

# PIERCE COUNTY “SMART GROWTH” COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

## Phase 1: DATA COLLECTION

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*Prepared with the assistance of*

**RUDD & ASSOCIATES**

# **Section 1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the Phase 1: Data Collection portion of the Pierce County “Smart Growth” Comprehensive Plan. This report contains Town statistical profiles and background analysis prepared in preparation of developing the County’s Comprehensive Plan. Individual Town vision statements, goals, objectives, and recommendations will be developed later. This report looks at both existing conditions and future projections. This has been done to provide a clear understanding of where the County is today, and perhaps more importantly, to foster discussion and debate as to what direction the County and individual communities look to head in the future.

Much of the data collection and mapping for this report was completed at the County level, with information provided at the Town level as needed to determine trends and issues in specific locations throughout the County.

This portion of the plan has been prepared under the State of Wisconsin’s comprehensive planning law, adopted in 1999 and contained in ss. 66.1001, Wisconsin Statutes. The law requires that all land use decisions in the county be consistent with this comprehensive plan. Additionally, the plan is intended to be updated at least once every 10 years. The review will serve as a checkpoint to ensure that the document is providing clear direction and that it is still consistent with community goals, values, and needs.

## **SECTION SUMMARY**

The purpose of this section is to provide basic background information for the comprehensive planning process and general demographic characteristics for the Towns of Pierce County. More specifically this section contains projection data including population trends, age distribution, and population projections.

### **Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(a)**

#### **(a) Issues and Opportunities**

Background information on the local governmental unit and a statement of overall objectives, policies, goals and programs of the local governmental unit to guide the future development and redevelopment of the local governmental unit over a 20-year planning period. Background information shall include population, household and employment forecasts that the local governmental unit uses in developing its comprehensive plan, and demographic trends, age distribution, educational levels, income levels and employment characteristics that exist within the local governmental unit.

## **BACKGROUND**

Under the Comprehensive Planning Smart Growth legislation, adopted by the state in October of 1999, beginning on January 1, 2010, if a local governmental unit engages in any of the actions listed below, those actions shall be consistent with that local governmental unit's comprehensive plan.

- Official Mapping
- Local Subdivision Regulations
- County, Town, Village or City zoning Ordinances
- Zoning of Shorelands or Wetlands in Shorelands

Comprehensive plans are a blueprint for how a community will develop and grow. Their purpose is to provide communities with information and policies that they shall use in the future to guide planning and community decisions. The Comprehensive Plan includes nine elements: Issues and Opportunities, Housing, Transportation, Utilities and Community Facilities, Agriculture/Natural/Cultural Resources, Economic Development, Intergovernmental Cooperation, Land Use, and Implementation. In addition, the Comprehensive Planning Smart Growth legislation establishes 14 planning goals to guide planning efforts.

## **COMMUNITY PROFILE AND PROJECTION**

The following displays the population statistics and projections that were prepared as part of the requirements of the Comprehensive Planning legislation. Other demographic data and statistics, such as employment characteristics, are in their corresponding sections.

## **AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

Throughout each section of this comprehensive plan is a section that lists some of the state and federal agencies and programs that exist to help communities with various projects. Many of these agencies and programs can provide expertise or funding to help implement some of the recommendations of this comprehensive plan. For each agency, a brief description of some of the programs is listed along with contact information. For each section the list of agencies, and the programs they provide, is not exhaustive. A community should contact the agency to obtain the most up to date information. The following lists one source that could be used to accrue funding for all types of projects.

### **GRANTS.GOV** ([www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov))

Grants.gov allows organizations to electronically find and apply for competitive grant opportunities from all Federal grant-making agencies. Grants.gov is the single access point for over 900 grant programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is the managing partner for Grants.gov.

## Population

The median age for the county is 32.1 years old and is lower than the state median age of 36 years.

Table 1.1 outlines the age distribution for the town population of Pierce County. The majority of county residents (41.4%) are between the ages of 25 and 54.

TABLE 1.1: **Population • Age Distribution (by percent)**

	Under 5 yrs	5 to 10 yrs	10 to 14 yrs	15 to 19 yrs	20 to 24 yrs	25 to 34 yrs	35 to 44 yrs	45 to 54 yrs	55 to 59 yrs	60 to 64 yrs	65 to 74 yrs	75 to 84 yrs	85 yrs & over
<b>Towns</b>													
Clifton	7.0	10.3	8.6	7.8	4.0	9.7	21.6	17.6	4.5	3.2	3.9	1.6	0.3
Diamond Bluff	5.8	6.1	7.3	7.5	4.8	10.0	19.2	20.3	5.4	4.4	6.1	2.1	1.0
Ellsworth	6.5	6.4	8.6	10.3	4.2	10.3	20.3	17.2	4.3	2.8	5.0	3.3	0.7
El Paso	5.2	8.1	9.9	9.9	4.3	11.4	18.4	15.8	2.8	3.5	5.5	4.6	0.6
Gilman	7.0	7.8	7.1	7.3	4.8	10.6	20.6	14.2	5.8	4.1	5.3	4.7	0.6
Hartland	6.8	7.4	7.4	7.7	5.9	14.3	16.5	14.0	5.9	4.1	5.3	4.2	0.7
Isabelle	6.7	6.7	7.9	8.6	2.5	17.5	18.7	15.2	4.8	4.1	4.8	2.2	0.3
Maiden Rock	3.9	6.3	9.2	9.0	4.2	6.1	18.5	18.2	5.4	4.2	7.5	5.6	1.9
Martell	5.3	7.9	8.8	8.5	3.9	12.7	23.3	14.9	4.3	3.2	3.2	3.6	0.4
Oak Grove	7.9	9.3	9.0	8.3	3.0	10.2	21.2	15.1	4.9	3.2	5.1	2.2	0.4
River Falls	4.7	8.3	10.0	7.7	6.2	10.2	19.3	18.3	5.3	3.8	3.8	2.3	0.2
Rock Elm	5.0	7.7	9.9	9.5	5.8	11.7	15.7	13.7	4.0	4.2	7.7	3.8	1.4
Salem	6.5	8.9	7.9	7.3	4.0	13.9	15.0	15.8	6.1	6.3	4.8	3.0	0.4
Spring Lake	5.8	6.9	9.8	8.5	4.0	12.0	17.6	13.6	6.4	4.4	6.4	4.0	0.5
Trenton	5.6	6.2	8.9	7.7	4.7	13.6	18.0	15.1	5.2	3.8	7.1	3.5	0.7
Trimbelle	6.4	7.4	8.8	8.4	4.6	12.7	18.7	15.2	5.9	4.2	5.2	2.3	0.3
Union	3.6	8.1	10.5	10.7	4.4	9.4	18.3	15.4	5.3	3.9	5.0	4.4	1.1
<b>Pierce County*</b>	5.7	6.7	7.4	10.4	11.2	12.1	16.0	13.3	4.2	3.4	4.8	3.5	1.3

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census

## Population Projections

The projections provided in Table 1.2 for the next 20 years have been provided by the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA). The DOA considers and monitors changes and patterns in fertility, mortality, and migration. Each is evaluated separately and then incorporated into a final projection. An alternative, and high rate of projection growth (right hand column), was developed utilizing county residential building permit issuances in a recent five-year period (Tables 8.4-8.10, Town Land Use Permit Applications 1999-2004 are contained in the Land Use Element section).

TABLE 1.2: **Population Projections • 2000–2025**

	Census 2000	Projection 2005	Projection 2010	Projection 2015	Projection 2020	Projection 2025	High Rate of Growth Projection 2025**
<b>Towns</b>							
Clifton	1,657	1,819	1,990	2,147	2,306	2,477	3,757
Diamond Bluff	479	492	508	521	535	552	759
Ellsworth	1,064	1,076	1,095	1,108	1,123	1,146	1,804
El Paso	690	717	748	775	803	836	1,190
Gilman	772	786	804	818	835	856	1,792
Hartland	814	831	854	872	891	916	1,494
Isabelle	289	304	320	334	349	366	509
Maiden Rock	589	578	571	561	553	548	989
Martell	1,070	1,153	1,243	1,323	1,406	1,496	1,990
Oak Grove	1,522	1,672	1,830	1,975	2,122	2,281	3,862
River Falls	2,304	2,398	2,516	2,617	2,724	2,846	
Rock Elm	504	497	495	489	485	485	744
Salem	505	496	492	484	479	476	765
Spring Lake	550	558	569	577	587	600	1,050
Trenton	1,737	1,785	1,845	1,893	1,946	2,010	2,817
Trimbelle	1,511	1,514	1,527	1,532	1,541	1,560	2,851
Union	618	606	598	588	579	575	938
<b>Pierce County*</b>	<b>36,804</b>	<b>38,194</b>	<b>39,818</b>	<b>41,190</b>	<b>42,655</b>	<b>44,368</b>	

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: Demographic Services Center, Wisconsin Department of Administration, January 2004

\*\* Based on average number of residential building permits issued between 1999 and 2004, divided by 5 (years), multiplied by 20 (years) X the average household size of an owner-occupied dwelling unit.

## Household Size

The average household size of owner-occupied units in the towns ranges from 3.1 (El Paso) to 2.64 (Diamond Bluff). The County averages 2.79. Renter-occupied units in towns range from an occupancy average of 2.96 (Salem) to a low of 2.15 (El Paso). The average County household size of renter-occupied units is 2.26. (Table 1.4)

TABLE 1.4: **Average Household Size**

	Owner-occupied Units	Renter-occupied Units
<b>Towns</b>		
Clifton	3.08	2.66
Diamond Bluff	2.64	2.28
Ellsworth	2.87	2.21
El Paso	3.10	2.15
Gilman	2.78	2.36
Hartland	2.76	2.77
Isabelle	2.80	2.69
Maiden Rock	2.68	2.70
Martell	2.86	2.30
Oak Grove	3.07	2.86
River Falls	2.98	2.22
Rock Elm	2.81	2.94
Salem	2.91	2.96
Spring Lake	2.93	2.56
Trenton	2.68	2.71
Trimbelle	2.87	2.52
Union	2.97	2.64
<b>Pierce County*</b>	2.79	2.26

*\*Includes city and village data.*

*Source: U.S. Census, 2000*

## Population Trends

Pierce County is a growing county that has grown at a rate of 18% to 5% per decade for the last 40 years (13.2% average growth per decade). Certain towns in the county have experienced greater amounts of growth than others (Table 1.5). Those growing the most are primarily located in the western and northwestern portion of the county (Clifton, Oak Grove, River Falls).

TABLE 1.5: **Population Trends**

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1960–70	% Change 1970–80	% Change 1980–90	% Change 1990–00
<b>Towns</b>									
Clifton	578	612	975	1,119	1,657	5.0%	59.3%	14.8%	48.1%
Diamond Bluff	432	355	458	492	479	-17.8%	29.0%	7.4%	-2.6%
Ellsworth	1,118	1,260	1,408	1,030	1,064	12.7%	11.7%	-26.8%	3.3%
El Paso	777	686	689	641	690	-11.7%	0.4%	-7.0%	7.5%
Gilman	819	842	914	762	772	2.8%	8.6%	-16.6%	1.3%
Hartland	800	771	821	766	814	-3.6%	6.5%	-6.7%	6.3%
Isabelle	123	168	190	196	289	36.6%	13.1%	3.2%	74.4%
Maiden Rock	639	563	641	649	589	-11.9%	13.9%	1.2%	-9.2%
Martell	726	733	864	866	1,070	1.0%	17.9%	0.2%	23.6%
Oak Grove	664	783	936	1,120	1,522	17.9%	19.5%	19.7%	35.0%
River Falls	920	1,642	2,168	1,944	2,304	78.5%	32.0%	-10.3%	18.5%
Rock Elm	706	638	654	519	504	-9.6%	2.5%	-20.6%	-2.9%
Salem	588	498	616	514	505	-15.3%	23.7%	-16.6%	-1.8%
Spring Lake	640	611	613	565	550	-4.5%	0.3%	-7.8%	-2.7%
Trenton	994	1,286	1,624	1,583	1,737	29.4%	26.3%	-2.5%	9.7%
Trimbelle	1,077	1,225	1,420	1,482	1,511	13.7%	15.9%	4.4%	2.0%
Union	780	746	753	643	618	-4.4%	0.9%	-14.6%	-3.9%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	22,503	26,652	31,149	32,765	36,804	18.4%	16.9%	5.2%	12.3%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

## Poverty Trends

Poverty in the county directly related to the economic base of the county. High rates of poverty can be a signal for a depressed economy. As shown in Table 1.6, 7.7% of Pierce County households live below the poverty line. The Towns of Rock Elm (18.2%), Maiden Rock (11.3%), and Union (9.9%) exceed the county average.

TABLE 1.6: **Household Poverty Trends**

	1979		1989		1999	
	No. in Poverty	% in Poverty	No. in Poverty	% in Poverty	No. in Poverty	% in Poverty
<b>Towns</b>						
Clifton	100	10.26%	47	4.20%	19	1.2%
Diamond Bluff	30	6.55%	45	8.47%	17	3.7%
Ellsworth	80	5.68%	102	9.95%	38	3.5%
El Paso	151	21.92%	91	14.61%	34	4.9%
Gilman	166	18.16%	54	7.14%	29	3.7%
Hartland	78	9.50%	78	10.17%	44	5.7%
Isabelle	15	7.89%	15	8.38%	7	2.5%
Maiden Rock	103	16.07%	124	19.65%	71	11.3%
Martell	85	9.84%	51	5.90%	59	5.5%
Oak Grove	79	8.44%	67	5.90%	31	2.1%
River Falls	205	9.46%	169	8.72%	105	4.6%
Rock Elm	110	16.82%	115	21.26%	96	18.2%
Salem	84	13.64%	90	16.33%	26	5.2%
Spring Lake	99	16.15%	72	13.31%	5	1.0%
Trenton	57	3.51%	48	3.05%	98	5.6%
Trimbelle	180	12.68%	98	6.84%	70	4.5%
Union	94	12.48%	96	15.95%	55	9.9%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	3,226	10.36%	3,183	10.42%	2,652	7.7%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census

## Household Income

Table 1.7 lists the median and mean household incomes by Town. The mean household income of all towns (\$63,018) exceeds the county (\$58,302). The median household income of the county is exceeded by 12 of the 17 towns (71%).

TABLE 1.7: **Income Characteristics (2000 Population Census)**

Towns	Percent of Total 1999 Town Resident Income From:				
	Median Household Income	Mean Household Income	Self-Employment	Salaries and Wage	Social Security Payments
Clifton	\$71,810	\$76,650	6.3%	82.1%	6.3%
Diamond Bluff	\$52,031	\$57,582	2.6%	82.3%	6.7%
Ellsworth	\$52,188	\$58,779	11.1%	76.8%	5.1%
El Paso	\$49,375	\$58,302	14.3%	74.4%	5.4%
Gilman	\$49,250	\$51,979	9.5%	78.7%	8.3%
Hartland	\$55,347	\$58,722	4.3%	78.4%	6.7%
Isabelle	\$52,188	\$63,258	4.2%	86.4%	4.1%
Maiden Rock	\$45,278	\$52,177	5.5%	75.5%	10.8%
Martell	\$54,539	\$58,926	12.0%	79.3%	4.5%
Oak Grove	\$72,596	\$77,608	4.1%	87.7%	4.4%
River Falls	\$65,721	\$75,697	6.8%	78.9%	5.6%
Rock Elm	\$36,750	\$49,534	17.6%	61.6%	9.5%
Salem	\$56,250	\$52,609	5.3%	81.9%	9.0%
Spring Lake	\$48,611	\$72,510	11.8%	70.9%	4.9%
Trenton	\$53,229	\$62,379	4.4%	81.1%	8.7%
Trimbelle	\$52,650	\$54,437	8.6%	77.0%	6.9%
Union	\$35,375	\$40,479	9.3%	65.9%	9.9%
<b>Total</b>		\$63,018	7.5%	79.1%	6.5%
<b>PIERCE COUNTY</b>	\$49,375	\$58,302	14.3%	74.4%	5.4%

SOURCE: Program on Agricultural Technology Studies (PATs), UW-Madison

### **Education Attainment**

Table 1.8 on the following 4 pages lists the highest education attainment by adults over age 25 by Town. The Towns of Diamond Bluff (49.2%) and Hartland (49%) have a high percentage of adults who have graduated from high school. High school graduates as a percentage in Pierce County as a whole is 35%. The Towns of Clifton (28.6%), Oak Grove (21.5%), and River Falls (23%) have a larger presence of adults with bachelor degrees or higher education attainment.

TABLE 1.8: **Educational Attainment**

	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>Town of Clifton</b>		
Population 25 years and over	1,028	100.0%
Less than grade 9	14	1.4%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	34	3.3%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	199	19.4%
Some college, no degree	257	25.0%
Associate degree	92	8.9%
Bachelor's degree	294	28.6%
Graduate or professional degree	138	13.4%
<b>Town of Diamond Bluff</b>		
Population 25 years and over	311	100.0%
Less than grade 9	15	4.8%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	22	7.1%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	153	49.2%
Some college, no degree	71	22.8%
Associate degree	29	9.3%
Bachelor's degree	9	2.9%
Graduate or professional degree	12	3.9%
<b>Town of Ellsworth</b>		
Population 25 years and over	661	100.0%
Less than grade 9	20	3.0%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	41	6.2%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	307	46.4%
Some college, no degree	141	21.3%
Associate degree	36	5.4%
Bachelor's degree	92	13.9%
Graduate or professional degree	24	3.6%
<b>Town of El Paso</b>		
Population 25 years and over	432	100.0%
Less than grade 9	25	5.8%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	20	4.6%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	173	40.0%
Some college, no degree	99	22.9%
Associate degree	48	11.1%
Bachelor's degree	54	12.5%
Graduate or professional degree	13	3.0%
<b>Town of Gilman</b>		
Population 25 years and over	504	100.0%
Less than grade 9	20	4.0%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	24	4.8%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	212	42.1%
Some college, no degree	117	23.2%
Associate degree	47	9.3%
Bachelor's degree	60	11.9%
Graduate or professional degree	24	4.8%

NUMBER PERCENT

<b>Town of Hartland</b>		
Population 25 years and over	502	100.0%
Less than grade 9	28	5.6%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	40	8.0%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	246	49.0%
Some college, no degree	104	20.7%
Associate degree	26	5.2%
Bachelor's degree	37	7.4%
Graduate or professional degree	21	4.2%
<b>Town of Isabelle</b>		
Population 25 years and over	201	100.0%
Less than grade 9	8	4.0%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	15	7.5%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	89	44.3%
Some college, no degree	43	21.4%
Associate degree	13	6.5%
Bachelor's degree	19	9.5%
Graduate or professional degree	14	7.0%
<b>Town of Maiden Rock</b>		
Population 25 years and over	426	100.0%
Less than grade 9	24	5.6%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	40	9.4%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	171	40.1%
Some college, no degree	96	22.5%
Associate degree	35	8.2%
Bachelor's degree	46	10.8%
Graduate or professional degree	14	3.3%
<b>Town of Martell</b>		
Population 25 years and over	723	100.0%
Less than grade 9	24	3.3%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	43	5.9%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	242	33.5%
Some college, no degree	174	24.1%
Associate degree	53	7.3%
Bachelor's degree	129	17.8%
Graduate or professional degree	58	8.0%
<b>Town of Oak Grove</b>		
Population 25 years and over	890	100.0%
Less than grade 9	23	2.6%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	17	1.9%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	301	33.8%
Some college, no degree	202	22.7%
Associate degree	87	9.8%
Bachelor's degree	191	21.5%
Graduate or professional degree	69	7.8%

NUMBER PERCENT

<b>Town of River Falls</b>		
Population 25 years and over	1,456	100.0%
Less than grade 9	30	2.1%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	33	2.3%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	387	26.6%
Some college, no degree	306	20.9%
Associate degree	91	6.3%
Bachelor's degree	335	23.0%
Graduate or professional degree	275	18.9%
<b>Town of Rock Elm</b>		
Population 25 years and over	335	100.0%
Less than grade 9	31	9.3%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	13	3.9%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	155	46.3%
Some college, no degree	78	23.3%
Associate degree	13	3.9%
Bachelor's degree	38	11.3%
Graduate or professional degree	7	2.1%
<b>Town of Salem</b>		
Population 25 years and over	326	100.0%
Less than grade 9	22	6.7%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	20	6.1%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	127	39.0%
Some college, no degree	90	27.6%
Associate degree	32	9.8%
Bachelor's degree	27	8.3%
Graduate or professional degree	8	2.5%
<b>Town of Spring Lake</b>		
Population 25 years and over	335	100.0%
Less than grade 9	17	5.1%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	28	8.4%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	136	40.6%
Some college, no degree	70	20.9%
Associate degree	30	9.0%
Bachelor's degree	35	10.4%
Graduate or professional degree	19	5.7%
<b>Town of Trenton</b>		
Population 25 years and over	1,211	100.0%
Less than grade 9	63	5.2%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	98	8.1%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	519	42.9%
Some college, no degree	293	24.2%
Associate degree	68	5.6%
Bachelor's degree	122	10.1%
Graduate or professional degree	48	4.0%

NUMBER PERCENT

<b>Town of Trimbelle</b>		
Population 25 years and over	999	100.0%
Less than grade 9	36	3.6%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	91	9.1%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	430	43.0%
Some college, no degree	248	24.8%
Associate degree	71	7.1%
Bachelor's degree	90	9.0%
Graduate or professional degree	33	3.3%
<b>Town of Union</b>		
Population 25 years and over	357	100.0%
Less than grade 9	17	4.8%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	31	8.7%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	174	48.7%
Some college, no degree	68	19.0%
Associate degree	22	6.2%
Bachelor's degree	35	9.8%
Graduate or professional degree	10	2.8%
<b>PIERCE COUNTY*</b>		
Population 25 years and over	21,542	100.0%
Less than grade 9	944	4.4%
Grade 9–12, no diploma	1,294	6.0%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	6,531	35.0%
Some college, no degree	4,854	22.5%
Associate degree	1,612	7.5%
Bachelor's degree	3,646	16.9%
Graduate or professional degree	1,661	7.7%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census, 2000

**School Enrollment**

Table 1.9 on the following 3 pages illustrates school enrollment by Town, based on the 2000 census. In most of the towns, the percentages of students enrolled in elementary grades (Gr. 1–8) and high school (Gr. 9–12) are higher than those countywide (34.6% and 18.8%, respectively).

TABLE 1.040: **School Enrollment**

	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>Town of Clifton</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	454	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	15	3.3%
Kindergarten	27	5.9%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	239	52.6%
High school (grades 9–12)	100	22.0%
College or graduate school	73	16.1%
<b>Town of Diamond Bluff</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	108	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	5	4.6%
Kindergarten	5	4.6%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	56	50.9%
High school (grades 9–12)	36	32.4%
College or graduate school	8	7.4%
<b>Town of Ellsworth</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	324	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	22	6.8%
Kindergarten	20	6.2%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	139	42.9%
High school (grades 9–12)	102	31.5%
College or graduate school	41	12.7%
<b>Town of El Paso</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	227	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	5	2.2%
Kindergarten	3	1.3%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	130	57.3%
High school (grades 9–12)	56	24.7%
College or graduate school	33	14.5%
<b>Town of Gilman</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	214	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	11	5.1%
Kindergarten	11	5.1%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	99	46.3%
High school (grades 9–12)	60	28.0%
College or graduate school	33	15.4%
<b>Town of Hartland</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	198	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	8	4.0%
Kindergarten	15	7.6%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	90	45.5%
High school (grades 9–12)	56	28.3%
College or graduate school	29	14.6%
<b>Town of Isabelle</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	94	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	3	3.2%
Kindergarten	2	2.1%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	49	52.1%
High school (grades 9–12)	24	25.5%
College or graduate school	16	17.0%

NUMBER PERCENT

<b>Town of Maiden Rock</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	172	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	9	5.2%
Kindergarten	9	5.2%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	99	57.6%
High school (grades 9–12)	43	25.0%
College or graduate school	12	7.0%
<b>Town of Martell</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	317	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	23	7.3%
Kindergarten	23	7.3%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	146	46.1%
High school (grades 9–12)	76	14.0%
College or graduate school	49	15.5%
<b>Town of Oak Grove</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	418	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	36	8.6%
Kindergarten	38	9.1%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	179	42.8%
High school (grades 9–12)	115	27.5%
College or graduate school	50	12.0%
<b>Town of River Falls</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	720	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	38	5.3%
Kindergarten	47	6.5%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	358	49.7%
High school (grades 9–12)	143	19.9%
College or graduate school	134	18.6%
<b>Town of Rock Elm</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	137	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	9	6.6%
Kindergarten	9	6.6%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	68	49.6%
High school (grades 9–12)	38	27.7%
College or graduate school	13	9.5%
<b>Town of Salem</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	129	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	5	3.9%
Kindergarten	2	1.6%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	55	42.6%
High school (grades 9–12)	50	38.8%
College or graduate school	17	13.2%
<b>Town of Spring Lake</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	141	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	7	5.0%
Kindergarten	7	5.0%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	76	53.9%
High school (grades 9–12)	33	23.4%
College or graduate school	18	12.8%

NUMBER PERCENT

<b>Town of Trenton</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	395	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	9	2.3%
Kindergarten	11	2.8%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	212	53.7%
High school (grades 9–12)	110	27.8%
College or graduate school	53	13.4%
<b>Town of Trimbelle</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	417	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	14	3.4%
Kindergarten	19	4.6%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	221	53.0%
High school (grades 9–12)	113	27.1%
College or graduate school	50	12.0%
<b>Town of Union</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	160	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	8	5.0%
Kindergarten	6	3.8%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	63	39.4%
High school (grades 9–12)	58	36.3%
College or graduate school	25	15.6%
<b>PIERCE COUNTY*</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	12,261	100.0%
Nursery school, preschool	492	4.0%
Kindergarten	480	3.9%
Elementary school (grades 1–8)	4,246	34.6%
High school (grades 9–12)	2,307	18.8%
College or graduate school	4,736	38.6%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census, 2000

## **Section 2: UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES ELEMENT**

### **SECTION SUMMARY**

The purpose of this section is to inventory, map, and forecast utilities and community facilities in the Towns. Utilities and community facilities, often referred to as public works, consist of the physical infrastructure that allows a community to function and grow. Community facilities may include libraries, municipal offices, schools, police stations, fire stations, parks, etc.

It is expected that the population in Pierce County will grow by 7,500 residents over the next 20 years (See Section 1: Background Information). This increase in population will undoubtedly increase the demand for public utilities and community facilities. However, the exact need to expand, rehab, or create new utilities and community facilities are difficult to determine. Needs of the Towns will vary according to growth pressure and the level of service that is deemed publicly acceptable.

### **Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(d)**

#### **(d) Utilities and Community Facilities**

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the local governmental unit such as sanitary sewer service, storm water management, water supply, solid waste disposal, on-site wastewater treatment technologies, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunications facilities, power-generating plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, childcare facilities and other public facilities, such as police, fire and rescue facilities, libraries, schools and other governmental facilities. The element shall describe the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities that serve the local governmental unit, shall include an approximate timetable that forecasts the need in the local governmental unit to expand or rehabilitate existing utilities and facilities or to create new utilities and facilities and shall assess future needs for government services in the local governmental unit that are related to such utilities and facilities.

## **PUBLIC UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

### **Sanitary Sewer Service**

Town residents' wastewater treatment is through private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS). POWTS, or septic systems, treat domestic wastewater, which would include domestic activities such as sanitary, bath, laundry, dishwashing, garbage disposal, etc. These systems receive domestic wastewater by retaining it in a holding tank, or treating and discharging it into the soil. Any system with a final discharge upon the ground surface, or discharging directly into surface waters of the state, is subject to DNR regulations. POWTS are most commonly used in rural or large lot areas where sanitary sewer is not available. These systems are regulated under WI COMM-83 and permits are issued by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and the WI-DNR.

### **Water Supply**

All drinking water for the residents of the Towns comes from private wells, with the exception of Cedar St. Croix land division in the Town of Clifton that is on municipal wells. Because all of the Towns' water comes from private wells, the future demand for water will depend on the number of new homes that are construction (see Housing section).

Wells are safe, dependable sources of water if sited wisely and built correctly. Wisconsin has had well regulations since 1936, and today is recognized as a national leader in well protection. NR 812 (formerly NR 112), Wisconsin's Administrative Code for Well Construction and Pump Installation, is administered by the DNR. The Well Code is based on the premise that if a well and water system is properly located, constructed, installed, and maintained, the well should provide safe water continuously without a need for treatment.

## Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facilities

In 1996, Wisconsin revised its solid waste rules to exceed the federal (Subtitle D) rules for municipal solid waste landfills, becoming the first state to receive approval of its solid waste program by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The WI-DNR authorizes solid waste disposal pursuant to Wis. Stats. 389.35 and numerous Wisconsin Administrative Codes.

Currently Pierce County offers numerous recycling drop-off sites (Table 2.1). Several solid waste haulers provide individual service to Town residents of the county (Table 2.2).

TABLE 2.1: **Recycling Drop-Off Sites • Pierce County**

TOWN	LOCATION
Clifton	Town Hall, W11705 Cty. Rd. FF
Diamond Bluff / Trenton	Paul/s Industrial Garage, W9724 State Hwy. 35
Ellsworth	Closed Landfill Site, N5062 530 <sup>th</sup> Street
Gilman	Town Shop
Hartland	Closed Landfill Site, Cty. Rd. C
Maiden Rock	Town Shop, W2096 Cty. Hwy. CC
Rock Elm / El Paso	Closed Landfill Site, State Hwy. 72
Salem	Town Shop, N3599 Cty. Rd. A
Spring Lake	Town Shop, N7717 Cty. Hwy. B
Trimbelle	Town Shop, N5310 800 <sup>th</sup> St.

Source: Pierce County

TABLE 2.2: **Private Solid Waste Haulers/Recyclers • Pierce County**

COMPANY NAME	ADDRESS
P.I.G.	PO Box 155-W9724, Hwy, 35, Hager City, WI 54014
Onyx	PO Box 90, 100 Packer Drive, Roberts, WI 54023
Durand Sanitation	W5456 Cty. Rd. V, Durand, WI 54736
Waste Management Inc.	PO Box 143, 250 <sup>th</sup> Summit St., River Falls, WI 54022
Veit Disposal Systems	14000 Veit Place, Rogers, MN 55374
RCD-River City Disposal	314 State Road 35, River Falls, WI 54022
Murtha Sanitation	471 Highway 63, Baldwin, WI 54002

Source: Pierce County

**Parks and Recreation Facilities**

Refer to Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources element for information on park and recreation facilities.

**Telecommunication Facilities**

Several companies provide telecommunication services in Pierce County: Ameritech, Century Telephone, SBC, McLeod USA, Sage Telecom, Talk America, and XO Communications.

**Stormwater Management**

Stormwater management involves providing controlled release rates of runoff to receiving systems, typically through the use of detention and/or retention facilities. A stormwater management system can be very simple (such as a series of natural drainage ways) or a complex system of culverts, pipes, and drains. Either way, the purpose of the system is to store and channel water to specific areas, diminishing the impact of non-point source pollution. The County currently addresses stormwater management through its subdivision ordinance.

**Power Plants and Transmission Lines**

Electric power to the County is supplied by Excel Energy and Pierce Pepin Electrical.

## Cemeteries

A listing of cemeteries in the county is contained in Table 2.3.

TABLE 2.3: **Cemeteries • Pierce County**

TOWN	CEMETERY NAME
<b>Clifton</b>	Mann Valley Cemetery
<b>Diamond Bluff</b>	Diamond Bluff Cemetery
<b>Ellsworth</b>	Clayfield Catholic Cemetery Maple Grove Cemetery Old Clayfield Cemetery Old County Poor Farm Cemetery Our Savior's Lutheran Church Cemetery St. Francis Cemetery St. Paul's Cemetery Zion Covenant Cemetery
<b>El Paso</b>	Lost Creek/St. Francis Cemetery St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery Wilken's Family Cemetery
<b>Hartland</b>	Darrington Cemetery Eidsvold Lutheran Cemetery Hartland Methodist Church Cemetery Laurel Presbyterian Church Cemetery
<b>Isabelle</b>	Bay City Cemetery Tabor Cemetery
<b>Maiden Rock</b>	Land Methodist Church Cemetery Maiden Rock Cemetery
<b>Martell</b>	Martell Lutheran Cemetery Martell Methodist Cemetery Old Our Savior's Lutheran Cemetery Rush River Lutheran Church Cemetery
<b>Oak Grove</b>	Big River Presbyterian Cemetery Hammann Cemetery Pine Glen Cemetery St. John's United Church of Christ Cemetery St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery Stirrat Cemetery
<b>River Falls</b>	Foster Cemetery Greenwood Valley Cemetery Mount Olivet Cemetery Mount Zion Cemetery Saint Bridget Cemetery St. Martin's Cemetery

<b>Rock Elm</b>	Farm Hill Catholic Cemetery Old Rock Elm Cemetery Poplar Hill Cemetery
<b>Salem</b>	Ono Methodist Church Salem Lutheran Cemetery
<b>Spring Lake</b>	Gilman Lutheran Cemetery New Catholic Cemetery Oak Ridge Cemetery Spring Lake Cemetery Spring Lake Lutheran Cemetery Saint John's Lutheran Cemetery
<b>Trenton</b>	Bethel Mission Covenant Cemetery SVEA Lutheran Cemetery Trenton Cemetery
<b>Trimbelle</b>	Beldenville Cemetery Thurston Hill Cemetery Trimbelle Cemetery
<b>Union</b>	Free Home Cemetery Plum City Union Cemetery St. John's Catholic Cemetery

## Postal Service

Post Offices are available throughout Pierce County and are located in the following communities: Beldenville, Ellsworth, River Falls, Prescott, Plum City, Spring Valley, Maiden Rock, Hager City, Elmwood, and Bay City.

## Municipal Buildings

Table 2.4 lists Town municipal facilities in Pierce County.

