

AGENDA

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, August 6, 2025
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Courthouse – Room 302

1. Call meeting to order
2. Declaration of Quorum
3. Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)
4. Review Correspondence.
5. Approve minutes of previous meetings
6. Approve vouchers, staff reports, & committee reports
7. Risk and Injury Report
8. Extension
 - a. FoodWise Funding Update
9. Land & Water Conservation Department
 - a. Summer Intern
 - b. Review and possible action/approval of 2026 LWCD Budget
 - c. Update on nitrate well testing project / cost share reverse osmosis systems
 - d. Update on Mill Creek Watershed
 - e. Update on ongoing violations
10. Private Sewage
11. Land Records
12. County Surveyor
13. Planning & Zoning
14. Economic Development
 - a. Update from Main Street Marshfield-Welcome Back Grant and consider release of Economic Development grant funds of \$18,875.
15. Committee requests for per diem for meeting attendance
16. Schedule next regular committee meeting
17. Agenda items for next meeting
18. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary
19. Adjourn

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Meeting number (access code): 2499 214 4632

Join by WebEx App or Web

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m67f79f9769893c8eb3ca494600b95d36>

Meeting number (access code): 2499 214 4632

Meeting password: 080625

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, July 2, 2025
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Conference Rm #302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Tim Hovendick, Russ Perlock, George Gilbertson

MEMBER EXCUSED Wayne Schulz

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Staci Kivi from the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce presented an update from her organization. She is requesting the economic development grant funding be released. Motion by Hovendick/Buttke to approve the release of \$25,000 of budgeted economic development grant funding to the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Denise Sonnemann from the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry presented an update from her organization. She is requesting release of the \$25,000 budgeted economic development grant funding. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the release of \$25,000 of budgeted economic development grant funding to MACCI. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Pittsville City Clerk Renee Losievski reviewed the current status of homes and businesses being built in the City and is requesting the \$50,000 of budgeted economic development grant funding be released to them. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the release of \$50,000 of budgeted economic development grant funding to the City of Pittsville. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Jen McNelly from Extension gave a presentation on her position of Groundwater Educator and reviewed the funding sources of it and how her position fits within the Extension structure. She reviewed her job duties and projects she was involved with.
9. Wucherpfennig introduced Eric Hummel of the Nepco Lake District to discuss wake boats and their negative effects on the lake. Hummel reviewed actions of the Lake District and associated municipalities on how to limit wake boats on Nepco Lake. The authority to do so lies with those municipalities and the DNR. As actions are taken, this will be reported to the committee

10. Wucherpfennig announced some upcoming tours showing different land practices. These were included in the packet.
11. Wucherpfennig updated the committee on the status of the nitrate testing and showed the committee the new mapping website that zeros in on all the testing and results that have been conducted in the past 10 years by various entities. The new website is not yet live as they work through the build-out, however will be soon.
12. The committee reviewed the dues paid to Golden Sands RC&D. Wood County currently pays 75% (\$1,425) of the total requested amount. The committee weighed the benefits received from the organization versus the costs. Motion by Leichtnam/Perlock to increase our dues donation to 90% (\$1,710) starting in 2026. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Buttke.
13. Wucherpfennig reported of meeting with the new Portage County Conservationist, Tracy Arnold, to discuss the Mill Creek Watershed and the Marshfield chloride issues and the commitment to continue to work together on these projects.
14. Wucherpfennig reviewed the status of the two violations. They are still working on the stipulation with Earth Inc. with their attorneys.
15. County Surveyor Boyer presented bids for the CTH F Transportation Project Plats. There are two projects, a total of 4 miles, along this corridor that would be surveyed to survey the correct right-of-way. Both low bids came in below the estimated amount. The following motions came from this discussion:
 - PROJECT 1 – Motion by Leichtnam/Buttke to accept the low bid of \$30,700 from Quest Civil Engineers to complete the work outlined. Motion carried unanimously.
 - PROJECT 2 – Motion by Leichtnam/Buttke to accept the low bid of \$17,000 from Quest Civil Engineers to complete the work outlined. Motion carried unanimously.
16. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 6th, at 9:00 AM. A special meeting to review the economic development grant applications will be Thursday, July 24th at 8:30 AM.
17. Chairman Leichtnam declared the meeting adjourned at 11:18 AM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee
July 2, 2025

NAME	REPRESENTING
Staci Kivi	How Chamber
Bill Cleland	WCB #15
Barb Peeters	LWCD
Kendra Wilhelm	LWCD
Jen McNelly	UV - Extension
Dennis Pollock	WCB - 14
Russ Perluck	WCB #4
Meg Domroese	UV Extension
Eric Hummel	NEPCO Lake District
Shane Wucherpfennig	LWCD
Jason Gruenberg	P-3
Patrick Gatterman	Extension
Denise Sonnemann	MACC1
Victoria Wilson (Web Ex)	P-3
Renee Losievski (Web Ex)	City of Pittsville
Kevin Boyer (Web Ex)	Surveyor
Lance Pliml (Web Ex)	CB Chair
Julie Marel (Web Ex)	P-3
Darrin Steinbach (Web Ex)	Finance
Paul Bernard (Web Ex)	P-3
Sue Smith (Web Ex)	Health Dept
Ben Jeffrey (Web Ex)	Health Dept

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, July 24, 2025
TIME: 8:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Tim Hovendick, Russ Perlock, Wayne Schulz

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. Under public comment, Scott Brehm announced that the Village of Vesper was pulling the Stemparosa Estates Garage Build from consideration.
3. Chair Leichtnam, along with the committee, reviewed the definitions of economic development, discussed the process that would be used today, and reviewed the actual amount of funding available for the grants. Concerns were shared about the number of applications by one entity applied for as well as the total number of applications this year. Historical data was provided as it related to the funding of the two Chambers and the two Airports.
4. The committee recessed at 9:12 AM and reconvened at 9:30 AM.
5. Each of the applications were reviewed by the committee with the following motions being offered:
 - a. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to tentatively approve the request for South Wood County Airport Commission in the amount of \$15,000. Motion carried unanimously.
 - b. Motion by Hovendick/Buttke to tentatively approve the request for the Marshfield Municipal Airport in the amount of \$15,000. Motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to tentatively approve the request of Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$25,000. Motion carried unanimously.
 - d. Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to tentatively approve the request of Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry in the amount of \$25,000. Motion carried unanimously.
 - e. Motion by Leichtnam/Perlock to tentatively approve the REDI Implementation Grant amount of \$50,000. Motion carried unanimously.
6. The committee, by consensus denied the application of MLC Productions/North Wood County Hist Society for the Adler Theater Business History Docufilm.

7. The committee recessed at 11:35 AM and reconvened at 12:05 PM.
8. The committee continued its review of the economic development grant applications.
9. Hovendick was excused at 1:00 PM.
10. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 1:17 PM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee
July 24, 2025

NAME	REPRESENTING
Jason Gruenberg	Planning + Zoning
Scott BREHM	WCB#9
JEFF PERKOVER	WCB#11
Wayne Schulz	WCB#1
Amanda Blasnowski	Marshfield Area YMCA
Denise Sonnenmann	MACCI
Staci Kivi	How Chamber
Jan Brockman	RVFD
Rodney Brockman	Remington Vol. Fire Dept.
Vickie Schmitzler	City of Marshfield Historic Preservation Commission
Melinda Meyer	WEDC / Center
Meredith Bickel	Wis Rapids Area CFB
David Eaton	Columbus Catholic Schools
Sarah Franklin	Child Care Centers of Marshfield
Dyane Boushach	Child Care Centers of Marshfield
Sarah King	MSTC
Jake Klingforth	City of Wis. Rapids
Jon Evenson	Village of Biran
Kallee Dhein	CITY OF NEKOSSA
Meliss Hreck	regional farmers market coordinator
Hannah Wendt Scott	WCHD / Bike Share / Farm Market
Jake H	UCO
Via WebEx	
Laney Plim	CB Chair
Katie Dekleyn	County Clerk
Julie Manel	P-3
Suzanne Chang	County Clerk
Kristie Egge	Health Dept
Jeff Gaier	MFD Airport
Steve Barg	C / MFD
Renee Losiewski	C / Pittsville
Rick Schmidt	C / Nekossa

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Extension Wood County

For the period of: July 2025

For the range of vouchers: 30250086 - 30250103

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
30250086	BORES TRINA	BORES JUNE EXPENSES	07/02/2025	\$344.68	P
30250087	UW MADISON ACCOUNTING SERVICES	EDUCATOR CONTRACTS JAN-JUN 25	07/02/2025	\$153,733.76	P
30250088	UW MADISON ACCOUNTING SERVICES	4-H SUMMER CAMP FACILITY	07/02/2025	\$12,445.00	P
30250089	WISCONSIN MARITIME MUSEUM		07/02/2025	\$264.00	P
30250090	MARSHFIELD PARKS & RECREATION DEPT	WILDWOOD ZOO DAY CAMP EDUCATIO	07/09/2025	\$270.00	P
30250091	MARSHFIELD PARKS & RECREATION DEPT	WILDWOOD ZOO DAY CAMP RENTAL	07/09/2025	\$159.24	P
30250092	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	07/09/2025	\$167.98	P
30250093	PITTSVILLE RECORD THE	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	07/16/2025	\$24.00	P
30250094	VEOLIA ES TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS	MFLD CLEAN SWEEP COLLECT - HHW	07/16/2025	\$19,951.31	P
30250095	VEOLIA ES TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS	MFLD CLEAN SWEEP COLLECT - AG	07/16/2025	\$1,940.63	P
30250096	DZ DUMPSTERS LLC	MFLD CLEAN SWEEP DUMPSTER FEE	07/16/2025	\$499.00	P
30250097	UW MADISON EXTENSION	STRONG BODIES TRAINING FEE	07/16/2025	\$350.00	P
30250098	US BANK	Credit Card Bill - July	07/22/2025	\$3,191.53	
30250099	BORES TRINA	July Expenses	07/30/2025	\$110.04	
30250100	EBERLEIN BENJAMIN	July Expenses	07/30/2025	\$121.24	
30250101	HUBER LAURA	July Expenses	07/30/2025	\$141.40	
30250102	ROMBALSKI KAYLA-ROSE	July Expenses	07/30/2025	\$25.76	
30250103	SCOTT HANNAH	July Epxneses	07/30/2025	\$25.00	
Grand Total:				\$193,764.57	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Land & Water Conservation

