussed on page 13. There are nine farms producing organic products in Calumet County. In addition, there are four businesses that handle organic products. The locations of these specialty agriculture businesses are shown on Figure 32.

Changes in Agriculture

Calumet County has identified these anticipated changes in the nature, scope, location, and focus of agricultural production, processing, supply and distribution:

- There will be a continued loss of small scale farms to large farms. High land values price small scale or beginning farmers out of the market. As shown in Figure 27, land values since 2015 were over \$10,000/acre. These individuals don't have the equity or capital to compete. As herd sizes increase with large scale farming operations, more land is needed for manure application leading to this price increase. Adding to the mix is outside competition for land. Farms in Manitowoc, Fond du Lac and Brown Counties are purchasing properties in Calumet County as manure hauling radiuses increase. This may change though if fuel costs increase.

- Innovation and cooperation between farmers and government agencies to prevent environmental degradation will be necessary as more is being asked of the land. With commodity prices low, yields need to be high requiring more input onto the land. This includes practices such as less fall tillage and shallow soil regulations.
- There will be an increase in niche, small-scale, diversified agriculture. These farms can thrive on land that may not be ideal to large farms because of topography, size, shape or soil characteristics for example.



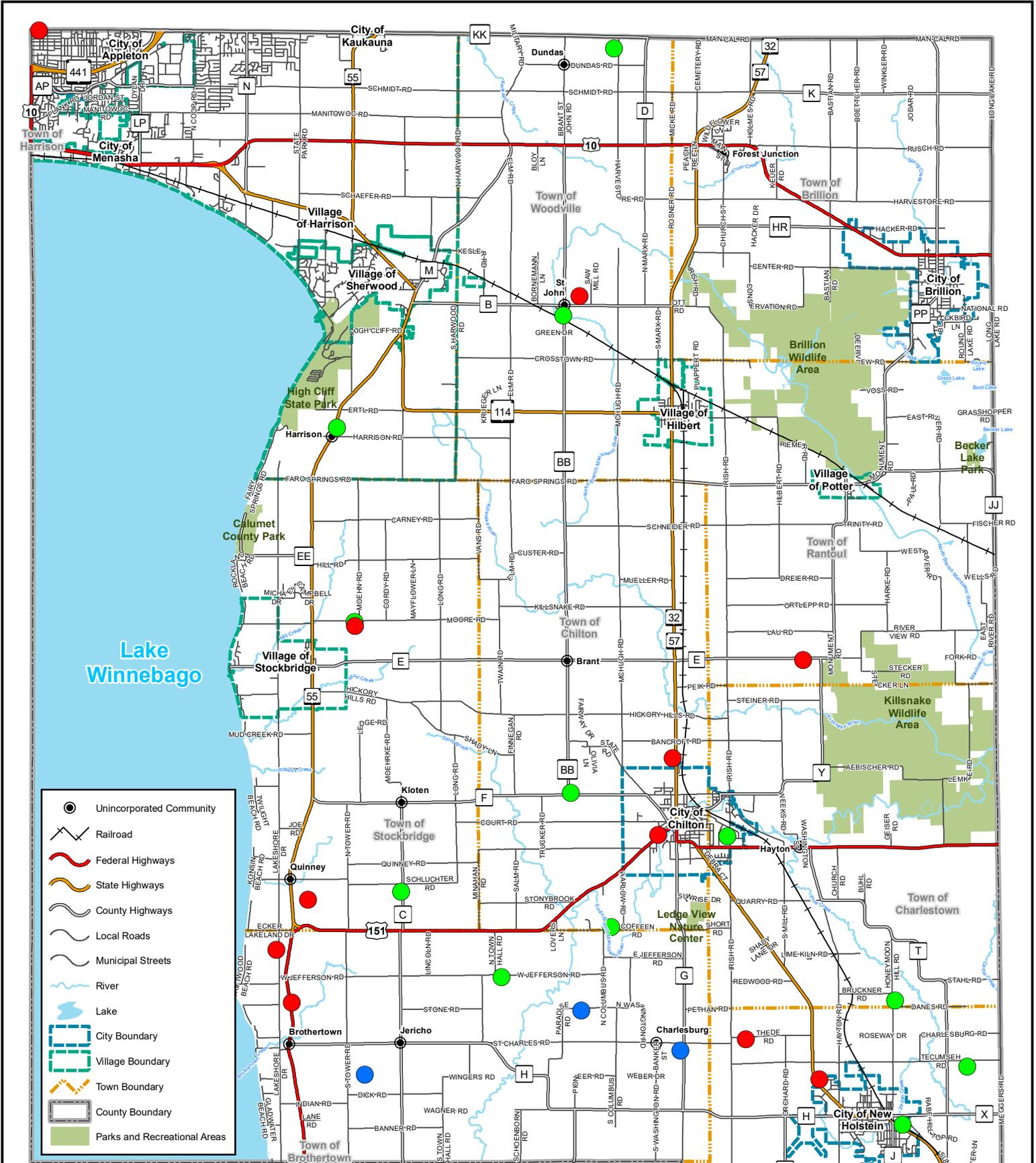
Wines from Quinney Estate Winery

- A new and inventive zoning ordinance will preserve large areas of land in exchange for minimal residential development through a rezoning process. The residential lot will be rezoned to accommodate a non-farm residence (Agricultural Residential), while the land it was separated from will be rezoned to Exclusive Agricultural Preservation (EAP). This informs all parties that the intent of the remaining land is preservation and restricts future residential use. Although this method has many similarities to the Base Farm Tract System, this will be the first time Calumet County will use a rezoning method for farmland preservation. The proposed new zoning method is designed to promote the preservation of agricultural lands as effective, and more so, as the requirements included in Chapter 91.

- There will be increased utilization of computerized cattle management technologies for such tasks as tracking, feeding, and reproduction. There will be increased usage of robotics in milking parlors.



Robotic Milking System



Specialty Agriculture

- Agricultural Tourism
- Organic
- Dairy Goats

Figure **32**



1 inch = 12,633 feet



Map Date: March 2019

SECTION IV

Action Plan

The following are programs and actions Calumet County will use to preserve the farmland preservation areas identified in Section V of this plan.

Comprehensive Planning

The Calumet County Year 2025 Comprehensive Plan is the backbone and foundation of all land use planning activity, including farmland preservation, for the unincorporated areas of Calumet County and the Village of Potter. The Plan identifies areas to protect for agricultural use and areas where growth is encouraged.

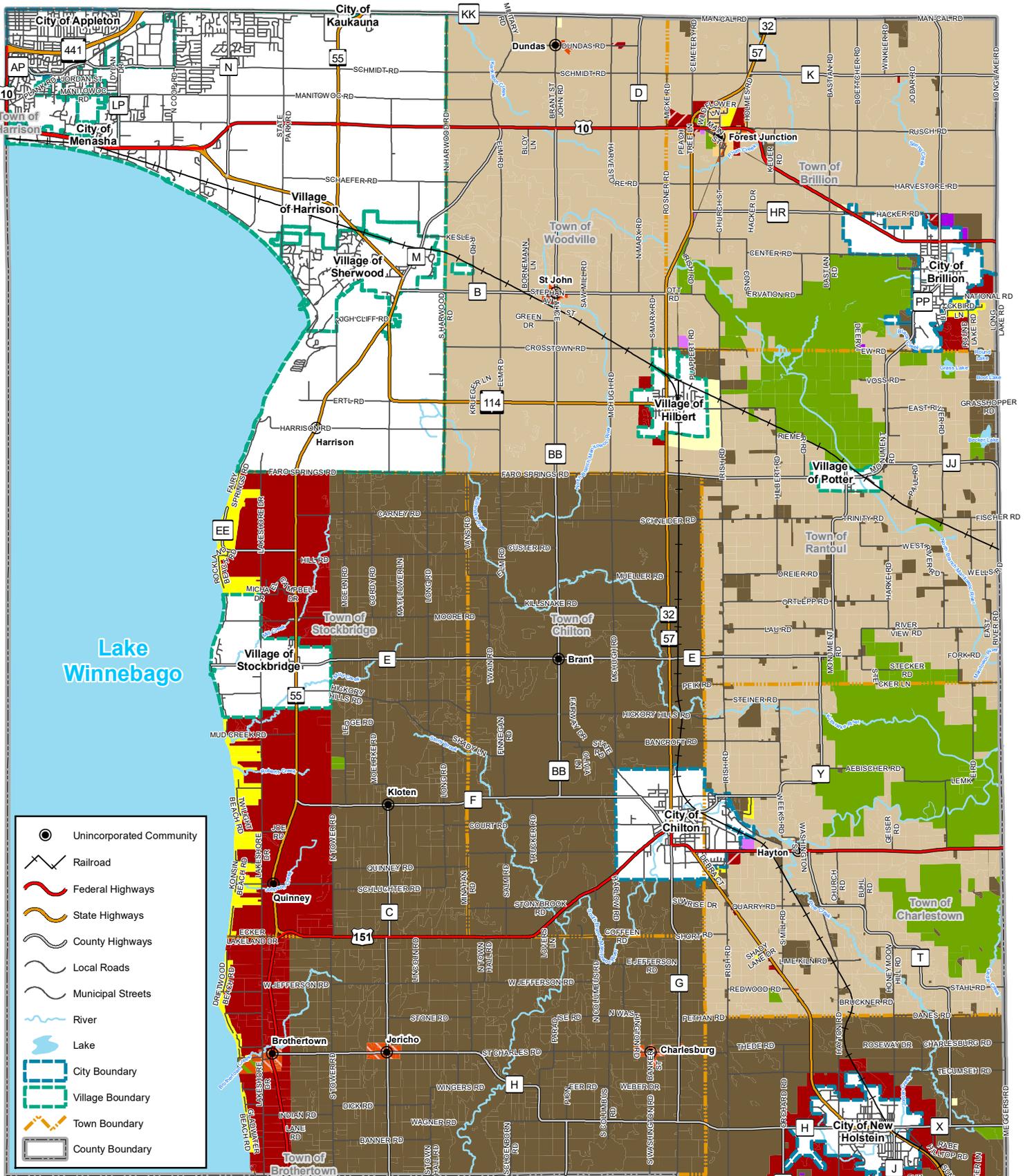
Farmland Preservation Zoning and Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEAs)

Farmland Preservation Zoning

Farmland Preservation Zoning is a locally crafted and administered ordinance that seeks to promote agricultural growth, restrict non-agricultural uses, and limit potential land use conflicts. The ordinance must be consistent with or more restrictive than the provisions listed in Chapter 91, Wisconsin Statutes and must be certified by DATCP. Landowners within a certified district are eligible to claim a \$7.50/acre farmland preservation tax credit. In addition to the property being identified for farmland preservation in the County's Farmland Preservation Plan and zoned for Farmland Preservation, the following requirements must also be met:

1. The landowner must have been the owner of the farmland for the year in which the credit is claimed. The landowner need not be the farm operator and may rent the land to a farmer.
2. The landowner must have been a resident of Wisconsin for the entire taxable year.
3. The landowner may not have claimed homestead credit or veterans and surviving spouse's property tax credit for that year.
4. The farm must meet applicable state soil and water conservation standards. For exact requirements, contact the county land conservation department in which the land is located.
5. The land produced \$6,000 in gross farm revenue in the preceding year or \$18,000 in gross farm revenue during the preceding three years. If a landowner rents the farmland, the landowner may claim on that land provided the renter meets the gross farm revenue requirement.

The Calumet County Zoning Ordinance is DATCP certified. It was certified on July 23, 2019 and will expire on December 31, 2029. The Towns of Brillion, Charlestown and Woodville have participated in County zoning in the past but because of the zoning ordinance's recent certification it has not been formally adopted by any town. The Towns of Chilton and Rantoul implement their own zoning ordinances, which contain farmland preservation zoning. The Town of Brothertown implements their own zoning but it does not contain farmland preservation zoning. Town of Stockbridge has no zoning and the Town of Harrison consists of one 6.2 acre parcel surrounded by the City of Menasha. Figure 33 is the Zoning Map for Calumet County.



Zoning

- | | |
|---|---|
| Wetland (W) | High Density Residential (HD) |
| Natural Area (NA) | Single Family Residential-10,000 (SF10) |
| Exclusive Agricultural (EA) | Mixed Use Commercial (MC) |
| Exclusive Agricultural Wetland (EAW) | Recreational Commercial (RC) |
| General Agricultural (GA) | Commercial Center (CC) |
| Heartland (HL) | Light Industrial (LI) |
| Small Estate Residential (SE) | Industrial (I) |
| Single Family Residential-20,000 (SF20) | |

Figure **33**



Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet



Map Date: March 2019

Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEAs)

Agricultural Enterprise Areas, or AEAs, are community led efforts establishing designated areas important to Wisconsin's agricultural future. More specifically, an AEA is an area of productive agriculture that has received designation from the state at the request of landowners and local governments. As a part of the state's Farmland Preservation Program, AEAs strive to support local farmland protection goals.

Local communities can voluntarily pursue designation of an AEA by submitting a petition to DATCP. Through this designation, the community can encourage continued agricultural production and investment in the agricultural economy. Landowners within designated AEAs are eligible to enter into voluntary farmland preservation agreements.

Landowners who own land within an AEA, and who sign a 15-year farmland preservation agreement are eligible for either:

- \$5/acre for landowners with a farmland preservation agreement signed or modified after July 1, 2009
- \$10/acre for landowners with lands located in a certified farmland preservation zoning district and in an AEA with a farmland preservation agreement signed or modified after July 1, 2009

Calumet County has one designated AEA (Figure 34). The Hilbert Ag Land on Track (HALT) AEA was designated on October 29, 2012 and took effect on January 1, 2013. The HALT AEA is 28,217 acres in size. It is located in the Towns of Woodville, Brillion, Chilton and Rantoul and surrounds the Villages of Hilbert and Potter and City of Brillion. Since that time, 15 property owners owning 3,546 acres have entered into 15-year farmland preservation agreements.

Figure 34: Hilbert Ag Land on Track Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA)



Tax Credits

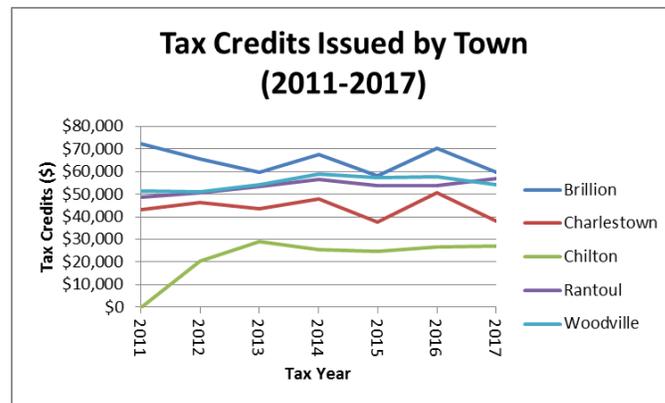
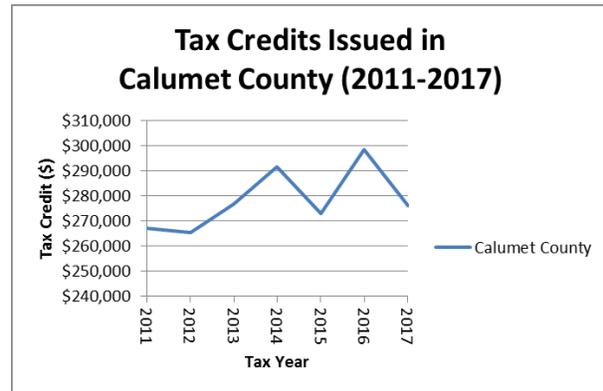
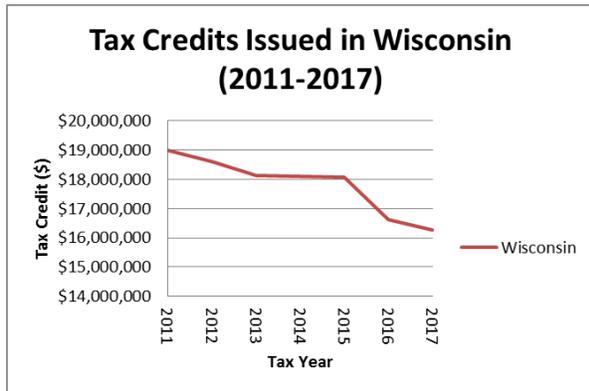
The tax credits issued between these two programs for tax years 2011-2017, totaling \$1,948,351, are shown in Figure 35 below. These properties were all issued Certificates of Compliance (COC). Figure 36 identifies all lands in the County with a COC. For a farmer to claim tax credits, their entire farm must be in compliance with the state soil and water conservation standards not just the land under farmland preservation zoning and/or an AEA.

