

UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This element identifies and evaluates existing utilities and community facilities serving the Town of Madge. Based on this inventory and assessment, the plan makes recommendations to ensure that services are adequate to meet local population demands over the next 20-year planning period. Utilities and community facilities include such things as water supply, sewers, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunication facilities, power plants, cemeteries, health care facilities, child care facilities, fire and rescue services, libraries, schools, and other government facilities.

4.2 66.1001 REQUIREMENTS

This section of the plan contains a compilation of background information, goals, objectives, actions, and recommended programs to guide the future maintenance and development of utilities and community facilities.

4.3 EXISTING UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Sanitary Sewer and Water

The disposal of domestic and commercial wastewater in the Town of Madge is handled through the use of private individual on-site wastewater disposal systems. Local drinking water is sourced from private wells.

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce (COMM) regulates the siting, design, installation, and inspection of private on-site sewage systems in the state. In 2000, the state adopted a revised private system policy called COMM 83. The revised policy allows for conventional sewage systems and advanced pre-treatment sewage systems. There are five types of on-site disposal system designs authorized for use today: conventional (underground), mound, pressure distribution, at-grade holding tank, and sand filter systems. Sanitary permits are required under state law.

Over the 20-year planning horizon the town has no plans to develop a public water distribution system. Given the limited development density, the existing private sanitary systems are projected to meet the local population demand over the 20-year planning horizon. It is possible, however, that a sanitary district could be formed to serve the higher development density of the lake areas although no plans for this infrastructure have been developed. In the future, collaboration amongst adjoining towns regarding the development of a sanitary district is encouraged.

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facilities

Prior to 1969, solid waste management in Washburn County consisted primarily of individuals hauling to unsupervised open municipal landfills. Since that time, state and federal codes have

become more restrictive and non-hazardous household wastes are landfilled only in licensed facilities. Solid waste disposal sites or landfills could pose potential sources of groundwater pollution in future years. It wasn't until approximately 1990 when the costs to comply with state codes ultimately forced towns and many private individuals to close landfill sites that could not be upgraded. Table 4.1 shows information regarding old dump(s) in the Town of Madge.

Table 4.1: Waste Disposal Sites

Facility Name	Legal Description	Status
Madge Town Dump	SE SE S23 38N 11W	Inactive

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Browning-Ferris Industries Inc. (BFI) and Waste Management (WM) provide both garbage and recycling pick-up services to residents of the Town of Madge. BFI operates the only private landfill in Washburn County, which is located on CTH D in the Town of Sarona. A proposed expansion of the landfill would serve municipalities and industries located in 22 Wisconsin counties and 4 Minnesota counties.



The recycling program in Washburn County is a two-tier program that includes curbside collection and drop-off recycling centers. Under the current Washburn County Solid Waste Ordinance, waste haulers that provide curbside collection of garbage must also provide curbside collection of certain recyclables.

Drop-off sites are aimed at persons that do not have curbside garbage collection. There are currently six drop-off recycling centers in Washburn County, two of which take expanded recyclables and one that is a transfer station. These facilities are located in the communities of Spooner, Minong, Shell Lake, Springbrook, Stone Lake, and Long Lake. The Spooner and Minong facilities host the expanded recycling centers, with the Minong facility being the only transfer station in the county.

Based on available services, current needs are being met. However, over the 20-year planning horizon, the potential may exist for the siting of a recycling location in the town based on future demands of local property owners.

Stormwater Management

The management and regulation of stormwater is divided among federal, state, county, and local governments depending on the status of incorporation and size and the activities affecting stormwater. Towns that have a population of less than 10,000 and are not included in a priority watershed are not required to obtain municipal stormwater discharge permits under Administrative Code NR 216. Stormwater in Madge drains through a series of ditches and culverts along town roadways. The town does not have a stormwater management plan in place, and has no plans to add a municipal storm sewer system in the town.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, stormwater management may become an issue as continued development occurs, especially in the higher-density lake areas. Additional runoff from development and roads will have negative impacts on lakes and streams as sediment and nutrient

delivery increases. Managing stormwater to increase infiltration and reduce or eliminate direct delivery of runoff to surface waters (lakes, streams, wetlands) is one of the most important steps that can be taken to protect water quality. When reviewing new land use proposals, the town and county will need to pay close attention to the amount of new runoff generated. To protect water quality and neighboring landowners, such proposals should show that no net gain in runoff is being created.