For the period of: July 2025

For the range of vouchers: 18250093 - 18250101

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18250093	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office/water testing supplies	07/28/2025	\$99.68	P
18250094	HACK PETER	NMFE Reimbursement	07/07/2025	\$400.00	P
18250095	PARKER MCCRORY MFG CO	Shipping cost for batteries	07/01/2025	\$14.80	P
18250096	CHILI IMPLEMENT CO	No till drill parts	07/15/2025	\$14.97	
18250097	BULGRIN TYLER	Cost share residue management	07/23/2025	\$2,754.65	
18250098	BULGRIN TYLER	Cost share residue management	07/23/2025	\$2,168.20	
18250099	WEICHELT TRUCKING & EXCAVATING	Costshare shoreline protection	06/22/2025	\$70,420.00	
18250100	WEICHELT TRUCKING & EXCAVATING	Costshare shoreline protection	06/22/2025	\$5,349.58	
18250101	US BANK	Press releases, offc supplies	07/17/2025	\$403.06	
Grand Total:				\$81,624.94	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning

For the period of: July 2025

For the range of vouchers: 22250041 - 22250047 38250010 - 38250013

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22250041	BOYER KEVIN	SU-Services Per Contract	07/01/2025	\$1,126.67	P
22250042	INDUSTRY SERVICES DIVISION	PS-Sanitary Permit Fees	07/01/2025	\$4,100.00	P
22250043	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PL-Office Supplies	06/28/2025	\$50.20	P
22250044	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PL-Office Supplies	07/02/2025	\$37.50	P
22250045	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PL-Office Supplies	07/03/2025	\$38.30	P
22250046	MARTIN JENNIFER	PS-Permit Fees	07/23/2025	\$710.00	P
22250047	US BANK	LR Credit Card Charges	07/17/2025	\$246.33	
38250010	CITY OF PITTSVILLE TREASURER	ED-GRANTS	07/07/2025	\$50,000.00	P
38250011	MARSHFIELD AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	ED-Grant	07/03/2025	\$25,000.00	P
38250012	HEART OF WIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	ED Grant	07/16/2025	\$25,000.00	P
38250013	MARSHFIELD AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INC	ED-Thrive Rural	07/23/2025	\$4,700.00	P
Grand Total:				\$111,009.00	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Extension Wood County staff led, delivered, planned or collaborated on all of the following activities:

4-H POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Laura Huber, 4-H Program Educator

Olga Meza, Bilingual 4-H Associate Educator

Trina Bores, 4-H AmeriCorps member

- A 3-day travel experience (*Discover Wisconsin*) for middle grade 4-H and adult advisors where they learned about Wisconsin's rich history and culture as through travel to eastern Wisconsin. We stayed on a college campus and travelled to Door County, Manitowoc, and Green Bay locations during the day. This travel experience helped youth develop independence, youth voice, and flexibility.
 - **Total Reach:** 36 youth, 2 adult volunteers, 7 adult staff
 - **Pictured right:** youth engineered cardboard locomotives at the National Railroad Museum
- An in-person education program in which youth participants of the Nekoosa Public Library's Summer Reading Program interact with 4-H hands-on learning. Youth learned about what plants need to live while creating and planting their own "grass man." Through this activity, youth and families learned about the 4-H program while also learning about plants.
 - **Total Reach:** 50 total people - 35 youth and 15 adults
- An in-person day camp for youth in grades K-5 where youth met zoo staff and learned about how staff care for animals' overall health through enrichment activities. Youth also learned about different animal groups, animal tracking, and more. This program was open to all youth, and we were happy to welcome 7 youth who are not 4-H members.
 - **Total Reach:** 28 youth in grades K-5, 1 youth in grade 12
 - **Pictured right:** youth learn about animal tracks by pouring plaster casts



AGRICULTURE

Matt Lippert, Agriculture Educator

- Planning for a spreadsheet tool for dairy producers and consultants. The goal is to help producers understand the value of managing inventory and to be able to use the spreadsheet to account for loss and varying qualities of feed, and storage methods so that they can better plan and manage feed inventories. Feed is the largest expense on a dairy farm, accounting for about half of all input costs.



- An article in print and on the internet for a general farm audience, which highlighted the many advances in grazing systems that have made it more productive and worth the consideration of producers as a sound economical way to manage livestock production systems.
 - **Total Reach:** *The Wisconsin Agriculturist has a circulation of 22,000 with multiple members per household in the distribution. The web version is available to a wider audience over an extended period of time and is still having new views after the print publication.*

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kayla Rombalski, Community Development Educator

- Planning for a regional rural housing summit hosted in Stevens Point in collaboration with state and regional CDI educators, and local, regional, and state housing partners. The goal is to engage developers, local government, and housing practitioners around rural housing solutions and best practices in order to increase affordable workforce housing and local economies in their area.

CRANBERRIES

Allison Jonjak, Cranberry Outreach Specialist

- An updated suite of nutrient management publications is being prepared to enable cranberry farmers to reference the most up-to-date information regarding nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, and micronutrient needs and efficiency for cranberry production. The current publication suite is from 2000, and does not address modern hybrids in sufficient depth.
- A Virtual Brown Bag was hosted, connecting growers with realtime field updates on protoventuria leaf spot, hail, insect flight, and weed management.
- A Virtual Brown Bag was hosted, providing growers with realtime field updates on pollinator behavior, insect sweeping result trends, and heat stress management.
- Extension Mini Clinics are being planned for Cranberry Summer Field Day, to showcase current UW research on weed management screening trials, protoventuria leaf spot and virus testing, and physiology research trials.

FOODWISE

Hannah Wendels, FoodWise Nutrition Educator

Mallory McGivern, FoodWise Administrator

Michelle Van Krey, Healthy Communities Coordinator

- An introductory series of StrongBodies and Tai Chi for adults who are incarcerated, where during Tai Chi they learn gentle, low-impact movements designed to improve balance, flexibility, and joint health. During StrongBodies they engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness. Through both of these activities, the program helps reduce the risk of falls and empower participants to lead healthier, more active lives, fostering independence and confidence in their daily routines.



- A series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for adults in the community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health & nutrition education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness.
 - **Total Reach:** 20 registered adults/older adults
- A partnership with United Way/Hunger Coalition, FOCUS Food Pantry, and the Housing Authority of Wisconsin Rapids that provides "Stockboxes for Seniors", a monthly food box service where low-income seniors can receive around 25-30 pounds of nutritious foods to stock their pantry with. The goal of this partnership is to promote the boxes with community partners with the overall goal to improve food security.
- A nutrition education program offered in partnership with the Wood County Health Department's Parents as Teachers program for families and their children, where participants met at the Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Farmers Market and engaged in a recipe activity where we made rainbow farmers market kebabs and talked about how fruits and vegetables help us to be healthy. Parents also learned how to use their FoodShare/EBT cards and WIC Farmers Market Vouchers at the farmers market.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ka Zoua Thao, Bilingual (Hmong) Community Health Worker

- Bi-weekly summer meetings for Hmong youth, attending Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School and Lincoln High School, where participants engage in healthy eating, active living, and behavioral health topics affecting their communities. This effort is designed to build a better understanding of these topics and promote advocacy for change in the Hmong community.
 - **Total Reach:** 15 youth registered, 5 consistently attending
- An introductory series of StrongBodies and Tai Chi for adults who are incarcerated, where during Tai Chi they learn gentle, low-impact movements designed to improve balance, flexibility, and joint health. During StrongBodies they engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness. Through both of these activities, the program helps reduce the risk of falls and empower participants to lead healthier, more active lives, fostering independence and confidence in their daily routines.
- A series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for adults in the community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health & nutrition education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness.
 - **Total Reach:** 20 registered adults/older adults
- Building relationships and engaging with partners to address health needs with the Hmong community within Wood County.
- Ongoing one-on-one meetings with Hmong clients, where resources and referrals are made. Through these efforts, individual clients are able to receive support navigating through the healthcare and legal systems, and get connected with community resources.



- **Total Reach:** 8 one-on-one clients
- The Hmong Women's Social Space serves as a monthly gathering for Hmong women to engage in discussions about often overlooked topics within their community. This initiative aims to foster relationships among participants and empower them to advocate for the recognition of their voices.
 - **Total Reach:** 5 participants

HORTICULTURE

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator

- A diagnostic service for the general public, where Marathon and Wood County residents' horticultural inquiries are answered through evidence-based resources. This effort is designed to reduce pollution through horticultural product (pesticides and fertilizers) misuse.

HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS & DEVELOPMENT

Ben Eberlein, Human Development & Relationships Educator

- A 6-session course for renters where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, those with negative rental records and those new to renting are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.
 - **Total Reach:** 4 justice involved males

NATURAL RESOURCES

Jen McNelly, Natural Resources Educator

Anna Mitchell, Natural Resources Educator

- Development of a stakeholder engagement survey for community members who use and value Nepco Lake, where participants will be invited to identify key issues, opportunities, and long-term goals related to the lake. The goal is to gather insights that will play a vital role in guiding the Nepco Lake District through its strategic planning process. By incorporating community feedback, the District aims to align its strategic direction with the needs, priorities, and aspirations of those who live near and enjoy Nepco Lake.
- Planning for a Health and Conservation Fall Summit for County Health and Land and Water Conservation Department Staff, as well as state agency representatives in collaboration with Wisconsin Land and Water. The goal is for county representatives to learn more about emerging water-related health and conservation issues, so that they can use the information from the summit to address these issues in their counties.
- Planning for a nutrient loss reduction strategy stakeholder roundtable event for agricultural producers, partners and agency representatives in collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Land and Water, and UW-Madison Division of Extension. The goal is for



stakeholders to come together at a one day event to discuss nutrient loss reduction strategy actions that can help inform and guide an updated state nutrient loss reduction strategy.