TABLE 2.4: **Town Facilities • Pierce County**

TOWN	FACILITY NAME	ADDRESS	SERVICES
<b>Clifton</b>	Town Hall	W11705 CTH FF, River Falls	Building Inspector
<b>Diamond Bluff</b>	Town Hall	W9870 290 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Hager City	
<b>Ellsworth</b>	Town Hall/Garage	W6058 490 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Ellsworth	Building Inspector
<b>El Paso</b>	Town Hall/Garage	N5325 450 <sup>th</sup> St., Ellsworth	Building Inspector
<b>Gilman</b>	Town Hall/Garage	W3616 770 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Spring Valley	
<b>Hartland</b>	Town Hall/Garage	W6170 CTH EE, Bay City	Building Inspector
<b>Isabelle</b>	Town Hall	W7245 STH 35, Red Wing Airport, Bay City	Building Inspector
<b>Maiden Rock</b>	Town Hall/Garage	W2096 CTH CC, Maiden Rock	Building Inspector
<b>Martell</b>	Town Hall/Garage	W5344 STH 63, Spring Valley	Building Inspector
<b>Oak Grove</b>	Town Hall	N5495 CTH QQ, Prescott	Building Inspector
<b>River Falls</b>	Town Hall Town Garage, Recycling	W9015 770 <sup>th</sup> Ave., River Falls N7750 STH 65, River Falls	Building Inspector
<b>Rock Elm</b>	Town Hall/Garage	N5412 170 <sup>th</sup> St., Elmwood	
<b>Salem</b>	Town Hall/Garage	N3599 CTH A, Maiden Rock	Building Inspector
<b>Spring Lake</b>	Town Hall/Garage	N7717 CTH B, Box 178, Spring Valley	Building Inspector
<b>Trenton</b>	Town Hall Town Garage	W7926 250 <sup>th</sup> St., Hager City N2551 CTH VV, Hager City	Building Inspector
<b>Trimbelle</b>	Town Hall/Garage	N5310 800 <sup>th</sup> St., Ellsworth	
<b>Union</b>	Town Hall/Garage	1119 First St., Plum City	Building Inspector

### **Police, Fire, and Rescue Services**

Pierce County Sheriff's Department provides patrol services to all County townships in addition to: providing court bailiffs; crime investigation; maintaining the jail; providing anti-drug abuse enforcement and education; traffic enforcement including accident reports, water and snowmobile patrol; welfare fraud investigation; juvenile code enforcement; 24-hour dispatch center; and handling emergency calls to 911.

In 1996 the County commissioned a Criminal Justice Needs Assessment. That study was followed in 1998 with a Pre-Architectural Program for a justice center that included courthouse improvements and a Law Enforcement Center. Both studies identified long-term law enforcement needs of the County and proposed types of facilities and a suggested site for the Law Enforcement Center. To date, no action has been taken on the development of the recommendations.

*Gilman Ambulance/Fire Service:* The Town of Gilman has a contract with the Village of Spring Valley for the services of the Spring Valley Fire Department. The Spring Valley Fire Department, Emergency Medical Team, and First Responders are volunteers. Many residents of the Town of Gilman serve as an EMT or First Responder.

*El Paso Ambulance/Fire Service:* The Town of El Paso contracts with two fire departments and two ambulance services: fire—Ellsworth Fire Department and Elmwood Fire Department; ambulance—Ellsworth Area Ambulance Service and Elmwood Area Ambulance Service.

*River Falls Fire and Law Enforcement:* The City of River Falls Fire Department and the Rural Fire Association work together to provide fire protection in the Town. Town law enforcement is carried out through Town constables.

Pierce County is served by the following Ambulance service providers:

TABLE 2.5: **Ambulance Service Providers • Pierce County**

NAME	ADDRESS	SERVICE LEVEL
Ellsworth Area Ambulance Service	151 S. Plum St., Ellsworth	EMT-Paramedic
Elmwood Area Ambulance Service	223 N. Woodworth St., Elmwood	EMT-Basic
Maiden Rock/Plum City/Stockholm EMS	509 E. Maple Ave., Plum City	EMT-Basic
Prescott Emergency Medical Service	1603 Pine St., Prescott	EMT-Basic
River Falls Area Ambulance Service	175 E. Cedar St., River Falls	EMT-Intermediate
Spring Valley Area Ambulance	407 S. Newman Ave., Spring Valley	EMT-Basic

### **Timetable for the Expansion of Utilities and Community Facilities**

An important part of this planning process is to determine what upgrades or expansions to the County’s utilities and community facilities are needed, and when. That determination will be completed throughout the planning process and upgrades and expansions will be identified as needed.

### **Libraries**

In 1971, the Wisconsin State Legislature passed a law creating 17 library systems in Wisconsin. The purpose of the library systems is to provide free and equitable access to public libraries for all residents in Wisconsin, even if their community has no library. The library systems also serve to take on projects too costly or complex for individual community libraries. The funding for the Public Library System comes from a set percentage of the budgets of all the public libraries in Wisconsin. It is expected that the increase in population in Pierce County will experience over the next 20 years will place greater demand on local libraries.

Table 2.6 identifies 6 libraries that service Pierce County.

TABLE 2.6: **Pierce County Public Libraries • 2005**

NAME	LOCATION
Ellsworth Public Library	312 W. Main St., Ellsworth, WI 54011
Elmwood Public Library	111 N. Main St., Elmwood, WI 54740
Plum City Public Library	611 Main St., Plum City, WI 54761
Prescott Public Library	800 Borner St., N., Prescott, WI 54021
River Falls Public Library	140 Union St., River Falls, WI 54022
Spring Valley Public Library	E121 S. 2 <sup>nd</sup> St., Spring Valley, WI 54767

## Primary, Secondary, and Higher Education Facilities

Tables 2.7 and 2.8 list the various primary and secondary public and private school facilities serving the county. The tables list 2005-06 enrollment and capacities of each facility.

TABLE 2.7: **Public School Facilities • Pierce County**

	Type	Enrollment 2005-06	Building Capacity Recommended Range
<b>Ellsworth Community School District</b>			
Ellsworth High School	High School	595	750–800
Ellsworth Middle School	Middle School	423	550–600
Hillcrest Elementary	Elementary	295	300–325
Lindgren Elementary	Elementary	87	130–150
Prairie View Elementary	Elementary	180	270–300
Sunnyside Elementary	Elementary	101	100–125
<b>Elmwood School District</b>			
Elmwood High School	High School	120	250–350
Elmwood Middle School	Middle School	64	250–350
Elmwood Elementary	Elementary	206	250–350
<b>Pepin Area School District</b>			
Pepin High School	High School	162	200–250
Pepin Elementary	Elementary	159	200–250
<b>Plum City School District</b>			
Plum City High School	High School	223	200–250
Plum City Elementary	Elementary	160	200–250
<b>Prescott School District</b>			
Prescott High School	High School	395	450–525
Prescott Middle School	Middle School	261	290–310
Malone Elementary	Elementary	490	450–500
<b>River Falls School District</b>			
River Falls High School	High School	982	1,200–1,400
Renaissance Alt Charter School	High School	73	60–80
Meyer Middle School	Middle School	688	650–900
Greenwood Elementary	Elementary	375	375–432
River Falls Montessori Charter	Elementary	46	40–60
Rocky Branch Elementary	Elementary	383	365–432
Westside Elementary	Elementary	437	475–535
<b>Spring Valley School District</b>			
Spring Valley High School	High School	270	*
Spring Valley Middle School	Middle School	113	*
Spring Valley Elementary	Elementary	372	*

SOURCE: *Pierce County School Districts, 2005*

\*No response (information requested from the school district was not provided).

TABLE 2.8: **Private School Facilities • Pierce County**

	Type	Enrollment 2005-06	Building Capacity Recommended Range
<b>Ellsworth Community School District</b>			
St. Francis School	Elementary	137	149–200
<b>Plum City School District</b>			
St. John the Baptist Grade School	Elementary	46	90–100
<b>Prescott School District</b>			
St. Joseph Grade School	Elementary	162	175
<b>River Falls School District</b>			
Good Shepherd Christian Academy	Elementary/Secondary	38	50–60
Heartland Comm. Montessori School	Elementary	48	68–73
Saint Bridget Parish School	Elementary	133	175–200

SOURCE: *Pierce County School Districts, 2005*

Based on D.O.A. population projections for 2025, Table 2.9 illustrates school-age enrollments for each town based on year 2000 percentage of school-age population.

TABLE 2.9: **School Age Enrollment Projections (ages 5–19)**

	2000	2025
<b>Towns</b>		
Clifton	336	661
Diamond Bluff	97	115
Ellsworth	261	290
El Paso	189	225
Gilman	170	190
Hartland	161	206
Isabelle	73	85
Maiden Rock	151	134
Martell	245	377
Oak Grove	332	607
River Falls	548	740
Rock Elm	115	131
Salem	107	115
Spring Lake	106	151
Trenton	333	458
Trimbelle	353	384
Union	127	168

## **Advanced Education Facilities**

### ***Chippewa Valley Technical College, River Falls***

A new Chippewa Valley Technical College facility opened in the Spring of 1999 in River Falls and offers an extensive list of associate degrees.

### ***University of Wisconsin–River Falls***

UW-River Falls is a coeducational, public university with strong programs in: the arts and sciences; education; business and economics; and agriculture, food and environmental sciences.

### ***University of Minnesota, Twin Cities***

Only a short drive from eastern Pierce County in St. Paul and Minneapolis is the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities. The largest of the four campuses, it is made up of 19 colleges and offers 161 bachelor's degrees, 218 master's degrees, 114 doctoral degrees, and 5 professional degrees.

### Childcare Facilities

Based on population growth forecasts, it should be expected that demand for this type of service will increase over the next 20 years.

Pierce County has 104 childcare facilities located in ten communities.

TABLE 2.10: **Childcare Facilities • 2005**

LOCATION	NUMBER OF FACILITIES
Bay City	4
Beldenville	4
Ellsworth	20
Elmwood	2
Hager City	8
Maiden Rock	3
Plum City	3
Prescott	14
River Falls	40
Spring Valley	6

*Source: Pierce County Health and Human Services*

## Healthcare Facilities

Numerous healthcare facilities are located throughout the county (see Table 2.11).

TABLE 2.11: **Health and Medical Services**

LOCATION	NAME
<b>CHIROPRACTORS</b>	
<b>Ellsworth</b>	Ellsworth Chiropractic Nyeggen Chiropractic
<b>Elmwood</b>	Family Chirocare-Elmwood Branch
<b>Prescott</b>	Prescott Chiropractic Williamson Chiropractic Office
<b>River Falls</b>	Advanced Chiropractic Back & Neck Pain Center Ltd Chiropractic Family Health Center DC Haines, Art Lehl Chiropractic Kinnikinnic Chiropractic Clinic River Falls Chiropractic Health Center
<b>Spring Valley</b>	Spilde Chiropractic Clinic
<b>Ellsworth</b>	Ellsworth Chiropractic Nyeggen Chiropractic
<b>Elmwood</b>	Family Chirocare-Elmwood Branch
<b>Prescott</b>	Prescott Chiropractic Williamson Chiropractic Office
<b>River Falls</b>	Advanced Chiropractic Back & Neck Pain Center Ltd Chiropractic Family Health Center DC Haines, Art Lehl Chiropractic Kinnikinnic Chiropractic Clinic River Falls Chiropractic Health Center
<b>Spring Valley</b>	Spilde Chiropractic Clinic
<b>DENTISTS</b>	
<b>Ellsworth</b>	Health Centered Dentistry Palmquist, Gary A
<b>Elmwood</b>	Kasten WM G DR
<b>Prescott</b>	Gatzke, Gerald O DDS LaVenture, Patrick J DDS Toninato, Michael J DDS
<b>River Falls</b>	Barnes & Smilanich Family Dental Practice Johnson, Kenneth A Dr Knotek, Tim Nelson, David E DDS
<b>Spring Valley</b>	Palumbo J L DDS

<b>HEALTH CLINICS</b>	
<b>Elmwood</b>	Red Cedar Clinic - Mayo Health System
<b>Ellsworth</b>	Ellsworth Medical Clinic Interstate Medical Center
<b>Prescott</b>	Regina Medical Center
<b>River Falls</b>	River Falls Medical Clinic Ltd
<b>Spring Valley</b>	Spring Valley Clinic

<b>HOSPITALS</b>	
<b>River Falls</b>	River Falls Area Hospital Red Wing, Minnesota St. John's Regional Health Center
<b>Twin Cities, Minnesota</b>	Children's Hospital of St. Paul Regions Hospital - St. Paul St. Joseph's - St. Paul University-Fairview - Minneapolis

<b>SOCIAL SERVICES</b>	
<b>Ellsworth</b>	American Red Cross
<b>Pierce County</b>	Pierce County Child Support Agency Pierce County Family Community Partners
<b>River Falls</b>	Kinship PATH 186

Source: Pierce County Economic Development Corporation

## **UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

There are a number of available state and federal agencies and programs to assist communities with public works projects. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. To find out more specific information or which program best fits a community's needs, contact the agency directly.

### **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – RURAL DEVELOPMENT (USDA-RD)**

#### **• Community Facilities Direct Grant and Loan Program**

The community facilities grant program provides grants to assist the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 people. The objective of the agency is to construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community facilities providing essential services to rural residents. This can include the purchase of equipment required for a facility's operation. All projects that are funded by the RHS grant program must be for public use.

#### **• Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program**

The community facilities loan program is similar to the grant program in that it provides funding for essential community facilities, such as schools, roads, fire halls, etc. Again local jurisdictions must have a population of less than 20,000 to be able to apply. Applications are funded based on a statewide priority point system.

### **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – RURAL UTILITIES**

There are a number of available programs through USDA-RUS as part of the Water and Environmental Programs (WEP). WEP provides loans, grants, and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities in rural areas, cities, and towns of 10,000 or less. Public bodies, non-profit organizations and recognized Indian Tribes may qualify for assistance. WEP also makes grants to nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance and training to assist rural communities with their water, wastewater, and solid waste programs. Some of the available programs include:

- Water and Waste Disposal Direct and Guaranteed Loans
- Water and Waste Disposal Grants
- Technical Assistance and Training Grants
- Solid Waste Management Grants

- Rural Water Circuit Ride Technical Assistance

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION (NRCS) UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (US EPA) COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH EDUCATION EXTENSION SERVICE (CSREES)**

- **Farm\*A\*Syst**

Farm\*A\*Syst is a national program cooperatively supported by the above agencies. The program enables you to prevent pollution on farms, ranches, and in homes using confidential environmental assessments. This program can help you determine your risks. A system of fact sheets and worksheets helps you to identify the behaviors and practices that are creating risks. Some of the issues

Farm\*A\*Syst can help address include:

- Quality of well water, new wells, and abandoned wells
- Livestock waste storage
- Storage and handling of petroleum products
- Managing hazardous wastes
- Nutrient management

Farm\*A\*Syst is a voluntary program, so one can decide whether or not to assess one's property. This program has been nationally and internationally recognized for its common-sense approach to managing environmental risks.

- **Home\*A\*Syst**

Also available through the cooperative efforts of USDA, NRCS, CSREES, and US EPA is the national Home\*A\*Syst program. This program is very similar to the Farm\*A\*Syst program explained above, but instead is specific to one's home. The program begins with a checklist to identify risks including safety of drinking water, use and storage of hazardous chemicals, and lead based paint. The program can help one develop an action plan to reduce risks.

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WIDNR)

### • Bureau of Community Financial Assistance (DNR-CFA)

The Bureau of Community Assistance administers a number of grant and loan programs. The Bureau supports projects that protect the public health and the environment and provide recreational opportunities. The Bureau has three major areas of programs, which include the following:

1. Environmental Loans: This is a loan program for drinking water, wastewater, and brownfield projects.
2. Environmental Financial Assistance Grants: This is a grant program for non-point source runoff pollution, recycling, lakes, rivers, municipal flood control and well compensation.
3. Land & Recreation Financial Assistance Grants: This is a grant program for conservation, restoration, parks, stewardship, acquisition of land and easements for conservation purposes, recreational facilities and trails, hunter education, forestry, forest fire protection, gypsy moth, household hazardous waste collection, dam rehabilitation and abandonment, dry cleaner remediation, and urban wildlife damage.

Under the three WI DNR programs listed above are smaller project based initiatives intended to address interrelated issues that affect each of the broad based programs described above. For example, under the Environmental Loans Program, there is the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP). The SDWLP provides loans to public water systems to build, upgrade, or replace water supply infrastructure to protect public health and address federal and state safe drinking water requirements. For more detailed information on other available programs, contact the Wisconsin DNR.

### • Wisconsin Well Compensation Grant Program

Another program available through the Wisconsin DNR is the Well Compensation Grant Program. To be eligible for a grant, a person must own a contaminated private water supply that serves a residence or is used for watering livestock. Owners of wells serving commercial properties are not eligible, unless the commercial property also contains a residential unit or apartment. The Well compensation grant program provides partial cost sharing for the following:

- Water testing if it shows the well is contaminated

- Reconstructing a contaminated well
- Constructing a new well
- Connecting to an existing private or public water supply
- Installing a new pump, including the associated piping
- Property abandoning the contaminated well
- Equipment for water treatment
- Providing a temporary bottled or trucked water supply

## **WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **• Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant Program Public Facilities (CDBG-PF)**

This program is designed to assist small communities with public facility improvements. Eligible activities would include publicly owned utility system improvements, streets, sidewalks, disability accessibility projects, and community centers. Local governments including towns, villages, cities, and counties are eligible. Entitlement cities, over 50,000 in population, are not eligible. Federal grant funds are made available on an annual basis. The maximum grant for any single applicant is \$750,000. Grants are only available up to the amount that is adequately justified and documented with engineering or vendor estimates.

### **• Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant Program Public Facilities (CDBG-PFED)**

This program helps underwrite the cost of municipal infrastructure necessary for business development. This program requires that the result of the project will ultimately induce businesses, create jobs, and invest in the community. More information is available from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce.

## **Section 3: AGRICULTURAL, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT**

### **Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(e)**

#### **(e) Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources.**

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for the conservation, and promotion of the effective management, of natural resources such as groundwater, forests, productive agricultural areas, environmentally sensitive areas, threatened and endangered species, stream corridors, surface water, floodplains, wetlands, wildlife habitat, metallic and nonmetallic mineral resources, parks, open spaces, historical and cultural resources, community design, recreational resources and other natural resources.

### **AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE SUMMARY**

The purpose of the Agricultural element is to present agricultural data and provide direction for land use decisions that impact agriculture for the next 20 years. Agriculture is important both economically and culturally to the County. And, although there are conflicts between farm operations and non-farm neighbors, it is clear that maintaining agriculture is important to County residents and for the County to achieve its vision of the future. Agriculture in general is rapidly changing in response to market forces and government programs and the challenge for the County is to maintain a balance between growth of the non-farm and agricultural sectors while focusing on the factors that are impacted by Town decisions.

### **SOILS**

Pierce County lies within Wisconsin's Western Upland geological province. Unlike the counties farther south along the Mississippi River, Pierce is not in the "driftless area," as all or parts of it were covered by two separate glacial episodes, and four other glacial periods directly influenced the county with rock and silt overburdens.

Of its 378,240 acres, 130,500 (34%) are considered "prime" for farming. Of this acreage, 121,800 acres (32%) are ranked of "statewide importance," and 70,300 acres (19%) are of "local importance" to farming. Thus, 85 percent of the county is potentially productive farmland. Of course, parts of the county are already occupied by non-farm development such as cities, roads, and rural houses. There

are also many areas of steep slopes, floodplains, and wetlands that are not suited for farming.

The USDA Natural Conservation Service (NRCS) has summarized the location of “important farmlands” on a map. The map indicates that, generally, the best farmland is in the northern half of the county—especially the Towns of Clifton, River Falls, Martell, Gilman, Spring Lake, Oak Grove, Trimble, and Ellsworth. The southern Town are more limited for farming because of the hillier terrain associated with several rivers.

The pattern of soils for productive farmland is highly varied. It is possible to site rural non-farm houses without taking the best soils out of production if some care is taken. This would require more sophisticated and restrictive regulations than are currently in place in Pierce County.

Erosion control is a major farmland concern in Pierce County because of the nature of the soils and steep slopes. Nearly 25 percent of the county (95,000 acres) has slopes greater than 12 percent, and many of the soils on these slopes are moderately to severely eroded. The County Land Conservation Department works with landowners and the U.S. Soil Conservation Service to help improve management practices and conserve precious topsoil.

## FARMING SYSTEM

According to the U.S. Census data, 8.1% of the population of the towns lists their occupation as farming. The following table (Table 3.1) shows farm related data gathered from either census or agricultural census surveys. Countywide data is available for 2002 showed 1,510 farms, down one percent from 1997.

TABLE 3.1: **Dependence on Agriculture (2000 Population Census)**

Towns	Town Population	Population Living On Farms:		Employed Adults Working On Farms:	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Clifton	1,657	92	5.6%	40	4.5%
Diamond Bluff	479	16	3.3%	10	3.6%
Ellsworth	1,064	197	18.5%	40	6.4%
El Paso	690	156	22.6%	70	17.4%
Gilman	772	177	22.9%	67	15.3%
Hartland	814	113	13.9%	44	9.8%
Isabelle	315	4	1.3%	0	0.0%
Maiden Rock	589	195	33.1%	56	15.5%
Martell	1,070	156	14.6%	59	9.3%
Oak Grove	1,522	132	8.7%	45	5.5%
River Falls	2,304	239	10.4%	45	3.4%
Rock Elm	504	188	37.3%	86	30.7%
Salem	505	204	40.4%	38	13.1%
Spring Lake	550	134	24.4%	39	14.6%
Trenton	1,737	142	8.2%	22	2.2%
Trimbelle	1,511	231	15.3%	71	7.9%
Union	618	148	23.9%	60	20.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,701</b>	<b>1,524</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>8.4%</b>

SOURCE: Program on Agricultural Technology Studies (PATS), UW-Madison

## TOWN LAND SALES STATISTICS

As required by the comprehensive planning process, statistics and graphs of land sales information are included below. There has been a rapid increase in land values since the 1990 data. The increases have occurred in both the value of land remaining in Agriculture and land being diverted to other uses (Table 3.2). Table 3.3 shows the value of land in 2002 remaining in Agriculture as \$1,894 per acre, and the land being diverted from agriculture shown as \$2,920 per acre. There is no question the land values are rapidly increasing (Table 3.4) and this will in the future greatly impact the ability of farmers to compete for the land base needed to remaining in agriculture. The average farm size has decreased from 190 to 177 acres between 1997 and 2002 with the average market value of production of \$72,329, down 7 percent in the same time frame. Of the 1,510 farms in Pierce County, approximately 90 are 1–9 acres in size and 600 are 50–179 acres in size.

TABLE 3.2: **Conversion Rates of Farmland to Non-Farm Uses •  
Agricultural Land Sold (1990–2002)**

	1990–1994 Acres	1995–1999 Acres	2000–2002 Acres
<b>Pierce County</b>			
Land kept in farming (annual average)	4,402	2,759	1,441
Land converted to non-ag uses (annual average)	2,117	1,628	609
Total farmland sold (annual average)	6,518	4,388	2,050
Percent of land converted (annual average)	32%	37%	30%
<b>State of Wisconsin</b>			
Land kept in farming (annual average)	323,828	203,452	137,916
Land converted to non-ag uses (annual average)	76,560	66,206	59,981
Total farmland sold (annual average)	400,388	269,657	210,430
Percent of land converted (annual average)	19%	25%	29%

SOURCE: Program on Agricultural Technology Studies (PATS), UW-Madison

TABLE 3.3: **Average Value of Farmland Sold • \$/acre (1990–2002)**

	1990–1994	1995–1999	2000–2002
<b>Pierce County</b>			
Land kept in farming (annual average)	\$786	\$1,079	\$1,894
Land sold for non-ag uses (annual average)	\$989	\$1,650	\$2,920
Total farmland sold (annual average)	\$821	\$1,290	\$2,231
Premium paid for non-ag uses	126%	153%	154%
<b>State of Wisconsin</b>			
Land kept in farming (annual average)	\$850	\$1,254	\$2,038
Land sold for non-ag uses (annual average)	\$1,993	\$1,993	\$3,312
Total farmland sold (annual average)	\$1,350	\$1,350	\$2,509
Premium paid for non-ag uses	149%	159%	163%

SOURCE: Program on Agricultural Technology Studies (PATS), UW-Madison

TABLE 3.4: **Agricultural Land Sales • Pierce County (2003)**

	Number of Transactions	Acres Sold	Dollars Per Acre
Agricultural land continuing in agricultural use	15	1,754	\$2,514
Agricultural land being diverted to other uses	24	1,061	\$4,855
Total of all agricultural land	39	2,815	\$3,396

\*Includes land with and without buildings and other improvements.

## AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY

With 15% of the county’s population living on farms and 8.4% of the employed adults working on farming operations, there is no question that agriculture and the resultant economy is significant to the county (Table 3.5).

TABLE 3.5: **Total Land in Crops • Pierce County (1990–2002)**

	Pierce County	State of Wisconsin
Total land area (acres)	368,971	34,531,634
Total acreage of all major crops:		
1990	161,400	9,086,900
1999	164,400	8,956,100
2002	157,500	8,728,550
Net change 1990–1999	3,000	–130,800
Percent change 1990–1999	2%	–1%
Net change 1999–2002	–6,900	–227,550
Percent change 1999–2002	–4%	–3%
Major crops as a percentage of total land area:		
1990	44%	26%
1999	45%	26%
2002	43%	25%

SOURCE: Program on Agricultural Technology Studies (PATS), UW-Madison

## **CONFLICTS & THREATS TO AGRICULTURE**

Agriculture is the dominant land use and an economic factor in Pierce County. With the changes in development pressure and the transition out of farming by many, the nature of the industry is rapidly changing. Some of the conflicts and threats are within local control and some are tied to state, national and global decisions. This comprehensive plan cannot impact the decisions such as commodity prices, which are set on the world market and the reduced marketing opportunities as a result of consolidation. However, the plan can respond to local conflicts and threats. These include:

- Conflict with new residents with non-agriculture backgrounds. These include; traffic conflicts, trespassing, chemical applications and fencing requirements.
- Fragmentation of the farm fields as new parcels are created.
- Agricultural land values exceeding possible agricultural income opportunities.
- The challenge of developing the next generation of farmers.

## **AGRICULTURE RESOURCES, AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

There are a number of available county, state and federal programs to assist with agricultural planning and protection. Below are brief descriptions of the various agencies and programs.

### **USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) has a direct financial impact on rural Wisconsin families through the programs and services they offer. They are dedicated to stabilizing farm income, helping farmers conserve land and water resources, providing credit to new or disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and helping farm operations recover from the effects of disaster. Programs and services offered by the FSA are:

#### **• Farm Loan Program (FLP)**

FSA offers direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to farmers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit. Often, FSA borrowers are beginning farmers who cannot qualify for conventional loans because they have insufficient financial resources. The Agency also helps established farmers who have suffered financial setbacks from natural disasters, or whose resources are too limited to maintain profitable farming operations.

#### **• Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)**

The CRP is a voluntary program that offers annual rental payments, incentive payments for certain activities, and cost-share assistance to establish approved cover on eligible cropland. The program encourages farmers to plant long-term resource-conserving covers to improve soil, water, and wildlife resources. The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) makes available assistance in an amount equal to not more than 50 percent of the participant's costs in establishing approved practices. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years.

#### **• Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments (DCP)**

The 2002 Farm Bill provides for payments to be made to eligible producers of covered commodities and peanuts for the 2002 through 2007 crop years. Direct and counter-cyclical payments are made to producers with established crop bases and payment yields. Payment rates for direct payments are established by the 2002 Farm Bill and are issued regardless of market prices. Producers also are eligible for counter-cyclical payments, but payments are issued only if effective prices are less than the target prices set in the 2002 Farm Bill. Commodities eligible for both direct and counter-cyclical payments include wheat, corn, sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, rice, soybeans, sunflower seeds,

canola, flaxseed, mustard, safflower, rapeseed, and peanuts.

- **Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC)**

This program, authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill, financially compensates dairy producers when domestic milk prices fall below a specified level. Eligible dairy producers are those who produced milk in any state and marketed the milk commercially beginning December 2001. To be approved for the program, producers must be in compliance with highly erodible and wetland conservation provisions and must enter into a contract with USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation to provide monthly marketing data.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the federal agency that works with landowners on private lands to conserve natural resources. NRCS is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. NRCS was formerly named the Soil Conservation Service or "SCS". Nearly three-fourths of the technical assistance provided by the agency goes to helping farmers and ranchers develop conservation systems uniquely suited to their land and individual ways of doing business. The agency also provides assistance to other private landowners and rural and urban communities to reduce erosion, conserve and protect water, and solve other resource problems.

NRCS provides:

- **Technical Assistance for Conservation**

Conservation technical assistance is the basis of NRCS's mission to conserve, sustain, and improve America's private lands. NRCS staff works one-on-one with private landowners to develop and implement conservation plans that protect the soil, water, air, plant and animal resources on the 1.5 billion acres of privately owned land in the United States.

- **Soil survey**

NRCS is responsible for surveying the soils of the United States, publishing and interpreting the soils information. Soils information is the basis for natural resource and land use planning. It is the key to assessing site potential for specific uses and identifying soil characteristics and properties.

- **National Resources Inventory**

Every five years, NRCS conducts the National Resources Inventory (NRI) on nonfederal rural land in

the United States. This inventory shows natural resource trends, such as land cover and use, soil erosion, prime farmland, and wetlands. The 1992 NRI, for example, shows that farmers are dramatically reducing soil erosion on cropland. From 1982 to 1992, erosion on all cropland declined by about one-third, going from 3.1 billion to 2.1 billion tons a year.

- **Wetlands**

Wetlands conservation is an important and sensitive issue. During 1982-1992, wetland losses due to agriculture slowed to about 31,000 acres a year, a more than 90 percent reduction compared to conversion rates between 1954 and 1974. NRCS is one of the four primary federal agencies involved with wetlands.

- **Wetlands Reserve Program**

In the Wetlands Reserve Program, conservation easements are purchased from landowners to restore or enhance, wetland areas. Ownership, control of access, and some compatible uses remain with the landowner.

- **Wetland Identification**

NRCS has technical leadership for identification and delineation of wetlands on agricultural lands, and on all lands for USDA program participants. NRCS maintains a list of hydric soils and a wetland inventory on agricultural lands.

- **Soil Quality**

Over the past decade, NRCS has been helping producers develop and implement 1.7 million conservation plans on 143 million acres of highly erodible cropland as part of the conservation compliance provision of the Food Security Act of 1985. As a result, erosion on our most highly erodible cropland has been cut by two-thirds.

- **Water Quality**

NRCS provides assistance to farmers to improve water quality. This includes improving nutrient and pesticide management and reducing soil erosion, thus decreasing sediment that would otherwise end up in lakes and streams. Technical assistance, including engineering, structure design and layout for manure management and water quality practices significantly contribute to Wisconsin water quality efforts. Through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance for local water resource priorities.

## **WISCONSIN FARM CENTER**

The Wisconsin Farm Center provides services to Wisconsin farmers and agribusinesses to promote the vitality of the state's agricultural economy and rural communities.

Services include:

### **• Growing Wisconsin Agriculture**

Wisconsin is committed to the long-term profitability of your agriculture business. Legislation passed in 2004 strengthens agriculture and invites residents to invest, reinvest and expand. We are working to track the progress of these new laws and the opportunities they provide.

### **• Financial Counseling and Advising**

The Farm Center's financial experts are trained in feasibility analysis, enterprise analysis, debt analysis along with restructuring and cash flow projection. They can personally assist you and answer your specific questions, and provide useful resource materials.

### **• Farm Mediation**

The Farm Center's farm mediation program provides dispute resolution services to farmers with problems involving creditor-debtor issues; U.S. Department of Agriculture program benefits; contracts with food processors, fertilizer, seed or feed dealers; conflicts within farm families; and landlord-tenant issues.

### **• Stray Voltage**

Through Rural Electrical Power Services, the Farm Center provides information about stray voltage and power quality issues; answers to regulatory questions; onfarm and distribution system investigations by a technical team that can assist farmers in working with the utility or electrician to resolve a power quality conflict; a format for dispute resolution; and research on electrical issues.

### **• Legal**

The Farm Center's agricultural attorney can answer general legal questions about farm business organization, landlord-tenant issues, debt restructuring, legal procedures, creditor-debtor law, and tax reorganization and estate planning.

- **Vocational**

The Farm Center can help farmers or their family members make a successful transition to off-farm employment. It can help them examine their skills and explore their career options, regardless of whether they're looking to add off-farm income to the farm operation, starting a new small business or seeking off-farm employment.

- **Farm Transfers**

Through its Farm Link program, the Farm Center can help farmers who want to start their own operation, retiring farmers who want someone to take over their operation, or farmers who want to relocate due to urban or environmental pressures.

- **Animal Agriculture**

Animals are a vital part of agriculture in Wisconsin. Whether you're a farmer, a veterinarian, a livestock dealer or trucker, or a consumer, DATCP provides information and regulates many aspects of animal agriculture.

- **Crops**

Statistics show Wisconsin ranks first in production of a number of agriculture crops. Farmers in our state continue to adopt traditional and specialty crops. Cultivating and protecting them is key to the Farm Center's mission.

- **Land and Water**

The Farm Center works primarily with county land conservation departments to protect the environment through conservation practices, incentive programs and regulation.

## **PIERCE COUNTY SOIL EROSION CONTROL PLAN**

The Pierce County Soil Erosion Control Plan was completed in 1985 by the Pierce County Land Conservation Committee. The purpose of the plan was to determine where the need for erosion control work was the greatest in Pierce County. Once this was determined, more technical assistance and governmental cost-sharing funds for conservation work could be channeled into the highest erosion areas of Pierce County.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **NATURAL RESOURCES SUMMARY**

As the County continues to grow and change, it is vital the County consider its future in conjunction with its natural resources. It can be very challenging for rural communities to allow new development, at the same time protect the natural environment, and preserve the character of the area. At first, development may have only a limited impact on the natural landscape, but as it continues, the visual and environmental impacts become increasingly apparent. In order to protect natural resources for the future, it is crucial to be aware of existing natural resources, such as Water Resources, Geologic Resources, Forests and Woodlands, Wildlife Habitat, Parks and Open Space, Air and Light, and Wetlands.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

Natural resources are materials occurring in nature and are essential or useful to humans, such as water, air, land, forests, fish and wildlife, topsoil, and minerals. They are combined into the recognized systems in which we exist. These systems, or combinations of natural materials, can be referred to as “natural environments,” “ecosystems,” “biomes,” or “natural habitats,” among others. Humans and their activities impact all natural resources. Conversely, whether obvious or not, human impacts to the natural environment often have significant adverse impacts on the human community.

## **TOPOGRAPHY**

Glacial action resulted in wide valleys and hills and ridges across most of Pierce County with elevations ranging from about 700 to 1,200 feet above sea level on some of the bluffs in the southwestern portion of the county. Much of the county is covered with windblown loess, which tends to flatten the surface topography.

There are dramatic bluffs along the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers and wild and steep wooded hills along the many streams that run west or south toward those rivers. There is a distinct difference between lay of the land in the stream valleys compared to the higher rolling plains. South of U.S. Highway 10, the valleys are more deeply dissected and the hillside slopes more steep. True “coulee” geography is attained in some of the stream channels along the county’s southern border on the Mississippi River.

The hilly topography is beautiful and creates many very desirable places to live, but also generates some problems with soil erosion and building placement.

The limestone rock found especially in the northeastern part of the county has allowed the formation of caves and caverns. One of these is operated as a commercial tourist attraction.

Exceptionally pure deposits of silica sand are found along the Mississippi River bluffs near Bay City.