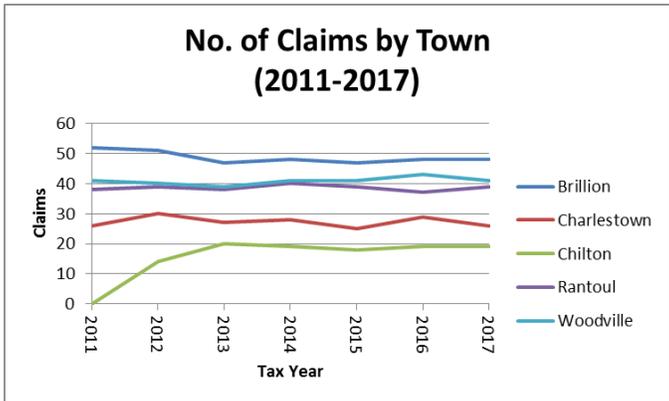
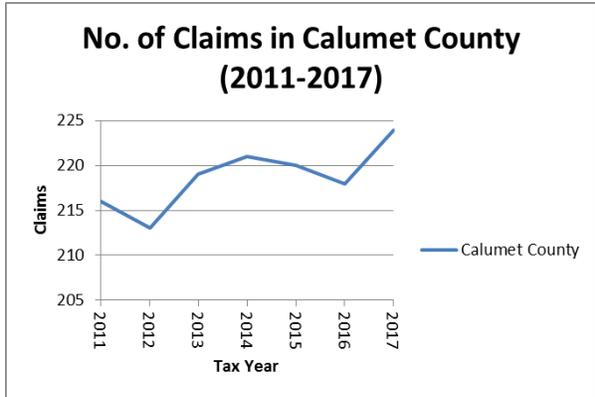
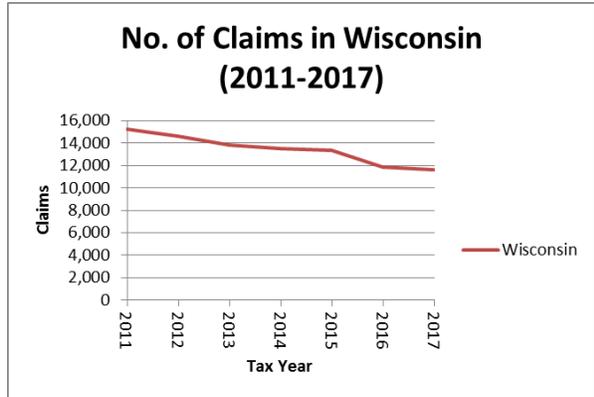
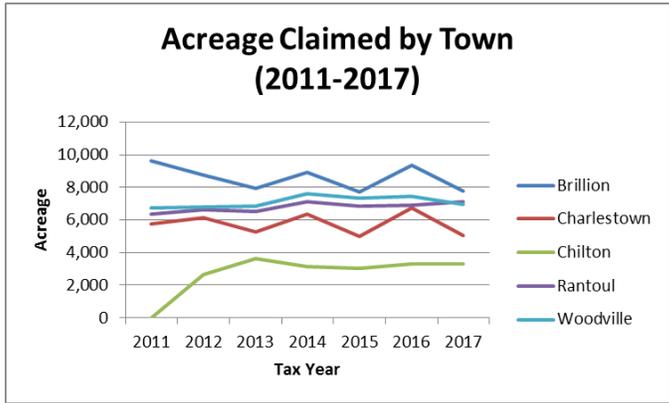
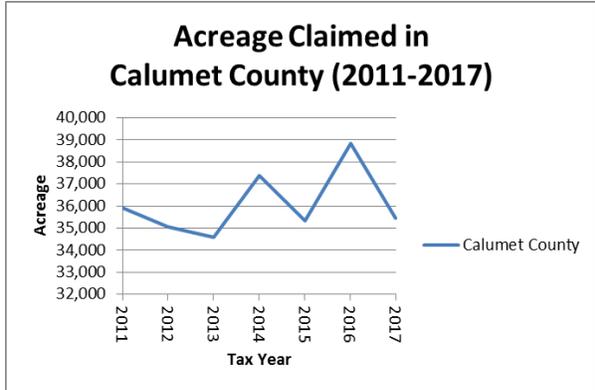
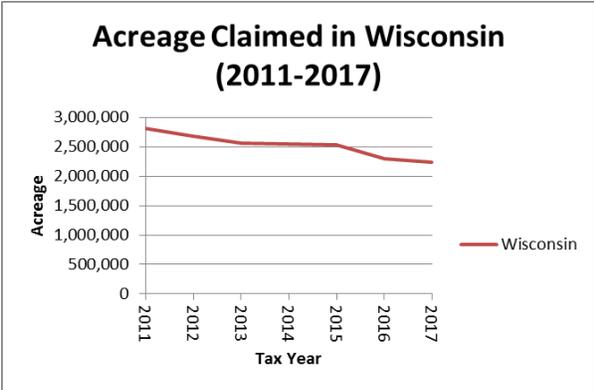
Figure 35: Tax Credits, Calumet County, Tax Years 2011-2017

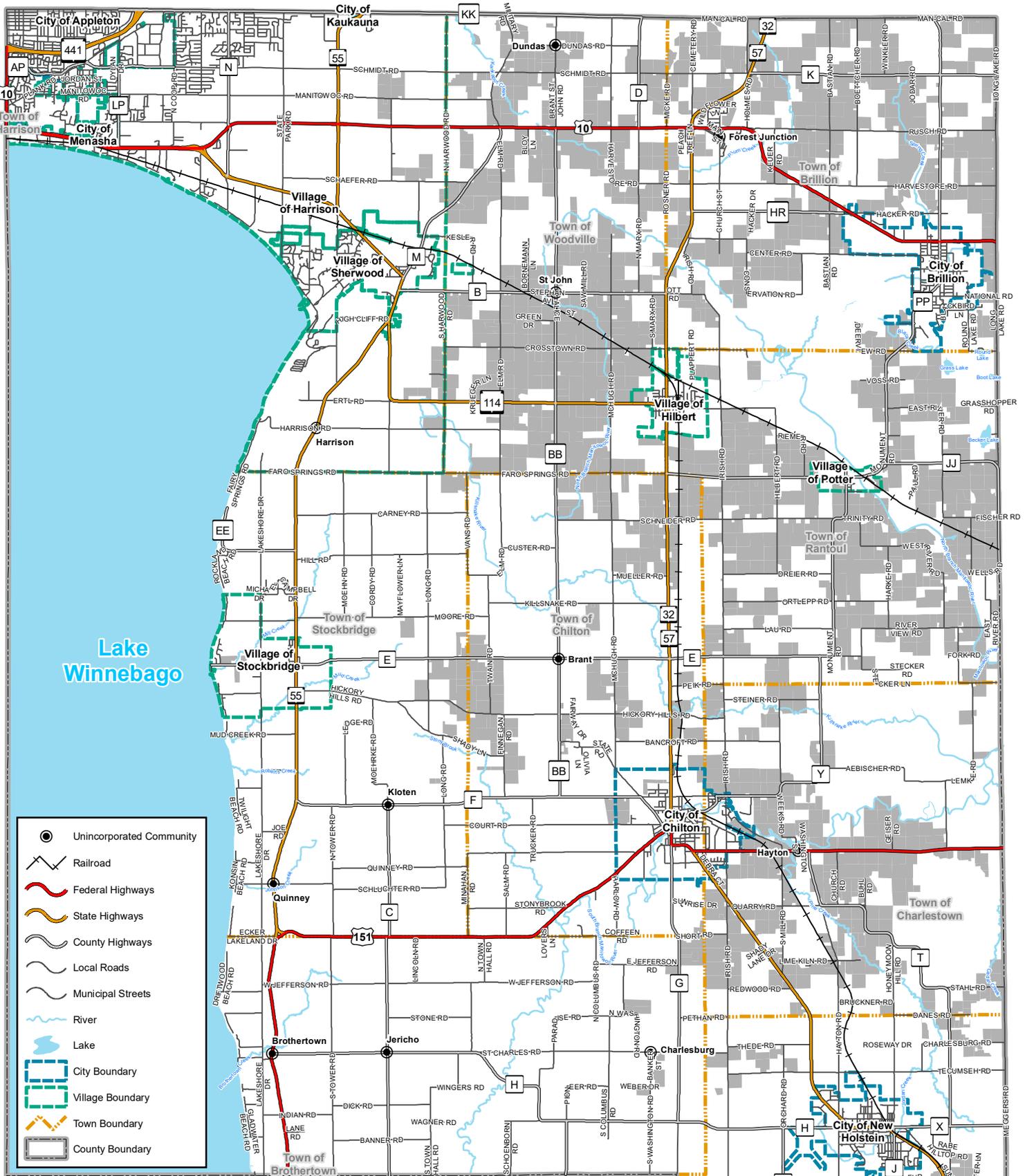
	2011			2012			2013			2014			2015			2016			2017		
	No. of Claims	\$ Amount of Tax Credits	Acreage	No. of Claims	\$ Amount of Tax Credits	Acreage	No. of Claims	\$ Amount of Tax Credits	Acreage	No. of Claims	\$ Amount of Tax Credits	Acreage	No. of Claims	\$ Amount of Tax Credits	Acreage	No. of Claims	\$ Amount of Tax Credits	Acreage	No. of Claims	\$ Amount of Tax Credits	Acreage
Brillion	52	\$72,345	9,644	51	\$65,711	8,760	47	\$59,567	7,928	48	\$67,486	8,932	47	\$58,209	7,721	48	\$70,502	9,373	48	\$59,547	7,793
Charlestown	26	\$43,212	5,761	30	\$46,200	6,137	27	\$43,641	5,263	28	\$47,766	6,368	25	\$37,581	5,010	29	\$50,632	6,750	26	\$37,957	5,060
C.Chilton																			11	\$9,156	1,207
T.Chilton	0	\$0	0	14	\$20,368	2,649	20	\$29,194	3,626	19	\$25,403	3,122	18	\$24,530	3,057	19	\$26,584	3,330	19	\$26,961	3,311
Rantoul	38	\$48,596	6,371	39	\$50,659	6,646	38	\$53,605	6,545	40	\$56,654	7,144	39	\$53,895	6,859	37	\$53,857	6,879	39	\$56,970	7,097
Woodville	41	\$51,492	6,732	40	\$50,902	6,787	39	\$54,253	6,821	41	\$58,966	7,627	41	\$57,406	7,347	43	\$57,633	7,426	41	\$54,168	6,971
Calumet County*	216	\$267,125	35,929	213	\$265,438	35,048	219	\$276,690	34,572	221	\$291,709	37,371	220	\$272,930	35,332	218	\$298,288	38,822	224	\$276,171	35,451
Wisconsin*	15,231	\$18,981,804	2,815,412	14,598	\$18,594,512	2,688,257	13,864	\$18,124,275	2,570,847	13,543	\$18,097,281	2,542,988	13,376	\$18,056,975	2,530,058	11,895	\$16,612,909	2,294,417	11,622	\$16,272,252	2,237,890

*Includes both Schedules FPC (old law) and FPC-A (new law) for Year 2011

Source: Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection







Certificates of Compliance 2018

Figure **36**

Certificate of Compliance Issued - 2018



Calumet County
Land Information Office

1 inch = 12,633 feet

St Anna

Map Date: March 2019

Claims are associated with where the claimant lives not where the land is located. This is why City of Chilton is included in the 2017 data. If 10 or less claims are made in a community, the value is not individually identified but it is reflected in the county total. If the claimant is out of state, a trust, an estate or no county is specified, the value is only included in the state total.

According to the data, the state has been experiencing a decline in the tax credit programs. One possible reason for this decline is that more people were claiming the credit at the start of the new program than should have. In 2016, DATCP began implementing a numbering system for Certificates of Compliance (COC) to help correct this problem and thusly, provide a more accurate number going forward. Another explanation for the decline may be because the tax credit value has remained unchanged since 2009 while farm expenditures have increased. For the program to remain valuable to farmers, the tax credit should be adjusted to keep up with inflation. Farmers have also expressed that the AEA tax credit is too low considering a 15-year contract is in place that includes penalties for contract violations.

In Calumet County, the tax credits issued and acreage claimed numbers fluctuate year to year. It appears that the Towns of Brillion and Charlestown are heavy influencers of this trend. However, the number of claims made in Calumet County is trending upward. According to the Calumet County Land and Water Conservation Department, one explanation for this increase is that what was once a single farm is being broken up into various ownership entities and each entity is required to have its own COC. For example, John and Jane Smith owned 120 acres and received one COC. The following year, ownership of 40 acres was changed to the John and Jane Smith Revocable Living Trust and another 40 acres was changed to Smith Family, LLC. By doing this, two more COC's were created. The more COC's, the more claims but tax credits issued and acreage claimed remain the same.

Prior to 2009, two tax credit programs existed through DATCP (Farmland Tax Relief Program and Farmland Preservation Program). The 2010-2020 Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan states that in tax year 2006, Calumet County participants received \$148,154 in Farmland Tax Relief Credit Program and \$143,131 through the Farmland Preservation Program for a total of \$291,285. In comparison to the current tax credit programs, the values are similar to tax years 2014 and 2016.

Land Division

The Calumet County Land Division Ordinance (Chapter 62 of the Calumet County Code of Ordinances), which applies to the unincorporated areas of the County, includes residential density standards. The standards, as determined by each town, reflect the level of residential development identified in the community's comprehensive plan. This option is helpful in controlling development especially in communities that have not pursued farmland preservation zoning but value farmland preservation. It also directs growth to those areas where development is both appropriate and desired. Furthermore, the ordinance limits the number of unsewered lots in density management boundaries to nine per parent parcel. Unsewered lots located beyond the density management boundaries are limited to three lots every five years. This has been effective at slowing down growth.

Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE)

A Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) program is a way of paying farmers for their willingness to accept a deed restriction on their land that limits future development for non-agricultural purposes. The land owners are compensated for the fair market value of their land, based on the difference between what it could be sold for on the open market with no restrictions and what it can be sold for once an easement is placed on the land. An agricultural conservation easement is then placed

on the property protecting the agricultural use guaranteeing that there will always be land available for agricultural practices. A goal of such a program would be to create blocks of protected agricultural land, helping to guarantee the long-term viability of agriculture and protection of the environment.

A PACE program was a key component of the state's 2009 Working Lands Initiative. On March 15, 2011, Calumet County adopted Chapter 36 of the Calumet County Code of Ordinances (Land Preservation), the County's PACE program. Despite the existence of these programs, lack of funding has stalled both programs. The state's program is currently unfunded and the County's ordinance requires all funding to come from non-county government sources. Widespread interest in permanent farmland protection remains across Wisconsin along with hope that the PACE program will be funded in the future.

SECTION V

Farmland Preservation Areas

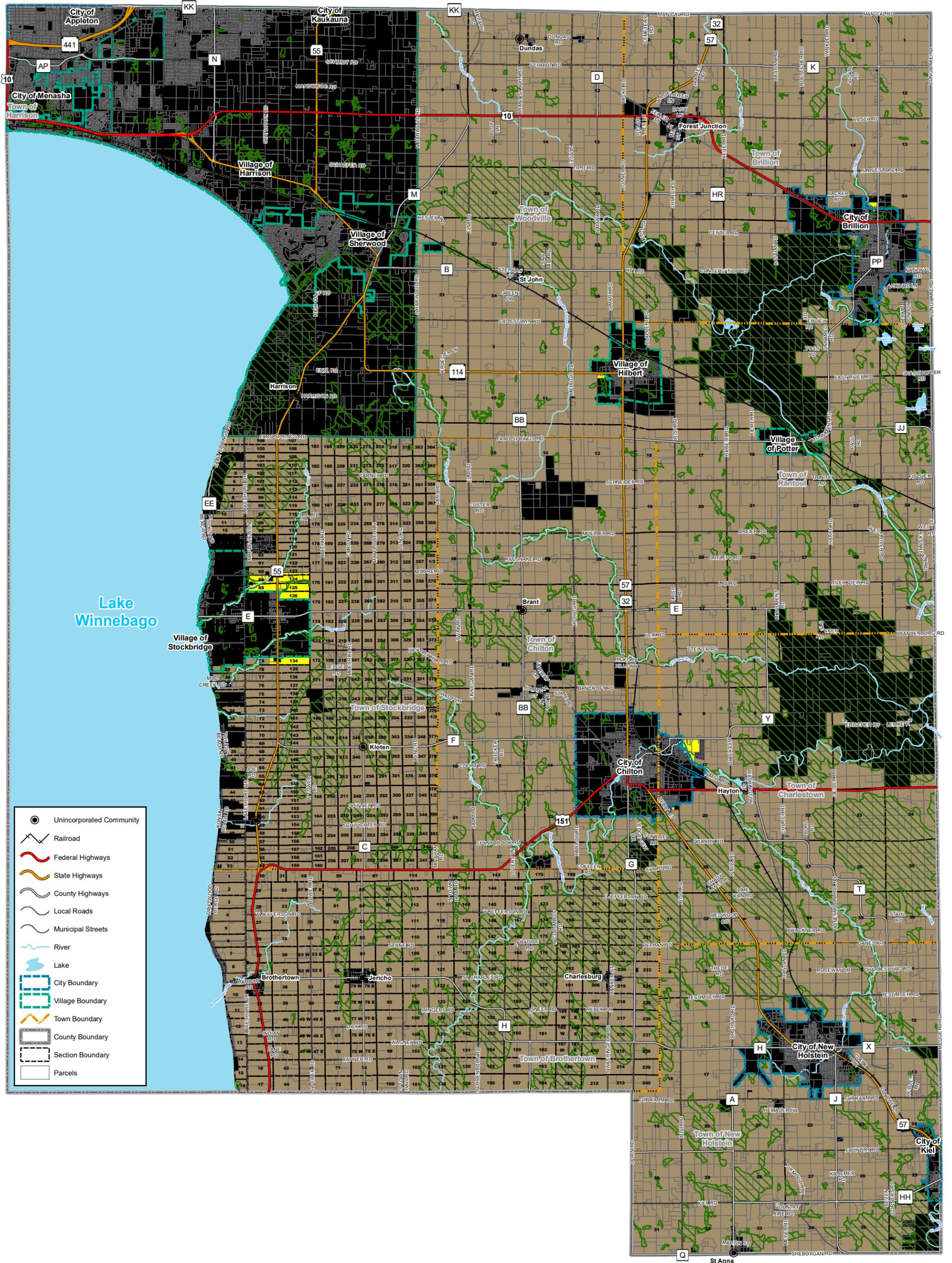
Chapter 91 of the State Statutes list items to be considered when delineating the agricultural preservation areas of a county. The statutes require that the county map areas of agricultural 'significance'. Therefore, Figure 37 shall be considered the official map for which the state's farmland preservation tax credits shall be based. Due to the scale of Figure 37 (Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan Map), the map has been divided into individual town maps for ease of viewing. Town maps are in alphabetical order and given a letter to reflect that order.

Land identified "Farmland Preservation Area" on Figure 37 predominately shows lands currently zoned for agriculture. This includes lands zoned Exclusive Agricultural, Farmland Preservation, General Agricultural, Heartland and Small Estate Residential. They have been identified as such because of their quality agricultural soils, current agricultural land use patterns, proximity of agricultural related infrastructure and parcel size. For the Town of Stockbridge where there is no zoning, lands identified as Rural Character on their Comprehensive Plan Preferred Land Use Map are included. This is consistent with the 2010 Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan. Identifying this area as "Farmland Preservation Area" allows these farmers the opportunity to apply for an Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA). Lastly, all lands which the owner is currently claiming the farmland preservation tax credit are included.

In that some wetland areas can be used for farming, the wetland areas in the County have been delineated as an "Environmental Overlay" and most underlining areas are classified as eligible farmland preservation areas. The overlay also includes thin soils over karst features which are highly susceptible to groundwater contamination. In that thin soils and karst topography are filters, land use should be monitored closely on these areas to avoid potential groundwater contamination. Although such karst areas may not be good for traditional forms of agriculture, they could prove to be quite conducive for non-traditional/diverse type of agriculture, such as viticulture.

Most towns in the County developed buffer areas, also known as transition areas, when they created their Comprehensive Plan Preferred Land Use Map. In an effort to minimize residential development in the agricultural areas, it was the intention of the towns to direct development to the transition areas. The transition area also affords a town the benefit of new lots and helps the community gradually transition from an urban setting to a more agricultural setting. The buffer, or "Transition Area", is delineated in yellow in Figure 37. Some of the transitional areas reflect tracts where land was included in a sewer service plan, lands already seeing a pattern of small lot residential development, areas where farmers already expressed a desire to sell for development, or areas historically identified as transition areas on existing zoning maps. All the transition areas are adjacent to incorporated communities and are parallel or very near major state or county highways.

Areas which typically would not be used for agriculture are shown in black on the map and labeled "Excluded Area". The excluded areas are those lands in incorporated communities, state-owned parks and wildlife areas, lands used for public or institutional purposes, rural subdivisions and non-agricultural zoning districts. The biggest change between the 2010 and 2020 Farmland Preservation Plan Maps is in the northwest corner of the County. With the conversion of the Town of Harrison to the Village of Harrison, this area has now been identified as an "Excluded Area".



Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County

Figure **37**

-  Environmental Overlay
-  Excluded Area
-  Farmland Preservation Area
-  Transition Area

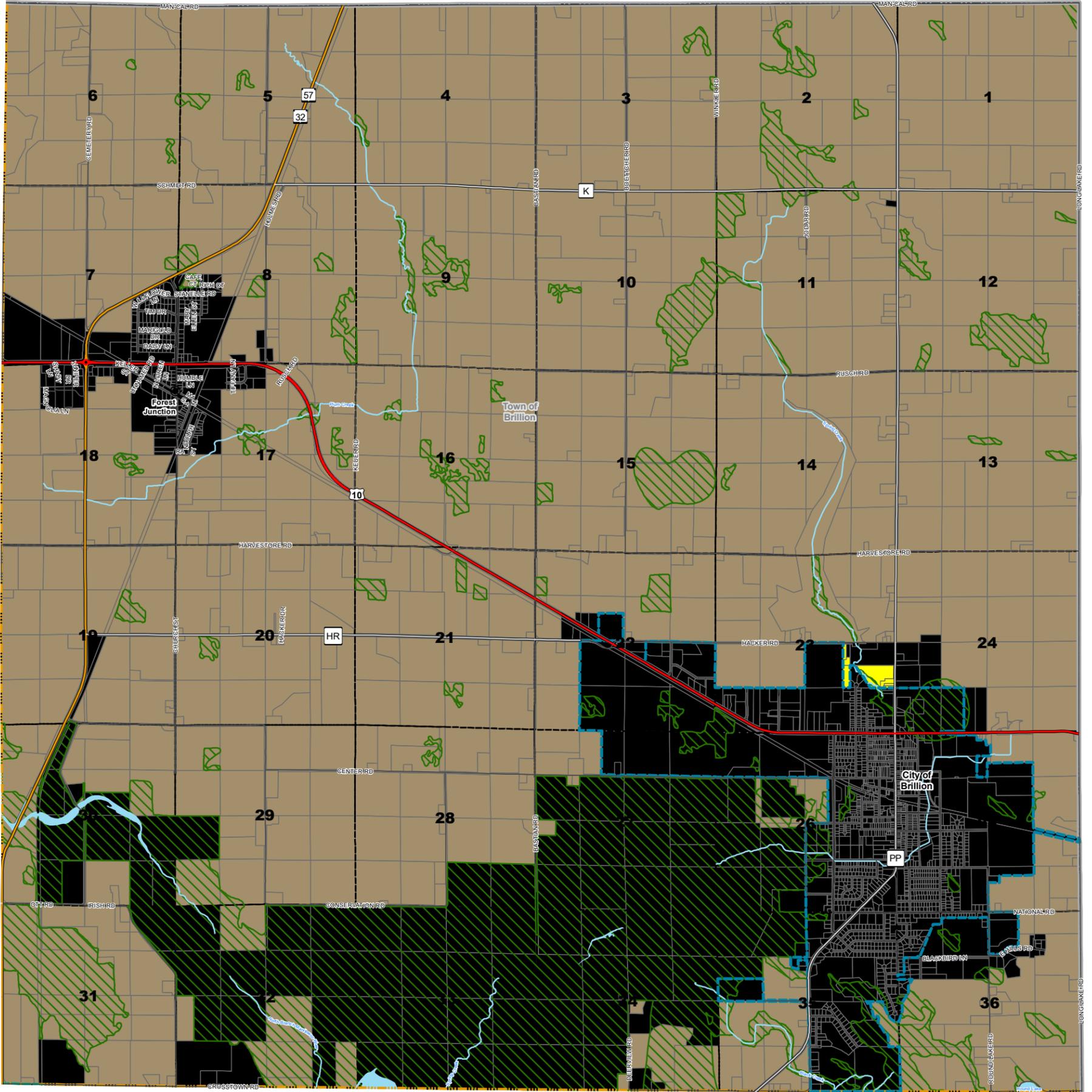


 Land Information Office
 



 0 1 2 Miles

 1 inch = 9,361 feet



- Unincorporated Community
- Railroad
- Federal Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Municipal Streets
- River
- Lake
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Parcels

Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County, Town of Brillion

Figure **37A**

- Environmental Overlay
- Excluded Area
- Farmland Preservation Area
- Transition Area



Miles

1 inch = 3,254 feet

Map Date: July 2, 2019

Map Producer: Calumet County Planning, Zoning, and Land Information Department



Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County, Town of Brothertown

Figure **37B**

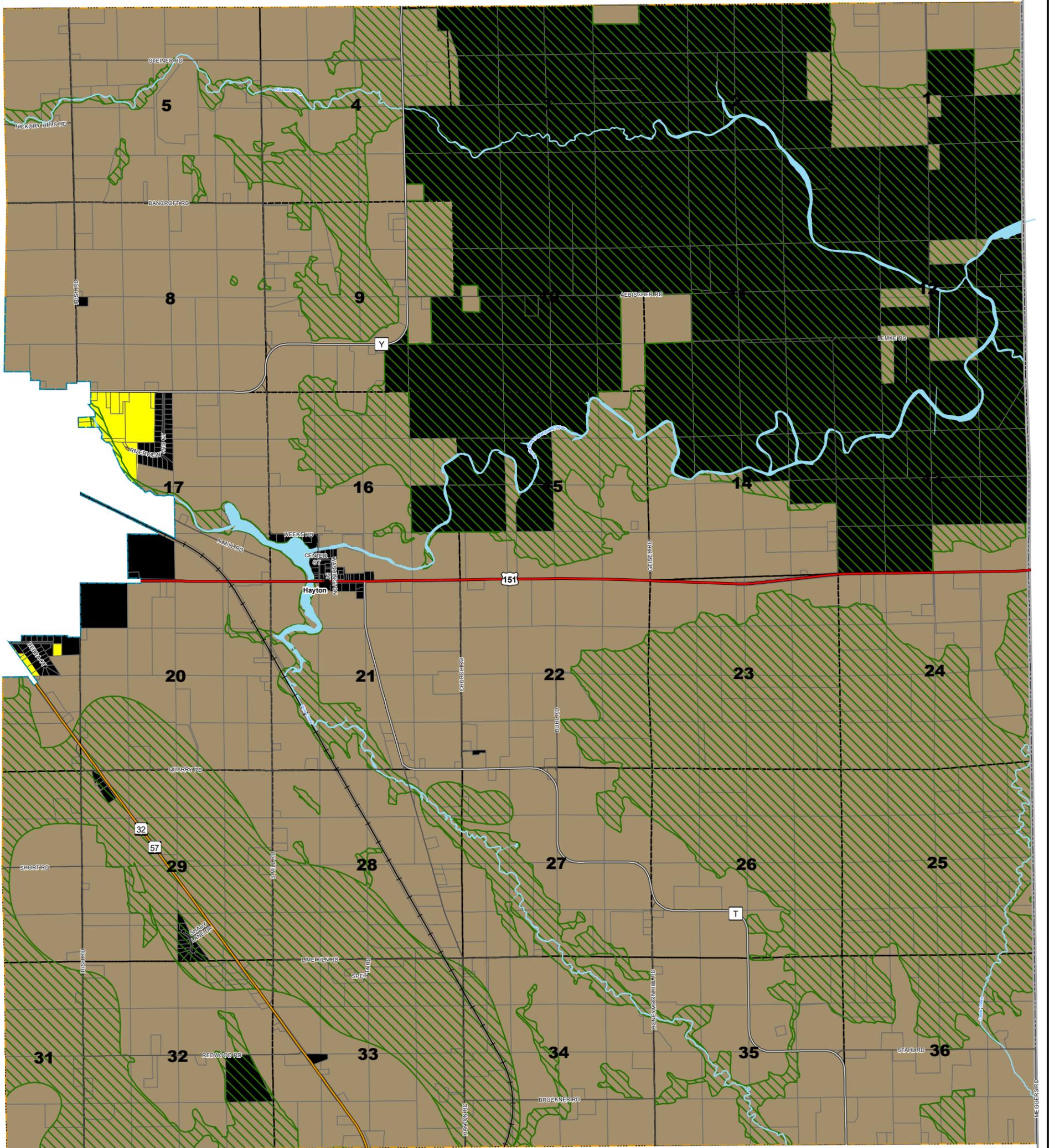
-  Environmental Overlay
-  Excluded Area
-  Farmland Preservation Area
-  Transition Area



1 inch = 3,294 feet

Map Date: July 2, 2019

Map Producer: Calumet County Planning, Zoning, and Land Information Department



- Unincorporated Community
- Railroad
- Federal Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Municipal Streets
- River
- Lake
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Parcels

Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County, Town of Charlestown

Figure **37C**

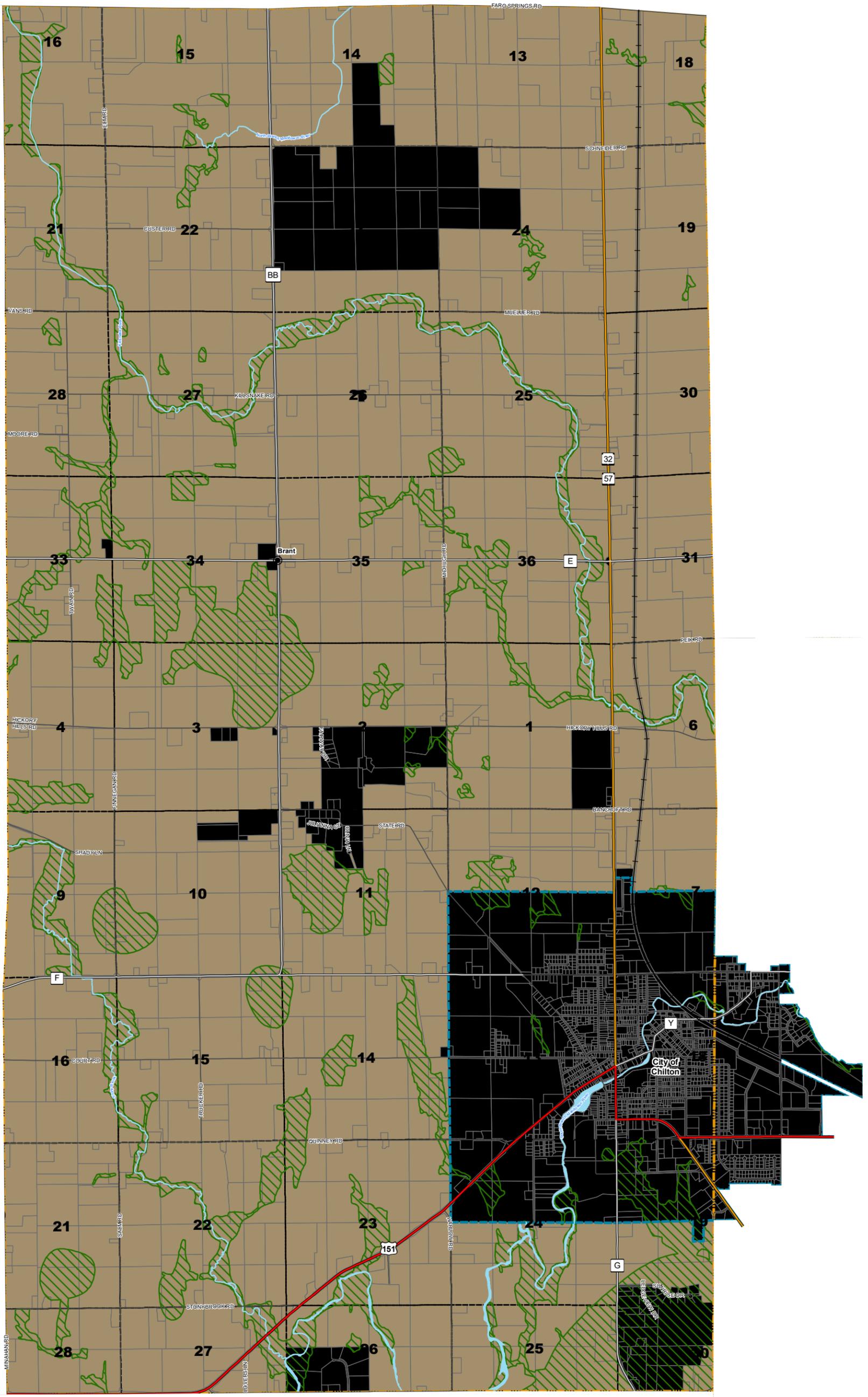
- Environmental Overlay
- Excluded Area
- Farmland Preservation Area
- Transition Area



1 inch = 2,817 feet

Map Date: July 2, 2019

Map Producer: Calumet County Planning, Zoning, and Land Information Department

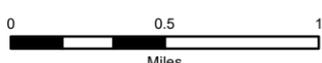


- Unincorporated Community
- Railroad
- Federal Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Municipal Streets
- River
- Lake
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Parcels

Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County, Town of Chilton

Figure **37D**

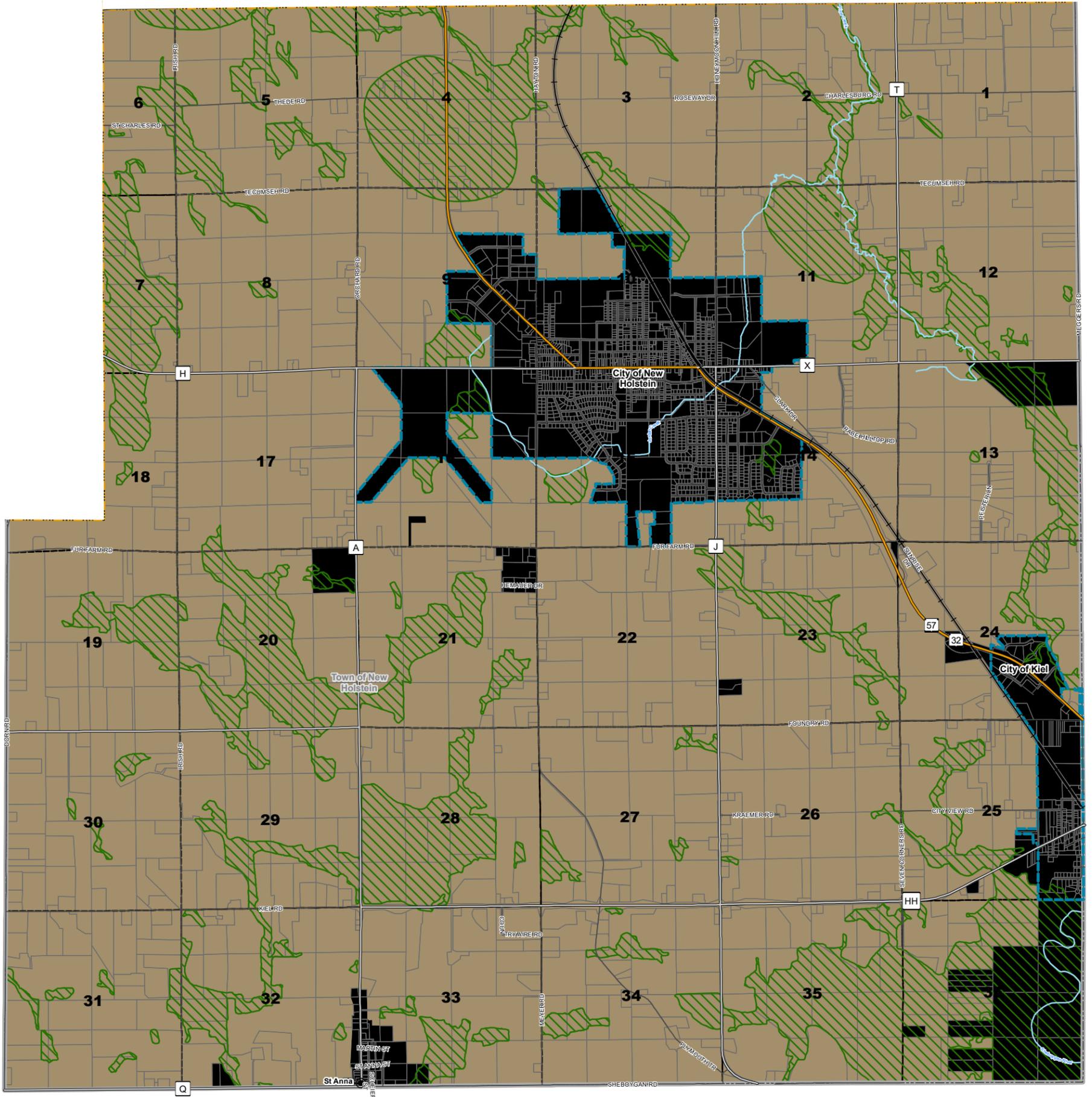
- Environmental Overlay
- Excluded Area
- Farmland Preservation Area
- Transition Area



1 inch = 3,144 feet

Map Date: October 8, 2021

Map Producer: Calumet County Planning, Zoning, and Land Information Department



- Unincorporated Community
- Railroad
- Federal Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Municipal Streets
- River
- Lake
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Parcels

Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County, Town of New Holstein

Figure **37E**

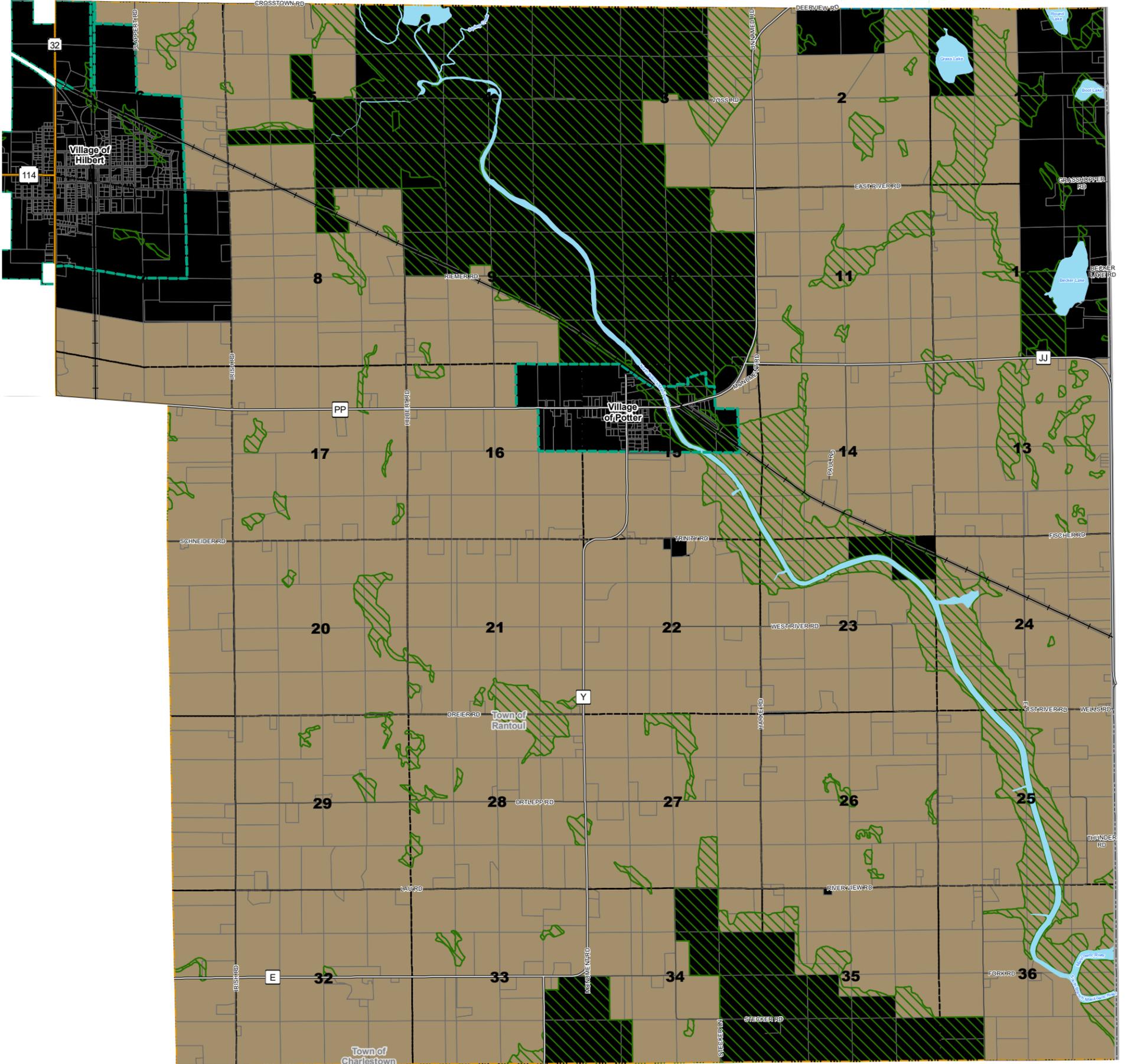
- Environmental Overlay
- Excluded Area
- Farmland Preservation Area
- Transition Area