- A compilation of water quality and private well data and information for private wells exceeding the nitrate-nitrogen drinking water standard in Wood County. This information will help the Wood County Land and Water Conservation Department prioritize ARPA funding for well treatment systems and areas where additional efforts could be taken.
 - **Total Reach:** 20 private well owners
- A series of four summer school lessons on natural resources for outdoor adventure summer school participants in 3rd and 4th grade, where they learned about a variety of natural resources topics so that they can better understand and appreciate the outdoor world.
 - **Total Reach:** 20 students and 4 teachers
- Facilitation of monthly meetings of the Wood County Citizen Water Groups, where stakeholders meet to discuss ways to implement their annual action plan, learn about water related issues in Wood County, plan events and activities, update each other on work being done in Wood County, and identify new collaborations for future work/projects.
 - **Total Reach:** 15 Citizen Members of the Wood County Citizen Water Group



Wood County, Wisconsin LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Activities Report for Barb Peeters - July 2025

- Generated cost share contracts for residue management (T. Bulgrin) totaling \$4,922.85 utilizing both SWRM SEG grant funds and Mill Creek Watershed TRM grant funds.
- Completed annual Wood County Civil Rights Training and submitted certificate of completion to Human Resources.
- Assisted with creation of flyer for Keuffer Grazing Tour scheduled for August 12th and posted to LWCD website. The event is being sponsored by our department with lunch and expenses covered by grant monies. This is a unique grazing tour showcasing LWCD projects for Luke Keuffer's managed rotational grazing system, solar watering system and stream crossing (interesting note: the solar watering system designed by Kyle Andreae, Wood County LWCD Engineer Technician, is currently the **only** one in the state of Wisconsin! Kyle has been asked to be a presenter at the WI Land+Water Conference in March for the solar watering system.)
- Submitted 30-day Class I Public Notice for Earth-Biron Quarry nonmetallic mining reclamation permit for a proposed nonmetallic mine in the Village of Biron for publication in the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune. Mailed notices to the village and to landowners within 300 feet of parcel.
- Attended July 2nd CEED committee meeting.
- Arranged catering for Keuffer Grazing Tour on August 12th, tracked RSVP's as received.
- Assisted Kendra with creation and ordering of signage for field day events.
- Downloaded the DATCP monthly report for July and shared with LWCD staff.
- Submitted 30-day Class I Public Notice for publication in the Marshfield Herald News for a nonmetallic mining reclamation permit to continue to mine an existing quarry in the Town of Marshfield on property owned by Mathy Construction Company. Mailed notices to the township and landowners within 300 feet of parcel.
- Processed reimbursements for Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) as received. Wood County is the financial manager in 2025 for the DATCP NMFE Grant and responsible for processing reimbursements to class attendees for Wood, Marathon, Taylor, Clark, Portage and Lincoln counties.
- Scheduled, created agendas, attended and took minutes at July 8th staff meeting.
- Attended Wellness Committee meeting on July 8th and shared information with LWCD staff & Parks-Forestry staff.
- Assisted with completion of the annual countywide transect survey of cropland on July 9th. This survey gathers information on conservation tillage and soil loss rates and provides a database of reliable information that can be used to monitor trends which can be used to direct program activities.
- Generated drafts of two cost-share contracts for whole-house reverse osmosis (RO) systems for landowners with private wells testing over 20 ppm, one at 20.54 ppm (R. Randorf) and the other at 21.234 ppm (M. Sorenson). ARPA groundwater grant funds will be used to cost share installation of RO systems with an 80/20 cost share rate.
- Reviewed the 2026 Budget Instruction Packet and 5-Year LWCD Budget Comparison from Finance on July 10th.
- Calculated 2026 budget figures for LWCD, DATCP, Wildlife, Nonmetallic Mining, MDV, Mill Creek, LMPN/Surface Water Grant budgets. Worked on budget figures on a daily basis to compile budget data and enter into Questica. Scheduled meeting to review my projections/data with County Conservationist after he returns from vacation (off July 9-22).
- Attended the EPPIC farm tour at Miltrim Farms on July 15th. Miltrim Farms is a 4th generation dairy farm who milk around 2,200 milk cows and crop about 5,000 acres of corn for grain, silage and grass hay. They currently have 2,500 no-till acres, 2,700 acres in cover crops and use low disturbance manure injector on 3,500 acres. Through the use of precision ag, they have converted some of their headland acres into perennial grasses and pollinators.
- Processed payments for rental of no-till drill as received.
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the July 10th and 24th payrolls. Compiled step-by-step instructions for processing payroll percentages in the event the County Conservationist had to submit them while I was on vacation.
- Reviewed payroll reports and verified distribution by accounts/department.
- Reserved caterer for Field Day event on October 7th (Dustin Albert Demo Trials Field Day).
- Processed department invoices/vouchers and deposits weekly for submission to the Treasurer/Finance.
- Processed animal waste ordinance permit fee for Destiny Farms.

- Organized County Board packet materials and electronically submitted to the County Clerk's office.
- Ordered department supplies and processed invoices/payments.
- Met with Rod Mayer/Conservation Program Manager to determine 2026 budget for Wildlife Damage & Abatement program revenue and expenses.
- Submitted requests for 2026 budgetary quotes to DNR (for MDV revenue), ESRI (ARC-Pro licenses), I.T. Director (for Adobe Pro license renewals, Kofax license renewals, PC replacement costs) and to DLT (for auto-CAD annual license renewals).
- Worked with Deputy Finance Director to have journal entry requests corrected in the 2025 LWCD budget after discovering a few discrepancies while working on budget estimates.
- Worked with Conservation Specialist to determine estimated 2026 revenue/expenses for Surface Water Grant funds (3-year grant) and the ARPA Water Quality Improvement Practices grant funds and entered into 2026 budget.
- 2026 Budget: obtained 2026 data for PC Replacement and calculated amounts between Land/Water, Nonmetallic Mining and Wildlife Abatement and Claims programs; estimated revenue/expenses for 2026 tree/shrub/seed sale.
- Assisted with Mill Creek water sampling on July 17th.
- Vacation days July 18th through July 25th.
- Met with County Conservationist on July 28th to review my 2026 LWCD budget projections and budget data.
- Verified wildlife damage general ledger, printed reports and assembled all invoices and attachments for second quarter 2025 reimbursement request to the WiDNR.
- Entered total estimated revenue and expenses for 2025 LWCD budget after comparing the 5-year budget comparison provided by Finance with 2025 budget and actual 2025 budget figures.
- Processed two cost-share contracts and payments to landowner for residue management (T. Bulgrin) totaling \$4,922.85.
- Processed two cost share contracts and payments for streambank/shoreline protection (K. Lewis) totaling \$75,769.58 utilizing TRM grant funds and SWRM grant funds. Submitted contract to Register of Deeds to be recorded prior to submission of reimbursement requests.
- Met with County Conservationist on July 30th to review additional tweaks to the 2026 LWCD budget. Verified all revenue and expenses for budgets (LWCD, DATCP, Wildlife Damage & Abatement, Nonmetallic Mining, MDV, and Mill Creek).
- Revised cost share contract for cover crops (C. Boerboom)
- Generated the required reports for 2026 budget to include in CEED meeting packet for approval at the August 6th CEED meeting and also sent to Finance Director and Deputy Finance Director for review prior to placing in packet.
- Electronically submitted staff reports/packet materials to the County Clerk's office for the CEED meeting packet.
- Served as point of contact for LWCD staff while County Conservationist was on vacation between July 9-22 and/or out of the office on July 2, 3, 7, 28 & 29.

Activities Report for Emily Salvinski

-July 2025-

- **Thursday, July 3.** Prepped maps for Roth's buffer check. NMFE related paperwork, emails.
- **Thursday, July 10.** Spot checked Roth's buffers from 2024. Labelled and organized photos from spot checks. Attended online UW badger crop connect.
- **Friday, July 11.** Entered each farmers information (names, acres, type of course they attended) into NMFE final grant report.
- **Friday, July 18.** Completed phosphorus reduction calculations for a contract and entered into GIS. Completed civil rights training.
- **Tuesday, July 22.** Took streamflow measurements at 6 locations within SE Wood Co and entered results into SWIMS and our files.
- **Wednesday, July 23.** Used snapplus to view different scenarios relating to possible over application. Entered in Mill Creek phosphorus results into charts.
- **Thursday, July 24.** Attended Badger Crop Connect. Looked into how to change NMFE budget categories and what they have to be adjusted to. Worked on NM enforcement letter.
- **Monday, July 28.** Contacted farmers to find out if they will be soil testing (and getting reimbursed for them). Worked with flow meter supplier to get part.
- **Tuesday, July 29.** Worked on snap plus phosphorus reductions and added information to gis. Worked on contract and adding that into GIS.

Activities Report for Kyle Andreae – July, 2025

- July 1 – Transect Survey
- July 2 – Destiny farms plan review
- July 3 – Vacation
- July 4 – Holiday
- July 7 – Vacation
- July 8 – Staff meeting, Destiny farms plan review
- July 9 – Transect Survey, Lewis site visit
- July 10 – Lewis Construction Inspections, Presented solar design workshop
- July 11 – Keuffer correspondence, Lewis construction inspections, Cutler construction inspections.
- July 14 – Destiny farms permit.
- July 15 – Destiny farms pre-construction meeting, Complaint investigation, Lewis construction inspections.
- July 16 – No-till drill repair, Lewis construction inspections, Lewis as-built
- July 17 – Lewis as-built
- July 18 – Lewis as-built
- July 21 – Lewis site visit, Lewis as-built, Manure complaint investigation
- July 22 – Lewis as-built, Manure complaint investigation
- July 23 – Manure complaint investigation
- July 24 – Manure complaint investigation
- July 25 – Lewis as-built, Krohn design
- July 28 – Krohn design
- July 29 – Krohn design
- July 30 – Krohn design
- July 31 – Krohn design



Activities Report for Kendra Wilhelm – July 2025

- Coordinated the use and transport of the no-till drill for 3 operators.
 - This consists of answering questions via phone, managing the schedule of the no-till drill, and transporting the no-till drill to renters.
- Created a flyer for the August 12th Grazing Tour at Luke Keuffer's. Worked with Kyle and Barb to create a map that depicts the meeting/parking location for the event and finalizing the flyer.
 - Worked with Barb to design and order field day signs that can be used at this and future events.
- Communicated with Highway Department staff on scheduling a meeting regarding their new spray truck and to map/monitor spraying locations.
- Entered Clean Boats Clean Waters data on July 2nd, July 9th, and July 21st.
- Met with a farmer within the Mill Creek watershed regarding no-till fields and cost-sharing. Cost-share contracts have been created, signed, and fields have been verified.
- Attended a webinar focused on skills for building farmer networks.
 - Reviewed the new curriculum that was released by UW-Extension.
- Worked with a farmer via phone to troubleshoot Snap Plus Version 3 issues. Scheduled an in-person meeting to work with the new version of nutrient management planning software.
- Submitted the Lake Monitoring & Protection Network semi-annual report to DNR.
- Coordinated with Nico on scheduling Clean Boats Clean Waters watercraft inspections during the Great Lakes Landing Blitz.
- Assisted with the annual transect survey and prepped the Snap Plus database for data entry.
- Shared details about the August 12th Grazing Tour at Luke Keuffer's with multiple parties.
- Attended the CEED meeting.
- Participated in the July 8th staff meeting.
- Joined DNR staff for an aquatic invasive species early detection survey on Dexter Lake. Aquatic forget-me-not was the only new invasive species found.
- Reached out to the Village of Port Edwards Public Works department regarding a walking path being constructed through a known population of non-native phragmites with the concern of material being moved off-site. Through discussion, no material was removed and relocated. Communicated this to the DNR AIS biologist as well.
- Attended a meeting with a Wood County Highway Department staff member to discuss their new spraying system and check out known heavy populations of invasive species that have been sprayed.
- Verified harvestable buffers at Roth Golden Acres.
- Created a flyer for Albert Acres' Demo Trials Field Day that is taking place on October 7th.
- Updated managed invasive species map and information in ArcGIS Pro.
- Transported the no-till drill to Junction City.
- Ordered parts to fix no-till drill.
- Gathered aquatic invasive species and native look-a-like specimens to preserve and use at future educational events.
- Attended a field day at Miltrim Farms that focused on cover crops, soil health, and a robot milking system.
- Transported the no-till drill back to storage.
- Coordinated with the UW State Laboratory of Hygiene to ensure correct shipping of lake water quality samples of total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and chlorophyll-a.
- Attended a training on the new Snap Plus Version 3 nutrient management software hosted by DATCP.
- Completed Mill Creek water quality sampling for the month of July.
- Coordinated with Caleb Armstrong from Marathon County on creating and finalizing flyer for Dustin Albert's field day upcoming on October 7th.