## **WATER RESOURCES**

Water resources, (both surface and groundwater) are one of the most commonly used natural resources, serving intrinsic and essential functions in the community. Plants, animals, and people all consume water on a daily basis. Over 70% of all Wisconsin communities (that is, every two out of three citizens) rely on groundwater not only for domestic use, but also for agriculture, industrial uses, recreational purposes, etc. All Pierce County residents have groundwater for domestic water use. Water is one of the most easily contaminated resources. Because of its mobile nature, contaminants can travel far from their source through the water cycle. Contaminants in the water cycle coming from a variety of sources are commonly known as non-point source pollution (NPSP). Non-point source pollution comes from many diffuse sources such as agriculture runoff, leaking septic systems, road salt and road building, parking lots, lawn, and golf course runoff, all of which directly impact water resources. Point source pollution comes from identifiable sources such as a single factory or overflow from a sewage treatment facility.

### **Groundwater**

Groundwater is the water beneath the earth's surface that fills spaces between rocks and soil particles and flows between them. Groundwater fills wells and flows from springs. It is a critical resource, not only because it is used on a daily basis, but also because rivers, streams, and other surface water depends on it for recharge. Groundwater can be easily contaminated through non-point source pollution, particularly in regions with thin soils over fractured limestone, sandstone, and shale bedrock.

### **Groundwater Contamination**

It is important to keep the groundwater resource in mind for many areas of comprehensive planning. Ultimately, what takes place above ground directly affects groundwater below. For instance, restricting access to abandoned mines or quarries helps prevent these areas from becoming source points for groundwater contamination. There are a variety of other activities that impact water resource quality that include but are not limited to:

- On-site septic systems
- Pesticide and Fertilizer Applications

- Sewage Treatment Plants
- Surface Waste Water Discharge
- Road Salt
- Household Cleaners & Detergents
- Sanitary Landfills
- Unsewered Subdivisions
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Gas Stations
- Feedlots
- Chemical Spills
- Junkyards
- Abandoned Wells
- Leaking Sewer Lines
- Old Mine Openings or Shafts

Pinpointing pollution sources can be made easier by identifying the location and extent of groundwater recharge areas, as well as the extent of the local watershed, so communities can plan where and how much development can be built, with the least amount of impact to water resources. A watershed is the land area from which all surface water and groundwater drains into a stream system. Groundwater aquifers can be contained within a single watershed or can be so large that several watersheds are within the aquifer.

Potential contaminants are nitrates, chloride, sodium, bacteria, viruses, and hazardous household chemicals. Identifying such pollutants is part of a wellhead protection plan. A wellhead protection plan aims at preventing contaminants from entering the area of land around your public water supply well(s). This area includes the surface or subsurface area surrounding a water well or well field supplying a public water system, through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach such well or wellfield.

### **Groundwater Supply**

Water supply is impacted as communities grow, bringing increased demand to supply water to new homes, businesses, and industries. High capacity wells and an increasing number of wells, both private and public, can reduce the amount of recharge to surface waters, causing streamflow reduction, loss of springs, and changes in wetland vegetative communities. The strains of meeting

growing water demand from a sprawling population are starting to show. Statewide water use has increased 33% in the last 15 years and water tables are plummeting in many urban areas as the thirst for more water outstrips the land's ability to provide it ("A Growing Thirst for Groundwater," August 2004).

The Groundwater Bill (2003 Act 310) addresses groundwater quantity issues, requiring approval for siting, fees, and an environmental review. While this legislation is currently more relevant in areas of the state experiencing severe water quantity issues (such as Southeast Wisconsin), the principle of controlling groundwater withdrawal in all parts of the state is quite important and is a growing concern for the future. By 2006, a State level groundwater advisory committee will be organized to address groundwater management.

### **Surface Water**

Surface water is all water naturally open to the atmosphere such as rivers, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, streams, impoundments, seas, and estuaries. These watercourses provide recreational opportunities, such as fishing, boating, swimming, and passive recreational opportunities like bird watching and sun bathing. The rivers and their feeder streams provide habitat for fish, mussels, insects, and other wildlife. The Towns rely on the Pierce County shoreland and wetland ordinances at this time.

Surface water in Pierce County is divided into three watershed basins: the St. Croix, the Mississippi, and the Chippewa. There are approximately 2,000 miles of streams but only about 27 percent of them are perennial. The rest are intermittent and play a very important role in surface and subsurface water quality.

The St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers form the western and southern borders of the county. The St. Croix River along the western border is naturally widened into a lake-like flowage called Lake St. Croix. Likewise, the Mississippi River is part of a natural flowage called Lake Pepin for about half its boundary with the county.

There are several rivers and creeks that drain the county: the Kinnickinnic drains to the St. Croix River; the Big, Wind, Trimble, Isabelle, and Rush Rivers drain to the Mississippi; the Plum drains the eastern part of the county to the Chippewa River in Pepin County; and the Eau Galle River runs southeast to the Chippewa. These rivers and several creeks are a major form-giving feature of the county and have created many dramatic valleys, coulees, and hills. The county basically drains

toward the west and south (to the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers).

The Eau Galle River is dammed just above Spring Valley, creating a 150-acre lake that is primarily situated in St. Croix County. The Trimble and Rush Rivers, and Isabelle and Plum Creeks, are also important recreational resources. The Nugget Lake impoundment on Plum Creek forms a 116-acre lake in the County Park.

The county has multiple Class I trout streams (Plum Creek, Cady Creek, Porter Creek, Pine Creek, Lost Creek, Cave Creek, Goose Creek, Big River, Kinnickinnic River). The Kinnickinnic River has exceptionally high water quality and is protected in part by a State Park of the same name. Preserving the water quality and scenic beauty of this spring-fed stream and its valley is a major concern for many citizens. The City of River Falls is working on a major stormwater management plan to improve the Kinnickinnic River's condition.

Pierce County has 33 lakes covering 387 acres. These and their associated wetlands are a source of recreation, fresh water, and wildlife habitat. It is important to health, the environment, and aesthetics to protect water quality and edges of lakes, wetlands and streams from degradation.

The uplands of the county are devoid of any natural lakes. The only natural lakes are in the Mississippi River floodplain. There are seven named lakes. Of these, Nugget Lake and the Eau Galle Reservoir are manmade and recreational. Lake George in River Falls is an impoundment for a small hydroelectric dam.

### **Wetlands**

Wetlands serve a variety of functions, including playing an important role in stormwater management and flood control, filtering pollutants, recharging groundwater, providing a habitat for many wildlife species and plants, and offering open space and passive recreational opportunities. Wetlands include all marshes, swamps, fens, bogs, and those areas excluded from cultivation or other uses because they are intermittently wet. For more information on Wisconsin wetlands, go to <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/wetlands/facts.shtml>.)

Pierce County is required to zone by ordinance all shorelands. The Towns rely on Pierce County shoreland and wetland ordinances at this time.

Wetlands are not exceptionally numerous in Pierce County because of the unglaciated topography and the sloping landscape.

### **Floodplains**

A floodplain is a low area of land adjacent to a stream or other watercourse that is subject to flooding and holds the overflow of water during a flood. They are often delineated on the basis of the 100 year storm event - the area that would be covered by water during a flood so big it only happens (theoretically) every 100 years. However, flooding can occur in any year. For that reason, development should not occur in drainage ways and floodplains because they serve as stormwater runoff systems and flood mitigation landscape features.

Counties, cities, and villages are required to adopt reasonable and effective floodplain zoning ordinances in order to participate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA has designated flood hazard areas along many surface water resources. The importance of respecting floodways and floodplains is critical in terms of planning and development. Ignoring these constraints can cause serious problems relating to property damage and the overall safety of residents.

## **WILDLIFE**

### **The Importance of Biodiversity**

Biodiversity is the full spectrum of life forms and the many ecological processes that support them. Protecting the biodiversity is essential to core values such as maintaining clean air and water, providing adequate habitat for the state's flora and fauna, maintaining a vibrant economy and providing recreational opportunities. Protecting biodiversity depends on the sustainability of diverse ecosystems, such as the mosaic of forests, agricultural lands, grasslands, bluffs, coastal zones and aquatic communities present in Wisconsin. It also depends upon the conservation of each ecosystem's basic components – the natural communities, plants and animals within them. Ecosystems contain a variety of species that are unique in some way and provide value to the diversity of the individual ecosystem and the state overall. It is important to view biodiversity at all levels to ensure the adequate conservation of Wisconsin's environment.

At the broadest scale, the State of Wisconsin is divided into distinct "ecological landscapes" based on unique combinations of physical and biological characteristics that make up the ecosystems, such as

climate, geology, soils, water, or vegetation. They differ in levels of biological productivity, habitat suitability for wildlife, presence of rare species and natural communities, and in many other ways that affect land use and management.

### **Natural Communities**

Ecological landscapes are comprised of natural communities – the assemblages of plants and animals at specific locations. Because of the biotic and abiotic differences between ecological landscapes, the natural communities within each are typically different as well.

### **State Natural Areas**

Wisconsin harbors a diverse mix of natural biotic communities and native species. Some species and natural communities have very limited distribution or only occur at small locations around the state. In 1951, Wisconsin initiated the country's first statewide program to identify and protect areas of outstanding and unique ecological, geological, and archeological value. These natural areas provide the best examples of natural processes acting over time with limited impact of human activity. The State Natural Areas program has grown to become the largest and most successful program of its kind in the nation. Over 335 sites have been designated in the state. State Natural Areas are important not only because they showcase the best and most pristine parts of Wisconsin, but also because they provide excellent wildlife habitat and undisturbed natural communities. Many threatened, endangered, and state special concern species can be found in these areas.

### **Endangered Species**

Plant and animal species are considered one of the fundamental building blocks of ecological landscapes and biodiversity. The presence of one or more rare species and natural communities in an area can be an indication of an area's health and ecological importance and should prompt attention to conservation, management and restoration needs. Protection of such species is a valuable and vital component of sustaining biodiversity.

While the conservation of plants, animals and their habitat should be considered for all species, this is particularly important for rare or declining species. An endangered species is one whose continued existence is in jeopardy and may become extinct. A threatened species is one that is likely, within the foreseeable future, to become endangered. A special concern species is one about which some problem of abundance or distribution is suspected but not yet proven. The main purpose of the special concern category is to focus attention on certain species before they become endangered or

threatened. Remaining examples of Wisconsin's intact native communities are also tracked but not protected by the law. Natural communities capture much of our native biodiversity and provide benchmarks for future scientific studies.

Both the state and federal governments prepare their own separate lists of such plant and animal species but do so working in cooperation with one another, as well as with various other organizations and universities. The WI DNR's Endangered Resources Program monitors endangered, threatened, and special concern species and maintains the state's Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) database. This program maintains data on the locations and status of rare species in Wisconsin and these data are exempt from the open records law due to their sensitive nature.

The Wisconsin Endangered Species Law was enacted to afford protection for certain wild animals and plants that the Legislature recognized as endangered or threatened and in need of protection as a matter of general state concern. It is illegal to

- 1) take, transport, possess, process or sell any wild animal that is included on the Wisconsin Endangered and Threatened Species List;
- 2) process or sell any wild plant that is a listed species;
- 3) cut, root up, sever, injure, destroy, remove, transport or carry away a listed plant on public lands or lands a person does not own, lease, or have the permission of the landowner. There are exemptions to the plant protection on public lands for forestry, agriculture and utility activities. In some cases, a person can conduct the above activities if permitted under a Department permit (i.e. "Scientific Take" Permit or an "Incidental Take" Permit).

The Federal Endangered Species Act (<http://endangered.fws.gov/esa.html>) also protects animals and plants that are considered endangered or threatened at a national level. The law prohibits the direct killing, taking, or other activities that may be detrimental to the species, including habitat modification or degradation, for all federally listed animals and designated critical habitat. Federally listed plants are also protected but only on federal lands. Implementation of the Endangered Species laws is usually accomplished during the state permit review process, but is ultimately the responsibility of a project proponent and property owner to ensure that they are not in violation of the laws.

According to the NHI database, numerous elements have been recorded in Pierce County. Table 3.6

on the following pages provides a full list of all elements known to occur within the county.

TABLE 3.6: **Endangered Resources • Pierce County**

CATEGORY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<b>Clifton</b>		
Bird	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Red-shouldered hawk
Community	<i>Moist cliff</i>	Moist cliff
	<i>Dry cliff</i>	Dry cliff
	<i>Dry prairie</i>	Dry prairie
	<i>Pine relict</i>	Pine relict
	<i>Southern dry-mesic forest</i>	Southern dry-mesic forest
	<i>Northern dry-mesic forest</i>	Northern dry-mesic forest
	<i>Southern dry forest</i>	Southern dry forest
	<i>Floodplain forest</i>	Floodplain forest
	<i>Stream—slow; hard; warm</i>	Stream—slow; hard; warm
Fish	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	American eel
	<i>Fundulus diaphanous</i>	Banded killfish
	<i>Hiodon alosoides</i>	Goldeye
	<i>Moxostoma carinatum</i>	River redhorse
Invertebrate	<i>Alasmidonta marginata</i>	Elktoe
	<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>	Spectacle case
	<i>Ellipsaria lineolata</i>	Butterfly
	<i>Epioblasma triquetra</i>	Snuffbox
	<i>Fusconaia ebena</i>	Ebony shell
	<i>Lampsilis higginsil</i>	Higgins' eye
	<i>Neurocordulia molesta</i>	Smoky shadowfly
	<i>Neurocordulia yamaskanensis</i>	Stygian shadowfly
	<i>Pleurobema sintoxio</i>	Round pigtoe
<i>Quadrula fragosa</i>	Winged mapleleaf	
Plant	<i>Cypripedium reginae</i>	Showy lady's slipper
	<i>Glycyrrhiza lepidota</i>	Wild licorice
	<i>Anemone caroliniana</i>	Carolina anemone
	<i>Astragalus crassicaarpus</i>	Ground plum
	<i>Besseyia bullii</i>	Kitten tails
	<i>Calylophus serrulatus</i>	Yellow evening primrose
	<i>Cirsium hillii</i>	Hill's thistle
	<i>Dalea villosa</i>	Silky prairie clover
	<i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i>	Prairie bush clover
	<i>Nothocalais cuspidate</i>	Prairie false dandelion
	<i>Onosmodium molle</i>	Marbleseed
	<i>Orobanche ludoviciana</i>	Louisiana broomrape
	<i>Pedimelum esculentum</i>	Pomme-de-prairie
	<i>Senecio plattensis</i>	Prairie ragwort
	<i>Talinum rugospermum</i>	Prairie fame flower

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 2005

CATEGORY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<b>Diamond Bluff</b>		
Community	<i>Dry prairie</i>	Dry prairie
Fish	<i>Alosa chrysochloris</i> <i>Chystallaria asprella</i>	Skipjack herring Crystal darter
Invertebrate	<i>Gomphurus externus</i> <i>Stylurus plagiatus</i>	Plains clubtail Russet-tipped clubtail
Plant	<i>Calylophus serrulatus</i> <i>Cirsium hillii</i> <i>Lesquerella ludoviciana</i> <i>Liatris punctata var. nebraskana</i> <i>Nothocalais cuspidate</i> <i>Pedimelum esculentum</i>	Yellow evening primrose Hill's thistle Silver bladderpod Dotted blazing star Prairie false dandelion Pomme-de-prairie
<b>Ellsworth</b>		
None listed		
<b>El Paso</b>		
Community	<i>Dry cliff</i> <i>Moist cliff</i> <i>Pine relict</i> <i>Southern mesic forest</i>	Dry cliff Moist cliff Pine relict Southern mesic forest
Fish	<i>Clinostomus elongates</i>	Redside dace
Plant	<i>Trillium nivale</i> <i>Napaea dioica</i>	Snow trillium Glade mallow
<b>Gilman</b>		
Fish	<i>Clinostomus elongates</i>	Redside dace
Plant	<i>Cacalia muehlenbergii</i> <i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>	Great Indian plantain American gromwell
<b>Hartland</b>		
Plant	<i>Trillium nivale</i>	Snow trillium

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 2005

CATEGORY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<b>Isabelle</b>		
Community	<i>Dry prairie</i> <i>Southern dry forest</i> <i>Southern dry-mesic forest</i> <i>Southern mesic forest</i> <i>Emergent marsh</i> <i>Floodplain forest</i>	Dry prairie Southern dry forest Southern dry-mesic forest Southern mesic forest Emergent marsh Floodplain forest
Bird	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle
Fish	<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i> <i>Alosa chrysochloris</i> <i>Anguilla rostrata</i> <i>Cycleptus elongates</i> <i>Etheostoma aspigene</i> <i>Etheostoma clarum</i> <i>Hiodon alosoides</i> <i>Ictiobus niger</i> <i>Machrhybopsis storeriana</i> <i>Notropis amnis</i> <i>Notropis texanus</i>	Lake sturgeon Skipjack herring American eel Blue sucker Mud darter Western sand darter Goldeye Black buffalo Silver chub Pallid shiner Weed shiner
Invertebrate	<i>Ellipsaria lineolata</i> <i>Elliptio crassidens</i> <i>Lampsilis teres</i> <i>Megaloniais nervosa</i> <i>Pleurobema sintoxia</i> <i>Quadrula metanevra</i> <i>Stylurus plagiatus</i> <i>Tritogonia verrucosa</i>	Butterfly Elephant ear Yellow & slough sandshells Washboard Round pigtoe Monkeyface Russet-tipped clubtail Buckhorn
Plant	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Prairie sagebrush

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 2005

CATEGORY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<b>Maiden Rock</b>		
Community	<i>Southern mesic forest</i> <i>Floodplain forest</i> <i>Pine relict</i>	Southern mesic forest Floodplain forest Pine relict
Bird	<i>Falco peregrinus</i> <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Peregrine falcon Bald eagle
Fish	<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i> <i>Alosa chrysochloris</i> <i>Anguilla rostrata</i> <i>Clinostomus elongatus</i> <i>Cycleptus elongates</i> <i>Eteostoma asprigene</i> <i>Etheostoma clarum</i> <i>Hiodon alosoides</i> <i>Ictiobus niger</i> <i>Macrhybopsis storeriana</i> <i>Notropis amnis</i> <i>Notropis texanus</i>	Lake sturgeon Skipjack herring American eel Redside dace Blue sucker Mud darter Western sand darter Goldeye Black buffalo Silver chub Pallid shiner Weed shiner
Invertebrate	<i>Gastrocopta procera</i>	Wing snaggletooth
	<i>Helicodiscus singleynus</i> <i>Ellipsaria lineolata</i> <i>Elliptio crassidens</i> <i>Lampsilis teres</i> <i>Megaloniaias Nervosa</i> <i>Pleurobema Sintoxia</i> <i>Quadrula metanevra</i> <i>Stylurus plagiatus</i> <i>Tritogonia verrucosa</i>	Smooth coil Butterfly Elephant ear Yellow & slough sandshells Washboard Round pigtoe Monkeyface Russet-tipped clubtail Buckhorn
Plant	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Prairie sagebrush
	<i>Carex careyana</i> <i>Diplazium pycnocarpon</i> <i>Trillium nivale</i> <i>Glycyrrhiza Lepidota</i> <i>Jeffersonia diphylla</i>	Carey's sedge Glade fern Snow trillium Wild licorice Twinleaf
<b>Martell</b>		
Community	<i>Southern mesic forest</i>	Southern mesic forest
Fish	<i>Clinostomus elongates</i>	Redside dace

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 2005

CATEGORY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<b>Oak Grove</b>		
Community	<i>Dry prairie</i>	Dry prairie
Herptile	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>	Yellow-bellied racer
Invertebrate	<i>Gomphurus externus</i>	Plains clubtail
	<i>Alasmidonta marginata</i>	Elktoe
	<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>	Spectacle case
	<i>Ellipsaria lineolata</i>	Butterfly
	<i>Epioblasma triquetra</i>	Snuffbox
	<i>Fusconaia ebena</i>	Ebony shell
	<i>Gomphurus ventricosus</i>	Skillet clubtail
	<i>Lampsilis Higginsii</i>	Higgins' eye
Plant	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Prairie sagebrush
Fish	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	American eel
	<i>Fundulus diaphanus</i>	Banded killifish
	<i>Hiodon alosoides</i>	Goldeye
	<i>Macrhybopsis aestivalis</i>	Shoal chub
	<i>Moxostoma carinatum</i>	River redhorse
	<i>Notropis amnis</i>	Pallid shiner
	<i>Notropis texanus</i>	Weed shiner
<b>River Falls</b>		
Community	<i>Dry prairie</i>	Dry prairie
Fish	<i>Macyhybopsis storeriana</i>	Yellow-bellied racer
Plant	<i>Astragalus crassicaarpus</i>	Ground plum
	<i>Besseyia Bullii</i>	Kitten tails
	<i>Pedimelum esculentum</i>	Pomme-de-prairie
<b>Rock Elm</b>		
Community	<i>Moist cliff</i>	Moist cliff
	<i>Southern mesic forest</i>	Southern mesic forest
Plant	<i>Cacalia muehlenbergii</i>	Great Indian plantain
	<i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>	American gromwell
	<i>Trillium nivale</i>	Snow trillium
<b>Salem</b>		
Community	<i>Dry prairie</i>	Dry prairie
	<i>Pine relict</i>	Pine relict
	<i>Southern dry forest</i>	Southern dry forest
	<i>Southern mesic forest</i>	Southern mesic forest
Fish	<i>Clinostomus elongates</i>	Redside dace
Plant	<i>Agalinis gattereri</i>	Roundstem foxglove
	<i>Artemisia dracunculus</i>	Dragon wormwood
	<i>Calyclophus serrulatus</i>	Yellow evening primrose
	<i>Trillium nivale</i>	Snow trillium
	<i>Napaea dioica</i>	Glade mallow

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 2005

CATEGORY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<b>Spring Lake</b>		
Fish	<i>Clinostomus elongates</i>	Redside dace
Mammal	<i>Pipistrellus subflavus</i>	Eastern pipistrelle
Plant	<i>Cacalia muehlenbergii</i>	Great Indian plantain
	<i>Lithospermum latifolium</i>	American gromwell
	<i>Silene niva</i>	Snowy campion
<b>Trenton</b>		
Bird	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle
Community	<i>Dry cliff</i>	Dry cliff
	<i>Dry prairie</i>	Dry prairie
	<i>Oak barrens</i>	Oak barrens
Fish	<i>Alosa chrysochloris</i>	Skipjack herring
	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	American eel
	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>	Crystal darter
	<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>	Blue sucker
	<i>Etheostoma asprigene</i>	Mud darter
	<i>Etheostoma clarum</i>	Western sand darter
	<i>Hiodon alosoides</i>	Goldeye
	<i>Ictiobus niger</i>	Black buffalo
	<i>Macrhybopsis storeriana</i>	Silver chub
	<i>Notropis amnis</i>	Pallid shiner
<i>Notropis texanus</i>	Weed shiner	
<i>Opsopoeodus emiliae</i>	Pugnose minnow	
Invertebrate	<i>Callophrys gryneus</i>	Olive hairstreak
	<i>Alasmidonta margubata</i>	Elktoe
	<i>Arcidens confragosus</i>	Rock pocketbook
	<i>Ellipsaria lineolata</i>	Butterfly
	<i>Elliptio crassidens</i>	Elephant ear
	<i>Fusconaia ebena</i>	Ebony shell
	<i>Lampsilis higginsii</i>	Higgins' eye
	<i>Lampsilis teres</i>	Yellow & slough sandshells
	<i>Megaloniaias nervosa</i>	Washboard
	<i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>	Bullhead
	<i>Gastrocopta procera</i>	Wing snaggletooth
	<i>Polyamia dilata</i>	Net-veined leafhopper
	<i>Quadrula metanevra</i>	Monkeyface
	<i>Tritogonia verrucosa</i>	Buckhorn
	<i>Cyclonaiaia tuberculata</i>	Purple wartyback
	<i>Gomphurus externus</i>	Plains clubtail
<i>Stylurus plagiatus</i>	Russet-tipped clubtail	
Plant	<i>Anemone caroliniana</i>	Carolina anemone
	<i>Artemisia dracunculus</i>	Dragon wormwood
	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Prairie sagebrush
	<i>Astragalus crassicaarpus</i>	Ground plum
	<i>Calylophus serrulatus</i>	Yellow evening primrose

CATEGORY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<b>Trenton (continued)</b>		
Plant (continued)	<i>Cirsium hillii</i>	Hill's thistle
	<i>Lesquerella ludoviciana</i>	Silver bladderpod
	<i>Liatris punctata</i> va. <i>Nebraskana</i>	Dotted blazing star
	<i>Nothocalais cuspidate</i>	Prairie false dandelion
	<i>Pedimelum esculentum</i>	Pomme-de-prairie
<b>Trimbelle</b>		
Plant	<i>Besseyia bullii</i>	Kitten tails
<b>Union</b>		
Community	<i>Southern mesic forest</i>	Southern mesic forest
Plant	<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i>	Musk-root
	<i>Trillium nivale</i>	Snow trillium

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 2005

## **FORESTS**

### **Forest Resources**

Forests provide raw materials for the forest products industry and a venue for hunting, hiking, and fishing. Forests help sustain water resources and provide habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals, including threatened and endangered species and by balancing global warming effects and air pollution by producing oxygen and storing carbon. Over half the forested lands in Wisconsin are privately owned (57%).

### **Rural Forests**

Forty-six percent of Wisconsin is forested (16 million acres). Forests therefore represent one of Wisconsin's most important land uses and are often times a defining feature of a community or a whole region. Benefits of forests include:

- Recreational opportunities such as hunting, fish, and hiking
- Groundwater protection
- Home for wide variety of plants and animals, including threatened and endangered species
- Cleans air by producing oxygen and storing carbon
- Part of Wisconsin's culture

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS**

Environmental corridors refer to areas that contain groupings of natural resource features. Areas of concentrated natural resource activity (“rooms”), such as wetlands, woodlands, prairies, lakes, and other features, become even more functional when linked by environmental corridors (“hallways”). If corridor resource features are mapped, they can depict linear spaces.

Fish and wildlife populations, native plant distribution, and even clean water all depend on movement through environmental corridors. For example, wildlife populations isolated in one wooded location can overpopulate, die out, or cause problems for neighbors if there are not adequate corridors to allow the population to move about freely. Over 70% of all terrestrial wildlife species use riparian corridors, according to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

## **LIGHT, AIR, AND NOISE**

Lighting ordinances recognize the benefits of appropriate outdoor lighting and can provide clear guidelines for installation, helping to maintain and compliment a community’s character. Improper night lighting or light pollution, affects the night sky anywhere improperly shaded nighttime outdoor lights are used.

The most common air pollutants (dust, pollen, fuel fumes, ash, etc.) come from industrial, automotive, and agriculture sources and this includes odors. Burn barrels are local contributors to air pollution too.

A number of land uses can contribute to noise pollution, such as train whistles, vehicle noise from highways, or airport noise. Repetitive excessive noises like those from boom cars, loud stereos, powered lawn and garden equipment, and construction activities have been shown to have serious health consequences (e.g. tinnitus, balance problems), not to mention problems between neighbors.

## **GEOLOGIC AND MINERAL RESOURCES**

### **Non-Metallic Mine Reclamation**

In June of 2001, all Wisconsin counties were obliged to adopt an ordinance for nonmetallic mine reclamation. The purpose of the ordinance was to achieve an approved post-mining land use, which would be in compliance with uniform reclamation standards. Uniform reclamation standards address environmental protection measures including topsoil salvage and storage, surface and groundwater protection, and concurrent reclamation to minimize acreage exposed to wind and water erosion. Although this was a State requirement for counties only, towns, cities, and villages were eligible to adopt a similar type of ordinance.

### **Quarries**

A quarry is a type of open-pit mine from which rock or minerals are extracted. Quarries are generally used for extracting building materials, such as dimension stone and are usually shallower than other types of open-pit mines. Types of rock extracted from quarries include cinders, coquina (a type of limestone), blue rock, granite, gritstone, limestone, marble, sandstone, and slate. In level areas, quarries in level areas often have special engineering problems for drainage. Groundwater that seeps into the quarry pit must be pumped out. Many quarries fill with water to become ponds or small lakes after abandonment. Others have become landfills.

## **OPEN SPACE AND PARKS**

The value of open space lies in its inherent protection of ecologically sensitive areas including wetlands and water resources, important wildlife habitat, and sensitive soils. Preserving open spaces not only directly protects resources, but the space itself becomes a vital buffer zone because nothing can replace the visual impact of open space, whether it is agricultural land or woodlands.

Open space can take the form of parks, cropland and pastures, greenbelts, wetlands or floodplains. It can also serve many functions for a community other than recreation, such as

- Preservation of scenic and natural resources;
- Flood management;
- Protection of water resources;
- Preserving prime agricultural land;
- Limiting development that may occur;
- Buffering incompatible land uses;
- Structuring the community environment.

## LOCAL PARK AND RECREATION RESOURCES

Every jurisdiction is unique and can capitalize on its significance and natural beauty. For example, biking, driving, or walking tours can be designed to thread through areas of cultural, historical, or environmental significance. Parks can be part of a “chain” along a bike, hiking, horse, birding, or ATV trail and can serve a limited neighborhood area, a portion of the community, or the entire community or region and provide land and facilities for outdoor recreation for residents and visitors.

Pierce County is rivers; seven rivers and eight creeks are located in the county. Walleye, bass and panfish fishing is enjoyed on the Mississippi River, while the County’s Kinnickinnic and Rush Rivers are some of the finest trout waters in the Midwest. The Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers form the County’s western border. They meet in Prescott where from an overlook in Mercord Mill Park, visitors can clearly see the line where the blue waters of the St. Croix join the dun-colored waters of the Mississippi. In the northwestern corner of the County, Kinnickinnic State Park is popular with boaters who enjoy the large, sandy delta where the Kinnickinnic meets the St. Croix River. Crystal Cave is located just south of Spring Valley in the County’s northeastern corner. Open April through October, the cave descends about seventy feet and is nearly 4,000 feet long—the longest cave in Wisconsin.

Environmental tourism has become an important part of Wisconsin’s diverse mix of outdoor recreation. Extensive wetlands, millions of acres of wild places, a broad range of natural habitat, and a commitment to environmental stewardship have made Wisconsin an outstanding regional birding opportunity. To that end, the State of Wisconsin has launched the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail. This project divides the state into five wildlife-viewing regions. Driving trails that link important wildlife sites within each region are being developed. The program will also produce a series of birding guides to these regions—one each year. Pierce County is located in the Mississippi/Chippewa Rivers Region. Six locations within Pierce County have been designated as official viewing sites on the new Great Wisconsin Birding & Nature Trail:

- *Freedom Park Learning Center*—located at the confluence of the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers, Freedom Park is one of the best places to birdwatch in the area. Large numbers of hawks, songbirds, and raptors migrate through this area in the spring. The bluff-top location offers a fantastic view of the river for miles and Bald Eagles are seen in good numbers. The eagles follow the melting ice as it recedes, and they are joined on their journey north by large numbers of Red-shouldered, Broad-

winged, and Red-tailed Hawks in migration.

- *Kinnickinnic State Park & Delta State Natural Area*—The Kinnickinnic State Park straddles the large sandy delta where the Kinnickinnic River meets the St. Croix River. This 1,239-acre park offers panoramic view of the river gorge as well as secluded hiking trails that traverse both prairie and upland forests holding Sedge Wrens, Bobolinks, Eastern Kingbirds, Clay-colored and Grasshopper Sparrows, Pine and Mourning Warblers, and Eastern Bluebirds. There is a large swimming area and boat-in camping at the delta. The river here stays open all winter long holding Common Mergansers, Canada Geese and Common Goldeneyes. Bald Eagles use the area year around. The 100-acre Kinnickinnic River Gorge and Delta State Natural Area is a deep valley of sandstone and limestone cut by glacial drift. This undisturbed river valley holds an amazing variety of birds; more than 200 species have been sighted in the park and 120 of these use the park for nesting.

- *Morgan Coulee Prairie State Natural Area*—This 54-acre property is one of the last large-scale, mostly undisturbed dry prairies left in Wisconsin. Morgan Coulee Prairie extends more than a half-mile along a steep, south facing bluff in a coulee opening onto the Rush River Valley. The large prairie is broken with scattered islands of bur oak savanna dominated by open grown oaks and shallow wooded draws. Grasses found here include bit and little blue-stem, side-oats, and prairie drop-seed. Darting among the native wildflowers and shrubs are Reakert’s blue butterflies.

- *Nugget Lake County Park*—Nugget Lake County Park is a 752-acre semi-wilderness park with a 116-acre lake as its centerpiece. It is located in an area of the county known by geologists as the “Rock Elm (shale) disturbance,” a four-mile diameter semicircular meteorite impact site. The large asteroid landed in this area with the energy equivalent of 63,000 Hiroshima-sized bombs more than 400 million years ago. The impact area remained as a shallow sea for millions of years. Nuggets of gold and diamonds discovered near Nugget Lake resulted in its name. There is a pair of nesting Bald Eagles on the property. The woodlands hold many birds including Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Golden-winged Warblers, and Wood Thrush.

- *Rush River Delta State Natural Area*—The Rush River Delta protects a floodplain forest at the mouth of the Rush River where it flows into Lake Pepin on the Mississippi River. Lowland hardwoods dominate the 325-acre property. These floodplain forest areas are very important to breeding birds like the Red-shouldered Hawk, Acadian Flycatcher, and Cerulean and Prothonotary Warblers. The delta also hold a small Great Blue Heron rookery. A sand spit extending into Lake

Pepin provides nesting habitat for turtles and feeding and nesting areas for shorebirds. Mallard and Wood Ducks use the areas extensively.

- *Trenton Bluff Prairie State Natural Area*—This 110-acre site consists of two units of dry prairie situated on steep 300-foot Mississippi River sandstone bluffs capped by massive limestone cliffs. These are some of the best prairies remaining in the region. The western unit has two prairie openings with a wooded draw running between them. The eastern unit is steeper with an open cliff and oak woods. Bobolinks, Grasshopper and Clay-colored Sparrows are found here along with hognose snakes, olive hairstreak and Reaker's blue butterflies. Opportunities to see soaring Bald Eagles and Turkey Vultures at bluff-top levels.

### **County**

The County's main outdoor recreation facility is Nugget Lake Park, located along Plum Creek in the Towns of Rock Elm and Union. The park offers camping, hiking, swimming, boating, picnicking, and cross-country skiing. Horse riding trails and a campground are proposed.

It has been the policy of the County to manage a single, high-quality park that will attract repeat visitors from a wide service area, rather than spending limited resources on several smaller parcels that potentially might not offer a high-quality experience. There are some beautiful sites along the Mississippi River bluffs that would make excellent County parks if that policy should change. One location that has been suggested is Pine Coulee just south of Prescott in the Town of Oak Grove.

### **State**

Wisconsin outdoor recreation facilities include the 1,239-acre Kinnickinnic State Park. This is the only State Park in Wisconsin where the principal access is oriented toward boaters. Those arriving on the St. Croix River have access to a boat-only campground with about one-mile of sandy beach at the mouth of the Kinnickinnic River. Limited deer hunting is allowed.

