

**COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE
PLANNING REPORT NO. 131
(2nd Edition)**



A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR KENOSHA COUNTY

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COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PLANNING REPORT No. 131 (2nd Edition)

A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR KENOSHA COUNTY

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Chapter I

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Kenosha County has a long history of park and open space planning, going back to the 1970s. This includes the periodic updating of the County park and open space plan, the current version of which was adopted by the Kenosha County Board in 1988. With the assistance of the Regional Planning Commission, Kenosha County in 2011 undertook another effort to update its park and open space plan, extending the planning horizon further into the future. This report documents that planning process and presents the resulting updated County park and open space plan.

PLAN CONTEXT

Over the years, park and open space planning and other planning for Kenosha County have been closely coordinated with regional planning. The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) is charged by law with the duty of preparing and adopting a comprehensive plan for the physical development of the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region,¹ which includes Kenosha County. The regional plan, which is periodically updated, consists of a number of major elements, including land use, transportation, park and open space, water supply, and water quality management.

The regional land use plan sets forth the fundamental concepts which are intended to guide the development of the Region. The regional land use plan, the most recent version of which was adopted by the Commission in 2006, is documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 48, *A Regional Land Use Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2035*. Subsequently, the regional land use plan provided the framework for the development of a multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan for Kenosha County. The County plan was adopted by the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors in 2010 and is documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 299, *A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Kenosha County: 2035*. The following three recommendations are contained in the regional land use plan and the County comprehensive plan: 1) the preservation of primary environmental corridors in essentially natural, open uses and the preservation of secondary environmental

¹The seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region includes Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha Counties.

corridors and isolated natural resource areas whenever possible; 2) the maintenance of the best remaining farmland in long-term agricultural uses; and 3) encouragement of a more compact pattern of urban development, one that can be efficiently served by such essential public facilities and services as centralized sanitary sewerage, water supply, and mass transit. These three recommendations provide a basic framework for park and open space planning.

A park and open space plan for Kenosha County was included as part of the first regional park and open space plan,² which was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission on December 1, 1977. That plan identified existing and probable future park and open space needs within the Region and recommended a park system consisting of large resource-oriented parks and smaller nonresource-oriented urban parks, together with attendant recreational facilities. The regional park and open space plan also recommended the development of an approximately 440-mile network of hiking and bicycling trails within natural resource corridors of regional significance, including corridors along the Lake Michigan shoreline, through the Kettle Moraine, and along the riverine areas of the major streams and watercourses of the Region. The regional park and open space plan incorporated the regional land use plan recommendations concerning primary environmental corridors and farmland preservation. The regional park and open space plan as it relates to Kenosha County was subsequently refined in 1988 as documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 131, *A Park and Open Space Plan for Kenosha County*.

In 1995, Kenosha County, the City of Kenosha, the Village of Pleasant Prairie, and the Town of Somers jointly prepared a master plan for that portion of the County east of IH 94, known as the Kenosha Urban Planning District (KUPD). This plan updated and refined the 1988 County park plan and included recommendations for additional sites and facilities which are not included in the 1988 County park and open space plan. Recommendations contained in the KUPD plan were taken into consideration in the development of this new County park and open space plan. In addition, the County park and open space plan was amended in 1999 to recommend that the County acquire a 550-acre major park in the western portion of the County.

COUNTY REQUEST

In 2009, Kenosha County requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the County in the preparation of a new park and open space plan. The new plan is based upon updated information related to land use, population levels and distribution, anticipated growth and development, natural resources, and park and open space acquisition and development activities within the County. The new plan is prepared within the framework of the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan for Kenosha County. It is based upon the recommended development pattern set forth in the County comprehensive plan and to refine and detail the park and open space-related recommendations of the comprehensive plan. Like the County comprehensive plan, the updated County park and open space plan, as presented in this report, has a planning horizon of 2035. The new plan is further intended to maintain County eligibility to apply for and receive Federal and State aids in partial support of the acquisition and development of park and open space sites and facilities.

KENOSHA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS/FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The new County park and open space plan was prepared under the guidance of the Kenosha County Public Works/Facilities Committee as established by the County Board of Supervisors. A complete membership list of the Public Works/Facilities Committee is provided on the inside cover of this report. The Public Works/Facilities Committee recommendations were forwarded to the County Board of Supervisors for their consideration.

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

REPORT FORMAT

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

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Chapter II

INVENTORY FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

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

DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Population

Population growth in Kenosha County from 1850 to 2010 is indicated in Table 1 and Figure 1. The population has grown steadily since 1890 and increased to 166,426 in 2010. Between 1970 and 2010, the population of Kenosha County increased by 41 percent, compared to increases of 15 percent and 29 percent for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region and State, respectively.

The City of Kenosha is the most populous community in the County, with 99,218 residents, or about 60 percent of the County's population, in 2010. The next most populous communities are the Village of Pleasant Prairie (19,719 persons), the Town of Salem (12,067 persons), and the Town of Somers (9,597 persons) – accounting for a combined 25 percent of the County's population in 2010.

Households

Trends in the number of households in Kenosha County and the Region are shown on Table 2. Both the County and Region experienced significant gains in the number of households between 1970 and 2010. The rate of increase in the number of households has exceeded the rate of population increase in both cases. Between 1970 and 2010, the rate of increase in the number of households was 77 percent in the County and 49 percent in the Region, compared to a population increase of 41 percent in the County and 15 percent in the Region. Since the number of households has increased at a faster rate than the population, the average number of persons per household has decreased.

The number of households is of particular importance in land use and public facility planning, because it influences the demand for converting rural land to urban use to accommodate additional residential development. It is also an important component in creating demand for transportation and other facilities and services, including parks and recreational facilities.

Table 1

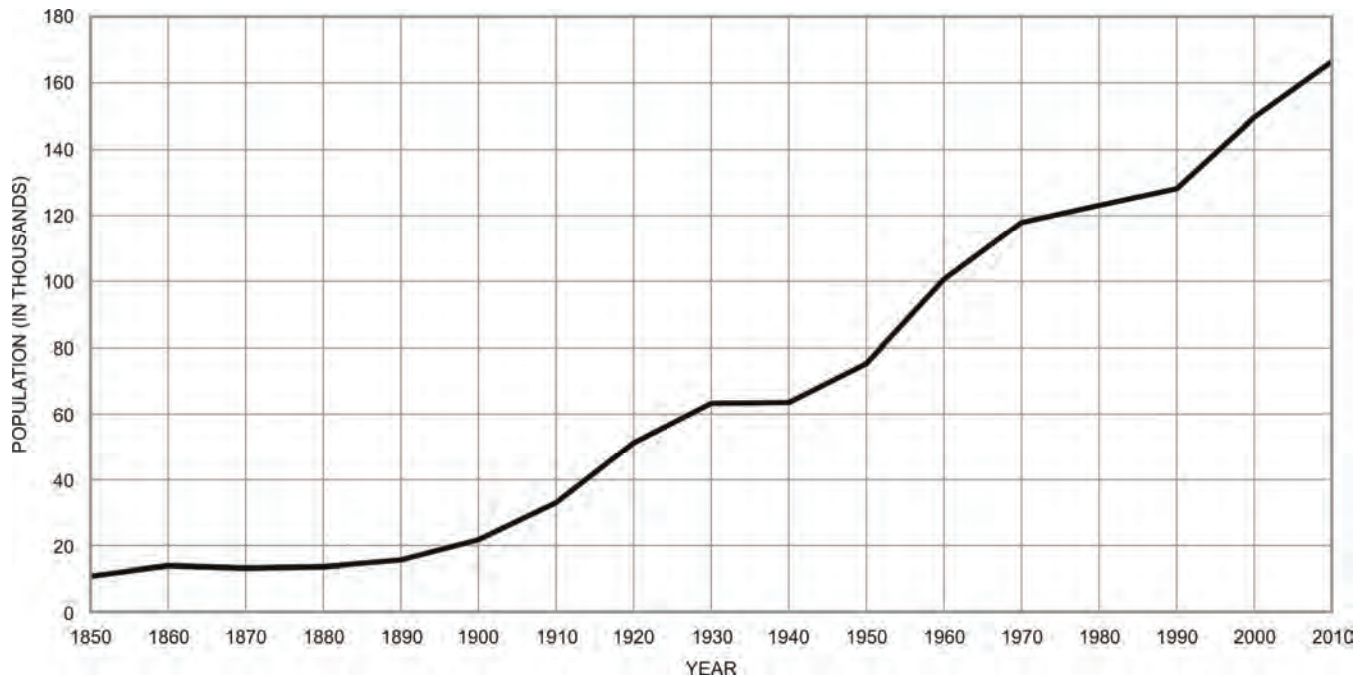
**HISTORIC RESIDENT POPULATION LEVELS IN KENOSHA COUNTY,
SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN, AND THE STATE OF WISCONSIN: 1850-2010**

Year	Kenosha County			Southeastern Wisconsin			Wisconsin		
	Population	Change from Preceding Census		Population	Change from Preceding Census		Population	Change from Preceding Census	
		Absolute	Percent		Absolute	Percent		Absolute	Percent
1850	10,734	--	--	113,389	--	--	305,391	--	--
1860	13,900	3,166	29.5	190,409	77,020	67.9	775,881	470,490	154.1
1870	13,147	-753	-5.4	223,546	33,137	17.4	1,054,670	278,789	35.9
1880	13,550	403	3.1	277,119	53,573	24.0	1,315,497	260,827	24.7
1890	15,581	2,031	15.0	386,774	109,655	39.6	1,693,330	377,833	28.7
1900	21,707	6,126	39.3	501,808	115,034	29.7	2,069,042	375,712	22.2
1910	32,929	11,222	51.7	631,161	129,353	25.8	2,333,860	264,818	12.8
1920	51,284	18,355	55.7	783,681	152,520	24.2	2,632,067	298,207	12.8
1930	63,297	12,013	23.4	1,006,118	222,437	28.4	2,939,006	306,939	11.7
1940	63,505	208	0.3	1,067,699	61,581	6.1	3,137,587	198,581	6.8
1950	75,238	11,733	18.5	1,240,618	172,919	16.2	3,434,575	296,988	9.5
1960	100,615	25,377	33.7	1,573,614	332,996	26.8	3,951,777	517,202	15.1
1970	117,917	17,302	17.2	1,756,083	182,469	11.6	4,417,821	466,044	11.8
1980	123,137	5,220	4.4	1,764,796	8,713	0.5	4,705,642	287,821	6.5
1990	128,181	5,044	4.1	1,810,364	45,568	2.6	4,891,769	186,127	4.0
2000	149,577	21,396	16.7	1,931,165	120,801	6.7	5,363,675	471,906	9.6
2010	166,426	16,849	11.3	2,019,970	88,805	4.6	5,686,986	323,271	6.0

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

Figure 1

RESIDENT POPULATION OF KENOSHA COUNTY: 1850-2010



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

Age Distribution

The age distribution of the population may be expected to influence the location and type of recreational areas and facilities provided within Kenosha County. The age distribution of the population in the County and Region in 1980, 1990, and 2000 is set forth in Table 3.¹ Between 1980 and 2000, there was a significant increase in the number of adults aged 25 to 44 in Kenosha County. Conversely, the population aged 18 to 24 decreased in number. The Region as a whole experienced a significant increase in the number of

Table 2

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS IN KENOSHA COUNTY AND THE SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGION: CENSUS YEARS 1970-2010

Year	Kenosha County			Southeastern Wisconsin		
	Number of Households	Change from Previous Census		Number of Households	Change from Previous Census	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1970	35,468	--	--	536,486	--	--
1980	43,064	7,596	21.4	627,955	91,469	17.0
1990	47,029	3,965	9.2	676,107	48,152	7.7
2000	56,057	9,028	19.2	749,039	72,932	10.8
2010	62,650	6,593	11.8	800,087	51,048	6.8

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

Table 3

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION OF KENOSHA COUNTY AND THE SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGION: CENSUS YEARS 1980-2000

Kenosha County								
Age Group	1980		1990		2000		Change 1980-2000	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent
Under 5.....	8,819	7.1	10,124	7.9	10,367	6.9	1,548	17.6
5-17.....	27,298	22.2	24,209	18.9	30,135	20.2	2,837	10.4
18-24.....	16,402	13.3	13,232	10.3	14,005	9.4	-2,397	-14.6
25-44.....	33,366	27.1	40,731	31.8	46,876	31.3	13,510	40.5
45-64.....	23,968	19.5	23,692	18.5	31,025	20.7	7,057	29.4
65 and Older.....	13,284	10.8	16,193	12.6	17,169	11.5	3,885	29.2
All Ages	123,137	100.0	128,181	100.0	149,577	100.0	26,440	21.5

Southeastern Wisconsin								
Age Group	1980 ^a		1990		2000 ^b		Change 1980-2000	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent
Under 5.....	128,085	7.3	138,286	7.7	132,390	6.8	4,305	3.4
5-17.....	375,653	21.3	339,722	18.8	377,706	19.5	2,053	0.5
18-24.....	234,264	13.3	181,211	10.0	179,500	9.3	-54,764	-23.4
25-44.....	482,615	27.3	590,955	32.6	581,351	30.1	98,736	20.5
45-64.....	349,008	19.8	333,818	18.4	420,937	21.8	71,929	20.6
65 and Older.....	195,294	11.0	226,372	12.5	241,024	12.5	45,730	23.4
All Ages	1,764,919	100.0	1,810,364	100.0	1,932,908	100.0	167,989	9.5

NOTE: Information on the age composition of the population from the 2010 Census was not available when this report was prepared.

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

^bThe 2000 regional population of 1,932,908 includes 1,743 persons who were subtracted from this number after the conduct of the 2000 census but were not allocated to the various age group categories.

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

¹Information on the age composition of the population from the 2010 Census was not available when this report was prepared.

adults aged 25 to 44, 45 to 64, and those 65 and over, and a significant decrease in those aged 18 to 24. As shown in Table 3, the population aged 17 or younger moderately increased in both the County and the Region between 1980 and 2000.

Employment

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

Table 4
NUMBER OF JOBS IN KENOSHA COUNTY AND THE SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGION: 1970-2000

Year	Kenosha County			Southeastern Wisconsin		
	Number of Jobs	Change from Previous Time Period		Number of Jobs	Change from Previous Time Period	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1970	42,100	--	--	794,887	--	--
1980	54,100	12,000	28.5	953,282	158,395	19.9
1990	52,200	-1,900	-3.5	1,063,515	110,233	11.6
2000	68,700	16,500	31.6	1,216,719	153,204	14.4

NOTE: The estimated number of jobs in Kenosha County in 2009 was 74,000.

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

As indicated in Table 4, employment in Kenosha County increased by 12,000 jobs during the 1970s; decreased by 1,900 jobs during the 1980s; and increased by 16,500 jobs during the 1990s. The overall 63 percent rate of increase in the number of jobs in the County between 1970 and 2000 exceeded the rate of increase in the Region during the same period (53 percent). The number of jobs in Kenosha County was estimated to have reached 78,100 in 2008, about 9,400, or 14 percent, above the 2000 level. The estimated number of jobs in the County in 2009 decreased to an estimated 74,000 as a result of the economic recession.

HISTORIC URBAN GROWTH AND EXISTING LAND USES

Land use is an important determinant of both the supply of, and the demand for, outdoor recreation and related open space facilities. Accordingly, an understanding of the amount, type, and spatial distribution of urban, agricultural, and other rural land uses, including environmentally sensitive lands, within the County, as well as the historic conversion of rural lands to urban use, is essential to the development of a sound park and open space plan. This section presents a description of the historic urban development and existing land uses in the County.

Historic Urban Growth

The historic urban development of Kenosha County is presented on Map 1. Prior to 1900, urban development was largely confined to the City of Kenosha and the smaller settlement communities of Silver Lake, Wilmot, and New Munster. The period from 1900 to 1950 saw a considerable expansion of urban development in the City of Kenosha and around the County's inland lakes. The period from 1950 to 2000 saw significant urban growth in the outward expansion of the City of Kenosha and in the Village of Pleasant Prairie and Town of Somers, and moderate development in the outlying areas of western and southern Kenosha County.

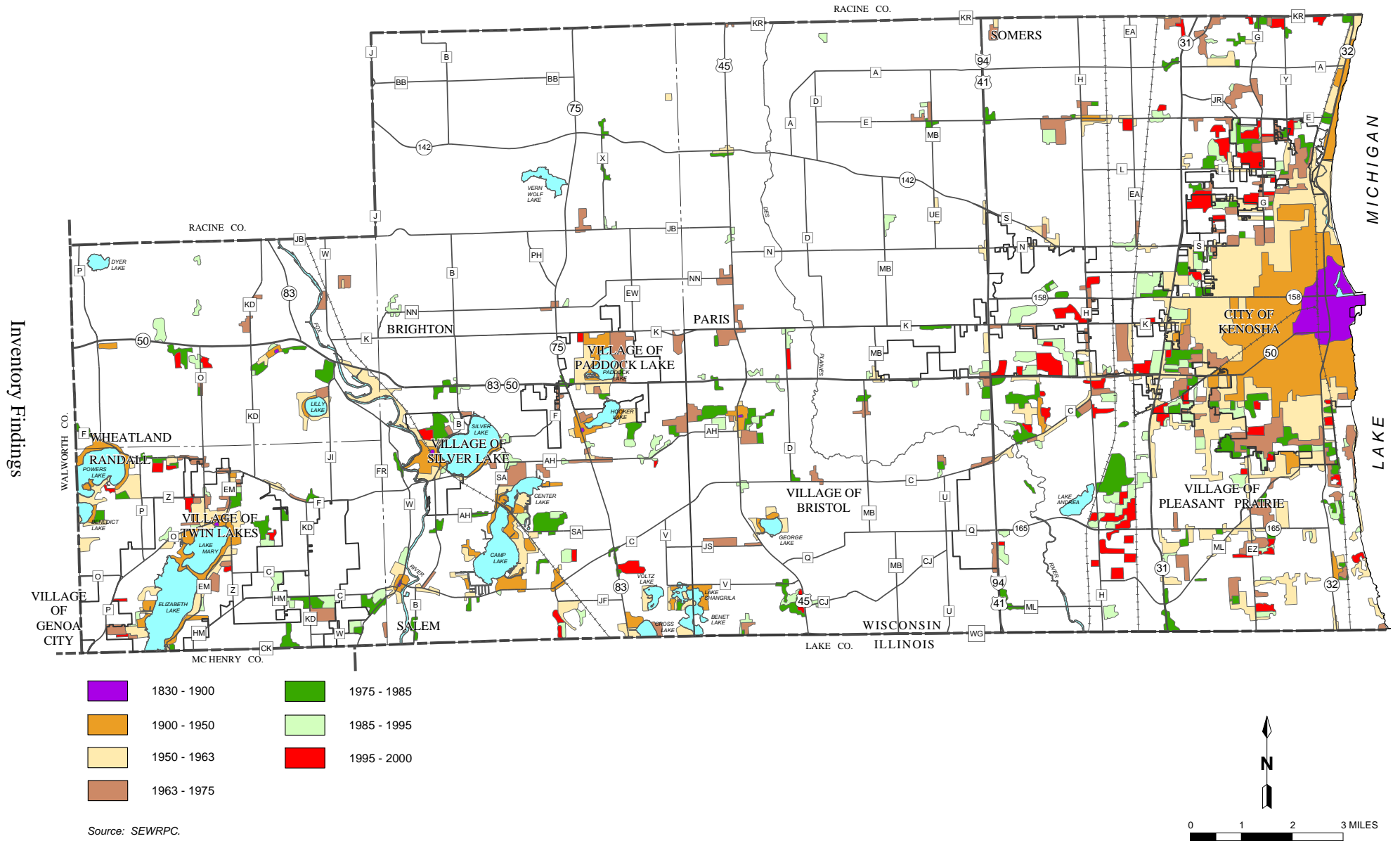
Despite significant urbanization, large tracts of agricultural and other open space and environmentally sensitive lands remain intact, relatively free of encroachment by urban development, particularly in portions of the County west of IH 94. Kenosha County has the opportunity to continue to plan for widespread preservation of these agricultural and other open space and environmentally sensitive lands.

Existing Land Uses

Land uses in Kenosha County in 2007 are set forth on Map 2 and in Table 5. In 2007, urban land uses – consisting of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental and institutional, recreational, and transportation, communication and utility uses – encompassed about 77.0 square miles, or 27 percent of the total area of the County. Residential land comprised the largest urban land use category, encompassing 38.4 square miles, or about 50 percent of all urban land use and 14 percent of the total area of the County.

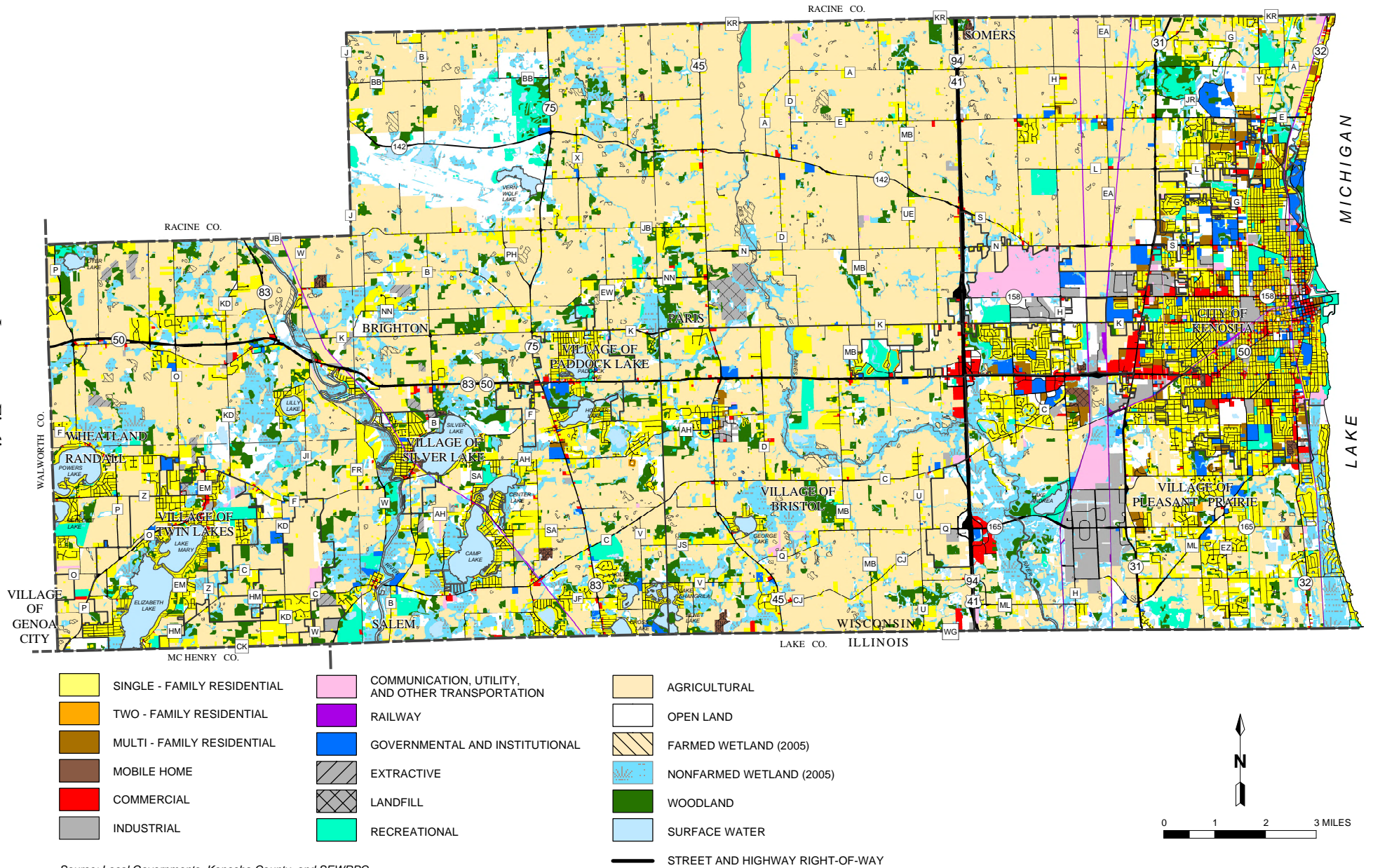
Map 1

HISTORICAL URBAN GROWTH IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 1830 - 2000



Map 2

GENERALIZED LAND USE IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2007



Land uses categorized as transportation, communications, and utilities constituted the second largest urban land use category in 2007, encompassing about 20 square miles, or about 26 percent of all urban land and about 7 percent of the total area of the County. Streets and highways occupied about 16.3 square miles, or over 81 percent of the uses in this category. Major arterial highways serving the County include, IH 94, which traverses the County in a north-south direction; US Highways 41 and 45; and State Trunk Highways 31, 32, 50, 75, 83, 142, 158, and 165. Other uses in the transportation, communications, and utilities category within the County include railway freight service lines—operated by the Union Pacific Railroad, Canadian National Railway, and Canadian Pacific Railroad—and the Kenosha Regional Airport.

Recreational land uses constituted the third largest urban land use category within the County in 2007, encompassing about 6.5 square miles, or about 8 percent of all urban land and about 2 percent of the total area of the County. These figures include only those areas that are developed for intensive recreational use, such as tennis courts, baseball diamonds, playfields, and accessory uses. Areas used for passive recreational purposes, such as hiking and nature study, are generally designated as open lands or woodlands. A description of park and open space sites within the County is presented in Chapter III.

About 202 square miles, or about 73 percent of the total area of the County, were rural lands, including agricultural lands, wetlands, woodlands, surface water, landfill and extractive, and other open lands. Agriculture was the largest single land use in the County, accounting for about 128 square miles, or about 46 percent of the area of the County, in 2007.

NATURAL RESOURCES

An important recommendation of the adopted regional land use and park and open space plans is the preservation of the most important elements of the natural resource base of the Region. Since the preparation and adoption of the Kenosha County park and open space plan in 1988, additional inventory information concerning the location and extent of natural resources has been collected. This section presents such information as it relates to Kenosha County.

Surface Water Resources

Surface water resources, consisting of streams and lakes, form a particularly important element of the natural resource base. Surface water resources provide recreational opportunities, influence the physical development of the County, provide for wildlife habitat, and enhance its aesthetic quality. Surface water resources and major watersheds and drainage basins in the County are shown on Map 3.

Perennial streams are defined as those which maintain, at a minimum, a small continuous flow throughout the year except under unusual drought conditions. As shown on Map 3, there are approximately 154 miles of such

Table 5
LAND USES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2007

Land Use Category	Square Miles	Percent of Subtotal	Percent of County
Urban ^a			
Single-Family Residential	35.9	46.9	12.9
Multi-Family Residential ^b	2.5	3.2	0.9
Commercial	3.3	4.3	1.2
Industrial	4.8	6.3	1.7
Government and Institutional.....	3.7	4.8	1.3
Recreational	6.5	8.5	2.3
Transportation, Communications, and Utilities	19.9	26.0	7.1
Subtotal	76.6	100.0	27.4
Rural			
Agricultural	128.3	63.5	46.2
Woodlands	14.1	7.0	5.1
Nonfarmed Wetlands.....	28.4	14.1	10.2
Farmed Wetlands	2.1	1.0	0.8
Water	7.9	3.9	2.8
Landfill and Extractive	1.2	0.6	0.4
Other Open Lands.....	19.9	9.9	7.1
Subtotal	201.9	100.0	72.6
Total	278.5	- -	100.0

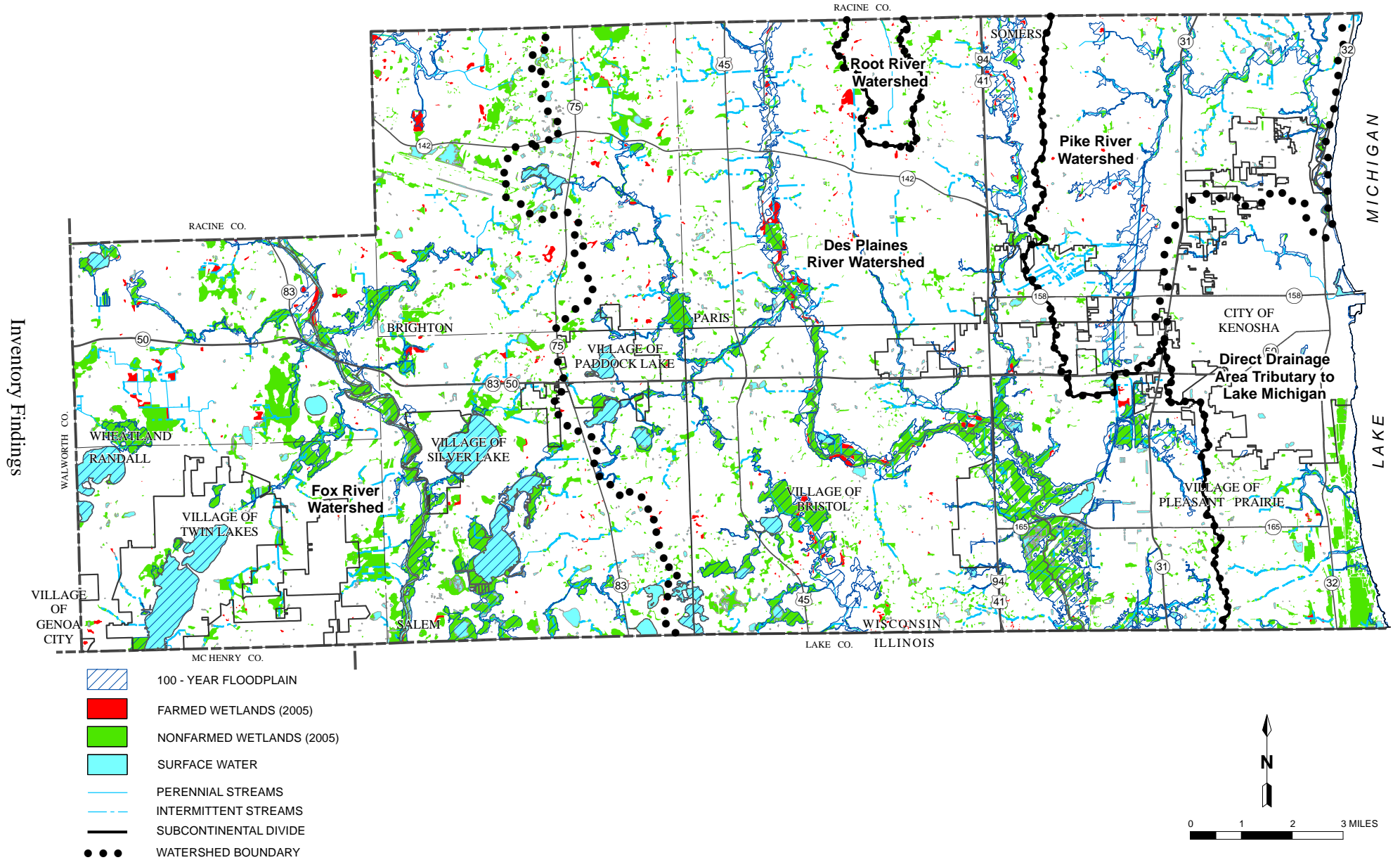
^aParking lots are included with the associated use.

^bIncludes two-family residential.

Source: SEWRPC.

Map 3

SURFACE WATERS, WETLANDS, AND FLOODPLAINS IN KENOSHA COUNTY



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

streams in Kenosha County. The County includes portions of four major watersheds: the Des Plaines River, Fox River, Pike River, and Root River watersheds. The Lake Michigan direct drainage area may be considered to compose a fifth watershed.

The Des Plaines River and Fox River watersheds are tributary to the Mississippi River system. Perennial streams in the Des Plaines River watershed, which generally includes the area in the central portion of the County, are the Des Plaines River, Brighton Creek, Center Creek, Dutch Gap Canal, Jerome Creek, Kilbourn Road Ditch, and the Salem Branch of Brighton Creek. Perennial streams in the Fox River watershed, which generally includes the western half of the County, are the Fox River, Bassett Creek, Hoosier Creek Canal, Karcher Creek, New Munster Creek, Palmer Creek, Peterson Creek, and Trevor Creek.

The Pike River and Root River watersheds and the Lake Michigan direct drainage area are tributary to the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River system. Perennial streams in the Pike River watershed, which includes the northeastern portion of the County, are Pike River, Nelson Creek, Pike Creek, School Tributary, Somers Branch, and Sorensen Creek. Barnes Creek and Pike Creek are the perennial streams in the Lake Michigan direct drainage area. The East Branch of the Root River Canal is the perennial stream in the part of the Root River watershed located in the Town of Paris.

There are 17 major lakes, lakes of 50 or more acres, located entirely or partially within Kenosha County. These lakes encompass a total of 3,414 acres within the County. The three largest lakes that are entirely within Kenosha County are Silver Lake, with a surface area of about 464 acres; Camp Lake, with a surface area of about 461 acres; and Lake Mary, with a surface area of about 315 acres. Elizabeth Lake and Powers Lake, which are partially located within Kenosha County, encompass 682 and 376 acres within the County, respectively. In addition, the entire eastern side of the County is bounded by Lake Michigan with approximately 13 miles of shoreline.

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

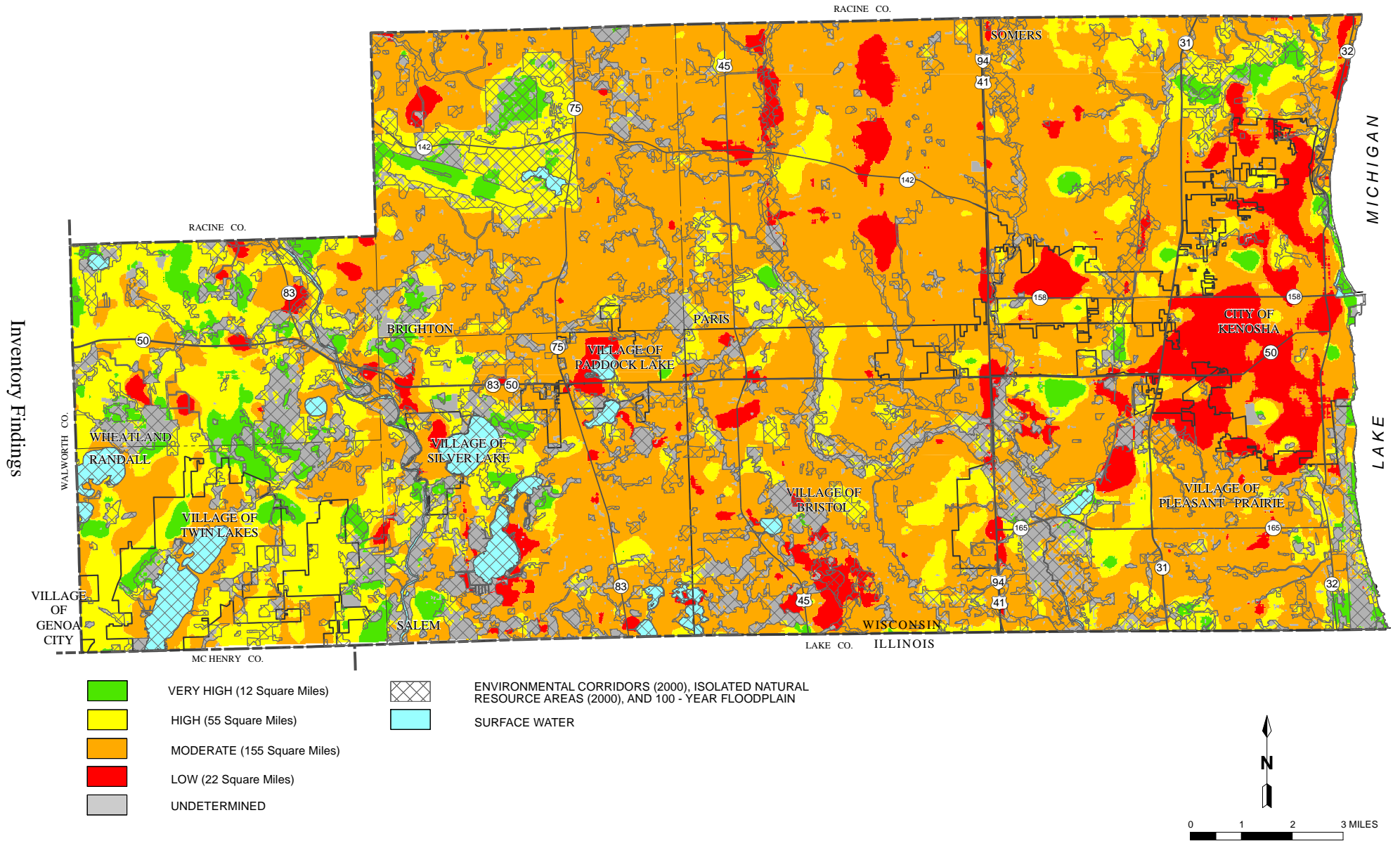
Groundwater Resources

Like surface water, groundwater is susceptible to depletion in quantity and to deterioration in quality as a result of contamination and over-usage. The vulnerability of groundwater to contamination is a combination of several factors, including soil type, subsurface material characteristics, and depth to groundwater levels. Thus, land use and park and open space planning must appropriately consider the potential impacts of urban and rural development on this important resource.