- Communicated and coordinated with Portage County Land & Water Conservation Department on planning of the joint effort to complete a shoreline assessment on Nepco Lake.
- Started creating a presentation for an educational session on aquatic invasive species and the Clean Boats Clean Waters program for an educational session in September.
 - I am partnering with a Nepco Lake District Board Member and a DNR staff member on the presentation.
- Attended the July Citizens Water Group meeting.
- Attended the July Nepco Lake District Board meeting.
 - Provided a Nepco Lake District Board Member with aquatic invasive species handouts to help satisfy one of their surface water education grant deliverables.
- Took water quality samples and Secchi disk readings on Dexter and Wazeecha Lakes per DNR's request to be a deliverable on the Lake Monitoring & Protection Network grant. Water samples were shipped to the State Lab of Hygiene for analysis of total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and chlorophyll-a.
- Completed a giant hogweed survey at the UW-Arboretum in Marshfield. No giant hogweed plants were found.
- Completed monitoring at two pet shops in Marshfield as part of the Organisms in Trade portion of the Lake Monitoring & Protection Network grant project. The only aquatic invasive species found were Malaysian Trumpet Snails, which are common hitchhikers sent with other aquarium trade shipments. The pet store owner is disposing of the snails to help prevent the spread.
- Sent an email to all registered Snapshot Day volunteers regarding details for the event on August 9th.
- Participated in a meeting with Portage County Conservation Technician, Andrew Senderhauf, regarding planning for the shoreline assessment we are partnering on for Nepco Lake. Discussions involved the new app Portage County created and what reports/maps/data is available from the app after the survey is complete.

Activities Report for Rod Mayer – JULY 2025

- Mathy – Marshfield plan review – stormwater plan review – sent review to Mathy for erosion protection edits needed in reclamation plan.
- Earth Biron draft 4 review (161 pages). Sent review draft to Earth. Received reviewed plan edits. Drafted public notice document, created landowners within 300' of parcel listing, worked with Barb to publish class 1 and send mailings. Sent copies and process listing to Earth.
- Drone pick up and initial flight training.
- Met with landowner (Wegner/Grossman) for Wildlife Act 82 info.
- Brehm correspondence for insufficient plans & info and info needed to Star Engineering.
- Created GIS map for new Mathy-Marshfield and Vision mine sites.
- Completed DNR regulatory NR135 survey.
- Reviewed draft 5 of Mathy-Marshfield plan. Researched public notice for joint jurisdiction. Drafted Public notice, landowners within 300' of parcel listing, worked with Barb for class 1 publication and landowner letter mailings.
- Review of Earth 186 runoff violation DNR correspondence. Updated file.
- Staff meeting 7/8/25.
- Schneider FA renewal – operator and bank contacts, draft review, approval, update file, database, and software.
- Pond site exemption info sent to landowner.
- Grimm Act 82 correspondence – landowner info, created field maps, acre calcs, enrollment form, permit app form, landowner signatures, damage info and recommended quota info to DNR, processed to DNR database, to DNR for permits issued.
- Landowner/township correspondence for pond build issues.
- Met with Seigil Town Chairman for Brehm operation issues – lack of permitting – etc.
- Earth/Biron site visit – GPSed current disturbed prior to permitting – created GIS map – etc.
- Correspondence with Town of Arpin for road flooding issue – answered questions about historical pond etc.
- Apiary research – new producer correspondence into program – etc.
- Reviewed Earth Maple Ridge 2 final judgement.
- Knuth Act 82 enrollment. Worked with DNR for multiple enrollment to one producer issues, completed field maps and acre calcs, enrollment form, permit form, signatures, processed into DNR database, sent to DNR to issue permits.
- Earth 186 DNR violation – reviewed SWPP permitting comments from DNR. Updated file.
- Picked up Apiary equipment from Kauth (Moonlight Apiary). Created inventory listing and stocked in storage shed. Sent equipment listing to new Apiary.
- Reviewed Earth Cephess possible CH 30 joint jurisdiction issues (DNR/Earth). Updated files.
- Email to earth requesting layers for GIS mapping on new sites.
- Canada goose research – site evaluation with producer – advice given to abate damage.
- Grossman AND Garnder (Hay Creek) Act 82 enrollments – landowner info, created field maps, acre calcs, enrollment form, permit app form, landowner signatures, processed to DNR database, to DNR for permits issued.
- Ron Bohn seeding info correspondence for site reclamation.
- New Act 82 correspondence for Kollross – several phone calls – info needed etc. created field maps, acre calcs, enrollment form, permit app form, landowner signatures, processed to DNR database, to DNR for permits issued.



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Activities Report for Shane Wucherpfennig – July 2025

- Visited Lewis Streambank site.
- Attended CEED meeting.
- Held staff meeting
- Finalized Earth Inc. settlement with Nick Flannagan and the stipulation document for hearing. The document has been reviewed and signed by the judge. Wood County received the \$25,000 forfeiture.
- Approved timesheets and payroll percentages.
- Participated in Health and Conservation Committee meeting
- Vacation
- Field work and investigation of fish kill on the East Fork of the Hemlock Creek.
- Participated on a Teams meeting with DNR staff on the East Fork of the Hemlock spill and investigation.
- Staff activity report and CEED agenda.
- Reviewed new contracts and signed for various grants.
- Attended an NRCS statewide workgroup meeting.
- Met with several landowners to interview and use the “High Nitrate Questionnaire” as part of the pre-application to determine eligibility for treatment systems using ARPA Funds.
- Met with Barb Peeters to discuss department budget.
- Met with Tracy Arnold – Portage County & Jen McNelly about the Mill Creek Watershed.
- Met with Summer Intern to discuss concerns and terminated employment effective July 25th.
- Kyle and I practiced flying the Department Drone.



Wood County WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director
Emily Arndt, County Planner
Paul Bernard, Land Records Coordinator
Brad Cook, Code Administrator
Kayla Rautio, Code Technician
Victoria Wilson, Program Assistant
Julie Mancl, Program Assistant

RE: Staff Report for August 6, 2025

1. Economic Development (Jason Grueneberg)

Downtown Wisconsin Rapids Triangle Development – In the past month Reuben Van Tassel and I have been meeting with City of Wisconsin Rapids staff regarding the Triangle Development in front of the Courthouse. The City is in the process of drafting an intergovernmental agreement that outlines the cooperative redevelopment of the Triangle between the City and the County. The agreement will be brought to the Property and Information Technology Committee for review.

Wood County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Repair Program – I continue to work on closing out the Wood County Housing repair program. On July 15th I picked up the program files from the Juneau County Housing Authority. We will need to maintain the files in Wood County and track any payments or satisfactions of mortgage.

Central Wisconsin Economic Development Fund (CWED) – On July 16th I participated in the CWED Board of Directors' meeting. Agenda items included a fund status report, approval of May and June financials, a loan activity report, approval of a Start Up loan, a loan renewal, and the fund administrator report.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) – The North Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission is currently in the process of updating its CEDS. This planning document is updated every 5 years so that the region is eligible for Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant funding. I participated in the planning kickoff meeting that was held on July 17th, and I serve on the oversight committee that will work with NCWRPC staff and guide the process.

Wood County Unit of the Wisconsin Towns Association – On July 18th I attended the Wood County Towns Association Meeting. I presented on the current zoning structure in the County and how County zoning could be implemented and administered.

Wood County Economic Development Grant for 2026 – In the past couple of months we have been receiving and processing applications for 2026 Wood County Economic Development Grants. On July 24th the CEED Committee met to review applications. A follow-up review meeting is scheduled for August 13th at 9am.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission (NCWRPC) – On July 29th the NCWRPC quarterly meeting was held. Some of the agenda items included establishing the 2026 levy rate and caps, review of the Wisconsin Regional Orthoimagery Consortium (WROC) Request for Qualifications (RFQ), presentation of the 2025 Draft Regional Comprehensive Plan, and a public hearing on the comprehensive plan.