The Town of Madge and local lake associations must work cooperatively with the WDNR and Washburn County to mitigate the adverse impacts of stormwater runoff and ensure that environmental resources are adequately protected. Reviewing and considering recommendations resulting from the research study examining the state of the Long Lake Watershed would assist in improving water quality.

Law Enforcement

The Town of Madge does not have its own law enforcement personnel or facilities. The Washburn County Sheriff's Department serves as the primary law enforcement agency to the Town of Madge. The department's administrative functions and jail facility are located in the City of Shell Lake and provides emergency assistance to an 816 square mile area. The department operates on a split shift schedule. From May 1 to October 31, patrol officers work nine-hour shifts and from November 1 to April 30, patrol officers work eight-hour shifts.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will develop its own law enforcement department. Continued coordination with the county sheriff's department must be maintained to ensure service reliability.

Fire and Rescue

By intergovernmental agreement, the Town of Madge is served by the Spooner Fire Department. The Spooner Fire Department operates two pumpers, three tanker trucks, a rescue van, an off-road pickup truck, and two portable pumps for rural areas. The department is located at 505 Summit Avenue, Spooner, and is staffed by 35 firefighters. Included in the staff are 4 EMT, 20 licensed first responders, and 1 full-time worker. Although there are 20 first responders, there is not an official first responder team, as the department relies on North Ambulance for severe medical emergencies. Any facility expansions or changes are the responsibility of the Spooner Fire Department.

North Ambulance, located at N4755 Hwy 63 in the Town of Beaver Brook, provides 24-hour ambulance service with 3 ambulances, 8 full-time EMT, and 12 volunteer EMT.

Long Lake First Responders is a 12-member licensed first responder team serving Madge, Long Lake, and part of Birchwood Townships.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is anticipated the volunteer fire association and ambulance service will continue to provide adequate services to residents and property owners in the town.

Libraries

Residents of the Town of Madge can utilize the City of Shell Lake Public Library at 501 1st Street and the City of Spooner Public Library at 421 High Street due to their close proximity to the town. Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not anticipated the town will construct a public library.

Town Hall/Garage

The town hall is located on CTH M one mile north of CTH B. There is no town garage in Madge. See Map 4.1 for town hall location. Over the 20-year planning horizon, it may become necessary to improve, expand, relocate, or construct a town hall or garage. Future development of such activities will be reviewed as capacity needs are identified.

Cemeteries

Frequently unnoticed, cemeteries are important community facilities that provide a tangible link with the past and serve as holy and sacred places. Currently there are three cemeteries in the Town of Madge. The Burk Family Cemetery is located on the west side of CTH M, on the Wilber Russell farm; the Madge Evergreen Cemetery is located on Todd Rd, south of CTH B; and there is one grave on the east side of CTH M on the Frank Galli farm. See Map 4.1 for cemetery locations. Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not anticipated the town will engage in the development of a town cemetery.

Communication Facilities

Due to the increase in use of wireless communication, the construction of telecommunication towers is an issue that towns are addressing more often. Access to wireless communication facilities is becoming more and more important in the modern world. Currently, no telecommunication (cell) towers are located in the Town of Madge. Over time, as wireless communication companies look to expand their services, cellular towers may be considered for possible erection in the town. Washburn County currently has cell tower guidelines in place for the construction of new towers. As part of the planning process, the town should work with the county in determining acceptable locations for possible future tower locations and ordinances. Map 4.1 depicts current cell tower locations in Washburn County.

