

CHAPTER 4 COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND UTILITIES ELEMENT FACT SHEET

The Waukesha County Comprehensive Planning Community Facilities and Utilities Element subcommittee expressed the following strengths, concerns, and weaknesses.

Community Facilities and Utilities Strengths

- **Waukesha County operates a state of the art central communication center for police, fire, and emergency response**
All municipalities within Waukesha County have the opportunity to become a part of the County's central communication center for dispatching emergency calls. The ultimate goal is to have all municipalities in the county participate.
- **Waukesha County has an extensive network of police and fire departments**
Twenty-four municipal police departments, the Waukesha County Sheriffs Department, and the Wisconsin State Patrol provide law enforcement services to Waukesha County residents. Thirty fire departments operate 51 fire stations within the County.
- **As an agent for the Department of Commerce, Waukesha County has assured that private sewage systems are properly designed, sited and maintained**
The use of private sewage systems provides for development in areas not served by municipal sewer; infill development of vacant lots; returns groundwater to the aquifer; prevents most replacement systems from using sewage holding tanks; and are a cost effective means of providing safe on-site sewage disposal.
- **Waukesha County municipalities have well planned sewer service areas**
These sewer service areas allow for higher density development and adequate services for residential and business growth.
- **Waukesha County has a nationally recognized recycling program**
Thirteen villages, and seven towns participate in the Waukesha County Recycling Program.
- **Waukesha County has an excellent public school system and several districts are nationally recognized for their performance**
Twenty public school districts and 54 private schools within Waukesha County provide K-12 education to over 80,000 students. These exceptional educational institutions are a major reason why families are attracted to Waukesha County.
- **Private electric, gas, phone and cable systems are in place to meet projected county growth**
The intermediate population growth projection for Waukesha County is 446,768 residents by Year 2035. The existing private electric, gas, phone, and cable systems are in place to meet the County's growing population.

Community Facilities and Utilities Concerns and Weaknesses

- **Businesses compete in a global environment and it is very important to make certain that all new business parks are built with the necessary infrastructure**
In the 1970s, the biggest concern for industrial parks was adequate municipal sewer and water capacity. Today, the biggest concern for business parks is the need for adequate fiber optics and wireless infrastructure to compete in a global business environment.
- **Concern about new technology private sewage systems that are available**
New technology is available for alternative on-site wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) to address soil conditions not suitable for in-ground conventional systems. The types of systems available demand that several Waukesha County divisions discuss and cooperate on all levels of land development.

- **New pharmaceutical products are creating concern about water quality**
Public waste treatment and private on-site sewage systems do not have the capability to filter out pharmaceutical waste, which eventually ends up in surface and groundwaters.

Telecommunication Service

- Waukesha County has 276 cell tower sites ranging from one site each in the Villages of Big Bend, Butler, Chenequa, Oconomowoc Lake, Sussex, and Wales to 30 sites in the City of Brookfield.

Wireless (WiFi, WiMAX)

- The proposed telecommunications plan that SEWRPC recommends for the Region consists of two levels of wireless networks—a wireless (WiMAX) backhaul network plan, and a pilot, community level, wireless (WiFi) access network plan. The backhaul network would have the capability to service a multitude of community level access points that would forward data to the backhaul network for cost effective Internet connection.

Sanitary Sewage Treatment

- Waukesha County is served by 10 public sewage treatment plants with 7 being operated within the County.
- The 7 treatment plants within the County are the Village of Dousman sewage treatment plant, the Delafield-Hartland Water Pollution Control Commission sewage treatment plant, the Village of Mukwonago sewage treatment plant, the City of Waukesha sewage treatment plant, the Village of Sussex sewage treatment plant, and the Fox River Water Pollution Control Center sewage treatment plant.
- The remaining three public sewage treatment plants serving Waukesha County, two, the Jones Island and South Shore treatment plants, both operated by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, are located in the City of Milwaukee and the City of Oak Creek, respectively, and one, the Town of Norway Sanitary District No. 1 sewage treatment plant, is located in the Town of Norway in Racine County.

Water Supply Facilities

- In Waukesha County, 16 municipal water supply utility systems provided water to about 88 square miles of service area, or about 16 percent of the area of the County. These systems served a 2005 population of about 234,200 persons, or about 62 percent of the residential population in Waukesha County.
- Most of the water supply systems in Waukesha County rely on groundwater as the source of supply. The exceptions include the Village of Butler Public Water Utility, portions of the City of New Berlin Water Utility, and portions of the Village of Menomonee Falls Water Utility; these utilities purchase treated Lake Michigan surface water, which is returned to the Lake Michigan Basin via the Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewerage District.

Solid Waste Management

- In 2005, Waukesha County generated 190,432 tons of residential solid waste. Of this total, 67,076 or 35 percent was recycled.
- There are two active, licensed, privately owned and operated sanitary landfills accepting municipal wastes within the county; the Parkview/Orchard Ridge Landfill in Menomonee Falls and the Emerald Park Landfill in Muskego.