2. Planning & Zoning (Emily Arndt)

a. On Maternity Leave

3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

- Parcel Mapping
- Address Mapping
- Creating new Land Records Viewer
- Working with Health, Highway & Land Conservation departments on various projects

4. Code Administrator (Brad Cook)

6-27-2025- (1) new conv inspection TN: 13, (1) new HT insp TN 01: I.T. Training requirements for employees,answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-30-2025- HS 25-019 letter writtend and sent to owner TN: 22, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new HT, (2) rep conv insp TN: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-1-2025- (1) plan review, issued permit for privy TN: 13, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv TN: 04, (2) new/rep HT insp TN: 07,10, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

7-2-2025- (1) rep HT insp TN: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

7-3-2025- Vacation

7-4-2025- Holiday

7-7-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN: 07, (1) tanks insp TN: 01, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-8-2025- (1) State-POWTS chat meeting, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-9-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new In-Fill System TN: 07, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep HT TN: 16, (1) HS 25-020 letter written and sent to owner TN: 01, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-10-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new HT TN: 16, (2) new/rep HT insp TN:11,12, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-11-2025-(1) soils onsite insp TN: 07, (1) privy onsite insp TN: 04, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-14-2025- (1) mound plow insp TN:01, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new mound TN: 04, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-15-2025- (1) HS 25-021 letter written and sent to owner TN: 18, (2) SF 25-015 letter written and sent TN: 22: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-16-2025- (1) well permit reviewed and issued TN: 13, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv TN: 19, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

7-17-2025- (1) rep conv insp TN:07, (1) in-fill system insp TN: 07 , answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-18-2025- Truck Maintenance for work truck, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-21-25- (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN:07, 18, (2) well permits reviewed and issued TN: 07,18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-22-2025- (1) new conv insp TN: 07, (1) HT insp TN: 04, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-23-2025- (1) well permit reviewed and issued V: 27, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-24-2025- (2) new conv insp TN: 13, work truck maintenance, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-25-2025- (1) mound plow insp TN:04, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-28-2025- (2) well permits reviewed and issued TN: 07, (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permits for rep conv and new mound TN: 04, 13, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

7-29-25- (1) new HT Insp TN: 16, (2) POWTS onsite visits TN: 03, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5. Code Technician (Kayla Rautio)

- A.** Continued soils and floodplain education
- B.** Reviewed and approved POWTS & well permit applications
- C.** Reviewed soil evaluations
- D.** Completed inspection reports
- E.** Reviewed shoreland permit
- F.** Assisted with daily phone calls/emails/office questions
- G.** Inspections/Investigations:

- 6-25-25: Well inspection TN: 18
- 6-26-25: Conventional inspection TN: 18; Well inspection TN: 18
- 6-30-25: Conventional inspections (2) TN: 07
- 7-1-25: Holding tank inspections TN: 07, 10
- 7-2-25: Holding tank inspection TN: 07
- 7-3-25: Conventional inspection TN: 18
- 7-7-25: Mound tanks & sewer inspection TN: 01
- 7-10-25: Holding tank inspection TN: 12; Well inspection TN: 12; Building sewer inspection TN: 11
- 7-15-25: Mound inspection TN: 01; Holding tank inspection TN: 04; Well inspection TN:04
- 7-22-25: Holding tank inspection TN: 06
- 7-24-25: Conventional inspections (2) TN: 13
- 7-25-25: Mound plow inspection TN: 04

H. Attended Meetings/Trainings/Etc.

- 6-26-25: WC Security Awareness Training
- 7-7-25 Sent out Holding Tank Agreement letter and Shoreland Buffer Correspondence letter
- 7-8-25: DSPS POWTS Chat Update
- 7-9-25: HR Civil Rights Training
- 7-18-25: Took work truck in for servicing

6. Office Activity (Victoria Wilson & Julie MancI)

- a. Monthly Sanitary and Well Permit Activity – There were 21 sanitary permits, 1 shoreland permit, 10 well permits issued in July and 3 CSMs were processed and 6 recorded.
- b. ArcGIS Pro Software Projects – Julie continues to assist Paul with GIS mapping projects.
- c. Attended the following meetings/trainings & activities:
 - i. Civil Rights training (VW & JM)
 - ii. July 2nd CEED Meeting (VW & JM)
 - iii. July 16th ED Grant discussion with Jason G and Bill L (VW)
 - iv. July 24th CEED Grant review meeting (VW & JM)



Monday, July 21, 2025 @ 2:00pm (Riverblock Auditorium, room 206 and virtually on Webex)

- 1.) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Leichtnam at 2:00 pm.
- 2.) Public Comment – None
- 3.) Motion to approve June 16, 2025 meeting minutes as they were presented was made by Gordon Gottbeheut and seconded by Bruce Dimmick. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4.) Correspondence / Updates–July Speakers / Handouts / Reports on meetings attended
 - a. There was a handout provided that altered to CWG that it is listed in the Directory of non-profit organizations at NGO's 1.
 - b. Kaysee Beckstrom from Clean Wisconsin was present at the meeting to learn more about CWG and the work that they are doing. The meeting attendees shared how they had been involved in CWG and water related issues. Kaysee also shared handouts about the work that Clean Wisconsin was doing.
 - c. Jen McNelly shared that at the Sept. 15 meeting Mike Miller will be giving a presentation on Neonics and water resources in WI and member of the state assembly Vinnie Miresse will be present to talk about bi-partisan legislation he introduced aimed at protecting pollinators. This information should be shared with anyone who you think might be interested in learning more about this topic!
- 5.) '25 Projects–Pollinator Initiative (Winters); Other Projects Timeline & Planning
 - a. There was a discussion about who might be able to attend the August CWG meeting to speak about local pollinators. It was suggested that Kathy McGrath would be a good speaker. Sandy Cain will reach out to Kathy to see if she is available for the August meeting.
- 6.) Discussion items from the floor
 - a. It was suggested that minutes from the CWG meeting should be included in the CEED packet for County Supervisors. A motion was made by Rhonda Carroll to include a copy of the draft monthly minutes to be included in the following months CEED packet. Ken Winters 2nd the motion. There was no discussion the motion passed unanimously. Jen McNelly will send a copy of the minutes with a draft watermark to Trent Miner and Bill Leichtnam for inclusion in the CEED packet.
- 7.) Possible agenda items for next mtg. (Please Note–Agenda submitted one week prior)
 - a. The booth for Science by the River should be discussed at the August Meeting.
- 8.) Next mtg.—August 18, 2025, 2:00 pm
- 9.) Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Rhonda Carroll and 2nd by Bruce Dimmick. No discussion was had and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Bill Leichtnam adjourned the meeting at 3:24 pm.

Present in the meeting: Bill Leichtnam, Jen McNelly, Sandy Cain, Rhonda Carrell, Bill Clendenning, Bruce Dimmick, Ken Winters, Gordon Gottbeheut, Kendra Wilhelm, and Kaysee Beckstrom.

Respectfully submitted by Jen McNelly on July 23, 2025

DRAFT

From: ["Karl Martin" via ext-aed](#)
To: ext-aed@g-groups.wisc.edu
Cc: [Amber Canto](#); [Kathryn Boryc Smock](#); [Julieann Stawicki](#); [Paul DeLong](#); [Patrick Robinson](#)
Subject: Update on FoodWise and Extension's programming in local counties
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 10:41:09 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear AED Colleagues,

Please forward this to your Extension Committee members, county leadership, and other county leaders as you see fit:

Dear Extension Partner,

For over 30 years UW–Madison Extension has been providing local nutrition education throughout our state that has been funded by the federal SNAP-Ed grant program. Our FoodWise educators have been a cornerstone of Extension's mission to improve the health and well-being of Wisconsin residents. FoodWise reaches over 133,000 people with nutrition education and community-based strategies to support healthy eating and active lifestyles – partnering with local schools, food pantries, farmers markets, and community centers to engage children, families, and seniors. Despite extensive advocacy efforts by Extension, UW–Madison's University Relations, and partners such as the Wisconsin Counties Association, the congressional budget reconciliation bill signed into law on July 4 eliminated all National Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program (SNAP-Ed) funding effective September 30, 2025.

As one of six SNAP-Ed implementing agencies in the state, FoodWise partners with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to deliver SNAP-Ed programming. Extension is currently navigating the difficult process of winding down our SNAP-Ed-funded programming including a layoff notice process for more than 90 employees. We will continue FoodWise programming through September 30, 2025. We will also be exploring all possible pathways to sustain some of the program's capacity through alternative funding sources, including leveraging our infrastructure, expertise, and remaining EFNEP funding.

FoodWise has always been about more than just nutrition education. It's about empowering communities to thrive. We know that SNAP-Ed makes Wisconsin healthier. We are proud of the work we have done and the lives we have changed for the better. Thank you for supporting our staff, our programs, and our mission.

Extension's commitment to your community remains and we will continue to bring university resources to residents in your area across our program areas. If you have any questions, please reach out to your Area Extension Director and local Extension Nutrition Coordinator/Administrator or directly to me.

Regards,

Karl

Karl J. Martin, Dean and Director
University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension
3500 University Avenue
Madison WI 53705
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For scheduling please contact Lisa Brennan at Lisa.Brennan@wisc.edu



LAND & WATER CONSERVATION (LWCD)

By Shane Wucherpennig, County Conservationist

MISSION STATEMENT

Protect, improve, and manage land and water resources in Wood County through technical and financial assistance, educational opportunities, enforcement of County Ordinances, and administration of State programs to permanently benefit land and water resources for its citizens.

PROGRAMS / SERVICES

GENERAL LAND & WATER CONSERVATION

Provides the administration and support for the Department and other programs that include: Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program; Farmland Preservation Program; Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program; Land and Water Resource Management Program; Soil and Water Resource Management Program (SWRM); Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Program; Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV); Mill Creek 9-Key Element; 14-Mile 9-Key Element Plan; Invasive Species control (Aquatic & Terrestrial); American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA); DNR Surface Water Grant and Lake Management Protection. Included is an information and education program, committee support, administration of the animal waste storage, nutrient management and groundwater protection ordinance, wildlife tree and shrub sale, no-till drill and roller crimper rental, soil probe rental, general soil and water conservation activities, and technical assistance to the USDA Natural Resources conservation Service for implementation of the current Farm Bill programs.

WILDLIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT AND CLAIMS

(Not Mandated, 100% State Aided Revenue, No Tax Levy, High Priority – Services for Ag Producers, elimination of program would take local (Wood County) delivery of services & put it in a Regional DNR Area Administration and be detrimental for Local Producers)

Provides material for the abatement of wildlife damage to agricultural crops. In situations where abatement isn't practical or is unsuccessful, damages are assessed and paid to the landowner. This is a Department of Natural Resources program administered by the LWCD. All material costs, staff salaries and support costs are funded 100% by the Department of Natural Resources. This is a continuing grant.

NONMETALLIC MINING RECLAMATION ORDINANCE

(Mandated, 100% Funded by Program Fees, No Tax Levy, High Priority – Services for Local Mine Operators; Program is required by County Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance)

Provides administration of the ordinance to ensure the effective reclamation of nonmetallic mining sites on which nonmetallic mining takes place in Wood County. This is a DNR program administered by the LWCD. Program is mandated by the State of Wisconsin. Staff salaries and support costs are fully funded by annual permit fees and reclamation plan review fees. No cost to Wood County.