CenturyTel, Inc. (local land line) and numerous wireless providers serve the town for local telephone communications. Multiple companies are available to provide long distance telephone and Internet services. The quality of telecommunication services depends on the capacity of the network that serves the Town of Madge. Future services will be dependant on identifying and planning for future development areas. The comprehensive plan will help guide decisions for installing and upgrading facilities, which will be needed to provide quality services as the town's population increases.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will engage in the development of communication facilities. However, it is expected the town will actively participate in discussions and planning with local and regional communication providers to ensure residents have access to landline and wireless communications. In addition, the town will work with local and regional communication providers and Washburn County in the siting of communication towers.

Power Plants, Substations, and Transmission Lines

There are no power plants (hydro, coal, or nuclear) or substations located in the Town of Madge, and there are no plans to locate any in the future.

Transmission lines are the largest and most visible electric lines on the landscape. These lines generate the most public interest because they are the most noticeable electric lines and because of the potential human and animal health affects associated with them. Transmission lines transport electricity from power plants to substations and operate at several hundred thousand volts (typically ranging from 46,000 to 345,000 volts), stand anywhere between 60 and 100 feet tall, and serve several hundred thousand customers. The Public Service Commission (PSC) is the branch of Wisconsin State government with the overall responsibility of regulating electric utilities.

Currently there are no transmission lines located within Madge’s boundaries. Map 4.2 depicts transmission lines and substations located in Washburn County.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will engage in the development of power plants, substations, or transmission lines. However, it is expected the town will actively participate in discussions and planning with companies providing or proposing such facilities to ensure siting of these facilities is done so in the best interest of the community.

Electric and Gas Utilities

Barron Electric is the primary provider of electric services to the Town of Madge. For more information on electric service providers see this section of the *Washburn County Comprehensive Plan*. Map 4.2 depicts Electric Utility Territories in Washburn County.

In the Town of Madge, natural gas service is not available. WE Energies does provide some areas of Washburn County with natural gas via a steel high-pressure natural gas main with a carrying capacity of 450 pounds of pressure that runs from Shell Lake and follows Highway 63 into Sawyer County. Any future extension of this main line to Town of Madge residents would depend on year-round home heating customers who would be willing to pay for extensions.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will engage in the development of its own electric or gas utilities. However, it is expected the town will actively participate in discussions and planning with companies providing or proposing such facilities to ensure siting of these facilities is done so in the best interest of the community.

4.4 MEDICAL/HEALTH CARE AND OTHER FACILITIES

The Town of Madge has no medical facilities within its boundaries. Residents can receive full medical services at either Spooner Health System in the City of Spooner or at Indianhead Medical Center, City of Shell Lake or other facilities located outside of Washburn County. Both of these hospitals operate a facility that is staffed 24 hours a day to respond to medical emergencies. See Map 4.1 for hospital locations.

In addition, the Washburn County Health Department provides health related services, including home health care services, education, intervention services, and care coordination throughout Washburn County.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will engage in the development of medical or health care facilities.

Adult Care Facilities

There are currently no licensed adult care facilities located in the Town of Madge. However, in Washburn County, there are three community-based residential facilities (CBRF’s) and seven adult-family homes. Community-based residential facilities are a home or apartment type setting where five or more unrelated adults live together, in which an individual is having difficulties with independent living. An adult-family home is where up to four persons who are not related reside and receive care, treatment, or services above the level of room and board.

Community-Based Residential Facilities

- Ain Dah Ing Inc., City of Spooner (alcohol/drug dependent)
- Care Partners Assisted Living, City of Spooner (advanced age/dementia/Alzheimer’s)
- Pines II, City of Spooner (alcohol/drug dependent/mental illness/emotionally disturbed)

Adult Family Homes

- Aurora Residential Alternatives#082, City of Spooner (developmentally disabled/injury)
- Harmon Home, City of Spooner (developmentally disabled)
- Loch Haven, AFH, City of Spooner (developmentally disabled)
- Shady Oaks, City of Spooner (emotionally disturbed/mental illness)
- Shady Pines, City of Spooner (emotionally disturbed/mental illness)
- Sunset Pines, Town of Madge (developmentally disabled/physically disabled)
- Northwoods TLC Services, City of Spooner (developmentally disabled)

Nursing Homes

Two licensed nursing homes serve the residents of Washburn County. A nursing home is a residence that provides a variety of services such as a room, meals, recreational activities, assistance with activities of daily living, and protection/supervision to residents. Nursing homes are licensed by the state and follow state and federal guidelines.