1 inch = 3,254 feet

Map Date: July 2, 2019

Map Producer: Calumet County Planning, Zoning, and Land Information Department



- Unincorporated Community
- Railroad
- Federal Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Municipal Streets
- River
- Lake
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Parcels

Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County, Town of Rantoul

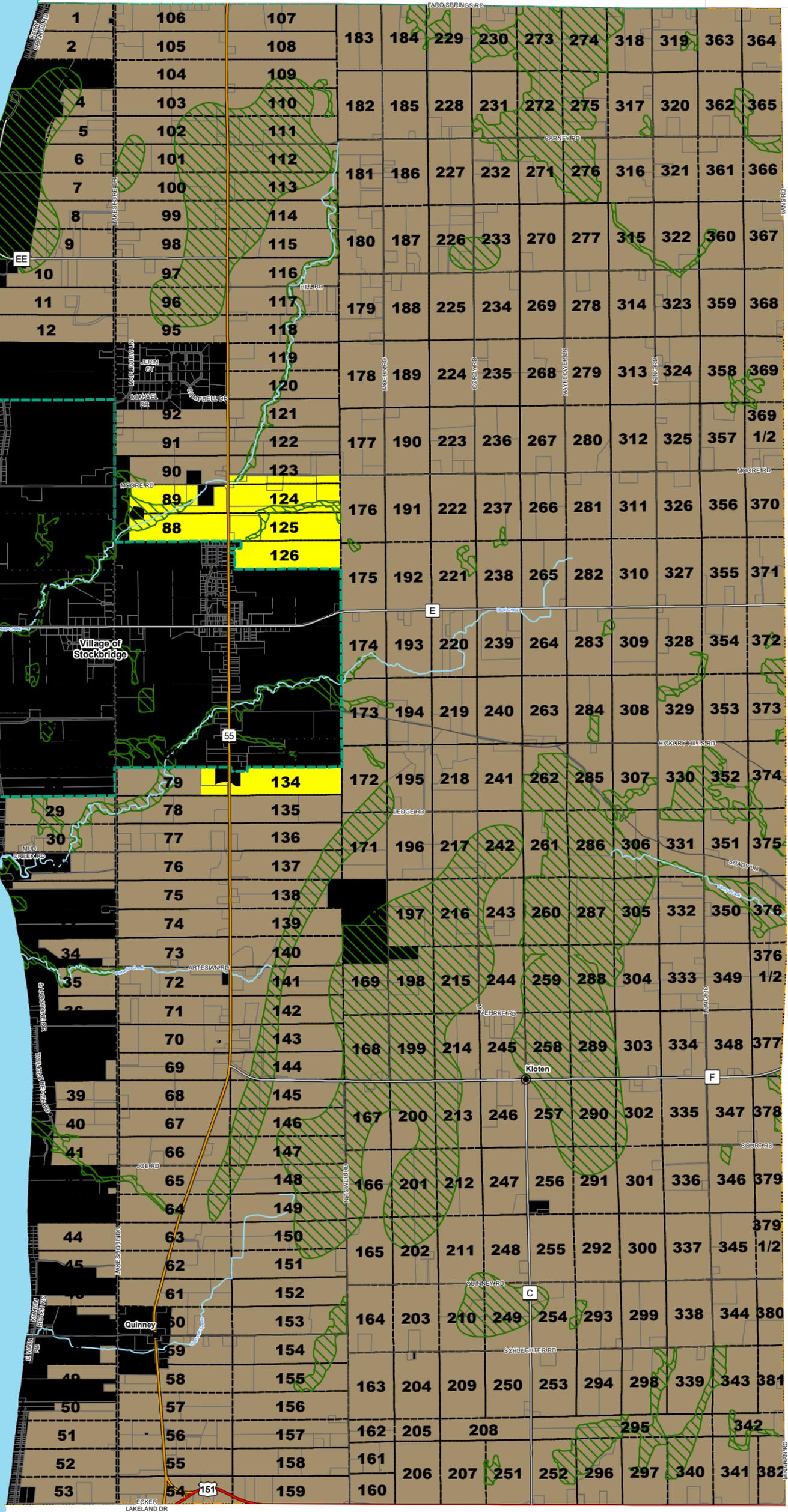
Figure **37F**

- Environmental Overlay
- Excluded Area
- Farmland Preservation Area
- Transition Area



1 inch = 3,254 feet
Map Date: July 2, 2019

Lake Winnebago



- Unincorporated Community
- ⚡ Railroad
- 🛣️ Federal Highways
- 🛣️ State Highways
- 🛣️ County Highways
- 🛣️ Local Roads
- 🛣️ Municipal Streets
- 🌊 River
- 🌊 Lake
- 🏠 City Boundary
- 🏠 Village Boundary
- 🏠 Town Boundary
- 🏠 County Boundary
- 🏠 Section Boundary
- 🏠 Parcels

Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County, Town of Stockbridge

Figure **37G**

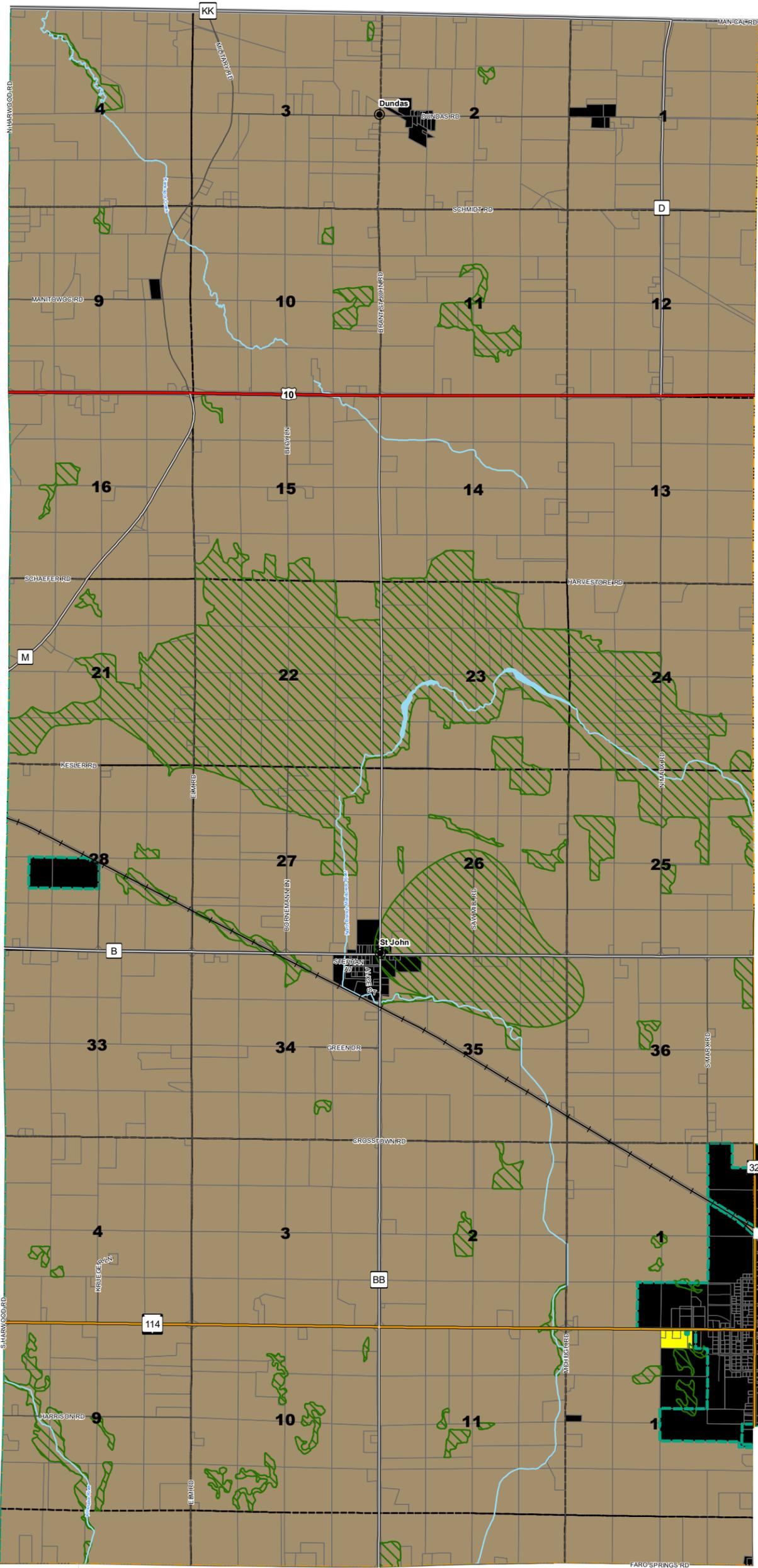
- Environmental Overlay
- Excluded Area
- Farmland Preservation Area
- Transition Area



1 inch = 3,254 feet

Map Date: July 2, 2019

Map Producer: Calumet County Planning, Zoning, and Land Information Department



- Unincorporated Community
- Railroad
- Federal Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Municipal Streets
- River
- Lake
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Parcels

Farmland Preservation Plan Map Calumet County, Town of Woodville

Figure **37H**

- Environmental Overlay
- Excluded Area
- Farmland Preservation Area
- Transition Area



Miles

1 inch = 3,254 feet

Map Date: July 2, 2019

APPENDIX A: CALUMET COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION STUDY, 2018



Calumet County Farmland Preservation Study, 2018

David Trechter
Denise Parks

Survey Research Center Report 2018/9
March 2018

Staff working for the Survey Research Center at UW-River Falls were instrumental in the completion of this study. We would like to thank Denise Parks and Jim Janke for their assistance and suggestions. In addition, we would like to thank the Center's Student Assistants for processing the surveys: David Jacobsen, Aaron Leiby, Ellie Peretz, Jennifer Pflum, Rachel Shamro, and Beth Zimmer. We gratefully acknowledge their hard work and dedication.

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Executive Summary

In early 2018 the Calumet County Planning Department, working with the Survey Research Center at UW-River Falls, sought feedback from the farming community for an update of the County's Farmland Preservation Plan. Surveys were sent to 446 addresses spread across the Towns of Brillion, Brothertown, Charlestown, Chilton, New Holstein, Rantoul, Stockbridge, and Woodville (**Figure 1**). The response was outstanding; the SRC received 271 completed surveys for a response of 61%. Based on a total population of 446, **271 responses are expected to produce estimates accurate to within plus or minus 3.7% with 95% confidence.**

With the exceptions of Brothertown and Charlestown, the distribution of responses was fairly uniform across the other Towns – only 12 responses were received from Brothertown and 17 from Charlestown.

Key Agricultural Resource Questions

About half or more of the respondents felt that the quantity and quality of groundwater in the County was good, the quality of surface water was also good, and there is enough farmland in Calumet County to support the long term viability of agriculture (**Figure 2**). However, about half or more also felt transitioning farmland ownership is a concern, the cost of farmland is making agriculture economically unsustainable in the County and that they can't currently find productive/quality farmland to rent or buy in Calumet County. Finally, a majority of respondents felt an off-farm job is needed to maintain their farm operation.

Farm Consolidation

Between two-thirds and three-quarters of respondents agree that remaining farmhouses and buildings should be used to provide rural residences and hobby farms, a mix of uses including farming, small businesses, and rural residences, and for small business opportunities (**Figure 3**). Opinions are closely divided between agreement, being neutral and disagreement about keeping these buildings solely in agricultural uses.

Farm Workforce

A majority of respondents said they find it difficult to hire quality and reliable employees (**Figure 4**). Men were significantly more likely to agree that hiring and retaining good workers are challenges, that language is a barrier in hiring good workers, and that both non-English speaking workers and managers could use leadership training.

Residential Issues

A majority of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that single-family homes are an acceptable use on more difficult/less productive farmland or should be limited to incorporated areas in the County (**Figure 5**).

Exclusive Agricultural Zoning

A majority of respondents support exclusive agricultural zoning, believes that it is helping preserve farmland in their Town, that the required soil and water conservation practices are reasonable, and the tax credit they receive is reasonable (**Figure 6**). Men are generally more supportive of exclusive agricultural zoning; women were more likely to say they didn't have an opinion about exclusive agricultural zoning.

Biggest Agricultural Challenges in Calumet County

About two-thirds of the respondents said that the cost of land and low commodity prices are key challenges facing Calumet County, these were the only two issues that half or more of the respondents selected (**Figure 7**). Slightly less than half of those who answered this question said that the cost of agricultural support services, the cost of renting land, and just finding land to rent or buy were big challenges facing the County.

Developing Ag-Focused Businesses

None of the three types of agricultural businesses about which we asked (input suppliers, processors, and suppliers focused on smaller farms) were seen as high priorities for a majority of respondents to this survey (**Figure 8**). Nearly 40% placed a higher priority on expanding the number of small farm suppliers, one-third wanted more processors and one-quarter wanted more input suppliers.

Conservation Priorities

None of the conservation issues about which we asked were seen as a high priority by a majority of respondents (**Figure 9**). However between 42% and 44% said that educating non-farmers about agriculture, policies to manage nutrient run-off, finding land on which to spread manure, educating the farming population about conservation practices, and cost sharing programs for conservation were higher priorities. Men rated many conservation issues as higher priorities, while women were more likely to say they didn't have an opinion.

Respondents' Land Use

Nearly half the respondents said they primarily use their rural Calumet County property to grow cash crops and about one-quarter were dairies. About one-in-ten respondents said their property was a beef operation, a rural residence, or a residence and hobby farm (**Figure 10**).

Comments about Farmland Issues in Calumet County

The largest number of responses to an open-ended question asking if they had anything else they'd like to say about farmland issues in Calumet County focused on various aspects of government (**Table 1**). Many of these expressed concerns about the level of governmental involvement in agriculture, unequal application of policies, or other complaints. There were also many comments about the negative impact of what is perceived as the growing number of larger

farms in the County. Negative comments about larger farms included concerns about their impact on the environment and on smaller farms.

Demographic Profile of Respondents

Respondents to this survey were (**Table 2**):

- Spread relatively uniformly across the eight Towns included in the study.
- Very male-dominated; 83% of the responses came from men.
- Quite a bit older than the overall population; 76% of the respondents were 55 or older.
- About one-third had an off-farm job.
- About half had a high school diploma or less in terms of formal education.
- More than 90% of the respondents said they had lived in Calumet County for more than 20 years.

Conclusions

The SRC sees three themes that emerged from this survey:

- Concerns about the current low prices for most agricultural commodities and high cost of land appear to be making producers somewhat pessimistic about the long-term sustainability of agriculture in the County.
- There is a mixed feeling about governmental intervention in agriculture, with many of the opinion that there is too much involvement, while others support such current policies as exclusive agricultural zoning and call for stepped up enforcement of environmental and/or conservation policies.
- There seems to be concerns about on-going consolidation of farms into larger units that, in the estimation of some respondents, is having detrimental impacts on smaller farms, and the environment.

Survey Purpose and Process

Dena Mooney, with the Calumet County Planning Department, working in conjunction with UW-Extension, contacted the Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of Wisconsin at River Falls to gather producer feedback for an update of the County's farmland preservation plan. Ms. Mooney, her committee and the SRC jointly developed the questionnaire used to gather the desired feedback. In addition, the County used their GIS system to query all properties within the project area (unincorporated communities) that had an agricultural improvement value of \$50,000 or more and cross referenced the list to ensure maximum participation by the farming community.

In early January, 2018, the SRC mailed the survey and a cover letter to 446 addresses provided by Calumet County. Two weeks later a post card reminder was sent to those who had not yet responded to the survey and two weeks after the post card, a second survey was mailed to those who still had not responded. The response was outstanding; the SRC received 271 completed surveys for a response of 61%. Based on a total population of 446, 271 responses are expected to produce estimates accurate to within plus or minus 3.7% with 95% confidence. This means that if this population was surveyed repeatedly, the average outcome for a given question would fall within 3.7% of the value we report 19 out of 20 times.

Any survey has to be concerned with "non-response bias." Non-response bias refers to a situation in which people who do not return a questionnaire have opinions that are systematically different from the opinions of those who return their surveys. As the response rate approaches 70% the likelihood of non-response bias being a problem decreases. **Appendix A** describes a standard technique the SRC used to test for non-response bias. We found little evidence that non-response bias is an issue for this dataset. In sum, the SRC believes these data will accurately reflect the opinions of the farming population in Calumet County.

Two questions in the survey allowed for open-ended responses. The SRC will summarize those responses in the body of the report, but the full text of those comments are included as **Appendix B**.

Finally, **Appendix C** provides a summary of responses to the categorical questions that make up the bulk of the questionnaire.