State hunting and fishing access in Pierce County includes the Pierce County Islands Wildlife Area, 840 acres of state-owned Mississippi River bottomland between Bay City and U.S. Highway 63. This land is accessible only by boat or unimproved road, and includes Goose Lake and Lower Lake.

Two parcels of state-owned land are managed for wildlife, and are located in the Town of River Falls

(25 acres) and the Town of Martell (100 acres). In addition, 133 acres of Streambank Protection lands have been purchased on the South Fork of the Kinnickinnic River in the Town of River Falls.

Wisconsin's State Natural Areas (SNAs) protect outstanding examples of native biological communities such as prairies, pine barrens, bogs, and boreal forests. They also preserve significant geological and archaeological features and are often the last refuges in Wisconsin for rare species of animals, plants, fungi, lichens, and a host of other organisms. Five SNAs are located in Pierce County:

- **Rush River Delta SNA**—325 acres of wooded bottomland located at the mouth of the Rush River
- **Plum Creek Woods SNA**—80 acres of woodland in the Town of Union
- **Morgan Coulee SNA**—54 acres of “goat prairie” on south facing bluffs in the Town of Salem
- **Trenton Bluff SNA**—110 acres of “goat prairie” on south facing bluffs in the Town of Trenton
- **Bay City Mine**—an abandoned sand mine serving as a major bat hibernaculum for Wisconsin and Minnesota bats. It is located just east of Bay City. Surface ownership by the DNR is 55 acres.

All of the above DNR lands are open to public hunting and other compatible outdoor recreation.

### **Federal**

The Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway has been designated along the St. Croix River shoreline of Pierce County from the northern border south to the railroad bridge at Prescott. The counties and local units of government on both sides of the Lower St. Croix have adopted zoning regulations that protect the scenic values of the shoreline and bluffs along the river and enhance the river's value to many tourists, visitors, and residents seeking a bit of semi-wilderness in the proximity of a metropolitan area. These regulations also protect property values.

The federal Corps of Engineers owns approximately 250 acres in Pierce County just below the community of Diamond Bluff. This is the only Corps-owned, non-operations related, tract on the upper Mississippi River that is managed for wildlife directly by the Corps. In Minnesota, the Corps also owns land, including the Main Channel Islands, accessible from Pierce County boat access points.

The Corps of Engineers also manages the Eau Galle Recreation Area in the Town of Spring Lake. This large site receives 150,000 visitors annually and offers fishing, swimming, riding, and camping.

## **Fisheries**

Pierce County fishery resources are quite diverse and provide habitats for both sportfish and nongame species—including several endangered and threatened species. The county is bordered by two large warmwater river systems: approximately 9 miles of the St. Croix River border on the west, and 33 miles of the Mississippi River border on the south (including Lake Pepin and Pool No.3, adjoining sloughs, bays, and bayous). The major fisheries in these large river systems include walleye, sauger, northern pike, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and panfish. Angling for flathead or channel catfish can be popular in the summer months. Lake sturgeon are common in the St. Croix River system.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources publication “Surface Water Resources of Pierce County” lists 33 inland lakes or ponds, 13 of which are associated with backwaters of the Mississippi River. Two impoundments (Nugget Lake, 116 acres and Spring Valley, 126 acres) have excellent warmwater fishing opportunities for largemouth bass, bluegill, and crappie.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources publication “Wisconsin Trout Steams” lists 17 trout streams and approximately 100 miles of classified trout water. Additional trout water remains unclassified at this time. The primary streams are the Kinnickinnic, Trimble, Rush, Eau Galle, and Plum Creek—other trout waters are primarily tributaries to these rivers. Six streams are stocked with brook, brown, and/or rainbow trout. Approximately 50,000 fall fingerling, 60,000 spring fingerling, and 200,000 fry are stocked annually. Two streams have national and regional recognition as outstanding trout streams. The Kinnickinnic River supports one of the highest naturalized brown trout population in Wisconsin, while the Rush River is known for its trophy potential. Most small streams in Pierce County were once self-sustaining native brook trout streams. However, major changes in land use over the last 150 years resulted in degraded habitat and warmer water temperatures. Most large streams now require stocking of tolerant brown or rainbow trout.

Currently, trout streams suffer from severe flooding, loss of spring flow, bank erosion, and sedimentation. Improved land-use practices, and Agricultural Conservation Reserve Program, and in-stream habitat improvement projects (conducted by the DNR and sports clubs) have resulted in improvements to trout habitat.

Several rivers and streams in Pierce County are classified as “outstanding” or “exceptional” resource waters because of their high water quality.

## **LAND COVER**

The Land Cover Map (located in the Appendix) shows the amount of natural resources in the County. It also shows the location of forested lands, agricultural lands, open water, wetlands, rivers, and open space.

## **NATURAL RESOURCE AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

There are a number of available state and federal programs to assist with agricultural, natural, and cultural resource planning and protection. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. To find out more specific information or which program best fits needs, contact the agency directly.

### **Wisconsin Department Of Natural Resources (WI-DNR)**

The Department of Natural Resources is dedicated to the preservation, protection, effective management, and maintenance of Wisconsin's natural resources. It is responsible for implementing the laws of the state and, where applicable, the laws of the federal government that protect and enhance the natural resources of our state. It is the one agency charged with full responsibility for coordinating the many disciplines and programs necessary to provide a clean environment and a full range of outdoor recreational opportunities for Wisconsin citizens and visitors. The Wisconsin DNR has a number of programs available ranging from threatened and endangered species to water quality to parks and open space to wetlands. The DNR is available to provide information on endangered and threatened species. See their website for the Endangered Resources (ER) Program at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/> or contact the Program at 608/266-7012.

The Bureau of Community Financial Assistance (CFA) administers grant and loan programs, under the WI-DNR. Financial program staff works closely with local governments and interested groups to develop and support projects that protect public health and the environment, and provide recreational opportunities.

### **Wisconsin Department Of Trade And Consumer Protection (DATCP)**

The Wisconsin Department of Trade and Consumer Protection inspects and licenses more than 100,000 businesses and individuals, analyzes millions of laboratory samples, conducts hundreds of hearings and investigations, educates businesses and consumers about best practices, adopts rules that have the force of law, and promotes Wisconsin agriculture at home and abroad. Specifically DATCP

has two divisions that relate directly to the agriculture and natural resource section of the comprehensive plan. The Environmental Division focuses on insects, land and water, as well as plants and animals. The Agricultural Division focuses on animals, crops, agricultural, land, and water resources.

#### **Wisconsin Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service is the federal agency that works with landowners on private lands to conserve natural resources. NRCS is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, formerly the Soil Conservation Service or "SCS." Nearly three-fourths of the technical assistance provided by the agency goes to helping farmers and ranchers develop conservation systems uniquely suited to their land and individual ways of doing business. The agency also assists other private landowners and rural and urban communities to reduce erosion, conserve and protect water, and solve other resource problems.

#### **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5**

The Environmental Protection Agency is a federal agency of the United States government, responsible for regulating environmental pollution and environmental quality. The EPA has been one of the lead agencies within the United States Government on the climate change issue.

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

### **SECTION SUMMARY**

The purpose of this section is to inventory and support the management of cultural resources in the Pierce County. Many communities often ignore cultural and historic resources in order to deal with “real” issues facing their community. However, the proper appreciation of these assets is vital to the long-term success of a community. Respecting and utilizing these available resources increases the overall quality of life and provides opportunities for tourism.

Determining what defines cultural and historic resources has been left open to some interpretation. For the purpose of this report, historic resources include historic buildings and sites (as identified by the National Register of Historic Places), museums, churches, cemeteries, old country schools, and other buildings deemed appropriate by the community. The information presented here is to serve as a guide to cultural and historic resources but is not inclusive.

### **BRIEF HISTORY OF PIERCE COUNTY\***

Pierce County was established March 14, 1853 having previously been part of St. Croix County and, after much debate, the county seat was settled in Ellsworth. It encompasses approximately 591 square miles and was named for Franklin Pierce, U.S. Representative and 11th President of the United States.

Its early history begins with land speculation in 1827 by a group of army officers stationed in Fort Snelling. Philander Prescott served as their agent. Due in part to the speculations, Pierce County was slow growing at the start. Later, when legislation made it illegal for this kind of land speculation, Prescott purchased his own property and became one of the first settlers in the county. He was later killed near Mankato, Minnesota in the 1862 Sioux uprising during negotiations with the tribe. From there Pierce County's growth was fairly steady, although today it remains largely agricultural and rural, even with its proximity to the St. Paul/Minneapolis metropolitan area.

The county's first settlers were New Englanders from New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and elsewhere. Later there was a large influx of German, Norwegian and Swedish immigrants, as well as eastern Europeans who left their mark in the names, faces and traditions of Pierce County today. Some of these signs are visible in the wooden churches with their bell steeples that dot the landscape.

Pierce County as part of the Northwest Territory organized by Congress in 1787 was successively included in the territories of Indiana, Illinois and Michigan until Wisconsin was organized as a separate entity in 1836. It lay in Crawford County, formed in 1818 which encompassed lands from Lake Itaska in Minnesota in the west to the Wisconsin River in the east. Crawford County was later split into St. Croix in 1840, Chippewa in 1841 and LaPointe in 1843. The remainder of Crawford, what was to become Pierce County was part of St. Croix until 1853.

By 1850 western expansion to the upper Mississippi Valley had begun and a boom time was started in Pierce County. Land was being snatched up all along its shorelines and interior. Some prominent men who once held land in Pierce County included Daniel Garfield, brother of President Garfield, Ralph Waldo Emerson, the poet and Philip Spooner, father of Senator John C. Spooner. But in 1858 banks began to fail and the boom ended. Settlement in Pierce County slowed to a trickle until after the Civil War when another wave of pioneers began to arrive.

On the 1853 Tax rolls the valuation of Pierce County is given as \$24,452.00 in real estate and \$3,616.00 personal property. In the beginning county offices did not exist and the board met wherever they could find space, in rooms over stores and other places they could rent.

The 1854 elections saw Moses S. Gibson elected the first assemblyman. At this point in time, Pierce County amounted to little more than the town of Prescott, although River Falls (then Greenwood) was beginning to grow. New officers elected that year were: J. Olive, sheriff, J. Bailey, treasurer, O. Strahl, surveyor, John Truax, clerk of court, A.C. Stowell, county attorney, S.T. Otis, register of deeds, N.N. Powell, clerk, C.B. Cox, coroner and Mason Stone, county judge.

The townships were organized as follows: Isabelle and Trimbelle in 1855, Clifton, Oak Grove and Perry (now Ellsworth) in 1857. Later the town of Pleasant Valley (now Maiden Rock) and Hartland were taken from Isabelle. In March 1858, the citizens of Greenwood met to choose another name for their town and Greenwood became River Falls.

In 1855 the population of Pierce County was 1,720, in 1860 it had increased to 4,672 and in 1865 6,324.

Growing rivalry between Prescott and River Falls, both vying for county seat brought about a poll of voters in the county who's growing sentiment was to have the county seat located closer to the center of the county than either Prescott or River Falls. A vote was taken in 1861 and the location of the county seat was to be on either section 17, 18, 19 or 20 of township 26, range 17 west. This location was apparently determined by drawing intersecting lines north and south, east and west on the county map. The lines crossed in the western section of the township of Perry.

A meeting of the county board on April 16, 1861 with the following members present: E. Miner, Oak Grove; H.S. Proctor, River Falls; Wm. Hodge, Martell, J. Youngman, Perry; Thomas Hurley, El Paso; O.C. Whitney, Harland; M. B. Williams, Trimble; James Akers, Trenton, John Fertig, Isabelle; W.J. Copp, Clifton; E. Quimby, Diamond Bluff; L.R. Smith and D.S. Cheney, Prescott; E. Holt, Pleasant Valley and O. Strahl, county clerk.

The board after long discussion and attempts at delaying the vote finally voted to raise \$2,000 for "erecting suitable buildings for holding courts, for offices for county officers and for a jail, and said buildings shall be the court house of Pierce County." A building of sorts was erected by Anthony Huddleston, the only settler in the area, but was not accepted by the building committee and another had to be built. Within 2 years a frame building was erected which was used until the permanent site and buildings which are used today were built.

*\*(Source: from web site of University of WI-River Falls Area Research Center and the Pierce County Historical Association)*

## **THREATS TO CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Unfortunately, there are many threats to the cultural resources of a community. Whether it is development pressure, rehabilitation and maintenance costs, or simply the effects of time, it is often difficult to preserve the cultural resources in a community.

## **HISTORICAL PRESERVATION ORDINANCES & COMMISSIONS**

The establishment of a historical preservation ordinance and commission is one of the most proactive methods a community can take to preserve cultural resources. A historical preservation ordinance typically contains criteria for the designation of historic structures, districts, or places, and procedures for the nomination process. The ordinance further regulates the construction, alteration, or demolition of the exterior of a designated historic site or structure. Contact the Wisconsin Historical Society's Division of Historic Preservation for more information.

A community with a historic preservation ordinance may apply for Certified Local Government (CLG) status, with the Wisconsin State Historical Society. Once a community is certified, they become eligible for

- Matching sub-grants from the federal Historic Preservation Fund,
- Use of Wisconsin Historic Building Code,
- Reviewing National Register of Historic Places nominations allocated to the state.

## **CHURCHES**

Churches historically have had a significant impact on the culture of a community. They sometimes are also the only places where rural residents can gather to discuss important issues in their community.

## **CEMETERIES**

Cemeteries are identified as prominent historic and cultural resources. They can provide an historic perspective of an area, providing the names and ethnicities of previous residents. A listing of cemeteries is provided in the section on Utilities and Community Facilities.

## **RURAL SCHOOLS**

The old time, one-room schoolhouses once dotted the landscape, providing public education for mainly rural communities. Over time, these buildings were utilized less and less, as larger, more centrally located schools were built and students were bused in from rural areas. Nevertheless, the one room schoolhouse remains an icon of American rural culture.

## **ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY INVENTORY (AHI)**

The Architecture and History Inventory (AHI) is a collection of information on historic buildings, structures, sites, objects, and historic districts throughout Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Historical Society's Division of Historic Preservation maintains the inventory. The AHI is comprised of written text and photographs of each property, which document the property's architecture and history. Most properties became part of the inventory as a result of a systematic architectural and historical survey beginning in 1970s. Caution should be used as the list is not comprehensive and some of the information may be dated, because some properties may have been altered or no longer exist. Due to cutbacks in funding, the Historical Society has not been able to properly maintain the database. In addition, many of the properties in the inventory are privately owned and are not open to the public. Inclusion of a property conveys no special status, rights or benefits to the owners. Contact the Wisconsin Historical Society for more information about the inventory.

Refer to Table 3.7 on the following pages for a list of the AHI in the County.

TABLE 3.7: **Architecture and History Inventory**

RESOURCE TYPE	STYLE OR FORM	LOCATION
<b>Clifton</b>		
House (brick)	Astylistic utilitarian building	STH 20, N side, N of Prescott
House (stucco)	Gabled ell	Mann Lane, W side, .6 mi. S of CTH M
House (stucco)	Other vernacular	Maplewood Lane, W side
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Maple Drive, S end, 1.5 mi. S of CTH M
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	Mann Lane, W side, 1.1 mi. S of CTH M
House (log)	Rustic style	Pine Road, E end, .3 mi. S of CTH FF
Town hall (clapboard)	Front gabled	CTH FF, S side at CTH QQ, SW corner
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	CTH QQ, W side, .6 mi. S of CTH FF
Outbuildings (stucco)	Astylistic utilitarian building	CTH F, E side, 1.5 mi. S of CTH FF
House (clapboard)	Greek revival	CTH F, W side, 1.5 mi. S of CTH FF
House (clapboard)	Italianate	CTH MM, N side, .4 mi. W of STH 29
House (limestone)	Side gabled	Kinni-Croix Drive, W side, 1 mi. N of CTH F
House (stucco)	Bungalow	CTH F, E side, 1.3 mi. N of CTH MM
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	CTH F, 1 mi. N of CTH MM
Barn (clapboard)	Astylistic utilitarian building	CTH F, SE side, 1/3 mi. N of CTH MM
House (wood)	Side gabled	CTH F, W side, .2 mi. N of STH 29
<b>Diamond Bluff</b>		
House (clapboard)	Bungalow	CTH 00, W side, .5 mi. N
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Holst II site
Small animal building	Astylistic utilitarian building	N Diamond Bluff
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	Lower River Rd., N side, S of CTH E
Tavern/bar (clapboard)	Boomtown	W Diamond Bluff
<b>Ellsworth</b>		
Church (clapboard)	Gothic revival	S. Rus Highway River Rd., S of CTH N
Outbuildings (log)	Side gabled	S Rus Highway River Rd., E side, .5 mi S of CTH N
House (clapboard)	Two story cubed	S. Rus Highway River Rd., E side, .8 mi. S of CTH N
Tavern/bar (clapboard)	Boomtown	USH 63 and CTH N, SW corner
House (clapboard)	Dutch colonial revival	USH 63 and CTH N, SW corner
House (vinyl siding)	Cross gabled	STH 35, N side, .4 mi. W of CTH J
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	North View Rd., N side, 1.7 mi. W of USH 63
Iverson School (clapboard)	Front gabled	CTH G, S side, .2 mi E of S Rus. Highway River Rd.
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Substation Rd., W side, .5 mi. N of STH 72
Church (brick)	Neogothic revival	STH 72 and CTH DD, NW corner
House (cream brick)	Front gabled	E. Main St., N side, just outside Ellsworth
House	Side gabled	CTH DD, E side, .9 mi. S of USH 63 and STH 72
Lantz School (clapboard)	Front gabled	STH 72, S side, 1 mi E of USH 63
Centric barn (wood)	Astylistic utilitarian building	East View Rd., N side, .6 mi. E of Landfill Rd.
House (brick)	Other vernacular	Maple Rd., E side, .3 mi. N of Sleepy Hollow Rd.
House (brick)	Gabled ell	Cloverdale Rd., W side, 1.3 mi. S of USH 10
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Cloverdale Rd., W side, .2 mi. N of Clayfield Rd.
Church (clapboard)	Romanesque revival	Clayfield Rd., and CTH DD, NE corner
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	Clayfield Rd., and CTH DD, NE corner

Centric barn (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Landfill Rd., W side, .4 mi. N of USH 10
<b>El Paso</b>		
House (brick)	Bungalow	CTH G, S side, 1.9 mi. W of STH 183
Gas station (clapboard)	Side gabled	CTH G, N side, at Fisherman's Rd.
Mill (wood)	Astylistic utilitarian building	On the Rush River, just S of El Paso
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	CTH N, S side, near CTH G
Church (clapboard)	Gothic revival	CTH G, S side, .1 mi W of CTH N
Garage (clapboard)	Boomtown	CTH N, N side, near CTH G
House (vinyl siding)	Side gabled	Northview Rd. and Lost Creek Rd., NW corner
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Cave Creek Rd., S side, .5 mi. W of Mill Rd.
House (brick)	Gabled ell	Lincoln Dr., N side, .3 mi W of STH 183
El Paso Town Hall	Front gabled	STH 72, S side, .2 mi. W of CTH BB
House (asbestos siding)	Other vernacular	STH 72, N side, 1 mi. W of CTH BB
House (brick)	Gabled ell	Northview Rd., S side, .1 mi. E of Lost Creek Rd.
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Lost Creek Rd., W side, .75 mi. S of STH 72
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	STH 72, S side, 1 mi. W of CTH BB
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	STH 72, S side, .7 mi. W of STH 183
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Klien Coulee Rd., N side, just E of Sleepy Hollow Rd
House (clapboard)	One story cube	Klien Coulee Rd., S side, just E of Sleepy Hollow Rd
Church (clapboard)	One story cube	Chimney Rock Dr., S side, 1.9 mi. W of STH 183
House (brick)	Gabled ell	Park Rd., W side, .3 mi N of Chimney Rock Rd.
Pony Truss Bridge	Warren truss	CTH G bridge
<b>Gilman</b>		
House (clapboard)	Cross gabled	County Line Rd., S side, .8 mi. E of CTH I
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	County Line Rd., S side, .1 mi. E of CTH B
Mines School (clapboard)	Front gabled	Mines Rd., N side, .6 mi. W of CTH B
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Old Hickory Rd., E side, .6 mi. S of County Line Dr.
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	Mines Rd., N side, .3 mi. W of CTH BB
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Mines Rd., N side, .3 mi. W of Old Hickory Rd.
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	County Line Dr., S side, .1 mi. E of USH 63
Outbuildings (clapboard)	Side gabled	Viking View Rd., W side, .5 mi. N of STH 29
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	USH 63 and STH 29, NE corner
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Mines Rd., S side, .5 mi. W of Old Hickory Rd.
House (stucco)	Two story cube	Mines Rd., S side, .4 mi. E of CTH BB
Lutheran Church of Gilman	Neogothic revival	STH 29 and Wildwood Rd., NW corner
Outbuildings (clapboard)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Mines Rd., S side, .1 mi. W of CTH B and CTH I
House (aluminum siding)	Quonset	Beltline Rd., just N of STH 29, W of STH 183
House (clapboard)	Bungalow	STH 29, S side, .7 mi. W of STH 183
Gilman Town Hall	Front gabled	Jefferson Rd., N side, .2 mi. E of CTH BB
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Jefferson Rd. and CTH N, NE corner
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Old Hickory Rd. and STH 29, SW corner
House (clapboard)	Cross gabled	Washington Rd. and STH 183, NW corner
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Wonderland Rd., E side, .5 mi. S of STH 29
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Yankee Rd. and Stonehammer Rd., NE corner
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	Washington Rd., S side, .1 mi. W of Wildwood Rd.

<b>Hartland</b>		
Hartland Church (clapboard)	Front gabled	CTH D, W side, 2.5 mi. N of STH 35
House (aluminum siding)	Queen anne	Boggie Hill Rd., N side, .3 mi. W of Herbert Rd.
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Harland Rd., W side, .2 mi. S of Butternut Rd.
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Butternut Rd., E side, .3 mi. E of Hartland Rd.
Church (clapboard)	One story cubed	CTH C, W side, 1 mi. S of CTH V
Barn (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Crosby Rd., N side, .1 mi. W of CTH D
House (clapboard)	Bungalow	Shady Lane, N side, .2 mi. W of CTH D
Garage (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	CTH EE
Eidsvold Lutheran Church	Gothic revival	CTH EE, S side, 2 mi. W of CTH D
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	NE of Bay City
<b>Isabelle</b>		
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Prairie Rd., S side, 1 mi. E of CTH C
House (concrete block)	Two story cube	Oakridge Rd., S side, 1.5 mi. W of STH 35
House (log)	Side gabled	S of Bay City
Tabor Lutheran Church	Gothic revival	Oakridge Rd., S of Rd., just S of CTH D
House (log)	Gabled ell	Township range 2417W-02
<b>Maiden Rock</b>		
House (clapboard)	Cross gabled	Maple Leaf Rd., S end, .5 mi. S of Maple Ridge Rd.
House (brick)	Queen anne	STH 183, S side, .2 mi. E of CTH H
Town Hall (clapboard)	Side gabled	STH 183 and Willow Rd., NE corner
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	CTH SS, E side, .4 mi. N of Nerike Hill
Church (clapboard)	Front gabled	NW corner of 70 <sup>th</sup> Ave. and CTH CC
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Willow Rd., N side, .1 mi. W of STH 183
House (brick)	Queen anne	STH 183, E side, .4 mi. S of CTH U
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	STH 183 and Willow Rd., SE corner
House (brick)	Italianate	Unmarked Rd., S side, .5 mi. E of CTH SS
Barn (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Nerike Rd., S side, .1 mi. E of CTH SS
Industrial bldg (clapboard)	Two story cube	CTH SS and STH 183, NE side
House (stucco)	Bungalow	CTH S and STH 183, NW corner
House (log)	Rustic style	Oak St., N side, .1 mi. N of STH 35
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Township range: 2416W-07
Outbuildings (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Township range: 2416W-07
House (aluminum siding)	Two story cube	Honey Lane, N side, .6 mi. E of CTH S
House (clapboard)	Rustic style	Willow Rd., S side, 1.5 mi. W of STH 183
House	Other vernacular	Pine Creek
<b>Martell</b>		
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	STH 29, N side, .2 mi. E of CTH Y
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Private Rd., N end, off STH 20, by Wayside Park
Rectory (clapboard)	Gabled ell	CTH Y, W side, .4 mi. N of STH 29
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Golden Star Rd., N side, .5 mi. W of CTH Y
House (log)	Side gabled	STH 29, S side, 2.5 mi. W of CTH Y
House (log)	Front gabled	Clay Corner Rd., .2 mi. S of STH 29
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Clay Corner Rd., E side, .2 mi. N of Trillium Rd.
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Shady Rd., S side, .5 mi. S of USH 63

Retail bldg (clapboard)	Boomtown	Shady Rd., W side, .3 mi. S of USH 63
Church (clapboard)	Front gabled	CTH Y and USH 63, SE corner
Retail bldg (asphalt)	Boomtown	Shady Rd., W side, .1 mi. S of USH 63
House (clapboard)	Boomtown	Martell Rd., SW side, at Shady Rd.
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Martell Rd., SW side, 2 <sup>nd</sup> bldg S of Shady Rd.
House (wood shingle)	Queen anne	Unknown cross street, S side, .1 mi. S of USH 63
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Shady Rd., E side, .2 mi. S of USH 63
Martell Town Hall	Front gabled	USH 63 and Shady Rd., NE corner
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	CTH J, N side, .2 mi. E of Hi View Rd.
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Clay Corners Rd., W side, at Martell Rd.
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	Hillview Rd., S end, .3 mi. S of Randall Rd.
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Willow Lane, W side, just S of Valley Rd.
Church (clapboard)	Gothic revival	CTH Y, W side, .4 mi. N of STH 29
Cloverdale School	Side gabled	Cloverdale Rd., E side, .6 mi. S of CTH J
Barn (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Valley Rd., N side, .3 mi. N of Willow Lane
Centric barn (clapboard)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Morton Corner Rd., N side, just W of Timber Rd.
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	CTH J and Morton Corner Rd., SW corner
Centric barn (wood)	Astylistic utilitarian building	CTH N, N side, 1.5 mi. W of USH 63
House (clapboard)	Bungalow	Sand Hill Rd., W side, .5 mi N of CTH N
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	CTH N, N side, .5 mi W of USH 63
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Morton Corner R., S side, 1.1 mi. W of USH 63
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Sand Hill Rd., W side, .9 mi. N of CTH N
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Sand Hill Rd., E side, .8 mi. N of CTH N
Crib barn (clapboard)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Sand Hill Rd., E side, .5 mi. N of CTH N
Church (clapboard)	Colonial revival	Rus. Highway River Rd., E side, .5 mi. N of CTH N
<b>Oak Grove</b>		
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Stirratt Ave., N side, .5 mi. N of USH 10
Sunnyside School	Front gabled	USH 10 and Sunnyside Dr., NW corner
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Ashborough Rd., E side, .4 mi. N from USH 10
House (stucco)	Greek revival	USH 10, N side, .1 mi. W of Oak Rd.
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	Staiger Ave., N side, .3 mi. W of USH 10
St. Mary's Church	Romanesque revival	Crosstown Rd., S side, W of CTH E
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Autumn Ave., N side, .3 mi. from USH 10
Oak Grove Town Hall	Front gabled	CTH QQ, S side, .25 mi. E of Hollister Ave.
St. John's Lutheran Church	Gothic revival	CTH QQ, N side, .25 mi. E of Hollister Ave.
House (stucco)	Gabled ell	Hollister Ave., N side, .1 mi. W of CTH QQ
Barn (wood shingle)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Spring Green Rd., just W of Oakridge Rd.
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Balsam Dr., S end, 1 mi S of CTH Q
House (brick)	Two story cube	STH 29 and USH 10, E of intersection
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	E side of Ashborough Rd.
River Road School (stucco)	Front gabled	Township range: 2619W-20
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Township range: 2619W-21
House (stucco)	Two story cube	Township range: 2619W-21
House (board and batten)	Gabled ell	Township range: 2619W-21
Barn (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Township range: 2619W-21

<b>River Falls</b>		
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Sittin Valley Rd.
South Fork School	Front gabled	STH 29, N side, 2.4 mi. E of STH 35
House (asbestos)	Dutch colonial revival	STH 35, E side, .2 mi. S of Cemetery Rd.
House (brick)	Italianate	Knollwood Lane, W side, just S of STH 35
House (board)	Rustic style	George Lake Rd., .2 mi. W of Saddle Club Rd.
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	CTH W, W side, 1 mi. S of STH 29
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Barefoot Lane, E side, at S. Fork Rd.
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Randall Rd., N side, near Fargo Rd.
River Falls Town Hall	Front gabled	CTH O and Randall Rd., SE corner
House (aluminum siding)	Queen anne	Happy Valley Rd., N side, .2 mi. E of Cady's Lane
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Timber Rd., N side, .3 mi. E of STH 35
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Forestville Rd., N side, .5 mi. E of Windy Hill Rd.
Cherma Church (asbestos)	Gothic revival	Forestville Rd., N side, .3 mi. W of CTH O
Basement barn (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Cady's Lane, W side, .7 mi. S of Forestville Rd.
Outbuildings (stone)	Front gabled	Cherma Rd., S end, .5 mi. S of Cherma Church
Forestville School	Front gabled	Forestville Road
House (clapboard)	Bungalow	Wasson Lane
St. Bridget's Church	Gothic revival	Wasson Lane
Wall (stone)	NA (not a building)	Cemetery Road
<b>Rock Elm</b>		
House (brick)	Gabled ell	CTH PP, S side, .6 mi. W of CTH P
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Eisenhower Rd., S side, .7 mi. E of CTH S
House (brick)	One story cube	CTH S, E side, .7 mi. S of STH 72
House (wood shingle)	One story cube	Drum Hill Rd., N side, .3 mi. W of CTH S
Church (drop siding)	Cross gabled	Poplar Hill Rd., N side, at Rock Elm Rd.
Church (clapboard)	Colonial revival	Rock Elm R., W side
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	CTH S, N side, .3 mi. E of Taft Road
House (stucco)	Bungalow	CTH S., W side, .1 mi. S of Truman Road
House (stucco)	Gabled ell	Kennedy Rd., E side, just N of Chimney Rock Rd.
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	CTH HH, N side, .3 mi. W of Park Hill Rd.
House (brick)	Two story cube	CTH S., W side, .4 mi. S of CTH X
House	Gabled ell	CTH S, E side, .1 mi. S of CTH X
House (brick)	Gabled ell	STH 72, N side, .2 mi. E of CTH S
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	CTH PP, N side, .5 mi. E of STH 72
House (brick)	Gabled ell	East Farm Hill Rd., N side, .5 mi. E of CTH PP
Retail building (clapboard)	Romanesque revival	Poplar Hill Rd., S side, at Rock Elm Rd.
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Poplar Hill Rd., N side, 1 block W of Rock Elm Rd.
House (brick)	Gabled ell	CTH S, E side, .2 mi. N of Washington Dr.
House (brick)	Front gabled	Adams Rd., and Washington Dr., SE corner
Church (brick)	Front gabled	Adams Rd., and Washington Dr., SE corner
<b>Salem</b>		
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Halverson Rd., S side, 1.1 mi. W of STH 183
Ono Methodist Church	Queen anne	N3297 CTH C
House (brick)	Gabled ell	USH 10, S side, 1.5 mi. W of STH 183

House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Crosby Rd., E end, .5 mi. E of Herbert Rd.
House (clapboard)	Bungalow	N2645 CTH CC
Salem Lutheran Church	Gothic revival	Chestnut St., S side, .5 mi. W of Herbert Rd.
<b>Spring Lake</b>		
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	CTH P, W side, .3 mi. N of Filmore Rd.
House (brick)	Two story cube	Taylor Rd., E side, .5 mi. S of Elm Rd.
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	CTH T, E side, .3 mi. S of Elm Rd.
House (brick)	Front gabled	STH 128, W side, just S of Filmore Rd.
House (brick)	Gabled ell	STH 183, E side, .5 mi. S of STH 29
House (stucco)	Front gabled	Taylor Rd., E side, .7 mi. N of Cleveland Rd.
House (clapboard)	Bungalow	Cleveland Rd., N side, 1.25 mi. W of CTH P
House (stucco)	One story cube	CTH T, W side, .6 mi. S of Filmore Rd.
House (stucco)	Two story cube	CTH T, E side, 1 mi. S of Filmore Rd.
House (stucco)	Front gabled	CTH T, E side, .7 mi. S of Filmore Rd.
House (concrete block)	American foursquare	Taylor Rd., W side, .2 mi. S of Filmore Rd.
House (clapboard)	Queen anne	Lincoln Rd., E side, .1 mi. N of McKinley Rd.
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Washington Rd., W side, .1 mi. N of Jefferson Rd.
Church	Neogothic revival	STH 128 and CTH T, NW corner
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	CTH T, W side, .9 mi. N of STH 128
Outbuildings (log)	Side gabled	Lincoln Rd., W side, .7 mi. N of McKinley Rd.
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	STH 183, E side, .4 mi. N of Washington Rd.
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Taylor Rd., W side, .2 mi. S of Cleveland Rd.
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	Drum Hill Rd., N side, 2 mi. N of CTH G
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	STH 183, E side, at Adam's Rd.
House (log)	Side gabled	Washington Dr., S side, .9 mi. E of STH 183
Church (clapboard)	Other vernacular	STH 183, E side, .1 mi. S of Washington Rd.
<b>Trenton</b>		
House	Two story cube	Adams Rd., SE side, .2 mi. S of Pike Heaven Rd.
Retail building (clapboard)	Boomtown	CTH VV, W side, near CTH K
Church (clapboard)	Front gabled	Laurel Rd., W side, just N of Church St.
Town Hall (clapboard)	Greek revival	N. Red Wing Rd., W side, W of USH 63
House (log)	Side gabled	Little Trimble Rd., W side, just S of Lindgren Rd.
Church (clapboard)	Gothic revival	Maple Rd. and CTH V, SW corner
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	Matthew Rd., W side, .5 mi. S of Nelson Dr.
Trenton Town Hall	One story cube	Fisher Coulee Rd., N side, .5 mi W of STH 35
Church (clapboard)	Gothic revival	CTH VV, STH 35, USH 63, E side of intersection
House (stucco)	Craftsman	CTH VV, E side, .2 mi. S of Mann Rd.
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	Mann Rd., W side, just S of Skyline Dr.
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	CTH K and Trenton Rd., N side
Barn (wood)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Bluff Coulee Farm, just NW of Hager City
<b>Trimbelle</b>		
House (asphalt)	Two story cube	STH 35, N side, .5 mi. W of CTH J
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	CTH O, W side, 1.6 mi. N of USH 10
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	Lover's Lane, N side, 1.5 mi. SE of State Line Rd.
House (asphalt)	Bungalow	USH 10, N side, .6 mi. E of STH 35 and STH 63
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	UH 10 (STH 35 and 63), N side

House (log)	Side gabled	CTH J, E side, .9 mi. N of USH 10
House (clapboard)	Front gabled	Peaceful Lane, S side, .7 mi. N of CTH J
Town Hall (clapboard)	Front gabled	CTH O, E side, .3 mi. N of USH 10
House (clapboard)	Side gabled	USH 10, N side, near CTH O
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	CTH O, W side, .4 mi. N of USH 10
Outbuildings (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	USH 10, N side, near CTH O
Other (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	USH 10, N side, .8 mi. W of CTH O
Basement barn (shingle)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Spring Green Dr., N side, .2 mi. W of Oak Ridge Rd.
Town Hall (clapboard)	Front gabled	USH 10, S side, near CTH O
Centric barn (board)	Astylistic utilitarian building	CTH QQ and Rainbow Lane, NE corner
House (clapboard)	Cross gabled	Maple Lane, N side, .6 mi. E of CTH K
House (brick)	Two story cube	CTH K, E side, .6 mi. N of CTH KK
House (clapboard)	One story cube	NW NW, E side, .5 mi. S of Over the Hill Rd.
Retail building (block)	Art deco	CTH K, N side, .2 mi. E of Memory Lane
<b>Union</b>		
House (wood)	Gabled ell	Park Hill Rd., N side, .5 mi. N of CTH S
House (log)	Side gabled	E. Adams Rd., E side, 1.6 mi. N of CTH S
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	N. Adams Rd., W side, .9 mi. N of CTH S
House (clapboard)	American foursquare	Park Hill Rd., E side, .3 mi. S of Johnson Rd.
House (clapboard)	Gabled ell	Fairview Dr., N side, .3 mi. W of Cardinal Dr.
House (brick)	Shingle style	USH 10, N side, .1 mi. E of STH 183
House (brick)	Italianate	STH 183, E side, .4 mi N of USH 10
House (brick)	Gabled ell	STH 183, E side, .3 mi. N of USH 10
House (brick)	Side gabled	Fairview Dr., N side, .3 mi. E of USH 10
House (clapboard)	Italianate	Elm Tree Rd., S side, .3 mi. W of Cardinal Dr.
House (clapboard)	Two story cube	Fairview Dr., N side, .5 mi. E of USH 10
Outbuildings (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	N. Adams Rd., E side, .5 mi. N of CTH S
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Wildcat Dr., N side, .4 mi. N of CTH S
House (log)	Side cabled	Wildcat Dr., S side, .6 mi. N of CTH S
House (brick)	Two story cube	E. Hill Rd., S side, .2 mi. W of Pleasant View Dr.
Barn (log)	Astylistic utilitarian building	Plum Creek Rd., W side, .4 mi. S of CTH U
House (wood)	Side gabled	Plum Creek Rd., W side, .4 mi. S of CTH U
Church (cream brick)	Front gabled	CTH U, N side, 1.5 mi. N of CTH UU
House (brick)	Front gabled	CTH U, NE side, 1 mi. N of CTH UU

Source: Wisconsin Historical Society

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY (ASI)**

The Archaeological Site Inventory (ASI) is a collection of archaeological sites, mounds, unmarked cemeteries, marked cemeteries, and cultural sites throughout Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Historical Society's Division of Historic Preservation maintains the inventory. Similar to the AHI, the ASI is not a comprehensive or complete list; it only includes sites that have been reported to the Historical Society. The Historical Society estimates that less than 1% of the archaeological sites in the state have been identified. Under Wisconsin law, Native American burial mounds, unmarked burials, and all marked and unmarked cemeteries are protected from intentional disturbance. Contact the Wisconsin Historical Society for more information about the inventory.