Recharge of the aquifers underlying Kenosha County is derived largely by precipitation. Areas of groundwater recharge are shown on Map 4. The map identifies areas based upon the rate of annual groundwater recharge from precipitation in the County. Areas were placed into the following classifications: very high (more than six inches of recharge per year), high (four to six inches of recharge per year), moderate (three to four inches of recharge per year), and low (less than three inches of recharge per year). The protection of recharge areas classified as having a high or very high recharge potential is particularly important in the long term protection and preservation of groundwater resources in Kenosha County. The protection of these areas may be expected to be largely achieved through the implementation of the 2035 Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Kenosha County since that plan recommends preservation of the environmental corridors, isolated natural resource areas, significant natural

Map 4

GROUNDWATER RECHARGE POTENTIAL IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2009



Source: Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey and SEWRPC.

areas, prime agricultural lands, and other agricultural and open areas of the County. In addition, the use of low impact development designs, cluster developments, and other sustainable development designs have the potential to effectively maintain infiltration capabilities in urban areas.

As shown on Map 4, about 5 percent of the County is rated “very high” for recharge potential, and about 20 percent is rated “high” for recharge potential. High and very high recharge potential areas are scattered throughout the County, with the largest concentration found in the County’s western area. Over one-half of the planning area (about 56 percent) is classified as having “moderate” recharge potential, and about 8 percent is classified as having a “low” potential.

Environmental corridors and isolated natural resources areas were overlaid on Map 4 to indicate the correlation between such areas and groundwater recharge potential. About 7 percent of the areas classified as having very high water recharge potential are located in environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, and about 24 percent of areas classified as having high recharge potential are located in such areas.

Floodplains

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

Floodplains, as identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are shown on Map 3. Approximately 31.0 square miles, or about 11 percent of the total area of the County, were located within the 100-year recurrence interval flood hazard area.

FEMA is conducting a Map Modernization Program for Kenosha County which will result in updated FEMA floodplain maps for both incorporated and unincorporated areas. Preliminary maps are currently available, and final maps are expected to be available in 2012. The County and each city and village will be required to update their floodplain zoning maps and ordinances to reflect the new floodplain mapping and to be consistent with the State model floodplain ordinance within six months of the date the final maps are released by FEMA.

Wetlands

The location and extent of wetlands in the County in 2005, as delineated by the Regional Planning Commission under contract with the WDNR (Wisconsin Wetlands Inventory), are shown on Map 3. At that time, wetlands covered about 30.5 square miles, or about 11 percent of the County.

Wetlands are important resources for the ecological health and diversity of the County. They provide essential breeding, nesting, resting, and feeding grounds and provide escape cover for many forms of fish and wildlife. Wetlands also contribute to flood control, because such areas naturally serve to store excess runoff temporarily, thereby tending to reduce peak flows. Wetlands may also serve as groundwater recharge and discharge areas. In addition, wetlands help to protect downstream water resources from siltation and pollution by trapping sediments, nutrients, and other water pollutants.

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

Included in the 30.5 square miles of wetlands are 2.1 square miles which have been classified as “farmed wetlands.” These areas meet the definition of a wetland but were being actively farmed in 2005.

Woodlands

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

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

Woodlands, as shown on Map 2, occur in scattered locations throughout the County, with some of the largest concentrations found in the western portions of the County. In 2007, woodland areas covered about 14.1 square miles, or about 5 percent of the County. These woodlands should be maintained for their scenic, wildlife habitat, recreational, and air and water quality protection values.

Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat, and Geological Sites

A comprehensive update to the inventory of natural and geological resources in the County was conducted by the Regional Planning Commission in 2009 as part of an amendment to the regional natural areas and critical species habitat protection and management plan.² This update systematically evaluated physical changes to high-quality natural areas, critical species habitat, and sites having geological significance within the Region, including Kenosha County, and reflects new findings since the preparation of the original natural areas plan. Recommendations developed through the plan amendment for the protection and management of identified natural areas, critical species habitat, and geological sites have been incorporated into this park and open space plan.

Natural Areas

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

A total of 42 natural areas, encompassing about 3,792 acres, or about 2 percent of the County, were identified in Kenosha County in 2009. Of the 42 identified sites, six are classified as NA-1 sites and encompass about 617 acres, 17 are classified as NA-2 sites and encompass about 1,903 acres, and 19 are classified as NA-3 sites and encompass about 1,272 acres. Map 5 depicts the locations of natural areas identified in 2009. Table 6 sets forth a description of each natural area.

²*SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997, as amended in 2010.*

Critical Species Habitat

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

A total of 32 sites supporting threatened or rare plant or bird species have been identified in Kenosha County. These sites, which together encompass an area of about 5,309 acres, are shown on Map 6 and described in Table 7. A total of 33 aquatic sites supporting threatened or rare fish, herptile, or mussel species have also been identified in the County (see Map 6 and Table 8). There are 77.4 stream miles and 3,414 lake acres of critical aquatic habitat in Kenosha County.

Geological Sites

The Kenosha Dunes and Buried Forest, located in the Village of Pleasant Prairie, is the one geological site of importance identified in the County in 2009. Geological sites are identified on the basis of scientific importance, significance in industrial history, natural aesthetics, ecological qualities, educational value, and public access potential. The Kenosha Dunes and Buried Forest site encompasses an area of 36 acres and lies wholly within the established project boundary of the Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach State Natural Area (See Map 8).

Lake Michigan Shoreline and Coastal Areas

As noted earlier in this chapter, the eastern boundary of the County consists of approximately 13 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. Lake Michigan is one of the largest freshwater lakes in the world and is a major source of water supply for many communities, including the City of Kenosha, the Village of Pleasant Prairie, and portions of the Village of Bristol and Town of Somers. The shoreline and coastal areas of Lake Michigan have significant importance for recreational and open space uses, namely:

- The near coastal areas of the lake are used for numerous recreational activities, including motor boating, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, sport fishing, and swimming.
- While the bluff significantly limits direct access to beach and shore areas in some areas of the County, the lands along the shoreline provide picturesque locations for park and open space lands.
- The bluff and beach areas provide critical habitat sites for shorebirds and songbirds.
- The Lake Michigan shoreline is recognized as one of the most important flyways in North America for numerous migrating birds, including songbirds, hawks and falcons, and waterfowl. As such, the bluff and shoreline areas are popular bird watching sites.

Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

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

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

Map 5

NATURAL AREAS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2009

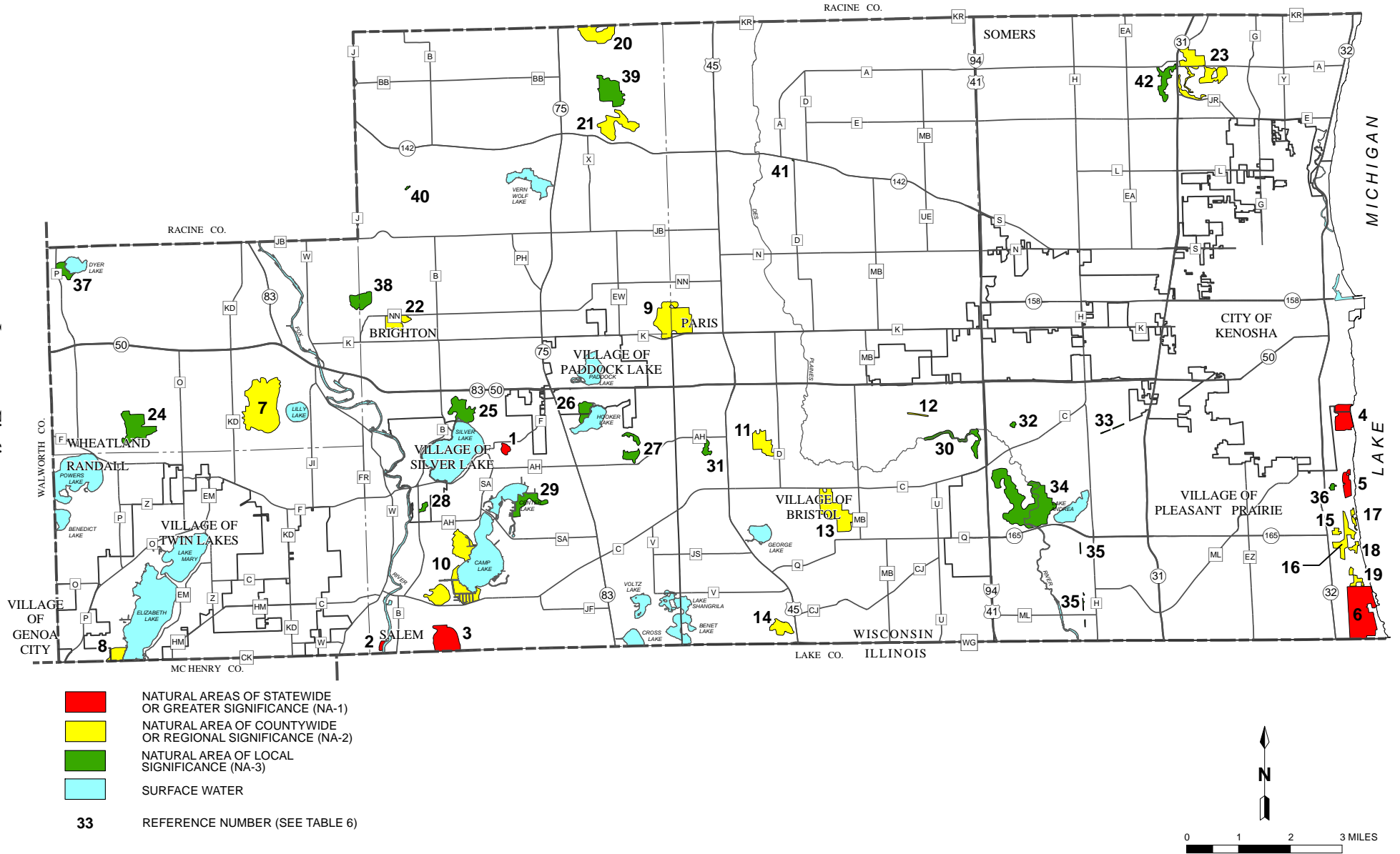


Table 6

NATURAL AREAS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2009

Number on Map 5	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
1	Silver Lake Bog State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	T1N, R20E Section 16 Town of Salem	Silver Lake Sportsmen's Club and other private	18	Lacking many of the typical northern bog species, this area nevertheless remains one of the better acid bogs in the Region. Few bogs of this quality occur this far south. Typical species include tamarack, pitcher plant, round-leaved sundew, cranberry, winterberry, and bog buckbean
2	Stopa Fen	NA-1	T1N, R20E Section 31 Town of Salem	Private	9	High-quality fen with both seeping and bubbling springs, located adjacent to the Fox River. A large number of unusual species are present, such as beaked spike-rush (<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i>), tussock bulrush (<i>Scirpus cespitosus</i>), Ohio goldenrod (<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>), false asphodel (<i>Tofieldia glutinosa</i>), and common bog arrow-grass (<i>Triglochin maritima</i>). Threatened by ski-hill operations
3	Peat Lake State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	T1N, R20E Section 32 Town of Salem	Department of Natural Resources and private	140	One of the few undeveloped lakes in Kenosha County, isolated from roads and houses. Shallow and somewhat alkaline, it is bordered by a wide belt of shallow marsh and sedge meadow. Important nesting and feeding refuge for waterfowl
4	Kenosha Sand Dunes and Low Prairie	NA-1 (SNA)	T1N, R23E Sections 7, 8 City of Kenosha	The Nature Conservancy, City of Kenosha, and other private	99	One-half mile of Lake Michigan frontage containing well-developed dunes and dune succession patterns (fore dunes to swale to wet prairie). The dunes are disturbed by off-road vehicle use, and the shore has been riprapped. An ancient hardwood forest lies beneath the dunes. This is one of the few dune systems in Southeastern Wisconsin. Several uncommon species are present, including sea rocket (<i>Cakile edentula</i>), sand reed (<i>Calamovilfa longifolia</i>), seaside spurge (<i>Euphorbia polygonifolia</i>), common bugseed (<i>Corispermum hyssopifolium</i>), smooth phlox (<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>), marsh blazing-star (<i>Liatris spicata</i>), and grass-leaved rush (<i>Juncus marginatus</i>)
5	Carol Beach Low Prairie and Panne State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	T1N, R23E Sections 18, 19 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Department of Natural Resources, Village of Pleasant Prairie, and private	43	A rich low prairie and calcareous fen on dune-and-swale topography. A number of rare plant species, including the State-designated endangered smooth phlox (<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>), are present
6	Chiwaukee Prairie State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	T1N, R23E Sections 31, 32 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, and private, protection includes conservation easement	308	Extremely rich prairie and marsh on gentle swell-and-swale topography created when the level of glacial Lake Michigan was lowered in stages. The resulting different micro-environments help support great species diversity. Over 400 plant species have been documented in the prairie, some of which are very rare in the State. Scattered oaks in portions of the site give it a savanna-like aspect locally. An incomparable site, it is a National Natural Landmark
- -	Subtotal	NA-1	6 sites	- -	617	- -
7	New Munster Shrub-Carr and Tamarack Relict	NA-2 (SNA)	T1N, R19E Sections 2, 3, 10, 11 Town of Wheatland	Department of Natural Resources and private	384	Wetland complex of shrub-carr, sedge meadow, relict tamaracks, and stream, with an upland dry-mesic wooded island. Site is recovering from past disturbance. Some northern relicts, such as winterberry, yellow birch, and starflower are present. Many species of nesting birds use the area

Table 6 (continued)

Number on Map 5	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
8	Elizabeth Lake Lowlands	NA-2	T1N, R19E Section 31 Town of Randall Section 32 Village of Twin Lakes	Private	48	Good-quality wetland complex at the southwest end of Elizabeth Lake, consisting of sedge meadow, shallow marsh, and shrub-carr. The wetland continues south into Illinois
9	Harris Marsh and Oak Woods	NA-2	T1N, R20E Section 1 Town of Salem T2N, R20E Section 36 Town of Brighton T2N, R21E Section 31 Town of Paris	University of Wisconsin-Parkside and private	237	A large, good-quality marsh adjacent to Brighton Creek. A grazed former oak opening forms the eastern upland border
10	Camp Lake Marsh	NA-2	T1N, R20E Sections 20, 21, 28, 29, 32, 33 Town of Salem	Department of Natural Resources and private	292	Deep and shallow marsh dominated by cattails and softstem bulrush. The lake itself is especially rich in aquatic plant species, including a large population of ditch-grass (<i>Ruppia maritima</i>), a coastal plain plant of brackish waters. The marsh has been extensively ditched
11	Merkert Woods	NA-2	T1N, R21E Sections 8, 17 Town of Bristol	Private	83	A relatively large, good-quality dry-mesic woods, dominated by oaks but with numerous smaller ashes, basswoods, and yellow-bud hickories. The ground flora is diverse. One of the larger intact woods in this part of the Region
12	Benedict Prairie	NA-2	T1N, R21E Section 11 Town of Bristol	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	6	A small, but rich, wet-mesic to mesic prairie remnant located along an abandoned railway right-of-way. The site is burned periodically to reduce weedy invaders
13	Bristol Woods	NA-2	T1N, R21E Sections 21, 22 Town of Bristol	Kenosha County and private	181	The largest block of woods remaining in this part of the Region. This is a rich and diverse xeric to dry-mesic woods that is recovering from past grazing and selective cutting. Important as nesting habitat for forest-interior breeding birds
14	Mud Lake Sedge Meadow	NA-2	T1N, R21E Sections 32, 33 Town of Bristol	Private	55	Good-quality wetland complex consisting of shallow marsh, sedge meadow, low prairie, fresh (wet) meadow, and shrub-carr. Species diversity is good, including a number of uncommon ones
15	104 th Street Mesic Prairie	NA-2	T1N, R23E Section 19 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Department of Natural Resources and private	10	Good-quality patch of mostly mesic prairie, with good species diversity. Critical plant species are present
16	Carol Beach Prairie	NA-2	T1N, R23E Sections 19, 20, 29, 30 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Department of Natural Resources, Village of Pleasant Prairie, and private	71	A rich complex of low to dry prairie, with fresh (wet) meadow, sedge meadow, shrub-carr, and shallow marsh communities on dune-and-swale topography. Critical plant species are present
17	Barnes Creek Dunes and Panne	NA-2	T1N, R23E Section 20 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Village of Pleasant Prairie, Department of Natural Resources, and private	13	An unusual mixture of dry prairie and calcareous fen plant species on dune-and-swale topography, adjacent to Barnes Creek. Several critical species are present
18	First Avenue Prairie	NA-2	T1N, R23E Sections 29, 30 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Department of Natural Resources	12	High quality Lake Michigan wet-mesic prairie complex
19	Tobin Road Prairie	NA-2	T1N, R23E Sections 29, 30 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Department of Natural Resources and private	24	A portion of the northern Chiswaukee Prairie area containing rich low and dry prairies on dune- and-swale topography

Table 6 (continued)

Number on Map 5	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
20	Schroeder Road Marsh	NA-2	T2N, R20E Sections 1, 2 Town of Brighton Racine County T3N, R20E Sections 35, 36 Town of Dover	Private	111 (plus 77 acres in Racine County)	Large wetland area of shallow cattail marsh and sedge meadow that extends into Kenosha County. Perimeter has been disturbed but interior is intact
21	Friendship Lake Marsh	NA-2	T2N, R20E Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, Town of Brighton	Private and State of Wisconsin Public Trust Lands	119	Large cattail marsh and sedge meadow surrounding a small, but good-quality, kettle lake. Valuable feeding and nesting habitat for a variety of marshland birds. Recent shoreline construction activities have lowered the ecological value
22	CTH NN Sedge Meadow	NA-2	T2N, R20E Section 31 Town of Brighton	Private	60	Good-quality sedge meadow, with little evidence of past disturbance and few exotic species. A good example of this community type
23	Petrifying Springs Woods	NA-2	T2N, R22E Sections 2, 11 Town of Somers	Kenosha County, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, and private	197	A rich southern mesic to dry-mesic hardwood forest dominated by white and red oaks, white ash, sugar maple, and basswood. The undulating topography is covered by a very diverse spring flora, including a large population of twinleaf (<i>Jeffersonia diphylla</i>), a State-designated species of special concern. One of the better woodland areas remaining in Southeastern Wisconsin
--	Subtotal	NA-2	17 sites	--	1,903	--
24	Powers Lake Tamarack Relict	NA-3	T1N, R19E Sections 8, 9 Town of Wheatland	Private	152	A large but disturbed wetland complex of marsh, sedge meadow, shrub-carr, and relict tamaracks. Agricultural use on the periphery has adversely affected the area
25	Silver Lake Wetlands	NA-3	T1N, R20E Section 8 Town of Salem	Private	101	Good quality wetlands at north end of Silver Lake
26	Hooker Lake Marsh	NA-3	T1N, R20E Section 11 Town of Salem	Private and State of Wisconsin Public Trust Lands	47	Deep and shallow cattail marsh on the northwest side of Hooker Lake
27	Montgomery Lake Marsh	NA-3	T1N, R20E Section 11 Town of Salem	Private and State of Wisconsin Public Trust Lands	52	Cattail-dominated deep and shallow marsh bordering Montgomery lake
28	CTH B-CTH AH Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T1N, R20E Section 20 Town of Salem	Private	12	Located near the intersection of CTH B and CTH AH, this small but good-quality sedge meadow contains a large number of native species. Disturbance is limited to the wetland borders
29	Center Lake Woods and Wetlands	NA-3	T1N, R20E Sections 21, 22 Town of Salem	Town of Salem and private	72	Species-rich ravine woods associated with good quality wetland
30	Des Plaines River Wetlands	NA-3	T1N, R21E Sections 12, 13, 14 Town of Bristol	Private	66	A one-mile stretch of the Des Plaines River west of IH 94. Wetlands include sedge meadow, shallow marsh, and lowland hardwoods
31	Salem Road Marsh	NA-3	T1N, R21E Section 18 Town of Bristol	Conservation Club of Kenosha	27	Shallow, cattail-dominated marsh
32	Lake Russo Prairie Remnant	NA-3	T1N, R22E Section 7 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	6	A small, moderate- to good-quality wet-mesic prairie remnant that is suffering disturbance by local residents

Table 6 (continued)

Number on Map 5	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
33	Bain Station Railroad Prairie	NA-3	T1N, R22E Section 9 Village of Pleasant Prairie	WE Energies	4	A small, moderate- to good-quality mesic to wet-mesic prairie remnant along an abandoned railway right-of-way. Dominated by big bluestem, Indian grass, prairie dock, and goldenrods. Restoration and management efforts by WE Energies
34	Des Plaines River Lowlands	NA-3	T1N, R22E Sections 17, 18, 19, 20 Village of Pleasant Prairie	The Nature Conservancy, Village of Pleasant Prairie, and other private	413	Extensive wetland and upland complex along the Des Plaines River, significant because of its open space and wildlife habitat. Contains xeric oak woods, mesic and wet-mesic prairie, fresh (wet) meadow, and riverine forest. The State-designated endangered prairie white-fringed orchid (<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>) has been found here
35	Pleasant Railroad Prairie	NA-3	T1N, R22E Sections 29, 32 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	6	Discontinuous remnants of the once-extensive wet-mesic prairie of southern Kenosha County, bordering double tracks. Small patches are of good quality, containing some regionally uncommon species
36	Carol Beach Estates Prairie	NA-3	T1N, R23E Section 19 Village of Pleasant Prairie	The Nature Conservancy and other private	7	A rich wet to wet-mesic prairie on sandy soils that is threatened by shrub invasion. Critical plant species are present
37	Dyer Lake Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T2N, R19E Section 30 Town of Wheatland	Kenosha Boy Scouts and other private	40	Good quality wetland complex on west side of Dyer Lake. Consists of sedge meadow, shrub-carr, and deep and shallow marsh. The site is somewhat alkaline. Good native species diversity
38	Peterson Creek Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T2N, R19E Section 36 Town of Wheatland T2N, R20E Section 31 Town of Brighton	Private	69	This moderate- to good-quality wetland complex bordering Peterson Creek consists of sedge meadow and cattail marsh. The highest-quality area lies south-east of the creek, where calciphilic species are present
39	Section 11 Wetlands and Oak Woods	NA-3	T2N, R20E Sections 11, 12 Town of Brighton	Private	130	A moderate-quality wetland complex, consisting of sedge meadow and cattail marsh, bordered by a disturbed oak woods
40	Bong Low Prairie	NA-3	T2N, R20E Sections 19, 20 Town of Brighton	Department of Natural Resources	2	A series of small patches of remnant low prairie within the Bong State Recreation Area. Disturbance history varies, but the two areas adjacent to north-south road are of good quality. Good display of the marsh blazing-star (<i>Liatris spicata</i>)
41	Paris (Ehlen) Prairie Remnant	NA-3	T2N, R21E Section 16 Town of Paris	Private	1	A small but generally good-quality remnant of the once-extensive mesic prairie that formerly occupied central Kenosha County. Critical plant species are present
42	Pike River Bottomland Woods	NA-3	T2N, R22E Sections 3, 10 Town of Somers	Hawthorn Hollow Nature Sanctuary and private	65	Good-quality wet-mesic forest in lowlands and dry-mesic forest on uplands bordering the Pike River. Contains a rich and diverse ground flora. A small prairie remnant is present within the Hawthorn Hollow Nature Sanctuary. This is probably the most natural remaining stretch of the Pike River
- -	Subtotal	NA-3	19 sites	- -	1,272	- -
- -	Total	All Natural Areas	42 sites	- -	3,792	- -

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

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

NA-3 identifies Natural Area sites of local significance.

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

Source: SEWRPC.

Map 6

CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES AND CRITICAL AQUATIC HABITAT AREAS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2009

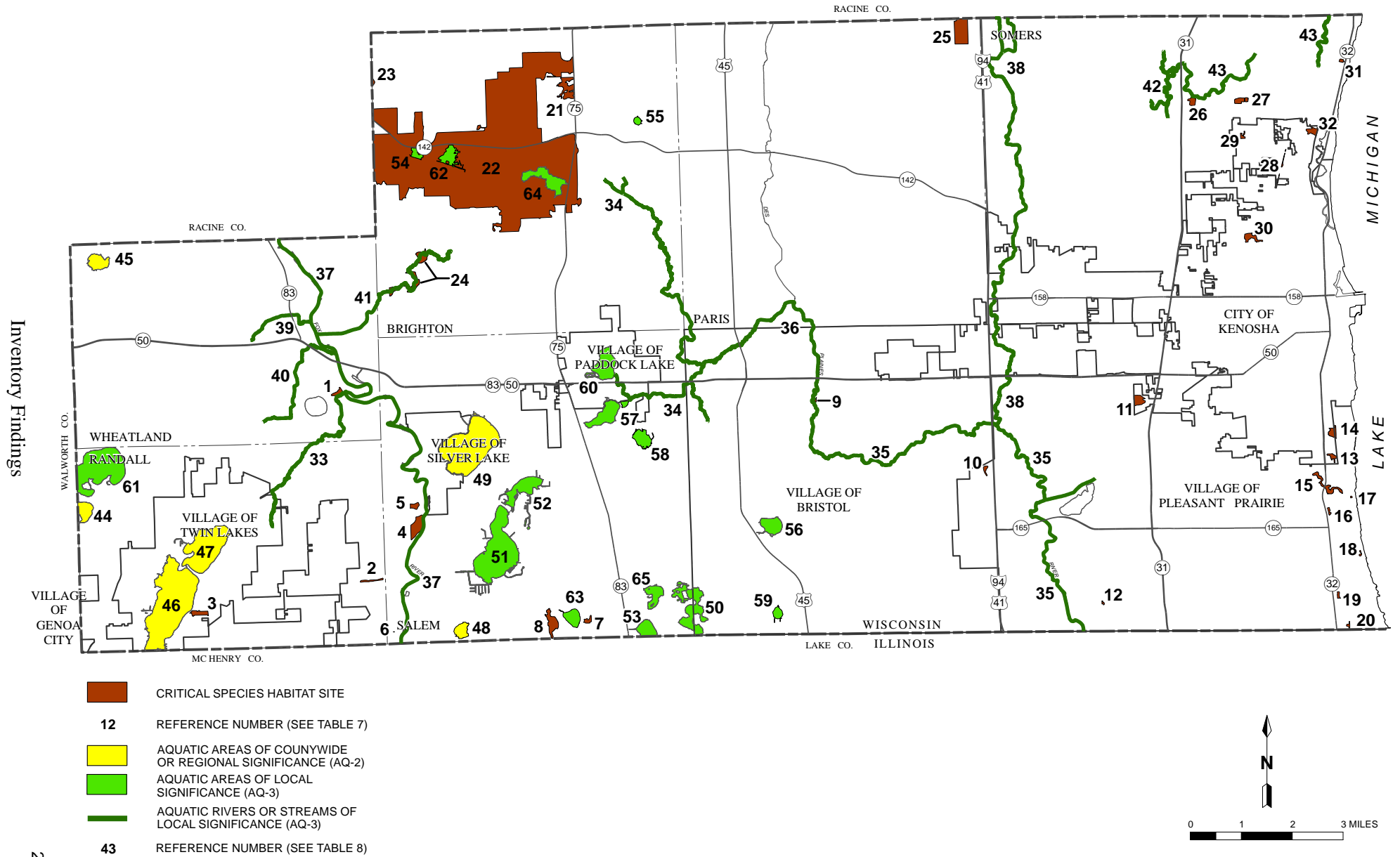


Table 7

CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2009

Number on Map 6	Area Name	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
1	Kotrba Wetland	T1N, R19E Section 9 Town of Wheatland	Private	15	Lowland shrub-carr contains a small population of small yellow lady's-slipper orchid (<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i>)
2	Wilmot Stream Woodland	T1N, R19E Section 25 Town of Randall	Private	8	Narrow wooded streamway containing critical plant species
3	Hamilton Woods	T1N, R19E Section 33 Town of Randall	Private	18	Moderate quality dry-mesic woods
4	Fox River Park Low Woods and Sedge Meadow	T1N, R20E Section 19 Town of Salem	Private and Kenosha County	44	Lowland hardwoods and open wetlands adjacent to Fox River
5	Fox River Park Woods	T1N, R20E Section 19 Town of Salem	Kenosha County	10	Moderate quality dry-mesic woods
6	Wilmot Ski Hill Prairie	T1N, R20E Section 31 Town of Salem	Private	1	Small remnant of wet-mesic prairie
7	Rock Lake Woods	T1N, R20E Section 34 Town of Salem	Private	8	Small dry-mesic woodland within a residential area
8	Trevor Creek Wet Prairie	T1N, R20E Section 34 Town of Salem	Private	42	Small remnants of wet-mesic prairie
9	Louvain Old Field	T1N, R21E Section 9 Town of Bristol	Private	1	Recovering old field in agricultural matrix contains round-fruited St. John's-wort (<i>Hypericum sphaerocarpum</i>)
10	CTH C Low Prairie Remnant	T1N, R21E Section 13 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Village of Pleasant Prairie	5	Prairie remnant recently disturbed by intersection reconstruction; supports two State-designated threatened plant species—wild quinine (<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>) and prairie Indian plantain (<i>Cacalia tuberosa</i>)
11	Bain Station Low Prairie	T1N, R22E Section 9 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	23	Marsh, low prairie, and sedge meadow complex
12	Piela Property	T1N, R22E Section 33 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	1	Small, disturbed wetland contains swamp agrimony (<i>Agrimonia parviflora</i>)
13	Martin Band Parcel	T1N, R23E Section 18 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	9	Wet-mesic prairie remnant contains smooth phlox (<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>)
14	Nedweski Parcel	T1N, R23E Section 18 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	16	Disturbed wetland containing a few native prairie and dune species
15	Barnes Creek	T1N, R23E Section 19 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private and Village of Pleasant Prairie	29	Small wet-mesic prairie remnant adjacent to Barnes Creek
16	Janice Prairie	T1N, R23E Section 19 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	3	Small remnant of wet-mesic prairie within residential area
17	Pleasant Prairie PCA No. 8	T1N, R23E Section 19 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	1	Small dry-mesic prairie remnant
18	Carol Beach Parcel No. 2	T1N, R23E Section 29 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	2	Small remnant of wet-mesic prairie containing marsh blazing-star (<i>Liatris spicata</i>)

Table 7 (continued)

Number on Map 6	Area Name	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
19	Bourque Low Prairie	T1N, R23E Section 31 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	4	Disturbed lakeplain wet-mesic prairie
20	Carol Beach Oak Woods	T1N, R23E Section 31 Village of Pleasant Prairie	Private	3	Small remnant oak opening
21	Brighton-Dale Woods	T2N, R20E Section 10 Town of Brighton	Kenosha County	54	Dry-mesic oak woods within County park
22	Bong State Recreation Area	T2N, R20E Sections 3, 4, 7, 9, 15-23 Town of Brighton Racine County T2N, R19E Sections 12, 13 Town of Burlington	Department of Natural Resources and private	4,754 (plus 267 acres in Racine County)	Extensive artificial grasslands provide critical nesting habitat for grassland birds
23	Mt. Tom Woods	T2N, R20E Sections 6, 7 Town of Brighton Racine County T2N, R19E Sections 1, 12 Town of Burlington	Private and Town of Burlington	3 (plus 21 acres in Racine County)	Hilly woodland on border of Kenosha and Racine counties
24	Peterson Creek Wetland	T2N, R20E Section 30 Town of Brighton	Private	84	Tussock sedge meadow
25	Poisl Woods	T2N, R21E Section 1 Town of Paris	Private	82	Relatively large but very disturbed woodland
26	Parkside Ski Trail Woods	T2N, R22E Section 11 Town of Somers	University of Wisconsin-Parkside	28	Moderate quality dry-mesic woods
27	Parkside Woods	T2N, R22E Section 12 Town of Somers	University of Wisconsin-Parkside	15	Moderate quality dry-mesic woods
28	Kenosha Bike Trail Prairie	T2N R22E Section 13 T2N, R23E Section 18 City of Kenosha	Kenosha County	3	Small remnants of once-extensive wet-mesic prairie bordering east side of bike trail
29	Thompson Woods	T2N, R22E Section 13 Town of Somers	Private	5	Small, moderate quality dry-mesic woods suffering encroachments by surrounding residences
30	Bradford School Woods	T2N, R22E Section 25 City of Kenosha	City of Kenosha	19	Disturbed dry-mesic woodland on grounds of high school
31	Berryville Woods	T2N, R23E Section 5 Town of Somers	Private	3	Small woodlot containing only State population of black gum (<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>)
32	Poerio Park Woods	T2N, R23E Section 18 Town of Somers	City of Kenosha and private	16	Dry-mesic and wet-mesic woods with relatively rich ground flora
Total	32 sites	--	--	5,309	--

Source: SEWRPC.

Table 8

CRITICAL AQUATIC HABITAT AREAS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2009^a

Streams				
Number on Map 6	Stream	Size (stream miles) ^b	Rank ^c	Description and Comments ^d
33	Bassett Creek	4.9 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Records of critical fish species; good water quality
34	Brighton Creek and Salem Branch	14.2 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish species present
35	Des Plaines River downstream from STH 50	14.2 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Bisects a large wetland complex supporting critical herptile species habitat
36	Des Plaines River upstream from STH 50	1.8 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish species present
37	Fox River downstream from CTH JB to Wisconsin-Illinois state line	12.5 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Good mussel species assemblage and population of the river redhorse, a threatened fish species
38	Kilbourn Road Ditch	11.5 miles ^e	AQ-3 (RSH)	Sedimentation and other water quality problems exist, but this reach is an important reservoir for the pirate perch, a "special concern" fish species
39	New Munster Creek downstream from CTH KD	1.7 miles	AQ-3	Good water quality
40	Palmer Creek	3.1 miles	AQ-3	Class III trout stream
41	Peterson Creek	5.1 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Critical fish species present
42	Pike Creek	4.1 miles	AQ-3 (RSH)	Bisects identified Natural Area
43	Pike River downstream from Pike Creek (includes Sorenson Creek)	4.3 miles ^e	AQ-3 (RSH)	Bisects identified Natural Area; critical fish species present
--	Total (11 stream reaches)	77.4 miles	--	--

Lakes				
Number on Map 6	Lake	Size (stream miles) ^b	Rank ^c	Description and Comments ^d
44	Benedict Lake	58 acres ^e	AQ-2 (RSH)	A drained lake with good overall fish populations; critical fish species present
45	Dyer Lake	56 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	A shallow drainage lake with critical fish species present; adjacent wetlands are good habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife
46	Elizabeth Lake	682 acres ^e	AQ-2 (RSH)	A drainage lake with critical fish, herptile, and bird species present
47	Lake Mary	315 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	A drained lake with critical fish species present; good overall fishery
48	Peat Lake	42 acres	AQ-2	A drained lake which is the central feature of Peat Lake Scientific Area; important nesting and feeding refuge for waterfowl
49	Silver Lake	464 acres	AQ-2 (RSH)	A drainage lake with critical fish species present; adjacent wetlands to north are valuable for wildlife
50	Benet Lake-Lake Shangrila	180 acres ^e	AQ-3 (RSH)	A shallow drained lake with critical fish species present
51	Camp Lake	461 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A shallow drainage lake with critical fish species present; ideal conditions for waterfowl and marsh furbearers
52	Center Lake	129 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drainage lake; well-rounded fishery; critical fish species present
53	Cross Lake	62 acres ^e	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drained lake with critical fish species present
54	Four Dollar Flowage	20 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	Within the Bong State Recreation Area; good wildlife habitat

Table 8 (continued)

Lakes				
Number on Map 6	Lake	Size ^b (acreage)	Rank ^c	Description and Comments ^d
55	Friendship Lake	11 acres	AQ-3	A drainage lake encompassed by Friendship Lake Marsh, an identified Natural Area
56	George Lake	59 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drainage lake with critical fish species present; good waterfowl habitat
57	Hooker Lake	87 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drainage lake with critical fish species present
58	Montgomery Lake	46 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drained lake with critical fish species present
59	Mud Lake	22 acres	AQ-3	A drained lake adjacent to an identified Natural Area, Mud Lake Sedge Meadow
60	Paddock Lake	112 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drained lake with critical fish species present
61	Powers Lake	376 acres ^e	AQ-3	A drainage lake with good water quality
62	Refuge Flowage	11 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	Within the Bong State Recreation Area; good wildlife habitat
63	Rock Lake	46 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drained lake with critical fish species present
64	Vern Wolf Lake (East Lake Flowage)	123 acres	AQ-3	A drainage lake with good wildlife habitat
65	Voltz Lake	52 acres	AQ-3 (RSH)	A drained lake with critical fish species present
--	Total (22 lakes)	3,414 acres	--	--

^a Inventory conducted in 1994; ownership and acreage information were updated in 2006.

^b Size is listed as stream miles for rivers and streams and lake surface area (in acres) for lakes.

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

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

AQ-3 identifies Aquatic Area sites of local significance.