Stormwater Management

- Municipal stormwater management systems are comprised of facilities that function to provide stormwater drainage, control runoff pollution and downstream flooding, and more recently, to increase infiltration of stormwater.

- Under Chapter NR 216 Wisconsin Administrative Code, the Department administers Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permits for discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (“MS4 permits”). Under this program, MS4 permits were issued to 32 communities in the county in two phases.
- Phase 1 community discharge permits were issued for the cities of Brookfield, New Berlin, Pewaukee, and Waukesha, the Villages of Butler, Elm Grove, Menomonee Falls, Pewaukee, and Sussex, and the Towns of Brookfield, Delafield, Lisbon and Waukesha. Phase 2 community discharge permits were issued for Waukesha County, the Cities of Delafield, Muskego, and Oconomowoc, the Villages of Big Bend, Dousman, Hartland, Lannon, Merton, Mukwonago, Nashotah, North Prairie, Wales and the Towns of Geneseo, Merton, Oconomowoc, Summit, and Vernon.

Public Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation Districts

- Waukesha County has 11 lake protection districts. Under Wisconsin Statute 33.22, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts are created specifically for the purpose of undertaking a program of lake protection and rehabilitation.

Gas and Electric Utilities

- We Energies provides natural gas to all of Waukesha County and electric service to most of Waukesha County. With the exception of the city of Oconomowoc and a minor area surrounding the city limits, these areas are service by the City of Oconomowoc Electric Utility. Through expanded power production projects in Port Washington and Oak Creek, We Energies will increase total energy generation from 6,000 megawatts to 8,300 megawatts by 2010.
- The electric system is comprised of three components: generating plants, transmission lines and distribution facilities. American Transmission Company is a public utility that owns and operates the transmission system, which carries electricity from generating plants to load centers or areas where a considerable amount of electricity is needed.

School Districts

- Twenty public school districts and 54 private schools operate within the boundaries of Waukesha County.

SCHOOL AGE POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR WAUKESHA COUNTY: 2005-2035

Age Group	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
5-9	26,237	25,444	25,796	26,792	28,343	28,894
10-14	27,986	27,764	26,871	27,244	28,478	29,968
15-19	27,867	27,232	27,033	26,182	26,752	27,838
Total	82,090	80,440	79,700	80,218	83,573	86,700

Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 2005

Libraries

- Sixteen public libraries operate in Waukesha County. They are all members of the Waukesha County Federated Library System.
- These libraries are located with the cities of Brookfield, Delafield, Muskego, New Berlin, Oconomowoc, and Waukesha; the villages of Big Bend, Butler, Eagle, Elm Grove, Hartland, Menomonee Falls, Mukwonago, Pewaukee, and Sussex, and the Town of Merton.
- The libraries in the federated system serve the needs of all library and non-library communities within the county.

Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services

- Waukesha County has 30 fire departments. Municipalities operate Twenty-four of these departments and 6 are privately managed. The majority of these fire departments rely on volunteers, paid on call, or a combination of the two.
- The 30 fire departments have 51 fire stations within the County, with 90 fire engines, 20 ladder trucks, and 64 ambulances. These fire departments serve areas from 1 square mile to 57 square miles ranging in populations of 1,000 residents to over 65,000 residents.
- In 2003, there were approximately 6,500 fire calls within the County and an additional 19,000 Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls.
- Within the County, the cities of Brookfield, Delafield, New Berlin, and Waukesha; the villages of Big Bend/Vernon, Elm Grove, and Mukwonago; and the Town of Brookfield provide paramedic services.

Law Enforcement Departments

- Twenty-four municipal police departments, the Waukesha County Sheriffs Department, and the Wisconsin State Patrol provide law enforcement services to Waukesha County residents.
- The cities of Brookfield, Delafield, Muskego, Pewaukee, New Berlin, Oconomowoc, and Waukesha; the villages of Big Bend, Butler, Chenequa, Dousman, Eagle, Elm Grove, Hartland, Lannon, Lisbon, Mukwonago, North Prairie, Oconomowoc Lake, and Pewaukee; and the towns of Brookfield, Mukwonago, Oconomowoc, and Summit all operate municipal police departments.
- In 2005, the Waukesha County Sheriffs Department contracted to provide law enforcement services to the villages of Merton and Sussex and the towns of Merton and Waukesha.
- Waukesha County pays for light coverage by the Waukesha County Sheriffs Department in the Towns of Delafield, Eagle, Genesee, Lisbon, Ottawa, and Vernon and the villages of Lac La Belle and Nashotah.
- The Waukesha County Sheriffs Department Jail Division operates the Waukesha County Jail and Huber Facility. In 2005, these correctional facilities housed an average of 333 inmates a day at the jail and 269 inmates at the Huber facility. The jail division booked 9,310 inmates in 2005.