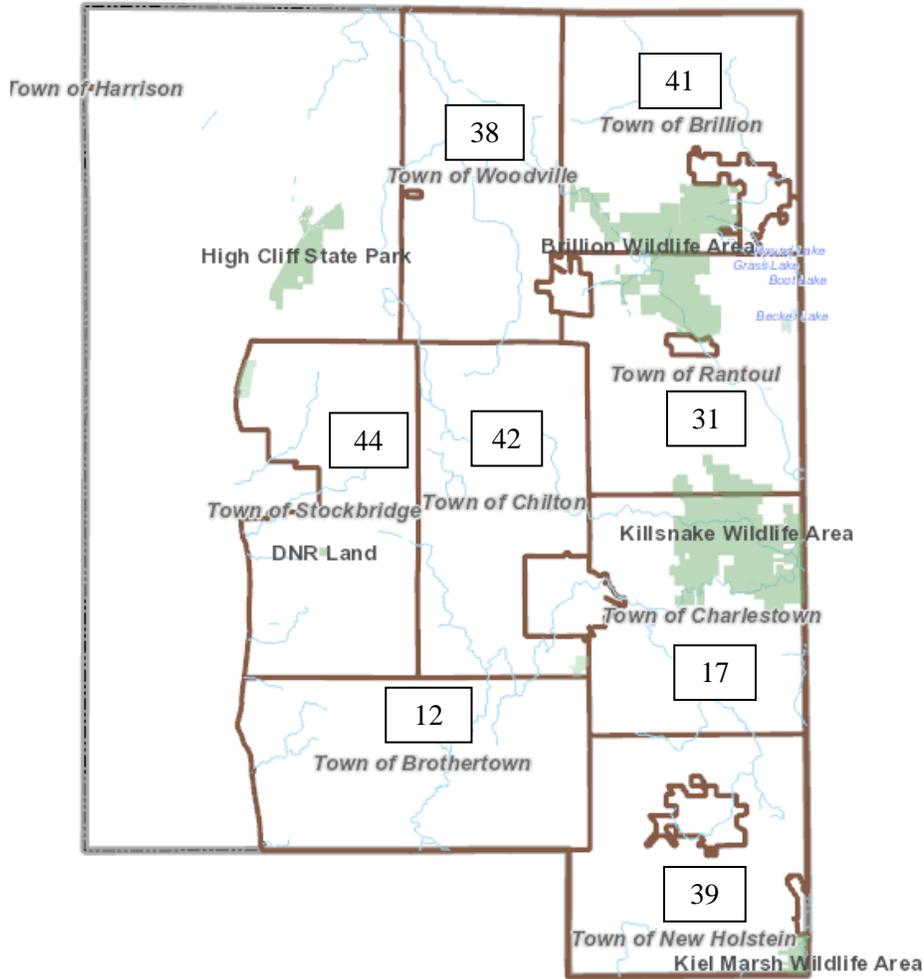
In the analysis to follow, the SRC will first describe the results of each block of questions. We will, then, look to see if there are statistically significant differences of opinion when we compare the responses of different demographic groups such as men versus women. In statistics, a result is **statistically significant** if observed differences, usually in average values, in two groups are unlikely to have occurred by chance. Statistical significance is expressed as a probability that the real average values are actually the same. A commonly used probability standard is .05 (5%). Statistical significance at the .05 level indicates there is only a 5 in 100 probability that the average values in two groups are equal. It does not mean the difference is necessarily large, important, or significant in the common meaning of the word.

The demography of this sample, however, presents some challenges in terms of statistical testing. There are few women (17% of the sample), young people (25% are younger than 55), there are

relatively few with technical college or university degrees (27%), and few new residents (7% have lived in the County for 20 or fewer years). This lack of demographic diversity reduces the likelihood of identifying statistical significance.

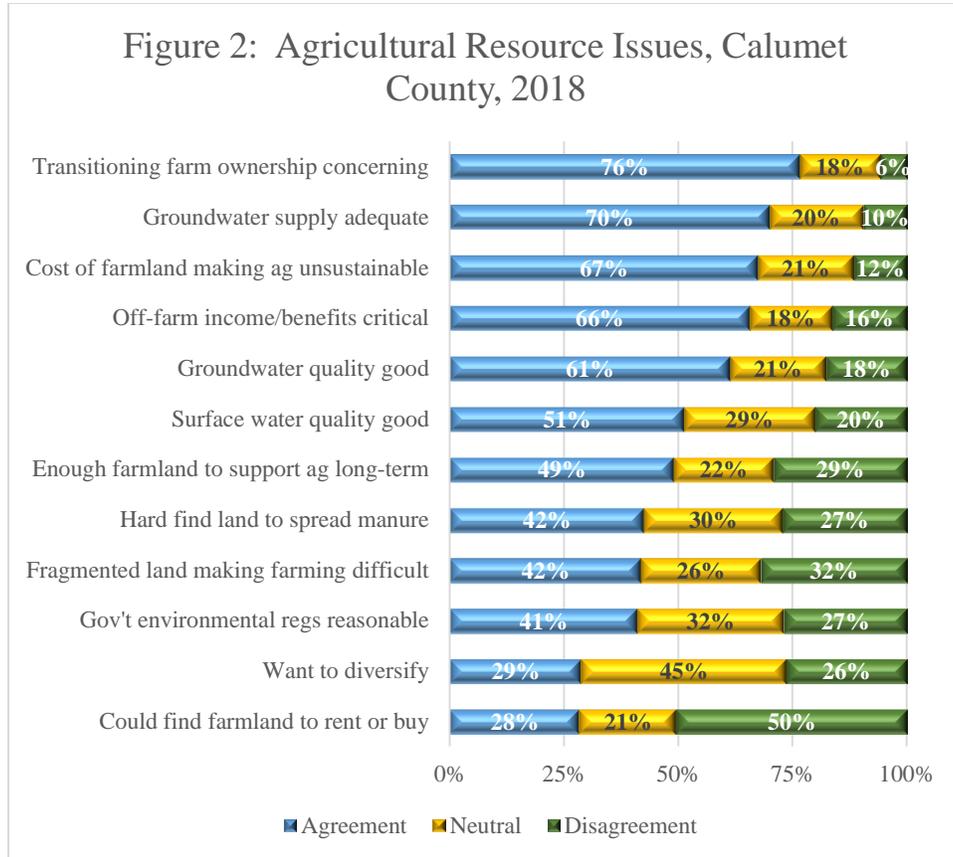
In contrast to the demographic profile, Figure 1 indicates that the distribution of responses by Town is fairly uniform across Calumet County with two exceptions. There were relatively few responses from the Towns of Brothertown (12) and Charlestown (17).

Figure 1: Responses by Town, Calumet County 2018



Key Agricultural Resource Questions

Respondents were asked the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with 12 resource-related questions (**Figure 2**). Response options were strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree, and no opinion. In this and subsequent, similarly structured questions, we will drop the “no opinion” responses from our analysis. For ease of exposition, in the graphs used in the report, we will also combine the strongly agree and agree responses into an “agreement” category and the strongly disagree and disagree responses into a “disagreement” category.



Some of the questions were framed in a “positive” way (I could currently find productive/quality farmland to rent or buy in Calumet County) and sometimes in a negative way (The cost of farmland is making agriculture economically unsustainable in Calumet County). Figure 2 summarizes the opinions of Calumet producers with respect to these resource questions.

In terms of positive outcomes, about half or more of the respondents with an opinion felt that:

- Groundwater supply and availability in Calumet County are generally adequate.
- The quality of groundwater in Calumet County is good.
- The quality of surface water in Calumet County is good.
- There is enough farmland in Calumet County to support the long-term economic viability of agriculture in the County.

In terms of negative outcomes, about half or more of the respondents felt that:

- Transitioning farm ownership to the next generation is a concern
- The cost of farmland is making agriculture economically unsustainable in Calumet County.
- They could not currently find productive/quality farmland to rent or buy in Calumet County.

A majority of respondents also felt that the income and benefits from an off-farm job are necessary to maintain their farm operations.

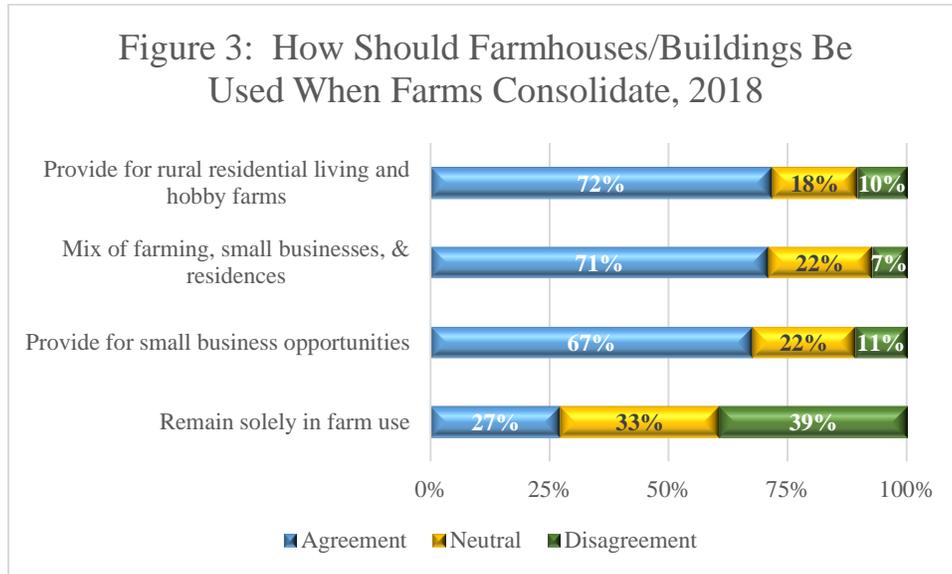
Opinions were more evenly divided with respect to how hard it is to find suitable land on which to spread manure (42% agreed with this), if land fragmentation is making farming more difficult in the County (42% agreed), whether governmental environmental regulations to protect air, soil, and water resources are reasonable (41% agreed), or if they are interested in diversifying their agribusiness (29% agreed).

There were a handful of statistically significant differences in terms of opinions about the resource questions covered in Figure 1:

- The availability of productive/quality farmland to rent or buy is of concern to higher proportions of respondents from Brothertown and Chilton Towns, but less so to those from Rantoul. As noted above, there were relatively few responses from the Town of Brothertown (12 responses), meaning that the reliability of these results are somewhat lower. Higher proportions of men disagreed that such land was available compared to women, more of whom opted for the “don’t know” response.
- Higher proportions of men agreed that there is sufficient farmland land in Calumet County to sustain agriculture.
- Higher proportions of those under 55 agreed that the cost of farmland was making agriculture unsustainable in the County.
- Those with an off-farm job agreed in greater proportions that an off-farm job was critical to maintain their farm operation.
- Respondents who had at least a 2-year college degree were significantly more interested in diversifying their agribusiness.

Farm Consolidation

The second block of questions focused on what should happen to farmhouses and outbuildings when small farms are sold and the tillable acres are used by the acquiring farm, which has no need/use for the buildings. The questions were preceded by the following statement, “*In rural Calumet County and across Wisconsin, small farms are being consolidated into larger farms. Often, when small farms are sold, the tillable acreage are used by the large farm and small tracts with the farm house and buildings remain.*” The opinions of Calumet County’s farm population about the fate of these farm buildings are summarized in Figure 3.

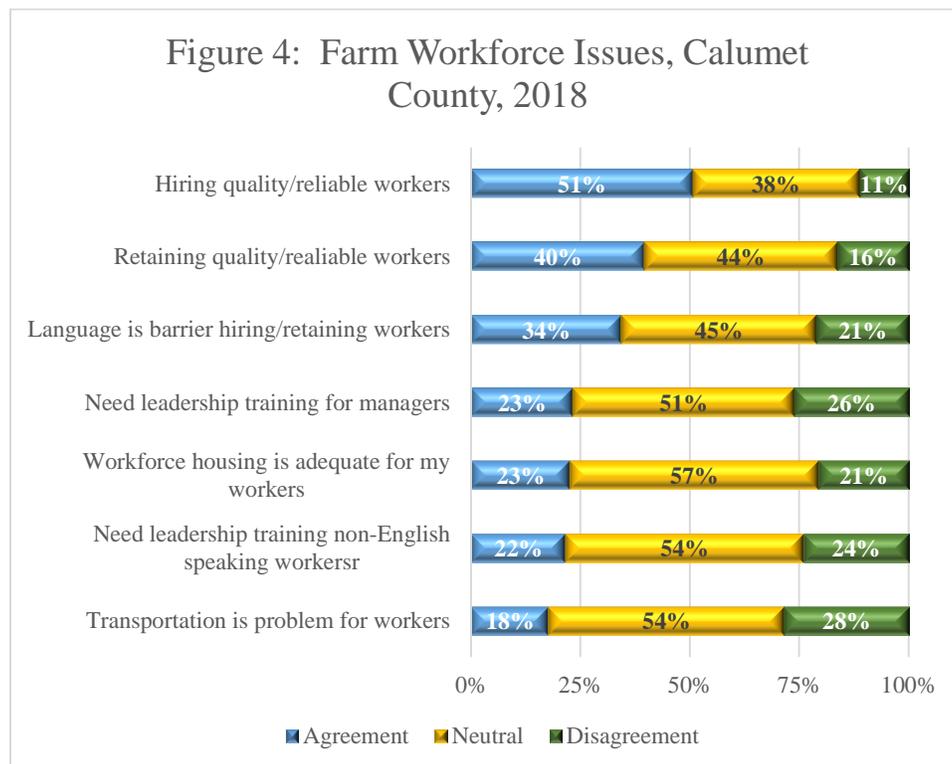


As above, we excluded “no opinion” responses and consolidated the five answer options into agreement, neutral and disagreement. Between two-thirds and three-quarters of respondents agree that remaining farmhouses and buildings should be used to provide rural residences and hobby farms, a mix of uses including farming, small businesses, and rural residences, and for small business opportunities. Opinions are closely divided between agreement, being neutral and disagreement about keeping these buildings solely in agricultural uses.

The Town of Charleston (17 responses), like Brothertown had relatively few respondents, again raising concerns about reliability. But, given this caveat, these data suggest that residents of Charlestown are significantly more open to using farmsteads and outbuildings for rural residences and hobby farms. Brothertown residents are significantly less so. Though not quite statistically significant, women and those with off-farm employment also seem more open to using these properties for rural residences and hobby farms. Those with off-farm employment are significantly more supportive of using farmsteads and outbuildings for any mix of uses – rural residences/hobby farms, small businesses, or in farming.

Farm Workforce

Respondents next had the opportunity to weigh in on workforce challenges they face. As Figure 4 illustrates, the only issue that a majority of respondents identified as a problem was the difficulty of hiring quality and reliable workers (51%). Substantial proportions of respondents also said that retaining quality and reliable workers (40%) and bridging language barriers when trying to hire good workers (34%) were issues for them. For all the other workforce issues (leadership training for managers or non-English speaking workers, ensuring adequate housing and transportation for workers), a majority of respondents were neutral (they neither agreed nor disagreed they were issues/needs).

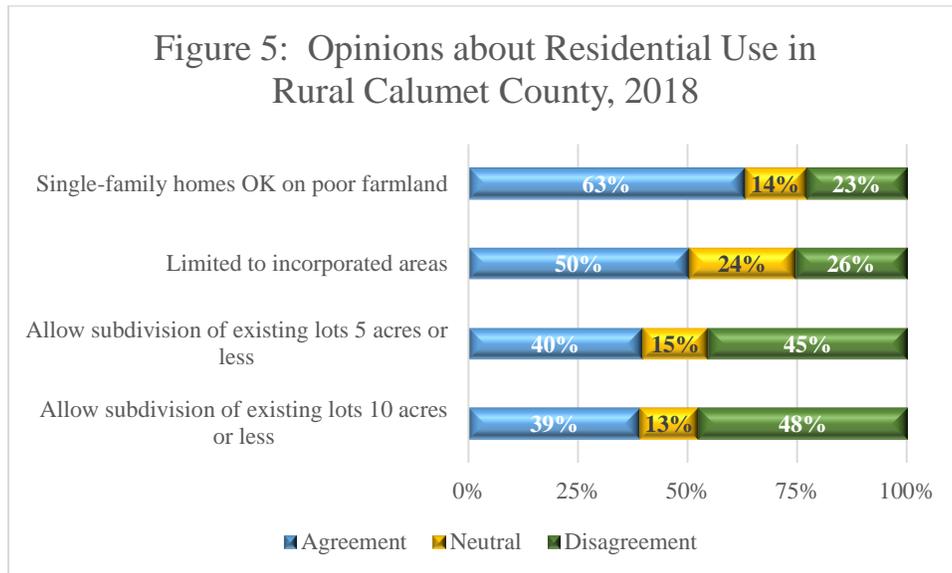


In terms of significant differences based on location and demographic differences:

- Hiring quality/reliable workers – significantly higher proportions of respondents from Rantoul agreed this was a problem for them while much lower than average proportions of those from Stockbridge agreed this affected them. Those younger than 65 were more likely to say this is a problem than older respondents.
- Gender differences – men were significantly more likely to agree that hiring and retaining good workers are challenges, that language is a barrier in hiring good workers, and that both non-English speaking workers and managers could use leadership training. Women, on the other hand, were more likely to say they didn't have an opinion about those issues.

Residential Issues

The questionnaire included the following statement as an introduction to the section on residential use in rural Calumet County, “*Often residential and agriculture are seen as incompatible land uses. Policies in place (e.g. density, zoning) limit residential development in Calumet County. These questions aim to gauge the farm community’s opinion on these policies.*” As Figure 5 indicates, a majority of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that single-family homes are an acceptable use on more difficult/less productive farmland (63%) or should be limited to incorporated areas in the County (50%). Slightly more disagree than agree with the options to allow subdivision of ten or five acre parcels for home sites. There are relatively few people who are neutral on these zoning questions.

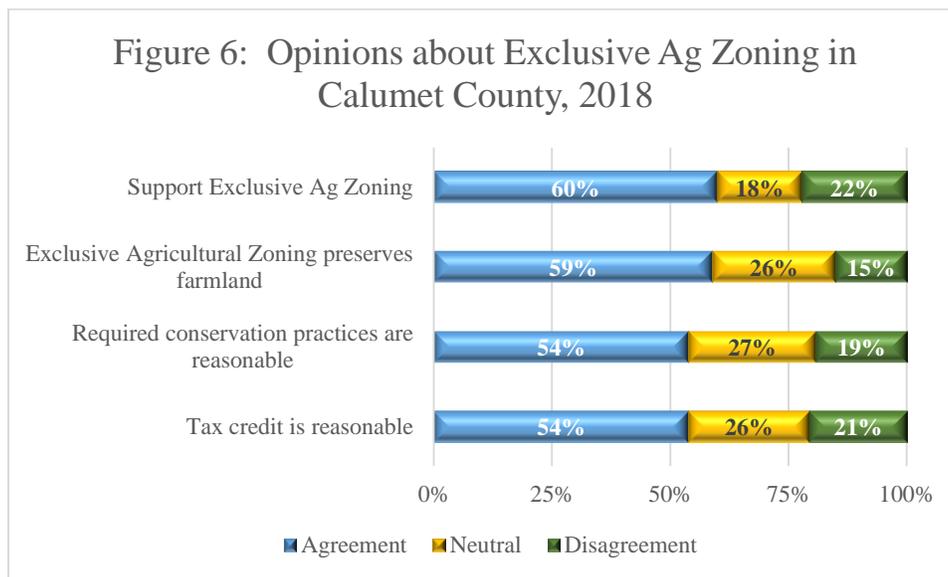


The only significant difference about residential development is with respect to limiting such uses to the incorporated areas of Calumet County. Respondents from Brillion and Brothertown agreed in much higher proportions that such a limit should be imposed. In contrast a substantially lower proportion of those living in Stockbridge agreed with this restriction; a much higher proportion of these respondents said they didn’t have an opinion about limiting residential development to incorporated areas.