## **STATE & NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

The AHI contains all the documented historic sites in a community, as well, a list of those sites that are on the State and National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the official national list of historic properties in America deemed worthy of preservation. It is maintained by the National Park Service (U.S. Department of the Interior). The State Register is Wisconsin's official listing of state properties determined to be significant to Wisconsin's heritage and is maintained by the Wisconsin Historical Society's Division of Historic Preservation. Both listings include sites, buildings, structures, objects and districts that are significant in national, state or local history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture. Contact the National Park Service or State Historical Society for more information of registration.

## **CULTURAL RESOURCE AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

### **Wisconsin Historical Society**

The Society serves as the archives of the State of Wisconsin. It collects books, periodicals, maps, manuscripts, relics, newspapers, and audio and graphic materials as they relate to Wisconsin. It maintains a museum, library, and research facility in Madison, as well as a statewide system of historic sites, school services and area research centers. It administers a broad program of historic preservation and publishes a wide variety of historical materials, both scholarly and popular. The historical society can also provide assistance for various state and federal programs.

### **National Park Service**

The National Park Service administers the National Register of Historic Places. In addition to honorific recognition, listing in the National Register provides:

- Consideration in planning for Federal, federally licensed, and federally assisted projects,
- Eligibility for certain tax provisions,
- Qualification for Federal grants for historic preservation, when funds are available.

### **National Trust For Historic Preservation**

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a nonprofit organization with more than 200,000 members. The Trust provides leadership, education, and advocacy training to support efforts to save America's historic places.

### **Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation (WTHP)**

The WTHP, established in 1986, is a private non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the historical, architectural, and archaeological heritage of Wisconsin. The Trust advocates for legislation and policies designed to encourage statewide historic preservation. Examples of some of the programs they initiate are:

#### **• Wisconsin Main Street Program**

A comprehensive program designed to revitalize designated downtowns and give new life to historic business districts

- **Heritage Tourism Initiative**

The Heritage Tourism Initiative has helped develop grassroots heritage tourism organizations by encouraging Wisconsin communities to use their unique features to tap into the mushrooming heritage tourism market -- and protect that heritage at the same time.

- **Agricultural Buildings Preservation Initiative**

Inspired by the National Trust's popular Barn Again! program, this initiative provides information and forums to help owners of historic agricultural buildings determine how to maintain and reuse their buildings.

## **Section 4: HOUSING ELEMENT**

### **SECTION SUMMARY**

Housing is a basic necessity of life and an important part of the comprehensive planning process. The purposes of this section are to assess the current housing stock and to identify policies and programs that will help meet existing and forecasted housing demand. The housing stock assessment includes the age, value, and type (e.g. single-family or multi-family) of existing housing units; as well as occupancy characteristics such as tenure (owner occupied vs. renter occupied), and affordability (the percentage of monthly income residents spend on housing costs). Policies and programs focus on maintaining the quality of the existing housing stock.

#### **Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(b)**

##### **(b) Housing element.**

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs of the local governmental unit to provide an adequate housing supply that meets existing and forecasted housing demand in the local governmental unit. The element shall assess the age, structural, value and occupancy characteristics of the local governmental unit's housing stock. The element shall also identify specific policies and programs that promote the development of housing for residents of the local governmental unit and provide a range of housing choices that meet the needs of persons of all income levels and of all age groups and persons with special needs, policies and programs that promote the availability of land for the development or redevelopment of low-income and moderate-income housing, and policies and programs to maintain or rehabilitate the local governmental unit's existing housing stock.

## HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Overall, the County experienced significant growth in housing units (32.2%) between 1970–80 (Table 4.1). In the 1990s the Towns located in the western portion of the county (Clifton and Oak Grove) experienced large increases (56.6% and 45.8%, respectively). Assuming that the number of people per household will stabilize at 2.65 (2000 county average), Wisconsin Department of Administration population projections suggest that the County will gain as many as 4,325 additional households by 2025 (Table 4.2). While these projections are based on past trends and do not reflect the potential impact of shifts in the regional housing market, the County can assume that the strong growth trends of the past 35 years will continue in the western part of Pierce County.

TABLE 4.1: **Housing Trends • Number of Housing Units**

	1970	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1970–80	% Change 1980–90	% Change 1990–00
<b>Towns</b>							
Clifton	185	331	378	592	78.9%	14.2%	56.6%
Diamond Bluff	119	160	188	203	34.5%	17.5%	8.0%
Ellsworth	370	458	340	391	23.8%	-25.8%	15.0%
El Paso	179	207	210	239	15.6%	1.4%	13.8%
Gilman	241	304	276	289	2.1%	-9.2%	4.7%
Hartland	225	283	286	307	25.8%	1.1%	7.3%
Isabelle	44	66	81	109	50.0%	22.7%	34.6%
Maiden Rock	206	231	249	256	12.1%	7.8%	2.8%
Martell	229	300	306	391	31.0%	2.0%	27.8%
Oak Grove	184	262	347	506	42.4%	32.4%	45.8%
River Falls	477	742	644	821	55.6%	-13.2%	27.5%
Rock Elm	180	203	194	193	12.8%	-4.4%	-0.5%
Salem	151	184	176	186	21.9%	-4.3%	5.7%
Spring Lake	179	198	193	197	10.6%	-2.5%	2.1%
Trenton	462	607	610	671	31.4%	0.5%	10.0%
Trimbelle	327	439	484	544	34.3%	10.3%	12.4%
Union	196	228	209	215	16.3%	-8.3%	2.9%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	7,826	10,354	11,536	13,493	32.3%	11.4%	17.0%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census

TABLE 4.2: **Household Projections • 2000–2025**

	Census 2000	Projection 2005	Projection 2010	Projection 2015	Projection 2020	Projection 2025
<b>Towns</b>						
Clifton	543	610	685	754	823	891
Diamond Bluff	184	193	205	214	223	233
Ellsworth	380	393	410	423	436	450
El Paso	233	248	265	280	295	310
Gilman	283	295	309	321	333	344
Hartland	295	308	324	338	351	364
Isabelle	104	112	120	128	136	144
Maiden Rock	220	221	224	224	225	225
Martell	382	421	465	505	547	587
Oak Grove	498	560	628	692	756	820
River Falls	802	854	919	976	1,032	1,088
Rock Elm	178	180	183	185	186	188
Salem	173	174	177	177	178	179
Spring Lake	191	198	207	214	222	229
Trenton	647	680	721	755	789	822
Trimbelle	532	545	564	577	591	604
Union	212	213	215	216	216	216
<b>Pierce County*</b>	13,015	13,829	14,782	15,656	16,539	17,339

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: Demographic Services Center, Wisconsin Department of Administration, January 2004

## OCCUPANCY CHARACTERISTICS

Of the over 13,000 occupied housing units in the County, 73% are owner-occupied. This figure includes city and village data. By contrast, owner-occupied units in the Towns range from a low of 83% (Union) to a high of almost 98% (Martell). (See Table 4.3)

TABLE 4.3: **Housing Tenure**

	Occupied Housing Units		Owner-occupied Units		Renter-occupied Units	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	
<b>Towns</b>						
Clifton	543	508	93.6%	35	6.4%	
Diamond Bluff	184	166	90.2%	18	9.8%	
Ellsworth	380	338	88.0%	42	11.1%	
El Paso	233	200	85.8%	33	14.2%	
Gilman	283	246	86.9%	37	13.1%	
Hartland	295	251	85.1%	44	14.9%	
Isabelle	113	97	85.6%	16	14.2%	
Maiden Rock	220	200	90.0%	20	9.1%	
Martell	391	382	97.7%	9	2.3%	
Oak Grove	498	455	91.4%	43	8.6%	
River Falls	802	682	85.0%	120	15.0%	
Rock Elm	178	147	82.6%	31	17.4%	
Salem	173	148	85.5%	25	14.5%	
Spring Lake	191	166	86.9%	25	13.1%	
Trenton	647	581	89.8%	66	10.2%	
Trimbelle	532	472	88.7%	60	11.3%	
Union	212	176	83.0%	36	17.0%	
<b>Pierce County*</b>	13,015	9,514	73.1%	3,501	26.9%	

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

## AGE AND CONDITION CHARACTERISTICS

The age of a home is a simplistic measure for the likelihood of problems or repair needs. Older homes, even when well cared for, are generally less energy efficient than more recently-built homes and are more likely to have components now known to be unsafe, such as lead pipes, lead paint, and asbestos products.

TABLE 4.4: **Housing Stock • Year Structure Built**

	1939 or earlier		1940 to 1959		1960 to 1969		1970 to 1979		1980 to 1989		1990 to 1994		1995 to 1998		1999 to March 2000	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Towns</b>																
Clifton	80	13.9%	21	3.7%	36	6.3%	143	24.9%	12.1	21.1%	64	11.1%	96	16.7%	13	2.3%
Diamond Bluff	75	37.7%	8	4.0%	23	11.6%	34	17.1%	25	12.6%	16	8.0%	8	4.0%	10	5.0%
Ellsworth	177	45.9%	39	10.1%	16	4.1%	60	15.5%	28	7.3	21	5.4%	37	9.6%	8	2.1%
El Paso	113	48.5%	20	8.6%	3	1.3%	29	12.4%	28	12.0%	16	6.9%	20	8.6%	4	1.7%
Gilman	121	42.2%	26	9.1%	10	3.5%	40	13.9%	46	16.0%	19	6.6%	17	5.9%	8	2.8%
Hartland	122	39.4%	48	15.5%	8	2.6%	71	22.9%	35	11.3%	8	2.6%	12	3.9%	6	1.0%
Isabelle	17	14.8%	14	12.2%	11	9.6%	34	29.6%	9	7.8%	7	6.1%	17	14.8%	6	5.2%
Maiden Rock	143	53.6%	16	6.0%	11	4.1%	29	10.9%	28	10.5%	15	5.6%	14	5.2%	11	4.1%
Martell	162	40.8%	32	8.2%	10	2.5%	68	17.1%	29	7.3%	14	3.5%	60	15.1%	22	5.5%
Oak Grove	105	20.8%	21	5.2%	29	5.7%	78	15.4%	77	15.2%	60	11.9%	102	20.2%	33	6.5%
River Falls	172	20.5%	25	3.0%	74	8.8%	220	26.3%	132	15.8%	96	11.5%	101	12.1%	18	2.1%
Rock Elm	124	64.6%	14	7.3%	4	2.1%	24	12.5%	13	6.8%	4	2.1%	5	2.6%	4	2.1%
Salem	97	51.6%	21	11.2%	10	5.3%	26	13.8%	3	1.6%	20	10.6%	7	3.7%	4	2.1%
Spring Lake	96	49.7%	28	14.5%	4	2.1%	14	7.3%	15	7.8%	11	5.7%	19	9.8%	6	3.1%
Trenton	171	24.6%	76	11.0%	120	17.3%	148	21.3%	64	9.2%	42	6.1%	46	6.6%	27	3.9%
Trimbelle	184	33.8%	24	4.4%	56	10.3%	114	21.0%	71	13.1%	43	7.9%	40	7.4%	12	2.2%
Union	128	61.8%	27	13.0%	0	0%	15	7.2%	18	8.7%	6	2.9%	9	4.3%	4	1.9%
<b>Pierce Cty*</b>		27.2%		10.9%		9.6%		18.3%		14.9%		7.2%		9.4%		2.4%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

## STRUCTURAL CHARACTERISTICS

As of the 2000 census, almost 75% of County housing units were single-family homes. As is expected, single-family homes in the Towns ranged from 81.9% (Diamond Bluff) to 97% (El Paso). (Table 4.5)

TABLE 4.5: **Housing Units by Type**

	Single Family		Two Family		Multi-Family		Mobile Home	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Towns</b>								
Clifton	550	95.8%	0	0%	0	0%	24	4.2%
Diamond Bluff	163	81.9%	0	0%	0	0%	36	18.1%
Ellsworth	349	90.4%	11	2.8%	0	0%	22	5.7%
El Paso	226	97.0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	3.0%
Gilman	258	89.9%	1	0.3%	0	0%	28	9.8%
Hartland	267	86.2%	0	0%	19	6.1%	24	7.7%
Isabelle	96	83.5%	0	0%	2	1.7%	17	14.8%
Maiden Rock	248	92.9%	0	0%	0	0%	19	7.1%
Martell	368	92.7%	8	2.3%	0	0%	21	5.3%
Oak Grove	481	95.3%	11	2.2%	3	0.6%	10	2.0%
River Falls	757	90.3%	52	6.2%	22	2.6%	7	0.8%
Rock Elm	179	93.2%	0	0%	3	1.6%	10	5.2%
Salem	175	93.1%	2	1.1%	0	0%	11	5.9%
Spring Lake	173	89.6%	0	0%	0	0%	20	10.4%
Trenton	606	87.3%	9	1.7%	0	0%	57	8.2%
Trimbelle	477	87.7%	9	1.7%	0	0%	58	10.7%
Union	194	93.7%	0	0%	0	0%	13	6.3%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	<b>10,072</b>	<b>74.6%</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>1,949</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>6.0%</b>

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

## VALUE CHARACTERISTICS

The 2000 median value for specified owner-occupied homes in Pierce County was \$123,100. Home values rose dramatically in the 1990, mostly due to the influx of disproportionately valuable new home construction (Table 4.6).

TABLE 4.6: **Housing Trends • Median Value of Owner-Occupied Units**

	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1980–90	% Change 1990–00
<b>Towns</b>					
Clifton	\$81,000	\$106,900	\$207,300	32.0%	93.9%
Diamond Bluff	40,500	63,300	114,200	56.3%	80.4%
Ellsworth	47,100	61,400	109,800	30.4%	78.8%
El Paso	41,100	53,100	119,400	29.2%	124.9%
Gilman	35,000	54,400	99,000	55.4%	82.0%
Hartland	41,500	52,700	98,500	27.0%	86.9%
Isabelle	52,500	63,200	106,800	20.4%	69.0%
Maiden Rock	27,100	36,500	92,500	34.7%	153.4%
Martell	44,000	53,300	110,800	21.1%	107.9%
Oak Grove	71,100	95,800	194,900	34.7%	103.4%
River Falls	65,000	89,900	167,600	38.3%	86.4%
Rock Elm	20,600	32,500	74,200	57.8%	128.3%
Salem	27,500	42,500	95,000	54.5%	123.5%
Spring Lake	35,800	42,900	92,900	19.8%	116.6%
Trenton	45,900	59,700	112,700	30.1%	88.8%
Trimbelle	47,300	66,800	127,000	41.2%	90.1%
Union	33,300	41,300	78,600	24.0%	90.3%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	47,900	65,500	123,100	36.7%	87.9%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census

TABLE 4.7: **Year Householder Moved Into Unit**

	1969 or earlier		1970 to 1979		1980 to 1989		1990 to 1994		1995 to 1998		1999 to March 2000	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Towns</b>												
Clifton	42	7.9%	80	15.0%	118	22.1%	101	18.9%	147	27.5%	47	8.8%
Diamond Bluff	44	24.6%	29	16.2%	27	15.1%	35	19.6%	21	11.7%	23	12.8%
Ellsworth	66	17.3%	57	15.2%	70	18.7%	67	17.9%	82	21.9%	34	9.1%
El Paso	34	14.8%	35	15.2%	57	24.8%	34	14.8%	52	22.6%	18	7.8%
Gilman	41	14.5%	54	19.1%	55	19.4%	41	14.5%	56	19.8%	36	12.7%
Hartland	47	15.9%	50	16.9%	69	23.3%	47	15.9%	44	14.9%	39	13.2%
Isabelle	8	7.5%	19	17.9%	13	12.1%	17	15.9%	44	41.1%	6	5.6%
Maiden Rock	34	14.7%	28	12.1%	57	24.7%	52	22.5%	37	16.0%	23	10.0%
Martell	48	12.5%	59	15.4%	74	19.3%	56	14.6%	102	26.6%	45	11.7%
Oak Grove	37	7.7%	56	11.7%	89	18.6%	99	20.7%	154	32.2%	44	9.2%
River Falls	47	5.7%	137	16.6%	168	20.4%	151	18.3%	204	24.7%	118	14.3%
Rock Elm	43	23.5%	28	15.2%	26	14.1%	39	21.2%	35	19.0%	13	7.1%
Salem	24	13.7%	24	13.7%	30	17.1%	44	25.1%	33	18.9%	20	11.4%
Spring Lake	33	17.6%	18	9.7%	35	18.9%	35	18.9%	42	22.7%	22	11.9%
Trenton	87	12.9%	90	13.4%	125	18.6%	110	16.4%	153	22.8%	107	15.9%
Trimbelle	79	14.7%	73	13.6%	128	23.8%	86	16.0%	126	23.4%	46	8.6%
Union	55	27.4%	41	20.4%	35	17.4%	26	12.9%	36	17.6%	8	4.0%
<b>Pierce County*</b>		10.2%		11.0%		16.2%		17.0%		27.6%		18.0%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

## HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CHARACTERISTICS

Housing is considered to be affordable when the owner's or renter's monthly costs do not exceed 30 percent of their total gross monthly income. Among County households that own their homes, 17.8% exceeded the "affordable" threshold in 2000 (Table 4.8).

TABLE 4.8: **Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income (1999)**

	Less than 15.0%	15.0 to 19.9%	20.0 to 24.9%	25.0 to 29.9%	30.0% to 34.9%	35.0% or more
<b>Towns</b>						
Clifton	26.8%	19.9%	16.9%	21.0%	4.1%	11.3%
Diamond Bluff	43.8%	21.3%	13.5%	7.9%	4.5%	9.0%
Ellsworth	31.1%	9.0%	23.8%	8.2%	11.5%	16.4%
El Paso	37.9%	19.7%	16.7%	9.1%	6.1%	10.6%
Gilman	40.2%	21.8%	17.2%	4.6%	4.6%	11.5%
Hartland	50.0%	21.4%	6.1%	12.2%	2.0%	8.2%
Isabelle	36.5%	11.5%	28.8%	7.7%	3.8%	11.5%
Maiden Rock	56.4%	12.8%	6.4%	7.7%	9.0%	7.7%
Martell	22.2%	23.9%	22.2%	6.0%	5.1%	20.5%
Oak Grove	21.6%	19.0%	16.5%	14.7%	8.4%	19.8%
River Falls	33.7%	21.6%	18.8%	16.7%	2.3%	6.7%
Rock Elm	35.9%	12.8%	17.9%	10.3%	5.1%	17.9%
Salem	39.3%	28.6%	32.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Spring Lake	15.8%	34.2%	15.8%	5.3%	13.2%	15.8%
Trenton	44.6%	17.4%	14.0%	5.0%	6.1%	12.9%
Trimbelle	39.0%	20.9%	16.1%	7.9%	5.1%	11.0%
Union	34.6%	24.7%	13.6%	8.6%	0.0%	18.5%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	34.4%	18.1%	18.1%	11.6%	5.5%	12.3%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

Year 2000 Census data illustrates that 32% of renter-occupied households reported paying more than 30% of household income for rent (Table 4.9). It is important to note that the higher rents may include land or tenant farming, and in those cases the rent for housing alone is lower than indicated. Also, as many older farmers retire they have moved to urban areas but kept ownership of their house and land, renting out each separately. In addition, Pierce County may have developers who have purchased land as an investment and are renting either the house or land for supplemental income.

TABLE 4.9: **Gross Rent as a Percentage of Household Income (1999)**

	Less than 15.0%	15.0 to 19.9%	20.0 to 24.9%	25.0 to 29.9%	30.0 to 34.9%	35.0% or more	Not Computed
<b>Towns</b>							
Clifton	26.1%	17.4%	8.7%	17.4%	0.0%	17.4%	13.0%
Diamond Bluff	0.0%	20.0%	10.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	60.0%
Ellsworth	34.4%	28.1%	6.3%	6.3%	0.0%	6.3%	18.8%
El Paso	10.5%	0.0%	15.8%	10.5%	10.5%	26.3%	26.3%
Gilman	24.0%	24.0%	24.0%	0.0%	12.0%	8.0%	8.0%
Hartland	22.9%	5.7%	20.0%	5.7%	25.7%	14.3%	5.7%
Isabelle	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Maiden Rock	0.0%	18.8%	12.5%	18.8%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
Martell	15.8%	10.5%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	31.6%	21.1%
Oak Grove	38.2%	5.9%	14.7%	0.0%	0.0%	20.6%	20.6%
River Falls	29.2%	25.8%	11.2%	7.9%	0.0%	25.8%	0.0%
Rock Elm	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%
Salem	40.0%	25.0%	10.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%
Spring Lake	25.0%	10.0%	10.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	10.0%
Trenton	34.9%	15.9%	12.7%	3.2%	7.9%	14.3%	11.1%
Trimbelle	42.4%	12.1%	6.1%	0.0%	6.1%	12.1%	21.2%
Union	0.0%	41.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	58.3%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	24.2%	19.6%	14.9%	9.2%	5.0%	21.5%	5.6%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

## HOUSING VALUES

Table 4.10 outlines the values of owner-occupied housing units within Pierce County towns. The median home value in the County is \$123,100. The Town of Union has the least expensive homes with a median home value of \$78,600, while the Town of Clifton has the highest median home value at \$207,300.

TABLE 4.10: **Housing Unit Values • Owner-Occupied (1999)**

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 to \$149,999	\$150,000 to \$199,999	\$200,000 to \$299,999	\$300,000 to \$499,999	\$500,000 to \$999,999	\$1,000,000 or more	Median
<b>Towns</b>									
Clifton	0%	1.7%	21.3%	24.0%	54.8%	17.1%	1.1%	0%	\$207,300
Diamond Bluff	7.9%	28.1%	33.7%	18.0%	5.6%	6.7%	0%	0%	\$114,200
Ellsworth	1.6%	41.0%	35.2%	16.4%	5.7%	0%	0%	0%	\$109,800
El Paso	10.6%	28.8%	36.4%	18.2%	0%	3.0%	3.0%	0%	\$119,400
Gilman	2.3%	48.3%	33.3%	9.2%	4.6%	2.3%	0%	0%	\$99,000
Hartland	7.1%	44.9%	29.6%	15.3%	3.1%	0%	0%	0%	\$98,500
Isabelle	9.6%	34.6%	38.5%	13.5%	3.8%	0%	0%	0%	\$106,800
Maiden Rock	14.1%	39.7%	25.6%	9.0%	9.0%	2.6%	0%	0%	\$92,500
Martell	5.1%	36.8%	29.1%	17.9%	10.3%	0.9%	0%	0%	\$110,800
Oak Grove	0%	5.5%	17.6%	29.7%	35.9%	10.3%	1.1%	0%	\$194,900
River Falls	0.2%	6.0%	27.0%	40.2%	24.2%	2.3%	0%	0%	\$167,600
Rock Elm	33.3%	33.3%	28.2%	0%	5.1%	0%	0%	0%	\$74,200
Salem	7.1%	46.4%	32.1%	7.1%	0%	7.1%	0%	0%	\$95,000
Spring Lake	0%	63.2%	21.1%	5.3%	10.5%	0%	0%	0%	\$92,900
Trenton	1.6%	34.6%	48.0%	9.2%	3.7%	2.1%	0.8%	0%	\$112,700
Trimbelle	2.8%	27.2%	42.9%	19.3%	7.5%	0.4%	0%	0%	\$127,000
Union	13.6%	56.8%	14.8%	0%	7.4%	1.2%	2.5%	3.7%	\$78,600
<b>Pierce County*</b>	4.2%	29.3%	36.9%	16.4%	9.5%	3.3%	0.3%	0%	\$123,100

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census

## **HOUSING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

### **Wisconsin Department Of Housing And Intergovernmental Relations—Bureau Of Housing (DHIR-BOH)**

More than \$40 million is distributed annually to improve the supply of affordable housing for Wisconsin residents. The Bureau of Housing is involved in the following programs:

- Administers federal housing funds such as Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Administers a variety of programs for persons with Special Needs (Homeless)
- Provides state housing funds through local housing organizations
- Coordinates housing assistance programs with those of other state and local housing agencies
- Develops state housing policy and provides housing information and technical assistance

### **Wisconsin Housing And Economic Development Authority (WHEDA)**

The Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority serves Wisconsin residents and communities by providing information and creative financing to stimulate and preserve affordable housing, small business, and agribusiness as a stimulus to the Wisconsin economy.

- WHEDA offers programs for both single and multi-family units. Below are examples of projects that may qualify for WHEDA Multifamily Loans.
- New construction
- Acquisition and/or rehabilitation of existing properties
- Historic preservation
- Community-based residential facilities
- Assisted living facilities
- Section 8 properties

### **United States Department Of Agriculture—Rural Development (USDA-RD)**

The Rural Housing Service helps rural communities and individuals by providing loans and grants for housing and community facilities. Funding is provided for single family homes, apartments for low-income persons or the elderly, housing for farm laborers, child care centers, fire and police stations, hospitals, libraries, nursing homes, schools, and much more.

- The Rural Housing Service (RHS) is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Located within the Department’s Rural Development mission area, RHS operates a broad range of programs to provide:
  - Homeownership options to individuals;
  - Housing rehabilitation and preservation funding;
  - Rental assistance to tenants of RHS-funded multi-family housing complexes
  - Farm labor housing;
  - Help developers of multi-family housing projects, like assisted housing for the elderly, disabled, or apartment buildings; and
  - Community facilities such as libraries, childcare centers, schools, municipal buildings, and firefighting equipment in Indian groups, nonprofit organizations, communities, and local governments.

### **United States Housing And Urban Development Department (HUD)**

The mission of HUD is to provide decent, safe, and sanitary home and suitable living environment for every American. More specifically the programs of HUD are aimed at the following:

- Creating opportunities for homeownership
- Providing housing assistance for low-income persons
- Working to create, rehabilitate and maintain the nation's affordable housing
- Enforcing the nation's fair housing laws
- Helping the homeless
- Spurring economic growth in distressed neighborhoods
- Helping local communities meet their development needs

## **Section 5: TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT**

### **SECTION SUMMARY**

A community's transportation infrastructure supports the varied needs of its residents, local businesses, visitors, and through-traffic. The Transportation section summarizes the transportation system and, based on local input, provides a 20-year jurisdictional plan that can serve as a resource guide and implementation tool.

### **Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(c)**

#### **(c) Transportation Element**

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of the various modes of transportation, including highways, transit, transportation systems for persons with disabilities, bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, walking, railroads, air transportation, trucking, and water transportation. The element shall compare the local governmental unit's objectives, policies, goals, and programs to state and regional transportation plans. The element shall also identify highways within the local governmental unit by function and incorporate state, regional and other applicable transportation plans, including transportation corridor plans, county highway functional and jurisdictional studies, urban area and rural area transportation plans, airport master plans and rail plans that apply in the local governmental unit.

Beginning on January 1, 2010, any program or action of a local governmental unit that affects land use shall be consistent with that local governmental unit's comprehensive plan,

### **TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE & ISSUES**

There are places where people have daily transportation options that include driving, taking the train, riding the bus, bicycling, or walking. In rural areas many of these options may not be practical and others are simply not available. It may seem that local planning input has little relation to a much larger system like transportation. However, the residents of towns, villages, and cities – and the elected and appointed officials who represent them – have good reason to care about local transportation needs related to:

- Mobility needs of the elderly and disabled
- Freight mobility
- Connectivity with the larger transportation system

- Supporting economic development
- Transportation safety
- Agricultural-vehicle mobility
- Recreational transportation uses
- Tourism (including preservation of rural views)

## **U.S. CENSUS**

A large share of Pierce County’s labor force (60%) works outside of the county. Over the next 20 years, Pierce County’s population is projected to increase and a growing percentage will be elderly. The population of the County is projected to increase from 36,804 in the year 2000, to 44,368 or more by the year 2025. Additional housing will yield increased trip generation (for more information related to housing projections, see the Housing section). With these demographic shifts, one can anticipate increased use of transportation infrastructure and greater need for transportation services.

## **COMMUTING PATTERNS**

According to the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), 60% of the workers who live in the county leave the county to go to their jobs—more than 12,372 people. One in every four workers who leave the county, heads for employers in St. Croix County. The second most popular destination is Goodhue, Minnesota.

Employers in Pierce County attract roughly 3,335 workers who travel to jobs in the county. Most of these workers travel from St. Croix County and are headed to employers in the City of River Falls. The City attracts nearly 1,400 non-county workers to help local employers fill job vacancies.

See Table 5.1 on the following pages for detailed commuting information for each Town.