ANIMAL WASTE STORAGE, NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT AND GROUNDWATER PROTECTION ORDINANCE

(Mandated, Funded by Tax Levy and State Aid dollars, High Priority – Services are required by the Animal Waste Storage, Nutrient Management and Groundwater Protection Ordinance)

Provides administration of the ordinance to regulate the location, design, construction, installation, alteration, abandonment, and use of animal waste and manure storage facilities and the application of waste and manure from all storage facilities covered by the ordinance in order to prevent

surface and groundwater pollution. This ordinance was required to be adopted by the Wood County Board as a condition to participating in the State funded Upper Yellow River Priority Watershed Project. The LWCD administers this ordinance utilizing both county tax levy and state SWRM grant funds.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

(Mandated, Funded by State Aid dollars, High Priority – Services are required by DATCP SWRM Program)

Provides property tax relief to farmland owners while at the same time preserves Wood County farmland through local land use planning. This is a State of Wisconsin program administered by the LWCD. Salary and support costs are funded by the SWRM grant. This is a continuing grant.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

(Not Mandated, Tax Levy, High Priority – Elimination of Program would impact our local schools, young students and adults and County residents)

Provides educational opportunities to students and adults that include speaking and poster contest; purple loosestrife, wild parsnip and other invasive species control; rusty crayfish trapping; and classroom presentations. Program costs are funded by county tax levy.

CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

(Not Mandated, 100% State Aid Revenue, No Tax Levy, High Priority – Services for Ag Producers, elimination of program would take away opportunities for local producers to enroll agricultural lands into conservation best management practices)

Provides financial incentives to Wood County landowners who voluntarily enroll agricultural lands into conservation practices. Goals of the program are to enhance impaired water resources and to create grassland habitat to increase populations of endangered grassland birds and other wildlife species. This program is a federal-state-local partnership. The Wisconsin CREP is a program of the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection and administered by the LWCD. Wood County signed a contract with the DATCP to administer their program in Wood County. Administration costs and staff salaries are funded by the SWRM grant. This is a continuing grant.

SOIL AND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GRANT

(Mandated, Funded by State Aid dollars (DATCP), High Priority – Services are required by DATCP SWRM Program)

This grant from the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) provides funds to carry out soil and water conservation activities that include providing cost share assistance to landowners to install best management practices throughout Wood County. The goal is to reduce sediment and nutrient runoff and to improve water quality in the lakes, streams, and drinking water of Wood County. With an approved Land and Water Resource Management Plan the LWCD receives grant funds to hire staff to implement the LWRM plan. SWRM funds are available to pay for salaries, support costs, and to provide cost sharing to landowners. This is a continuing grant.

MULTI-DISCHARGER VARIANCE

(Not Mandated, 100% MDV Participants (Point Source Dischargers), No Tax Levy, High Priority – Provides funding opportunities for Ag Producers to get Phosphorous reductions on their fields by enrolling agricultural lands into conservation best management practices.)

Provide administration and funding to implement the State of Wisconsin's multi-discharger variance (MDV). At least 65% of MDV funds must be spent to bring farmers and other agricultural sources into compliance with NR 151 agricultural performance standards. The remaining funding may be spent on staffing, innovative projects, monitoring, modeling, demonstrations, etc. When a County participates, they agree to:

- Develop a plan to use funds (due 1 year after funds received)
- Use the MDV funds appropriately
- Submit annual reports to the DNR until funds are used

Funds must be targeted to the highest phosphorus loading areas within the participating county. This may or may not be the same watershed the MDV funds were generated in. Funding for this program comes directly from permit holders and point source facilities that are regulated and allowed to discharge into designated waterways. Permit holders who are required to follow the **WPDES**: Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

requirements and make payments directly to the county LWCDs at a rate of \$50 per pound times the number of pounds of phosphorus their discharge exceeds the target value. The dollar amount is determined on an annual basis.

MILL CREEK WATERSHED 9-KEY ELEMENT PLAN

(Not Mandated, 100% State Aided Revenue (DNR TRM Grant), No Tax Levy, High Priority – Services for Ag Producers, elimination of program would take away opportunities for local producers to enroll agricultural lands into conservation best management practices for the Wisconsin River TMDL Reduction)

Provide administration and funding to implement a Watershed plan consistent with EPA's nine key elements, which provides a framework for improving water quality in a holistic manner within a geographic watershed. The nine elements help assess the contributing causes and sources of nonpoint source pollution, involve key stakeholders and prioritize restoration and protection strategies to address water quality problems. The first three elements characterize and set goals to address pollution sources. The remaining six elements determine specific resources and criteria to implement and evaluate the plan. The watershed-based plan will be funded with EPA section 319 funds. This plan is part of the Wisconsin River Nonpoint Source TMDL implementation. As required by the federal Clean Water Act, the DNR addresses waters impaired by nonpoint source pollution by establishing a "Total Maximum Daily Load" (TMDL). States are charged with ensuring the necessary actions are taken so that the loading of the pollutant of concern does not exceed the TMDL. This watershed plan will have more emphasis on Phosphorous discharges to waters of the state.

14-MILE 9-KEY ELEMENT

(Not Mandated, 100% State Aided Revenue (DNR TRM Grant), No Tax Levy, High Priority – Services for Ag Producers, elimination of program would take away opportunities for local producers to enroll agricultural lands into conservation best management practices for the Wisconsin River TMDL Reduction)

Provide administration and funding to implement a Watershed plan consistent with EPA's nine key elements, which provides a framework for improving water quality in a holistic manner within a geographic watershed. The nine elements help assess the contributing causes and sources of nonpoint source pollution, involve key stakeholders and prioritize restoration and protection strategies to address water quality problems. The first three elements characterize and set goals to address pollution sources. The remaining six elements determine specific resources and criteria to implement and evaluate the plan. The watershed-based plan will be funded with EPA section 319 funds. This plan is part of the Wisconsin River Nonpoint Source TMDL implementation. As required by the federal Clean Water Act, the DNR addresses waters impaired by nonpoint source pollution by establishing a "Total Maximum Daily Load" (TMDL). States are charged with ensuring the necessary actions are taken so that the loading of the pollutant of concern does not exceed the TMDL. This watershed plan will have an emphasis on Phosphorous discharges to waters of the state along with Nitrogen movement through groundwater flow.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

(Not Mandated, 100% Federal Revenue (ARPA Funds), No Tax Levy, High Priority – Services for Ag Producers, elimination of program would take away opportunities for local producers to enroll agricultural lands into conservation best management practices for local TMDL reductions in County Watersheds & the Wisconsin River TMDL Reduction)

Provide administration and funding to:

Water Quality Improvement Practices

- Implement Residue Management - No-till, Vert-till, Roller Crimper & minimal tillage (90% residue) – approximately 1,350 acres through the end of 2026
- Implement establishment of Cover Crops on Ag. Land - Fall cover crops & Inter-seeding corn/soybean fields with cover crops – approximately 1,000 acres through the end of 2026
- Implement harvestable/vegetative buffers along perennial and intermittent streams and some concentrated flow areas throughout Wood County and connected watersheds – approximately 50 total acres through the end of 2026.

Field Test Plots/Training/Field Days

- Work with local producers in the County to plant field test plots and monitor the results and then highlight results at field days.
- Host 5 field days through the end of 2026
- Host the Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Exposition (in partnership with the University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association and Petenwell & Castle Rock Stewards, EPPIC and other partners).

County-Wide Programming on Groundwater

- Continue groundwater testing program across Wood County through the end of 2026
 - Focus on areas in the county that have a low number of sampling points to draw data from & offer free well testing in those areas
 - Fill in gaps in pre-existing and existing data from the county wide study by offering free well testing in those areas
 - Focus on hot spot areas to do a more complete study of the affected area or limits of high concentrations geographically by doing additional testing on private wells and providing free well testing to those landowners
 - Offer to re-sample wells that have been known to exceed the safe drinking standard historically at no cost to build trend data
 - Develop a 5-year county resampling protocol selecting wells with known well construction data to monitor through offering a free testing of their well
- Incentivize the use of best management practices that will work toward addressing nitrate contamination in groundwater
 - Approach producers in areas with high susceptibility to nitrate contamination & hot spots areas to offer best management practice funding of a multitude of practices, that address/reduce potential nitrate contamination. Targeting around 1,000 acres of ag land to install/monitor potential reductions as a pilot project. Results will be used for outreach, education & promotion of benefits gained by implementing these practices. Optimizing nitrogen use can improve water quality & increase farm profitability if done correctly and this needs to be demonstrated in order for change to occur.
 - Utilize free software & programs that optimize, quantify and manage inputs from different crop management scenarios within a field to minimize inputs of N without sacrificing yield loss. One of these programs was developed by our own UW Steven Point Groundwater Center and is called the “Nitrate Leaching Calculator”. This program will assist LWCD in evaluating the use of proper BMP’s and management adjustments that can result in less leaching of nitrates into groundwater over the course of a rotation.
 - Continue an effort of merging multiple data sets from singular wood county departments into one robust dataset which all departments can utilize (on-going... Land & Water, Planning & Zoning, Health Dept.)
 - Continue to utilize and build on the existing Wood County Nitrate risk map incorporating updated data as collected & expanding on land use mapping to be used as an additional tool for nitrate reduction strategies in high concentration level areas.
- Offer cost sharing (80/20) for nitrate reduction/water treatments systems (RO - whole house systems) for wells identified in the county wide study as above 20 ppm or greater. The significance of these private wells is that they have tested double the current state standard threshold of 10 ppm
 - Based on documented private wells (testing over 20 ppm) with whole house treatment systems cost-shared at 80%. All the operation & maintenance terms outlined in the ARPA funding proposal would apply.
 - Private well owners would have the option to install only single source systems if that were all they would desire. All the operation & maintenance terms outlined in the ARPA funding proposal would apply.

DNR (SURFACE WATER GRANT)

(Not Mandated, 100% State Aided Revenue (DNR), No Tax Levy, High Priority – Services for Ag Producers, elimination of program would take away opportunities for local producers to enroll agricultural lands into conservation best management practices for local TMDL reductions in County Watersheds & the Wisconsin River TMDL Reduction)

Provide administration and funding to:

Project Goals

- Work towards reaching the goals of Wisconsin's Nutrient Reduction Strategy, the Wisconsin River TMDL, the Mill Creek 9-Key Element Plan, and Wood County's Land and Water Resource Management Plan by establishing harvestable or vegetative buffers along perennial and intermittent streams and some concentrated flow areas throughout Wood County and connected watersheds. A harvestable buffer may be harvested in a way to maintain growing vegetation.
- Buffers will be a minimum of 30 ft wide. Landowners and farmers are responsible for maintaining the vegetative cover for the contract period. Farmers will be given five options: paid \$80/ac/year for planting 1 species and maintaining it for 3 years, paid \$100/ac/year for planting multi-species with a minimum of 3 species and maintaining it for 3 years, paid \$125/ac/year for planting 1 species and maintaining it for 5 years, paid \$150/ac/year for planting multi-species with a minimum of 3 species and maintaining it for 5 years, paid \$175/ac/year for planting native pollinator mix of species and maintaining it for 5 years. Continue to implement an AIS Prevention and Outreach Program throughout Wood County In cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
- Establish 70 acres in 3-year harvestable buffer contracts and 40 acres in 5-year harvestable buffer contracts. Attaining this goal will reduce 91 lbs. of phosphorus, 50 lbs. of nitrogen, and 44 tons of sediment from entering our surface waters per year. One pound of phosphorus can produce 500 lbs. of algae, meaning a reduction of 91 lbs. of phosphorus will keep 45,500 lbs. of algae from being produced within the Wisconsin River Basin per year.