Exclusive Agricultural Zoning

The farming population of Calumet County were asked to provide their feedback on exclusive agricultural zoning – do they support it, is the tax credit received reasonable, are the conservation practices required reasonable, and is it helping preserve farmland in the local Town.

A majority of respondents agree or strongly agree that they support Exclusive Ag Zoning (EAZ), believes that it is helping preserve farmland in their Town, that the required soil and water conservation practices are reasonable, and the tax credit they receive through EAZ is reasonable. About one in five respondents or less disagreed or strongly disagreed with these statements.



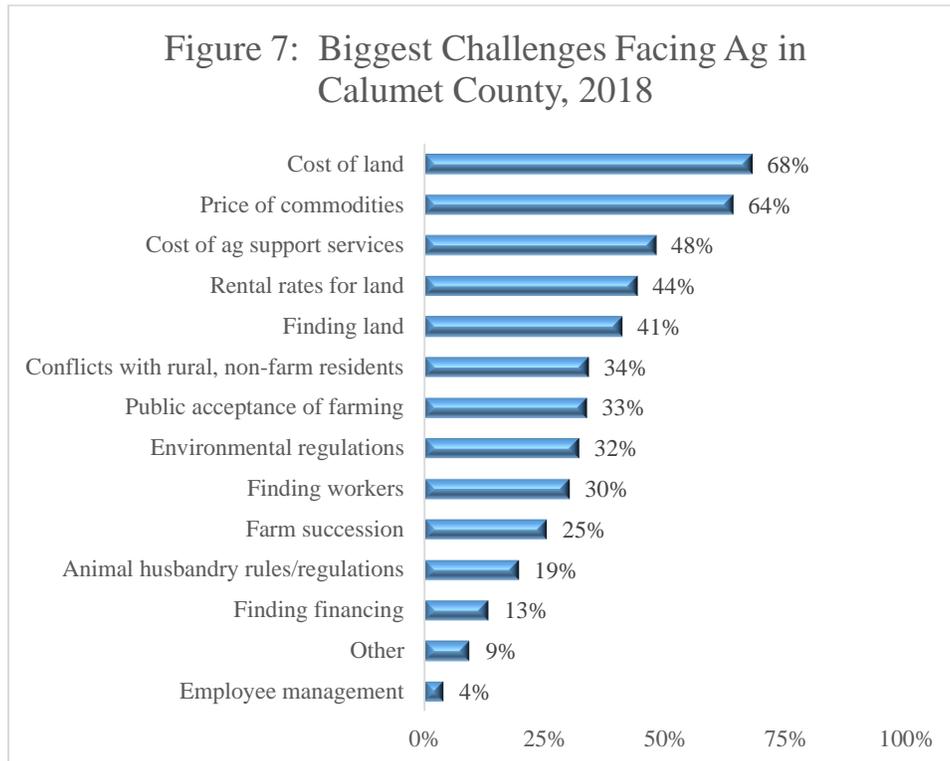
Higher proportions of men were in agreement that they support EAZ and that this program's tax credit and conservation requirements are reasonable. Though not quite statistically significant, men were also more likely to be in agreement that EAZ is preserving farmland in their Town. It is not the case that women are more likely to disagree with these statements about EAZ. Rather, as we saw in the set of questions regarding employment, women are more likely to say they don't have an opinion about EAZ and its impact.

There were also a number of statistically significant differences across the Towns:

- Support for EAZ – was significantly higher in Brillion and Brothertown and lower in Stockbridge and New Holstein.
- Conservation requirements – those in Brothertown and Woodville were more likely to agree that the soil and water conservation requirements are reasonable, while those in Stockbridge agree in much lower proportions.
- EAZ preserves farmland – those from Woodville and Rantoul agree in higher proportions that EAZ has helped preserve farmland in their Town; much lower proportions felt that way in New Holstein and Stockbridge.

Biggest Agricultural Challenges in Calumet County

The survey instrument listed 13 potentially important agricultural issues plus an “other” option and respondents were asked to identify the five biggest challenges to agriculture in Calumet County today.



As Figure 7 indicates, about two-thirds of the respondents said that the cost of land and commodity prices are key challenges facing Calumet County. Slightly less than half of those who answered this question said that the cost of agricultural support services, the cost of renting land, and just finding land to rent or buy were big challenges facing the County. About one-in-three farmers said that conflicts with rural residents, public acceptance of farming, environmental regulations, and the difficulty of finding workers were key challenges.

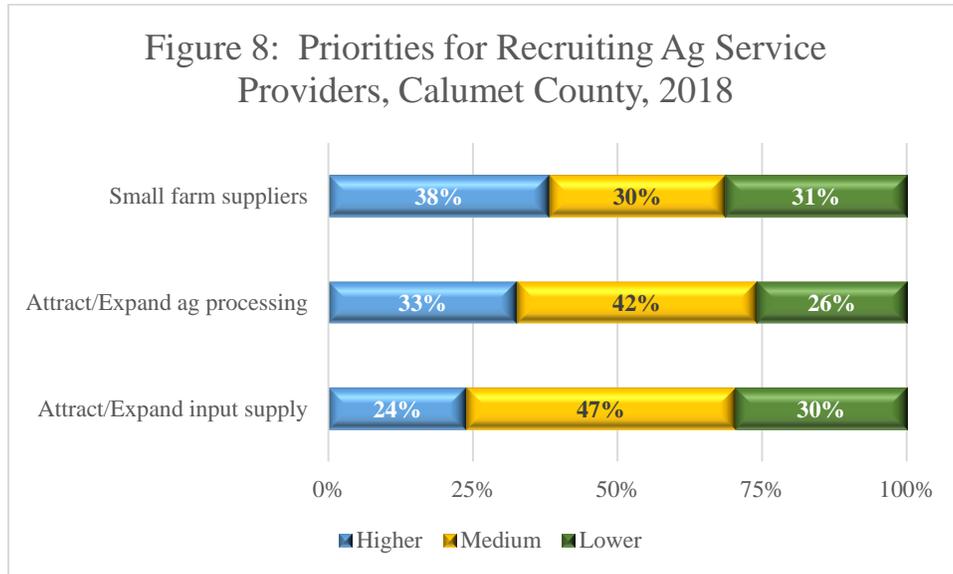
In Figure 2, 76% of the respondents agreed that transitioning the farm to the next generation is a concern. Figure 7 indicates that only one-quarter of the respondents identified this generational transition as one of the top five issues facing agriculture in Calumet County. This isn't completely surprising given that the farm transfer issue is likely of immediate concern to only a slice of the farming community in the County. In contrast, most of the factors in Figure 7 ranking above farm transitions are likely to be both widely felt and immediate (high land prices, low commodity prices, etc.). The main items in the “other” category focused on low milk prices (presumably seen as distinct from low commodity prices) and big farms pushing out smaller ones.

There were surprisingly few differences across demographic groups or Town:

- Gender – higher proportions of men, compared to women, rated the cost of land and land rental rates as one of their top five challenges.
- Length of Residence – higher proportions of those who've lived in Calumet County for fewer than 20 years rated environmental and animal husbandry rules and regulations as key.
- Town – for some reason employee management was identified more frequently by respondents from Brothertown and Rantoul as a key challenge.

Developing Ag-Focused Businesses

Producers in Calumet County were asked how high a priority it is to develop policies to attract/expand ag input supply businesses, ag processing enterprises, or local suppliers for small farms. Answer options were very high, high, medium, low, very low and no opinion. In similar fashion to the foregoing discussion, the SRC dropped those with no opinion; about one-fifth of those responding to this question fell into this category. Further, to ease the presentation, we again consolidated the very high and high priorities into a “higher priority” and the low and very low into a “lower priority.”

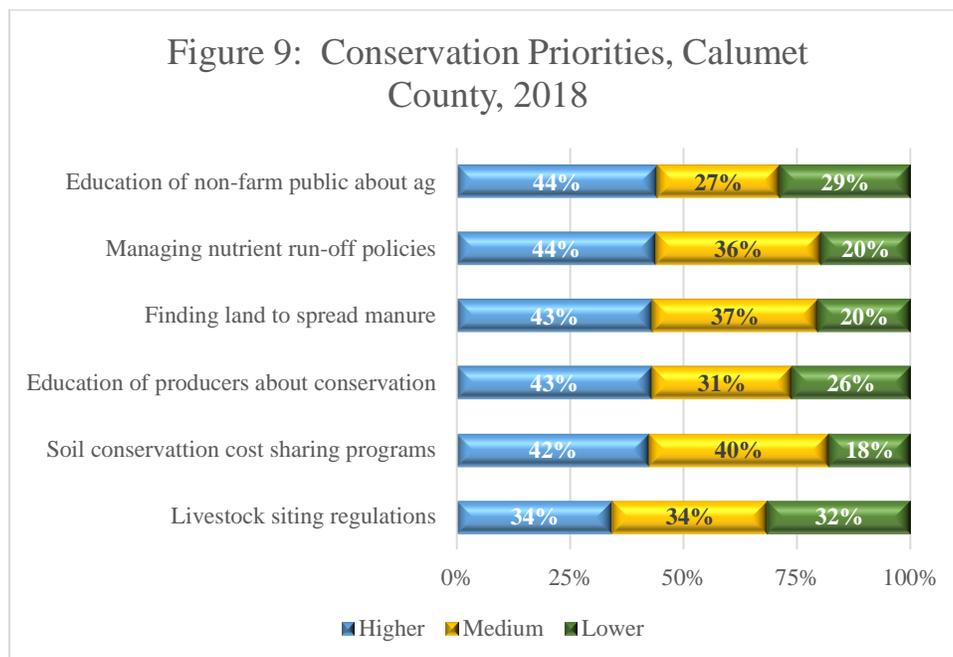


Based on the results summarized in Figure 8, none of the business types rose to the level of a recruitment priority for a majority of respondent. Suppliers for small farmers, interestingly, had the highest proportion of respondents saying more such businesses was a higher priority and the highest percentage saying they were a lower priority. About one-third of respondents said attracting or expanding agricultural processors was a higher priority and about one-quarter felt that way about attracting or expanding input suppliers.

There are a couple of statistically significant differences between men and women with respect to the priority they attach to recruiting input suppliers or agricultural processing businesses. As was the case with respect to exclusive agricultural zoning and workforce issues, higher proportions of men thought attracting input suppliers or processors was a higher priority, whereas higher proportions of women didn't have an opinion.

Conservation Priorities

Using the same prioritization scale described on the preceding page, Calumet County agricultural producers were asked how high a priority a variety of soil and water conservation programs or issues are. In Figure 9, slightly more than 10% of the respondents were not included because they said they had no opinion about these conservation topics.

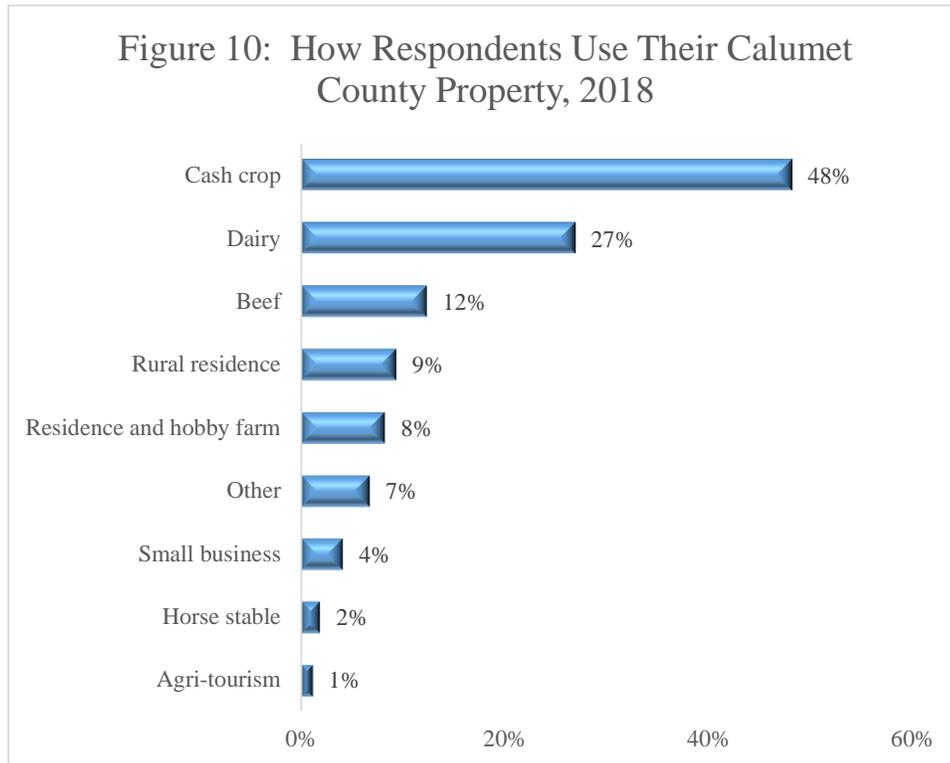


For livestock siting regulations, for which there is an almost perfectly even split between those who see this as a higher priority, a medium priority, and a low priority. For all the other conservation topics in Figure 9 (educating non-farmers about agriculture, policies to manage nutrient run-off, finding land on which to spread manure, educating the farming population about conservation practices, and cost sharing programs for conservation), remarkably similar proportions of respondents tagged them as higher priority. All these policies were seen as higher priorities by between 42% and 44% of the respondents with an opinion. Just slightly lower proportions saw these as medium priority issues. Other than educating the non-farm public about agriculture, only about one-in-five respondents say these are low priority topics.

In a somewhat familiar pattern, men rated a number of the issues in Figure 9 as higher priorities (cost sharing for conservation practices, policies to manage nutrient run-off, education of the farm population about conservation practices, and livestock siting regulation) and women tended to say they didn't know about these issues. Younger respondents rated livestock siting regulations significantly lower than did older ones.

Respondents' Land Use

Respondents were asked how they are using their Calumet County land and were given 11 options and an “other” option. All but three of the 271 respondents answered this question. Quite a few (44) selected multiple use options.



Nearly half the respondents said they primarily use their rural Calumet County property to grow cash crops and about one-quarter were dairies. About one-in-ten respondents said their property was a beef operation, a rural residence, or a residence and hobby farm. There were a small number of rural businesses (11), horse stables (5) and agri-tourism businesses (3) in the group of respondents.

Statistical differences in how respondents were using their Calumet County property included:

- Town – higher proportions of respondents from Brothertown, Rantoul, and Woodville came from dairy farmers and higher proportions of respondents from Stockbridge came from cash crop farms.
- Age – respondents younger than 65 were more likely to be dairy farmers and/or operate small businesses from their property. Those over 65 were more likely to use their land for cash crops.
- Gender – higher proportions of men said they used their property for cash cropping, while more women reported being engaged in agri-tourism.
- Working off the farm – respondents who said they currently have an off-farm job were more likely to use their land as a rural residence and less likely to be dairy producers.

Comments about Farmland Issues in Calumet County

In an open-ended question, respondents were invited to add any comment they had regarding farmland issues in Calumet County. Only twenty-six survey participants provided a comment. One of those included a whole page of additional comments. In some instances, a single

Comment Category	Number
Government related	20
Environment, water quality and conservation	15
Increasing farm size	13
Prices/Affordability	9
Manure issues	7
Not applicable	6
Land rental/lease	5
Non-farm residents	4
Lack farmers/employees	3
Total	82

comment covered multiple topics. In those cases the SRC split the comment into separate topic categories. In the end, 80 comments were categorized into 9 topic areas. Table 1 provides a numeric breakdown by topic category for these comments.

One-quarter of all responses were focused on various aspects of government, including general comments, regulations, programs, local government, roads and taxes. There were a number of general comments about too many rules and regulations and too much government

involvement in agriculture. But, other comments were more specific including the need for more educational opportunities for farmers on conservation practices (rather than environmental regulations) and a relaxation of rules prohibiting the cultivation of industrial hemp. One comment specific to farmland preservation was:

The cost of nutrient management plans to comply with farmland preservation rules needs to be addressed. It completely eats up the credits. There is little incentive to participate.

There were also comments in the “government related” category about what the writers felt were unequal application of policies or of access to resources. These sorts of complaints included UW-Extension (said to be only interested in dairy), the Zoning and Planning Department (said to treat friends and family preferentially), and a town board (said to be only interested in having large dairies in the Town).

In terms of the comments on the environment, water quality and conservation category, a number of comments focused on concerns about water quality. Sources of real or potential degradation of water quality ranged from contamination from septic systems to animal manure. Other concerns identified in this set of comments included a need for compensation for farmers from wildlife damage, dealing with sink holes, rising water tables damaging farmland, removal of productive agricultural land from producing food, and erosion. One respondent wanted to see an effort to attract the wind energy back to the County.

Thirteen comments were included in the “increasing farm sizes” category, but comments in several other categories touched on this topic as well. There were a number of comments expressing concern about the increasing number of what some termed “mega-farms” and the

adverse impact being felt by smaller producers. This tension within the farm community seems to be one of the key themes of the open-ended responses. As one respondent wrote:

Put a limit on mega farm expansions so young farmers will have a chance to afford purchases. No young farmer = no future.

The items in the “manure issues” could easily have been included in the environmental category as most expressed concerns about the environmental impact of what the writers saw as ill-timed or excessive applications of manure.

The reader is encouraged to read the full set of comments under Question 16 in Appendix B.

Demographic Profile of Respondents

Table 2 summarizes the demographic profile of those responding to the Calumet County Farmland Preservation survey.

Table 2: Demographic Profile of Respondents, Calumet County Farmland Preservation Survey, 2018								
	Brillion	Brother-town	Charles-town	Chilton	New Holstein	Rantoul	Stock-bridge	Wood-ville
Live in Town of:	41	12	17	42	39	31	44	38
	Male	Female						
Gender	222	46						
	18 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65+		
Age	0	10	15	40	95	110		
	Yes	No						
Have Off-Farm Job	97	169						
	<High School	High School	Some College or Tech	2- Year Degree	4-Year Degree	Grad or Professional Degree		
Education	9	114	73	36	29	7		
	0 - 5	6 - 10	11 - 20	21+				
Years Lived in Calumet	2	3	14	251				

As Table 2 indicates, the distribution of responses across Towns was quite good, with the exceptions of Brothertown and Charlestown. Based on the Census, Charlestown has a relatively small population, but similar to those of Stockbridge and Woodville and Brothertown has a larger population than all the Towns other than Brillion. We don't know if these two Towns have smaller farm populations. In sum, we are not clear why the response rate was so slight from those two Towns.

There are slightly more males than females living in these Towns, according to estimates in the current American Community Survey done by the U.S. Census. However, this sample is heavily biased toward males, with 83% of the responses coming from men.

The farm population, as is widely reported, is substantially older than the overall U.S. population. Clearly the respondents to the Farmland Preservation survey conforms or exceeds that expectation. More than three-quarters of the respondents were 55 or older.

Slightly more than one-third of the respondents reported that they currently have an off-farm job.

In terms of formal education, nearly half the respondents said they had a high school diploma or less. At the other end of the spectrum, 27% had a post-secondary degree. For Calumet County as a whole 36% of those 25 or older had at least a two-year college/technical college degree.