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

^d "Drainage lakes" are lakes that have both an inlet and an outlet and whose main water source is a river or stream. "Drained lakes" are lakes which have no inlet but do have an outlet and which are not groundwater-fed; their primary source of water is from precipitation and runoff from the immediate drainage area.

^e Lake or stream is located partially within Kenosha County. Number refers to stream miles or acreage located within the County.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC. Sites were identified as part of the regional natural areas plan, documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997.

The delineation on a map of the natural resource and resource-related elements specified above results in an essentially linear pattern of relatively narrow, elongated areas which have been termed "environmental corridors" by the Regional Planning Commission.³ Primary environmental corridors are a minimum of 400 acres in size, two miles in length, and 200 feet in width. Secondary environmental corridors connect with the primary

³A detailed description of the process of refining the delineation of environmental corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin is presented in SEWRPC Technical Record, Vol. 4, No. 2 (March 1981), pp. 1-21.

environmental corridors and are at least 100 acres in size and one mile in length. Areas at least five acres in size which contain important natural resource base elements, but are separated physically from primary and secondary environmental corridors by intensive urban or agricultural land uses have also been identified and have been termed "isolated natural resource areas". Environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas within Kenosha County in 2000 are shown on Map 7. At that time, such areas encompassed about 59.8 square miles, or about 22 percent of the County.

In any consideration of environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, it is important to note that the preservation of such resources serves many beneficial purposes, in addition to protecting the important natural resources that make up the corridors. Corridor lands provide areas for the storage of flood waters away from homes and other developed areas; help to protect water quality by filtering sediment and fertilizer from runoff before it enters surface waters; provide wildlife habitat and corridors for the movement of animals; and contribute to the scenic beauty of the County and the Region. Excluding urban development from environmental corridors helps to prevent problems such as water pollution, wet and flooded basements, and building and pavement failures.

In addition, because of the many interacting relationships between living organisms and their environment, the destruction or deterioration of any one element of the natural resource base may lead to a chain reaction of deterioration and destruction. The draining and filling of wetlands, for example, may destroy fish spawning grounds, wildlife habitat, groundwater recharge or discharge areas, and the natural filtration action and floodwater storage functions which contribute to maintaining high levels of water quality and stable streamflows and lake stages in a watershed. The resulting deterioration of surface water quality may, in turn, lead to the deterioration of the quality of the groundwater which serves as a source of domestic, municipal, and industrial water supply and on which low flows in rivers and streams may depend. Similarly, the destruction of woodland cover may result in soil erosion and stream siltation, more rapid stormwater runoff and attendant increased flood flows and stages, as well as destruction of wildlife habitat. Although the effects of any one of these environmental changes may not in and of itself be overwhelming, the combined effects will eventually create serious environmental and developmental problems. The need to maintain the integrity of the remaining environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas thus becomes apparent.

Primary Environmental Corridors

As shown on Map 7, the primary environmental corridors in Kenosha County are located along the major rivers and their tributaries, along Lake Michigan, around the major lakes in the County, and in large wetland areas. In 2000, about 43.8 square miles, comprising about 16 percent of the total area of the County, were encompassed within the primary environmental corridors.

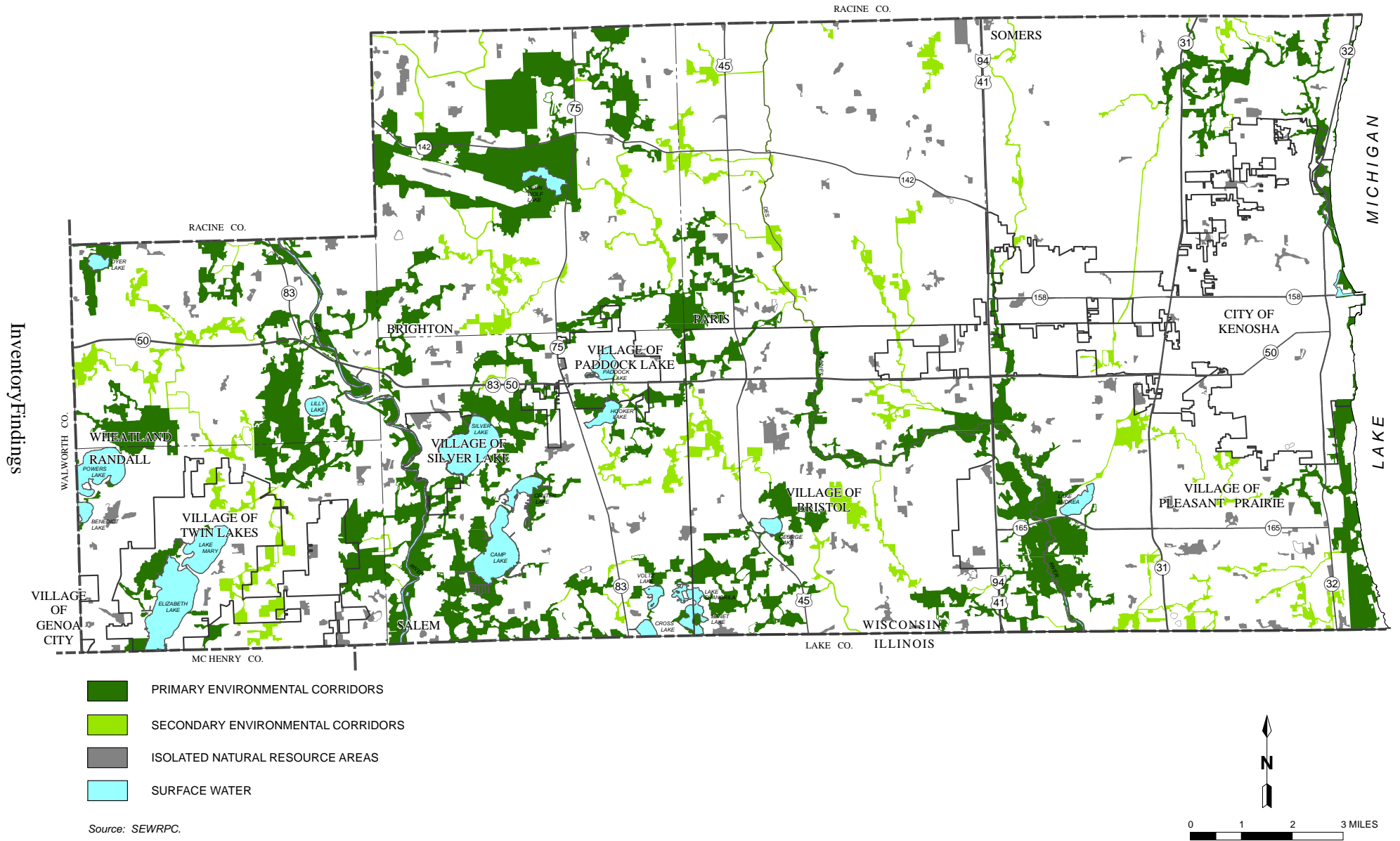
The primary environmental corridors contain almost all of the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas in the County and are, in effect, a composite of the best remaining elements of the natural resource base. Such areas have immeasurable environmental and recreational value. The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

Secondary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

As shown on Map 7, secondary environmental corridors in Kenosha County are located chiefly along the small perennial and intermittent streams within the County. About 10 square miles, comprising about 4 percent of the County, were encompassed within secondary environmental corridors in 2000. Secondary environmental corridors contain a variety of resource elements and are often remnant resources from primary environmental corridors that have been developed with agricultural or urban uses. Secondary environmental corridors facilitate surface water drainage and provide corridors for the movement of wildlife and for the dispersal of seeds for a variety of plant species. Such corridors should be considered for preservation in natural, open use or incorporated as drainage ways, stormwater detention or retention areas, or as local parks or recreation trails, in developing areas.

Map 7

ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS AND ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2000



As also shown on Map 7, isolated natural resource areas within Kenosha County include a geographically well-distributed variety of isolated wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife habitat; in 2000, these areas encompassed about 6.0 square miles, or about 2 percent of the County. Isolated natural resource areas may provide the only available wildlife habitat in an area, provide good locations for local parks and nature areas, and lend aesthetic character and natural diversity to an area. Such areas should be preserved in natural open uses insofar as practicable, being incorporated for use as parks and open space reservations or stormwater detention or retention areas where appropriate.

Environmentally Sensitive Lands: Composite View

As described in the previous sections of this chapter, Kenosha County contains a significant amount of environmentally sensitive lands. A composite of most of those lands is shown on Map 8 and includes: environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas; natural area and critical species habitat sites; a significant geological site; surface water; wetlands; woodlands; and areas of high and very high groundwater recharge potential. Preservation of these often overlapping resources is vital to the character, bio-diversity, quality of life, and economy of the County. Land use and park and open space planning efforts in Kenosha County should, to the extent possible, include the recommendation to preserve these lands.

Agricultural Land

In 2007, approximately 128 square miles, or 46 percent of Kenosha County, were in agricultural use. Map 9 shows the extent of agricultural land in Kenosha County as identified in the year 2007 and also identifies those areas which are covered by soils in agricultural capability Class I, Class II, and Class III as classified by the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service. Lands covered by such soils meet the criteria for national prime farmland (largely Class I and Class II soils) and farmland of statewide importance (largely Class III soils). Agricultural lands covered by Class I, Class II, and Class III soils encompassed about 126 square miles, or 98 percent of all agricultural land in the County.

A number of important public purposes are served through the preservation of these best remaining agricultural lands. These include the maintenance of agricultural reserves; the maintenance of open space, scenic views, and wildlife habitat; the control of public costs for providing urban services; the preservation of the local economic base; and the preservation of a rural lifestyle.

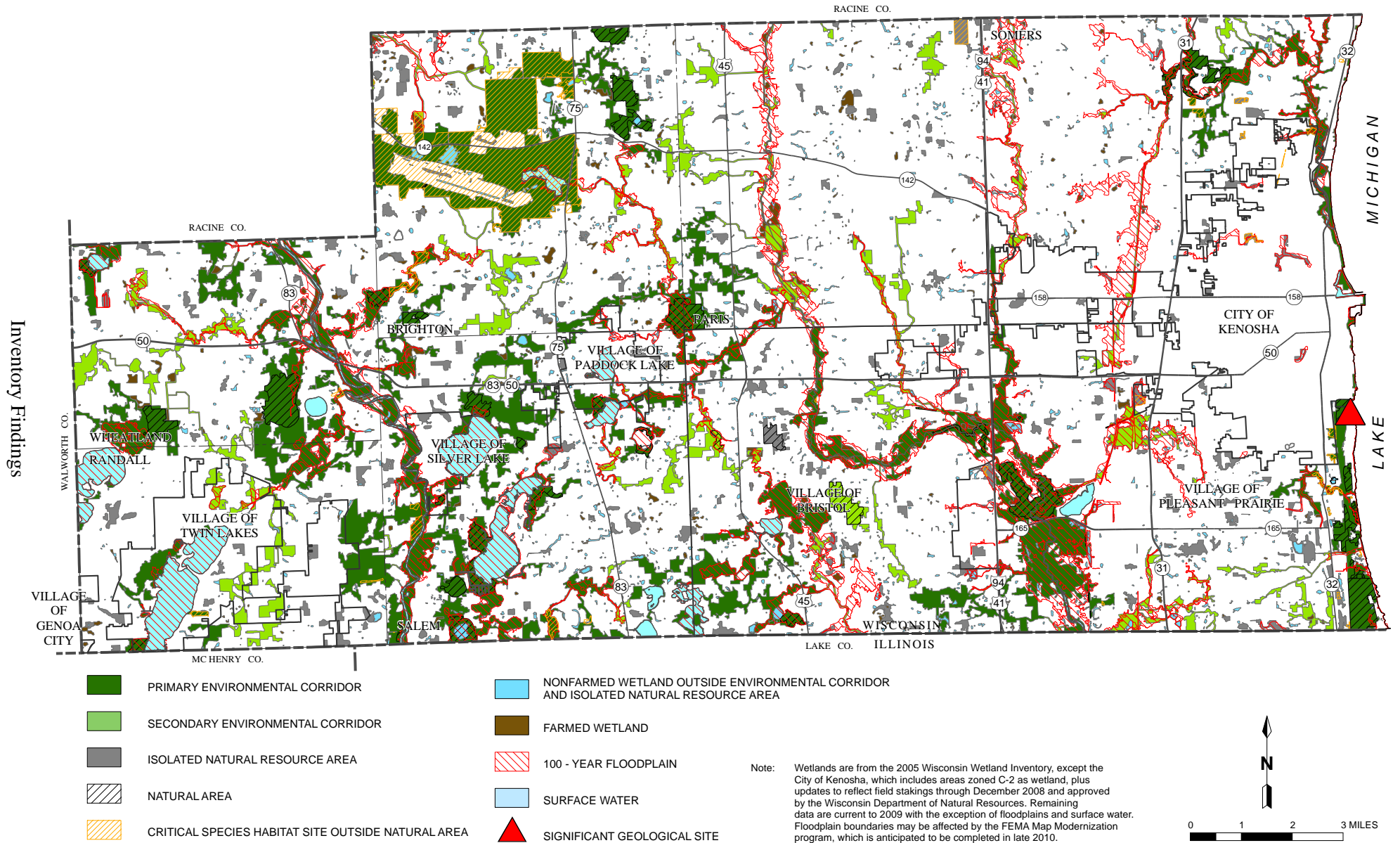
SUMMARY

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

1. The resident population of Kenosha County in 2010, the year of the most recent U.S. Census, was 166,426, an increase of 41 percent over 1970. During the same period, households increased by 27,182, or about 77 percent. With the number of households increasing at a faster rate than the population, the number of persons per household has decreased.
2. An inventory of land use in 2007 indicated that 77.0 square miles, or about 27 percent of the County, were developed with urban uses, while the remaining 202.0 square miles, or about 73 percent of the County, were devoted to rural uses.
3. There are 154 miles of perennial streams and 3,414 acres of major lakes within the County. There are approximately 31.0 square miles, or about 11 percent of the County, located within the 100-year recurrence interval flood hazard area of the perennial streams.
4. The County encompasses a number of significant natural resource base features including wetland areas which occupied about 30.5 square miles, or about 11 percent of the County; and woodlands, which occupied about 14.1 square miles, or about 5 percent of the County. The County contained 42 sites identified as natural areas—areas which contain native plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the pre-European settlement landscape; and 32 critical species habitat sites—other sites which support rare, threatened, or endangered plants or animals.

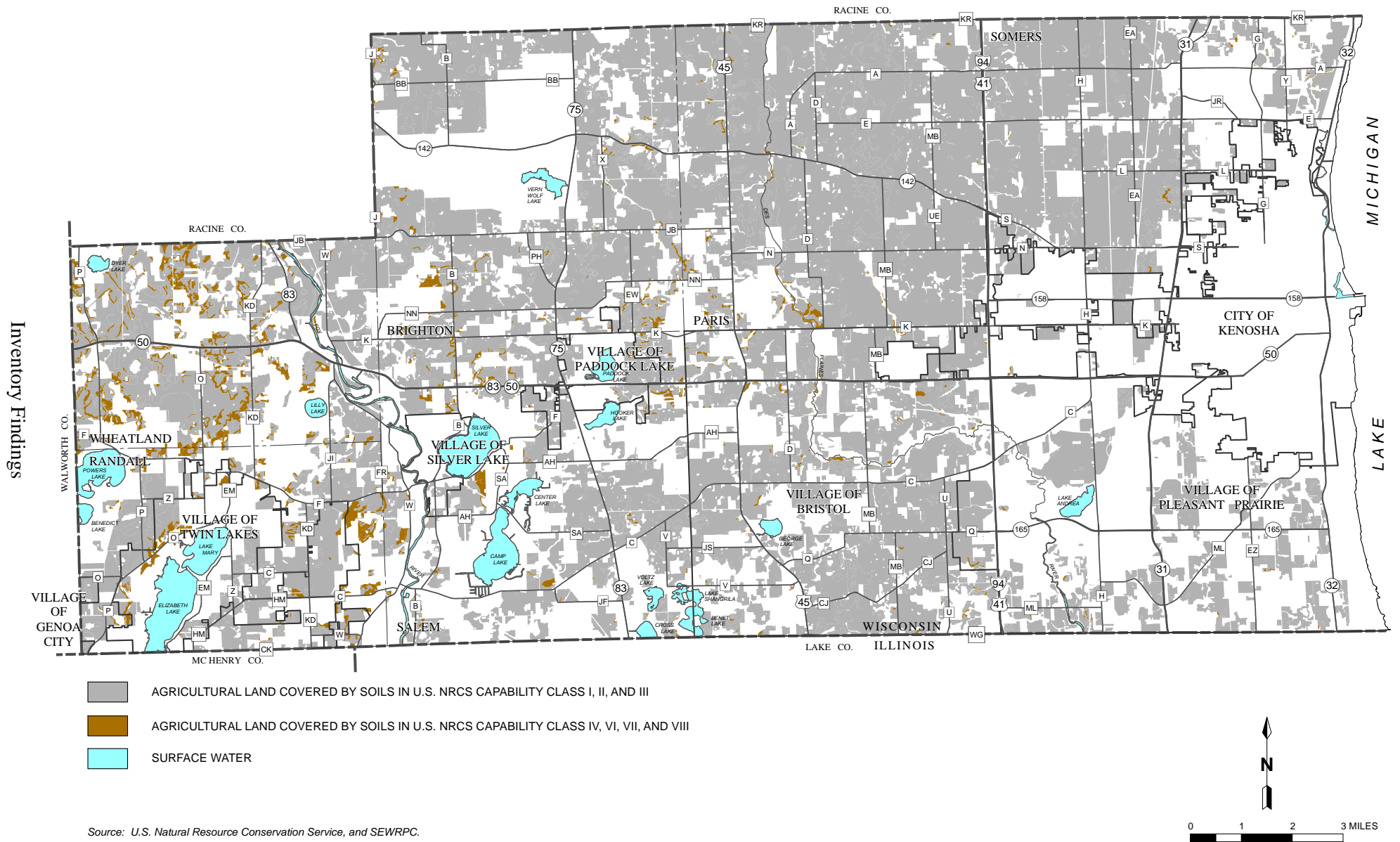
Map 8

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS IN KENOSHA COUNTY



Map 9

AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2007



5. The most important elements of the natural resource base and features closely related to that base—including wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitat, major lakes and streams and associated shorelands and floodlands, and outdoor recreation sites—when combined, result in an essentially linear pattern in the landscape referred to by the Regional Planning Commission as environmental corridors. Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of important natural resource and resource based elements and are, by definition, at least 400 acres in size, two miles long, and 200 feet wide. In 2000, primary environmental corridors encompassed about 43.8 square miles, or about 16 percent of the County.
6. Approximately 128 square miles, or 46 percent of the County, were in agricultural use in 2007. Agricultural lands consisting of Class I, II, and III soils are best suited for long-term agricultural use and are located throughout the entire County, with the heaviest concentration being in central Kenosha County.

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Chapter III

EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

INTRODUCTION

A comprehensive areawide inventory of park and open space sites was conducted in 1973 under the initial regional park and open space planning program.² The inventory is updated periodically, and was updated in 2006 as part of the Kenosha County Comprehensive Plan. The inventory of park and open space sites in the County was updated again in 2010 for use in preparing this new County park and open space plan. The findings of the 2010 inventory are presented in this chapter.

The 2010 inventory identified all park and open space sites owned by a public agency, including State, County, or local units of government and school districts. Also identified in the inventory were lands held in conservation easements by organizations such as the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the Kenosha Racine Land Trust (KRLT). The inventory also included privately owned resource-oriented outdoor recreation sites such as golf courses, campgrounds, ski hills, boating access sites, swimming beaches, hunting clubs, and group camps such as Scout or YMCA camps, and special use outdoor recreation sites. Sites owned by nonprofit conservation organizations, such as KRLT and The Nature Conservancy, were also identified. The inventory of private outdoor recreation sites focused on resource-oriented sites because the County park and open space plan is most directly concerned with the provision of sites and facilities for resource-oriented activities. The inventory also identified such other recreation resources as existing trails and bicycle ways and historic sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

Park and Open Space Sites Owned by Kenosha County

Park and open space sites owned by Kenosha County in 2010 are shown on Map 10 and listed on Table 9. In 2010, Kenosha County owned 12 such sites, encompassing a total of 1,824 acres, or about 1 percent of the total area of the County.

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

Table 9

PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES OWNED BY KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010

Number on Map 10	Site Name	Location ^a	Size (acres)
	County Parks		
1	West End Park	T1N, R19E, Sections 10, 15	235
2	Old Settler's Park	T1N, R20E, Section 2, 11	16
3	Silver Lake Park	T1N, R20E, Section 9	259
4	Fox River Park	T1N, R20E, Sections 18, 19	147
5	Bristol Woods Park	T1N, R21E, Section 21, 22	198
6	Kemper Center/Anderson Arts Center	T1N, R23E, Section 5	16
7	Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course	T2N, R20E, Sections 10, 15	509
8	Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course	T2N, R22E, Section 2, 11	349
--	Total : 8 Sites	--	1,729
	Other County-owned Open Space Sites		
9	Fox River Flood Mitigation Open Space Lands ^b	T1N, R19E, T1N, R20E, Multiple Sections	49
10	Open Space Site	T1N, R20E, Sections 28, 33	8
11	Open Space Site	T1N, R21E, Section 4	33
12	Open Space Site	T1N, R21E, Section 12	5
--	Total : 4 sites	--	95

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

^bThe Fox River Flood Mitigation Open Space Lands are within the following municipalities: Town of Salem, Town of Wheatland, and Village of Silver Lake.

Source: SEWRPC.

There are six existing major County parks:² Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course in the Town of Brighton; Bristol Woods Park in the Village of Bristol; West End Park in the Towns of Randall and Wheatland; Fox River Park and Silver Lake Park in the Town of Salem; and Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course in the Town of Somers.

Also shown on Map 10 and listed on Table 9 are six other park and outdoor recreation sites owned by the County. These sites include the Kemper Center/Anderson Arts Center in the City of Kenosha; Old Settler's Park in the Village of Paddock Lake; three unnamed open space sites; and the Fox River Flood Mitigation Open Space Lands.

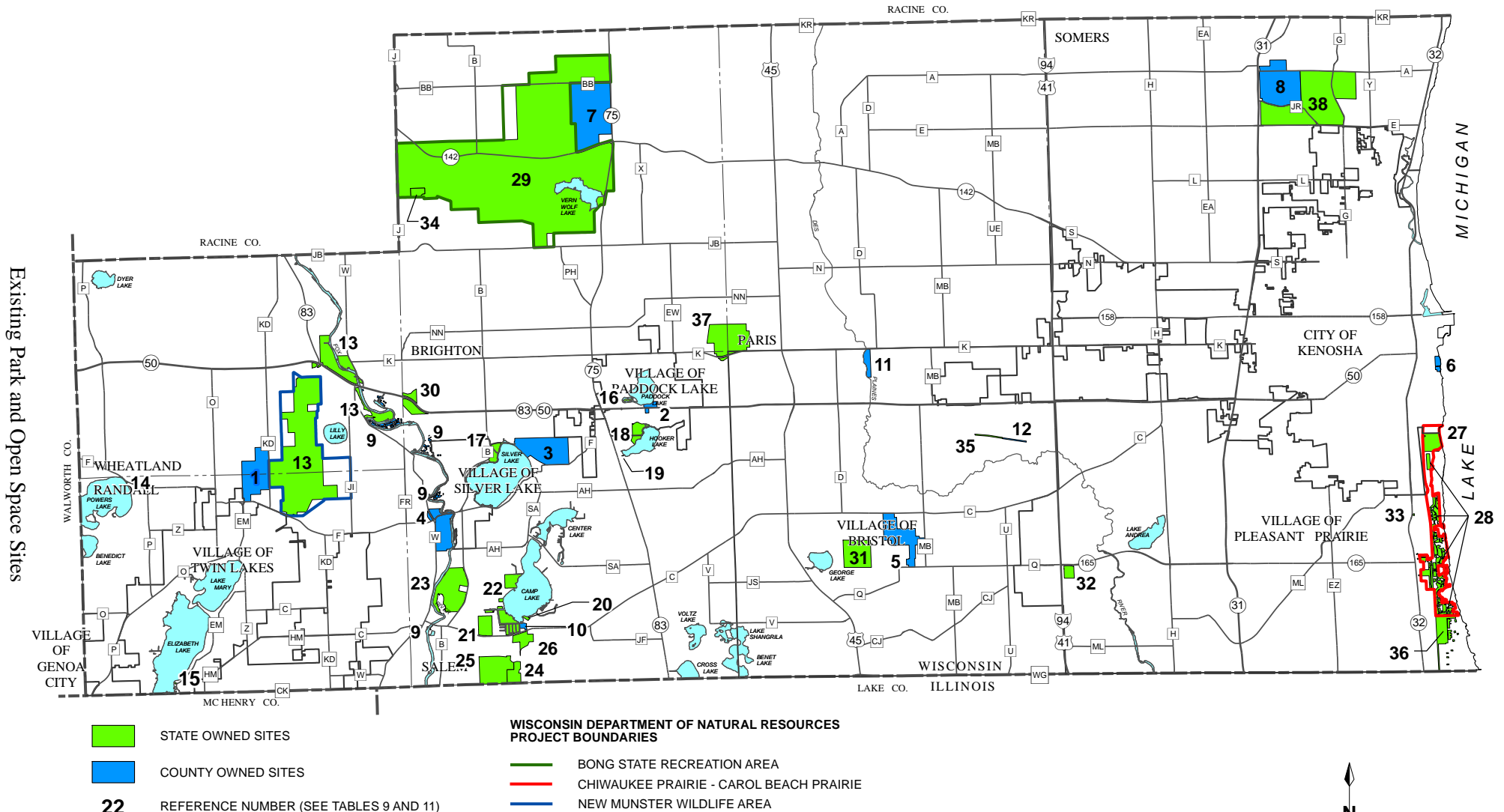
Detailed maps of each of the major County parks and Old Settler's Park are included in Appendix A and can also be viewed on the Kenosha County website at <http://www.co.kenosha.wi.us/publicworks/parks/locations>.

Selected outdoor recreation facilities within the County park system in 2010 are listed in Table 10. As indicated in that table, five parks within the County system currently provide playfields, six parks provide playground equipment, two parks provide golf courses, seven parks provide picnic areas, seven parks provide restroom facilities, two parks provide a swimming beach, six parks provide trails, one park provides a boat launch, five parks provide opportunities for cross-country skiing, five parks provide opportunities for fishing, three parks include off-leash dog exercise areas, and one park includes a nature center.

²Major parks are defined as large, publicly owned outdoor recreation sites containing significant natural resource amenities which provide opportunities for resource-oriented activities and which are generally 100 acres or more in size.

Map 10

KENOSHA COUNTY AND STATE OF WISCONSIN PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES: 2010



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Kenosha County, and SEWRPC.

Table 10

SELECTED OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES WITHIN KENOSHA COUNTY PARKS: 2010

Number on Map 10	Site Name	Size (acres)	Playfield	Playground Equipment	Golf Course	Picnic Area	Restrooms	Swimming Beach	Trails	Boat Launch	Dog Park	Cross-Country Skiing	Other Facilities
1	West End Park	235	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	X	--	--
2	Old Settler's Park	16	X	X	--	X	X	X	--	--	X	--	Baseball, fishing
3	Silver Lake Park	259	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	--	--	X	Softball, soccer, shelter, sand volleyball, sledding, fishing
4	Fox River Park	147	X	X	--	X	X	--	X	X	--	X	Baseball, softball, shelter, tennis, disc golf, sand volleyball, sledding, fishing
5	Bristol Woods Park	198	--	X	--	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	Pringle Nature Center, shelter
6	Kemper Center/Anderson Arts Center	16	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Fishing pier, soccer
7	Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course	509	X	X	X	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	Baseball, driving range, shelter, fishing, horseshoe pits
8	Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course	349	X	X	X	X	X	--	X	--	X	X	Softball, sand volleyball, horseshoe pits, sledding, shelter
--	Total : 8 Sites	1,729	5	6	2	7	7	2	6	1	3	5	--

Source: SEWRPC.

Table 11

STATE OF WISCONSIN RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE LANDS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010

Number on Map 10	Site Name	Location ^a	Size (acres)
	Department of Natural Resources Sites (WDNR)		
13	New Munster Wildlife Area	T1N, R19E, Section 11	1,285
14	Public Access – Powers Lake	T1N, R19E, Section 18	1
15	Public Access – Elizabeth Lake	T1N, R19E, Section 32	1
16	Paddock Lake Marsh	T1N, R20E, Section 2	5
17	Silver Lake Marsh	T1N, R20E, Section 8	38
18	Hooker Lake Marsh	T1N, R20E, Section 11	44
19	Public Access – Hooker Lake	T1N, R20E, Section 11	1
20	Camp Lake Access	T1N, R20E, Section 28	4
21	Scattered Wetland	T1N, R20E, Section 29	58
22	Camp Lake Marshland Preservation Area	T1N, R20E, Section 29	124
23	Peat Lake Extensive Wildlife Habitat	T1N, R20E, Section 30	224
24	WDNR Site	T1N, R20E, Section 32	51
25	Peat Lake Wildlife Area	T1N, R20E, Section 32	180
26	Scattered Wetland	T1N, R20E, Section 33	48
27	Kenosha Sand Dunes	T1N, R23E, Section 7	69
28	Carol Beach Prairie	T1N, R23E, Section 19	230
29	Bong State Recreation Area	T2N, R20E, Section 9	4,519
--	Subtotal – 17 Sites	--	6,882
	Department of Transportation Sites (WisDOT)		
30	WisDOT Site	T1N, R20E, Section 6	56
31	WisDOT State Wetland Area	T1N, R21E, Section 21	161
32	Wisconsin Tourist Information Center	T1N, R22E, Section 30	12
33	Wayside	T1N, R23E, Section 19	1
34	WisDOT Site	T2N, R20E, Section 18	25
--	Subtotal- 5 Sites	--	255
	University of Wisconsin Sites		
35	University of Wisconsin – Benedict Prairie	T1N, R21E, Section 11	6
36	University of Wisconsin – Chiwaukee Prairie	T1N, R23E, Section 31	90
37	University of Wisconsin Nature Area	T2N, R21E, Section 31	231
38	University of Wisconsin – Parkside (Recreation Area and Open Space)	T2N, R22E, Section 12	55
--	Subtotal – 4 Sites	--	382
--	Total – 26 Sites	--	7,519

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

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

Park and Open Space Sites Owned by the State of Wisconsin

As indicated in Table 11 and shown on Map 10, in 2010 there were 26 State-owned park and open space sites in Kenosha County, encompassing 7,519 acres, or about 4 percent of the total area of the County. Of these 26 sites, 17 sites, encompassing 6,882 acres, were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; five sites, encompassing 255 acres, were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation; and four sites, encompassing 382 acres, were owned by the University of Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has acquired large areas of park and open space lands in Kenosha County for a variety of resource protection and recreational purposes. Sites acquired for natural resource preservation and limited recreational purposes include the New Munster Wildlife Area, Carol Beach Prairie, Kenosha Sand Dunes, Peat Lake Extensive Wildlife Habitat and Wildlife Areas, Hooker Lake Marsh, Silver Lake Marsh, Paddock Lake Marsh, scattered wetland sites, and portions of Bong State Recreation Area.

WDNR-owned sites associated with more intensive recreational activities include public access sites on Camp Lake, Elizabeth Lake, Hooker Lake, and Powers Lake. Bong State Recreation Area, while preserving and protecting important natural resource areas, also offers a wide range of recreation activities and facilities, including hiking, horseback riding, and ATV trails; areas where visitors may fly model airplanes, rockets, hang gliders, and hot air balloons; dog and falcon training areas; multiple camping areas; a beach with a bath house; and fishing and picnicking areas.

Map 10 also reflects project boundaries that have been approved by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board for certain WDNR sites within the County. Lands within the approved project boundaries have been identified by the Board as appropriate additions to existing sites and are intended to be acquired by the Department of Natural Resources, on a "willing seller-willing buyer" basis, for recreational or open space purposes as funding permits.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation in 2010 owned five sites within Kenosha County, three of which were acquired as wetland mitigation sites for open space protection. The open space sites are located in the Village of Bristol and the Towns of Brighton and Salem. The remaining two sites owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation are a wayside and the Wisconsin Information Tourist Center, both located in the Village of Pleasant Prairie.

University of Wisconsin

In 2010 there were four park and open space sites affiliated with the University of Wisconsin. The University of Wisconsin-Parkside campus in the Town of Somers includes about 55 acres that are used for recreational and open space purposes. The campus includes a critical species habitat site known as Parkside Woods, and a portion of a natural area of local significance (NA-3) known as Petrifying Springs Woods. The University of Wisconsin-Parkside also owns 90 acres within the Chiwaukee Prairie—a natural area of statewide significance (NA-1), in the Village of Pleasant Prairie—and the 246-acre University of Wisconsin Nature Area located in the Village of Bristol and the Towns of Brighton, Paris, and Salem. The University of Wisconsin Nature Area includes portions of the Harris Marsh and Oak Woods, a natural area of countywide or regional significance (NA-2). The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee owns Benedict Prairie, a six-acre natural area (NA-2) in the Village of Bristol.

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

In addition to the County- and State-owned park and open space sites in Kenosha County, in 2010 there was a total of 305 sites owned by local units of government, school districts, or other public districts. Those sites, listed on Table B-1 and shown on Map B-1 in Appendix B, encompass 4,041 acres, or about 2 percent of the total area of the County. Local governments own 253 park and open space sites, public school districts own 51 sites, and one other public district (District of Powers Lake) owns one site. The acreage attributed to school district sites includes only those portions of the site used for recreational or open space purposes.

Of the 305 locally owned public parks, the largest by far is the 920-acre Prairie Springs Park. Owned by the Village of Pleasant Prairie, this major park provides a variety of resource-oriented recreational facilities, including a beach, picnic areas, nature trail, and a paved walking trail.

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

Private Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Sites

The 2010 inventory of park and open space sites also identified a total of 80 privately owned resource-oriented recreation sites. Those 80 sites are listed on Table B-2 and shown on Map B-2 in Appendix B. Together they encompassed 3,844 acres, or about 2 percent of the total area of the County.

Examples of privately owned recreation sites include hunting clubs, stables, golf courses, boat access sites, campgrounds, an ice skating facility, swimming beaches, subdivision parks, and recreation areas associated with private schools.

Private Resource Protection Sites

In addition, the 2010 inventory of park and open space sites identified a total of five sites owned by private organizations for natural resource protection purposes in Kenosha County. Those sites are listed on Table 12 and shown on Map 11. The five open space area sites owned for resource preservation purposes encompass 835 acres, or about 1 percent of the total area of the County. Those sites include a site owned by the Kenosha Racine Land Trust, two sites owned by The Nature Conservancy, and two other sites owned by other conservation organizations.

Conservation Easements

There are four privately owned open space and environmentally sensitive sites in Kenosha County that are protected under conservation easements. In general, conservation easements are voluntary contracts between a private landowner and a land trust or government body that limit, or in some cases prohibit, future development of the parcel. The property owner sells or donates a conservation easement for the property to a land trust or government agency, but retains ownership. The owner is not prohibited from selling the property, but future owners must abide by the terms of the conservation easement. Conservation easements typically do not include any provision for public access. The four easements in Kenosha County, listed on Table 13 and shown on Map 12, encompassed 164 acres in 2010. All of the conservation easements identified on the table and map provide for the permanent protection of resources on private land.

LAKE AND RIVER ACCESS SITES

Lakes and rivers constitute a particularly valuable part of the natural resource base of the County. Lakes and rivers enhance the aesthetic quality of the County and are focal points for water-related recreational activities, including such active uses as swimming, boating, and fishing, and passive uses such as walking, or viewing along the water's edge. Boat access sites, both public and non-public, provide opportunities for persons who do not own land on a body of water to participate in water-related recreational activities. The regional park and open space plan recommends that rivers and major lakes, defined as lakes with a surface area of 50 acres or more, be provided with adequate public access, including carry-in-boating and motor-boat access, consistent with safe and enjoyable participation in water-related activities. There are 12 major lakes located entirely within Kenosha County: Camp Lake, Center Lake, Dyer Lake, George Lake, Hooker Lake, Lake Andrea, Lake Mary, Lilly Lake, Paddock Lake, Silver Lake, Vern Wolf Lake, and Voltz Lake. In addition, five major lakes are located partially within the County: Benedict Lake, Benet/Shangrila Lake, Cross Lake, Elizabeth Lake, and Powers Lake. As shown on Map 3 in Chapter II, there are approximately 154 miles of major streams in Kenosha County.

Publicly owned access sites for motor-boating purposes in Kenosha County are provided to Lake Michigan, the Fox River, and all the major lakes except for Benedict Lake, Cross Lake, Dyer Lake, and Voltz Lake. Motor-boating on Lake Andrea and Vern Wolf Lake is limited to the use of electric motors only. Canoe/kayak access to the Fox River and Lake Michigan is also provided at a number of locations in the County. In addition, there are numerous other sites that provide access to lakes and rivers and Lake Michigan for other recreational activities and passive uses.