Activities Planned

- Landowner Contacts - Agree to buffers and planting dates: March 2025 through March 2027
- Contract Award/Planning - Signed Contracts - March 2025 through March 2027
- Practice Installation - Establish Buffer - May 2025 through July 2027
- Practice Verification - Site Visit/Inspection - June 2025 through August 2027
- Landowner Payment - Pay Owner/Operator - As needed throughout grant period

LMPN (LAKE MANAGEMENT PROTECTION NETWORK GRANT)

(Not Mandated, 100% State aided Revenue (DNR), No Tax Levy, High Priority – Services for Ag Producers, Lake Property Owners & Wood County Residents, Elimination of Program would take away opportunities for local producers to enroll agricultural lands into conservation best management practices for local TMDL reductions in County Watersheds & the Wisconsin River TMDL Reduction)

Provide administration and funding to:

- Improving surface water quality through the detection, prevention, and control of AIS and monitoring of lake water quality conditions.
- Provide local support and assistance in implementation of statewide communication and education priorities to ensure consistent AIS messaging.
- Continue to implement an AIS Prevention and Outreach Program throughout Wood County In cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Operating Position Cost Summary

Report data returned based on the user's security permissions.

Fiscal Year 2026
 Forecast Year 2026
 Department or Sub-Department 18 - Land & Water Conservation

Position	Pay Grade	Alloc. %	Salary	Modifiers	Premiums	Total	Hours	Premium Hours	FTE
18 - Land & Water Conservation									
1801 - Land & Water Conservation-Administration									
1801-56121 - Land Conservation									
(Unassigned)									
2403A-Conservation Admin Spec	Grade F	81.38	42,213	21,284	-	63,498	1,693	-	0.81
Total (Unassigned)			42,213	21,284	-	63,498	1,693	-	0.81
Land Conservation - Safety Shoes & Blaze Orange									
2407-Conservation Prgm Co	Grade G	5.00	3,198	1,434	-	4,632	104	-	0.05
Total Land Conservation - Safety Shoes & Blaze Orange			3,198	1,434	-	4,632	104	-	0.05
Land Conservation - Safety Shoes									
2401-Cnty Conservationist	Grade N	26.00	27,229	9,679	-	36,908	541	-	0.26
2402-Engineering Tech	Grade H	15.94	10,225	4,564	-	14,789	332	-	0.16
2405A-Land Conservation Specialist	Grade H	50.00	32,874	14,843	-	47,718	1,040	-	0.50
2405-Land Cons Specialist	Grade H	100.00	62,587	27,816	-	90,403	2,080	-	1.00
Total Land Conservation - Safety Shoes			132,916	56,902	-	189,818	3,992	-	1.92
Non FTE Count									
2409-LWCD Summer Intern		26.92	2,170	167	-	2,337	560	-	0.27
Total Non FTE Count			2,170	167	-	2,337	560	-	0.27
Total 1801-56121 - Land Conservation			180,497	79,788	-	260,285	6,349	-	3.05
Total 1801 - Land & Water Conservation-Administration			180,497	79,788	-	260,285	6,349	-	3.05
1802 - Land & Water Conservation-DATCP									
1802-56122 - DATCP Grant									
(Unassigned)									
2403A-Conservation Admin Spec	Grade F	5.81	3,015	1,520	-	4,536	121	-	0.06
Total (Unassigned)			3,015	1,520	-	4,536	121	-	0.06
Land Conservation - Safety Shoes									
2401-Cnty Conservationist	Grade N	74.00	77,499	27,547	-	105,046	1,539	-	0.74
2402-Engineering Tech	Grade H	84.06	53,922	24,068	-	77,990	1,748	-	0.84
Total Land Conservation - Safety Shoes			131,421	51,615	-	183,036	3,288	-	1.58

Operating Position Cost Summary

Report data returned based on the user's security permissions.

Fiscal Year 2026
 Forecast Year 2026
 Department or Sub-Department 18 - Land & Water Conservation

Position	Pay Grade	Alloc. %	Salary	Modifiers	Premiums	Total	Hours	Premium Hours	FTE
Total 1802-56122 - DATCP Grant			134,436	53,135	-	187,571	3,409	-	1.64
Total 1802 - Land & Water Conservation-DATCP			134,436	53,135	-	187,571	3,409	-	1.64
1803 - Land & Water Conservation-Wildlife Damage Abatement									
1803-56123 - Wildlife Damage Abatement									
(Unassigned)									
2403A-Conservation Admin Spec	Grade F	3.88	2,010	1,014	-	3,024	81	-	0.04
Total (Unassigned)			2,010	1,014	-	3,024	81	-	0.04
Land Conservation - Safety Shoes & Blaze Orange									
2407-Conservation Prqm Co	Grade G	52.31	33,456	15,001	-	48,457	1,088	-	0.52
Total Land Conservation - Safety Shoes & Blaze Orange			33,456	15,001	-	48,457	1,088	-	0.52
Total 1803-56123 - Wildlife Damage Abatement			35,466	16,014	-	51,481	1,169	-	0.56
Total 1803 - Land & Water Conservation-Wildlife Damage Abatement			35,466	16,014	-	51,481	1,169	-	0.56
1804 - Land & Water Conservation-Non Metallic Mining									
1804-56125 - Non-Metallic Mining									
(Unassigned)									
2403A-Conservation Admin Spec	Grade F	5.81	3,015	1,520	-	4,536	121	-	0.06
Total (Unassigned)			3,015	1,520	-	4,536	121	-	0.06
Land Conservation - Safety Shoes & Blaze Orange									
2407-Conservation Prqm Co	Grade G	42.69	27,306	12,243	-	39,549	888	-	0.43
Total Land Conservation - Safety Shoes & Blaze Orange			27,306	12,243	-	39,549	888	-	0.43
Total 1804-56125 - Non-Metallic Mining			30,321	13,763	-	44,084	1,009	-	0.49
Total 1804 - Land & Water Conservation-Non Metallic Mining			30,321	13,763	-	44,084	1,009	-	0.49
Total 18 - Land & Water Conservation			380,721	162,701	-	543,422	11,935	-	5.74
Grand Total			380,721	162,701	-	543,422	11,935	-	5.74



Department Operating Budget Narrative

Account Number	Description	2026 Requested	2025 Budget	Difference		Change Justification 10% or greater change
				Amount	%	
18 - Land & Water Conservation						
1801 - Land & Water Conservation-Administration						
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>						
1801-43300 - Other Federal Grants						
1801-43300-???-000	43-000 - Intergovernmental Revenues	0	125,000	(125,000)	-100.00%	ARPA funds included under 1801-56121 for 2026
1801-44413 - Animal Waste Ordinance						
101-1801-44413-???-000	44-000 - Licenses and Permits	600	600	0	0.00%	
1801-46825 - Public Charges-Land & Water Conservation						
101-1801-46825-???-000	46-000 - Public Charges for Services	207,601	77,889	129,712	+166.53%	ARPA grant funds
1801-49110 - Proceeds from Capital Lease - No Till Drill						
101-1801-49110-???-000	49-000 - Other Financing Sources	3,800	5,000	(1,200)	-24.00%	Decrease in use of no till drill related to weather and some landowners purchasing or borrowing no-till drill; roller-crimper is rarely being used/rented (at most once a year).
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>						
1801-56121 - Land Conservation						
101-1801-56121-???-101	101 - Wages-Permanent	157,430	157,214	216	+0.14%	
101-1801-56121-???-107	107 - Sick Leave	7,454	7,095	359	+5.06%	
101-1801-56121-???-108	108 - Vacation	9,435	8,231	1,204	+14.63%	
101-1801-56121-???-109	109 - Holiday	6,178	5,880	298	+5.06%	
101-1801-56121-???-110	110 - Funeral/Jury/Other	0	0	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-111	111 - Clothing Allowance	644	395	249	+63.16%	
101-1801-56121-???-120	120 - FICA	13,808	13,649	159	+1.16%	
101-1801-56121-???-130	130 - Health Insurance	51,112	48,695	2,417	+4.96%	



Department Operating Budget Narrative

101-1801-56121-???-132	132 - Post Employment Benefits	1,202	1,144	58	+5.06%	
101-1801-56121-???-133	133 - Vision Insurance	65	63	1	+2.04%	
101-1801-56121-???-140	140 - Life Insurance	22	22	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-151	151 - Retirement	12,840	11,797	1,043	+8.84%	
101-1801-56121-???-160	160 - Worker's Compensation	490	553	(63)	-11.39%	
101-1801-56121-???-172	172 - Training / Conference / CPE	2,150	2,150	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-214	214 - Prof Serv-Printing	500	500	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-216	216 - Prof Serv-Intern & Temp Employ	0	0	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-219	219 - Prof Serv-Other	5,806	3,152	2,654	+84.19%	Increase in license costs for 2026
101-1801-56121-???-221	221 - Utility Service-Cellphone / Telephone	2,812	2,452	360	+14.68%	Included cell phone stipend for Conservation Specialist
101-1801-56121-???-230	230 - R/M Serv-PC Replacement	2,810	2,790	20	+0.72%	
101-1801-56121-???-242	242 - R/M Serv Other-Vehicles	7,500	7,500	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-311	311 - Office Supplies	1,500	126,500	(125,000)	-98.81%	Some ARPA grant funds spent out in 2025
101-1801-56121-???-312	312 - Copy Expense	500	500	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-313	313 - Postage	900	900	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-322	322 - Educational Materials	1,150	1,150	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-325	325 - Dues & Subscriptions	3,578	3,293	285	+8.65%	CEED Cmte voted to increase RC&D Dues to 90% in 2026
101-1801-56121-???-329	329 - Other Pubs, Subs & Dues	105	105	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-331	331 - Mileage	6,000	6,000	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-332	332 - Meals	300	300	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-333	333 - Lodging / Hotels	375	375	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-336	336 - Parking	0	0	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-340	340 - Operating Supplies & Expense	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-345	345 - Operating Expense	45,385	79,400	(34,015)	-42.84%	Some ARPA grant funds expended in 2025; Surface Water Grant is a 3-year grant with expenses spread over 3 years of grant. Shane extended FPP Plan Revision Grant to 2027.
101-1801-56121-???-347	347 - Operating Supplies and Expense	75,000	0	75,000	0.00%	Some ARPA grant funds expended in 2025