TABLE 5.1: **Transportation • Journey to Work, 2000**

PERCENT

<b>Town of Clifton</b>	
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>	
Workers 16 and over	100.0%
Car, truck or van	90.9%
Drove alone	77.0%
Carpooled	13.9%
In 2-person carpool	11.7%
In 3-person carpool	0.8%
In 4-person carpool	0.2%
In 5- or 6-person carpool	0.2%
In 7- or-more-person carpool	0.9%
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.09 persons
Public Transportation	0.7%
Bus or trolley bus	0.7%
Streetcar or trolley car	0
Subway or elevated	0
Railroad	0
Ferryboat	0
Taxicab	0
Motorcycle	0.1%
Bicycle	0
Walked	1.0%
Other means	0.2%
Worked at home	7.1%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>	
Workers who did not work at home	100.0%
Less than 19 minutes	10.6%
10 to 14 minutes	10.7%
15 to 19 minutes	13.5%
20 to 24 minutes	8.9%
25 to 29 minutes	4.7%
30 to 34 minutes	12.7%
35 to 44 minutes	14.4%
45 to 59 minutes	18.2%
60 to 89 minutes	5.2%
90 or more minutes	1.1%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	29.0 minutes
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>	
Workers who did not work at home	100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.	10.0%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.	13.8%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.	16.9%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.	18.8%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.	10.2%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.	9.0%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.	2.3%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.	4.2%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.	7.9%
All other times	6.9%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Diamond Bluff</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		85.5%
Drove alone		72.0%
Carpooled		13.5%
In 2-person carpool		12.7%
In 3-person carpool		0.7%
In 4-person carpool		0
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.09 persons	
Public Transportation		0.7%
Bus or trolley bus		0.7%
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		1.1%
Bicycle		0
Walked		2.2%
Other means		4.7%
Worked at home		5.8%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		15.4%
10 to 14 minutes		5.4%
15 to 19 minutes		18.5%
20 to 24 minutes		20.8%
25 to 29 minutes		6.6%
30 to 34 minutes		7.3%
35 to 44 minutes		3.9%
45 to 59 minutes		13.9%
60 to 89 minutes		7.3%
90 or more minutes		0.8%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	25.6 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		12.0%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		12.7%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		12.7%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		8.1%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		12.7%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		7.7%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		2.7%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		5.0%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		12.0%
All other times		14.3%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Ellsworth</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		90.6%
Drove alone		78.4%
Carpooled		12.2%
In 2-person carpool		8.9%
In 3-person carpool		0.7%
In 4-person carpool		1.3%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0.3%
In 7- or-more-person carpool		1.0%
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.08 persons	
Public Transportation		0.3%
Bus or trolley bus		0.3%
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		4.9%
Other means		0.5%
Worked at home		3.7%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		23.0%
10 to 14 minutes		12.3%
15 to 19 minutes		5.2%
20 to 24 minutes		11.5%
25 to 29 minutes		7.3%
30 to 34 minutes		10.6%
35 to 44 minutes		10.8%
45 to 59 minutes		9.5%
60 to 89 minutes		8.4%
90 or more minutes		1.4%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	25.9 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		17.4%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		12.2%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		10.8%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		11.3%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		9.5%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		9.0%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		3.5%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		3.5%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		6.8%
All other times		16.0%

PERCENT

<b>Town of El Paso</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		84.7%
Drove alone		74.0%
Carpooled		10.7%
In 2-person carpool		7.4%
In 3-person carpool		2.0%
In 4-person carpool		0.8%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0.5
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.08 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		0.5%
Other means		1.0%
Worked at home		13.7%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		6.8%
10 to 14 minutes		17.4%
15 to 19 minutes		16.2%
20 to 24 minutes		10.3%
25 to 29 minutes		5.0%
30 to 34 minutes		8.6%
35 to 44 minutes		7.1%
45 to 59 minutes		13.0%
60 to 89 minutes		14.5%
90 or more minutes		1.2%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	30.3 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		15.9%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		9.7%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		12.4%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		21.4%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		10.0%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		6.5%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		3.8%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		2.1%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		5.0%
All other times		13.3%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Gilman</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.8%
Car, truck or van		81.7%
Drove alone		72.5%
Carpooled		9.2%
In 2-person carpool		6.2%
In 3-person carpool		2.1%
In 4-person carpool		0.5%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0.5%
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.07 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		3.0%
Other means		0
Worked at home		14.4%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		18.7%
10 to 14 minutes		14.2%
15 to 19 minutes		7.5%
20 to 24 minutes		12.6%
25 to 29 minutes		7.0%
30 to 34 minutes		8.0%
35 to 44 minutes		8.6%
45 to 59 minutes		13.1%
60 to 89 minutes		8.0%
90 or more minutes		2.4%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	27.7 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		16.8%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		12.6%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		11.8%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		7.8%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		18.2%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		5.3%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		4.5%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		3.2%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		7.2%
All other times		12.6%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Hartland</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		87.0%
Drove alone		75.5%
Carpooled		11.6%
In 2-person carpool		8.3%
In 3-person carpool		2.1%
In 4-person carpool		1.2%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.08 persons	
Public Transportation		1.2%
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0.7%
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0.5%
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		1.2%
Other means		1.6%
Worked at home		9.0%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		8.1%
10 to 14 minutes		15.5%
15 to 19 minutes		9.4%
20 to 24 minutes		19.1%
25 to 29 minutes		7.9%
30 to 34 minutes		10.4%
35 to 44 minutes		8.1%
45 to 59 minutes		6.9%
60 to 89 minutes		7.1%
90 or more minutes		7.4%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	32.6 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		23.7%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		11.2%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		9.9%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		10.2%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		8.7%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		5.1%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		1.5%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		3.6%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		11.7%
All other times		14.5%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Isabelle</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		91.5%
Drove alone		83.0%
Carpooled		8.5%
In 2-person carpool		8.5%
In 3-person carpool		0
In 4-person carpool		0
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.05 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		4.8%
Other means		0
Worked at home		3.6%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		8.2%
10 to 14 minutes		27.7%
15 to 19 minutes		20.1%
20 to 24 minutes		13.2%
25 to 29 minutes		5.0%
30 to 34 minutes		5.7%
35 to 44 minutes		4.4%
45 to 59 minutes		7.5%
60 to 89 minutes		5.7%
90 or more minutes		2.5%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	23.8 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		8.8%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		15.1%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		11.9%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		13.8%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		11.9%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		10.7%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		5.7%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		1.3%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		6.3%
All other times		14.5%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Maiden Rock</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		83.1%
Drove alone		72.1%
Carpooled		11.0%
In 2-person carpool		11.0%
In 3-person carpool		0
In 4-person carpool		0
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.07 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		5.4%
Other means		0
Worked at home		11.5%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		13.4%
10 to 14 minutes		4.5%
15 to 19 minutes		5.1%
20 to 24 minutes		13.1%
25 to 29 minutes		5.4%
30 to 34 minutes		15.6%
35 to 44 minutes		15.9%
45 to 59 minutes		19.1%
60 to 89 minutes		5.1%
90 or more minutes		2.9%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	31.5 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		23.9%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		12.1%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		6.7%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		11.5%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		8.3%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		6.7%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		1.9%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		4.8%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		6.4%
All other times		17.8%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Martell</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		90.6%
Drove alone		73.0%
Carpooled		17.6%
In 2-person carpool		12.6%
In 3-person carpool		3.0%
In 4-person carpool		1.3%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0.2%
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0.5%
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.12 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0.3%
Walked		1.6%
Other means		0
Worked at home		7.5%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		9.5%
10 to 14 minutes		12.6%
15 to 19 minutes		19.7%
20 to 24 minutes		8.5%
25 to 29 minutes		4.2%
30 to 34 minutes		9.9%
35 to 44 minutes		10.7%
45 to 59 minutes		11.4%
60 to 89 minutes		10.2%
90 or more minutes		3.3%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	32.1 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		10.6%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		12.1%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		8.7%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		12.8%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		11.6%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		8.8%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		6.2%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		4.3%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		8.1%
All other times		16.8%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Oak Grove</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		89.3%
Drove alone		77.4%
Carpooled		11.9%
In 2-person carpool		9.9%
In 3-person carpool		1.7%
In 4-person carpool		0.2%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.08 persons	
Public Transportation		0.4%
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0.4%
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		1.2%
Other means		0.9%
Worked at home		8.2%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		8.6%
10 to 14 minutes		10.5%
15 to 19 minutes		9.7%
20 to 24 minutes		11.9%
25 to 29 minutes		5.4%
30 to 34 minutes		15.1%
35 to 44 minutes		15.2%
45 to 59 minutes		15.0%
60 to 89 minutes		6.5%
90 or more minutes		2.0%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	31.2 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		16.2%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		15.0%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		13.1%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		17.5%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		10.8%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		4.3%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		3.1%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		4.2%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		5.5%
All other times		10.3%

PERCENT

<b>Town of River Falls</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		91.3%
Drove alone		79.0%
Carpooled		12.3%
In 2-person carpool		8.6%
In 3-person carpool		1.6%
In 4-person carpool		0.4%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0.5%
In 7- or-more-person carpool		1.2%
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.08 persons	
Public Transportation		0.7%
Bus or trolley bus		0.5%
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0.2%
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		1.7%
Other means		0.5%
Worked at home		5.8%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		21.8%
10 to 14 minutes		15.9%
15 to 19 minutes		8.5%
20 to 24 minutes		6.4%
25 to 29 minutes		3.9%
30 to 34 minutes		13.4%
35 to 44 minutes		8.8%
45 to 59 minutes		13.6%
60 to 89 minutes		6.3%
90 or more minutes		1.3%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	25.7 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		4.3%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		14.7%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		13.7%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		18.1%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		14.7%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		9.6%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		2.8%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		7.9%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		6.0%
All other times		8.3%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Rock Elm</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		68.2%
Drove alone		55.7%
Carpooled		12.5%
In 2-person carpool		8.2%
In 3-person carpool		2.1%
In 4-person carpool		2.1%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.12 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		7.1%
Other means		0
Worked at home		24.6%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		14.7%
10 to 14 minutes		7.6%
15 to 19 minutes		9.0%
20 to 24 minutes		7.1%
25 to 29 minutes		9.5%
30 to 34 minutes		10.0%
35 to 44 minutes		15.2%
45 to 59 minutes		15.2%
60 to 89 minutes		8.5%
90 or more minutes		3.3%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	31.3 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		13.7%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		11.8%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		7.6%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		13.3%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		6.6%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		4.3%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		1.9%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		12.3%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		12.8%
All other times		15.6%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Salem</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		91.2%
Drove alone		71.2%
Carpooled		20.0%
In 2-person carpool		16.8%
In 3-person carpool		1.8%
In 4-person carpool		0
In 5- or 6-person carpool		1.4%
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.13 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		0.7%
Other means		0
Worked at home		8.1%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		7.3%
10 to 14 minutes		3.1%
15 to 19 minutes		8.8%
20 to 24 minutes		12.2%
25 to 29 minutes		7.6%
30 to 34 minutes		18.7%
35 to 44 minutes		12.2%
45 to 59 minutes		16.4%
60 to 89 minutes		13.7%
90 or more minutes		0
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	33.7 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		15.6%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		15.6%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		4.6%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		12.2%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		6.9%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		8.0%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		0.8%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		3.8%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		13.0%
All other times		19.5%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Spring Lake</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		82.0%
Drove alone		71.8%
Carpooled		10.2%
In 2-person carpool		7.5%
In 3-person carpool		2.6%
In 4-person carpool		0
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.07 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		3.8%
Other means		0
Worked at home		14.3%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		21.5%
10 to 14 minutes		8.3%
15 to 19 minutes		5.3%
20 to 24 minutes		14.0%
25 to 29 minutes		15.4%
30 to 34 minutes		15.4%
35 to 44 minutes		3.1%
45 to 59 minutes		10.5%
60 to 89 minutes		5.3%
90 or more minutes		1.3%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	24.8 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		15.4%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		11.0%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		9.2%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		8.8%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		10.5%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		9.6%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		2.2%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		8.8%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		6.6%
All other times		18.0%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Trenton</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		94.4%
Drove alone		85.8%
Carpooled		8.6%
In 2-person carpool		7.3%
In 3-person carpool		1.1%
In 4-person carpool		0.2%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.05 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		1.1%
Other means		0.2%
Worked at home		4.3%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		12.3%
10 to 14 minutes		20.3%
15 to 19 minutes		22.8%
20 to 24 minutes		11.6%
25 to 29 minutes		6.8%
30 to 34 minutes		8.8%
35 to 44 minutes		3.8%
45 to 59 minutes		5.4%
60 to 89 minutes		5.2%
90 or more minutes		2.8%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	23.7 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		18.2%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		10.1%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		10.3%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		14.1%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		11.4%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		6.5%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		3.1%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		2.6%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		9.9%
All other times		13.9%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Trimbelle</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		86.4%
Drove alone		76.5%
Carpooled		10.4%
In 2-person carpool		7.0%
In 3-person carpool		1.5%
In 4-person carpool		0.7%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0.9%
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0.3%
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.07 persons	
Public Transportation		0.6%
Bus or trolley bus		0.3%
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0.2%
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		3.6%
Other means		0.1%
Worked at home		8.8%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		13.5%
10 to 14 minutes		12.4%
15 to 19 minutes		12.3%
20 to 24 minutes		14.7%
25 to 29 minutes		4.7%
30 to 34 minutes		10.5%
35 to 44 minutes		10.4%
45 to 59 minutes		14.5%
60 to 89 minutes		5.9%
90 or more minutes		1.5%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	27.4 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		15.3%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		11.6%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		10.5%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		11.0%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		10.6%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		6.4%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		4.1%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		4.0%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		10.4%
All other times		16.0%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Union</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		73.9%
Drove alone		61.4%
Carpooled		12.5%
In 2-person carpool		10.0%
In 3-person carpool		2.5%
In 4-person carpool		0
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.10 persons	
Public Transportation		0
Bus or trolley bus		0
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0
Motorcycle		0
Bicycle		0
Walked		2.5%
Other means		0
Worked at home		23.6%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		20.1%
10 to 14 minutes		8.9%
15 to 19 minutes		5.1%
20 to 24 minutes		13.1%
25 to 29 minutes		1.9%
30 to 34 minutes		4.2%
35 to 44 minutes		14.0%
45 to 59 minutes		14.0%
60 to 89 minutes		14.0%
90 or more minutes		4.7%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	34.6 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		19.2%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		10.3%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		7.5%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		5.6%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		15.0%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		7.9%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		2.3%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		7.5%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		4.7%
All other times		20.1%

PERCENT

<b>PIERCE COUNTY*</b>		
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND CARPOOLING</b>		
Workers 16 and over		100.0%
Car, truck or van		86.7%
Drove alone		75.1%
Carpooled		11.6%
In 2-person carpool		9.2%
In 3-person carpool		1.1%
In 4-person carpool		0.5%
In 5- or 6-person carpool		0.3%
In 7- or-more-person carpool		0.5%
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.08 persons	
Public Transportation		0.4%
Bus or trolley bus		0.2%
Streetcar or trolley car		0
Subway or elevated		0
Railroad		0
Ferryboat		0
Taxicab		0.1%
Motorcycle		0.1%
Bicycle		0.3%
Walked		6.5%
Other means		0.4%
Worked at home		5.6%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
Less than 19 minutes		23.8%
10 to 14 minutes		11.3%
15 to 19 minutes		10.6%
20 to 24 minutes		10.5%
25 to 29 minutes		5.7%
30 to 34 minutes		10.6%
35 to 44 minutes		8.5%
45 to 59 minutes		11.7%
60 to 89 minutes		5.6%
90 or more minutes		1.8%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	25.1 minutes	
<b>TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK</b>		
Workers who did not work at home		100.0%
5:00 to 5:59 a.m.		12.1%
6:00 to 6:29 a.m.		10.9%
6:30 a.m. to 6:59 a.m.		11.2%
7:00 to 7:29 a.m.		12.5%
7:30 to 7:59 a.m.		11.4%
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.		7.6%
8:30 to 8:59 a.m.		3.4%
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.		6.3%
12:00 to 3:59 p.m.		11.4%
All other times		13.2%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census, 2000

## Highways & Local Roads

Pierce County has a total of 248 miles of roads: 202 miles of County Trunk Highways and 46 miles of Local Roads. See Table 5.2 for Town road mileage.

TABLE 5.2: **Functional Classification and Mileage of Local Roads**

	Gross Miles	County Miles	Municipal Miles	County Jurisdiction:			Municipal Jurisdiction		
				Arterial	Collector	Local	Arterial	Collector	Local
<b>Towns</b>									
Clifton	51.01	22.50	28.51	7.28	7.07	8.15			28.51
Diamond Bluff	22.32	8.18	14.14		8.18				14.14
Ellsworth	56.07	10.71	45.36		9.56	1.15		0.29	45.07
El Paso	61.43	14.66	46.77		14.17	0.49			46.77
Gilman	63.76	15.35	48.41		9.38	5.97			48.41
Hartland	73.03	22.15	50.88		21.19	0.96		4.29	46.59
Isabelle	13.58	1.98	11.60		1.98				11.60
Maiden Rock	83.55	23.81	59.74		19.24	4.57			59.74
Martell	66.16	11.95	54.21		11.82	0.13		0.15	54.06
Oak Grove	59.65	9.32	50.33		5.23	4.09			50.33
River Falls	75.54	14.48	61.06	0.50	7.85	6.13	0.17		60.89
Rock Elm	60.56	18.11	42.45		14.57	3.54			42.45
Salem	62.48	8.62	53.86		3.02	5.60			53.86
Spring Lake	52.32	10.10	42.22		10.10				42.22
Trenton	65.62	13.61	52.01		9.93	3.68			52.01
Trimbelle	66.44	18.38	48.06		17.37	1.01			48.06
Union	63.65	16.16	47.49		16.16				47.49
<b>Pierce County</b>		248.38		7.78	194.26	46.34			

SOURCE: State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, 2005

**Functional Classification System**

The transportation system is classified according to primary function representing very different purposes: 1) mobility and efficient travel and 2) access to properties. Simply put, when there are more access points, carrying capacity is reduced and safety is compromised.

- **Principal Arterials** accommodate interstate and interregional trips.
- **Minor Arterials** accommodate interregional and inter-area traffic movements.
- **Major Collectors** serve moderate-sized communities and intra-area traffic generators.
- **Minor Collectors** link local roads to higher capacity roads and smaller communities.
- **Local Roads** provide access to residential, commercial, and industrial development.

In addition to this hierarchy, jurisdictions may nominate local roads for the state’s **Rustic Roads Program**.

TABLE 1.056: **Road Functional Classification • Pierce County**

ROAD CLASSIFICATION	QUALIFYING ROADS
<b>Principal Arterials</b> serve urban areas with populations greater than 5,000 and may be interstate highways, freeways, expressways, four-lane divided highways, or two-lane highways. Cross traffic is usually accommodated at-grade, with or without signalized intersections. If intersections are not signalized, through-traffic on the Principal Arterial is given preference	63
<b>Minor Arterials</b> serve cities, communities, and other major traffic generators in combination with Principal Arterials. They carry moderate length neighborhood trips and channel traffic from collectors and local streets to Principal Arterials. They may include four-lane divided highways, two-lane highways, and county trunk highways. They are designed to carry traffic and provide access to abutting property. Cross traffic is accommodated with at-grade intersections without signals.	10, 35, 29, 65
<b>Major Collectors</b> provide service to moderate sized communities and intra-area traffic generators, linking them to larger population centers and higher-function highways. Many county trunk highways fall into this classification.	72, CC, S, X, 128, B, O, H, M, E, U, G
<b>Minor Collectors</b> carry traffic from local roads and link smaller communities with higher-function roads. Minor Collectors provide service to smaller communities and rural areas.	O, OO, FF

Source:

## **Traffic Safety**

The majority of rural roads were not designed to handle current traffic volumes. In 2002, according to Wisconsin's Transportation Development Association (TDA), 64% of all vehicle crashes in Wisconsin occurred on the state's local road system (town roads and many county roads fall into this category). According to their 2004 report, better lane markings and signage, wider shoulders and lanes, additional guardrails, and reduced slopes would make rural and two lane roads safer and reduce the personal and financial loss that results from crashes.

According to Wisconsin's *Highway Safety Performance Plan 2004*, significant external factors include demographics (particularly the proportion of the population between the ages of 15-44 and over 65), the number of licensed drivers, the number of miles driven, types of driving exposure, lifestyle factors (such as patterns of alcohol consumption), and the weather. The annual report *Wisconsin Crash Facts* also supports a strong correlation with seasonal factors. Looking at crash, injury, and fatality data from 1999-2003, the months with the highest average for crashes are May-September and December. Injury rates are highest between April-September and December. The month with the highest level of fatalities, on average over the five-year period, is December.

## **Access Management**

Transportation system users frequently select routes that maximize their personal mobility and efficiency while, at the local level, property owners frequently seek to maximize access to their personal property. The latter scenario reduces mobility and safety: studies show a strong correlation between 1) an increase in crashes, 2) an increase in the number of commercial establishments, and 3) an increase in the total number of driveways per mile.

The scale is different when planning for local roads, collectors, and arterials. For example, it is estimated that a single-family home generates 9.5 trips per day. On a town road, one new home may not make much difference, but 10 new homes on a rural road can have quite an impact on safety and ag-vehicle mobility.

Commercial or industrial development seeks highly visible and accessible properties, preferably on arterial streets with high traffic volumes and, optimally, at an important intersection. If the new business is successful it will change traffic patterns and disrupt the efficiency of the larger

### **Trans 233**

In 2004, the legislature suspended sections of the Transportation Rule commonly referred to as Trans 233. With the suspension of the state's authority, local jurisdictions have increased responsibilities when making decisions that could impact mobility and safety. According to WisDOT, its District offices will no longer: 1) apply Trans 233 standards to land that is not being subdivided, but is adjacent to the land being subdivided and owned by the same entity; 2) review Certified Survey Maps (CSM), condominium plats, and other land divisions that do not qualify as subdivisions; 3) review subdivision plats if the plats do not touch a state highway or connecting highway (this includes subdivision plats that are separated from the highway by unplatted land or a service road). In addition, WisDOT no longer has the authority to: 4) ban improvements (other than buildings) within the setback; 5) declare some land divisions as "technical land divisions"; 6) prohibit access onto service roads; 7) require a notice to be placed on land division maps notifying property owners of possible excessive noise levels; 8) or to require vision corners at intersections and driveways.

WisDOT will still review "subdivision" plats, as defined in Chapter 236 of the statutes (5 or more lots of 11/2 acre or less within a 5-year period) if such plats directly touch a state highway or connecting highway. This authority includes:

- Restricting access to the state highway or connecting highway
- Considering access requirements of adjacent and contiguous lands
- Regulating surface drainage
- Requiring a "desirable traffic access pattern"
- Requiring a recordable covenant on other unplatted lands of the property owner
- Conducting conceptual reviews, if desired by land divider
- Issuing temporary connection permits
- Prohibiting buildings in the setback area
- Granting special exceptions
- Requiring performance bonds to insure construction of improvements which may impact state highways.

Other access management tools are still used by WisDOT on longer segments, as part of corridor preservation efforts, and include ss. 84.09, ss. 84.25, or ss. 84.295 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

- **Purchase for Access Control** (ss. 84.09) WisDOT can purchase access rights to alter or eliminate unsafe access points or to restrict or prohibit additional access.
- **Administrative Access Control** (ss. 84.25) WisDOT can designate controlled-access highways and “freeze” present access; future alterations would require WisDOT approval.
- **Corridor Preservation Mapping** (ss. 84.295) Local governments and WisDOT can work together to map the land needed for future transportation improvements or local governments can incorporate proposed transportation improvements into their adopted land use maps. This mapping would inform the public and potential developers about land that has been preserved for future transportation improvements and preserve the future right-of-way.

## **TRANSPORTATION USERS**

### **Transit**

This next section looks at transportation options for commuters, the elderly and disabled, and those who do not drive. In Wisconsin there are very few intercity services for smaller rural communities. The recent loss of Greyhound bus service to several Wisconsin cities increased interest in exploring regional transit systems and intercity services in un- and under-served areas.

### **Work Carpooling**

Wisconsin Department of Administration oversees a **Vanpool/Ridesharing program** for commuters for state and non-state workers. Shared-ride commuters often make informal arrangements to accommodate carpooling. Pierce County currently has two park and ride lots: 1) at the intersection of STH 10 and CTH CC; and 2) at the intersection of STH 10 and STH 29/35.

### **Transportation Facilities For The Elderly And Disabled**

The need for some form of transit services is projected to increase as the baby boom generation grows older. In 2000, according to U.S. Census Data, 13% of Pierce County’s population was age 60-plus. By 2010, it is expected that 15% of the county’s population will be age 60-plus. The needs of this age cohort will become more important – at both the local and state level – during the 20-year window of this plan. The state’s Section 85.21 program currently provides some funding to counties for Elderly/Disabled Transportation Programs.

### **Bicycles and Pedestrians on Local Roads**

Children under the age of 16, the elderly, and those with disabilities are the greater portion of the public using pedestrian facilities. Many youth, and some commuters, ride bicycles as their regular means of transportation. In rural areas, both bicyclists and pedestrians share the road with motor vehicles. The limited experience of children, and the limited physical ability of the elderly and disabled, should be considered when making road improvements.

The *Wisconsin Bicycle Facility Design Handbook* provides information to assist local jurisdictions. It provides information that can help to determine if paved shoulders are necessary. For rural highways, a methodology or rating index should be used whenever traffic volumes on town and county roads increase beyond approximately 500 vehicles per day. Another resource is the Wisconsin Bike Map, which rates roadways for their bicycle compatibility using traffic volumes and the width of the roadway. On quiet country roads – including town roads and many county trunk highways – little improvement is necessary to create excellent bicycling routes. Very-low-volume rural roads (those with ADT's below 700) seldom require special provisions like paved shoulders for bicyclists. A motorist needing to move left to pass a bicyclist is unlikely to face oncoming traffic and may simply shift over and bicyclists can ride far enough from the pavement edge to avoid hazards. State trunk highways, and some county trunk highways, tend to have more traffic and a higher percentage of trucks. As a result, the addition of paved shoulders may be appropriate in these areas. In special cases, shoulders may be beneficial – on a town road connecting a school and a nearby development or a hilly low-volume highway serving truck traffic, for example. And paved shoulders should be seriously considered where low-volume town roads are being overtaken by new suburban development.

### **Rustic Roads**

There are two rustic roads in Pierce County. R-51 is in the Town of Maiden Rock on 4.3 miles of 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 197<sup>th</sup> Street, and 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue, from CTH AA on the west to CTH CC on the east. R-92 is in the Town of River Falls. It is 3.99 miles and starts at the intersection of 770<sup>th</sup> Avenue and STH 29/35. It proceeds southerly on 770<sup>th</sup> to the intersection of 950<sup>th</sup> and 910<sup>th</sup>. It then follows 910<sup>th</sup> Street to 710<sup>th</sup> Avenue, then on 710<sup>th</sup> east to CTH O.

## **MODES OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Transportation and Agriculture**

Transportation is critical for agriculture, yet ag-related transportation needs and impacts are often overlooked in rural planning and zoning discussions. Ag-related transportation is multifaceted, from the movement of machinery on the system of local roads to the movement of commodities to markets. Transportation planning related to agriculture may consider:

- Efficient access for agricultural suppliers, processors, agricultural service providers, and bulk haulers to farm operations.
- Efficient transport of farm produce to local, regional, national, and international markets.
- Ways to reduce conflicts with other traffic and increase safety on public roads when moving machinery to and from farm fields.

Both rural residential development and new or expanding agricultural operations may affect traffic safety and necessitate unplanned improvements to the system of local roads.

## Rail Freight

See Table 5.3 for a listing of rail service.

TABLE 5.3: **Railway Service • Pierce County**

NAME	LOCATION
<b>RAILWAY SERVICE</b>	
Burlington Northern	Prescott, WI
Burlington Northern Inc. Depot	Bay City, WI
Chicago North Western Transportation Co.	Hastings, MN
St. Croix-Tower Milwaukee-Burlington	Hastings, MN
Wisconsin Central Ltd.	New Richmond, WI

## Over-Road Shipping

In Pierce County, WisDOT classifies STHs 29, 35, 63, and 65 as officially designated Truck Routes. Although commercial vehicles account for less than 10% of all vehicle-miles traveled, truck traffic is growing faster than passenger vehicle traffic according to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). This share is likely to grow substantially if demand for freight transportation doubles over the next 20 years, as has been predicted (from the 2002 report *Status of the Nation's Highways, Bridges, and Transit: Conditions & Performance Report to Congress*). See Table 5.4 for a listing of trucking companies servicing the county.

TABLE 5.4: **Trucking Companies • Pierce County**

NAME	LOCATION
<b>TRUCKING COMPANIES</b>	
Betterndorf Transfer Inc.	River Falls, WI
Conzemius Co.	Prescott, WI
DEM Federated Co-Op Transport	Ellsworth, WI
Daniel Miller Trucking	Prescott, WI
Frazier LJ Trucking	Ellsworth, WI
HDL Transport	Maiden Rock, WI
Hager City Express	Hager City, WI
K & D Transport	Spring Valley, WI
Knudsen Trucking Inc	Hager City, WI Ellsworth, WI
Madison Freight Systems, Inc.	River Falls, WI
Mid States Express	River Falls, WI
Moelter Grain Inc	River Falls, WI
Monson Trucking Inc	Ellsworth, WI
Morrison Trucking	Hager City, WI
Murphy CW Freight Line Inc	Hager City, WI
Peterson Trucking	Ellsworth, WI
R & F Co	River Falls, WI
Ship It Express Inc.	Prescott, WI
St. Croix Valley Transport Inc.	Prescott, WI
TMW Transport Inc	River Falls, WI
Wilson Dedicated Services	Bay City, WI

## Airports

See Table 5.5 for information regarding airports serving Pierce County.

TABLE 5.5: **Airports • Pierce County**

NAME	LOCATION	SCHEDULED SERVICE
<b>AIRPORTS</b>		
Red Wing Regional Airport	Bay City, WI	No
St. Paul Downtown	St. Paul, MN	No
Chippewa Valley Regional	Eau Claire, WI	Yes
Mpls./St. Paul Internattional	Bloomington, MN	Yes
Menomonie	Menomonie, WI	No

## Water Transportation

See Table 5.6 for river transportation facilities.

TABLE 5.6: **Water Transportation • Pierce County**

<b>RIVER TRANSPORTATION</b>
Mississippi River barge traffic uses terminal facilities at Red Wing, just across the river on the southeastern edge of Pierce County.

## MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS

Compared to other states, Wisconsin has more local roads, the majority of them are paved, and they must be maintained through four seasons. According to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) data, Wisconsin's per capita spending on local road systems is second only to Minnesota's (the national average is \$123).

TABLE 5.7: **Wisconsin Local Government Expenditures on Roads/Transportation Per Person**

JURISDICTION	2001 EXPENDITURE
Cities	\$ 237 per person
Counties	\$93 per person
Towns	\$234 per person
Villages	\$197 per person

Source: Wisconsin Center for Land Use Education

**General Transportation Aids (GTA)** represent the largest program in WisDOT’s budget. The state returns roughly 30% of all state-collected transportation revenues (fuel taxes and vehicle registration fees) to local governments. These funds offset costs of county and municipal road construction, maintenance, bridge improvements, capital assistance for airports, rail and harbor facilities, flood damage, expressway policing, and transit operating assistance. GTA funds are distributed to all Wisconsin counties, cities, villages and towns based on a six-year spending average or a statutorily set rate-per-mile. (See Table 5.8)

TABLE 5.8: **General Transportation Aids (GTA) • 2004**

General Transportation  
Aids (2004)

<b>Towns</b>	
Clifton	\$46,519.25
Diamond Bluff	27,010.00
Ellsworth	82,782.00
El Paso	84,990.25
Gilman	88,348.25
Hartland	92,856.00
Isabelle	21,010.00
Maiden Rock	109,025.50
Martell	98,933.25
Oak Grove	92,637.00
River Falls	110,485.50
Rock Elm	77,471.25
Salem	98,294.50
Spring Lake	76,923.75
Trenton	94,462.00
Trimbelle	86,614.50
Union	86,815.25
<b>Pierce County</b>	<b>\$1,019,754.22</b>

SOURCE: State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, 2004

The **Local Roads Improvement Program** (LRIP) assists local governments in improving seriously deteriorating county highways, town roads, and city and village streets. The competitive reimbursement program pays up to 50% of total eligible costs with local governments providing the balance. The program has three basic components: County Highway Improvement (CHIP); Town Road Improvement (TRIP); and Municipal Street Improvement (MSIP).

### **Pavement Surface Evaluation & Rating**

Software tools help jurisdictions to prioritize their transportation projects. Information collected as part of the **PASER** (Pavement Surface Evaluation & Rating) system helps establish budget parameters, select possible projects, and evaluate the implications of maintenance decisions. This information is submitted to WisDOT every two years and is integrated into the state's **WISLR** (Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads) database.

### **Planning For Capital Improvements**

A Capital Improvement Program (CIP) can assist in planning for major project costs by creating a multi-year scheduling plan for physical public improvements including transportation. The schedule is based on the projection of fiscal resources and prioritization of improvements five to six years into the future. Capital improvements include new or expanded physical facilities that are relatively large in size, expensive, and permanent.

## WisDOT District 6—Plans and Projects

These projects are included in WisDOT’s 2004-09 Six-Year Highway Improvement Program. Note the plans and projects in the six-year program are typically flexible and subject to change. (See Table 5.9)

TABLE 5.9: **2004-2009 Six Year Highway Improvement Program • Pierce County**

Project Title	Year	Project Description
Hastings-Prescott (St. Croix RV BR-847-0040)	2005	This project will repair and upgrade the electrical, mechanical and hydraulic systems on the St. Croix River bascule bridge.
SHRM-Prescott-Ellsworth (STH 29-USH 63)	2005	Diamond grind the existing concrete pavement to provide a safer and smoother riding surface.
HES:USH 10, CTH C Intersection	2005	This safety project will improve intersection geometrics and construct bypass and turning lanes.
River Falls-Spring Valley (Van Buren Rd-Cleveland St.)	2006	Construct paved pedestrian/bike path adjacent to STH 29
River Falls-Spring Valley (USH 63-CTH CC)	2005	Mill to remove old roadway surface and replace with new asphaltic pavement.
SHRM-Prescott-River Falls (US 10-Cemetery Rd.)	07-09	Diamond grind the existing concrete pavement to provide a safer and smoother riding surface.
Nelson-HAGRCTY (So. Maiden Rock-385 <sup>th</sup> )	07-09	This project will repair or reconstruct retaining walls adjacent to the highway.
Red Wing-Ellsworth (Mississippi River-USH 10)	07-09	Resurface existing roadway with new asphaltic pavement.
HES:USH 63, CTH VV & 150 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Intersection	2005	This safety improvement project will construct dedicated turning lanes and install signal lights.
HES:Red Wing-Ellsworth (STH 35 Intersection)	2005	This project will improve intersection safety by adding turning lanes and traffic signals.
Ellsworth-River Falls (Cairns St.-920 <sup>th</sup> St.)	2006	This safety project will improve intersection geometrics and construct bypass and turning lanes.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Transportation, 2005

## **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

### **Programs for Local Government**

WisDOT administers a variety of state and federal programs, including:

- Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
- Connecting Highway Aids
- County Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance
- Federal Discretionary Capital Assistance
- Freight Rail Infrastructure Improvement Program (FRIIP)
- Freight Rail Preservation Program (FRPP)
- General Transportation Aids (GTA)
- Highways and Bridges Assistance
- Local Bridge Improvement Assistance
- Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP)
- Local Transportation Enhancements (TE)
- Railroad Crossing Improvements
- Rural and Small Urban Public Transportation Assistance
- Rural Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP)
- Rustic Roads Program
- Surface Transportation Discretionary Program (STP-D)
- Surface Transportation Program – Rural (STP-R) & Urban (STP-U)
- Traffic Signing and Marking Enhancement Grants Program
- Transportation Economic Assistance (TEA)

### **State Transportation Plans & Information Resources**

In preparing this plan, several plans and information resources were consulted, including:

- AirNav, LLC <http://www.airnav.com/airports/us/WI>
- Growing Wisconsin's Economy (WisDOT 2002)
- Land Use & Economic Development in Statewide Transportation Planning (FHWA 1999)  
<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/CUTS//lu/lu-all2.pdf>
- Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP) Summary Report 2002-2003  
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/docs/lrip-biennial.pdf>
- Midwest Regional Rail Initiative

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/railmidwest.pdf>

- *Rural By Design*, Randall Arendt (APA 1994).

- “Siting rural development to protect lakes and streams and decrease road costs”

(Wisconsin Center for Land Use Education) <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/landcenter/pubs.html>

- Status of the Nation’s Highways, Bridges, and Transit (FHWA, 2002)

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policy/2002cpr/>

- TDA (Wisconsin Transportation Development Association) Report – 2004.

- U.S. Census – 2000 <http://www.census.gov/>

- Wisconsin State Airport System Plan 2020

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/air2020-plan.pdf>

- WisDOT - Transportation Planning Resource Guide

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/localgov/docs/planningguide.pdf>

- WisDOT’s Five-Year Airport Improvement Plan (October 2002)

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/air-5yr-plan.pdf>

- Wisconsin Airport Land Use Guidebook – 2004

[http://www.meadhunt.com/WI\\_landuse/](http://www.meadhunt.com/WI_landuse/)

- Wisconsin Bicycle Transportation Plan – 2020

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/bike2020-plan.pdf>

- Wisconsin Bicycle Planning Guidance

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/bike-guidance.pdf>

- Wisconsin Bicycle Facility Design Handbook

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/bike-facility.pdf>

- Wisconsin County/City Traffic Safety Commission Guidelines (WisDOT 1998)

- Wisconsin Crash Facts (1999-2003)

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/crashfacts/>

- Wisconsin Rail Issues and Opportunities Report

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/rail-issues.pdf>

- Wisconsin State Highway Plan – 2020

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/hwy2020-plan.pdf>

- Wisconsin Statewide Pedestrian Policy Plan – 2020

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/docs/ped2020-plan.pdf>

## **Section 6: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT**

### **SECTION SUMMARY**

As summarized in “A Guide to Preparing the Economic Development Element of a Comprehensive Plan,” Economic Development Comprehensive Planning leverages new growth and redevelopment to improve the community. Economic development is about working together to maintain a strong economy by creating and retaining desirable jobs, which provide a good standard of living for individuals. Increased personal income and wealth increases the tax base, so a community can provide the level of services residents expect. A balanced, healthy economy is essential for community’s long-term wellbeing. Over the past decade, the world has changed, with rapid technological advancements and a general movement from an industrial based economy to a knowledge based economy. Demand for skilled labor is expected to increase each year until 2020. Population projections indicate that by 2006, two workers will exit the work force for every one entering, and by 2008 there will be a shortage of 10 million workers. Business decisions are more frequently based on where they can find employees, and employees tend to choose places to live before finding a job. Now more than ever it is important for communities to create a quality of life attractive to workers. Successful economic development requires communities develop plans based on local strengths, goals and opportunities in the context of this changing world economy.