Table 12

PRIVATELY OWNED RESOURCE PROTECTION SITES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010

Number on Map 11	Site Name	Owner	Location ^a	Size (acres)
1	Kenosha Racine Land Trust	Kenosha Racine Land Trust	T1N, R21E, Section 12	13
2	Des Plaines Wetlands Conservancy	Des Plaines Wetlands Conservancy, Inc.	T1N, R22E, Sections 29, 30, and 32	624
3	Barnes Prairie	The Nature Conservancy	T1N, R23E, Section 19	4
4	Chiwaukee Prairie	The Nature Conservancy	T1N, R23E, Sections 31 and 32	156
5	Hawthorn Hollow	Hyslop Foundation, Inc.	T2N, R22E, Section 10	38
--	Total : 5 Sites	--	--	835

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

Source: SEWRPC.

TRAILS AND BICYCLE WAYS

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

The park and open space plan for Kenosha County as reflected in the Kenosha County Comprehensive Plan recommended that a total of 72 miles of trails be provided along the Des Plaines, Fox, and Pike Rivers, along Pike Creek, and along Lake Michigan (Kenosha County Bicycle Trail). Of the 72 miles, about 16 miles currently exist in the County as part of the Kenosha County Bicycle Trail. The Kenosha County Bicycle Trail includes segments located on a former railway right-of-way, on a WE Energies right-of-way, on bikeway lands owned by the County (90 acres), and on-street bike routes. The trail extends from the State line through the Village of Pleasant Prairie, the City of Kenosha, and the Town of Somers. In addition to the 16 miles of existing trails recommended in the County park and open space plan, a number of on-street bikeways and off-street trails have been established by local units of government in Kenosha County. Map 13 shows all existing bikeways and trails in Kenosha County in 2010. The three types of bikeway/trails shown on Map 13 accommodate a variety of users: on-street bikeways generally are used for bicycle travel only; shared off-street trails can be used for bicycle and pedestrian travel (which includes hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing); and other recreation trails that are open to pedestrian travel only, and in limited cases, horseback riding.

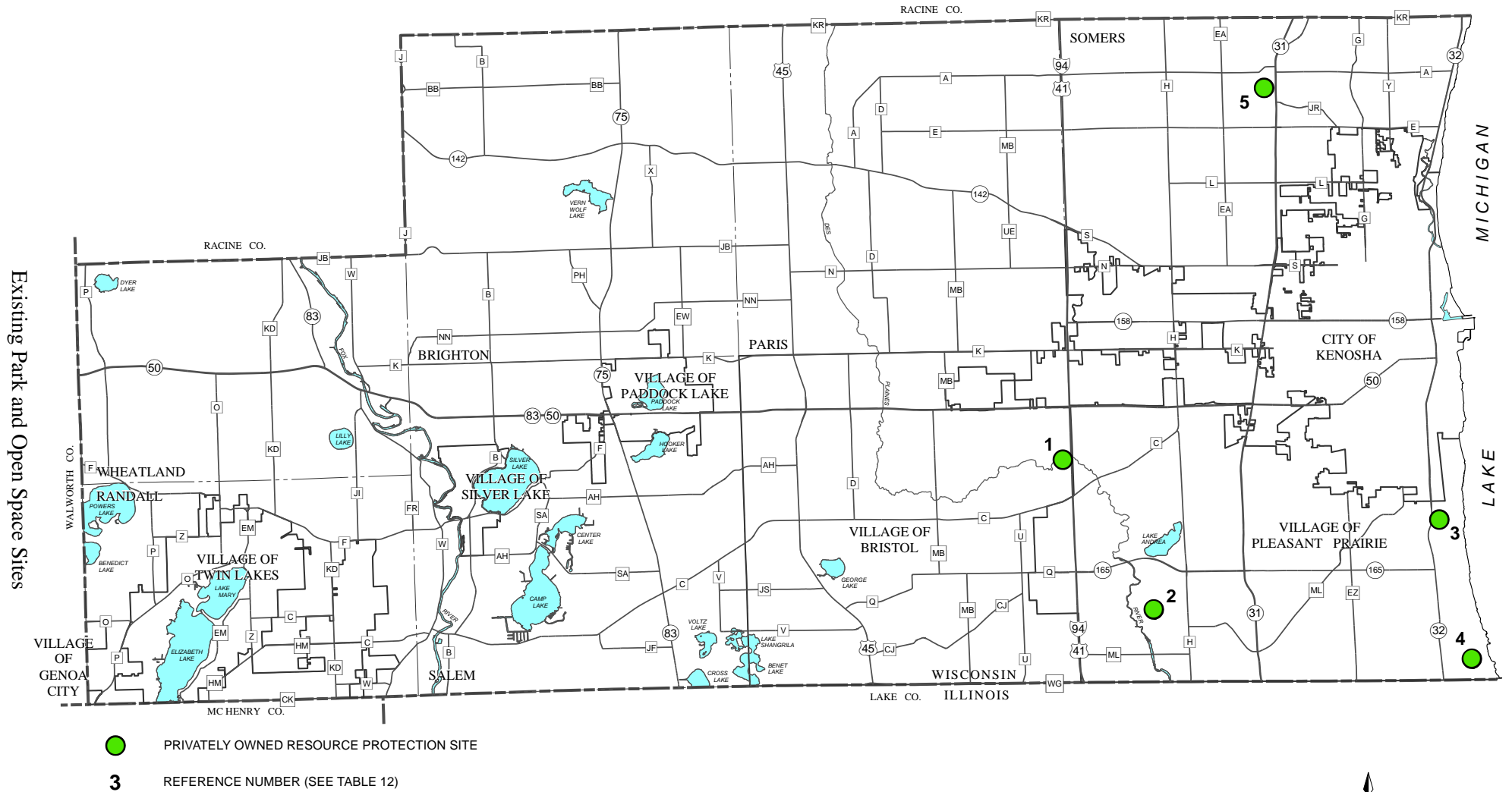
The bicycle and pedestrian facility element of the regional transportation plan,³ adopted by the Commission in 2006, recommends a network of on- and off-street bicycle ways within the County.⁴ Map C-1 in Appendix C depicts the bicycle and pedestrian element of the regional transportation plan as that plan pertains to Kenosha County. This map has been updated to reflect as-built conditions in 2010.

³Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 49, A Regional Transportation System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin—2035, June 2006.

⁴For purposes of this report, the term "trails" refers to off-street paths and separate bicycle paths within a highway right-of-way, and the term "bicycle way" refers to facilities for bicycle travel on streets, including signed bicycle routes and striped and signed bicycle lanes. Trails generally accommodate both foot and bicycle travel, while on-street bicycle routes and lanes generally accommodate bicycle travel only.

Map 11

PRIVATELY OWNED RESOURCE PROTECTION SITES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010



Source: Kenosha Racine Land Trust and SEWRPC.

At the time that this County park and open space plan was being prepared, the County was in the process of developing a county-wide comprehensive bicycle plan. Detailed data and recommendations developed as part of that planning effort will be included in a separate report entitled *A Comprehensive Bicycle Plan for Kenosha County: 2025*.

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

HISTORIC SITES

Historic sites in Kenosha County often have important recreational, educational, and cultural value. A number of inventories and surveys of potentially significant historic sites have been conducted by various units and agencies of government in Kenosha County since the completion of the regional park and open space plan in 1977. The results of these inventories and surveys, on file at such agencies as The Wisconsin Historical Society, indicate that there are more than 900 historic sites in Kenosha County.

Certain sites of known historic significance are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2010, there were 21 individual sites and three historic districts⁵ within the County listed on the National Register. The location of sites and districts in Kenosha County listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010 are presented on Table 14 and on Map 14, respectively. In addition to the sites shown on Map 14 and in Table 14, the National Register also includes two shipwreck sites in Lake Michigan that are attributed to Kenosha County. The two shipwreck sites are the Risinco, located 12 miles east of Kenosha, and the Wisconsin, located six miles southeast of Kenosha.

STATUS OF 2000 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2000 park and open space plan for Kenosha County adopted in 1988 and amended in 1999, contains a number of recommendations regarding the development and acquisition of park and open space lands. The inventory of park and open space sites and facilities described in this chapter include development and acquisition activities that have occurred since the adoption of the 2000 plan. Some of these activities represent progress made in implementing specific recommendations included in the 2000 plan. Examples of 2000 plan recommendations that have been implemented include:

Table 13

LANDS UNDER CONSERVATION EASEMENTS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010

Number on Map 12	Holder of Easement	Location ^a	Size (acres)
1	Kenosha Racine Land Trust (Close)	T1N, R20E, Section 12	21
2	Kenosha Racine Land Trust (Brightonwoods Orchard)	T2N, R20E, Section 8	120
3	WDNR	T2N, R19E, Section 30	22 ^b
4	WDNR	T1N, R23E, Section 32	1
--	Total : 4 Sites	--	164

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

^bIncludes only those lands located in the Town of Wheatland. Approximately 105 acres of the site are located in the Town of Lyons, Walworth County. The site totals 127 acres.

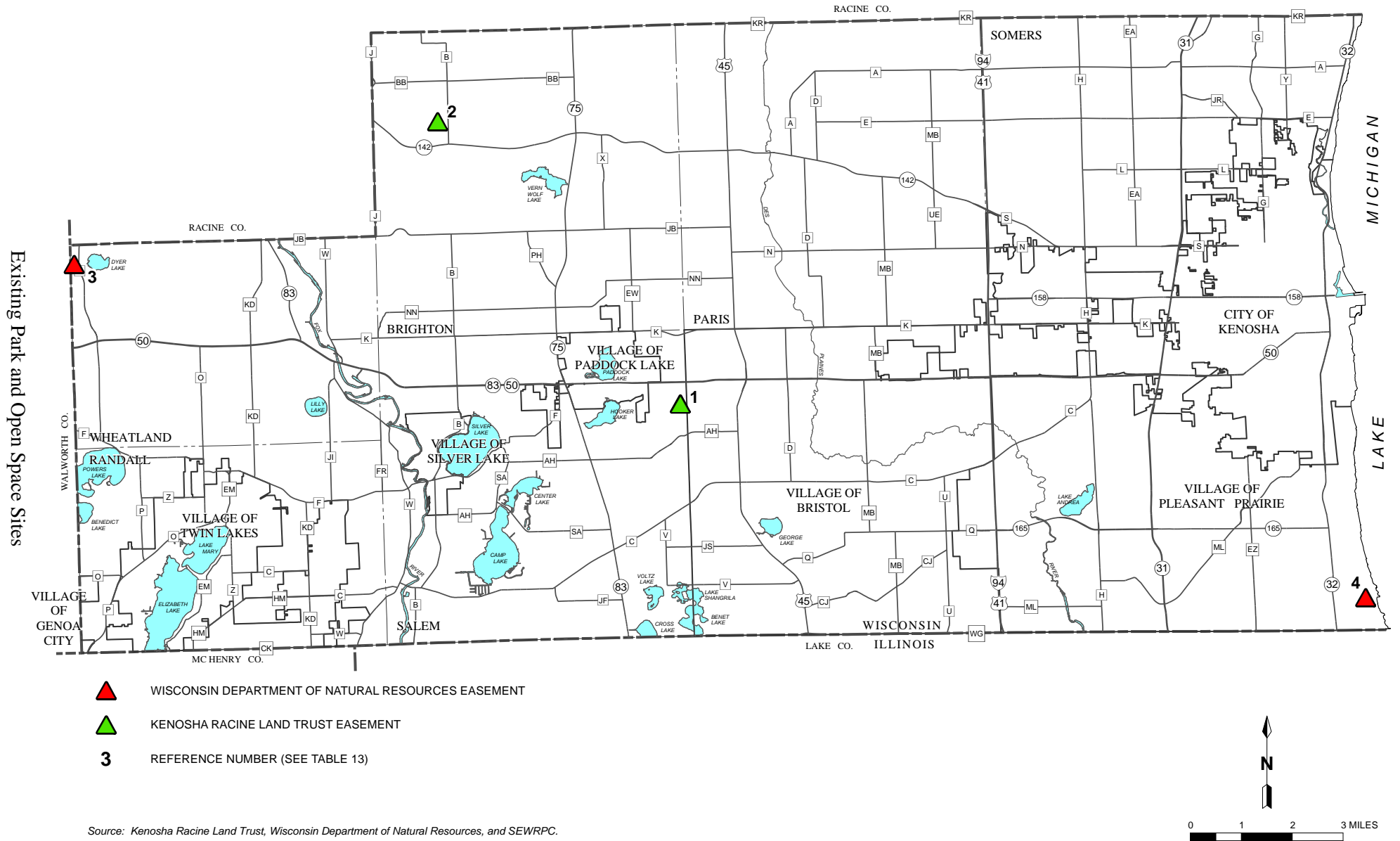
Note: All of the conservation easements listed above provide for the permanent protection of resources on private land.

Source: Kenosha Racine Land Trust, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and SEWRPC.

⁵A historic district is a geographically definable area, urban or rural, that contains a concentration of significant historic sites or structures from the same period of time.

Map 12

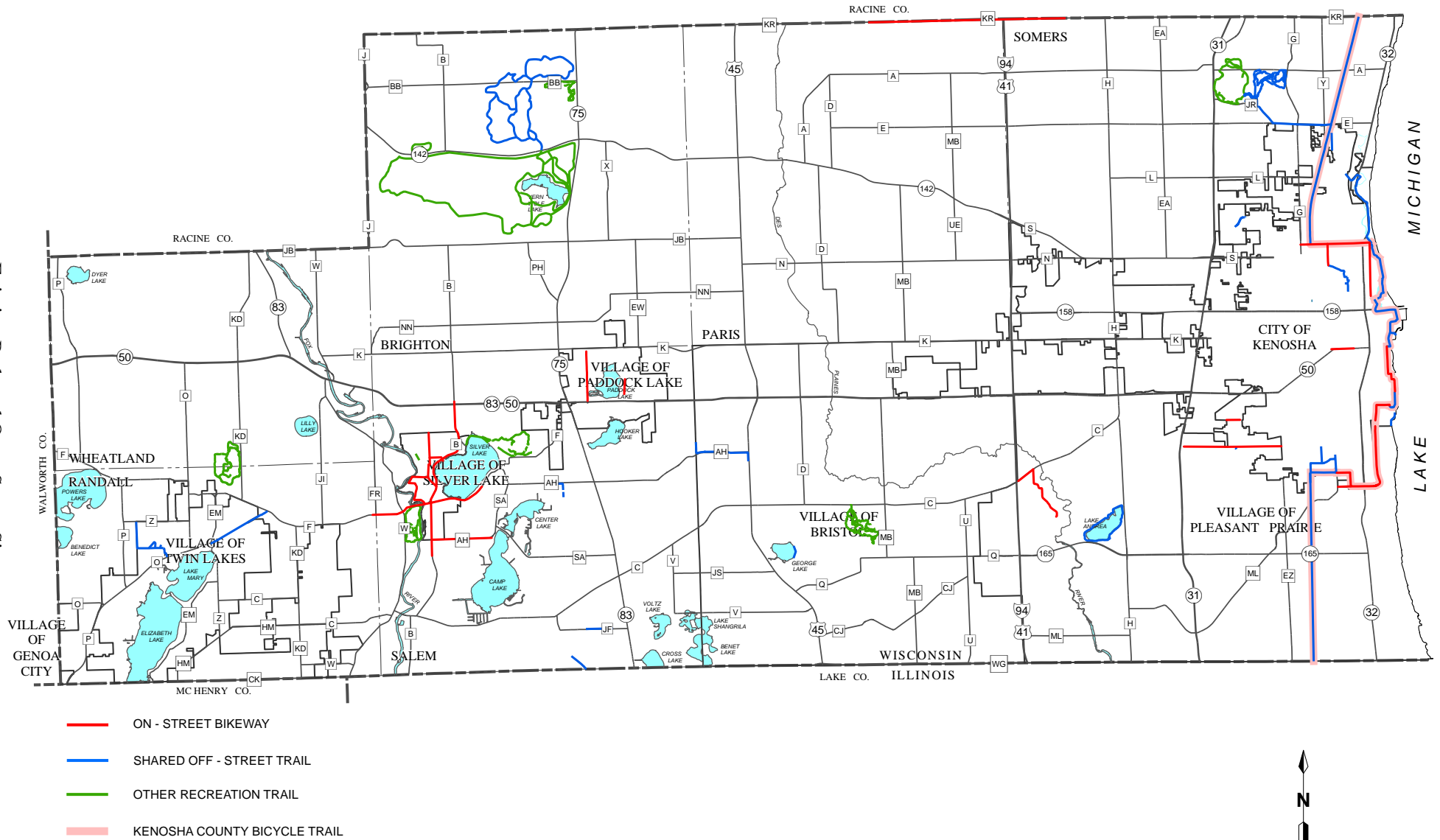
LANDS UNDER CONSERVATION EASEMENTS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010



Map 13

EXISTING BICYCLEWAYS/TRAILS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010

Existing Park and Open Space Sites



Source: Kenosha County and SEWRPC.

- Acquisition of West End Park Property (235 acres) by Kenosha County;
- Development of trail facilities and dog park at West End Park;
- Acquisition and development of Prairie Springs Park by the Village of Pleasant Prairie;
- Development of additional recreation facilities at Bong Recreation Area;
- Permanent protection of environmental corridor lands in the Town of Salem through a conservation easement acquired by the Kenosha Racine Land Trust;
- Acquisition of environmental corridor lands by the WDNR along the Fox River in the Town of Wheatland;
- Acquisition of environmental corridor land and a natural area of local significance (Center Lake Woods and Wetlands) by the Town of Salem; and
- Acquisition of environmental corridor land and a natural area of local significance (Des Plaines River Wetlands) in the Village of Bristol by the Kenosha Racine Land Trust.

SUMMARY

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

1. In 2010, Kenosha County owned 12 park and open space sites, which collectively encompassed 1,824 acres, or about 1 percent of the total area of the County.
2. The State of Wisconsin owned 26 park and open space sites, encompassing 7,519 acres, or about 4 percent of the total area of the County. Of these 26 sites, 17 sites encompassing 6,882 acres were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; five sites encompassing 255 acres were owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation; and four sites, encompassing 382 acres, were owned by the University of Wisconsin.
3. Local units of government, school districts, and other public districts owned 305 park and open space sites, encompassing 4,041 acres, or about 2 percent of the total area of the County.
4. In 2010, a total of 80 privately owned resource-oriented recreation sites encompassing 3,844 acres were located in Kenosha County.
5. Private organizations owned five sites in Kenosha County for natural resource protection purposes in 2010. These sites encompassed 835 acres, or less than 1 percent of the total area of the County.
6. In 2010, private lands protected under conservation easements encompassed 164 acres in Kenosha County.
7. In total, 18,317 acres, or about 10 percent of the total area of the County, were in public or private ownership, or under conservation easements, for park, recreation, open space, or resource preservation purposes in 2010.
8. Boating access was available on Lake Michigan, 14 major lakes, and along the Fox River in Kenosha County.
9. In 2010, 21 individual sites and three historic districts in Kenosha County were listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Table 14

**HISTORIC SITES AND DISTRICTS IN KENOSHA COUNTY
LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: 2010**

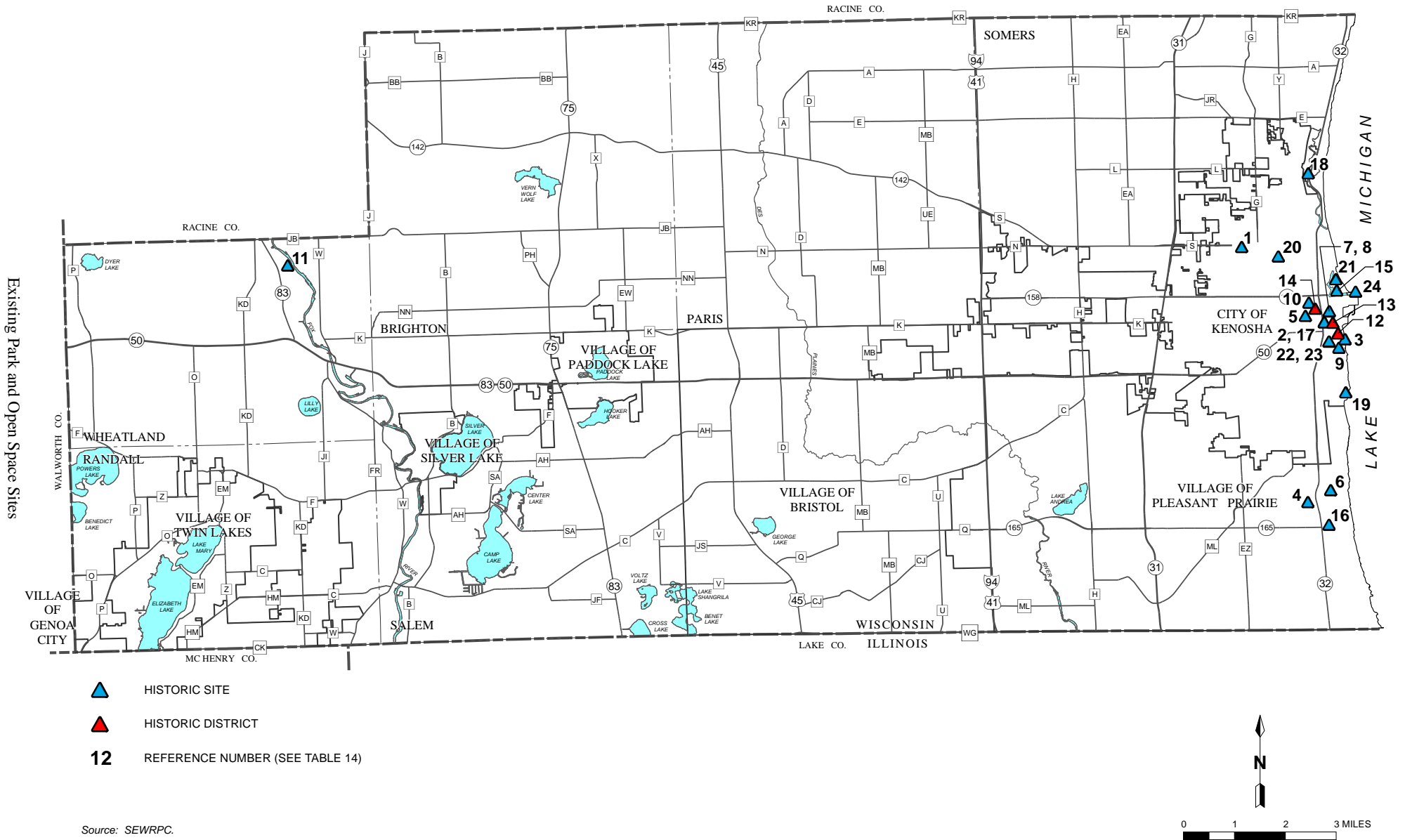
Number on Map 14	Site Name	Location ^a	Civil Division	Year Listed
1	Justin Weed House	T2N, R22E, Section 25	City of Kenosha	1974
2	Gilbert M. Simmons Memorial Library	T2N, R23E, Section 31	City of Kenosha	1974
3	Kemper Hall.....	T1N, R23E, Section 5	City of Kenosha	1976
4	Barnes Creek Site	T1N, R23E, Section 19	Village of Pleasant Prairie	1977
5	John McCaffary House.....	T2N, R23E, Section 31	City of Kenosha	1978
6	Chesrow Site	T1N, R23E, Section 19	Village of Pleasant Prairie	1978
7	St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.....	T2N, R23E, Section 31	City of Kenosha	1979
8	Boys and Girls Library	T2N, R23E, Section 31	City of Kenosha	1980
9	Manor House.....	T1N, R23E, Section 5	City of Kenosha	1980
10	Kenosha County Courthouse and Jail.....	T2N, R23E, Section 31	City of Kenosha	1982
11	Wehnhoff Mound	T2N, R19E, Section 26	Town of Wheatland	1985
12	Third Avenue Historic District.....	T1N, R23E, Section 6	City of Kenosha	1988
13	Library Park Historic District.....	T1N, R23E, Section 6	City of Kenosha	1988
14	Civic Center Historic District.....	T2N, R23E, Section 31	City of Kenosha	1989
15	Kenosha Light Station	T2N, R23E, Section 31	City of Kenosha	1990
16	Lucas Site.....	T1N, R23E, Section 19	Village of Pleasant Prairie	1995
17	Library Park	T2N, R22E, Section 31	City of Kenosha	2000
18	Alford Park Warehouse	T2N, R23E, Section 18	City of Kenosha	2002
19	Southport Beach House	T1N, R23E, Section 8	City of Kenosha	2003
20	Washington Park Clubhouse.....	T2N, R22E, Section 25	City of Kenosha	2003
21	Simmons Island Beach House	T2N, R23E, Section 32	City of Kenosha	2003
22	Anthony and Caroline Isermann House	T1N, R23E, Section 6	City of Kenosha	2004
23	Frank and Jane Isermann House	T1N, R23E, Section 6	City of Kenosha	2004
24	Kenosha North Pierhead Light	T2N, R23E, Section 32	City of Kenosha	2008

^aIndicates location given in U.S. Public Land Survey Township, Range, and Section, except for shipwreck sites located in Lake Michigan .

Source: The Wisconsin Historical Society and SEWRPC.

Map 14

HISTORIC SITES AND DISTRICTS LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: 2010



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Chapter IV

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

INTRODUCTION

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

This chapter sets forth the objectives, principles, and standards used in the preparation of this park and open space plan for Kenosha County, and applies the standards to the anticipated year 2035 population to help determine the need for major park sites and such outdoor recreation facilities as golf courses, campgrounds, swimming beaches, lake access sites, and hiking and biking trails. Needs identified through the application of the standards are addressed in Chapter V, which sets forth the recommended park and open space plan for Kenosha County.

OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS

The objectives, principles, and standards for the Kenosha County park and open space plan are based largely on those that were prepared and developed under the regional park and open space plan. The Commission Technical and Citizen Advisory Committee on Regional Park and Open Space Planning, as part of the regional park and open space planning program completed in 1977, formulated a set of park and open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives and accompanying principles and standards. The regional standards were based on standards previously developed by the National Recreation and Park Association. The Regional Advisory Committee compared the national standards to recreational preferences and demands of the Region as determined by surveys of recreation site managers and users, and modified the standards as necessary to meet park and open space demands within the Region.

The regional park and open space preservation objectives, principles, and standards were incorporated directly into the Kenosha County park and open space plan adopted in 1988, and subsequently amended in 1996 and 1999. Those objectives, principles, and standards have been reaffirmed in this year 2035 Kenosha County park and open space plan. The plan objectives are set forth below:

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

2. To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.¹
3. To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.
4. To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunity to participate in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities.
5. To provide sufficient access areas to allow the resident population of the County adequate opportunities to participate in extensive water-based outdoor recreation activities on the major inland lakes, rivers and Lake Michigan which are consistent with enjoyable surface water use and the maintenance of adequate water quality.
6. To preserve sufficient high-quality open-space lands for protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well-being and environmental quality of the County.
7. To provide for the efficient and economical satisfaction of outdoor recreation and related open space needs meeting all other objectives at the lowest possible cost.

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

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

PARK AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Existing and Forecast Population Size and Distribution

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

¹*Resource-oriented activities include activities which rely upon natural resource amenities for the existence of the activity—such as beach swimming, nature study, and fishing—and those activities in which the quality of the recreational experience is significantly enhanced by the presence of natural resource amenities—such as picnicking, camping, and golf. Nonresource-oriented activities are not reliant on natural resource amenities nor is the quality of the recreational experience significantly enhanced by the presence of natural resource amenities; examples include baseball, soccer, tennis, and basketball.*

As noted in Chapter II of this report, the 2010 County population, according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, was 166,426 persons. The number of County residents anticipated by the year 2035 based upon forecasts developed by the Regional Planning Commission for the year 2035 regional land use plan would range from 210,100 persons under the adopted regional plan to as high as 235,300 under the high-growth alternative. The population level for the year 2035 as developed for the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan for Kenosha County—229,400—approaches the level anticipated under the high-growth alternative.

In addition to information on the overall size of the anticipated future population of the County, information on future population distribution is important to a determination of existing and probable future outdoor recreation needs. The park and outdoor recreation standards call for a major park to be provided within four miles of residents of urban areas having a population of 40,000 or greater and within 10 miles of residents of smaller urban areas and rural areas. The planned urban areas delineated in the adopted Kenosha County comprehensive plan served as the basis for the identification of planned urban areas within the County, and are shown on Map 15. Planned urban areas, as shown on Map 15, are associated with the City of Kenosha; the Villages of Bristol, Genoa City, Paddock Lake, Pleasant Prairie, Silver Lake, and Twin Lakes; and the Towns of Salem and Somers.

Per Capita and Accessibility Standards

Two types of standards—per capita and accessibility standards—are used to help estimate the number and distribution of outdoor recreation sites and facilities needed to serve the anticipated future population of the County. The per capita standards are intended to help estimate the total number of acres of land needed to satisfy requirements for park and recreational land and related facility requirements based on the anticipated future resident population of the County. It should be recognized that the standards used can be considered minimum standards and do not preclude opportunities for additional sites and facilities beyond those identified in this plan.

For purposes of analyzing future park site and future park facility needs, the population level anticipated under the high-growth scenario—235,300 persons—was considered. This recognizes the need to identify and reserve sufficient high-quality sites which may be required under conditions of more rapid population growth through the year 2035, as well as the need to serve the County population beyond the year 2035.

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

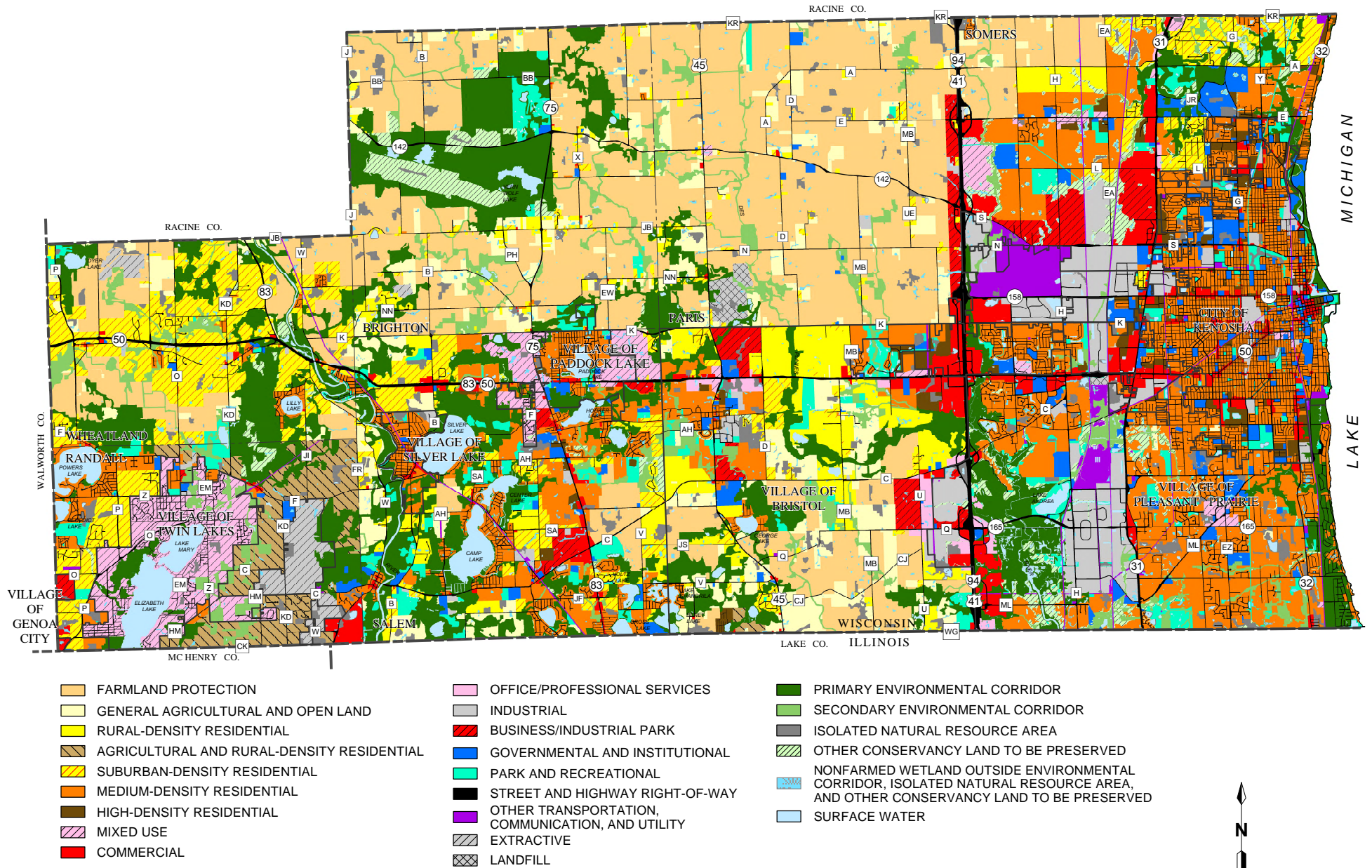
Standards for Major Park Sites

Per capita and service area standards for major parks are set forth under Objective No. 1 in Appendix D. Major parks are defined as large, publicly owned outdoor recreation sites containing significant natural resource amenities which provide opportunities for resource-oriented activities and which are generally 100 acres or more in size. Application of the per capita standards for major park sites to the existing 2010 and anticipated year 2035 County population levels² indicates that no additional park land in major park sites is needed. This calculation is based on the acreage of the following major parks in Kenosha County: Bong State Recreation Area, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Brighton Dale Park, Bristol Woods Park, Fox River Park, Petrifying Springs Park, Silver Lake Park, and West End Park, owned by Kenosha County; James Anderson Park, owned by the City of Kenosha; and Prairie Springs Park, owned by the Village of Pleasant Prairie.

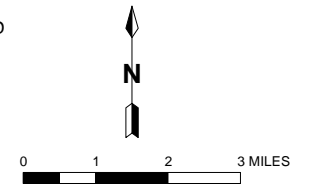
²*In the balance of this chapter the determination of future per capita park site and facility needs is based upon the application of the per capita standards to the 235,300 persons anticipated for the year 2035 under the regional land use plan's high growth scenario.*

Map 15

PLANNED LAND USES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2035



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Local Governments, Kenosha County, and SEWRPC.



Application of the 10-mile service radius standard indicates that all residents of rural areas in Kenosha County are within the recommended service area of a major park. Application of the four-mile service radius for urban areas (urban areas having a population of 40,000 or greater) indicates that all residents of the greater Kenosha area are located within the recommended service area for a major park.

Standards for Intensive Resource-Oriented Recreation Facilities

The standards in Objective No. 3 set forth per capita and service area standards for the provision of such resource-oriented recreational facilities as camping, golfing, picnicking, and beach swimming. Separate per capita standards have been established for public and nonpublic facilities. The per capita standards were applied to both the 2010 and anticipated year 2035 County population levels, and need estimates were generally prepared for both public and nonpublic facilities. This recognizes that, even though many nonpublic facilities are not available to the general population, the continued provision of such facilities is important because they do meet a significant portion of the overall demand for these recreation facilities which would otherwise have to be met by the public sector.

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

Campsites

Public campsites in the County are currently provided at the Bong State Recreation Area. Campsites are also available to the public (for a fee) at the privately owned Happy Acres Kampground and Melody Park.

Application of the per capita standards for campsites indicates that the need for publicly owned campsites is met by the existing public campsites, and that there is a need for an additional 50 privately owned campsites to serve the anticipated 2035 population. A private campground (Fox River Recreation) is located approximately one mile south of Kenosha County in the State of Illinois. This site may serve to meet the needs identified in the application of this standard. The standards call for public campsites to be located within 25 miles of each County resident. This standard is met by the existing public campgrounds in the County.

Golf Courses

Within the County there are currently two publicly owned regulation golf courses with at least 18 holes: Brighton Dale Golf Course (45-holes) and Petrifying Springs Golf Course (18-holes), both owned by Kenosha County. There is also one publicly owned nine-hole golf course, Washington Park Municipal Golf Course, owned by the City of Kenosha. There are six privately owned courses with 18-holes open to the public: Nippersink Manor Golf Course, Twin Lakes Country Club, Spring Valley Country Club, Bristol Oaks Country Club, Big Oaks Golf Course, and Maplecrest Country Club. There are also two privately owned courses with 18-holes not open to the public: Kenosha Country Club and The Club at Strawberry Creek.

Application of the per capita standard for golf courses indicates the need for three 18-hole public golf courses in the County. As noted above, two publicly owned golf courses with 18 or more holes currently exist in the County. One of those golf courses—Brighton Dale Golf Course—consists of 45 holes, the equivalent of 2.5 courses. Consequently, the per capita standard is met by existing publicly owned golf courses. Application of the recommended 10-mile service radius to the existing 18-hole public golf courses indicates that residents in a small area in the southeastern portion of the County are beyond the recommended service area for an 18-hole public golf course. However, this area does fall within 10 miles of the existing public nine-hole course in the City of Kenosha and two privately owned courses open to the public. Consequently, the County should be considered well served by existing facilities. The need for private golf courses is met by the existing facilities.