More than 90% of the respondents said they had lived in Calumet County for more than 20 years.

In summary, the respondents to this survey were primarily older men, with a high school degree who've lived in the County for many years.

Conclusions

Some themes that seem to emerge from this survey include:

- Producers in Calumet County are clearly concerned by the current low prices for most agricultural commodities. Low prices and the cost of land were, by a large margin, seen as the biggest challenge facing agriculture in the County. A majority of respondents said that the cost of land threatens the economic sustainability of agriculture in the County and that they needed off-farm employment to maintain their farming operation. Some of their challenges are probably exacerbated by the challenges they face finding good employees. Clearly there are producers in Calumet County experiencing financial stress.
- Government involvement in agriculture cuts both ways. As noted, the largest category of open-ended comments were about government involvement in the sector and most were negative in tone. On the other hand, there was fairly strong support for exclusive agricultural zoning, there was majority support to limiting residential development (presumably through zoning) to existing incorporated areas and unproductive farmland. Further, a number of comments implied a need for stepped-up enforcement of environmental/conservation-focused policies.
- There is an undercurrent of tension within the farm community about farm consolidation. Many of the comments received referred to the negative impact of large farms on various things (roads, the environment, the viability of smaller farms, etc.).

Appendix A – Non Response Bias Testing

Any survey has to be concerned with “non-response bias.” Non-response bias refers to a situation in which people who do not return a questionnaire have opinions that are systematically different from the opinions of those who return their surveys. For example, one question asks the respondent to indicate what they see as the biggest challenge facing agriculture in Calumet County. One of the answer options is “farm succession.” Suppose a disproportionately high number of older farmers, who are more likely to have farm succession issues on their mind, responded to the survey. In this case, non-response bias might exist, and the raw results would overestimate concerns about farm succession.

A standard way to test for non-response bias is to compare the responses of those who respond to the first mailing to those who respond to the second mailing. Those who respond to the second mailing are, in effect, a sample of non-respondents (to the first mailing), and we assume that they are more representative of all non-respondents.

For the Calumet County farmland preservation survey, 203 people responded to the first mailing and 68 to the second.

The likelihood of non-response bias falls as the response rate falls and expected to be a non-issue with response rates of about 70%. So, it is not surprising that there were very few statistically significant differences between the responses to the first and second mailing. The SRC found two variables with significant differences, shown in Table A1.

Table A1: Statistically Significant Differences between Respondents to First and Second Mailing		
Variable	Mail 1 Average	Mail 2 Average
Biggest Challenge – Conflicts with rural, non-farm residents	.28	.44
Town in which you live	4.65	5.43

Respondents to the second mailing were much more likely to say that conflicts with rural non-farm residents was one of the five biggest challenges facing agriculture in Calumet County (44% of second mailing respondents compared to 28% of those responding to the first mailing). A higher proportion of first mailing respondents live in the Town of Brillion and there was a higher likelihood that respondents to mail two lived in the Towns of Stockbridge or Woodville.

The SRC concludes that there is little evidence that non-response bias is a concern for this sample.

Appendix B – Open-Ended Comments

Question 6: What are the biggest challenges to agriculture in Calumet Co. today? (24 Other Responses)

Commodity Prices and Production Costs (6) Responses

- Cost of insurance and cost of employees (income at Dairy does not compare to cost of living)
- Decreasing milk prices
- Farm successful- next generation cannot afford
- Low milk price
- Milk Price
- Price received for our products

Size of Competitors (5) Responses

- Big farms pushing little farms out
- Bigger farms make everything so expensive it's hard for anyone to start without tremendous help
- Too many BIG ____ farms
- Too many large dairy's, over 300 cows
- Too many mega farms

Not Applicable/Uninterested (5) Responses

- Don't know
- N/A we do not farm
- No opinion
- Rent it
- We rent out our land acreage, We live in our farm house

Urbanization (3) Responses

- Farmers are out written by non-farm residents.
- Urban people wanting urban services
- Zoning

Environmental Issues (3) Responses

- Blaming farms for nitrate issues
- Failing residential septic systems
- Maintaining quality surface and ground water

Miscellaneous (4) Responses

- My 10 acres is worth nothing more than I paid. It's on KK with Darboy in-sight.
- Road infrastructure to aid in semi- tanker traffic and large Ag equipment
- Surveys
- Tyrannical County Government

Question 16: Please add any comments that you would like about farmland issues in Calumet County. (82 responses).

Government Related (20) Responses

Regulations (5) Responses

- Need more education for farmers on land conservation, soil and water run-off, NOT regulations
- The ability to grow hemp would be lucrative. WI laws are very harsh.
- The cost of nutrient management plans to comply with farmland preservation rules needs to be addressed. It completely eats up the credits. There is little incentive to participate.
- There are too many rules and regulations
- Too many rules and regulations

Government Programs (4) Responses

- Anything other than dairy is not addressed by any of the UW-Extension staff here in the county.
- Calumet county staff and programs for farmland production are being administrated in a bias and prejudice manor. If program rules and regulations are not administered equally between farms of all sizes, then no programs should be administered and no budget appropriated.
- My farmland is in the farmland preservation, but we do not farm and we do not get a tax credit.
- There is no benefit to us for our land being in the program. I think it's terrible that we can't build 2 houses on our own land.

General Government (4) Responses

- Government get the heck out of Ag Production- such as this survey
- Have actual farm experience rather than set board policy by armchair quarterbacking.
- More people on committee with active farm experience and also on county land and water.
- Too much like the DC Swamp-Need New Blood

Local Government (3) Responses

- Our County Board needs to get their act together! Act like a bunch of 3rd graders.
- Our township here is only interested in having big dairies in our township. They don't even want OTHER Ag type businesses like ours in the area.
- Zoning and planning in Calumet County is a joke. Those family and friends in courthouse can do and build anything. Those with wrong last name can't do anything. Planning and Zoning in Calumet County needs to be cleaned out. Period.

Government Related (continued)

Roads (3) Responses

- Get heavy truckers off our roads, must have weight limit
- Need more education nonfarm resident on road travel of farm implements, manure hauling, animal care
- We need to have adequate Roads with shoulders for Ag. Equipment. County road HH between Dorn and Irish road is a prime example (no shoulder)

Taxes (1) Responses

- Stop tax breaks and grants for mega dairies/farms. Again, why are you wasting tax dollars on this?

Environment, Water Quality and Conservation (14) Responses

- Allow businesses to advertise, dig out ditches create wildlife refuge- without harassment.
- Farms should get some aid for all wildlife damage to crops from the DNR.
- Find some way to manage sink holes- surface water in my well water.
- Help Drain wet lands that back up too far into what was once was good farm land.
- I am concerned about the high water in the Brillion Marsh.
- I believe that any development of land other than for food and fiber should be most limited.
- I would like to see an effort to attract the wind energy industry back to Calumet Co.
- Pastures are being torn up and planted to row crops. Wooded and forests areas are being cut down and bulldozed out along with line fences to plant row crops that can't even cover the cost of them. Aren't there sod buster regulations in the FSA programs? I know a bunch of these farms are in Ag programs and they are continuing to tear up areas for crops.
- Private septic systems are also an impact on ground water
- Provide an environment to preserve the rural landscape and maintain the great dairy infrastructure we have.
- Residential septic systems need to be looked at as a source of well contamination.
- Seems like when large land owners buy land the first thing removed is fence lines. How can a neighbor farmer stop his bordering fence line from disappearing? Ruins wildlife habitat and can cause erosion.
- The biggest problem I see in our county is our DNR is treating everyone like a bad student in class when there might be only one bad student. Boo on them.
- There are serious water quality problems here in the county both in well water and in surface water. Manure coming down streams and killing fish and polluting those streams. Bad wells. People controlling the flows of streams!!!!

Increasing Farm Sizes (13) Responses

- Also the continuous consolidation of land into fewer and larger farms and mega dairy's will be more problematic.
- Concentration of large dairy farms in Calumet and nearby counties is getting far too high
- Custom operators are refusing to go to small farms with say, 10 acre fields, because the fields, they say, are too small to mess with.
- Large farms are pushing small farms out!
- Large farms in Calumet County seem to not have to follow the same rules and regulations that small farms do. No one monitors the amount of manure they haul and where the tiling goes into navigable waterways. They get funding and the small farm is denied lower interest rates. Unfair practice.
- No corporate farms.
- Put a limit on mega farm expansions so young farmers will have a chance to afford purchases. No young farmer = no future.
- Stop big dairies over 300 cows.
- Stop loaning money to expand dairy operations, commodities are priced below cost.
- Stop mega farms of any kind.
- Too many large farms in small areas. The large farms push smaller farmers out of business.
- Too many mega farms. Ruining everything for the small farmers.
- We highly disagree with anything that makes it easy for the mega farmer and hard for the small family farm.

Prices/Affordability (9) Responses

- Bidding up land prices!! Land is now selling for over \$10,000/acre here to large farms so they can spread manure. Small farms can't afford that. They are pushing rent prices up! I will sell our farm for \$10,500/acre. We can't fight them anymore.
- Farming is hard work and after spending your whole life working it's hard not to take all you can when selling farm. Farmland seems to always go up over time, so, selling high shouldn't bother people much. Because you don't if that person will sell higher after a while.
- I purchased our 10 acre farmette in 4/2007. It's worth nothing more than what we paid for it. I would like to sub-rent it as the surrounding area is capitalized around farming. I would just like to receive a nice ROI on my investment/ property.
- It is not the cost of the land but the price farmers are paid making land hard to buy.
- Land values and rent values are far too high.
- One Equipment dealer here in Calumet County charges excessive prices for repair work. They charge less for new machinery and then charge way more for parts and service. Over \$100/hr. for service.
- Our farm is NOT dairy and we are looked down on by dairy and crop neighbors because we are doing better than them with their low dairy and crop prices.

Prices/Affordability (Continued)

- The high cost of farmland is discouraging to a starting farmer on a small scale 100- 200 acre farm.
- Unless something is done to offset the cost of farmland there will not be another generation of farmers after the current generation.

Manure Issues (6) Responses

- Last winter big farms were out spreading liquid manure on frozen ground all around here. The big farms having waste water treatment facility solids spread next to us this fall caused such a stink here for our customers. Soil and Water Conservationists when approached with this info said, "I do not want to hear about this." Seriously, that is how we are being protected by the Soil & Water Service!!!
- Manure applications that are severely exceeding their set limits. For example: most commercial applicators have told me that their normal rate for spreading liquid manure here is Calumet Co. is 22,000 gal/acre plus!!!
- Please be more concerned about manure on shallow ground to bed rock surface.
- The heavy liquid manure trucks that travel past our house. They cause damage to our roads. Also the haylage, corn silage, tractor (semis) and trailers that pass on our roads. This also includes semis and tractors that pass through our roads from Manitowoc County. They are hauling waste to the dump site on Schneider Road off of Hwy. 57 South of Hilbert.
- The large farms have too much manure to put on the fields and it eventually gets into people's drinking water. They spread a lot on rented land but are careful not to get close to their own water supply.
- Why you can spread fertilizer 1 foot from a creek but manure has to be set back so far even when in crop.

Not Applicable (6) Responses

- I am not sure about qualifying for this survey as I now rent the land out.
- I am retired, 82 years old.
- I have 60 acre farm, 40 acre work land and rent the 40 acres out for 10 years. Have not paid attention to most of the questions.
- Most questions don't make any sense
- Should have a category "does not apply"
- Since I am not a farmer, many of my answers are my opinion.

Land Rental/Lease (5) Responses

- I don't farm. I own land that I lease to a dairy farmer and someone who cash crops. PS I did not get previous survey
- I rent my land out.
- My farm land I rent to my neighbor. I still have expenses such as building maintenance, cleaning out ditches (water ways), maintaining fence lines. I spent thousands this year that I cannot deduct from my taxes! Next year won't be any different!
- We no longer farm, we rent our land out to others
- We rent out our land so I really don't know about many of these issues. I love living in the country and in the county and this country.

Non-Farm Residents (4) Responses

- Non farming, residence in town of Chilton.
- People moving from the city into farming areas. They don't understand farming and cause a lot of problems. Farmersonly.com- city folks just don't get it.
- The so called 1 acre residents are making farming difficult. They moved into my workplace and complain about farmers and want to regulate what we do with our land. Look what they did to farms. Farmers are proud of their land and take care of it.
- We do not want people from the cities buying an acre or two building a home, then try to tell us what we can or cannot do with our farm operation!!

Lack Farmers/Employees (3) Responses

- There are no workers in the area. Even in Fond du Lac County, where the unemployment rate is 2.4%. At 2.4% there are no workers available. Nobody wants to work.
- There are not many more forthcoming individuals that can put the hours in or the dedication to agriculture. People of America need farmers, and America needs farmers. No farmers, no food. Government needs to take care of farmers
- This is too late to help small farmers, thing should have been done 25 years ago to keep the baby boomers in farming.

Appendix C – Quantitative Response Summary

Using blue or black ink, please fill the circle that most closely matches your response on the following questions.

Key Agricultural Resource Questions

1. What is your opinion about the following agricultural resource issue/concerns?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No Opinion
I could currently find productive/quality farmland to rent or buy in Calumet County.	3%	21%	18%	27%	15%	16%
There is enough farmland in Calumet County to support the long-term economic viability of agriculture in the County.	5%	40%	20%	20%	7%	9%
The cost of farmland is making agriculture economically unsustainable in Calumet County.	29%	34%	20%	9%	2%	7%
Finding suitable land on which to spread manure is difficult.	10%	27%	26%	18%	6%	13%
Fragmented land and smaller parcels are making farming more difficult in Calumet County.	10%	28%	24%	24%	5%	9%
Groundwater supply and availability in Calumet County are generally adequate.	4%	62%	19%	8%	2%	6%
Quality of <u>groundwater</u> in Calumet County is good.	6%	52%	20%	12%	4%	5%
Quality of <u>surface water</u> in Calumet County is good.	2%	45%	27%	14%	5%	7%
Government environmental regulations to protect air, soil and water resources are reasonable.	3%	36%	31%	19%	7%	4%
Transitioning farm ownership to the next generation is a concern.	27%	46%	17%	5%	1%	4%
The income and benefits from an off-farm job are necessary to maintain my farm operation.	23%	36%	16%	12%	3%	11%
I have interest in diversifying my agri-business (e.g. adding a new enterprise or service).	5%	18%	36%	16%	4%	21%

Farm Consolidation

In rural Calumet County and across Wisconsin small farms are being consolidated into larger farms. Often, when small farms are sold, the tillable acreage are used by the large farm and small tracts with the farm house and buildings remain.

2. In your opinion, the remaining farmhouse and buildings should?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No Opinion
Remain solely in farm use	8%	17%	31%	29%	7%	8%
Provide for rural residential living and hobby farms	9%	60%	17%	5%	5%	4%
Provide for small business opportunities that can coexist with agricultural uses.	8%	56%	21%	8%	2%	5%
A mix of the land uses listed above	9%	56%	20%	4%	3%	8%

Farm Workforce

3. What is your opinion about your current workforce?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No Opinion
I have problems hiring quality and reliable workers.	14%	20%	26%	5%	2%	32%
I have problems retaining quality and reliable workers.	10%	17%	30%	7%	4%	32%
Language is a barrier in hiring and retaining employees.	5%	18%	30%	11%	3%	33%
I have a need for leadership training for managers in my workforce.	3%	12%	33%	13%	4%	35%
I have a need for leadership training for managers in my non-English speaking workforce.	3%	11%	34%	11%	4%	37%
Workforce housing is adequate for my employees.	1%	13%	34%	10%	3%	40%
Transportation is a problem for my employees.	2%	8%	33%	13%	4%	39%

Residential Issues

Often residential and agriculture are seen as incompatible land uses. Policies in place (e.g. density, zoning) limit residential development in Calumet County. These questions aim to gauge the farm community's opinion on these policies.

4. What is your opinion about the residential use in rural Calumet County?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No Opinion
Residential uses should be limited to the incorporated areas of Calumet County.	17%	29%	22%	18%	6%	8%
Existing lots 10 acres or less in size should be allowed to be further subdivided for home sites.	8%	29%	13%	26%	19%	5%
Existing lots 5 acres or less in size should be allowed to be further subdivided for home sites.	8%	30%	14%	24%	19%	5%
Single-family homes are acceptable uses on more difficult/less productive farmland.	12%	48%	13%	13%	9%	5%

Exclusive Agricultural Zoning Questions

5. What is your opinion about Exclusive Agriculture Zoning in Calumet County?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No Opinion / NA
I support Exclusive Agriculture Zoning, which limits nonagricultural uses in my town.	18%	37%	16%	15%	6%	9%
The tax credit received for Exclusive Ag zoned land is reasonable.	9%	37%	22%	15%	3%	17%
The soil and water conservation practices required to get the tax credit are reasonable.	5%	40%	23%	11%	5%	15%
Exclusive Agricultural Zoning is helping to preserve farmland in my town.	9%	43%	23%	7%	6%	12%

6. What are the biggest challenges to agriculture in Calumet Co today (pick top 5)

28%	Finding workers	39%	Finding land	32%	Conflicts with rural, non-farm residents
13%	Finding financing	64%	Cost of land	30%	Environmental regulations
18%	Animal husbandry rules/regulations	24%	Farm succession	61%	Price of commodities
45%	Cost of ag support services (i.e. implement dealers, seed, fertilizer, mechanics)	42%	Rental rates for land	9%	Other (Specify): _____ See Appendix B
4%	Employee management	32%	Public acceptance of farming		

Agricultural Processing / Business

7. In terms of a priority for Calumet County, how would you rate the priority of the following:

	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low	No Opinion
Policies to attract/expand ag input supply enterprises (feed, seed, chemical, etc.)	6%	12%	36%	17%	6%	22%
Policies to attract/expand ag processing enterprises	5%	20%	32%	16%	4%	23%
Programs to encourage local suppliers for small farms	12%	19%	25%	17%	8%	20%

Land & Water Conservation

8. In terms of a priority for Calumet County, how would you rate the priority of the following:

	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low	No Opinion
Cost sharing programs for soil conservation practices	12%	25%	34%	11%	5%	13%
Suitable land to spread manure	12%	26%	32%	14%	3%	13%
Policies to manage nutrient application on agricultural land	14%	25%	32%	13%	5%	11%
Programs to support education of non-farm public about agricultural practices	14%	24%	23%	16%	9%	13%
Programs to support education of the farming community on conservation practices	9%	29%	27%	17%	6%	12%
Regulations regarding the siting of livestock facilities	13%	16%	30%	20%	7%	14%

9. Which best describes your land use?

9%	Rural residence	12%	Beef operation	2%	Horse stable
8%	Residential with hobby farm	48%	Cash crop farm	4%	Small business
27%	Dairy operation	1%	Agri. tourism business	7%	Other

10. In which Town do you live?

16%	Brillion	16%	Chilton	17%	Stockbridge
5%	Brothertown	15%	New Holstein	14%	Woodville
6%	Charlestown	12%	Rantoul		

Demographics

Please tell us:

11. Your gender	Male	Female				
	83%	17%				
12. Your age	18–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65+
	0%	4%	6%	15%	35%	41%
13. Do you currently have an off-farm job?	Yes	No				
	36%	64%				
14. Your highest level of education	Less than high school	High school diploma	Some college/tech	Tech college graduate	Bachelor's degree	Grad or professional degree
	3%	43%	27%	13%	11%	3%
15. How many years have you lived in Calumet County?	0 to 5 years		6 – 10 years	11 to 20 years	Over 20 years	
	1%		1%	5%	93%	

16. Please add any comments that you would like about farmland issues in Calumet County

See Appendix B

APPENDIX B: CALUMET COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-02

**ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE CALUMET COUNTY
FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN 2020 - 2030**

Motion:	Adopted: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1 st <u>Dietrich</u>	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd <u>Karth</u>	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
Yes: <u>19</u> No: <u>1</u>	Absent: <u>1</u>
Number of votes required:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: Kimberly Tenerelli	Corp Counsel

The Calumet County Board of Supervisors, Calumet County, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to Section 91.10, Wisconsin Statutes, Calumet County is required to prepare and adopt a farmland preservation plan as defined in Section 91.01(17), Wisconsin Statutes.