- Terraceview Living Center, City of Shell Lake (70 beds)
- Spooner Health System, City of Spooner (90 beds)

Adult Day Care

For many adult persons/families, the availability of adult day care is necessary. No adult day care services are located within Washburn County. The closest facilities are located in the City of Cumberland (Barron County) and the City of Hayward (Sawyer County).

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will engage in the development of adult care facilities. However, it is expected the town will actively participate in discussions and planning with companies providing or proposing such facilities to ensure siting of these facilities

is done so in the best interest of the community and that local residents are afforded the best services available.

Child Care Facilities

There are no known licensed childcare facilities located in the Town of Madge. However, throughout Washburn County there are licensed child care providers. The exact number of childcare providers is unknown due to there being no database on the number of actual facilities. Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will engage in the development of child care facilities.

Senior Care Facilities

There are no housing facilities for elderly, handicapped, or low-income persons in the Town of Madge. These facilities can be found in the Villages of Birchwood and Minong and the Cities of Shell Lake and Spooner.

Future Facilities

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will engage in the development of senior care facilities. However, it is expected the town will actively participate in discussions and planning with companies providing or proposing such facilities to ensure local residents are afforded the best services available.

4.5 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Most school age children in the Town of Madge attend public schools in the Spooner School District. According to the last available school census (January 2004), in the Spooner School District there were 459 students in the elementary school, 455 students in the middle school, and 586 students in the high school, for a district total of 1,500 students and in the Shell Lake School District there were 313 students in the elementary school, 86 students in the middle school, and 200 students in the high school, for a district total of 599 students. Based on a 1999 survey conducted on a school-by-school basis by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), the elementary, middle, and high schools in the Spooner School District were all rated as being overcrowded. This survey is the result of Section 115.33(4), Wis. Stats. enacted into law in 1998 that requires the state superintendent to conduct a study of the physical condition and capacity of the public schools and their suitability for use as public schools. Based on the population projections in Table 1.3 of the Issues and Opportunities chapter, total population is predicted to rise through the year 2025, some of which will be school age children. School district boundaries are depicted in Map 4.3.

Two private schools serve the Town of Madge and Washburn County area. St. Francis de Sales Catholic School, Spooner, provides faith-based education for students in grades K-8 and enrolls approximately 100 students annually. New Covenant Christian Academy, Spooner, also provides faith-based education for students K-11 and enrolls approximately 25 students.

Nearby post secondary educational facilities include the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC) campus in Rice Lake, which offers 36 programs of study and 10 certificate

programs. WITC also has a Community Education Center (CEC) in Hayward. Services provided by the CEC include high school diploma through ED, HSED, and credit remediation; career testing; employability skills; study skills; computer classes; responsible beverage service classes; various self-employment classes; supervisory management associate degree; and certificates for accounting assistant, barber cosmetology manager, and technical communication. Credits in various business programs can be earned through flex courses offered at the WITC Hayward Community Education Center.

The University of Wisconsin System also operates a two-year liberal arts/pre-professional college in the City of Rice Lake. UW-Barron County (UW-BC) is one of 13 freshman/sophomore campuses of the University of Wisconsin Colleges awarding the Associate of Arts and Science degree. The closest four-year University of Wisconsin System schools to the Town of Madge are located in the City of Superior (UW-Superior) and City of Eau Claire (UW-Eau Claire).

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the town will engage in the development of public or private educational facilities. However, it is expected the town will actively participate in discussions and planning with both public and private schools providing or proposing facilities to ensure siting of these facilities is done so in the best interest of the community and that local residents are afforded the best educational programs possible.