Picnicking

Public picnic areas in the County are currently provided at eight major parks: Bong State Recreation Area, Brighton Dale Park, Bristol Woods Park, Fox River Park, James Anderson Park, Petrifying Springs Park, Prairie Springs Park, and Silver Lake Park.

The recommended standards call for 3.8 picnic tables per 1,000 County residents at major parks.³ Application of this standard indicates that there may be a need for approximately 40 additional picnic tables at major parks to serve the anticipated year 2035 population. The recommended 10-mile service radius standard for public picnicking facilities at major parks is met.

Swimming Beaches

Publicly owned inland beaches are provided at a number of public parks on inland lakes in Kenosha County. Table 15 lists the publicly owned parks with swimming beaches and the associated lake. As shown on Table 15, there are 22 public swimming beaches on inland lakes in the County. In addition, there are 17 privately owned beaches in the County; however, access to these beaches by the general public is typically limited. Publicly owned swimming beaches are also provided on the shore of Lake Michigan at Alford Park, Eichelman Park, Lake Michigan Park, Pennoyer Park, Simmons Island Park, and Southport Park.

Separate per capita standards have been established for inland and Lake Michigan beaches. Application of the per capita standards for inland swimming beaches indicates that existing publicly owned beaches are adequate to serve the 2010 and the anticipated 2035 population. While application of per capita standards for privately owned inland beaches indicates a shortfall of approximately 1,600 linear feet of privately owned inland beaches in the County by the year 2035, the combined total of existing publicly and privately owned inland beaches does meet the recommended standard for the total amount of inland beaches in the County to serve the anticipated 2035 population. Given the extent of publicly owned beaches, the County should be considered well served by existing facilities. The per capita Lake Michigan beach swimming standard was not applied herein, since that standard is intended to be applied and evaluated on a regional, rather than county-by-county, basis.

Application of 10-mile service radius for public inland beaches indicates the County is adequately served by public swimming beaches in Kenosha County.

³*This standard is intended to ensure adequate opportunities for picnicking in a natural resource setting typically found at major parks. It should be noted that opportunities for picnicking outside major parks are available at other County parks—including at Kemper Center and Old Settlers Park (approximately 70 picnic tables)—as well as at local parks in the County (approximately 280 picnic tables).*

Table 15

**PUBLICLY OWNED PARKS WITH SWIMMING BEACHES
ON INLAND LAKES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2011**

Lake	Public Park
Benedict Lake	Fox Park
Benet/Shangrila Lake	Lake Shangri-La Beach Subdivision Park
Camp Lake	Sunset Oaks Manor Subdivision Park
Center Lake	Center Lake Woods Subdivision Park Lakewood Terrace Subdivision Park Timberlane Subdivision Park
Elizabeth Lake	Lucille Beach Musial Beach Sunset Beach
George Lake	George Lake East Shore Park George Lake North Beach
Lake Andrea	Prairie Springs Park
Lake Mary	Lance Park
Lilly Lake	Lilly Lake Park
Paddock Lake	Old Settlers Park Raymond W. Hoag Park
Powers Lake	Bayview Public Park Lakeside Park (also known as Knowles Park)
Rock Lake	Lubeno Park
Silver Lake	Dewitt Park Silver Lake Park
Vern Wolf Lake	Bong State Recreation Area

Source: SEWRPC.

Standards for Trail Facilities

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

The existing 16-mile long Kenosha County Trail does not meet the per capita standard for recreation corridors (0.16 linear mile per 1,000 persons) as applied to the anticipated year 2035 County population. Consequently, trails for the various activities should be provided in conjunction with the acquisition and development of a public recreation corridor system. This could be accomplished through the implementation of recreation corridors along the Des Plaines, Fox, and Pike Rivers, and Pike Creek as recommended in the County comprehensive plan. It should be noted that while recreation corridors 15 miles in length or more are most desirable, the development of trail facilities less than 15 miles should also be encouraged to meet local trail needs.

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

The standards under Objective No. 4 also contain a recommendation for the provision of trails for snowmobiling. Approximately 77 miles of designated trails exist on public lands and on private lands open to the public. This adequately serves both the existing and anticipated 2035 population. Objective No. 4 also contains a standard that each county have a public nature study center. In Kenosha County, the standard is met by the existing Pringle Nature Center in Bristol Woods Park.

Standards for Lake Access Sites

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), in keeping with State *Statutes* which seek to assure that all Wisconsin residents have access to publicly owned inland waters, has adopted administrative rules regarding lake access. Those rules, set forth in Chapter NR 1.91 of the *Wisconsin Administrative Code*, require public boating access sites, including boat launching and parking facilities, to be provided on inland lakes as a condition for the Department to provide natural resource enhancement services for a body of water. The *Administrative Code* requires that launch facilities and at least one car-trailer parking space, and a combined total of five car-trailer and automobile parking spaces, be provided at boating access sites on lakes 50 acres to 99 acres in size. The required number of car-trailer parking spaces increases as the size of the lake increases. One additional parking space, in addition to the minimum specified in the *Administrative Code*, must also be provided for use by disabled persons. The regulations also specify a maximum number of parking spaces to be provided, which also varies according to the size of the lake, in recognition that too many boats on a lake may threaten both the safety of lake users and the environmental quality of the lake. Table 16 sets forth the requirements for public boating access for major lakes in Kenosha County under the Department rules. Public boating access does not meet State requirements for natural resource enhancement services at Benedict Lake, Benet/Shangrila Lake, Cross Lake, Dyer Lake, and Voltz Lake.

The *Administrative Code* also requires that public canoeing/kayaking access points with parking should be provided on major streams every 10 miles. Major streams in Kenosha County are the Des Plaines, Fox, and Pike Rivers. Public boat/canoe/kayak access is currently provided at numerous locations along the Fox River.

Table 16

**BOAT-ACCESS SITE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE WISCONSIN
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE^a FOR MAJOR LAKES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2011**

Major Lake ^b	Minimum Number of Parking Spaces	Maximum Number of Parking Spaces	Comment
Benedict Lake ^c	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Benet/Shangrila Lake ^d	Six car-trailer spaces	12 car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements ^e
Camp Lake	15 car-trailer spaces	30 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (28 total car-trailer spaces at WDNR access site, and three Town of Salem access sites)
Center Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	Eight car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (10 car-trailer spaces at Town of Salem access site)
Cross Lake ^d	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Dyer Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements
Elizabeth Lake ^d	19 car-trailer spaces	33 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (eight car spaces and 20 total car-trailer spaces at WDNR access site)
George Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (eight car-trailer spaces at Village of Bristol access site)
Hooker Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (11 car-trailer spaces at Village of Paddock Lake access site)
Lake Andrea	Five car-trailer spaces	Seven car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (10 car-trailer spaces at Village of Pleasant Prairie access site)
Lake Mary	10 car-trailer spaces	21 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (81 car spaces and 15 car-trailer spaces at Village of Twin Lakes access site)
Lilly Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (eight car spaces and five car-trailer spaces at Town of Wheatland access site)
Paddock Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	Seven car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (five car spaces, one handicap space, and 10 car-trailer spaces at Village of Paddock Lake access site)
Powers Lake ^c	15 car-trailer spaces	30 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (16 car-trailer spaces at WDNR access site, and 16 car spaces at Town of Randall access site)
Silver Lake	15 car-trailer spaces	30 car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (seven car spaces and eight car-trailer spaces at WDNR access site)
Vern Wolf Lake	Five car-trailer spaces	Eight car-trailer spaces	Adequate public access (three car spaces and 22 car-trailer spaces at WDNR access site)
Voltz Lake	Combination of five car and car-trailer spaces	Five car-trailer spaces	No access provided which meets NR 1.91 requirements

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

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

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

^dLake is partially within the State of Illinois. Boat-access requirements apply to the total acreage of lake.

^eThere are additional publicly owned boat access sites that do not provide parking, and therefore do not meet NR 1.91 requirements.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

Other Recreational Needs

As noted earlier, the responsibility of intensive nonresource-oriented recreation facilities is delegated primarily to local units of government. The standards for these types of facilities are set forth under Objective No. 2 and include baseball and softball fields, basketball and tennis courts, and soccer fields. However, this does not preclude the County park plan from considering the development of these types of facilities as additional improvements are made to County parks in the future. In addition, the County park plan should also recognize other emerging recreation facility needs for which no standards have been developed and which have not been addressed to date, or which have been addressed on a limited basis, by the County park system. Among these are skate parks, disc golf facilities, mountain biking, and horseback riding, as described below.

- **Skate Parks:** In-line skating and skateboarding have become increasingly popular in recent years. While any relatively flat, smooth, paved surface may be suitable for these activities, many participants seek out areas with challenging obstacles. When pursued in areas not designed for this use (and in some cases regulated against), such as public sidewalks and curbs, there can be a safety hazard for skaters as well as pedestrians, and damage to target structures. A number of communities in southeastern Wisconsin have developed or are contemplating development of skate parks that are designed for skaters to practice their sport. There is one public skate park facility in Kenosha County, the Anderson Skate Park in James Anderson Park in the City of Kenosha.
- **Disc Golf:** In disc golf, a disc similar to a “frisbee” is thrown toward a target (on organized courses, typically a metal basket that has hanging chains to catch the disc) that serves as the hole. Hole lengths vary, but generally fall between 150 and 500 feet. Disc golf facility requirements are minimal and disc golf courses may be incorporated with little impact into a variety of landscapes. Kenosha County currently has two disc golf courses, a 27-hole course at Fox River Park in the Town of Salem and an 18-hole course at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in the Town of Somers.
- **Mountain Biking:** Mountain biking has emerged as a popular activity in recent years. Mountain biking is essentially a trail activity that requires challenging hilly topography. Mountain biking can conflict with other trail activities, adversely impact trail conditions, and negatively impact sensitive natural resources. Consequently, mountain-biking trails may, perhaps, be best provided as loop trails, separate from the main recreation corridor. The growing popularity of mountain biking should be given due consideration in the development of the new County park plan.
- **Horseback Riding:** Because of a number of factors, including trail conditions and potential user conflicts, very few public trails are open to horseback riding in or near Kenosha County. The only public trail open to horseback riding in Kenosha County is at the Bong State Recreation Area in the Town of Brighton. Public trails open to horseback riding near Kenosha County include trails in the Kettle Moraine State Forest-Southern Unit in Walworth and Waukesha Counties.

Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Since 1965 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has developed and maintained the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). This plan examines various recreation trends, assesses current and future recreational needs within the State, and sets forth appropriate recommendations to meet those needs. The SCORP plan is done every five years, the current version being the 2011-2016 SCORP. The SCORP should be used as a reference source as the Kenosha County park and open space plan is implemented.

Standards for Open Space Preservation

Objective No. 6 calls for the preservation of sufficient high-quality open space lands for protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well-being and environmental quality of the County. The preservation of these areas helps to protect water quality and protect floodways and floodplains from incompatible uses. These high-quality open space lands include primary environmental corridors, natural areas and critical species habitat sites, and prime agricultural lands. The

preservation of such lands is based upon the location and composition of existing natural resources, rather than the application of development standards. The preservation and protection of these areas is also consistent with plan recommendations contained in the Kenosha County comprehensive plan.

Primary environmental corridors contain many of the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas within the County. The standard under Objective No. 6 indicates that primary environmental corridors should be preserved in essentially natural, open use. Although not specifically addressed in Objective No. 6, county and local government should consider preserving and protecting secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas. Such areas can serve as economical drainageways and stormwater detention basins, and can provide needed open space in developing urban areas.

Natural areas and critical species habitat sites contain rare, threatened, and endangered animal and plant species within the County. The standard under Objective No. 6 indicates that natural areas and critical species habitat sites should be preserved and managed to maintain their natural value. Although not specifically addressed in Objective 6, State, county, and local government should consider preserving and protecting significant geological areas, consistent with the recommendations of the regional natural areas plan.

Prime agricultural lands are lands best suited for the production of food and fiber. In addition to their agricultural value, such lands supply significant wildlife habitat and have been identified as areas with significant groundwater recharge potential (see Map 4 in Chapter II). The standard under Objective No. 6 indicates that prime agricultural lands should be preserved for agricultural use.

SUMMARY

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

For purposes of analyzing future park site and future park facility needs, the population level anticipated under the high-growth scenario—235,300 persons—was considered. This recognizes the need to identify and reserve sufficient high-quality sites which may be required under conditions of more rapid population growth through the year 2035, as well as the need to serve the County population beyond the year 2035. The findings of the recreation site and facility needs analysis are summarized below:

1. Application of the per capita and 10-mile service radius standards for major park sites indicates that no additional park land in major park sites is needed in the County.
2. Application of the recommended 10-mile service radius for 18-hole public golf courses indicates that residents in a small area in the southeastern portion of the County are beyond the service area of an existing 18-hole public course. However, that area is within 10 miles of a nine-hole public golf course located in the City of Kenosha and two private courses open to the public. Consequently, the County should be considered well served by existing facilities.
3. The recommended standards call for 3.8 picnic tables per 1,000 County residents at major public parks. This standard is intended to ensure adequate opportunities for picnicking in a natural resource setting typically found at major parks. Application of this standard indicates that there may be a need for 40 additional picnic tables at major parks in the County to serve the anticipated year 2035 population.

4. Application of the standards for trails within recreation corridors indicates the need for additional trails for hiking, biking, horseback riding, nature study, and ski touring which should be provided in conjunction with the acquisition and development of public recreation corridors associated with the Des Plaines, Fox, and Pike Rivers and Pike Creek.
5. Application of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources lake access standards would require that new or additional access facilities be provided at Benedict Lake, Benet/Shangrila Lake, Cross Lake, Dyer Lake, and Voltz Lake. The standards also require additional public canoe/kayak access to be provided on the Des Plaines and Pike Rivers.
6. The County park and open space plan objectives also address open space preservation needs. The need to protect the natural resources of the County cannot be related to per capita or accessibility requirements, since the achievement of the open space preservation objective is essentially independent of a population level or distribution, but relates, rather, to the location, character, and extent of remaining natural resources. Standards under Objective No. 6 indicate that primary environmental corridors and natural areas and critical species habitat sites should be preserved for natural uses, while prime agricultural lands should be preserved for agricultural use.
7. While not specifically addressed in the standards, the County park plan should also take into consideration other emerging recreation facility needs for which no standards have been developed and which have not been addressed to date, or which have been addressed on a limited basis, by the County park system. These include skate parks, disc golf, mountain biking, and horseback riding.

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Chapter V

RECOMMENDED PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

INTRODUCTION

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

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

The recommended park and open space plan for Kenosha County was presented in preliminary form at a public informational meeting hosted by the Kenosha County Division of Parks and held on March 8, 2012, at the Pringle Nature Center (located in Bristol Woods County Park) in the Village of Bristol. The purpose of the meeting was to acquaint public officials, interested citizens, and landowners with the key recommendations of the plan and to receive comments on and answer questions pertaining to the plan.

Public comment on the County park and open space plan generally included positive feedback on recommendations of the preliminary plan regarding hiking and biking trails, park improvements, and preservation of natural resources. One person commenting suggested that the County consider the development of a trail/bikeway connection between the identified recreation corridor trail system in Kenosha County with the Dutch Gap Forest Preserve Area in Illinois. After considering this suggestion, the Kenosha County Public Works/Facilities Committee determined that since any future trail connection between the proposed Kenosha County trail system and the aforementioned forest preserve area in Illinois would likely be an on-road bikeway, consideration for such a facility should be addressed in the separate county-wide comprehensive bicycle plan currently under development.

RECOMMENDED OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ELEMENT

The open space preservation element consists of four major components. The first is the preservation of primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, and isolated natural resource areas. The preservation of natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological areas and in accordance with the

recommendations set forth in the regional natural areas protection and management plan¹ is the second component. The third component calls for the protection of open space lands located within established State project boundaries. The final component calls for the protection of prime agricultural land.

Recommended actions with respect to the preservation of open space lands, other than prime agricultural lands, are graphically summarized on Map 16. It is recommended that a total of 37,735 acres of open space lands, or about 21 percent of Kenosha County, be protected through a combination of public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership,² through conservation easements, or through the application of protective zoning. These 37,735 acres include planned primary and secondary environmental corridors, planned isolated natural resource areas, areas outside corridors but within Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) project boundaries, and existing and proposed County park and open space lands. Virtually all natural areas and critical species habitat sites recommended to be preserved are contained within the planned primary or secondary environmental corridors or the planned isolated natural resource areas.

Of the total 37,735 acres of recommended open space lands, 13,564 acres, or about 36 percent, were in public ownership, nonprofit conservation organization ownership, under conservation easements, or in compatible private outdoor recreation uses such as golf courses or camps in 2010. These areas are recommended to be preserved in current ownership/conservation easements or, for lands in compatible private outdoor recreation use, maintained in recreational or open space uses. It is recommended that an additional 4,150 acres, or about 11 percent of proposed open space lands, be acquired by public agencies or nonprofit conservation organizations for natural resource protection preservation purposes or for public park or trail use. The estimated cost of acquiring such lands is about \$19.9 million. A summary of the existing and proposed public and nonprofit conservation organization ownership of open space lands, and associated acquisition costs, is presented in Table 17.

The other 20,021 acres of open space lands are recommended to remain in or be placed in protective zoning districts to prevent incompatible development. Such protective zoning districts include floodplain, lowland conservancy and, for upland portions of the corridor, upland conservancy which limits development to rural residential development with an overall density of no more than one dwelling unit per five acres.

Each component of the open space preservation plan element is discussed separately below. There is considerable overlap between these components, and, accordingly, between the acreages cited in conjunction with each component. For example, virtually all of the natural areas and critical species habitat areas identified and recommended for public interest acquisition under the natural areas plan component are also recommended for acquisition under the environmental corridor preservation plan component. The tabular summary of the open space preservation plan element (Table 17) thus represents the composite of the environmental corridor, natural area, and WDNR project area plan components, which are described individually below.

Environmental Corridor and Isolated Natural Resource Area Plan Component

Primary Environmental Corridors

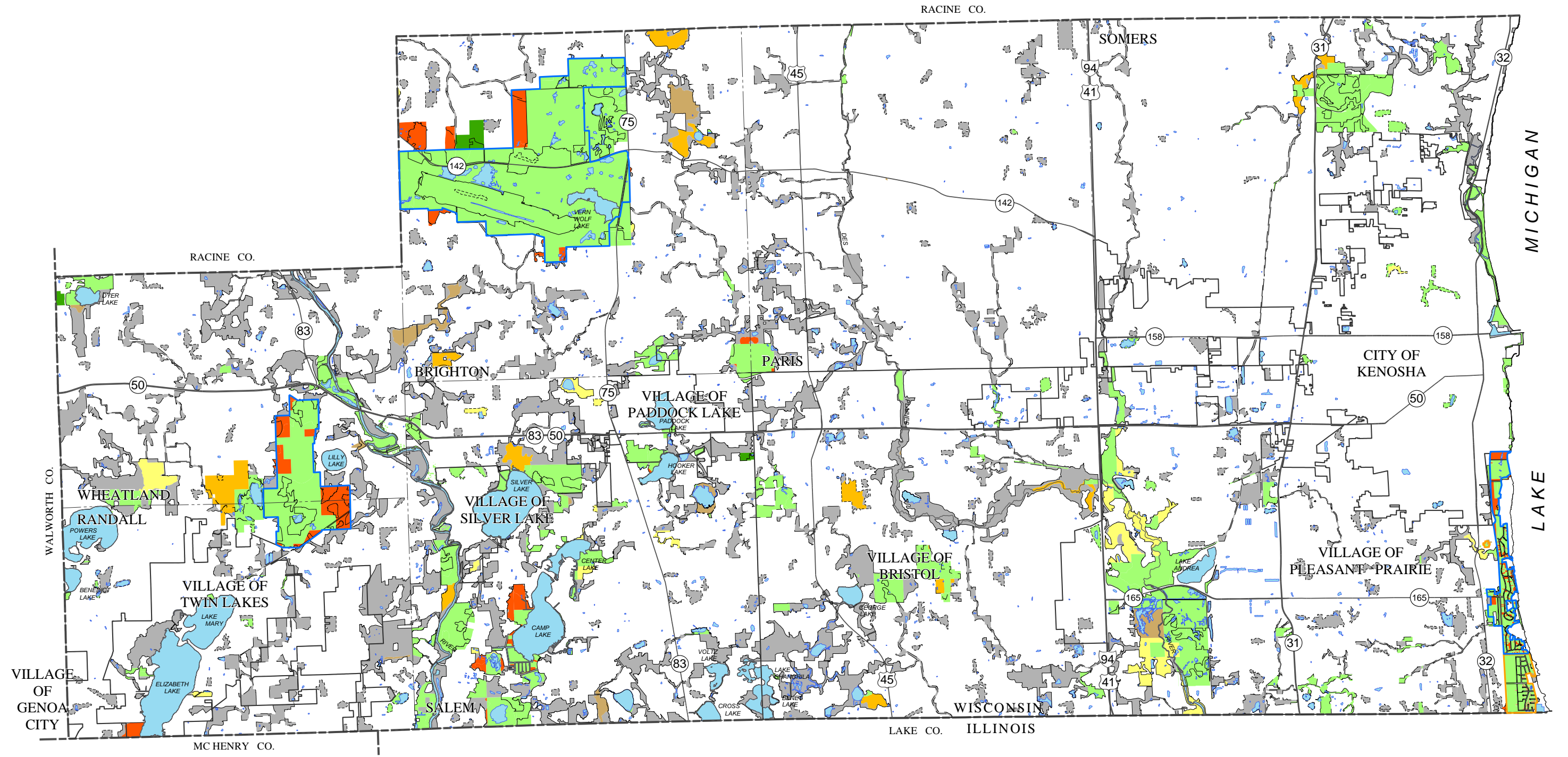
The primary environmental corridors contain almost all of the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitat, lakes and streams, and associated shoreland and floodland areas remaining in the County. Primary environmental corridors are the longest and widest type of environmental corridor—at least 400 acres in area, two miles long, and 200 feet in width (see Chapter II for more details). The protection of the primary environmental corridors from additional intrusion by urban development, thereby preserving such lands in natural, open uses for resource protection, scenic value, and outdoor recreation and education purposes, is one of the primary objectives

¹*Documented in SEWRPC Amendment to the Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, December 2010.*

²*Public ownership includes lands owned by a state, county, or local unit of government, school districts, or other public districts.*

Map 16

OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ELEMENT OF THE KENOSHA COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN: 2035



Existing Public Interest Ownership of Open Space Lands

- Federal, State, County, Local, NonProfit Conservation Organization, School or Other Public District, or Compatible Private Outdoor Recreation or Open Space Sites
- Lands Under Conservation Easement

Proposed Public Interest Ownership of Open Space Lands

- State
- County
- City, Village, Town, Special Purpose District
- Nonprofit Conservation Organization
- Open Space Lands to be Protected by Public Land Use Regulation

- Project Boundary Adopted by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board
- The Nature Conservancy Project Boundary
- Primary Environmental Corridor
- Secondary Environmental Corridor
- Isolated Natural Resource Area
- Surface Water

Source: SEWRPC.

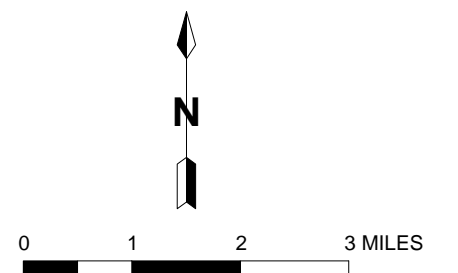


Table 17

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

Ownership	Existing ^b (acres)	Plan (acres)	Planned Change (acres)	Estimated Acquisition Cost ^c
State of Wisconsin	7,644	8,736	1,092	\$ 5,109,000
Kenosha County	1,760	3,246	1,486	7,811,000
Local Government ^d	1,964	2,962	998	4,365,000
Nonprofit Conservation Organization	981	1,555	574	2,588,000
Compatible Private Recreation Use	1,215	1,215	- -	- -
Total	13,564	17,714	4,150	\$19,873,000

NOTE: Cost estimates are expressed in 2011 dollars.

^aIncludes planned primary environmental corridors, planned secondary environmental corridors, planned isolated natural resource areas, lands within Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources project boundaries, and lands needed for public park or trail use. These figures do not include associated surface water areas.

^bIncludes existing ownership in 2010.

^cUnit costs used to estimate acquisition costs were \$3,000 per acre of wetlands, \$10,000 per acre of woodlands, and \$6,000 per acre of other open lands.

^dIncludes cities, villages, towns, school districts, and other public districts.

Source: SEWRPC.

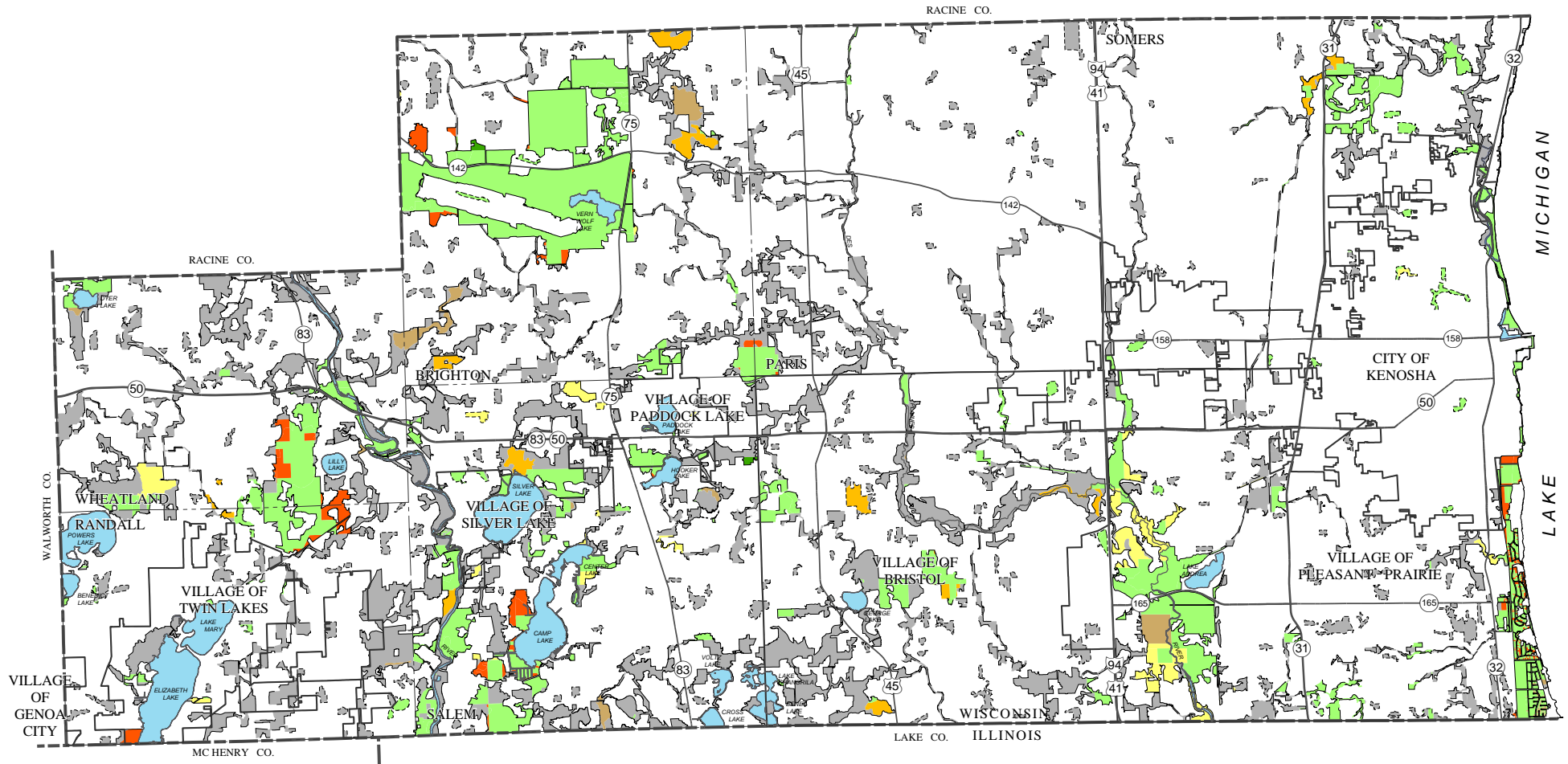
of this plan. The planned extent and location of primary environmental corridors in Kenosha County under the adopted Kenosha County comprehensive plan are shown on Map 17. The permanent preservation of the primary environmental corridors in essentially natural, open space uses is most certain when the corridor lands are acquired in the public interest for resource preservation or compatible outdoor recreation uses. The following measures should be taken to protect the primary environmental corridors:

1. Primary environmental corridors that contain natural area sites or critical species habitat sites should be acquired by a public agency or nonprofit conservation organization.
2. Primary environmental corridors located in identified State project areas should be acquired in public ownership.
3. Primary environmental corridors needed to accommodate parks or trail facilities proposed under the recommended outdoor recreation plan element described later in this chapter should be acquired in public ownership.
4. Primary environmental corridors that are in existing private recreational uses should be maintained in such uses.
5. Other primary environmental corridors should be protected through appropriate zoning.

A total of 23,796 acres of land are encompassed in the planned primary environmental corridors. Map 17 depicts those primary environmental corridors which are currently in, and are recommended to remain in, public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership, or under conservation easements. As shown on Map 17, such areas currently encompass a total of 8,731 acres, or about 37 percent of planned primary environmental corridors. Additional such areas recommended for acquisition in the public interest are also shown on Map 17, and encompass a total of 2,813 acres, or about 12 percent of planned primary environmental corridors. An additional

Map 17

PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS AND ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2035



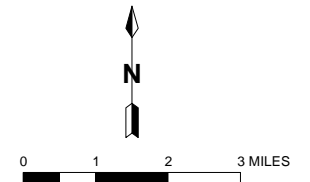
**Existing Public Interest Ownership of Open Space Lands
Within Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas**

- Federal, State, County, Local, NonProfit Conservation Organization, School or Other Public District, or Compatible Private Outdoor Recreation or Open Space Sites
- Lands Under Conservation Easement

**Proposed Public Interest Ownership of Open Space Lands
Within Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas**

- State
- County
- City, Village, Town, Special Purpose District
- Nonprofit Conservation Organization
- Open Space Lands to be Protected by Public Land Use Regulation

- Primary Environmental Corridor
- Secondary Environmental Corridor
- Isolated Natural Resource Area
- Surface Water



Source: SEWRPC.

766 acres, or about 3 percent of planned primary environmental corridors, are in compatible private recreational use. The remaining 11,486 acres of planned primary environmental corridors, or about 48 percent, are proposed to be protected through zoning. While zoning is the primary local land use regulation available to protect primary environmental corridors, primary environmental corridors, as well as portions of secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, within planned sewer service areas are provided with protection through State regulations related to public and private sanitary sewer extensions.

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

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

Secondary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

Secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas contain many of the same resources as primary environmental corridors but are smaller in size or physically separated from other resource areas (see Chapter II for more details). Secondary environmental corridors are at least 100 acres in area and one mile long. Isolated natural resource areas are at least five acres in size. It is recommended that secondary environmental corridors be preserved in natural, open use, or incorporated as drainageways, or as local parks or recreation trail corridors, in developing areas. It is also recommended that isolated natural resource areas be preserved in natural open uses, being incorporated for use as parks and open space reservations.

A total of 6,439 acres of land are encompassed in the planned secondary environmental corridors, and 4,001 acres are encompassed in the planned isolated natural resource areas, for a combined total of 10,440 acres. Map 17 depicts those secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas which are currently in, and are recommended to remain in, public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership or under conservation easements. Such areas currently encompass a total of 681 acres, or about 7 percent of planned secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas. An additional 454 acres, or 4 percent of secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, are in existing compatible outdoor recreation use.

Additional secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas recommended for acquisition in the public interest are shown on Map 17. Such areas, which consist largely of natural area and critical species habitat sites, encompass a total of 258 acres, or about 2 percent of secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, including 104 acres of planned secondary environmental corridors and 154 acres of planned isolated natural resource areas.

The remaining 9,047 acres, or 87 percent, of planned secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas may be retained in private ownership, but should be placed in a zoning district that would prevent their conversion to urban use. However, as such lands are needed for areawide recreation trails (discussed later in this chapter), local park or recreation purposes, or for another public purpose, it is recommended that the appropriate public agency consider the acquisition of such lands.

Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan Component

The regional natural areas protection and management plan, as updated and amended in 2010, sets forth a number of recommendations related to the preservation of identified natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and important geological sites. Pertinent recommendations from that plan have been incorporated into this park and open space plan, and are described in the following paragraphs.

As noted in Chapter II, a total of 42 natural areas were identified in Kenosha County in 2009 as part of the regional natural areas management plan. Natural areas are tracts of land so little modified by human activity, or sufficiently recovered from the effects of such activity, that they contain intact plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the landscape before European settlement (see Chapter II for more details). Six of the sites, encompassing about 617 acres, are classified as natural areas of statewide or greater significance (NA-1). An additional 17 sites, encompassing about 1,903 acres, are classified as natural areas of countywide or regional significance (NA-2). The remaining 19 sites, encompassing about 1,272 acres, are classified as natural areas of local significance (NA-3). In addition, a total of 32 critical species habitat sites, located outside a natural area, were identified. Critical species habitat sites are those areas, outside of natural areas, that support rare, threatened, or endangered species (see Chapter II for more details). These sites together encompassed about 5,309 acres.

Combined, there are 74 natural areas and critical species habitat sites identified in the County, with a total area of 9,101 acres. It is recommended that 65 of these areas, which encompass 8,948 acres in 42 natural areas and 23 critical species habitat sites, be protected through ownership by public agencies or by nonprofit conservation organizations. It is recommended that the other nine sites—critical species habitat sites encompassing a total of 153 acres—be protected through appropriate zoning. The protection recommendations for natural areas and critical species habitat sites are shown on Map 18.

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

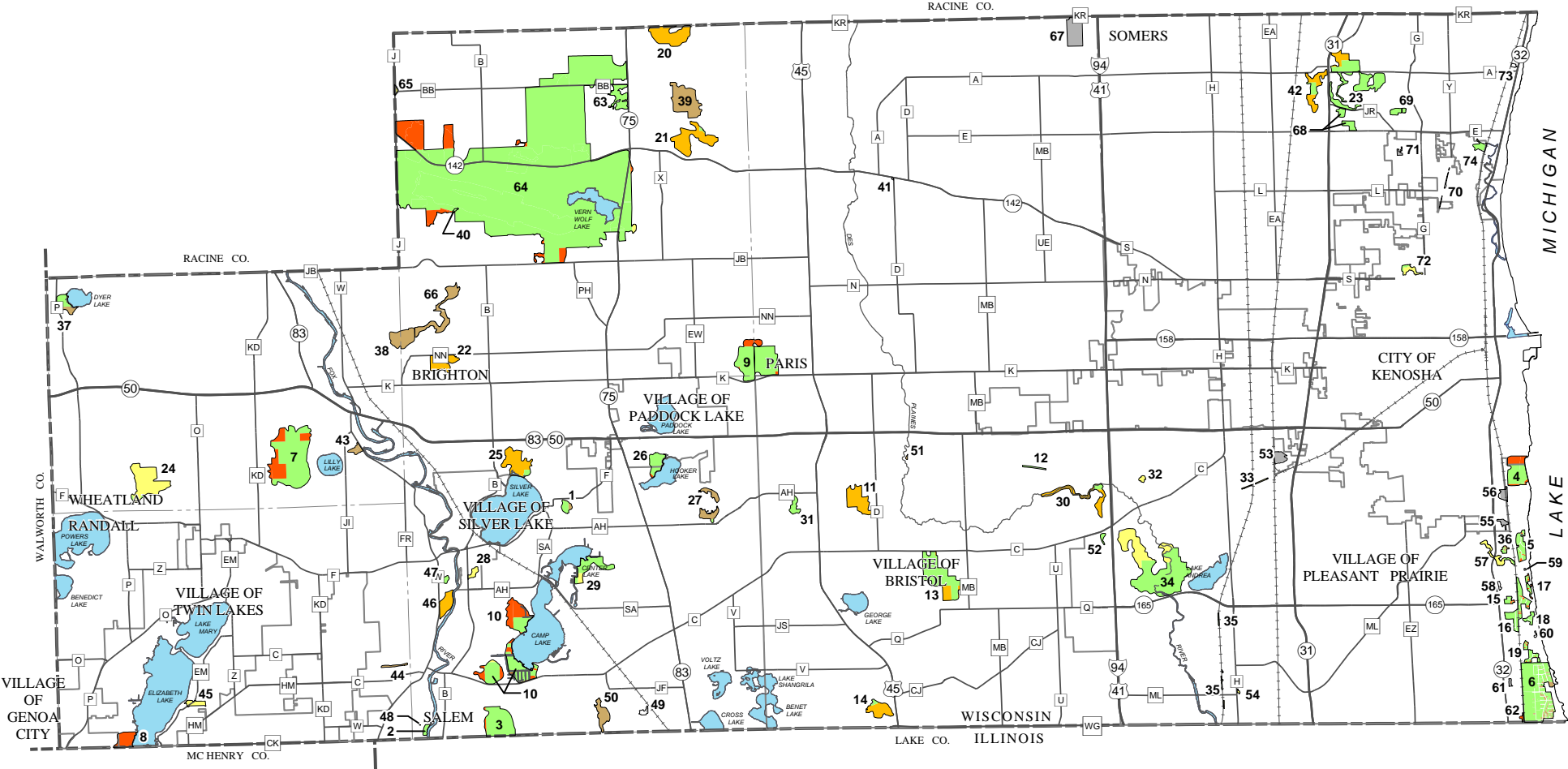
Table 18 lists each natural area site and critical species habitat site proposed to be preserved through protective ownership and the proposed acquisition agency. In all, these sites encompass 8,948 acres, including 3,792 acres within natural areas and 5,156 acres within critical species habitat sites. Of the total 8,948 acres to be preserved, about 6,753 acres, or about 75 percent, are under existing public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership or under a conservation easement. An additional 2,195 acres, or about 25 percent, are proposed for public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership or management. Virtually all of these areas are encompassed by the planned primary or secondary environmental corridor or by planned isolated natural resource areas. The cost of acquiring these areas is included in Table 17.