### **Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(f)**

#### **(f) Economic Development**

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to promote the stabilization, retention or expansion, of the economic base and quality employment opportunities in the local governmental unit, including an analysis of the labor force and economic base of the local governmental unit. The element shall assess categories or particular types of new businesses and industries that are desired by the local governmental unit. The element shall assess the local governmental unit's strengths and weaknesses with respect to attracting and retaining businesses and industries, and shall designate an adequate number of sites for such businesses and industries. The element shall also evaluate and promote the use of environmentally contaminated sites for commercial or industrial uses. The element shall also identify county, regional and state economic development programs that apply to the local governmental unit.

## ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMIC BASE AND LABOR FORCE

Historically, the economy of Pierce County has been rooted in agriculture. Recent growth, primarily based on new homes being built in rural areas, has had a significant effect on several towns. The rural/agriculturally-based attitudes and understandings that once led development are being replaced by a more urban culture, particularly in western portions of the county. The greatest changes are in population numbers, income, and housing demographics.

Table 6.1 lists the largest employers in Pierce County.

TABLE 6.1: **Largest Employers in Pierce County**

EMPLOYER	NO. OF EMPLOYEES	LOCATION	INDUSTRY
University of Wisconsin-River Falls	700	River Falls	Education
River Falls School District	450	River Falls	Education
County of Pierce	393	Ellsworth	Government
Ellsworth School District	245	Ellsworth	Education
Thomas & Betts/ Meyer Industries	216	Hager City	Lighting Equipment & Steel Fabrication
Prescott School District	186	Prescott	Education
City of River Falls	151	River Falls	Government
Bergquist Company	145	Prescott	Manufacturing
Spring Valley Health Care	130	Spring Valley	Skilled Nursing Care
Nash Finch - Econo Foods	125	River Falls	Retail
Spring Valley School District	111	Spring Valley	Education
MAI/Genesis Industries	107	Elmwood & Spring Valley	Plastic Molding
Bortoloc Health Care System	100	Ellsworth	Skilled Nursing Care
Elmwood School District	96	Elmwood	Education
Dick's Market	91	River Falls	Retail
Heritage of Elmwood	88	Elmwood	Skilled Nursing Care
Helmer Printing Inc.	75	Beldenville	Printing
Plum City School District	71	Plum City	Education
First National Bank/River Falls	71	River Falls	Banking
Steamboat Inn	70	Prescott	Dining
St. Croix Care Center	61	Prescott	Skilled Nursing Care
Ptacek's IGA	61	Prescott	Retail
Plum City Care Center	59	Plum City	Skilled Nursing Care
Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery	58	Ellsworth	Dairy Products

Source: Pierce County Economic Development Corporation

**Economic Base**

The economic base can be described by the reviewing how revenue is generated within the community, what revenue is attracted from outside the community, and what revenue is lost or spent outside the community. Increasing the value of raw materials, attracting contracts or sales from outside the county or municipality, and creating opportunities for residents to spend their money within the county all add to the economy.

As noted previously, agriculture and related agri-business is important to Pierce County's economy. This trend is clearly demonstrated by the employment by industry breakdown by Town (Table 6.2).

TABLE 6.2: **Employment Characteristics**

PERCENT

<b>Town of Clifton</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	44.3%
Service occupations	13.7%
Sales and office occupations	21.7%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2.0%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	7.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	10.8%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	4.5%
Construction	4.7%
Manufacturing	14.9%
Wholesale trade	2.8%
Retail trade	10.4%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	6.3%
Information	1.6%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	5.8%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	10.2%
Educational, health and social services	23.1%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	8.1%
Other services (except public administration)	3.2%
Public administration	4.5%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	72.2%
Government workers	17.4%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	9.6%
Unpaid family workers	0.8%

## PERCENT

<b>Town of Diamond Bluff</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	17.4%
Service occupations	13.2%
Sales and office occupations	23.8%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0.7%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	15.7%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	29.2%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	4.3%
Construction	8.9%
Manufacturing	29.2%
Wholesale trade	0.4%
Retail trade	13.9%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	13.2%
Information	0.4%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	1.4%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	4.6%
Educational, health and social services	12.1%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	5.0%
Other services (except public administration)	5.0%
Public administration	1.6%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	84.0%
Government workers	7.1%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	8.9%
Unpaid family workers	0.0%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Ellsworth</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	21.6%
Service occupations	12.8%
Sales and office occupations	24.4%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2.7%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	15.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	23.4%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	6.4%
Construction	11.5%
Manufacturing	22.0%
Wholesale trade	2.7%
Retail trade	11.2%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	5.8%
Information	1.1%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	3.2%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	6.3%
Educational, health and social services	13.5%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	7.1%
Other services (except public administration)	4.0%
Public administration	5.3%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	76.1%
Government workers	15.4%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	7.2%
Unpaid family workers	1.3%

PERCENT

<b>Town of El Paso</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	37.0%
Service occupations	9.7%
Sales and office occupations	22.8%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2.7%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	10.7%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	17.1%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	17.4%
Construction	9.4%
Manufacturing	18.1%
Wholesale trade	3.2%
Retail trade	9.2%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	2.7%
Information	1.7%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	3.0%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	2.5%
Educational, health and social services	18.4%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	6.9%
Other services (except public administration)	4.5%
Public administration	3.0%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	69.0%
Government workers	13.9%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	16.6%
Unpaid family workers	0.5%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Gilman</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	33.6%
Service occupations	12.8%
Sales and office occupations	17.6%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	4.1%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	10.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	21.5%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	15.3%
Construction	6.8%
Manufacturing	28.8%
Wholesale trade	1.6%
Retail trade	8.0%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	2.7%
Information	1.4%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	2.7%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	8.0%
Educational, health and social services	14.2%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	2.3%
Other services (except public administration)	5.3%
Public administration	3.0%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	71.2%
Government workers	9.1%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	16.7%
Unpaid family workers	3.0%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Hartland</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	24.4%
Service occupations	11.0%
Sales and office occupations	19.0%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	3.6%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	12.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	30.0%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	10.5%
Construction	10.5%
Manufacturing	25.5%
Wholesale trade	2.0%
Retail trade	11.2%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	7.2%
Information	0.4%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	2.7%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	4.5%
Educational, health and social services	13.9%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	7.4%
Other services (except public administration)	0.7%
Public administration	3.6%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	82.8%
Government workers	9.2%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	7.2%
Unpaid family workers	0.9%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Isabelle</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	25.5%
Service occupations	17.6%
Sales and office occupations	20.0%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.2%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	18.2%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	17.6%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1.2%
Construction	12.1%
Manufacturing	26.7%
Wholesale trade	4.8%
Retail trade	9.7%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	6.1%
Information	2.4%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	7.9%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	1.2%
Educational, health and social services	15.8%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	8.5%
Other services (except public administration)	2.4%
Public administration	1.2%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	86.1%
Government workers	6.7%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	7.3%
Unpaid family workers	0.0%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Maiden Rock</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	32.1%
Service occupations	7.8%
Sales and office occupations	22.4%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	4.2%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	7.2%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	26.3%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	16.9%
Construction	5.0%
Manufacturing	29.4%
Wholesale trade	1.7%
Retail trade	8.3%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	6.6%
Information	1.7%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	2.5%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	2.5%
Educational, health and social services	12.7%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	5.8%
Other services (except public administration)	2.5%
Public administration	4.4%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	77.0%
Government workers	8.3%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	13.9%
Unpaid family workers	0.8%

## PERCENT

<b>Town of Martell</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	36.1%
Service occupations	12.4%
Sales and office occupations	17.2%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2.7%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	11.2%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	20.5%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	9.8%
Construction	7.4%
Manufacturing	17.8%
Wholesale trade	2.0%
Retail trade	7.7%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	6.6%
Information	4.3%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	3.5%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	5.7%
Educational, health and social services	20.9%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	5.0%
Other services (except public administration)	5.5%
Public administration	3.8%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	70.1%
Government workers	15.4%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	13.2%
Unpaid family workers	1.3%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Oak Grove</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	37.2%
Service occupations	9.0%
Sales and office occupations	23.6%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.6%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	9.3%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	19.3%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	5.5%
Construction	5.7%
Manufacturing	26.5%
Wholesale trade	1.7%
Retail trade	9.8%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	9.5%
Information	3.8%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	3.7%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	7.7%
Educational, health and social services	15.5%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	6.6%
Other services (except public administration)	1.4%
Public administration	2.6%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	83.0%
Government workers	10.8%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	5.4%
Unpaid family workers	0.7%

## PERCENT

<b>Town of River Falls</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	44.9%
Service occupations	12.7%
Sales and office occupations	21.8%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0.7%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	7.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	12.4%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	3.4%
Construction	7.5%
Manufacturing	15.1%
Wholesale trade	2.7%
Retail trade	7.3%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	4.8%
Information	2.5%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	6.1%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	8.1%
Educational, health and social services	28.1%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	7.8%
Other services (except public administration)	4.9%
Public administration	1.9%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	68.5%
Government workers	22.0%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	9.2%
Unpaid family workers	0.2%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Rock Elm</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	30.7%
Service occupations	10.0%
Sales and office occupations	13.2%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	10.0%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	10.0%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	26.1%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	30.7%
Construction	4.6%
Manufacturing	20.0%
Wholesale trade	1.8%
Retail trade	2.5%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	5.4%
Information	0.0%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	3.6%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	6.1%
Educational, health and social services	16.4%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	4.6%
Other services (except public administration)	2.9%
Public administration	1.4%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	58.6%
Government workers	11.1%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	27.5%
Unpaid family workers	2.9%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Salem</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	23.7%
Service occupations	13.7%
Sales and office occupations	18.9%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2.4%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	11.7%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	29.6%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	15.1%
Construction	7.2%
Manufacturing	26.8%
Wholesale trade	2.7%
Retail trade	11.0%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	3.1%
Information	0.0%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	3.8%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	1.0%
Educational, health and social services	13.4%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	9.3%
Other services (except public administration)	2.1%
Public administration	4.5%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	80.4%
Government workers	11.3%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	8.1%
Unpaid family workers	0.0%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Spring Lake</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	33.3%
Service occupations	9.4%
Sales and office occupations	20.6%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.9%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	5.6%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	29.2%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	14.6%
Construction	2.2%
Manufacturing	21.0%
Wholesale trade	0.0%
Retail trade	7.9%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	7.9%
Information	2.2%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	7.9%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	4.1%
Educational, health and social services	16.9%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	3.4%
Other services (except public administration)	6.7%
Public administration	5.2%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	71.5%
Government workers	12.0%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	14.2%
Unpaid family workers	2.2%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Trenton</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	22.3%
Service occupations	15.9%
Sales and office occupations	22.0%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0.8%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	12.5%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	26.4%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	2.2%
Construction	7.8%
Manufacturing	26.2%
Wholesale trade	2.8%
Retail trade	9.4%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	8.7%
Information	0.9%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	3.6%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	3.6%
Educational, health and social services	15.5%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	10.8%
Other services (except public administration)	4.8%
Public administration	3.7%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	83.4%
Government workers	8.4%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	7.8%
Unpaid family workers	0.0%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Trimbelle</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	26.3%
Service occupations	13.4%
Sales and office occupations	15.9%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.8%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	13.6%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	29.0%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	8.2%
Construction	9.6%
Manufacturing	25.1%
Wholesale trade	3.0%
Retail trade	8.2%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	7.0%
Information	2.7%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	4.0%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	4.0%
Educational, health and social services	12.6%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	7.5%
Other services (except public administration)	5.3%
Public administration	2.8%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	78.2%
Government workers	8.7%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	12.6%
Unpaid family workers	0.4%

PERCENT

<b>Town of Union</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	29.5%
Service occupations	12.8%
Sales and office occupations	17.7%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2.1%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	10.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	27.8%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	20.8%
Construction	11.8%
Manufacturing	22.2%
Wholesale trade	2.4%
Retail trade	6.3%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	3.8%
Information	1.7%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	3.1%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	3.1%
Educational, health and social services	13.2%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	6.6%
Other services (except public administration)	3.1%
Public administration	1.7%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	71.2%
Government workers	5.2%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	22.6%
Unpaid family workers	1.0%

PERCENT

<b>PIERCE COUNTY*</b>	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	100.0%
<b>OCCUPATION</b>	
Management, professional, and related occupations	30.1%
Service occupations	15.3%
Sales and office occupations	24.3%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.5%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	9.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	19.6%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	5.0%
Construction	6.7%
Manufacturing	19.6%
Wholesale trade	2.1%
Retail trade	11.7%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	5.0%
Information	1.8%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	4.7%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	5.6%
Educational, health and social services	21.7%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	9.0%
Other services (except public administration)	3.9%
Public administration	3.2%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>	
Private wage and salary workers	76.9%
Government workers	15.1%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	7.5%
Unpaid family workers	0.5%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census, 2000

Tables 6.3 and 6.4 summarize various income indicators for the towns and the county as a whole. The proximity to the Twin Cities Metro area and the resulting residential development in the western portion of the county has impacted incomes in this region.

TABLE 6.3: **Household Median Income Trends**

	1979	1989	1999	% Change 1979–89	% Change 1989–1999
<b>Towns</b>					
Clifton	\$22,500	\$30,520	\$49,551	81.66%	62.36%
Diamond Bluff	18,958	33,750	52,031	78.03%	54.17%
Ellsworth	19,464	35,114	52,188	80.40%	48.62%
El Paso	14,423	26,719	49,375	85.25%	84.79%
Gilman	16,437	28,942	49,250	76.08%	70.17%
Hartland	17,800	32,941	55,347	85.06%	68.02%
Isabelle	13,125	26,364	52,188	100.87%	97.95%
Maiden Rock	12,946	25,568	45,278	97.50%	77.09%
Martell	16,797	31,029	54,539	84.73%	75.77%
Oak Grove	22,148	40,956	72,596	84.92%	77.25%
River Falls	20,515	43,250	65,721	110.82%	51.96%
Rock Elm	14,766	25,735	36,750	74.29%	42.80%
Salem	15,313	31,250	56,250	104.07%	80.00%
Spring Lake	16,000	28,333	48,611	77.08%	71.57%
Trenton	19,175	33,882	53,229	76.70%	57.10%
Trimbelle	20,383	33,833	52,650	66.02%	55.59%
Union	15,000	22,833	35,375	52.22%	54.93%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	16,801	30,520	49,551	81.66%	62.36%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census

TABLE 6.4: **Family Median Income Trends**

	1979	1989	1999	% Change 1979–89	% Change 1989–1999
<b>Towns</b>					
Clifton	\$24,286	\$49,318	\$75,836	103.07%	53.77%
Diamond Bluff	21,029	37,250	58,333	77.14%	56.60%
Ellsworth	21,029	38,348	57,500	82.36%	49.94%
El Paso	16,731	30,446	52,143	81.97%	71.26%
Gilman	17,292	32,857	54,375	90.01%	65.49%
Hartland	19,375	35,909	59,000	85.34%	64.30%
Isabelle	14,844	38,750	63,125	161.05%	62.90%
Maiden Rock	15,144	26,667	50,875	76.09%	90.78%
Martell	18,690	33,553	57,062	79.52%	70.07%
Oak Grove	22,500	42,813	75,274	90.28%	75.82%
River Falls	22,908	48,094	71,750	109.94%	49.19%
Rock Elm	14,821	26,786	47,143	80.73%	76.00%
Salem	16,875	32,054	58,056	89.95%	81.12%
Spring Lake	17,422	31,458	50,750	80.56%	61.33%
Trenton	20,370	36,895	58,224	81.12%	57.81%
Trimbelle	21,111	36,394	56,111	72.39%	54.18%
Union	17,875	23,558	38,125	31.79%	61.83%
<b>Pierce County*</b>	19,848	35,677	58,121	79.75%	62.91%

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census

## **Tourism**

Amenities related to tourism have recently been a growing factor for rural economic development in the State of Wisconsin. Examples in Pierce County include:

- The Great River Road, an international draw, of which Prescott is considered a major gateway.
- The recreation possibilities of the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers, including: boating, swimming, and viewing the scenery
- The Laura Ingalls Wilder House and Museum (in Pepin County)
- Golf—courses are relatively inexpensive and accessible from the Twin Cities
- Nugget Lake County Park
- Kinnickinnic State Park
- Eau Galle National Recreation Area—fishing, swimming, riding, camping
- Crystal Cave near Spring Valley

### Analysis of the Labor Force

Tables 6.5 and 6.6 illustrate, on a countywide basis, employment by industry and wages by those same industries. Government is the largest employer, while manufacturing offers the highest wages.

TABLE 6.5: **Employment By Industry (Age 16 and Over) • Pierce County**

INDUSTRY (non-farm)	NO. OF EMPLOYEES
Construction & Mining	520
Manufacturing	1,430
Transportation & Public Utilities	490
Wholesale Trade	300
Retail Trade	2,320
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	330
Services	2,130
Government	3,870
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,400</b>

Source: Pierce County Economic Development Corporation

TABLE 6.6: **Wages By Industry (Age 16 and Over) • Pierce County**

INDUSTRY	WAGES
Construction	\$29,398
Mining & Manufacturing - Durable Goods	\$32,932
Manufacturing - Nondurable Goods	\$37,481
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	\$16,331
Transportation & Utilities	\$33,959
Wholesale Trade	\$23,201
Retail Trade	\$10,437
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	\$29,197
Services	\$19,446
Government	\$30,168

Source: Pierce County Economic Development Corporation

## Employment Projections

The State of Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development provides insight into the regional employment forecast for the county. Table 6.7 lists the top 20 occupations experiencing the fastest growth rates and the most job openings in West Central Wisconsin. Many of the fastest growing occupations fall into either the "management, professional, or related occupations" category of the "service" category. There is a particular growth trend in computer software and support occupations as well as medical support occupations. The areas with the most openings are generally "service occupations," with some exceptions. The professions identified for fastest growth generally fall into the major employment areas for residents in Pierce County.

TABLE 6.7: **Occupation Projections for West Central Wisconsin • 2002–2012  
Top 20 Occupations with Most Jobs in 2012**

OCCUPATION TITLE	EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATE		PERCENT CHANGE	EDUCATION TYPICALLY REQUIRED	AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE
	2002	2012			
Retail Salespersons	5,550	6,300	13.5%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$21,836
Cashiers	5,520	6,230	12.9%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$15,547
Registered Nurses	3,010	3,940	30.9%	Bachelor's or Assoc. degree	\$47,381
Comb Food Prep/Serv Wrk/Incl Fast	3,200	3,880	21.3%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$14,782
Nursing Aides/Orderlies/Attendants	3,060	3,790	23.9%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$21,243
Waiters/Waitresses	3,300	3,760	13.9%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$15,646
Truck Drivers/Heavy/Tractor-Trailer	2,840	3,450	21.5%	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$33,761
Team Assemblers	3,430	3,220	-6.1%	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$24,751
Janitors/Cleanrs Ex Maids/Hskpng	2,830	3,220	13.8%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$21,870
Labrs/Frght/Stock/Matrl Movers/Hand	3,000	3,100	3.3%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$20,460
Office Clerks/General	2,750	2,990	8.7%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$21,285
Bookkeep/Account/Auditing Clerks	2,410	2,520	4.6%	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$25,215
Secretaries/Ex Legal/Medical/Exec	2,440	2,300	-5.7%	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$25,125
Customer Service Reps	1,880	2,260	20.2%	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$27,788
Stock Clerks/Order Fillers	2,240	2,230	-0.4%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$20,553
Sls Reps/Whlsl/Mfg/Ex Tech/Sci Prod	1,880	2,230	18.6%	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$48,927
General and Operations Mgrs	1,790	2,080	16.2%	Bachelor's degree or more, plus work exp.	\$81,908
Elemen Schl Tchrs Ex Special Ed	1,840	2,030	10.3%	Bachelor's degree	\$41,498
Bartenders	1,820	1,940	6.6%	Short-term on-the-job training	\$16,880
Executive Secretaries/Admin Assts	1,770	1,890	6.8%	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$28,740

Source: DWD, Office of Economic Advisors, September 2004

### **Strengths And Weaknesses For Economic Development**

Success in economic development is largely based on a community’s ability to identify their strengths and weaknesses, then leverage the strengths, and minimize the affects of the weaknesses.

Table 6.8 below provides an initial list of strengths and weaknesses that face Pierce County. Past reports have contributed to this list. Future items will be added to the list as the planning process continues.

TABLE 6.8: **Strengths and Weaknesses of the Pierce County Economy**

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Proximity to Twin Cities	Infrastructure limitations
Great natural resource amenities	
High quality of life	
Educated and diverse workforce	
Access to interstate highway system (northern tier of Towns)	

### Environmentally Contaminated Sites

The Comprehensive Planning Law requires communities to evaluate and promote the use of environmentally contaminated sites for commercial or industrial uses. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Environmental Remediation and Redevelopment Program maintains a list of contaminated sites. Table 6.9 identifies brownfields located in the towns of Pierce County that are included on the DNR list. The DNR identifies brownfields as “abandoned or under-utilized commercial or industrial properties where expansion or redevelopment is hindered by real or perceived contamination.” Properties listed in the DNR database are self-reported and do not represent a comprehensive listing of possible brownfields in the community. Other state and federal databases may provide more comprehensive lists for the county.

TABLE 6.9: **Brownfields • 2005**

Location Name	Address	Activity Type
<b>Ellsworth</b>		
ELLSWORTH TN SHOP	W6058 490 <sup>TH</sup> AVE	LUST*
<b>Martell</b>		
MARTELL TN SHOP	HWY 63	LUST*
<b>Spring Valley</b>		
GILMAN TN	7815 CTH N	LUST*
<b>Union</b>		
WI DOT OEA 1530 08 00 HUPPERT SI	USH 10 & CTH CC	LUST*

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, BRRTS, 2005

\*LUST: Leaking Underground Storage Tank. A LUST site has contaminated soil and/or groundwater with petroleum, which includes toxic and cancer causing substances. However, given time, petroleum contamination naturally breaks down in the environment (biodegradation). Some LUST sites may emit potentially explosive vapors.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

There is a wide range of potential assistance county and local governments can access to assist them with their economic development activities. Listed below are some of the key programs and agencies.

### **County and Local Level Resources**

#### **• Pierce County Economic Development Corporation (PCEDC)**

Pierce County Economic Development Corporation is a non-profit organization formed in 1987 to promote job creation and development, economic growth, community development and planning throughout Pierce County. The mission of Pierce County Economic Development Corporation is achieved through: retention and expansion; recruitment; and community liaison. For more information on Pierce County Economic Development Corporation and how we can help your business grow please contact us at: phone: (715) 425-3881 or e-mail: [info@pcedc.com](mailto:info@pcedc.com).

### **State Level Agencies and Programs**

#### **• Wisconsin Department of Commerce**

Bill Winter, Area Development Manager

Office in the Richland Center City Hall

Phone: 608.647.4613

Email: [bwinter@commerce.state.wi.us](mailto:bwinter@commerce.state.wi.us)

Web site: [www.commerce.state.wi.us](http://www.commerce.state.wi.us)

The Department has a broad array of programs to assist a full spectrum of economic development strategies. Programs range from help to start a business to assisting large employer projects. target businesses in rural areas. Programs include grants, loans and assistance with financing, labor training and cleaning up brownfield sites.

#### **• Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection**

Grow Wisconsin Dairy Team

James Cisler

Email: [james.cisler@datcp.state.wi.us](mailto:james.cisler@datcp.state.wi.us)

Phone: 608.224.5137

Web site; [www.datcp.state.wi.us](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us)

- **Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority**

Web site, [www.wheda.com](http://www.wheda.com)

WHEDA economic development programs target agricultural development, businesses owned by women and minorities, small businesses and construction projects.

- **The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources – Brownfield Remediation**

Linda Hanefeld, Hydrogeologist, Dodgeville Service Center

Phone: 608.935.1948

Email: [Linda.hanefeld@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Linda.hanefeld@dnr.state.wi.us)

Web site: [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov)

DNR staff administer grant and loan programs, and work closely with local governments and organizations to plan and develop projects that protect public health, natural resources, the environment and outdoor recreational opportunities. Through loans, grants and reimbursement programs, the DNR programs target the cleanup of petroleum and other contamination to enable Brownfield site redevelopment, prevent pollution and minimizing waste.

### **Federal Level Agencies and Programs**

- **USDA - Rural Development**

Portage Local Office

2912 Red Fox Run, Portage, WI 53901

Phone: 608.742.5361

Email: [RD.Portage@wi.usda.gov](mailto:RD.Portage@wi.usda.gov)

Web site: [www.rurdev.usda.gov/wi](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wi)

Rural Development programs help a rural community or business with economic development through loan guarantees, loans and grants.

## **Section 7: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION ELEMENT**

### **SECTION SUMMARY**

Many cities, towns, villages, and counties begin cooperative arrangements to lower costs and promote efficiency. Most arrangements involve only two governmental units, but there are also agreements among multiple units. Intergovernmental cooperation may range from formal joint power agreements to unwritten understandings. Two communities may have an unwritten agreement about sharing road repair equipment, or a cluster of cities and towns may have a written agreement concerning snow removal, economic development, fire, or EMT services. The opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation are endless.

Intergovernmental cooperation is an effective way for local governments to respond to changing and diverse needs by working together with their neighbors, while maintaining their own identity. If an agreement can be reached among two or more units of government, services can often be provided with substantial cost savings. Cooperation can also eliminate unnecessary duplication of services or purchasing of equipment.

### **Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(g)**

#### **(g) Intergovernmental cooperation element.**

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for joint planning and decision making with other jurisdictions, including school districts and adjacent local governmental units, for siting and building public facilities and sharing public services. The element shall analyze the relationship of the local governmental unit to school districts and adjacent local governmental units, and to the region, the state and other governmental units. The element shall incorporate any plans or agreements to which the local governmental unit is a party under s. 66.0301, 66.0307 or 66.0309. The element shall identify existing or potential conflicts between the local governmental unit and other governmental units that are specified in this paragraph and describe processes to resolve such conflicts.

The following are suggested Intergovernmental recommendations. They support the intent of the law and can guide intergovernmental cooperation decisions in the county over the next 20 years.

- Work with local governments, state and federal agencies, the regional planning commission, and local school districts to identify and coordinate land use and community development policies and initiatives by exchanging information about items of mutual concern.
- Explore new opportunities to cooperate with other local units of government to utilize shared public services, staff, or equipment where appropriate.
- When appropriate, intergovernmental agreements with other local units of government should be created through written contracts / agreements.

#### **ADVANTAGES & DISADVANTAGES OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION**

Intergovernmental cooperation has many advantages associated with it including the following:

**Efficiency and reduction of costs:** Cooperating on the provision of services can potentially mean lower costs per unit or person. Although these are by no means the only reasons, efficiency and reduced costs are the most common reasons governments seek to cooperate.

**Limited government restructuring:** Cooperating with neighboring governments often avoids the time-consuming, costly, and politically sensitive issues of government restructuring. For example, if a city and town can cooperate, the town may avoid annexation of its land and the city may avoid incorporation efforts on the part of the town, which may hinder the city's development. Cooperation also helps avoid the creation of special districts that take power and resources away from existing governments.

**Coordination and planning:** Through cooperation, governments can develop policies for the area and work on common problems. Such coordination helps communities minimize conflicts when levels of services and enforcement are different among neighboring communities. For example, shared water, sewage, and waste management policies can help avoid the situation in which one area's environment is contaminated by a neighboring jurisdiction with lax standards or limited services. Cooperation can also lead to joint planning for future services and the resources needed to provide them.

**Expanded services:** Cooperation may provide a local unit of government with services it would otherwise be without. Cooperation can make those services financially and logistically possible.

Intergovernmental cooperation also has drawbacks, which may include the following:

**Reaching and maintaining an agreement:** In general, reaching a consensus in cases in which politics and community sentiments differ can be difficult. For example, all parties may agree that police protection is necessary. However, they may disagree widely on how much protection is needed. An agreement may fall apart if one jurisdiction wants infrequent patrolling and the other wants an active and visible police force.

**Unequal partners:** If one party to an agreement is more powerful, it may influence the agreement's conditions. With service agreements, the more powerful party, or the party providing the service, may have little to lose if the agreement breaks down, it may already service itself at a reasonable rate. The weaker participants may not have other options and are open to possible exploitation.

**Local self-preservation and control:** Some jurisdictions may feel their identity and independence will be threatened by intergovernmental cooperation. The pride of residents and officials may be bruised if, after decades of providing their own police or fire protection, they must contract with a neighboring jurisdiction (and possible old rival) for the service. In addition, and possibly more importantly, a jurisdiction may lose some control over what takes place within their boundaries. Moreover, although government officials may lose control, they are still held responsible for the delivery of services to their electorates.

## **EXISTING AREAS OF COOPERATION**

### **Lower St. Croix Scenic Riverway Master Plan**

This plan proposed a cooperative federal-state-local approach to managing the water and adjacent lands along the St. Croix River for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the natural qualities of this largely unspoiled river and its shoreline.

## **POTENTIAL AREAS OF COOPERATION**

Efficiencies can often be gained between neighboring jurisdictions with the sharing of services, staff, facilities. Examples include: budding contracts, shared recreation facilities, shared specialized equipment, road maintenance, land use planning, siting of school facilities, etc.



## **EXISTING AND POTENTIAL CONFLICTS AND SOLUTIONS**

The Pierce County Farmland Preservation Plan (1982) identified three main issues: 1) conflicts between farmers and non-farmer neighbors; 2) the loss of prime farmland and the fragmentation of large farming tracts as a result of rural non-farm development; and 3) soil erosion, which was cited as possibly the greatest problem.

Conflicts should be identified during the resident survey process, visioning, and goals/objectives aspect of the comprehensive planning process. Though it is premature at this time to list such conflicts, often Town concerns over annexations and extra-territorial zoning by cities and villages come to the forefront. Processes to craft solutions to these conflicts should be articulated in the Implementation element of the individual Town comprehensive plans.

## **ADDITIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION IDEAS**

The Intergovernmental Cooperation Element Guide published by the Wisconsin Department of Administration provides several ideas for cooperation including the following listed below. These are only ideas to consider. (*Note: the following ideas were taken directly from the Intergovernmental Cooperation Guide.*)

**Voluntary Assistance:** Your community, or another, could voluntarily agree to provide a service to your neighbors because doing so makes economic sense and improves service levels.

**Trading Services:** Your community and another could agree to exchange services. You could exchange the use of different pieces of equipment, equipment for labor, or labor for labor.

**Renting Equipment:** Your community could rent equipment to, or from, neighboring communities and other governmental units. Renting equipment can make sense for both communities – the community renting gets the use of equipment without having to buy it, and the community renting out the equipment earns income from the equipment rather than having it sit idle.

**Contracting:** Your community could contract with another community or jurisdiction to provide a service. For example, you could contract with an adjacent town or village to provide police and fire protection, or you could contract with the county for a service in addition to that already routinely provided by the county sheriff's department.

**Routine County Services:** Some services are already paid for through taxes and fees. Examples are police protection services from the county sheriff's department, county zoning, county public health services, and county parks. Your Intergovernmental Cooperation Element could identify areas where improvements are needed and could recommend ways to cooperatively address them.

**Sharing Municipal Staff:** Your community could share staff with neighboring communities and other jurisdictions – both municipal employees and independently contracted professionals. You could share a building inspector, assessor, planner, engineer, zoning administrator, clerk, etc. communities or governmental units to provide a service together.

**Joint Use of a Facility:** Your community could use a public facility along with other jurisdictions.

The facility could be jointly owned or one jurisdiction could rent space from another.

**Special Purpose Districts:** Special purpose districts are created to provide a particular service, unlike municipalities that provide many different types of services. Like municipalities, special purpose districts are separate and legally independent entities.

**Joint Purchase and Ownership of Equipment:** Your community could agree with other jurisdictions to jointly purchase and own equipment such as pothole patching machines, mowers, rollers, snowplows, street sweepers, etc.

**Cooperative Purchasing:** Cooperative purchasing, or procurement, is where jurisdictions purchase supplies and equipment together to gain more favorable prices.

### **Intergovernmental Agreements**

Intergovernmental Agreements provide communities with a different type of approach because it is proactive rather than reactive. There are two types of intergovernmental agreements that can be formed including cooperative boundary agreements and stipulations and orders. More detailed information on intergovernmental agreements can be obtained from Wisconsin State Statute 66.0307 (Cooperative Boundary Agreements) and 66.0225 (Stipulations and Orders). As each Town progresses in the development of their individual comprehensive plans, a listing of intergovernmental agreements should be identified.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

There are a number of available state agencies and programs to assist communities with intergovernmental projects. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs.

### **Intergovernmental Relations – WI Department of Administration**

The Wisconsin Land Council was created to gather and analyze land use and planning related information, coordinate high priority state initiatives including the development of a Wisconsin land information system and provide recommendations to the Governor for improvements to the existing statewide planning framework. The Council is dedicated to identifying ways to enhance and facilitate planning efforts of Wisconsin's local governments and to improve the coordination and cooperation of state agencies in their land use activities.

### **Wisconsin Towns Association**

Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) is a non-profit, non-partisan statewide organization created under s. 60.23(14) of the Wisconsin Statutes to protect the interests of the state's 1,264 towns and to improve town government. In 2002 WTA celebrated its 55th year of service to town governments and the state's 1.6 million town residents. The association is organized into six districts and is headquartered in Shawano. WTA relies on regular district meetings, an annual statewide convention, publications, participation in cooperative training programs and other means to support the goal of keeping grassroots government strong and efficient in Wisconsin.

### **League of Wisconsin Municipalities**

The League of Wisconsin Municipalities is a not-for-profit association of municipalities. First established in 1898, the League acts as an information clearinghouse, lobbying organization and legal resource for Wisconsin municipalities. Its membership consists of 386 villages and all of the 190 cities in the state.

### **Wisconsin Counties Association**

WCA is an association of county governments assembled for the purpose of serving and representing counties. The direction of this organization is one that is determined by the membership and the WCA Board of Directors consistent with the parameters set forth by the WCA Constitution. The organization's strength remains with the dedicated county-elected official.