SECTION 2. The Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Land Information Department prepared a farmland preservation plan for Calumet County with the Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee in cooperation with staff of the, Land and Water Conservation Department, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

SECTION 3. The farmland preservation plan satisfies the requirements of Section 91.10(1) and (2), Wisconsin Statutes, which specify the content to be included in the plan and the plan's consistency with the County comprehensive plan.

SECTION 4. Calumet County has provided numerous opportunities for public involvement in preparation of the plan, including post cards to all land owners with agricultural assessments, held numerous public meetings, and, a public hearing on July 2, 2019, said hearing in compliance with the requirements of Sections 91.10(3) and (5) and Section 66.1001(4)(d), Wisconsin Statutes.

SECTION 5. The Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee, by a unanimous vote of the Committee recorded in its official minutes dated September 5, 2019, has recommended to the Calumet County Board of Supervisors the adoption of the document entitled "*Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020 - 2030*" containing all of the elements specified in Section 91.10(1), Wisconsin Statutes.

SECTION 6. The Calumet County Board of Supervisors does, by the enactment of this ordinance, formally adopt the document entitled, "*Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020 - 2030*" pursuant to Section 66.1001(4)(c), Wisconsin Statutes, and, hereby recommends said plan for final certification by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection under Section 91.16, Wisconsin Statutes.

	YES	NO	A
1 BARRIBEAU			
2 BUDDE			
3 CONNORS			
4 DEITER			
5 DIETRICH			
6 DRAHEIM		X	
7 GENTZ			
8 HARTL			
9 HOFBERGER			
10 KARTH			
11 KLECKNER			
12 LA SHAY			
13 LAUGHRIN			
14 MUELLER			
15 SCHUH			
16 SCHWALENBERG			
17 STECKER			
18 STIER			
19 STILLMAN			
20 STOFFEL			
21 WEINBERGER			X

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall take effect upon passage by a majority vote of the members-elect of the Calumet County Board of Supervisors and publication/posting as required by law.

Dated this 17th day of September 2019.

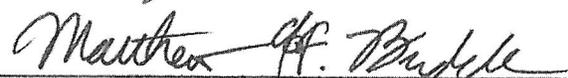
**INTRODUCED BY THE PLANNING, ZONING
AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**



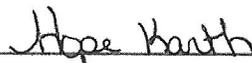
Mike Hofberger, Chair



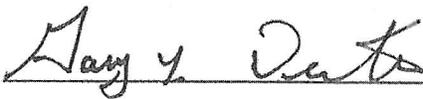
Ed Kleckner



Matthew Budde



Hope Karth



Gary Deiter

COUNTERSIGNED BY

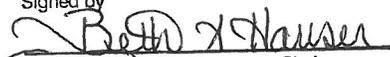


Alice Connors, County Board Chair

**STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF CALUMET
CERTIFIED COPY**

I certify that this is a true and exact copy of the original of which I am legal custodian for the County Clerk of Calumet County.

Signed by



County Clerk or Deputy County Clerk

9-20-19
Date

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-09

**ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CALUMET COUNTY
FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN 2020 - 2030**

The Calumet County Board of Supervisors, Calumet County, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

- SECTION 1. Pursuant to Section 91.10, Wisconsin Statutes, Calumet County adopted the Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020-2030 in 2019, which serves as a guide with the goal of maintaining the operational efficiency and productivity of Calumet County's agricultural areas for current and future generations.
- SECTION 2. The amendment to the Farmland Preservation Plan was initiated in accordance with Section 91.38, Wisconsin Statutes, as inconsistencies were noted between the Plan and the proposed Town of Chilton zoning ordinance during the recertification process. The proposed amendment will correct the existing inconsistencies and allow the Town of Chilton to submit their ordinance for recertification with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.
- SECTION 3. The Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Land Information Department prepared the amended farmland preservation plan for Calumet County with the Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee in cooperation with the Town of Chilton, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.
- SECTION 4. The proposed amendment to the Farmland Preservation Plan was submitted to the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection on November 5, 2021, and certification of the amended Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020-2030 was approved by the Department in accordance with 91.16 Wisconsin Statutes, on November 10, 2021.
- SECTION 5. The Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee, by a unanimous vote of the Committee recorded in its official minutes dated December 9, 2021, has recommended to the Calumet County Board of Supervisors the adoption of the amended document entitled "*Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020 - 2030.*"
- SECTION 6. The Calumet County Board of Supervisors does, by the enactment of this ordinance, formally amend the document entitled, "*Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020 - 2030*" pursuant to Section 66.1001(4)(c), Wisconsin Statutes.
- SECTION 7. This amendment to the ordinance shall take effect upon passage by a majority vote of the members-elect of the Calumet County Board of Supervisors and publication/posting as required by law.

Dated this 21st day of December 2021.

**INTRODUCED BY THE PLANNING, ZONING &
FARMLAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**


Michael Hoffberger, Chair

Motion:	Adopted:	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 st <u>Budde</u>	Lost:	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd <u>Karth</u>	Tabled:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes: _____ No: _____	Absent:	<u>2</u>
Number of votes required:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds	
Reviewed by:	Kimberly Tenerelli	Corp Counsel

Ed Kleckner
Ed Kleckner

Nicholas Kesler
Nick Kesler

Matthew W. Budde
Matthew Budde

COUNTERSIGNED BY

Alice Connors
Alice Connors, County Board Chair

	YES	NO	A
1 BARRIBEAU			
2 BUDE			
3 CONNORS			
4 DIETRICH			
5 DRAHEIM			
6 GENTZ			
7 HANDSCHKE			
8 HARTL			
9 HOFBERGER			
10 IRWIN			
11 KARTH			
12 KESLER			
13 KLECKNER			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14 MUELLER			
15 SCHUH			
16 SCHWALENBERG			
17 STIER	EXCUSED		
18 STILLMAN			
19 STOFFEL			
20 VOIGHT			
21 D14 - VACANT			X

Hope Karth	(2) YES	Nicholas Kesler	YES
Merlin Gentz	YES	Marilyn Schuh	YES
Emily Voight	YES	D14 Vacant	Absent
Duaine Stillman	Absent	Mary Schwalenberg	YES
Matthew Budde	(M) YES	Judith Hartl	YES
Scott Handschke	YES	Mike Hofberger	YES
Peter Stier	Absent	Alice Connors	YES
Tom Stoffel	YES	Ronald Dietrich	YES
Ed Kleckner	YES	Ken Irwin	YES
Joseph Mueller	YES	Kenneth Draheim	YES
Bill Barribeau	YES		

ORD 2021-09 Passed (18 Y - 0 N - 0 A - 3 Absent) Majority Vote

**APPENDIX C: WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
CERTIFICATION**

**STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

CALUMET COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN	DARM DOCKET NO. 015-00000-P-19 F-0719 ORDER CERTIFYING PLAN THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2029.
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INTRODUCTION

Calumet County has asked the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (“DATCP”) to certify a proposed comprehensively revised county farmland preservation plan pursuant to s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. DATCP has considered the request and adopts the following decision:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- (1) DATCP is an agency of the State of Wisconsin, and is responsible for administering Wisconsin’s farmland preservation law under ch. 91, Wis. Stats., as repealed and recreated by 2009 Wis. Act 28.
- (2) Calumet County is a county of the State of Wisconsin.
- (3) In order for a county and its residents to participate in the farmland preservation program, a county must have a state-certified farmland preservation plan. Among other things, the certified plan must clearly designate farmland preservation areas that the county plans to preserve for agricultural use.
- (4) Calumet County has a state-certified farmland preservation plan that expires on December 31, 2019.
- (5) Under s. 91.16(8), Wis. Stats., the certification of a farmland preservation plan does not cover any subsequent plan revision (adopted after July 1, 2009) unless DATCP certifies that plan revision.
- (6) On July 16, 2019, DATCP received from Calumet County a request to certify a comprehensively revised county farmland preservation plan under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. The county submitted the application in the form required under s. 91.20, Wis. Stats. The application included the certifications required under s. 91.20(3), Wis. Stats.
- (7) On July 17, 2019, DATCP confirmed by letter that the Calumet County farmland preservation plan certification application was complete, and that DATCP would proceed to review the complete application.
- (7) Under s. 91.16(3)(a), Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify a county plan based on the county’s certification under s. 91.20(3), Wis. Stats., that the plan meets applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.
- (8) DATCP may certify a farmland preservation plan if the plan meets applicable statutory standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats. DATCP may certify based on the representations contained in the county’s application, but may conduct its own review and verification as it deems appropriate.
- (9) Under s. 91.10(2), Wis. Stats., the farmland preservation plan must be consistent with the Calumet County Comprehensive Plan, and the County must include the farmland preservation plan in the County Comprehensive Plan.

(10) Under s. 91.16(2)(a), Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify a county farmland preservation plan for a specified period of up to 10 years. Under s. 91.16(6), Wis. Stats., DATCP may make its certification contingent upon the county adoption of the certified plan text and maps, in the form certified.

(11) Under s. 91.16(9), Wis. Stats., DATCP may withdraw its certification at any time if DATCP finds that the certified plan materially fails to meet applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

(1) Based on Calumet County's certification that the attached county farmland preservation plan meets applicable certification requirements under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify that plan for up to 10 years.

(2) DATCP may make its certification contingent upon the county adoption of the certified plan text and maps, in the form certified, and contingent upon its adoption as part of the County comprehensive plan.

(3) Certification does not apply to plan amendments made after the certification date, unless DATCP certifies those amendments.

(4) DATCP may withdraw its certification at any time if DATCP finds that the certified plan text and maps materially fail to meet applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) The attached Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan text (dated 2020) and maps (July 2, 2019) are hereby certified under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats., contingent upon county adoption of the plan, included as part of the County comprehensive plan, in the form submitted, before December 31, 2019.

(2) The certified farmland preservation plan area for Calumet County is titled "Farmland Preservation Area."

(3) This order takes effect on the date on which the county adoption of the plan text and maps, in the form submitted, takes effect.

(4) This certification expires at the end of the day on December 31, 2029.

Dated this 23rd day of July, 2019.

STATE OF WISCONSIN,
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

By Sara Z Walling
Sara Z. Walling, Administrator
Division of Agricultural Resource Management

Parties for Purposes of Review Under s. 227.53, Wis. Stats.:

Dena Mooney
Planner, Calumet Planning and Zoning
206 Court St.
Chilton, WI 53014

**STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

CALUMET COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN MAP AMENDMENT FOR THE TOWN OF CHILTON	ARM Division Docket No. 015-00000-P-19 M-1121 ORDER CERTIFYING AMENDMENT TO CALUMET COUNTY'S CERTIFIED FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2029
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INTRODUCTION

Calumet County has asked the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (“DATCP”) to certify a proposed amendment to the county's certified farmland preservation plan pursuant to s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. DATCP has considered the request and adopts the following decision:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- (1) DATCP is an agency of the State of Wisconsin, and is responsible for administering Wisconsin’s farmland preservation law under ch. 91, Wis. Stats., as repealed and recreated by 2009 Wis. Act 28.
- (2) Calumet County is a county of the State of Wisconsin.
- (3) In order for a county and its residents to participate in the farmland preservation program, a county must have a state-certified farmland preservation plan. Among other things, the certified plan must clearly designate farmland preservation areas that the county plans to preserve for agricultural use.
- (4) Calumet County currently has a state-certified farmland preservation plan. The current state certification is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2029.
- (5) Under s. 91.16(8), Wis. Stats., the certification of a farmland preservation plan does not cover any subsequent plan revision (adopted after July 1, 2009) unless DATCP certifies that plan revision.
- (6) On November 5, 2021, DATCP received from Calumet County a request to certify an amended farmland preservation plan map for the town of Chilton under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. The county submitted the application in the form required under s. 91.20, Stats. The application included the certifications required under s. 91.20(3), Wis. Stats.
- (7) Under s. 91.16(3)(a), Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify a county plan based on the county’s certification under s. 91.20(3), Wis. Stats., that the plan meets applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.
- (8) DATCP may certify a farmland preservation plan if the plan meets applicable statutory standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats. DATCP may certify based on the representations contained in the county’s application, but may conduct its own review and verification as it deems appropriate.

(9) Under s. 91.10(2), Wis. Stats., the farmland preservation plan must be consistent with the county comprehensive plan, if the county has a comprehensive plan.

(10) Under s. 91.16(2)(b), Wis. Stats., the certification of an amendment to a certified farmland preservation plan expires on the date that the certification of the farmland preservation plan expires.

(11) Under s. 91.16(9), Wis. Stats., DATCP may withdraw its certification at any time if DATCP finds that the certified plan materially fails to meet applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

(1) Based on Calumet County’s certification that the attached county farmland preservation plan map amendment for the town of Chilton meets applicable certification requirements under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify that plan map amendment until December 31, 2029, the date that the Calumet County farmland preservation plan expires.

(2) Certification does not apply to plan amendments made after the certification date, unless DATCP certifies those amendments.

(3) DATCP may withdraw its certification at any time if DATCP finds that the certified plan materially fails to meet applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

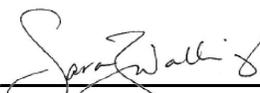
(1) The proposed Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan maps for the town of Chilton dated as November 8, 2021, is hereby certified under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats.

(2) The certified farmland preservation plan area for Calumet County is titled “Farmland Preservation Area.”

(3) This certification expires at the end of the day on December 31, 2029.

Dated this 9th day of November, 2021.

STATE OF WISCONSIN,
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

By 
Sara Z. Walling, Administrator
Division of Agricultural Resource Management

Parties for Purposes of Review Under s. 227.53, Wis. Stats.:

Calumet County

Copies to:

Chris Meuer, Director
Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Land Information
206 Court St.
Chilton, WI 53014

**APPENDIX D: CALUMET COUNTY PLANNING, ZONING AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION**

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-01

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CALUMET COUNTY PLANNING, ZONING, AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE TO ADOPT THE *CALUMET COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN 2020 - 2030*

WHEREAS, In order for Calumet County and its residents to participate in the farmland preservation program, a county must have a state-certified farmland preservation plan adopted as identified in Section 91.01(17), Wisconsin Statutes that clearly designates farmland preservation areas that the county plans to preserve for agricultural use; and

WHEREAS, The Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Land Information Department prepared a farmland preservation plan for Calumet County in cooperation with the Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee, the Land and Water Conservation Department, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection; and

WHEREAS, The farmland preservation plan satisfies the requirements of Section 91.10(1) and (2), Wisconsin Statutes, which specify the content to be included in the plan and the plan's consistency with the County comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, Calumet County has provided numerous opportunities for public involvement in preparation of the plan, including post cards to all land owners with agricultural assessments, held numerous public meetings, and, a public hearing on July 2, 2019 in compliance with the requirements of Sections 91.10(3) and (5) and Section 66.1001(4)(d), Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection may certify a county farmland preservation plan for a specified period of up to 10 years under Section 91.16(6), Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection reviewed the Draft Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020 – 2030 for consistency with Chapter 91 of the Wisconsin Statutes and provided an order certifying Calumet County's Farmland Preservation Plan under 91.16 Wisconsin Statutes; and

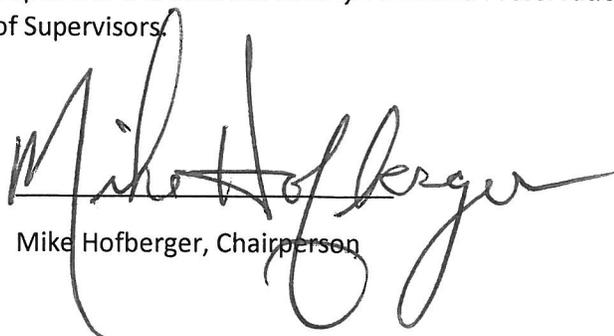
WHEREAS, the Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee, held a public hearing on July 2, 2019, in accordance with Section 66.1001(4)(d), Wisconsin Statutes, and incorporated public comments into the plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee hereby recommends adoption of the *Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020 – 2030* to the Calumet County Board of Supervisors.

ADOPTED this 5th day of September, 2019.

Voting Aye:

Nay:



Mike Hofberger, Chairperson

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CALUMET COUNTY PLANNING, ZONING, AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE TO AMEND THE *CALUMET COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN 2020 - 2030*

WHEREAS, In order for Calumet County and its residents to participate in the farmland preservation program, a county must have a state-certified farmland preservation plan adopted as identified in Section 91.01(17), Wisconsin Statutes that clearly designates farmland preservation areas that the county plans to preserve for agricultural use; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with Section 71.613(3)(d), in order for a farm to claim farmland preservation tax credits, the acres being certified shall be covered by a farmland preservation agreement and/or located in a farmland preservation zoning district in addition to being identified with a farmland preservation area in the county farmland preservation plan; and

WHEREAS, During the process of recertifying their ordinance, The Town of Chilton and the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection noticed inconsistencies between the Town's proposed zoning ordinance and the County Farmland Preservation Plan; and

WHEREAS, To correct the inconsistencies, the Calumet County Planning, Zoning, and Land Information Department, in coordination with the Town of Chilton, recommend the proposed mapping changes included in the amendment to the Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020-2030; and

WHEREAS, Calumet County has provided opportunity for public involvement during a public hearing on December 9, 2021 in compliance with the requirements of Sections 91.10(3) and (5) and Section 66.1001(4)(d), Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection reviewed the proposed amendment to the Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020-2030 for consistency with Chapter 91 of Wisconsin Statutes and provided an order certifying Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan under 91.16 Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, The recertification of the County Farmland Preservation Plan shall not expire until December 31, 2029 in accordance with Section 91.16(6), Wisconsin Statutes; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calumet County Planning, Zoning and Farmland Preservation Committee hereby recommends adoption of the proposed amendment to the *Calumet County Farmland Preservation Plan 2020 – 2030* to the Calumet County Board of Supervisors.

ADOPTED this 9th day of December, 2021.

Voting Aye:

Nay:



Ed Kleckner, Chairperson