The recommendations made in this plan differ somewhat from those made in the regional natural areas protection and management plan (as amended). The regional plan anticipated that such refinements would be made when the County park and open space plans were updated. Specifically, the proposed acquisition agency differs for the following natural area sites in Table 18: Harris Marsh and Oak Woods (Site No. 9) and Silver Lake Wetlands (Site No. 25). The Harris Marsh and Oak Woods site is recommended in this plan to be acquired by the WDNR, rather than Kenosha County. The Silver Lake Wetlands site is recommended in this plan to be acquired by Kenosha County rather than the Town of Salem. Adoption of the County park and open space plan by Kenosha County and the Regional Planning Commission will amend the regional natural areas protection and management plan in these respects.

Protection of Geological Areas

Pertinent recommendations regarding the preservation of significant geological sites set forth in the regional natural areas plan have also been incorporated into this park and open space plan. The inventory of geological

PROTECTION OF NATURAL AREAS AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES IN KENOSHA COUNTY



Existing Public Interest Ownership of Open Space Lands
Within Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Sites

- Federal, State, County, Local, NonProfit Conservation Organization, School or Other Public District, or Compatible Private Outdoor Recreation or Open Space Sites
- Lands Under Conservation Easement

Proposed Public Interest Ownership of Open Space Lands
Within Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Sites

- State
- County
- City, Village, Town, Special Purpose District
- Nonprofit Conservation Organization
- Open Space Lands to be Protected by Public Land Use Regulation

Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Sites

Surface Water

Reference Number
(See Table 18)

Source: SEWRPC.

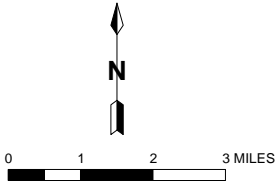


Table 18

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

Site Identification				Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
Number on Map 18	Civil Division(s)	Name	Classification ^a	Already under Protective Ownership ^b	Proposed to be Acquired	Total	
Sites Proposed to be Acquired							
1	Town of Salem	Silver Lake Bog State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	14	4	18	Private conservancy organization
2	Town of Salem	Stopa Fen	NA-1	9	- -	9	Private conservancy organization
3	Town of Salem	Peat Lake State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	136	4	140	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
4	City of Kenosha	Kenosha Sand Dunes and Low Prairie	NA-1 (SNA)	86	13	99	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
5	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Carol Beach Low Prairie and Panne State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	33	10	43	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
6	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Chiwaukee Prairie State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	251	57	308	The Nature Conservancy
7	Town of Wheatland	New Munster Shrub-Carr and Tamarack Relict	NA-2 (SNA)	289	95	384	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
8	Town of Randall Village of Twin Lakes	Elizabeth Lake Lowlands	NA-2	- -	48	48	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
9	Town of Salem Town of Brighton Town of Paris	Harris Marsh and Oak Woods	NA-2	212	25	237	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
10	Town of Salem	Camp Lake Marsh	NA-2	150	142	292	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
11	Village of Bristol	MerkT Woods	NA-2	- -	83	83	Kenosha County
12	Village of Bristol	Benedict Prairie	NA-2	6	- -	6	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
13	Village of Bristol	Bristol Woods	NA-2	154	27	181	Kenosha County
14	Village of Bristol	Mud Lake Sedge Meadow	NA-2	- -	55	55	Kenosha County
15	Village of Pleasant Prairie	104 th Street Mesic Prairie	NA-2	8	2	10	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
16	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Carol Beach Prairie	NA-2	50	21	71	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
17	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Barnes Creek Dunes and Panne	NA-2	9	4	13	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
18	Village of Pleasant Prairie	First Avenue Prairie	NA-2	12	- -	12	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
19	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Tobin Road Prairie	NA-2	19	5	24	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
20	Town of Brighton	Schroeder Road Marsh	NA-2	- -	111	111 ^c	Kenosha County
21	Town of Brighton	Friendship Lake Marsh	NA-2	11	108	119	Kenosha County
22	Town of Brighton	CTH NN Sedge Meadow	NA-2	- -	60	60	Kenosha County
23	Town of Somers	Petrifying Springs Woods	NA-2	165	32	197	Kenosha County
24	Town of Wheatland	Powers Lake Tamarack Relict	NA-3	- -	152	152	Powers Lake Management District
25	Town of Salem	Silver Lake Wetlands	NA-3	10	91	101	Kenosha County
26	Town of Salem	Hooker Lake Marsh	NA-3	44	3	47	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
27	Town of Salem	Montgomery Lake Marsh	NA-3	14	38	52	Private conservancy organization

Table 18 (continued)

Site Identification				Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
Number on Map 18	Civil Division(s)	Name	Classification ^a	Already under Protective Ownership ^b	Proposed to be Acquired	Total	
Sites Proposed to be Acquired							
28	Town of Salem	CTH B-CTH AH Sedge Meadow	NA-3	--	12	12	Village of Silver Lake
29	Town of Salem	Center Lake Woods and Wetlands	NA-3	61	11	72	Town of Salem
30	Village of Bristol	Des Plaines River Wetlands	NA-3	6	60	66	Kenosha County
31	Village of Bristol	Salem Road Marsh	NA-3	27	--	27	Private conservancy organization
32	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Lake Russo Prairie Remnant	NA-3	--	6	6	Village of Pleasant Prairie
33	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Bain Station Railroad Prairie	NA-3	4	--	4	WE Energies
34	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Des Plaines River Lowlands	NA-3	270	143	413	Village of Pleasant Prairie
35	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Pleasant Railroad Prairie	NA-3	--	6	6	Village of Pleasant Prairie
36	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Carol Beach Estates Prairie	NA-3	6	1	7	The Nature Conservancy
37	Town of Wheatland	Dyer Lake Sedge Meadow	NA-3	27	13	40	Private conservancy organization
38	Town of Wheatland Town of Brighton	Peterson Creek Sedge Meadow	NA-3	--	69	69	Private conservancy organization
39	Town of Brighton	Section 11 Wetlands and Oak Woods	NA-3	--	130	130	Private conservancy organization
40	Town of Brighton	Bong Low Prairie	NA-3	2	--	2	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
41	Town of Paris	Paris (Ehlen) Prairie Remnant	NA-3	--	1	1	Private conservancy organization
42	Town of Somers	Pike River Bottomland Woods	NA-3	15	50	65	Kenosha County
43	Town of Wheatland	Kotrba Wetland	CSH	--	15	15	Private conservancy organization
44	Town of Randall	Wilmot Stream Woodland	CSH	--	8	8	Private conservancy organization
45	Town of Randall	Hamilton Woods	CSH	--	18	18	Village of Twin Lakes
46	Town of Salem	Fox River Park Low Woods and Sedge Meadow	CSH	1	43	44	Kenosha County
47	Town of Salem	Fox River Park Woods	CSH	10	--	10	Kenosha County
48	Town of Salem	Wilmont Ski Hill Prairie	CSH	1	--	1	Private conservancy organization
50	Town of Salem	Trevor Creek Wet Prairie	CSH	--	42	42	Private conservancy organization
51	Village of Bristol	Louvain Old Field	CSH	--	1	1	Private conservancy organization
52	Village of Pleasant Prairie	CTH C Low Prairie Remnant	CSH	5	--	5	Village of Pleasant Prairie
54	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Piela Property	CSH	--	1	1	Village of Pleasant Prairie
57	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Barnes Creek	CSH	5	24	29	Village of Pleasant Prairie
59	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Pleasant Prairie PCA No. 8	CSH	--	1	1	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Table 18 (continued)

Site Identification				Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
Number on Map 18	Civil Division(s)	Name	Classification ^a	Already under Protective Ownership ^b	Proposed to be Acquired	Total	
Sites Proposed to be Acquired							
60	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Carol Beach Parcel No. 2	CSH	--	2	2	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
62	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Carol Beach Oak Woods	CSH	--	3	3	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
63	Town of Brighton	Brighton-Dale Woods	CSH	54	--	54	Kenosha County
64	Town of Brighton	Bong State Recreation Area	CSH	4,512	242	4,754 ^d	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
65	Town of Brighton	Mt. Tom Woods	CSH	--	3	3 ^e	Town of Brighton
66	Town of Brighton	Peterson Creek Wetland	CSH	--	84	84	Private conservancy organization
68	Town of Somers	Parkside Ski Trail Woods	CSH	28	--	28	University of Wisconsin-Parkside
69	Town of Somers	Parkside Woods	CSH	15	--	15	University of Wisconsin-Parkside
70	City of Kenosha	Kenosha Bike Trail Prairie	CSH	3	--	3	Kenosha County
72	City of Kenosha	Bradford School Woods	CSH	4	15	19	Kenosha Unified School District
74	Town of Somers	Poerio Park Woods	CSH	15	1	16	Town of Somers
--	Subtotal: 65 Sites	--	--	6,753	2,195	8,948	--
Sites to be Preserved to the Extent Practicable Without Additional Protective Ownership							
49	Town of Salem	Rock Lake Woods	CSH	--	--	8	--
53	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Bain Station Low Prairie	CSH	--	--	23	--
55	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Martin Band Parcel	CSH	--	--	9	--
56	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Nedweski Parcel	CSH	--	--	16	--
58	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Janice Prairie	CSH	--	--	3	--
61	Village of Pleasant Prairie	Bourque Low Prairie	CSH	--	--	4	--
67	Town of Paris	Poisl Woods	CSH	--	--	82	--
71	Town of Somers	Thompson Woods	CSH	--	--	5	--
73	Town of Somers	Berryville Woods	CSH	--	--	3	--
--	Subtotal: 9 Sites	--	--	--	--	153	--
--	Total: 74 Sites	--	--	6,753	2,195	9,101	--

NOTE: This table is a refinement of the recommendations made in SEWRPC *Amendment to the Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin*, December 2010.

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

^bBased on 2010 data. Includes land under protective ownership, under conservation easement, or surface water.

^cDoes not include 77 acres of this site located in Racine County.

^dDoes not include 267 acres of this site in Racine County.

^eDoes not include 21 acres of this site in Racine County.

Source: SEWRPC.

areas prepared as part of the regional natural areas protection and management plan and reported in Chapter II identified one site of geological importance in the County, the Kenosha Dunes and Buried Forest, located in the Village of Pleasant Prairie (see Map 8 in Chapter II).

It is recommended that this site be preserved through public interest ownership. The Kenosha Dunes and Buried Forest site encompasses 36 acres and lies wholly within the established State project boundary of the Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach State Natural Area.

State of Wisconsin and The Nature Conservancy Project Areas Component

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)

The open space preservation element of this plan includes lands which have been acquired or which are proposed to be acquired by the WDNR, within the project boundaries of the Bong State Recreation Area, Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach Prairie, and New Munster Wildlife Area. Project boundaries for these areas have been approved by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board and are reflected on Map 16. Currently, about 5,807 acres of other open space lands are in public ownership within those project areas. An additional 701 acres are proposed to be acquired within the identified project boundaries.

It should be noted that one natural area and one critical species habitat site are located partially within existing WDNR project boundaries. The natural area site is the New Munster Shrub-Carr and Tamarack Relict, and encompasses about seven acres outside the existing State project boundary. The critical species habitat site referred to as the Bong State Recreation Area site, encompasses about 220 acres outside the existing State project area. It is recommended that the WDNR consider expanding existing project boundaries to include these sites when the master plans for the project areas are updated.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Similar to the State project areas described above, TNC has identified two project areas in Kenosha County in its ongoing efforts of protecting and preserving important natural resource areas. The project areas are associated with the Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach Prairie area and are shown on Map 16. The purpose of the project areas is to identify areas within which TNC would focus its conservation efforts. Currently, about 293 acres of land are in public/public interest ownership within those project areas. An additional 23 acres are proposed to be acquired within the identified project boundaries.

Prime Agricultural Land Plan Component

Under this plan, it is recommended that Kenosha County and local units of government preserve to the extent practicable prime agricultural lands in Kenosha County. Historically, efforts to identify and preserve the best remaining farmland in Kenosha County have included the preparation of the Kenosha County farmland preservation plan,³ the Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Program (1977), and the mandating of "use-value" assessment of agricultural land by the Wisconsin Legislature (1995). More recent efforts include the 2009 Wisconsin Working Lands Initiative which includes a revised Farmland Preservation Program, an Agricultural Enterprise Area Program, and the Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) Program.

In order to implement the programs under the working lands initiative, Kenosha County prepared an updated farmland preservation plan in 2011. The new farmland preservation plan refines and details the lands identified for farmland preservation on the land use plan map in the County comprehensive plan (see Map 15 in Chapter IV).

³*SEWRPC Planning Report No. 45, A Farmland Preservation Plan for Kenosha County, Wisconsin, 1981.*

RECOMMENDED PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION ELEMENT

The outdoor recreation sites and trail facilities recommended under the County park and open space plan are shown on Map 19. The sites and facilities proposed to be provided include major parks and resource-oriented recreational facilities, trails, and boat access facilities. The recommended recreation sites and facilities are intended to meet the need for such sites and facilities in the County through the year 2035, as identified in Chapter IV. A description of the recommended sites and facilities follows.

Major Parks

Under the park and open space plan for Kenosha County, eight major parks⁴ would be provided. All eight major parks are existing parks in Kenosha County. The eight existing major parks are: Bong State Recreation Area, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course, Bristol Woods Park, Fox River Park, Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course, Silver Lake Park, and West End Park, owned by Kenosha County; and Prairie Springs Park, owned by the Village of Pleasant Prairie.

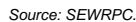
Under this plan, the WDNR would continue to acquire lands at Bong State Recreation Area. Kenosha County would acquire additional lands for West End Park; develop additional specified facilities at Brighton Dale Park, Fox River Park, and West End Park; and develop additional resource oriented recreational facilities at other major County parks as needed.

Specific recommendations for each of the major parks are presented below.

- **Bong State Recreation Area (WDNR)**
Bong State Recreation Area presently consists of 4,519 acres, and is located in the Town of Brighton. Under the plan, it is recommended that the State acquire an additional 402 acres of land within and adjacent to the project area and continue to develop and maintain facilities as identified in the State master plan for this site. The site contains a portion of a critical species habitat (CSH) site also known as the Bong State Recreation Area. As adjacent CSH site lands (242 acres) are acquired as recommended in the open space element of this plan, those lands should be considered as additions to the existing park site.
- **Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course (Kenosha County)**
Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course presently consists of 509 acres, and is located in the Town of Brighton. The plan recommends that the County provide additional picnic facilities and associated road/parking lot improvements.
- **Bristol Woods Park (Kenosha County)**
Bristol Woods Park, located in the Village of Bristol, presently consists of 198 acres. Under this plan, it is recommended that Kenosha County continue to maintain and provide additional facilities for resource-oriented activities as needed. The site contains a portion of a natural area known as the Bristol Woods. As adjacent natural area lands (27 acres) are acquired as recommended in the open space element of this plan, those lands should be considered as additions to the existing park site.
- **Fox River Park (Kenosha County)**
Fox River Park, located in the Town of Salem, presently consists of 147 acres. The plan recommends that the County provide a new kayak/canoe launch and continue to maintain and provide additional facilities for resource-oriented activities as needed. The site contains a portion of a critical species habitat (CSH)

⁴Major parks are defined as large, publicly owned outdoor recreation sites containing significant natural resource amenities which provide opportunities for resource-oriented activities and which are generally 100 acres or more in size.

Recommended Park and Open Space Plan



site known as the Fox River Park Low Woods and Sedge Meadow. As adjacent CSH site lands (43 acres) are acquired as recommended in the open space element of this plan, those lands should be considered as additions to the existing park site.

- **Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course (Kenosha County)**

Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course, located in the Town of Somers, presently consists of 349 acres. Under this plan, it is recommended that Kenosha County continue to maintain and provide additional facilities for resource-oriented activities as needed. The site contains a portion of a natural area known as the Petrifying Springs Woods. As adjacent natural area lands (32 acres) are acquired as recommended in the open space element of this plan, those lands should be considered as additions to the existing park site.

- **Silver Lake Park (Kenosha County)**

Silver Lake Park, located in the Town of Salem, presently consists of 259 acres. Under this plan, it is recommended that Kenosha County continue to maintain and provide additional facilities for resource-oriented activities as needed. The site contains a portion of a natural area known as the Silver Lake Wetlands. As adjacent natural area lands (91 acres) are acquired as recommended in the open space element of this plan, those lands should be considered as additions to the existing park site.

- **West End Park (Kenosha County)**

West End Park, located in the Towns of Randall and Wheatland, presently consists of 235 acres. The plan recommends that the County acquire an additional 271 acres. Proposed facility development at this site includes additional trails, observation tower, multi-purpose building/restrooms, new signage, fishing pier, road/parking lot improvements, canoe/kayak launch, and archery range. In addition, the plan recommends that the County undertake a habitat restoration project within the park.

At the time that this County park and open space plan was being prepared in 2011, the County was in the process of developing a detailed master plan for the West End Park site. Proposed facility development for this site will be refined and detailed as part of that separate planning effort.

- **Prairie Springs Park (Village of Pleasant Prairie)**

Prairie Springs Park, located in the Village of Pleasant Prairie, presently consists of 920 acres. Under this plan, it is recommended that the Village of Pleasant Prairie continue to maintain and provide additional facilities for resource-oriented activities as needed. The site contains a portion of a natural area known as the Des Plaines River Lowlands. As adjacent natural area lands (143 acres) are acquired as recommended in the open space element of this plan, those lands should be considered as additions to the existing park site.

Other County Park and Outdoor Recreation Sites

In addition to the six major parks owned by the County, two other park and outdoor recreation sites were owned by Kenosha County in 2010 (see Map 19). The two sites are Kemper Center/Anderson Art Center and Old Settler's Park. Under the recommended plan, Kenosha County would continue to maintain these sites and provide additional facilities as needed.

Development Costs—County Parks

The development costs related to County-owned parks envisioned under the plan are presented in Table 19. As indicated in Table 19, such costs are estimated at about \$1.0 million. The cost associated with the acquisition of open space lands adjacent to County park sites, as recommended in the open space element of this plan, is included in Table 17.

Areawide Recreation Trails

Under the recommended plan, about 62 miles of recreation trails would be provided to enable participation in such activities as bicycling, hiking, nature study, and ski touring. The recommended trails, which are shown on Map 19, are part of a larger, region-wide trail system. The recommended trail system within Kenosha County is

Table 19

ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COSTS FOR COUNTY PARKS UNDER THE RECOMMENDED PARK PLAN

County Park	Proposed Facility Development	Development Cost
Major Parks		
Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course	Additional picnicking facilities, road/parking lot improvements	\$ 75,000
Bristol Woods Park	- ^a	- -
Fox River Park	Canoe/kayak launch	15,000
Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course	- ^a	- -
Silver Lake Park	- ^a	- -
West End Park	Multi-purpose building/restrooms, nature trails, observation tower, new signage, fishing pier, habitat restoration, road/parking lot improvements, canoe/kayak launch, archery range ^b	870,000
Subtotal – 6 Sites	- -	960,000
Other Existing County Parks		
Kemper Center/Anderson Art Center	- ^a	- -
Old Settler's Park	- ^a	- -
Subtotal– 2 Sites	- -	- -
Trails		
Fox River Recreation Corridor	10.5 miles of trails	554,400
Des Plaines River Recreation Corridor	24.6 miles of trails	1,298,900
Pike River/Creek Recreation Corridor	10.8 miles of trails	570,200
Subtotal– 3 Sites	- -	\$2,423,500
Total	- -	\$3,383,500

NOTE: Cost estimates are expressed in 2011 dollars.

^aWhile no specific facility development recommendations are made, additional resource-oriented recreation facilities should be developed as needed.

^bAt the time that this County park and open space plan was being prepared in 2011, the County was in the process of developing a detailed master plan for the West End Park site. Proposed facility development for this site will be refined and detailed as part of that separate planning effort.

Source: SEWRPC.

comprised of four recreation corridor trails, including 16 miles of existing trails and 46 miles of proposed new trails. The location of proposed recreation corridor trails shown on Map 19 are general in nature and are subject to refinement based on detailed facility planning and on negotiations with landowners to purchase land for the trails.

All 62 miles of the recommended recreation corridor trail system would be provided by Kenosha County as part of the following trails: the existing Kenosha County Trail; the proposed Fox River Corridor, which would connect with the Fox River Corridor in Racine County on the north and the Fox River Trail in Illinois on the south; the proposed Des Plaines River Corridor, which would connect to the Bong State Recreation Trail and ultimately to the Fox River Corridor Trail in Racine County on the west and the Des Plaines River Trail in Illinois on the south; and the proposed Pike River/Creek Corridor, which would connect to the Pike Corridor in Racine County on the north and with the Des Plaines River Corridor on the south.

The development by Kenosha County of 46 miles of recreation corridor trails within the County is estimated to cost about \$2.4 million. The cost associated with the acquisition of open space to accommodate the proposed trails is included in Table 17.

Map 19 also identifies three proposed connecting routes, with a total length of 10 miles, that would link the proposed recreation corridor trails. It is envisioned that these connecting routes would generally be provided as a bicycle lane within a highway right-of-way or as an off-street bicycle/pedestrian path within a highway right-of-way. The provision of such facilities should be considered as the concerned streets and highway are resurfaced or reconstructed.

In addition, Kenosha County is served by a 77 mile system of snowmobile trails located on public land and on private land open to the public. The plan recommends that this trail system continue to be maintained.

Lake and River Access

Boat access sites, both public and non-public, provide opportunities for individuals who do not own land contiguous to a body of water to participate in such water-related recreation activities as motor boating, waterskiing, sailing, fishing, canoeing, and kayaking. The regional park and open space plan recommends that rivers and major lakes—lakes with a surface area of 50 acres or more—be provided with adequate public boat access consistent with safe and enjoyable participation in various boating activities. The WDNR, in keeping with State *Statutes* which seek to assure that all Wisconsin residents have access to publicly owned inland waters, has adopted administrative rules regarding lake access, and surveyed all the major lakes in the State to determine if adequate public access to each was provided and maintained.⁵ Table 16 in Chapter IV lists the major lakes in the County and indicates whether or not public access is provided which meets WDNR standards. As indicated in the table, in 2011, Benedict Lake, Benet/Shangrila Lake, Cross Lake, Dyer Lake, and Voltz Lake in Kenosha County had no access meeting WDNR standards. Under this plan, then, as shown on Map 19, it is recommended that a public boat access sites at those lakes be acquired and developed as appropriate by the WDNR. The total estimated acquisition and development cost for the recommended lake access sites are about \$1,250,000.

It is recommended that Kenosha County consider the development of a water trail system. As shown on Map 20 these water trails would be located on the Fox, Des Plaines, and Pike Rivers, and along the Lake Michigan shoreline and connect to water trails in adjacent counties. It is recommended that public canoe/kayak access points with parking should be provided on major streams every 10 miles in Kenosha County. Public boat/canoe/kayak access is currently provided at a number of sites in Kenosha County along the Fox River and along the Lake Michigan shoreline (see Map 20). As previously indicated, the recommended improvements at Kenosha County parks under this plan include a proposed new kayak/canoe launch facility at Fox River Park. In addition, the County should consider providing canoe/kayak access along the Des Plaines River, as opportunities arise.

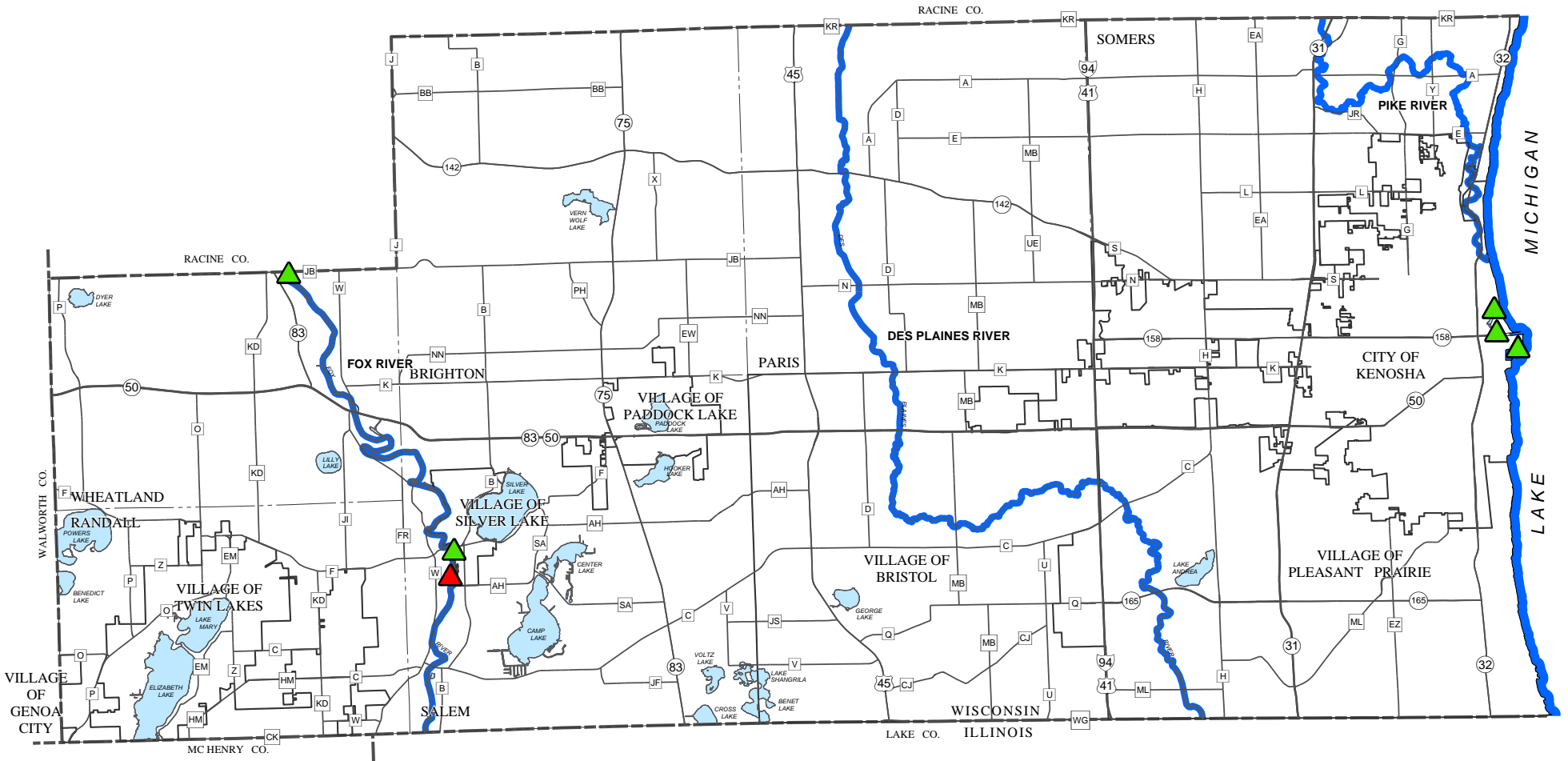
In addition to boating and canoeing, the County park plan recognizes the popularity of such activities as beach swimming, shore fishing, and other lake-oriented activities and the need for general public access to lakeshore areas for such pursuits. Lakeshore areas, including Lake Michigan, capable of accommodating additional outdoor recreational development are scarce in Kenosha County. As lakeshore property, either developed or undeveloped, becomes available in the years ahead, Kenosha County, or the appropriate municipality, should evaluate their recreational potential and consider their acquisition for public recreational use as appropriate.





Local Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan Element

In addition to meeting resource-oriented outdoor recreation needs, a park plan must seek to provide sites and facilities for nonresource-oriented activities, such as baseball, tennis, and playground activities. In comparison to the resource-oriented outdoor recreation sites and facilities, sites and facilities for nonresource-oriented activities

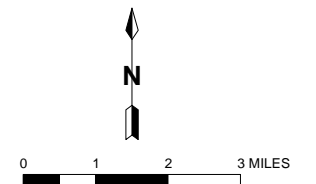
⁵*The administrative rules, as set forth in Chapter NR 1.91 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, specify the public boating access facilities that must be provided as a condition for the WDNR to provide natural resource enhancement services for a body of water.*

WATER TRAILS FOR LAKE MICHIGAN AND MAJOR RIVERS IN KENOSHA COUNTY



-  POTENTIAL WATER TRAIL
-  EXISTING PUBLIC BOAT / CANOE ACCESS SITE: 2010
-  PROPOSED PUBLIC BOAT / CANOE ACCESS SITE
-  SURFACE WATER

Source: Kenosha County and SEWRPC.



rely less heavily on natural resource amenities; generally meet a greater need in urban than rural areas; and have a relatively small service radius. For these reasons, responsibility for providing such sites and facilities generally rests with city, village, and town governments.

Within urban areas of the County, it is recommended that a full range of community and neighborhood park sites and facilities be provided. Recommendations for the provision of local park sites and facilities should be identified through the preparation and adoption of local park and open space plans. As of the end of 2010, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, which certifies local park and open space plans for purposes of reviewing applications for state Stewardship Fund and other recreational grant programs, had certified local park and open space plans for the City of Kenosha, the Villages of Paddock Lake and Pleasant Prairie, and the Towns of Randall and Somers.

Within the rural areas of the County, it is generally recommended that one town-owned park and associated outdoor recreation facilities be provided in each town to serve the needs of town residents for local civic events and for organized recreational activities, such as softball and picnicking. As the community recreational facility, the town park should be located in conjunction with another community facility that serves as a focal point for town residents, such as a town hall, school, or fire station. Towns which currently lack park and outdoor recreation facilities should have the opportunity to acquire and develop, with available Federal and State grant-in-aid support, one town park and associated recreation facilities.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

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

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

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

It is important that the WDNR: 1) approve and certify the Kenosha County park and open space plan in order to maintain the eligibility of the County to receive available State and Federal outdoor recreation grants in support of plan implementation; 2) use available regulatory authority to guide urban development in a way that protects important natural resources; 3) be directly responsible for the maintenance of existing State-owned recreation and open space sites in the County; 4) be responsible for the acquisition and development of lands within established

Table 20

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

Ownership	Planned Park and Open Space Acquisition		Development Cost	Total Acquisition and Development Cost
	Area (acres)	Cost		
State of Wisconsin	1,092	\$ 5,109,000	\$1,250,000	\$ 6,359,000
Kenosha County	1,486	7,811,000	3,383,500	11,194,500
Local Governments ^a	998 ^b	4,365,000	- -	4,365,000
Nonprofit Conservation Organizations.....	574	2,588,000	- -	2,588,000
Total	4,150	\$19,873,000	\$4,633,500	\$24,506,500

NOTE: Cost estimates are expressed in 2011 Dollars.

^a Includes city, village, and town governments, school districts, and other public districts.

^b Includes only natural area and critical species habitat sites which are recommended for local government acquisition. Additional local government park lands should be determined through the preparation and adoption of local park and open space plans.

Source: SEWRPC.

State project boundaries in the County; 5) be responsible for the acquisition of resource preservation sites, including natural areas and critical species habitat sites as recommended in this plan; 6) be responsible for the acquisition and development of boat access sites. A summary of the costs associated with recommendations directed to the WDNR is included in Table 20.

Kenosha County

The authority and responsibility for the provision of areawide resource-oriented park and open space sites and facilities in the County rests primarily with the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors. A summary of the costs associated with recommendations directed to the County under this plan is also included in Table 20.

Under the recommended park and open space plan presented in this chapter, Kenosha County should acquire an additional 271 acres as an expansion of West End Park. Moreover, Kenosha County should develop additional facilities, at existing major park sites—Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course, Fox River Park, and West End Park—as listed in Table 19. It is further recommended that Kenosha County pursue the acquisition and development of lands to provide the opportunity for public lake access for other recreational activities, such as beach swimming, shore fishing, and other passive uses, as opportunities become available.

Under the open space plan element recommendations, the County should acquire additional land to assure the preservation of important natural resources in the County, including the acquisition of additional environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, and for the development of recreation corridor trails. In addition to woodlands, wetlands, and other natural resources, the land recommended to be acquired by the County contain natural areas and critical species habitat sites providing habitat for rare plant and animal species.

For environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas not acquired during the implementation of the park and open space plan, the plan recognizes that certain development, including the development of recreational facilities, may be accommodated in such areas without jeopardizing their overall integrity. In this respect, the Kenosha County Comprehensive Plan included guidelines pertaining to such development within environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas. Uses considered compatible with environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, and guidelines for such uses, are provided in Table 21.

The plan recommends the development by the County of about 46 miles of areawide recreation trails along the Fox River, Des Plaines River, and Pike River/Creek as described earlier in this chapter. In addition, there are three proposed connecting routes that would serve to link the areawide recreation corridor trails. Kenosha County should work cooperatively with the associated communities to identify and establish other on- and off-street linkages to the areawide recreation corridor trails, including the implementation of the bicycle and pedestrian element of the year 2035 regional transportation system plan as shown on Map C-1 in Appendix C, and provide proper signing and improvements such as safe drainage grates and improved railway crossings where necessary.

At the time that this County park and open space plan was being prepared, the County was in the process of developing a county-wide comprehensive bicycle plan. Detailed data and recommendations developed as part of that planning effort will be included in a separate report entitled *A Comprehensive Bicycle Plan for Kenosha County: 2025*.

Local Units of Government

While the provision of major parks, areawide trails, and water access facilities are largely proposed to be County, or State responsibilities, local units of governments should consult with the State and County to identify specific lands required for areawide park and open space preservation purposes. Once such lands are identified, local units of government should utilize their zoning and official map powers to reserve the needed lands for park and open space use. Further, it may be appropriate for local units of government to accept in dedication certain lands identified for State or County acquisition as the land subdivision process proceeds, and then transfer ownership of such lands to the County or State. Similarly, it would be appropriate for the County or State to assume the responsibility for the development of trail facilities in local park lands, as needed, to assure continuity and uniformity in the proposed continuous regionwide system of recreation trails.

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

ACQUISITION CONSIDERATIONS

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

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

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

The associated costs for the acquisition and development of County park and open space sites, as set forth in Table 20, are estimated at about \$11.2 million. This amount distributed over the 24-year planning implementation period would approximate an expenditure of about \$466,000 per year. Under the assumption that the population

Table 21

GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERED COMPATIBLE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS AND ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS

Component Natural Resource and Related Features within Environmental Corridors ^a	Permitted Development																
	Transportation and Utility Facilities (see General Development Guidelines below)				Recreational Facilities (see General Development Guidelines below)												
	Streets and Highways	Utility Lines and Related Facilities	Engineered Stormwater Management Facilities	Engineered Flood Control Facilities ^b	Trails ^c	Picnic Areas	Family Camping ^d	Swimming Beaches	Boat Access	Ski Hills	Golf	Playfields	Hard-Surface Courts	Parking	Buildings	Rural Density Residential Development (see General Development Guidelines below)	Other Development (See General Development Guidelines below)
Lakes, Rivers, and Streams	-- ^e	-- ^{f,g}	--	-- ^h	-- ⁱ	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Shoreland ^j	X	X	--	X	X	X	--	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	X	--	--
Floodplain ^k	-- ^l	X	--	X	X	X	--	X	X	--	X	X	--	X	X	--	--
Wetland ^m	-- ^l	X	--	--	X ⁿ	--	--	--	X	--	-- ^o	--	--	--	--	--	--
Wet Soils	X	X	--	X	X	--	--	X	X	--	X	--	--	X	--	--	--
Woodland	X	X	--	--	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X	X ^p	X	X
Wildlife Habitat	X	X	--	--	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Steep Slope	X	X	--	--	-- ^q	--	--	--	--	X ^r	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
Prairie	--	-- ^g	--	--	-- ^q	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Park	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	--	--
Historic Site	--	-- ^g	--	--	-- ^q	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--
Scenic Viewpoint	X	X	--	--	X	X	X	--	X	X	X	--	--	X	X	X	X
Natural Area or Critical Species Habitat Site	--	--	--	--	-- ^p	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

NOTE: An "X" indicates that facility development is permitted within the specified natural resource feature. In those portions of the environmental corridors having more than one of the listed natural resource features, the natural resource feature with the most restrictive development limitation should take precedence.