## **Section 8: LAND USE ELEMENT**

### **SECTION SUMMARY**

Land use is often one of the more controversial issues confronting communities. In many instances, communities were originally platted and land use decisions were made with little regard to natural limitations on development or the interests of the community as a whole. Today, with better knowledge of these limitations, communities are faced with making more intelligent choices as to where future development should occur. Instead of working with a clean slate, however, communities must contend with existing uses and how new development might affect or be affected by them. The land use decisions in this plan are meant to take into account the knowledge and policies of the other elements of this plan.

The purpose of this section is to analyze how the land in the Towns of Pierce County is currently being used, and what constraints to development exist in these areas. This section will also discuss the future land use needs in the Towns.

### **Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(h)**

#### **(h) Land Use**

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development and redevelopment of public and private property. The element shall contain a listing of the amount, type, intensity and net density of existing uses of land in the local governmental unit, such as agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial and other public and private uses. The element shall analyze trends in the supply, demand and price of land, opportunities for redevelopment and existing and potential land-use conflicts. The element shall contain projections, based on the background information specified in par. (a), for 20 years, in 5-year increments, of future residential, agricultural, commercial and industrial land uses including the assumptions of net densities or other spatial assumptions upon which the projections are based. The element shall also include a series of maps that shows current land uses and future land uses that indicate productive agricultural soils, natural limitations for building site development, floodplains, wetlands and other environmentally sensitive lands, the boundaries of areas to which services of public utilities and community facilities, as those terms are used in par. (d), will be provided in the future, consistent with the timetable described in par. (d), and the general location of future land uses by net density or other classifications.

## **EXISTING LAND USES**

**Agriculture** – Agricultural land includes land that produces a crop (including Christmas trees or ginseng), agricultural forest (forested lands contiguous with agricultural land), supports livestock, or is eligible for enrollment in specific federal agricultural programs.

**Residential** – Residential land includes any land with a residential home that does not fall into the agricultural land classification.

**Commercial** – Commercial land refers to any parcel that has a business on it, but does not include industrial properties. This may be a convenience store, car wash, bank, grocery store, tavern, etc., referring to any type of retail or business establishment.

**Manufacturing (also known as Industrial)** – Manufacturing land refers to business and industry that is engaged in processing, manufacturing, packaging, treatment, or fabrication of materials and products.

**Forested** – Forested land includes production forests and DNR-MFL.

**Ag-Forest** – Land that is producing or capable of producing commercial forest products if the land satisfies any of the following conditions:

- It is contiguous to a parcel that has been classified in whole as agricultural land, if the contiguous parcel is owned by the same person that owns the land that is producing or capable of producing commercial forest products. In this subdivision, "contiguous" includes separated only by a road.
- It is located on a parcel that contains land that is classified as agricultural land in the property tax assessment on January 1, 2004, and on January 1 of the year of assessment.
- It is located on a parcel at least 50% of which, by acreage, was converted to land that is classified as agricultural land in the property tax assessment on January 1, 2005, or thereafter.

**Undeveloped** – This land classification refers to areas that were formerly classified as swamp/waste. It includes bogs, marshes, lowlands brush land, and uncultivated land zoned as shore land and shown

to be wetland.

**Other** – Remaining land types that do not fall into the above categories, including federal, state, and county lands, school property, and cemeteries.

## **Land Supply**

The supply of land to support development is based on several factors including physical suitability, local and county regulations, and community goals. Intergovernmental agreements and annexations also become considerations when looking at the available land supply at the community level. At the county level, land physically suited for development exists throughout. The policies developed in this plan and subsequent community plans will help guide how growth is managed in these acres.

Tables 8.1 and 8.2 show the recent developments in land use classification and value for the county for the last 4 years. The information is from the WI Department of Revenue. Caution should be given as the WIDOR has periodically switched the way that they have reported certain land classifications over the years. In addition, technological advances have allowed the WIDOR to better identify land. These changes can account for some land classifications not having a value in one year but than having one in another year. In addition, local assessors have changed over time, which can also account for some difference in the methods by which data was reported.

TABLE 8.1: Land Use Intensity (acres)

	TOTAL ACRES 2002	PERCENT OF LAND AREA 2002	TOTAL ACRES 2005	PERCENT OF LAND AREA 2005
<b>Town of Clifton</b>				
Residential	2,721	14%	2,946	15%
Commercial	369	2%	369	2%
Manufacturing	0	0%	0	0%
Agricultural	13,341	70%	13,249	69%
<b>Town of Diamond Bluff</b>				
Residential	319	32%	285	28%
Commercial	22	<1%	20	<1%
Manufacturing	0	0%	0	0%
Agricultural	4,181	42%	4,296	43%
<b>Town of Ellsworth</b>				
Residential	836	4%	884	4%
Commercial	133	<1%	137	<1%
Manufacturing	7	<1%	7	<1%
Agricultural	14,000	71%	14,116	72%
<b>Town of El Paso</b>				
Residential	674	3%	704	3%
Commercial	11	<1%	11	<1%
Manufacturing	0	0%	0	0%
Agricultural	16,018	78%	15,905	78%
<b>Town of Gilman</b>				
Residential	831	4	961	5%
Commercial	16	<1%	25	<1%
Manufacturing	54	<1%	53	<1%
Agricultural	15,178	73%	14,020	67%
<b>Town of Hartland</b>				
Residential	908	4%	902	4%
Commercial	18	<1%	15	<1%
Manufacturing	0	0%	0	0%
Agricultural	15,755	72%	15,718	74%
<b>Town of Isabelle</b>				
Residential	472	10%	494	11%
Commercial	67	1%	49	1%
Manufacturing	0	0%	0	0%
Agricultural	2,121	45%	2,110	46%
<b>Town of Maiden Rock</b>				
Residential	841	6%	903	4%
Commercial	1	<1%	1	<1%
Manufacturing	5	<1%	5	<1%
Agricultural	15,006	65%	14,651	66%
<b>Town of Martell</b>				
Residential	1,248	6%	1,240	6%
Commercial	8	<1%	8	<1%
Manufacturing	14	<1%	14	<1%
Agricultural	15,685	74%	15,757	74%

	TOTAL ACRES 2002	PERCENT OF LAND AREA 2002	TOTAL ACRES 2005	PERCENT OF LAND AREA 2005
<b>Town of Oak Grove</b>				
Residential	3,572	15%	4,127	18%
Commercial	33	<1%	36	<1%
Manufacturing	39	<1%	39	<1%
Agricultural	15,847	67%	15,435	67%
<b>Town of River Falls</b>				
Residential	3,038	12%	3,151	12%
Commercial	226	<1%	93	<1%
Manufacturing	9	<1%	9	<1%
Agricultural	15,774	60%	15,720	61%
<b>Town of Rock Elm</b>				
Residential	258	1%	271	1%
Commercial	14	<1%	14	<1%
Manufacturing	0	0%	0	0%
Agricultural	14,509	69%	14,739	71%
<b>Town of Salem</b>				
Residential	242	1%	319	2%
Commercial	2	<1%	2	<1%
Manufacturing	158	<1%	158	<1%
Agricultural	12,259	61%	12,416	62%
<b>Town of Spring Lake</b>				
Residential	431	2%	466	3%
Commercial	15	<1%	15	<1%
Manufacturing	33	<1%	33	<1%
Agricultural	13,265	74%	13,238	74%
<b>Town of Trenton</b>				
Residential	1,099	7%	1,137	7%
Commercial	170	1%	174	1%
Manufacturing	275	2%	275	2%
Agricultural	9,042	59%	9,274	59%
<b>Town of Trimble</b>				
Residential	1,626	7%	1,987	9%
Commercial	72	<1%	67	<1%
Manufacturing	1	<1%	1	<1%
Agricultural	16,396	73%	16,185	72%
<b>Town of Union</b>				
Residential	283	1%	319	2%
Commercial	8	<1%	8	<1%
Manufacturing	16	<1%	16	<1%
Agricultural	15,395	75%	15,347	76%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Revenue

TABLE 8.2: **Real Estate Equalized Values**

	1980	1990	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Towns</b>							
Clifton	\$45,657,200	\$56,183,300	\$130,736,500	\$141,504,400	\$170,463,400	\$202,539,400	\$218,998,200
Diamond Bluff	9,310,600	12,043,700	23,847,300	27,509,100	30,544,400	34,193,400	39,064,080
Ellsworth	31,688,100	25,976,700	47,473,400	52,330,300	59,930,100	62,068,400	78,433,300
El Paso	20,150,700	17,151,800	30,861,200	34,460,600	37,217,300	37,383,600	44,459,900
Gilman	22,576,500	19,196,800	37,563,900	41,361,300	46,363,100	47,856,200	62,894,800
Hartland	26,094,900	20,968,800	38,567,300	41,948,000	46,462,100	47,317,300	53,237,200
Isabelle	5,044,500	6,068,500	13,085,700	15,096,400	17,008,000	17,327,100	18,970,800
Maiden Rock	19,256,400	16,309,300	34,371,000	37,514,200	48,346,300	45,241,900	49,312,300
Martell	23,415,100	22,310,500	54,380,700	60,132,300	66,754,900	70,931,300	85,654,700
Oak Grove	36,271,200	42,151,800	110,308,100	130,438,600	160,806,800	183,576,200	197,624,500
River Falls	54,451,900	62,167,400	134,311,000	147,065,500	166,755,800	176,066,700	192,612,900
Rock Elm	18,643,500	14,158,600	24,791,700	25,663,900	27,420,700	27,383,900	30,140,000
Salem	19,647,700	14,707,000	28,119,200	29,514,700	32,805,900	33,535,100	38,184,200
Spring Lake	15,760,300	13,269,700	25,798,600	27,346,400	28,541,500	29,437,400	33,612,300
Trenton	37,789,300	44,167,600	84,396,200	94,519,700	105,014,800	111,612,200	130,565,000
Trimbelle	32,332,400	35,096,300	66,809,700	74,564,600	76,790,100	81,999,400	97,322,800
Union	22,674,900	16,355,300	26,080,800	26,712,200	29,467,600	28,822,200	32,602,500
<b>Pierce County*</b>	655,197,100	783,354,600	1,527,493,000	1,712,952,700	1,930,160,700	2,087,036,400	2,350,360,800

\*Includes city and village data.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Revenue

**Equalized Value Assessment** – The estimated value of all taxable real and personal property in each taxation district. The value represents market value (most probable selling price), except for agricultural property, which is based on its use (ability to generate agricultural income) and agricultural forest and undeveloped lands, which are based on 50% of their full (fair market value). Since assessors in different taxing districts value property at different percentages of market value, equalized values ensure fairness between municipalities. The equalized values are used for apportioning county property taxes, public school taxes, vocational school taxes, and for distributing property tax relief. In summary, equalized values are not only used to distribute the state levy among the counties, but also the equalized values distribute each county’s levy among the municipalities in that county. The WI DOR determines the equalized value. (Source: 2005 Guide for Property Owners, WI DOR)

## Existing Densities

Pierce County towns have an overall density of 30 people per square mile. Individual town density varies greatly due to varied rural and suburban characters. The Town of Maiden Rock, Salem and Rock Elm exhibit the lowest density. The Towns of Clifton, River Falls, and Trenton are the highest (Table 8.3).

TABLE 8.3: **Population Density and Change, 1990–2000**

Towns	Town Population Changes 1990–2000:				Population Per Square Mile, 2000	Percent of 2000 Population That Changed Residence Since 1995:		
	1990	2000	Net Change	% Change		Diff. House	Diff. County	Diff. State
Clifton	1,119	1,657	538	48.1%	48	32.4%	21.6%	15.3%
Diamond Bluff	492	479	-13	-2.6%	29	23.2%	8.6%	8.6%
Ellsworth	1,030	1,064	34	3.3%	33	30.2%	11.7%	9.7%
El Paso	641	690	49	7.6%	20	27.8%	13.2%	9.0%
Gilman	762	772	10	1.3%	23	19.9%	10.4%	6.7%
Hartland	766	814	48	6.3%	23	26.4%	14.1%	9.2%
Isabelle	196	315	119	60.7%	30	31.1%	7.6%	6.7%
Maiden Rock	649	589	-60	-9.2%	15	22.8%	9.7%	8.8%
Martell	866	1,070	204	23.6%	30	36.7%	21.7%	15.5%
Oak Grove	1,120	1,522	402	35.9%	39	37.1%	25.0%	21.3%
River Falls	1,944	2,304	360	18.5%	52	37.2%	22.0%	13.1%
Rock Elm	519	504	-15	-2.9%	14	21.6%	13.1%	5.6%
Salem	514	505	-9	-1.8%	14	20.2%	8.5%	5.3%
Spring Lake	565	550	-15	-2.7%	18	25.5%	11.8%	6.7%
Trenton	1,583	1,737	154	9.7%	62	31.4%	18.6%	15.9%
Trimbelle	1,482	1,511	29	2.0%	42	26.7%	10.5%	5.4%
Union	643	618	-25	-3.9%	18	17.3%	8.9%	4.9%
<b>Total</b>	14,891	16,701	1,810	12.2%	30	29.8%	16.3%	11.6%

SOURCE: Program on Agricultural Technology Studies (PATS), UW-Madison

## **Non-residential Intensities**

The Pierce County zoning ordinance regulates the intensity of non-residential developments in the Towns. The following zoning districts are located throughout the county:

- ***Rural Residential 20 (RR-20)***

This district is established to provide for the densest residential development in the unincorporated areas of the county. The district is intended to be used where residential development is encouraged on lots without public sewer and water and in locations where such a density of development is compatible with surrounding uses. The district is intended to enhance residential areas by restricting nonresidential development.

- ***Light Industrial (LI)***

This district is established primarily for production, processing, and assembly plants that are operated so that noise, odor, dust, and glare from such operations are completely confined within an enclosed building. Traffic generated by these industries should not produce the volume of traffic generated by heavy industrial uses. The district is also designed to accommodate warehouse and limited commercial uses.

- ***Industrial (I)***

This district is established for the purpose of allowing those industrial uses that are more intensive than those uses allowed in the Light Industrial (LI) district. The purpose of this district is to accommodate a heavy volume of traffic, the potential need for rail access to parcels and the presence of noise and other factors that could pose a nuisance in other districts. The intensity and use of land as permitted in this district is intended to facilitate the total range of industrial uses.

- ***Commercial (C)***

This district is established to provide for retail shopping and personal service uses to be developed either as a unit or in individual parcels to serve the needs of nearby residential neighborhoods as well as the entire County. The purpose of the district is to provide sufficient space in appropriate locations for certain commercial and other non-residential uses while affording protection to surrounding properties from excessive noise, traffic, drainage, or other nuisance factors.

## FUTURE LAND USE

To adequately plan for the future growth, a community must be aware of what its future needs will be in terms of additional land. The projection of land use needed is based upon several factors, including: historical community growth trends (Table 1.5), population forecasts, anticipated economic and land use trends, and several assumptions. Forecasting is an inexact process. Since a number of outside factors affect the rate of growth of a community, assumptions and the resulting forecasts can only be used as a flexible tool for charting future courses of action. Given the above limitations, a simple method of forecasting will be used to arrive at future land needs.

TABLE 8.4: **Land Use Permit Applications (1999)**

	Const. Value	Dwelling	Add/Dw	Utility	Add/Util	Garage	Mobile	Busin.	Misc.	Total
<b>Towns</b>										
Clifton	\$6,682,500	28	9	13	1	8	0	0	6	<b>65</b>
Diamond Bluff	992,600	6	3	1	0	2	0	0	4	<b>16</b>
Ellsworth	1,993,650	12	11	12	0	8	0	1	12	<b>56</b>
El Paso	1,725,400	11	3	3	3	3	0	0	5	<b>28</b>
Gilman	1,488,300	12	3	9	1	3	2	0	7	<b>37</b>
Hartland	1,070,100	8	6	6	2	3	1	0	1	<b>27</b>
Isabelle	565,000	4	0	2	2	1	0	0	1	<b>10</b>
Maiden Rock	518,900	3	5	8	1	3	1	0	4	<b>25</b>
Martell	3,670,900	20	5	14	3	4	1	2	10	<b>59</b>
Oak Grove	8,323,000	38	5	11	1	9	0	2	2	<b>68</b>
River Falls										
Rock Elm	783,000	6	3	5	0	1	2	0	1	<b>18</b>
Salem	1,007,600	5	2	3	0	3	0	0	7	<b>20</b>
Spring Lake	1,364,300	7	2	6	0	6	0	0	3	<b>24</b>
Trenton	2,474,750	15	4	14	1	10	0	1	6	<b>51</b>
Trimbelle	2,893,300	21	3	15	3	5	2	1	11	<b>61</b>
Union	335,650	2	0	6	1	1	1	0	2	<b>13</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,499,157</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>578</b>

Source Pierce County

TABLE 8.5: **Land Use Permit Applications (2000)**

	Const. Value	Dwelling	Add/Dw	Utility	Add/Util	Garage	Mobile	Busin.	Misc.	Total
<b>Towns</b>										
Clifton	\$5,183,485	24	3	16	0	7	0	2	1	<b>53</b>
Diamond Bluff	968,073	4	5	6	0	3	1	1	0	<b>20</b>
Ellsworth	1,769,750	12	4	4	2	3	1	1	1	<b>28</b>
El Paso	1,548,774	10	5	12	1	3	2	1	1	<b>35</b>
Gilman	1,344,540	10	3	9	0	1	1	1	1	<b>26</b>
Hartland	783,735	7	5	4	2	2	2	0	1	<b>23</b>
Isabelle	577,900	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	<b>7</b>
Maiden Rock	514,627	3	3	2	0	3	0	0	1	<b>12</b>
Martell	2,417,797	12	12	13	1	3	1	1	0	<b>43</b>
Oak Grove	5,145,095	26	3	6	0	4	0	0	2	<b>41</b>
River Falls										
Rock Elm	348,279	1	4	7	0	2	1	0	0	<b>15</b>
Salem	781,150	2	4	7	0	4	0	1	0	<b>18</b>
Spring Lake	720,900	4	5	6	0	0	0	1	1	<b>17</b>
Trenton	1,861,242	11	14	12	1	10	0	1	4	<b>53</b>
Trimbelle	4,396,947	22	9	23	3	5	3	4	6	<b>75</b>
Union	714,000	5	3	8	0	0	1	0	0	<b>17</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,076,294</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>483</b>

Source Pierce County

TABLE 8.6: **Land Use Permit Applications (2001)**

	Const. Value	Dwelling	Add/Dw	Utility	Add/Util	Garage	Mobile	Busin.	Misc.	Total
<b>Towns</b>										
Clifton	\$7,826,391	33	12	11	1	6	-	1	1	<b>65</b>
Diamond Bluff	1,253,950	7	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	<b>15</b>
Ellsworth	2,216,925	11	5	16	1	6	-	1	5	<b>45</b>
El Paso	796,000	5	5	6	1	1	-	-	-	<b>18</b>
Gilman	2,009,030	19	5	7	-	2	-	-	2	<b>35</b>
Hartland	1,075,134	11	2	7	2	2	-	-	3	<b>27</b>
Isabelle	192,480	2	11	4	-	-	-	1	2	<b>20</b>
Maiden Rock	1,679,718	8	3	7	-	2	-	-	7	<b>27</b>
Martell	3,182,800	17	6	11	-	2	-	-	2	<b>38</b>
Oak Grove	7,998,780	34	9	8	-	3	-	-	3	<b>57</b>
River Falls										
Rock Elm	414,000	4	2	4	-	2	-	-	-	<b>12</b>
Salem	682,680	2	7	4	-	1	-	-	2	<b>16</b>
Spring Lake	1,292,760	10	8	6	-	1	-	-	3	<b>28</b>
Trenton	2,793,655	18	17	8	-	10	-	1	13	<b>67</b>
Trimbelle	1,740,228	11	9	14	-	10	-	-	5	<b>49</b>
Union	728,934	4	4	3	-	1	-	-	4	<b>16</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$35,883,465</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>535</b>

Source Pierce County

TABLE 8.7: **Land Use Permit Applications (2002)**

	Const. Value	Dwelling	Add/Dw	Utility	Add/Util	Garage	Mobile	Busin.	Misc.	Total
<b>Towns</b>										
Clifton	\$7,444,828	34	6	4	1	6	0	0		<b>51</b>
Diamond Bluff	892,200	7	4	2	1	0	0	0		<b>14</b>
Ellsworth	866,500	7	11	8	4	2	0	3		<b>35</b>
El Paso	805,300	6	3	5	2	1	0	1		<b>18</b>
Gilman	2,050,300	18	7	13	2	2	0	3		<b>45</b>
Hartland	1,799,397	15	2	3	5	0	0	0		<b>25</b>
Isabelle	125,500	2	1	2	1	2	0	1		<b>9</b>
Maiden Rock	1,515,800	7	4	3	0	0	0	2		<b>16</b>
Martell	2,888,870	12	3	13	5	3	0	3		<b>39</b>
Oak Grove	11,551,916	42	5	8	4	1	0	6		<b>66</b>
River Falls										
Rock Elm	255,000	2	5	6	1	1	0	0		<b>15</b>
Salem	842,000	4	4	4	1	1	0	1		<b>15</b>
Spring Lake	813,060	7	3	6	1	0	0	1		<b>18</b>
Trenton	3,212,372	21	6	6	8	0	0	4	1	<b>46</b>
Trimbelle	2,908,455	20	12	14	5	2	0	3		<b>56</b>
Union	563,000	6	4	6	2	1	0	0		<b>19</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,534,498</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>487</b>

Source Pierce County

TABLE 8.8: Land Use Permit Applications (2003)

	Const. Value	Dwelling	Add/Dw	Utility	Add/Util	Garage	Mobile	Busin.	Misc.	Total
<b>Towns</b>										
Clifton	\$9,519,338	34	15	12	2	13	0	1	3	<b>80</b>
Diamond Bluff	190,000	2	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	<b>7</b>
Ellsworth	1,352,300	8	10	10	0	4	0	0	2	<b>34</b>
El Paso	673,700	5	3	6	2	3	0	0	1	<b>20</b>
Gilman	1,962,857	15	9	12	1	3	0	0	2	<b>42</b>
Hartland	1,344,000	9	7	9	0	4	0	0	1	<b>30</b>
Isabelle	214,000	5	1	3	1	1	0	1	2	<b>14</b>
Maiden Rock	1,316,282	11	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	<b>19</b>
Martell	1,460,650	9	7	10	2	8	0	0	0	<b>36</b>
Oak Grove	6,676,700	27	18	9	0	9	0	1	2	<b>66</b>
River Falls										
Rock Elm	809,000	7	3	6	0	4	0	0	1	<b>21</b>
Salem	469,940	3	5	6	0	4	0	0	0	<b>18</b>
Spring Lake	773,548	7	8	6	0	2	0	0	0	<b>23</b>
Trenton	1,929,000	15	9	16	4	7	0	0	3	<b>54</b>
Trimbelle	2,382,000	17	11	10	0	2	0	0	2	<b>42</b>
Union	502,400	6	7	6	2	3	0	0	0	<b>24</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,575,715</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>530</b>

Source Pierce County

TABLE 8.9: **Land Use Permit Applications (2004)**

	Const. Value	Dwelling	Add/Dw	Utility	Add/Util	Garage	Mobile	Busin.	Misc.	Total
<b>Towns</b>										
Clifton	\$5,521,000	18	14	9	0	5	0	3	1	<b>50</b>
Diamond Bluff	433,000	3	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	<b>9</b>
Ellsworth	2,608,053	14	7	11	1	3	0	0	0	<b>36</b>
El Paso	1,855,000	10	4	10	2	1	0	2	0	<b>29</b>
Gilman	2,400,961	17	9	10	1	5	0	1	0	<b>43</b>
Hartland	1,139,234	11	6	9	2	1	0	0	0	<b>29</b>
Isabelle	637,000	4	2	1	0	0	0	1	2	<b>10</b>
Maiden Rock	685,600	6	5	9	0	4	0	2	0	<b>26</b>
Martell	1,834,814	11	6	14	1	2	0	2	0	<b>36</b>
Oak Grove	9,922,941	34	16	14	3	3	0	4	1	<b>75</b>
River Falls										
Rock Elm	123,000	2	4	5	0	0	0	2	0	<b>13</b>
Salem	630,000	6	5	8	0	1	0	1	0	<b>21</b>
Spring Lake	726,000	7	4	4	0	0	0	1	0	<b>16</b>
Trenton	3,430,400	21	6	11	4	2	0	1	0	<b>45</b>
Trimbelle	3,515,755	25	10	12	1	2	0	2	0	<b>52</b>
Union	785,000	4	3	8	0	1	0	1	0	<b>17</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$36,247,758</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>507</b>

Source Pierce County

## **FUTURE LAND USE PROJECTIONS**

One method that can be used to estimate future land needs is to look at the change in land uses from 2002 to 2005. Table 8.1 shown previously identifies how the land area has changed per classification over the last 4 years.

Assuming that growth will continue as in the past the percent changes in land use can be used to forecast the amount of land needed in the future for each classification. For the purposes of this plan, the four-year percent change in land area (2002-05) will be used to forecast the amount of land needed in five-year increments for the next 20 years.

As noted previously, caution should be given as the WIDOR has periodically switched the way that they have reported certain land classifications over the years. These changes can make it difficult to forecast the future land needs of the community.

### **Land Use Demand**

As development pressures increase, the demand for developable land also rises. An analysis of building trends in the 1990s indicates that approximately 8% of the county's farmland was converted out of an agricultural use between 2002 and 2005.

Based on growth and housing projections provided by the State's Demographic Service Center, the county may need to accommodate over 7,000 acres of new residential, commercial, and industrial land along with additional acreage needed for infrastructure, parks, community facilities, and similar uses. (See Table 8.10 on the following pages.)

TABLE 8.10: **Forecasted Future Land Area Needed Per Land Use Classification**

	FORECASTED ACRES—2010	FORECASTED ACRES—2015	FORECASTED ACRES—2020	FORECASTED ACRES—2025
<b>Town of Clifton</b>				
Residential	375	345	345	340
Commercial	45	41	41	41
Manufacturing	0	0	0	0
Agricultural	12,874	12,529	12,184	11,844
<b>Town of Diamond Bluff</b>				
Residential	21	14	14	15
Commercial	1.5	1	1	1
Manufacturing	0	0	0	0
Agricultural	4,275	4,261	4,247	4,232
<b>Town of Ellsworth</b>				
Residential	39	30	30	32
Commercial	6	4.5	4.5	5
Manufacturing	<1	<1	<1	<1
Agricultural	14,077	14,047	14,017	13,985
<b>Town of El Paso</b>				
Residential	63	56	56	56
Commercial	1	1	1	1
Manufacturing	0	0	0	0
Agricultural	15,842	15,786	15,730	15,674
<b>Town of Gilman</b>				
Residential	59	50	50	46
Commercial	2	1.5	1.5	1
Manufacturing	3	2.5	2.5	2
Agricultural	13,961	13,911	13,861	13,815
<b>Town of Hartland</b>				
Residential	54	48	44	44
Commercial	1	1	1	1
Manufacturing	0	0	0	0
Agricultural	15,664	15,616	15,572	15,528
<b>Town of Isabelle</b>				
Residential	37	37	37	37
Commercial	4	4	4	4
Manufacturing	0	0	0	0
Agricultural	2,073	2,036	1,999	1,962
<b>Town of Maiden Rock</b>				
Residential	18	0	6	0
Commercial	<1	<1	<1	<1
Manufacturing	<1	<1	<1	<1
Agricultural	14,633	14,633	14,627	14,627
<b>Town of Martell</b>				
Residential	154	140	147	140
Commercial	<1	<1	<1	<1
Manufacturing	<1	<1	<1	<1
Agricultural	15,604	15,464	15,317	15,177

	FORECASTED ACRES—2010	FORECASTED ACRES—2015	FORECASTED ACRES—2020	FORECASTED ACRES—2025
<b>Town of Oak Grove</b>				
Residential	544	512	512	512
Commercial	5	5	5	5
Manufacturing	5	5	5	5
Agricultural	14,891	14,379	13,867	13,355
<b>Town of River Falls</b>				
Residential	260	228	2242	224
Commercial	0	7	7	7
Manufacturing	<1	<1	<1	<1
Agricultural	15,460	15,232	15,008	14,784
<b>Town of Rock Elm</b>				
Residential	7	5	7	5
Commercial	<1	<1	<1	<1
Manufacturing	0	0	0	0
Agricultural	14,732	14,727	14,720	14,715
<b>Town of Salem</b>				
Residential	9	0	3	3
Commercial	<1	0	<1	<1
Manufacturing	4.5	0	1.5	1.5
Agricultural	12,407	12,407	12,404	12,401
<b>Town of Spring Lake</b>				
Residential	28	22	25	22
Commercial	<1	<1	<1	<1
Manufacturing	2	1.5	2	1.5
Agricultural	13,210	13,188	13,163	13,141
<b>Town of Trenton</b>				
Residential	205	170	170	165
Commercial	31	26	26	25
Manufacturing	49	41	41	40
Agricultural	9,069	8,899	8,729	8,564
<b>Town of Trimble</b>				
Residential	82	56	60	56
Commercial	2.5	2	2	2
Manufacturing	<1	<1	<1	<1
Agricultural	16,103	16,047	15,987	15,931
<b>Town of Union</b>				
Residential	4	2	0	0
Commercial	<1	<1	0	0
Manufacturing	<1	<1	0	0
Agricultural	15,343	15,341	15,341	15,341

Land use projections (see previous Table 8.10) have been performed for the county. These projections represent generalized growth scenarios based on state projections and current densities. It is anticipated that these general projections will be supplemented by more detailed projections performed for each community.

The calculations are based on the following assumptions:

- Based on State of Wisconsin DOA Population and Housing Growth Projections
- Residential Density based on number of housing units per acre, 2000
- Commercial and Industrial Uses are based on the 2000 ratio to residential development

### **Development Limitations**

Development should only take place in suitable areas, which is determined by several criteria, including: a community's vision statement, land use goals and policies, surrounding uses, special requirements of the proposed development, the ability to provide utility & community services to the area, transportation and economic development factors, cultural resource constraints, and various physical constraints. The following is a review of the physical development limitations discussed in the section regarding Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources.

### **Slope Limitations**

A review of the Map on Slopes (see Appendix), reveals areas where development limitations occur due to steep slopes. Slope is an important limitation to consider since it is a measure of how steep land is. Problems for development are usually associated with areas having little or no slope (due to potential drainage problems) and areas with extreme slope (because of erosion and other factors). In general, areas with slopes under 12 percent are best suited for development.

### **Septic Limitations**

The engineering interpretations in the soil survey indicate the degree to which sub-grade materials are influenced by surface drainage, depth of frost penetrations, and other factors. The limitations apply to domestic sewage disposal systems, primarily filter fields and seepage beds. How well a sewage disposal system functions depends largely on the rate at which effluent from the tank moves into and through the soil. If permeability is moderately slow, sewage effluent is likely to flow along the surface of the soil. If permeability is moderately rapid or rapid, effluent is likely to flow into the aquifer. Detailed testing at specific site locations may reveal pockets with fewer restrictions than indicated.

### **Depth To Bedrock**

The depth to bedrock is an important factor that influences other limitations such as those pertaining to septic tanks and building foundations. Bedrock that is too close to the surface not only hampers the absorption of surface water by the soil, but it poses an obstacle to construction.

### **Opportunities For Redevelopment**

Refer to the Economic Development Section for a list of Environmentally Contaminated Sites. The WI DNR Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment maintains the list. The database lists contaminated lands and sites and includes the following: spills, leaks, Superfund sites, and other contaminated sites that have been reported to the WI DNR or otherwise discovered.

### **Existing & Potential Land Use Conflicts**

There are a variety of land uses that can potentially cause land use conflicts. There are two common acronyms used to describe land use conflicts – NIMBY’s (Not In My Back Yard) and LULU’s (Locally Unwanted Land Uses). One of the most common occurrences, especially in a rural setting, is the presence of agricultural operations near non-farm populations.

Agriculture can affect adjoining small rural lots, which are used essentially for residential purposes. Similarly, the presence of small rural lots creates an adverse influence on the continued operation of agriculture enterprise. The issue of rural-urban conflict can arise when there is no separation between incompatible uses. Land use conflicts may arise in such situations through noise, odor, farm chemicals, light, visual amenity, dogs, stock damage and weed infestation, lack of understanding, and lack of communication to name a few. However conflicts can arise from more than agriculture/residential situations:

- Landfills or Waste Facilities
- Jails or Prisons
- Halfway Houses or Group Homes
- Airports, Highways, Rail Lines
- Low Income Housing
- Strip Malls and Shopping Centers
- “Cell” Towers, Electrical Transmission Lines
- Wind Farms

- Large Livestock Operations
- Industrial or Manufacturing Operations

## **LAND USE AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

There are a number of available state agencies and programs to assist communities with land use projects. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. To find out more specific information or which program best fits your needs contact the agency directly.

### **Center for Land Use Education (CLUE)**

The Center for Land Use Education is a joint venture of Cooperative Extension and the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The Center for Land Use Education uses a team-based approach to accomplish its dual missions in campus based undergraduate and graduate education and Extension outreach teaching related to:

- land use planning,
- plan and ordinance administration,
- project impact and regional trends analysis and
- public involvement in local land use policy development.

### **Wisconsin Land Council – WI Department of Administration**

The Wisconsin Land Council was created to gather and analyze land use and planning related information, coordinate high priority state initiatives including the development of a Wisconsin land information system and provide recommendations to the Governor for improvements to the existing statewide planning framework. The Council is dedicated to identifying ways to enhance and facilitate planning efforts of Wisconsin's local governments and to improve the coordination and cooperation of state agencies in their land use activities.

### **University of Wisconsin**

The UW-Madison has a department of Urban Planning that can provide research and outreach services to area communities. The University also has a Land Information & Computer Graphics Facility (LICGF). The overall mission of the Land Information and Computer Graphics Facility is to provide research, training, and outreach in the use of land and geographic information systems (LIS/GIS). Their mission focuses on land records modernization, land and natural resource management applications, and the use of information for land-use decision making.

### **Farmland Preservation Plan**

The Pierce County Farmland Preservation Plan (1982) identified three main issues: 1) conflicts between farmers and non-farmer neighbors; 2) the loss of prime farmland and the fragmentation of large farming tracts as a result of rural non-farm development; and 3) soil erosion, which was cited as possible the greatest problem.

### **Pierce County Soil Erosion Control Plan**

The Pierce County Soil Erosion Control Plan was completed in 1985 by the Pierce County Land Conservation Committee. The purpose of the plan was to determine where the need for erosion control work was the greatest in Pierce County. Once this was determined, more technical assistance and governmental cost-sharing funds for conservation work could be channeled into the highest erosion areas of Pierce County.

### **Lower St. Croix Scenic Riverway Master Plan**

This plan proposed a cooperative federal-state-local approach to managing the water and adjacent lands along the St. Croix River for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the natural qualities of this largely unspoiled river and its shoreline.