4.6 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Parks

As of May 2004, there are no public parks or designated camping sites within the town. Washburn County maintains a day-use only area located at Harmon Lake in the Town of Madge. Refer to Map 4.4, Park and Recreation Areas in Washburn County for park locations.

Trails

Recreation trails #4, #140, the Harmon Lake Loop and Crystal Brook Trail are all designated snowmobile trails in the Town of Madge. The Washburn County Official Highway Map depicts these trails and other trails in Washburn County. All town roads are open to ATV's.

Washburn County is developing a horse trail in the county forest along the eastern boundary of the town.

Public Access Points

Public access points are points of entry for the public to make use of public lakes, forests, and parks. Public access points would include boat landings, carry-in sites, waysides, or road crossings. In the Town of Madge, there are 14 public access points scattered throughout the town. Boat landings are often the most prevalent public access points. There are ten improved boat landings in the town for the public to access lakes and rivers. See Map 4.4 for Washburn County improved and unimproved lake access.

Table 4.2: Lake Access	
Water Body	Section No.
Deep Lake	T.38N. – R.11W. Section 18
Ripley Lake (CTH B)	T.38N. – R.11W. Section 30
Chinty Lake	T.38N. – R.11W. Section 28
Little Devils Lake (Developed) Little Devils Lake (Undeveloped)	T.38N. – R.11W. Section 29
The Narrows (Long Lake-3 locations)	T.38N. – R.11W. Section 24
Harmon Lake (Town Maintained)	T.38N. – R.11W. Section 12
Hank’s Landing (Long Lake)	T.38N. – R.11W. Section
Big Devils Lake	T.38N. – R.11W. Section
Moody Lake	T.38N. – R.11W. Section
Leesome Lake	T.38N. – R.11W. Section
Oak Lake	T.38N. – R.11W. Section

Source: Town of Madge

Over the 20-year planning horizon, the town may engage in the improvement and development of parks, trails, and public access points within the town.

4.7 UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOALS, OBJECTIVES, ACTIONS, AND POLICIES

A set of recommended goals, objectives, and actions has been developed to assist the town in addressing utility and community facilities. Actions identified within each objective are intended to assist the town with meeting the overall goal of supporting facilities and services that contribute to the overall well being and rural and recreational character of the community.

GOAL: Facilities and services that contribute to the well being and rural and recreational character of the community.

- Objective 1: Minimize the financial costs of installing and maintaining utility and community facilities.
 - a. *Coordinate utility and community facility planning with transportation, natural resources, and land use planning.*
- Objective 2: Develop safe off-road corridors for all types of recreational activities.
 - a. *Work with the DNR and county forestry department to develop trails off local roads.*
 - b. *Coordinate with local or county clubs to develop trail networks.*
- Objective 3: Maintain, improve, and develop town owned sites (properties).
 - a. *Catalog town owned sites.*
 - b. *Assess the needs and use of facilities*
 - c. *Develop a capital improvement list for future improvements.*

- Objective 4: Encourage awareness; support and work with county and regional utility facilities to meet the town's needs while minimizing impact on rural and recreational character.
- a. Meet with local utility providers periodically to determine and coordinate utility improvements in town.*
 - b. Promote the careful placement and sharing of telecommunication facilities.*
 - c. Encourage underground placement of all new or upgraded electrical and communication lines.*

Residential and limited commercial development is anticipated to occur over the 20-year planning horizon. As this development occurs, it is important that the overall utility and community facilities be developed and enhanced to provide the most feasible and economically responsible operation to the town and its residents.

Redevelopment of abandoned properties is encouraged throughout the community for all types of development. Residential development is projected to remain at relatively low density levels based on existing and projected future development trends. However, development designs that maximize the use of shared roadways or frontage roads, where possible, is encouraged. Although the town is anticipated to remain a rural low-density community, development designs should encourage moderate density development levels in particular areas of the town that minimize the costs associated with public utilities and transportation infrastructure and maintenance costs.