APPLICABILITY

These guidelines indicate the types of development that can be accommodated within primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas while maintaining the basic integrity of those areas. Throughout this table, the term "environmental corridors" refers to primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas.

Under the regional plan:

- As regionally significant resource areas, primary environmental corridors should be preserved in essentially natural, open use—in accordance with the guidelines in this table.
- Secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas warrant consideration for preservation in essentially natural open use, as determined in county and local plans and in a manner consistent with State and Federal regulations. County and local units of government may choose to apply the guidelines in this table to secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas.

GENERAL DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

- Transportation and Utility Facilities:** All transportation and utility facilities proposed to be located within the important natural resources should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to consider alternative locations for such facilities. If it is determined that such facilities should be located within natural resources, development activities should be sensitive to, and minimize disturbance of, these resources, and, to the extent possible following construction, such resources should be restored to preconstruction conditions.

The above table presents development guidelines for major transportation and utility facilities. These guidelines may be extended to other similar facilities not specifically listed in the table.

Recreational Facilities: In general, no more than 20 percent of the total environmental corridor area should be developed for recreational facilities. Furthermore, no more than 20 percent of the environmental corridor area consisting of upland wildlife habitat and woodlands should be developed for recreational facilities. It is recognized, however, that in certain cases these percentages may be exceeded in efforts to accommodate needed public recreational and game and fish management facilities within appropriate natural settings. In all cases however, the proposed recreational development should not threaten the integrity of the remaining corridor lands nor destroy particularly significant resource elements in that corridor. Each such proposal should be reviewed on a site-by-site basis.

The above table presents development guidelines for major recreational facilities. These guidelines may be extended to other similar facilities not specifically listed in the table.

- Rural Density Residential Development:** Rural density residential development may be accommodated in upland environmental corridors, provided that buildings are kept off steep slopes. The maximum number of housing units accommodated at a proposed development site within the environmental corridor should be limited to the number determined by dividing the total corridor acreage within the site, less the acreage covered by surface water and wetlands, by five. The permitted housing units may be in single-family or multi-family structures. When rural residential development is accommodated, conservation subdivision designs are strongly encouraged.

Table 21 (continued)

- **Other Development:** In lieu of recreational or rural density residential development, up to 10 percent of the upland corridor area in a parcel may be disturbed in order to accommodate urban residential, commercial, or other urban development under the following conditions: 1) the area to be disturbed is compact rather than scattered in nature; 2) the disturbance area is located on the edge of a corridor or on marginal resources within a corridor; 3) the development does not threaten the integrity of the remaining corridor; 4) the development does not result in significant adverse water quality impacts; and 5) development of the remaining corridor lands is prohibited by a conservation easement or deed restriction. Each such proposal must be reviewed on a site-by-site basis.

Under this arrangement, while the developed area would no longer be part of the environmental corridor, the entirety of the remaining corridor would be permanently preserved from disturbance. From a resource protection point of view, preserving a minimum of 90 percent of the environmental corridor in this manner may be preferable to accommodating scattered homesites and attendant access roads at an overall density of one dwelling unit per five acres throughout the upland corridor areas.

- **Pre-Existing Lots:** Single-family development on existing lots of record should be permitted as provided for under county or local zoning at the time of adoption of the land use plan.
- All permitted development presumes that sound land and water management practices are utilized.

FOOTNOTES

^aThe natural resource and related features are defined as follows:

Lakes, Rivers, and Streams: Includes all lakes greater than five acres in area and all perennial and intermittent streams as shown on U. S. Geological Survey quadrangle maps.

Shoreland: Includes a band 50 feet in depth along both sides of intermittent streams; a band 75 feet in depth along both sides of perennial streams; and a band 200 feet in depth along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Floodplain: Includes areas, excluding stream channels and lake beds, subject to inundation by the 100-year recurrence interval flood event.

Wetlands: Includes areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency, and with a duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

Wet Soils: Includes areas covered by wet, poorly drained, and organic soils.

Woodlands: Includes areas one acre or more in size having 17 or more deciduous trees per acre with at least a 50 percent canopy cover as well as coniferous tree plantations and reforestation projects; excludes lowland woodlands, such as tamarack swamps, which are classified as wetlands.

Wildlife Habitat: Includes areas devoted to natural open uses of a size and with a vegetative cover capable of supporting a balanced diversity of wildlife.

Steep Slope: Includes areas with land slopes of 12 percent or greater.

Prairies: Includes open, generally treeless areas which are dominated by native grasses; also includes savannas.

Park: Includes public and nonpublic park and open space sites.

Historic Site: Includes sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Most historic sites located within environmental corridors are archaeological features such as American Indian settlements and effigy mounds and cultural features such as small, old cemeteries. On a limited basis, small historic buildings may also be encompassed within delineated corridors.

Scenic Viewpoint: Includes vantage points from which a diversity of natural features such as surface waters, wetlands, woodlands, and agricultural lands can be observed.

Natural Area and Critical Species Habitat Sites: Includes natural areas and critical species habitat sites as identified in the regional natural areas and critical species habitat protection and management plan.

^bIncludes such improvements as stream channel modifications and such facilities as dams.

^cIncludes trails for such activities as hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing, nature study, and horseback riding, and excludes all motorized trail activities. It should be recognized that trails for motorized activities such as snowmobiling that are located outside the environmental corridors may of necessity have to cross environmental corridor lands. Proposals for such crossings should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and if it is determined that they are necessary, such trail crossings should be designed to ensure minimum disturbance of the natural resources.

^dIncludes areas intended to accommodate camping in tents, trailers, or recreational vehicles which remain at the site for short periods of time, typically ranging from an overnight stay to a two-week stay.

^eCertain transportation facilities such as bridges may be constructed over such resources.

^fUtility facilities such as sanitary sewers may be located in or under such resources.

^gElectric power transmission lines and similar lines may be suspended over such resources.

^hCertain flood control facilities such as dams and channel modifications may need to be provided in such resources to reduce or eliminate flood damage to existing development.

ⁱBridges for trail facilities may be constructed over such resources.

^jConsistent with Chapter NR 115 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

^kConsistent with Chapter NR 116 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

^lStreets and highways may cross such resources. Where this occurs, there should be no net loss of flood storage capacity or wetlands. Guidelines for mitigation of impacts on wetlands by Wisconsin Department of Transportation facility projects are set forth in Chapter Trans 400 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

^mAny development affecting wetlands must adhere to the water quality standards for wetlands established under Chapter NR 103 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

ⁿOnly an appropriately designed boardwalk/trail should be permitted.

^oWetlands may be incorporated as part of a golf course, provided there is no disturbance of the wetlands.

^pOnly if no alternative is available.

^qOnly appropriately designed and located hiking and cross-country ski trails should be permitted.

^rOnly an appropriately designed, vegetated, and maintained ski hill should be permitted.

Source: SEWRPC 2035 Regional Land Use Plan.

of the County would approximate 235,300 persons by the year 2035, the average annual acquisition and development costs would be about \$2.32 per capita⁶ per year. It should be noted that, to the extent that such costs are reduced through the use of alternative methods of land acquisition, and through the use of available State funds for acquisition and development, the costs to the County could be significantly reduced.

ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES FOR KENOSHA COUNTY

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

It is recommended that the County give top priority to park improvement projects and proposed land acquisitions related to existing park and open space sites. Land acquisition is particularly important given the increasing urbanization occurring within the County. As urbanization occurs, development pressures inevitably cause an increase in property values, thus making land acquisition significantly more costly.

Maintenance Impact

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

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

SUMMARY

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

Open Space Preservation Element

The open space preservation element consists of four major components: preservation of primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, and isolated natural resource areas; preservation of natural areas and critical species habitat sites; protection of open space lands located within WDNR project boundaries; and protection of prime agricultural lands.

⁶The average annual per capita costs were estimated by dividing the estimated average annual costs by the average annual population over the 24-year plan implementation period. The average population was determined by calculating the average 2010 population of about 166,400 persons and the plan design year 2035 population of about 235,300, which is 200,850 persons.

- Overall, the open space plan element recommends the preservation of environmentally significant open space lands encompassing a total of 37,735—including primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, isolated natural resources, and certain adjacent lands. Of this total, 13,564 acres, or about 36 percent, were in public ownership, nonprofit conservation organization ownership, or in compatible private outdoor recreation use in 2010, and are recommended to be preserved in current ownership. It is recommended that an additional 4,150 acres, or about 11 percent of proposed open space lands, be acquired by public agencies or nonprofit conservation organizations for natural resource protection or open space preservation purposes or for public park or trail use. Of the total of 4,150 acres, 1,092 acres would be acquired by the WDNR; 1,486 acres by Kenosha County; 998 acres by local governments; and 574 acres by nonprofit conservation organizations.
- The plan recommends that 20,021 acres of environmentally significant lands remain in or be placed in protective zoning districts to prevent incompatible development. Such protective zoning districts include floodland, lowland conservancy, and upland conservancy with an overall density of no more than one dwelling unit per five acres.
- The open space preservation element incorporates the recommendations of the regional natural areas protection and management plan as it applies to Kenosha County. Thus, the open space element recommends the preservation, through public-interest ownership, of 42 natural areas, 23 critical species habitat sites, and one geological area.
- The open space preservation element also envisions the continued acquisition of land by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for natural resource protection and recreational purposes—including lands located outside planned primary or secondary environmental corridors or isolated natural resource areas, but within approved project boundaries for the Bong State Recreation Area, Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach Prairie, and the New Munster Wildlife Area.
- Under this open space preservation element, it is further recommended that the County and local units of government protect existing prime agricultural lands. Specifically, it is recommended that all prime agricultural lands identified in the recent update to the farmland preservation plan for Kenosha County be preserved insofar as practicable in agricultural use.

Outdoor Recreation Plan Element

The outdoor recreation plan element seeks to provide sites and facilities needed to meet anticipated outdoor recreation site and facility needs in the County throughout the year 2035.

- Under the outdoor recreation element of the plan, eight major parks would be provided within Kenosha County. The eight major parks are: Bong State Recreation Area, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course, Bristol Woods Park, Fox River Park, Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course, Silver Lake Park, and West End Park, owned by Kenosha County; and Prairie Springs Park, owned by the Village of Pleasant Prairie.
- The plan recommends the acquisition of additional lands for the expansion of West End Park. The plan also recommends the continued development of facilities at West End Park and the development of additional facilities at Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course and Fox River Park as indicated in Table 19.
- Under the recommended plan, a 62-mile system of recreation trails would be provided by Kenosha County to enable participation in such activities as bicycling, hiking, nature study, and ski touring—including the 16-mile Kenosha County Trail, the proposed 10-mile Fox River Corridor, the proposed 25-mile Des Plaines River Corridor, and the proposed 11-mile Pike River/Creek Corridor. The plan also recommends three connecting routes that would link the recreation trails.

- Under the plan, it is recommended that a public boat access site be acquired and developed by the Department of Natural Resources on Benedict Lake, Benet/Shangrila Lake, Cross Lake, Dyer Lake, and Voltz Lake. It is further recommended that Kenosha County pursue opportunities to provide access to Lake Michigan and inland lakes for beach swimming, shore fishing, and passive recreational activities, as such opportunities arise. In addition, it is recommended that Kenosha County consider the development of a water trail system that would be located on the Des Plaines River, Fox River, and Pike River, and along the Lake Michigan Shoreline.

Plan Implementation

- The total cost of implementing the park and open space plan is estimated to be \$24.5 million, including \$19.9 million for land acquisition and \$4.6 million for recreational facility development. Of the total plan implementation cost, about \$6.3, or 26 percent, would be borne by the WDNR; \$11.2 million, or 46 percent, would be borne by Kenosha County; \$4.4, or 18 percent, would be borne by local units of government; and \$2.6 million, or 10 percent, would be borne by nonprofit conservation organizations.
- The total cost to Kenosha County of \$11.2 million includes \$7.8 million for land acquisition and \$3.4 million for facility development. This amount distributed over the 24-year plan implementation period would approximate about \$466,000 per year. These costs may be off-set through various Federal and State grants provided for recreational and open space purposes. The acquisition and development costs for recreational and open space lands and facilities may also be off-set by donations, land dedications, or by revenues generated by existing parks and recreational facilities.

Chapter VI

SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Kenosha County has a long history of park and open space planning, going back to the 1970s. This includes the periodic updating of the County park and open space plan, the current version of which was adopted by the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors in 1988. With the assistance of the Regional Planning Commission, Kenosha County in 2011 undertook another effort to update its park and open space plan, extending the planning horizon further into the future. This report documents that planning process and presents the resulting updated County park and open space plan.

A park and open space plan for Kenosha County was included as part of the first regional park and open space plan,¹ which was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission on December 1, 1977. That plan identified existing and probable future park and open space needs within the Region and recommended a park system consisting of large resource-oriented parks and smaller nonresource-oriented urban parks, together with associated recreational facilities. The regional park and open space plan also recommended the development of an approximately 440-mile network of hiking and bicycling trails within natural resource corridors of regional significance, including corridors along the Lake Michigan shoreline, through the Kettle Moraine, and along the riverine areas of the major streams and watercourses of the Region. The regional park and open space plan incorporated the regional land use plan recommendations concerning primary environmental corridors and farmland preservation. The regional park and open space plan as it relates to Kenosha County was subsequently refined in 1987 as documented in the first edition of this report, SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 131, *A Park and Open Space Plan for Kenosha County*, November 1987. That plan was amended in 1999 to recommend that the County acquire a 550-acre major park in the western portion of the County.

In 2009, Kenosha County requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the County in the preparation of a new park and open space plan. The planning process was initiated in 2011, following completion of the Commission staff's comprehensive planning assistance work for Kenosha County and other counties within the Region. The new plan is based upon updated information related to land use, population levels and distribution, anticipated growth and development, natural resources, and park and open space acquisition and development activities within the County. The new plan is to be prepared within the framework of the multi-jurisdictional

¹Documented in *SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, A Regional Park and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin*: 2000.

comprehensive plan for Kenosha County, and is based upon the recommended development pattern set forth in the County comprehensive plan and refines and details the park and open space-related recommendations of the comprehensive plan. Like the County comprehensive plan, the updated County park and open space plan, as presented in this report, has a planning horizon of 2035. The new plan maintains County eligibility to apply for and receive Federal and State aids in partial support of the acquisition and development of park and open space sites and facilities.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

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

Population and Employment Levels

The population of the County in 2010 was about 166,400, about 16,850 persons, or 11 percent, above the 2000 level, according to the U.S. Census.

In 2010, there were about 62,650 households in Kenosha County, representing an increase of about 12 percent, from 2000. With the number of households increasing at a faster rate than population, the number of persons per household has decreased.

The number of jobs in Kenosha County was estimated to have reached 78,100 in 2008, about 9,400, or 14 percent, above the 2000 level. The estimated number of jobs in the County in 2009 decreased to an estimated 74,000 as a result of the economic recession.

Land Use

In 2007, urban land uses—consisting primarily of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental and institutional, recreational and transportation, communication, and utility uses—encompassed about 77.0 square miles, or about 27 percent of the total area of the County. Residential land comprised the largest share of the urban land area, encompassing 38.4 square miles, or about 50 percent of all urban land and 14 percent of the total area of the County.

In 2007, nonurban land uses—including agricultural lands, wetlands, woodlands, surface water, landfill and extractive, and other open lands—encompassed about 202 square miles, or about 73 percent of the County. Agricultural land comprised the largest share of the nonurban land area, accounting for about 128 square miles, or about 63 percent of all nonurban lands and about 46 percent of the total area of the County.

Natural Resource Base

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

Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of important natural resource and resource-related elements and are, by definition, at least 400 acres in size, two miles in length, and 200 feet in width. Primary environmental corridors are located throughout the County. Such corridors in 2000 encompassed about 43.8 square miles, or about 16 percent of the County. The preservation of these corridors in essentially natural, open use is important for the protection of water quality and areas of groundwater recharge, for the preservation of wildlife habitat, and for the maintenance of the overall quality of the environment and natural beauty of Kenosha County. Since these corridors are generally poorly suited for urban development, their preservation also helps to avoid the creation of new environmental and developmental problems.

Secondary environmental corridors, often remnants of primary corridors that have been partially converted to intensive urban or agricultural use, also contain a variety of resource elements. By definition, secondary environmental corridors are at least one mile long and 100 acres in area. In 2000, these corridors encompassed about 10 square miles, or about 4 percent of the County. Maintenance of these corridors in open uses can facilitate natural surface water drainage, including groundwater recharge, and provide corridors for the movement of wildlife.

Isolated natural resource areas represent smaller concentrations of natural resource features that have been separated from the environmental corridors. Such areas, which are by definition at least five acres in size, in combination encompassed about 6.0 square miles, or about 2 percent of the County, in 2000. These areas sometimes serve as the only available wildlife habitat in an area, and may function as storm water retention areas.

INVENTORY OF PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

In 2010, the County owned a total of 12 park and outdoor recreation sites encompassing 1,824 acres. There are an additional 26 park and open space sites, encompassing 7,519 acres, owned by the State of Wisconsin; and 305 sites, encompassing 4,041 acres, owned by local units of government, school districts, and other public districts for outdoor recreation or natural resource preservation purposes. An additional 80 sites, encompassing 3,844 acres, are developed for private resource-oriented outdoor recreational use, and five sites, encompassing 835 acres, are owned by private organizations for resource protection purposes. There are also 164 acres of land in Kenosha County protected under conservation easements.

Publicly owned access sites for motor-boating purposes are provided to Lake Michigan, the Fox River, and all the major lakes except for Benedict Lake, Cross Lake, Dyer Lake, and Voltz Lake. There are a number of sites which provide access to the Fox River and Lake Michigan for other recreational activities and passive uses.

Existing trails in Kenosha County include the 16-mile Kenosha County Bicycle Trail, numerous on- and off-street local trails, and 77 miles of designated snowmobile trails.

RECOMMENDED PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

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

Open Space Preservation Element

The open space preservation element consists of four components: 1) The preservation of primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, and isolated natural resource areas; 2) the preservation of natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological areas in accordance with the recommendations set forth in the regional natural areas protection and management plan;² 3) the protection of open space lands located within project boundaries established by the State and The Nature Conservancy; and 4) the preservation of prime agricultural lands.

It is recommended that a total of 37,735 acres of open space lands, or about 21 percent of Kenosha County, be protected through a combination of public or nonprofit conservation organization ownership, or through the application of protective zoning. These 37,735 acres include planned primary and secondary environmental

²*Documented in SEWRPC Amendment to the Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, December 2010.*

corridors, planned isolated natural resource areas, areas outside corridors but within Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources project boundaries, and existing and proposed County park and open space lands. Virtually all natural areas and critical species habitat sites recommended to be preserved are contained within the planned primary or secondary environmental corridors or the planned isolated natural resource areas.

Of the total 37,735 acres of recommended open space lands, 13,564 acres, or about 36 percent, were in public ownership, nonprofit conservation organization ownership, under conservation easements, or in compatible private outdoor recreation use in 2010, and are recommended to be preserved in such ownership. It is recommended that an additional 4,150 acres, or about 11 percent of proposed open space lands, be acquired by public agencies or nonprofit conservation organizations for natural resource protection or open space preservation purposes or for public park or trail use. The remaining 20,021 acres of open space lands are recommended to remain in or be placed in protective zoning districts to prevent incompatible development. Such protective zoning districts include floodplain, lowland conservancy and, for upland portions of the corridor, upland conservancy which limits residential development to an overall density of no more than one dwelling per five acres. In addition, should open space lands not specifically recommended for acquisition in this plan become available for acquisition for open space purposes, consideration should be given to protecting such areas through conservation easements or fee simple acquisition by an appropriate public agency or nonprofit conservation organization.

Under this open space preservation element, it is further recommended that the County and local units of government protect existing prime agricultural lands. Specifically, it is recommended that all prime agricultural lands identified in the updated farmland preservation plan for Kenosha County prepared in 2011 be preserved for agricultural use.

Outdoor Recreation Element

Under the outdoor recreation element of the plan, eight major parks would be provided within the County. All eight major parks are existing parks in Kenosha County. The eight existing major parks are: Bong State Recreation Area, owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Brighton Dale Park and Golf Course, Bristol Woods Park, Fox River Park, Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course, Silver Lake Park, and West End Park, owned by Kenosha County; and Prairie Springs Park, owned by the Village of Pleasant Prairie.

The plan recommends that Kenosha County acquire additional lands for West End Park, develop additional facilities at Brighton Dale Park, Fox River Park, and West End Park. The plan also recommends that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources continue to acquire lands at Bong State Recreation Area.

Under the recommended plan, a 62-mile system of recreation trails would be provided by Kenosha County to enable participation in such activities as bicycling, hiking, nature study, and ski touring—including the existing 16-mile Kenosha County Bicycle Trail and the proposed Fox River Corridor, Des Plaines River Corridor, and Pike River/Creek Corridor.

Under the plan, it is recommended that a public boat access site be acquired and developed by the Department of Natural Resources on Benedict Lake, Benet/Shangrila Lake, Cross Lake, Dyer Lake, and Voltz Lake. It is further recommended that Kenosha County pursue opportunities to provide access to Lake Michigan and inland lakes for beach swimming, shore fishing, and passive recreational activities, as such opportunities arise. In addition, it is recommended that Kenosha County consider the development of a water trail system that would be located on the Fox, Des Plaines, and Pike Rivers, and along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

The plan recommends that County and local units of government support efforts relating to the preservation of historic sites and districts in Kenosha County.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The primary purpose of the park and open space plan for Kenosha County is to guide the acquisition and development of lands and facilities needed to satisfy the outdoor recreation needs of the existing and probable

future year 2035 resident population of the County, and to protect existing natural resources. Implementation of the recommended plan would assure the protection and preservation of important natural resources within environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas in the County. The plan is also designed to provide a variety of park and open space sites and facilities geographically well distributed throughout the County to meet the existing and probable future recreation needs of County residents.

Under the plan, 4,150 acres, representing about 2 percent of the total area of the County, would be acquired for park and open space purposes at an estimated cost of \$19.9 million. Kenosha County would be responsible for acquiring about 1,486 acres of that total, at an estimated cost of \$7.8 million. Development costs would total about \$4.6 million, with Kenosha County responsible for about \$3.4 million of that amount.

The total estimated cost for implementing the County park and open space plan is about \$24.5 million. The estimated cost to Kenosha County is about \$11.2 million, or about 46 percent of the total. The costs associated with implementation of the County park plan may be offset through State and Federal grants provided for recreational and open space purposes. The acquisition and development costs for recreational and open space lands and facilities may also be offset by donations, land dedications, or by revenues generated by existing parks and recreational facilities.

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APPENDICES

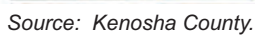
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Appendix A

KENOSHA COUNTY PARK MAPS

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“KD” PARK HIKING TRAILS





Kenosha County Old Settlers Park

Kenosha County Department of Public Works
Division of Parks
19800 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104-9772
Phone: (262)-857-1869
<http://www.kenoshacounty.org/publicworks/parks/>



Map A-2
OLD SETTLERS PARK



0 150 300 600 900
Feet

May 2012

Map Created By:
Kenosha County
Department of Planning and Development
in conjunction with the
Department of Public Works

Legend

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Open Area | P Parking Lot | Baseball Diamond |
| Wooded Area | Picnic Area | Drinking Fountain |
| Park Buildings | Restrooms | Swimming Beach |
| | Playground | Dog Park |



Kenosha County Silver Lake Park

Kenosha County Department of Public Works
Division of Parks
19600 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104-9772
Phone: (262)-857-1869
<http://www.co.kenosha.wi.us/publicworks/parks/>



0 150 300 600 900 Feet

May 2009
Map Created By:
Kenosha County
Department of Planning and Development
in conjunction with the
Department of Public Works

- Legend**
- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Open Area | Picnic Area | Baseball Diamond |
| Wooded Area | Reservable Picnic Shelter | Volleyball Courts |
| Park Buildings | Restrooms | Soccer Fields |
| Parking Lot | Playground | Swimming Beach |
| Hiking Trails
(distance labeled in miles) | Drinking Fountain | Sledding Hill |
| | | Sailboard Launch |

Map A-4
FOX RIVER PARK



Kenosha County Department of Public Works
Division of Parks
10800 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104-9772
Phone: (262)-857-1889
<http://www.co.kenosha.wi.us/publicworks/parks/>



Source: Kenosha County.

BRISTOL WOODS PARK



**Kenosha County
Bristol Woods Park**

Kenosha County Department of Public Works
Division of Parks
19600 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104-9772
Phone: (262)-857-1869
<http://www.co.kenosha.wi.us/publicworks/parks/>



Source: Kenosha County.



Kenosha County Brightondale Park

Kenosha County Department of Public Works
Division of Parks
19600 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104-9772
Phone: (262)-857-1869
<http://www.co.kenosha.wi.us/publicworks/parks/>



0 125 250 500 750 Feet

May 2009
Map Created By:
Kenosha County
Department of Planning and Development
In conjunction with the
Department of Public Works

Legend

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|------------------|
| Open Area | Picnic Area | Baseball Diamond |
| Wooded Area | Reservable Picnic Shelter | Restrooms |
| Park Buildings | Parking Lot | Playground |
| Hiking Trails
(Distance labeled in miles) | Drinking Fountain | Golf Course |

BRIGHTONDALE PARK

Map A-6

PETRIFYING SPRINGS PARK



Kenosha County Petrifying Springs Park

Kenosha County Department of Public Works
Division of Parks
19600 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104-9772
Phone: (262)-857-1869
<http://www.kenoshacounty.org/publicworks/parks/>



Source: Kenosha County.

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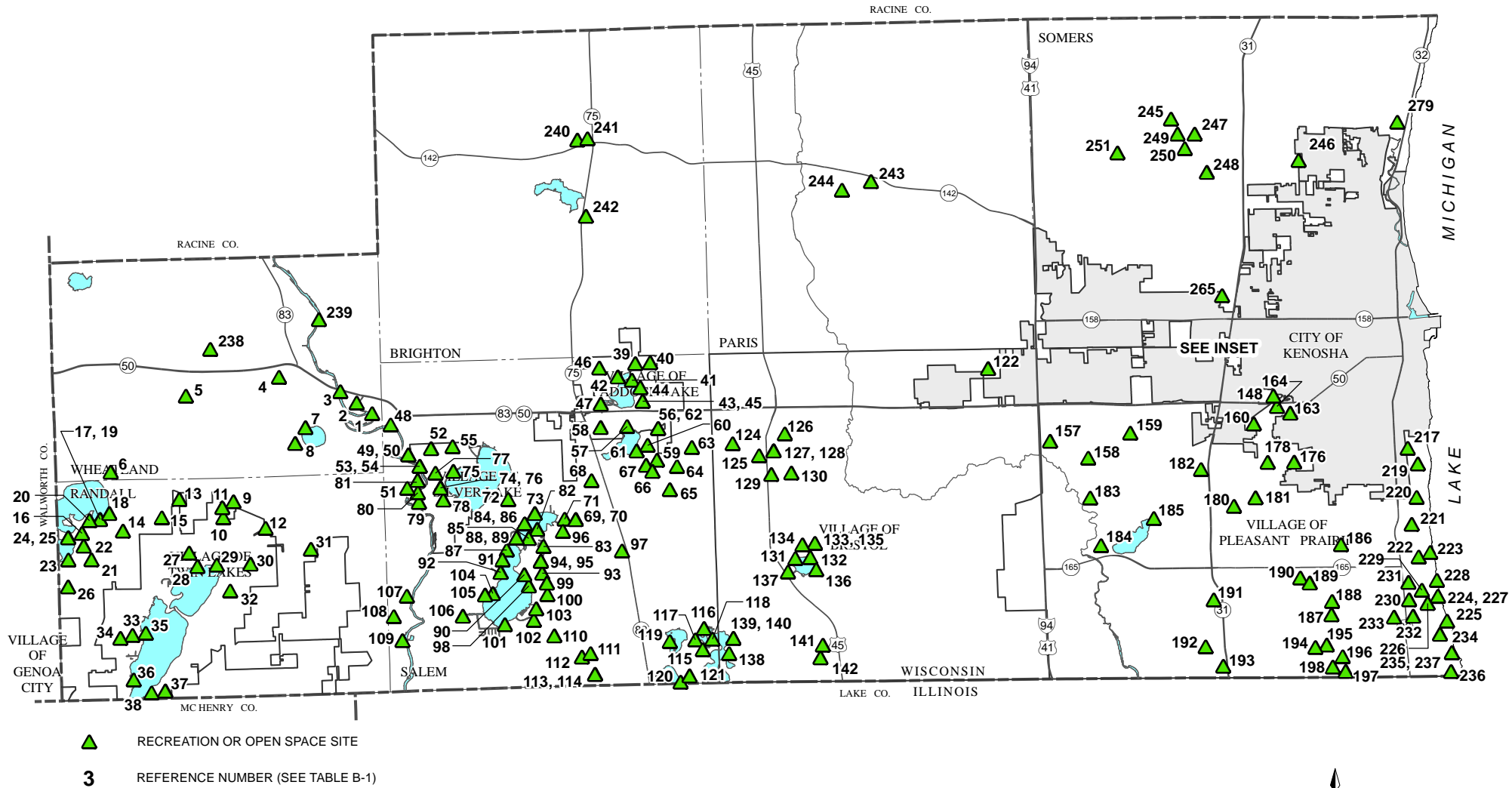
Appendix B

**PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES OWNED BY
CITIES, VILLAGES, TOWNS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS,
OR OTHER PUBLIC DISTRICTS AND PRIVATE
OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE SITES
IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010**

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Map B-1

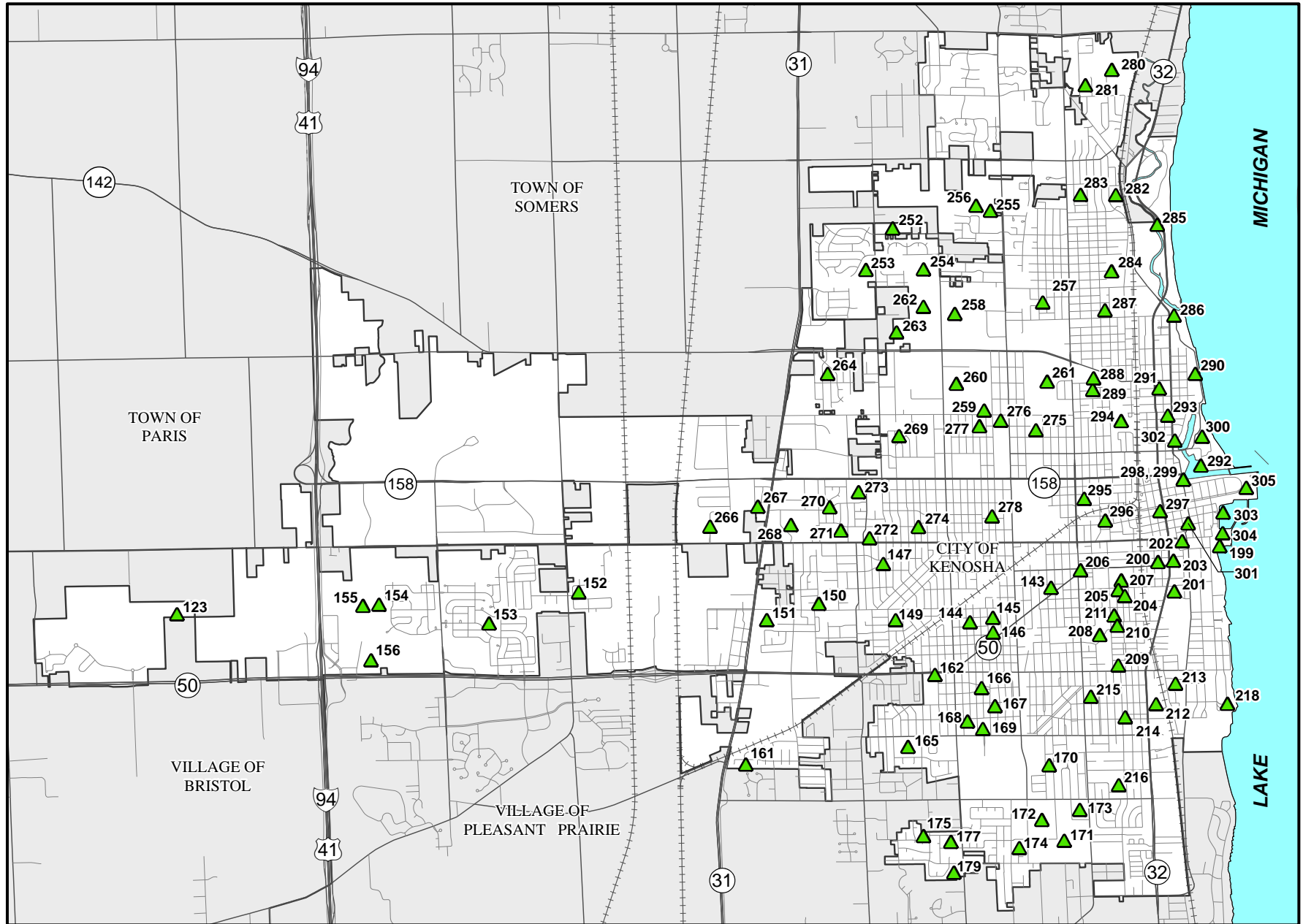
PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES OWNED BY CITIES, VILLAGES, TOWNS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS,
AND OTHER PUBLIC DISTRICTS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010



Source: SEWRPC.

Inset to Map B-1

PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES OWNED BY THE CITY, SCHOOL DISTRICTS,
AND OTHER PUBLIC DISTRICTS IN THE CITY OF KENOSHA: 2010



- RECREATION OR OPEN SPACE SITE
- REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE B-1)

Source: SEWRPC.

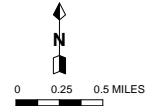


Table B-1

**PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES OWNED BY CITIES, VILLAGES,
TOWNS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, OR OTHER PUBLIC DISTRICTS IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010**

Number on Map B-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
1	Oakwood Shores Subdivision Park	06	011901	3
2	Toelle Park	06	011901	1
3	Fox River Flood Mitigation Open Space Lands	06	011901	2
4	New Munster Park	06	011902	13
5	Wheatland Center Elementary School	08	011904	9
6	District of Powers Lake Open Space	09	011908	74
7	Lilly Lake Park	06	011911	1
8	Summer Haven Park	06	011911	3
9	Bassett Park	06	011915	15
10	Heigl Memorial Park	06	011915	1
11	Bel-Aire Wildlife Park	06	011915	1
12	Ice House Trail	06	011915	7
13	Randall Elementary School	08	011916	28
14	Randale Park	06	011917	4
15	Blackhawk Acres Open Space	06	011917	8
16	Jefferson Island Subdivision Park	06	011918	2
17	Public Boat Access-Powers Lake	06	011918	1
18	Lakeside Park	06	011918	1
19	Bayview Public Park	06	011918	1
20	Wildwoods Park	06	011918	1
21	Nippersink Bowl	06	011919	4
22	Nippersink Estates Park	06	011919	1
23	Benedict Lake Shoreline Park	06	011919	1
24	Benedict Lake Fire Lane	06	011919	1
25	Fox Park	06	011919	1
26	Nippersink Park	06	011919	1
27	Mueller Park	05	011921	2
28	Lance Park	05	011921	8
29	Village Land	05	011921	1
30	Legion Park	05	011922	8
31	Open Space-Fire Station	06	011923	47
32	Lakewood Elementary School	08	011927	13
33	West Side Park	05	011929	16
34	Open Space Site	05	011929	6
35	Twin Lakes Beach North	05	011929	1
36	Twin Lakes Beach South	05	011932	1
37	Millennium Park	05	011932	16
38	Open Space Site	05	011932	1
39	Northside Park	05	012002	1
40	Evelyn H. Erickson Park	05	012002	3

Table B-1 (continued)

Number on Map B-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
41	Raymond W. Hoag Park	05	012002	1
42	Senior Citizens Park	05	012002	1
43	Village Hall "Ball Diamond" Park	05	012002	2
44	Public Access-Paddock Lake	05	012002	1
45	Village Park	05	012002	5
46	Pathway Glen Park	05	012003	1
47	Aleck McAlonan Park	05	012003	1
48	Shorewood Terrace Subdivision Park	06	012007	3
49	Fox River Dells Subdivision Park	06	012007	1
50	Fox River Dells Subdivision Park	06	012007	1
51	Fox River Flood Mitigation Open Space Lands	06	012007	1
52	Old Oaks Park	05	012007	30
53	Public Access-Fox River	05	012007	1
54	Public Access-Fox River	05	012007	1
55	Northeast Open Space Area	05	012008	11
56	Town Land	06	012011	6
57	Public Access-Hooker Lake	05	012011	1
58	Westosha Central Union High School	08	012011	133
59	Montgomery Lake Highlands Subdivision Park	06	012011	2
60	Salem Oaks Subdivision Park	06	012011	4
61	Town Land (Open Space)	06	012011	1
62	Town Land	06	012012	9
63	Undeveloped Neighborhood Park	06	012012	21
64	Public Access-Montgomery Lake	06	012013	1
65	Montgomery Lake Highlands Subdivision Park	06	012013	2
66	Montgomery Lake Highlands Subdivision Park	06	012014	1
67	Montgomery Lake Highlands Subdivision Park	06	012014	1
68	Salem Grade School	08	012015	72
69	Town Land	06	012015	1
70	Town Land	06	012015	1
71	Town Land	06	012015	1
72	Hi-Woods Subdivision Park	06	012016	1
73	Timberlane Subdivision Park	06	012016	1
74	Dewitt Park	05	012017	1
75	Public Access-Silver Lake	05	012017	1
76	Veteran's Memorial Park	05	012018	1
77	Riverview Elementary School	08	012018	4
78	Schmalfeldt Park	05	012018	3
79	Public Access-Fox River	05	012018	5
80	Public Access-Fox River	05	012018	1
81	Fox River Flood Mitigation Open Space Lands	05	012018	1
82	Center Lake Woods Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
83	Center Lake Woods Subdivision Park	06	012021	6

Table B-1 (continued)

Number on Map B-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
84	Lakewood Terrace Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
85	Center Lake Woods Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
86	Lakewood Terrace Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
87	Public Access-Camp Lake	06	012021	1
88	Center Lake Manor Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
89	Town Land (Two Parcels) (Open Space)	06	012021	1
90	Camp Lake Oaks Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
91	Yaw's Camp Lake Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
92	Yaw's Camp Lake Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
93	Sunset Oaks Manor Subdivision Park	06	012021	1
94	Town Land	06	012021	1
95	Town Land (Open Space)	06	012021	9
96	Undeveloped Community Park	06	012022	106
97	Town Hall-Open Space	06	012023	10
98	Sunset Oaks Manor Subdivision Park	06	012028	1
99	Sunset Oaks Manor Subdivision Park	06	012028	1
100	Westosha Marines Park	06	012028	1
101	Town Land	06	012028	3
102	Camp Lake Gardens Subdivision Park	06	012028	7
103	Oakridge Subdivision Park	06	012028	1
104	Public Access-Camp Lake	06	012029	1
105	Valmar Triangle	06	012029	1
106	Town Land (2 Parcels) (Open Space)	06	012029	1
107	Wilmot Grade School	08	012030	4
108	Wilmot Union High School	08	012030	24
109	Town Land	06	012031	1
110	Trevor Grade School	08	012033	2
111	Lubeno Park	06	012034	1
112	Public Access-Rock Lake	06	012034	1
113	Wilson Runyard Public Mini Park	06	012034	1
114	Town Park	06	012034	2
115	Lake Shangri-La Beach Subdivision Park	06	012036	1
116	Lake Shangri-La Beach Subdivision Park	06	012036	1
117	Lake Shangri-La Beach Subdivision Park	06	012036	1
118	Lake Shangri-La Beach Subdivision Park	06	012036	1
119	Voltz Lake Subdivision Park	06	012036	1
120	Oakwood Knolls Subdivision Park	06	012036	2
121	Oakwood Knolls Subdivision Park	06	012036	1
122	Strawberry Creek Community Park	04	012101	42
123	City-Owned Land	04	012102	5
124	81st Street Natural Area	05	012107	4
125	Bristol Elementary School	08	012107	18
126	Bristol Wastewater Treatment Facility	05	012108	26

Table B-1 (continued)

Number on Map B-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
127	Fireman's Park	05	012108	1
128	Veteran's Memorial Park	05	012108	1
129	Richard Hanson Memorial Park	05	012117	5
130	Veteran's Park	05	012117	10
131	George Lake North Beach	05	012120	1
132	George Lake North Shore Park	05	012120	1
133	189th Avenue Woods	05	012120	1
134	191st Avenue Woods	05	012120	1
135	190th Avenue Woods	05	012120	1
136	George Lake East Shore Park	05	012120	1
137	Bristol Road/Hillcrest Subdivision Lift Station And Open Space Site	05	012129	1
138	Lake Shangri-La Boat Launch	05	012131	1
139	Lake Shangri-La Beach Dam	05	012131	1
140	Public Wildlife Refuge	05	012131	3
141	Cherry Vista Dells Subdivision Park	05	012132	3
142	122nd Street Wetland	05	012132	6
143	Columbus Elementary School	08	012201	1
144	Bullamore Park	04	012201	2
145	Roosevelt Park	04	012201	6
146	Roosevelt Elementary School	08	012201	1
147	Forest Park	04	012202	6
148	Woodlawn Park	05	012202	1
149	Forest Park Elementary School	08	012202	5
150	Tower Line Park	04	012203	3
151	Stocker Elementary School	08	012203	4
152	C.J. Clausen Park	04	012204	5
153	Charles Nash Elementary School	08	012205	16
154	Horizons At White Caps	04	012206	15
155	Open Space Site	04	012206	55
156	Gateway Center Park	04	012206	18
157	Des Plaines River Open Space Land	05	012207	150
158	Pleasant Prairie Park	05	012207	23
159	Pleasant Prairie Elementary School	08	012208	6
160	Open Space Site	04	012210	12
161	Gangler Park	04	012210	5
162	City-Owned Land	04	012211	1
163	Open Space-Retention Area	05	012211	5
164	Becker Park	05	012211	1
165	Lance Middle School	08	012211	15
166	Newman Park	04	012212	2
167	Elmwood Park	04	012212	1
168	Elmwood School Site	04	012212	1

Table B-1 (continued)

Number on Map B-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
169	Brompton School	08	012212	1
170	Sunnyside Park	04	012212	5
171	James Anderson Park	04	012213	95
172	Tremper High School	08	012213	23
173	Vernon Elementary School	08	012213	4
174	Isetts Park	04	012213	6
175	Schulte Park	04	012214	3
176	Open Space-Retention Area	05	012214	6
177	Jeffrey Elementary School	08	012214	4
178	Whittier Elementary School	08	012214	2
179	Open Space	04	012214	9
180	Creekside Crossing Park	05	012215	2
181	Ingram's Park	05	012215	31
182	Village Land-Open Space	05	012216	49
183	Village Land-Open Space	05	012218	27
184	Prairie Springs Park	05	012220	920
185	Lakeview Technology Academy	08	012221	3
186	Rolling Meadows Park	05	012224	4
187	Country Corner - Tobin Creek Open Space Lands	05	012225	12
188	Undeveloped Kenosha Unified School District Site	08	012225	67
189	Village Land	05	012226	1
190	Prairie Lane Elementary School	08	012226	16
191	Momper's Woods	05	012227	27
192	Village Land-Open Space	05	012233	32
193	Village Land-Open Space	05	012234	1
194	Village Land-Open Space	05	012235	4
195	Prairie Trails West Open Space Lands	05	012236	8
196	Open Space-Retention Area	05	012236	2
197	Village Land-Open Space	05	012236	10
198	Village Land-Open Space	05	012236	2
199	Eichelman Park	04	012305	9
200	Bain Park	04	012306	2
201	Baker Park	04	012306	5
202	Library Park	04	012306	5
203	Durkee Elementary School	08	012306	1
204	Streeter Park	04	012306	1
205	Cicchini Park	04	012306	1
206	Wilson Triangle Park	04	012306	1
207	Brass Elementary School	08	012306	6
208	Lincoln Park	04	012306	43
209	Strawberry Park	04	012306	1
210	Lincoln Elementary School	08	012306	1
211	Lincoln Middle School	08	012306	1

Table B-1 (continued)

Number on Map B-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
212	Simmons Athletic Field	04	012307	8
213	Southport Elementary School	08	012307	2
214	Tot Park	04	012307	1
215	Grewenow Elementary School	08	012307	3
216	Red Arrow Park	04	012307	7
217	Carol Beach Open Space Land	05	012307	5
218	Southport Park	04	012308	20
219	Carol Beach Open Space Land	05	012318	10
220	Carol Beach Open Space Land	05	012318	23
221	Carol Beach Open Space Land	05	012319	10
222	Carol Beach Open Space Land	05	012319	11
223	Village Land	05	012320	5
224	Village Land	05	012329	1
225	Village Land	05	012329	1
226	Village Land	05	012329	1
227	Village Land	05	012329	1
228	Lake Michigan Park	05	012329	4
229	Carol Beach Open Space Land	05	012330	5
230	Carol Beach Park	05	012330	3
231	Village Land-Open Space	05	012330	37
232	Village Land	05	012330	1
233	Undeveloped Kenosha Unified School District Site	08	012330	15
234	Village Land-Open Space	05	012332	2
235	Village Land-Open Space	05	012332	3
236	Village Land-Open Space	05	012332	1
237	Village Land-Open Space	05	012332	1
238	Koch Park And Nature Area	06	021933	19
239	Fox River Pines Subdivision Park	06	021935	1
240	Brighton Town Hall	06	022015	8
241	Brighton Elementary School	08	022015	8
242	Kenosha Unified Schools Forest	08	022022	133
243	Paris Town Hall	06	022115	20
244	Paris Elementary School	08	022121	6
245	Town Land (Future Park)	06	022209	24
246	Kenosha Unified School District Site	08	022214	19
247	Somers Elementary School	08	022215	11
248	Open Space Site	06	022215	8
249	Somers Town Hall And Park	06	022216	19
250	Town Land (Future Community Park)	06	022216	36
251	Country Charm Subdivision Park	06	022217	2
252	Hillcrest School	08	022223	12
253	Sunrise Park	04	022223	14
254	John Bullen Middle School	08	022223	27

Table B-1 (continued)

Number on Map B-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
255	St. Peter's Park	04	022224	4
256	Open Space Site	04	022224	17
257	Matoska Park	04	022225	3
258	Bradford High School	08	022225	40
259	Limpert Park	04	022225	4
260	Kenosha Sports Complex	04	022225	19
261	Washington Park Golf Course	04	022225	71
262	Open Space Site	04	022226	49
263	City-Owned Land	04	022226	7
264	Jamestown Park	04	022226	4
265	Valley View Subdivision Park	06	022234	2
266	Mahone Middle School / Indian Trail Academy H.S.	08	022234	55
267	Johnson Highland Park	04	022234	1
268	Charles W. Nash Park	04	022234	52
269	Endee Park	04	022235	2
270	Kenfair Park	04	022235	2
271	Little League Park	04	022235	5
272	60th Street Tennis Court	04	022235	1
273	Strange Elementary School	08	022235	7
274	Davis Park	04	022235	1
275	Ed Bain School Of Language And Art	08	022236	2
276	Hobbs Park	04	022236	5
277	Wilson Elementary School	08	022236	5
278	McKinley Elementary and Jr. High Schools	08	022236	1
279	Fabiano Park	06	022307	2
280	Sam Poerio Park	04	022318	70
281	Bose Elementary School	08	022318	5
282	Petretti Park	04	022319	8
283	Harvey Elementary School	08	022319	4
284	Petzke Park	04	022319	10
285	Alford Park	04	022319	58
286	Pennoyer Park	04	022330	39
287	Grant Elementary School	08	022330	2
288	Washington Park	04	022330	29
289	Jefferson Elementary School	08	022330	1
290	Kennedy Park	04	022330	21
291	Washington Middle School	08	022330	1
292	Kenosha Yacht Club	04	022331	1
293	Union Park	04	022331	1
294	Nedweski Park	04	022331	10
295	Columbus Park	04	022331	5
296	Frank Elementary School	08	022331	1

Table B-1 (continued)

Number on Map B-1	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
297	Civic Center Park	04	022331	1
298	Navy Memorial Park	04	022331	1
299	Veteran's Memorial Park	04	022331	1
300	Simmons Island Park	04	022332	30
301	City-Owned Land (Formerly Known As Friendship Park)	04	022332	1
302	Fireman's Park	04	022332	1
303	Southport Marina	04	022332	11
304	Wolfenbuttel Park	04	022332	9
305	Harbor Park (Celebration Place)	04	022332	15
Total: 305 Sites		- -	- -	4,041 acres

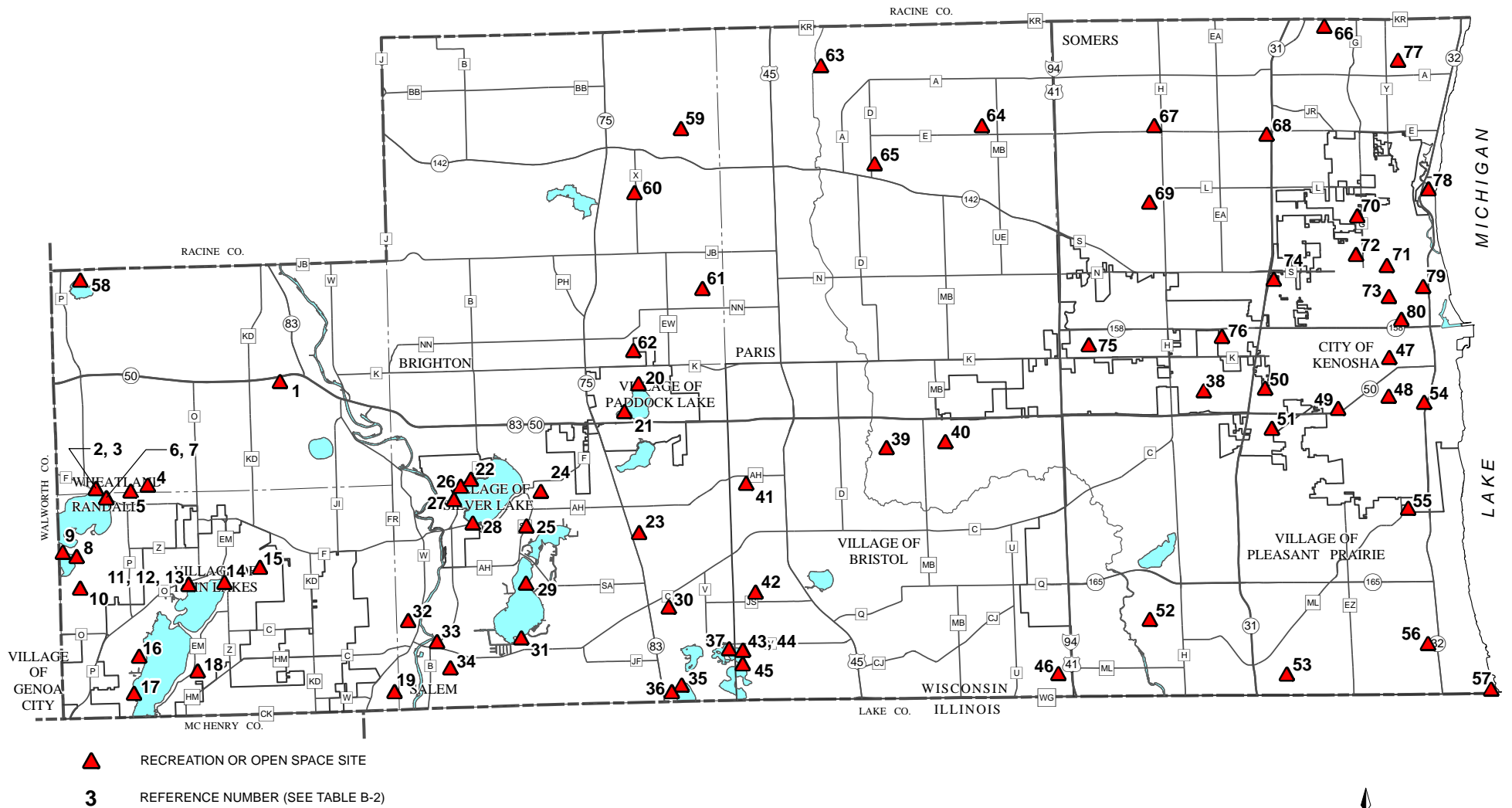
^aThe ownership code numbers signify the following: 04-City, 05-Village, 06-Town, 08-School District, and 09-Other Public.

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

Source: SEWRPC.

Map B-2

PRIVATE OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010



Source: SEWRPC.

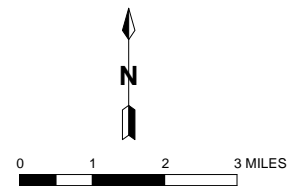


Table B-2

PRIVATE OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN KENOSHA COUNTY: 2010

Number on Map B-2	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
1	St. Aphonsus Grade School	10	011902	4
2	Gabby's Wayside Resort	11	011907	1
3	Pit Stop Tavern	11	011907	1
4	Twin Lakes Sportsman's Club	10	011908	40
5	Powers Lake Sportsman's Club	10	011917	36
6	Old Mill Beach Resort	11	011918	1
7	Dick And Rae's Resort	11	011918	1
8	Lake Benedict Land Conservation	10	011919	1
9	Club Benedict	11	011919	2
10	Nippersink Manor Golf Course	11	011919	132 ^c
11	Pink House Resort	11	011921	1
12	Oak Ridge Subdivision Park	12	011921	1
13	Knobes Subdivision Park	12	011921	1
14	Edgewater Motor Inn Beach	11	011921	1
15	Twin Lakes Country Club	12	011922	126
16	Oriole Camp Club	12	011929	13
17	Elizabeth Manor Subdivision Park	12	011932	1
18	Rollie And Joe's Resort	11	011933	11
19	Wilmot Mountain Ski Area	11	011936	336
20	North Shore Paddock Lake Community Club	12	012002	1
21	Paddock-Hooker Lake Association Park	12	012002	3
22	Wilbert Post Park	12	012008	2
23	Papa's Sports Bar And Grill	11	012014	10
24	Silver Lake Sportsmen's Club	10	012016	40
25	Salvation Army Camp Wonderland	10	012016	138
26	Silver Minnow Bait Shop	11	012017	1
27	The Tackle Box	11	012017	1
28	Silver Lake Marina	11	012017	1
29	Camp Lake Oaks Subdivision Park and Beach	12	012021	1
30	Spring Valley Country Club	11	012026	147
31	Last Resort	11	012028	1
32	Kenosha County Fairgrounds	10	012030	77
33	Holy Name School	10	012030	28
34	Camp Sol-R-Crown	10	012031	148
35	Cross Lake Association Beach	12	012035	1
36	Cepek's Cross Lake Subdivision Park	12	012035	2
37	Lake Shangri-La Boat Landing	12	012036	1
38	The Club at Strawberry Creek	11	012102	194
39	Bristol Oaks Country Club	11	012109	143
40	Kenosha Bowmen	10	012110	42
41	Conservation Club Of Kenosha	10	012118	227
42	Waukegan Bowmen	10	012130	25
43	Lake Shangri-La Beach Subdivision Park	10	012131	1

Table B-2 (continued)

Number on Map B-2	Site Name	Ownership ^a	Location ^b	Acreage
44	Lake Shangri-La Resort	11	012131	1
45	Lake Shangri-La Beach Subdivision Park	12	012131	1
46	Bristol Renaissance Faire	11	012136	159
47	Jockey International Walking Track	12	012201	1
48	St. Joseph High School	10	012201	4
49	St. Mary's School	10	012202	1
50	Boys and Girls Club	10	012203	8
51	Kenosha Ice Arena	12	012210	6
52	Halter Wildlife Inc	10	012229	16
53	Big Oaks Golf Course	11	012234	395
54	St. Marks School	10	012306	1
55	St. Therese School	10	012318	11
56	Trancendental Driving Range	11	012331	14
57	Prairie Harbor Yacht Club	11	012332	19
58	Boy Scouts of America Camp Oh-Da-Ko-Da	10	021930	150 ^d
59	St. Iakovos Retreat Center	10	022012	23
60	Providence Catholic School West	10	022014	4
61	Happy Acres Campground	11	022025	70
62	Union League Boy's Club	10	022035	249
63	Great Lakes Dragaway	11	022105	153
64	Somer's Rod & Gun Club	12	022111	18
65	St. John's Catholic School	10	022116	3
66	Trefoil Oaks Girl Scout Camp	10	022202	12
67	Shoreland Lutheran High School	10	022208	18
68	Finney's West	11	022215	9
69	Maplecrest Country Club	11	022220	166
70	St. Peter School	10	022224	7
71	Woodhaven Girl Scout Camp	10	022225	9
72	Gateway Technical College	12	022225	15
73	Holy Rosary School	10	022225	5
74	Maple Spring Driving Range	11	022227	13
75	Dairyland Greyhound Park	11	022231	117
76	Kenosha Youth Foundation	10	022233	19
77	Kenosha Country Club	12	022306	142
78	Carthage College	10	022319	50
79	St. Elizabeth School	10	022330	1
80	Friedens Lutheran School	10	022331	1
- -	Total: 80 Sites	- -	- -	3,844 acres

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

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

^cAn 8-acre portion of the site is located in the Town of Bloomfield, Walworth County. The site totals 140 acres.

^dA 19-acre portion of the site is located in the Town of Burlington, Racine County. The site totals 169 acres.

Source: SEWRPC.

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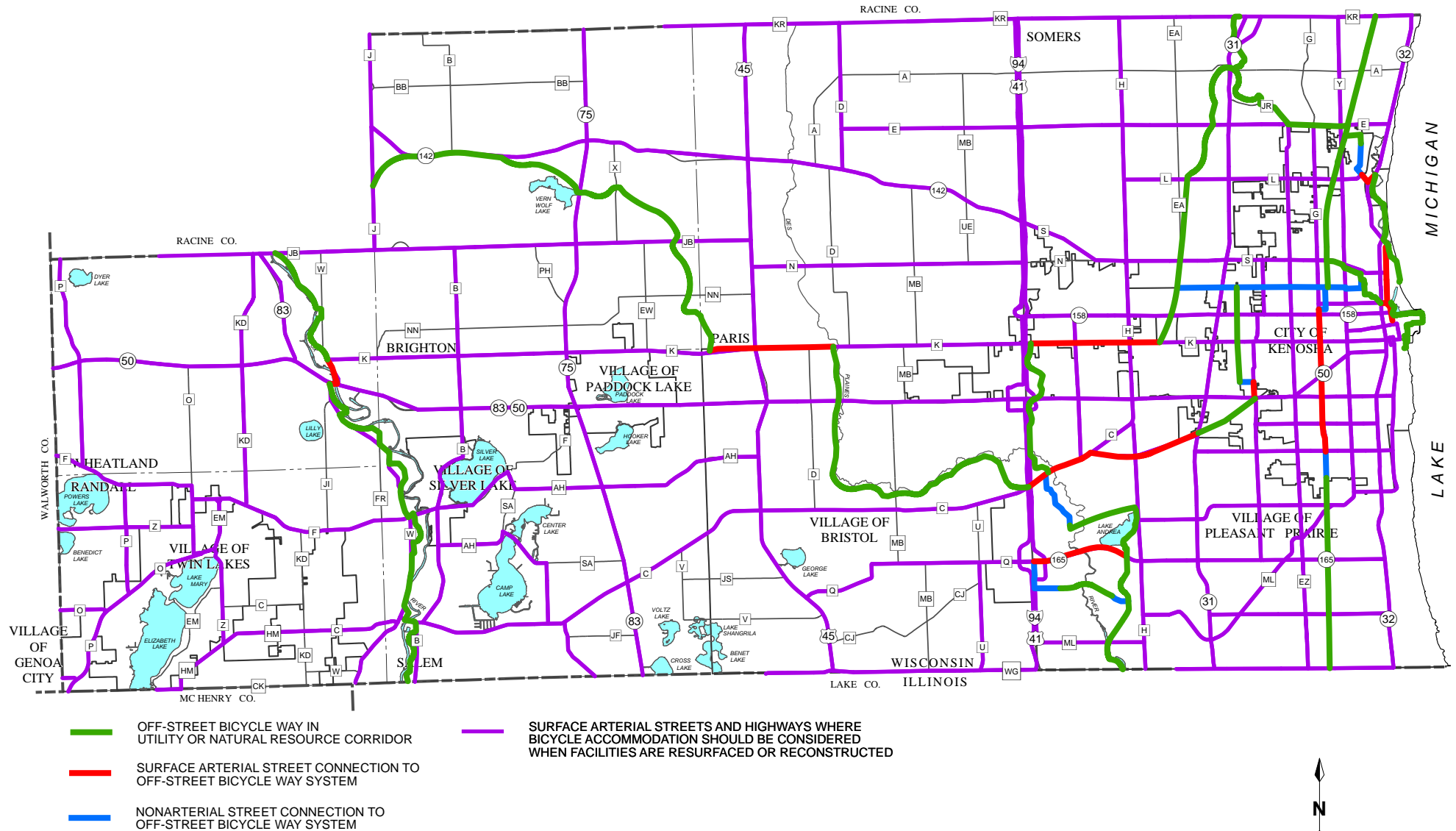
Appendix C

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ELEMENT OF
THE 2035 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN
AS IT RELATES TO KENOSHA COUNTY**

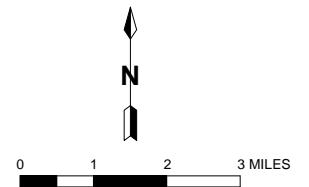
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Map C-1

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ELEMENT OF THE
2035 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AS IT RELATES TO KENOSHA COUNTY**



Source: SEWRPC.



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Appendix D

**OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING
OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPALS, AND STANDARDS FOR
KENOSHA COUNTY**

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

OBJECTIVE NO. 1

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

PRINCIPLE

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

A. PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARDS

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

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

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

B. RECREATION RELATED OPEN SPACE

PRINCIPLE

Effective satisfaction of recreation demands within the County cannot be accomplished solely by providing public general use outdoor recreation sites. Certain recreational pursuits such as hiking, biking, pleasure driving, and ski touring are best provided for through a system of recreation corridors located on or adjacent to linear resource-oriented open space lands. A well designed system of recreation corridors

offered as an integral part of linear open space lands can also serve to physically connect existing and proposed public parks, thus forming a truly integrated park and recreation related open space system. Such open space lands, in addition, satisfy the human need for natural surroundings, serve to protect the natural resource base, and ensure that many scenic areas and areas of natural, cultural, or historic interest assume their proper place as form determinants for both existing and future land use patterns.

STANDARDS

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

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

OBJECTIVE NO. 2

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

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARD

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

Minimum per Capita Facility Requirements ^q				Design Standards					Service Radius of Facility (miles) ^r
Activity	Facility	Owner	Facility per 1,000 Urban Residents	Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Total Land Requirement (acres per facility)	
Baseball	Diamond	Public Nonpublic Total	0.09 0.01 0.10 ^s	Types II, III and IV general use site	2.8 acres per diamond	Parking (30 spaces per diamond) Night lighting ^t Concessions and bleachers ^t Buffer and landscape	0.28 acre per diamond -- 0.02 acre minimum 1.40 acres per diamond	4.50	2.0
Basketball	Goal	Public Nonpublic Total	0.91 0.22 1.13	Type IV general use site	0.07 acre per goal	--	--	0.07	0.5
Ice-Skating	Rink	Public Nonpublic Total	0.15 ^u -- 0.15	Type IV general use site	0.30 acre per rink minimum	Warming house	0.05 acre	0.35 minimum	0.5
Soccer Fields or Play Fields	Playfield	Public Nonpublic Total	0.39 0.11 0.50	Type IV general use site	1.0 acre per playfield minimum	Buffer area	0.65 acre minimum	1.65 minimum	0.5
Playground Activities	Playground	Public Nonpublic Total	0.35 0.07 0.42	Type IV general use site	0.25 acre per playground minimum	Buffer and landscape	0.37 acre	0.62 minimum	0.5
Softball	Diamond	Public Nonpublic Total	0.53 0.07 0.60	Types II, III, and IV general use site	1.70 acre per diamond	Parking (20 spaces per diamond) Nighttime lighting ^t Buffer	0.18 acre per diamond -- 0.80 acre per diamond	2.68	1.0
Swimming	Pool	Public Nonpublic Total	0.015 ^v -- 0.015	Types II and III general use site	0.13 acre per pool minimum	Bathhouse and concessions Parking (400 square feet per space) Buffer and landscaping	0.13 acre minimum 0.26 acre minimum 0.70 acre minimum	1.22 minimum	3.0 3.0
Tennis	Court	Public Nonpublic Total	0.50 0.10 0.60	Types II, III, and IV general use site	0.15 acre per court	Parking (2.0 spaces per court) Nighttime lighting ^t Buffer	0.02 acre per court -- 0.15 acre per court	0.32	1.0

OBJECTIVE NO. 3

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

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARD

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

Minimum per Capita Facility Requirement ^w					Design Standards						Service Radius of Facility (miles) ^x		
Activity	Facility	Owner	Per Capita Requirements (facility per 1,000 residents)		Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Total Land Requirements (acres per facility)	Resource Requirements			
Camping	Campsite	Public	0.35		Types I and II general use sites	0.33 acre per campsite	Rest rooms-showers	- -	1.83	Ungrazed wooded area	25.0		
		Nonpublic	1.47				Utility hookups	- -				Presence of surface water	
		Total	1.82				Natural area backup lands	1.5 acres per campsite					Suitable topography and soils
Golf	Regulation 18-hole course	Public	0.013		Types I and II general use sites	135 acres per course	Clubhouse, parking, maintenance	8.0 acres per course	185.0	Suitable topography and soils	10.0		
		Nonpublic	0.027				Practice area	5.0 acres per course				Presence of surface water	
		Total	0.040				Woodland or water areas	35.0 acres per course					Form-giving vegetation desirable
		Buffer				2.0 acres per course							
Picnicking	Tables	Public	6.35 ^y		Types I, II, III, and IV general use sites	0.07 acre per table minimum	Parking	0.02 acre per table (1.5 space per table)	0.11	Topography with scenic views	10.0		
		Nonpublic	2.39				Shelters and grills	- -				Presence of surface water desirable	
		Total	8.74				Buffer and parking overflow	0.02 acre per table					Suitable soils
Skiing	Developed slope (acres)	Public	0.010		Types I, II, III general use sites	1.0 acre per acre of developed slope	Chalet	0.13 acre minimum	2.1	Suitable topography and soils (20 percent slope minimum)	25.0		
		Nonpublic	0.090				Parking	0.25 acre per acre of slope				North or northeast exposure	
		Total	0.100				Ski tows (and lights)	0.40 acre per acre of slope					
		Buffer and maintenance				0.40 acre per acre of slope							
		Landscape				35 acre per acre of slope							
Swimming	Beach (linear feet)		Major Inland Lakes	Lake Michigan	Types I, II, III general use sites	40 square feet per linear foot (average)	Parking	0.2 acre per acre of beach	- - ^z	Natural beach	10.0		
													Good water quality
		Public	6	16			Bathhouse-concessions	0.10 acre minimum					
		Nonpublic	12	- -			Buffer areas	10 square feet per linear foot					
		Total	18	16									

OBJECTIVE NO. 4

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

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARD

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

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

OBJECTIVE NO. 5

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

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARDS

- Access sites available for use by the general public on streams and major lakes, that is, lakes of 50 acres or larger, should be provided in accordance with the requirements established by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in Sections NR 1.90 and NR 1.91 of the *Wisconsin Administrative Code*.
- Access sites providing parking should be provided on major streams throughout the County. The maximum interval between access points on major canoeable streams^{dd} should be 10 miles.

OBJECTIVE NO. 6

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

PRINCIPLE

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

A. PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARD

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

B. NATURAL AREAS AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARDS

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

C. PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARDS

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

OBJECTIVE NO. 7

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

PRINCIPLE

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

STANDARD

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

Footnotes to Appendix D

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ⁿType IV sites are defined as small sites which have a neighborhood as the service area. Such sites usually provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities and are generally provided in urban areas. Recreation lands at the neighborhood level should most desirably be provided through a joint community-school district venture, with the facilities and recreational land area required to be provided on one site available to serve the recreation demands of both the school student and resident neighborhood population. Using the Type IV park standard of 1.7 acres per 1,000 residents and the school standard of 1.6 acres per 1,000 residents, a total of 3.3 acres per 1,000 residents or approximately 21 acres of recreation lands in a typical medium-density neighborhood would be provided. These acreage standards relate to lands required to provide for recreation facilities typically located in a neighborhood and are exclusive of the school building site and associated parking area and any additional natural areas which may be incorporated into the design of the park site such as drainageways and associated storm water retention basins, areas of poor soils, and floodland areas.

^oThe maximum service radius of Type IV parks is governed primarily by the population density in the vicinity of the park. In high-density urban areas, each urban resident should reside within 0.5 mile of a Type IV park; in medium-density urban areas, each resident should reside within

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

^yThe allocation of the 6.35 picnic tables per 1,000 residents to publicly owned general-use sites is as follows: 3.80 tables per 1,000 residents of the County to be located in Type I and Type II parks to meet the resource-oriented picnicking needs of the County and 2.55 tables per 1,000 residents of urban areas in the County to be located in Type III and Type IV parks to meet local picnicking needs in urban areas of the County.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Source: SEWRPC.

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Appendix E

**COUNTY BOARD ADOPTION OF THE
KENOSHA COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN**

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RESOLUTION No. 127

Presented to County Board

Date 4 - 17 - 2012

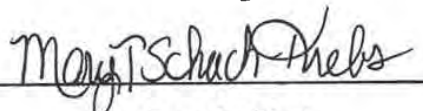
Action by County Board

- ☒ Adopted as presented 4 - 17 - 2012
☐ Adopted as amended _____
☐ Referred to _____
☐ Defeated _____
☐ Withdrawn _____

County Board Chairman

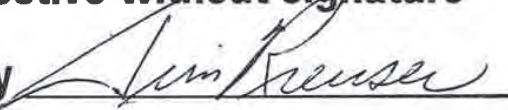


Presented to County Executive 4 - 18 - 2012

By 
County Clerk

Action by County Executive

- ☒ Approved 4 - 19 - 12
☐ Vetoed _____
☐ Vetoed in part _____
☐ Effective without signature

By 
County Executive

Veto action by County Board

- ☐ Overridden _____
Vote _____ to _____
☐ Sustained _____
Vote _____ to _____


Kenosha



County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION NO. 127

Subject: Adoption of the Kenosha County Park And Open Space Plan as set forth in the aforementioned SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 131 (2nd Edition)			
Original <input type="checkbox"/>	Corrected <input type="checkbox"/>	2nd Correction <input type="checkbox"/>	Resubmitted <input type="checkbox"/>
Date Submitted: County Board Mtg Date		Date Resubmitted:	
Submitted By: Public Works & Facilities Committee			
Fiscal Note Attached <input type="checkbox"/>		Legal Note Attached <input type="checkbox"/>	
Prepared By: Raymond Arbet, Director Public Works		Signature: 	

WHEREAS, Kenosha County requested that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission assist the County in the preparation of a new park and open space plan for the year 2035; and

WHEREAS, the Kenosha County Public Works & Facilities Committee has prepared, with the assistance of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, a park and open space plan for Kenosha County for the year 2035, said plan being embodied in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 131 (2nd Edition), A Park and Open Space Plan for Kenosha County; and


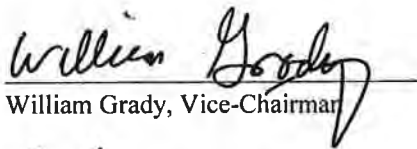
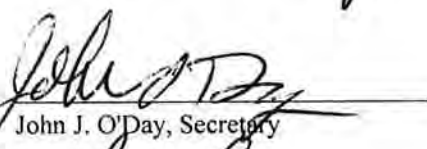
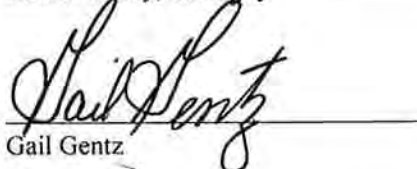
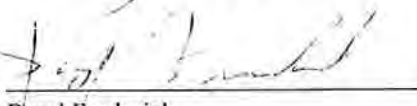

WHEREAS, the Kenosha County Public Works & Facilities Committee at its meeting on April 15, 2012, acted to recommend to the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors adoption of the Kenosha County park and open space plan as set forth in the aforementioned SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 131 (2nd Edition). The plan is available for review at <http://www.co.kenosha.wi.us/publicworks/parks/index.html>;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 131 (2nd Edition), A Park and Open Space Plan for Kenosha County, as approved by the Public Works & Facilities Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors enact an ordinance adopting SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 131 (2nd Edition), A Park and Open Space Plan for Kenosha County.

Approved by:

PUBLIC WORKS &
FACILITIES
COMMITTEE

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Excused</u>
 Dennis Elverman, Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 William Grady, Vice-Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 John J. O'Day, Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Gail Gentz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Boyd Frederick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Daniel Esposito	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Aaron Kohlmeier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Kenosha County
Administrative Proposal Form**

1. Proposal Overview

Division: Parks Department: Public Works

Proposal Summary (attach explanation and required documents):

Adoption of the Kenosha County Park And Open Space Plan as set forth in the
aforementioned SEWRPC Community Assistance Report No. 131 (2nd Edition)

Dept./Division Head Signature: *Jonathan Rudie* Date: 4-4-12

2. Department Head Review

Comments:

Recommendation: Approval ☒ Non-Approval ☐

Department Head Signature: *RTK* Date: 4-4-12

3. Finance Division Review

Comments:

Recommendation: Approval ☐ Non-Approval ☐

Finance Signature: *J. Kym* Date: 4-4-12

4. County Executive Review

Comments:

Action: Approval ☒ Non-Approval ☐

Executive Signature: *Tim Kneuer* Date: 4/5/12