Department Operating Budget Narrative

101-1801-56121-???-349	349 - Other Operating Supplies	39,160	2,378	36,782	+1546.76%	Some ARPA grant funds expended in 2025
101-1801-56121-???-511	511 - Insurance-Liability	7,655	7,132	522	+7.32%	
101-1801-56121-???-531	531 - Rent-Interdepartment	21,360	21,360	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-810	810 - Capital Equipment	0	0	0	0.00%	
101-1801-56121-???-813	813 - Vehicles	0	0	0	0.00%	

1802 - Land & Water Conservation-DATCP

Revenue / Funding Source

1802-43586 - State Grants-Conservation

264-1802-43586-???-000	43-000 - Intergovernmental Revenues	291,650	282,530	9,120	+3.23%	Anticipate staffing increase per WI budget
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1802-49220 - Transfer from Special Rev Fund

264-1802-49220-???-000	49-000 - Other Financing Sources	0	0	0	0.00%	
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Expense / Expenditure

1802-56122 - DATCP Grant

264-1802-56122-???-101	101 - Wages-Permanent	111,849	106,518	5,331	+5.01%	
264-1802-56122-???-107	107 - Sick Leave	6,235	5,935	300	+5.06%	
264-1802-56122-???-108	108 - Vacation	11,185	10,592	593	+5.60%	
264-1802-56122-???-109	109 - Holiday	5,167	4,918	249	+5.06%	
264-1802-56122-???-110	110 - Funeral/Jury/Other	0	0	0	0.00%	
264-1802-56122-???-111	111 - Clothing Allowance	5	5	0	0.00%	
264-1802-56122-???-120	120 - FICA	10,284	9,789	495	+5.06%	
264-1802-56122-???-130	130 - Health Insurance	30,095	28,663	1,433	+5.00%	
264-1802-56122-???-132	132 - Post Employment Benefits	1,550	1,475	75	+5.07%	
264-1802-56122-???-133	133 - Vision Insurance	61	61	0	0.00%	
264-1802-56122-???-140	140 - Life Insurance	24	24	0	0.00%	
264-1802-56122-???-151	151 - Retirement	9,679	8,893	786	+8.84%	
264-1802-56122-???-160	160 - Worker's Compensation	1,283	1,433	(150)	-10.46%	



Department Operating Budget Narrative

264-1802-56122-???-172	172 - Training / Conference / CPE	0	0	0	0.00%
264-1802-56122-???-221	221 - Utility Service-Cellphone / Telephone	224	224	0	0.00%
264-1802-56122-???-311	311 - Office Supplies	0	0	0	0.00%
264-1802-56122-???-331	331 - Mileage	0	0	0	0.00%
264-1802-56122-???-332	332 - Meals	0	0	0	0.00%
264-1802-56122-???-333	333 - Lodging / Hotels	0	0	0	0.00%
264-1802-56122-???-336	336 - Parking	0	0	0	0.00%
264-1802-56122-???-345	345 - Operating Expense	104,000	104,000	0	0.00%

1803 - Land & Water Conservation-Wildlife
Damage Abatement

Revenue / Funding Source

1803-43586 - State Grants-Conservation

101-1803-43586-???-000	43-000 - Intergovernmental Revenues	143,344	141,800	1,544	+1.09%
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Expense / Expenditure

1803-56123 - Wildlife Damage Abatement

101-1803-56123-???-101	101 - Wages-Permanent	30,419	28,991	1,428	+4.93%
101-1803-56123-???-107	107 - Sick Leave	1,643	1,564	79	+5.06%
101-1803-56123-???-108	108 - Vacation	2,043	1,909	134	+7.02%
101-1803-56123-???-109	109 - Holiday	1,362	1,296	66	+5.06%
101-1803-56123-???-111	111 - Clothing Allowance	112	112	0	0.00%
101-1803-56123-???-119	119 - In or Out Call Pay	0	0	0	0.00%
101-1803-56123-???-120	120 - FICA	2,713	2,583	131	+5.06%
101-1803-56123-???-130	130 - Health Insurance	10,318	9,827	491	+4.99%
101-1803-56123-???-132	132 - Post Employment Benefits	0	0	0	0.00%
101-1803-56123-???-133	133 - Vision Insurance	16	2	13	+658.44%
101-1803-56123-???-140	140 - Life Insurance	8	8	0	0.00%
101-1803-56123-???-151	151 - Retirement	2,554	2,346	207	+8.84%



Department Operating Budget Narrative

101-1803-56123-???-160	160 - Worker's Compensation	328	366	(38)	-10.47%	
101-1803-56123-???-172	172 - Training / Conference / CPE	150	150	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-212	212 - Prof Serv-Accounting	225	225	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-214	214 - Prof Serv-Printing	300	300	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-219	219 - Prof Serv-Other	300	300	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-221	221 - Utility Service-Cellphone / Telephone	252	252	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-230	230 - R/M Serv-PC Replacement	290	280	10	+3.57%	
101-1803-56123-???-311	311 - Office Supplies	300	300	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-312	312 - Copy Expense	150	150	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-313	313 - Postage	200	200	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-331	331 - Mileage	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-332	332 - Meals	50	50	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-333	333 - Lodging / Hotels	175	175	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-336	336 - Parking	0	0	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-345	345 - Operating Expense	84,300	84,300	0	0.00%	
101-1803-56123-???-395	395 - Supplies and Expense	1,000	2,000	(1,000)	-50.00%	Decrease in venison donations over past two years
101-1803-56123-???-511	511 - Insurance-Liability	342	318	23	+7.32%	
101-1803-56123-???-531	531 - Rent-Interdepartment	1,296	1,296	0	0.00%	

1804 - Land & Water Conservation-Non
Metallic Mining

Revenue / Funding Source

1804-45110 - Non-Metallic-Fines/Forfeitures

265-1804-45110-???-000	45-000 - Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	22,388	0	22,388	0.00%	
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1804-46825 - Non-Metallic Mining Fees

265-1804-46825-???-000	46-000 - Public Charges for Services	48,000	45,728	2,272	+4.97%	2 new mines in 2025-26 (Biron & Mathey)
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Department Operating Budget Narrative

Expense / Expenditure

1804-56125 - Non-Metallic Mining

265-1804-56125-???-101	101 - Wages-Permanent	26,011	24,813	1,198	+4.83%
265-1804-56125-???-107	107 - Sick Leave	1,403	1,335	68	+5.06%
265-1804-56125-???-108	108 - Vacation	1,744	1,606	137	+8.56%
265-1804-56125-???-109	109 - Holiday	1,163	1,107	56	+5.06%
265-1804-56125-???-111	111 - Clothing Allowance	(12)	(12)	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-120	120 - FICA	2,320	2,208	112	+5.06%
265-1804-56125-???-130	130 - Health Insurance	8,908	8,485	423	+4.99%
265-1804-56125-???-133	133 - Vision Insurance	14	3	11	+358.27%
265-1804-56125-???-140	140 - Life Insurance	6	6	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-151	151 - Retirement	2,183	2,006	177	+8.84%
265-1804-56125-???-160	160 - Worker's Compensation	268	300	(31)	-10.47%
265-1804-56125-???-172	172 - Training / Conference / CPE	300	300	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-214	214 - Prof Serv-Printing	100	100	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-219	219 - Prof Serv-Other	381	378	3	+0.79%
265-1804-56125-???-221	221 - Utility Service-Cellphone / Telephone	600	600	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-230	230 - R/M Serv-PC Replacement	290	280	10	+3.57%
265-1804-56125-???-311	311 - Office Supplies	200	200	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-312	312 - Copy Expense	135	135	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-313	313 - Postage	125	125	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-322	322 - Educational Materials	50	50	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-331	331 - Mileage	975	975	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-332	332 - Meals	50	50	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-333	333 - Lodging / Hotels	150	150	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-336	336 - Parking	0	0	0	0.00%
265-1804-56125-???-511	511 - Insurance-Liability	154	144	11	+7.32%
265-1804-56125-???-531	531 - Rent-Interdepartment	384	384	0	0.00%



Department Operating Budget Narrative

1805 - Land & Water Conservation-MDV

Revenue / Funding Source

1805-43586 - State Grants-Conservation

263-1805-43586-???-000	43-000 - Intergovernmental Revenues	25,000	31,000	(6,000)	-19.35%	Estimate decrease in amount of MDV funds for 2026
263-1805-43586-???-000	43-482 - TBD	0	0	0	0.00%	

Expense / Expenditure

1805-56126 - MDV Non-Point Source

263-1805-56126-???-101	101 - Wages-Permanent	0	0	0	0.00%	
263-1805-56126-???-120	120 - FICA	0	0	0	0.00%	
263-1805-56126-???-130	130 - Health Insurance	0	0	0	0.00%	
263-1805-56126-???-132	132 - Post Employment Benefits	0	0	0	0.00%	
263-1805-56126-???-151	151 - Retirement	0	0	0	0.00%	
263-1805-56126-???-160	160 - Worker's Compensation	0	0	0	0.00%	
263-1805-56126-???-345	345 - Operating Expense	25,000	31,000	(6,000)	-19.35%	Estimate decrease in amount of MDV funds in 2026

1806 - Land & Water Conservation-Trust Account

Revenue / Funding Source

1806-46825 - Tree Sales

819-1806-46825-???-000	46-000 - Public Charges for Services	0	0	0	0.00%	
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Expense / Expenditure

1806-56127 - Tree Expense

819-1806-56127-???-345	345 - Operating Expense	0	0	0	0.00%	
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1806-59220 - Transfer to Special Revenue Funds

819-1806-59220-???-912	912 - Transfer to Special Rev Fund	0	0	0	0.00%	
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Department Operating Budget Narrative

1807 - Land & Water Conservation-NonLapsing

Revenue / Funding Source

1807-44413 - Land & Water Conservation

101-1807-44413-???-000	44-000 - Licenses and Permits	600	600	0	0.00%
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Expense / Expenditure

1807-56130 - L&W - Other Professional Services

101-1807-56130-???-219	219 - Prof Serv-Other	0	0	0	0.00%
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1807-59210 - Transfers to General Fund

101-1807-59210-???-911	911 - Transfer to General Fund	0	0	0	0.00%
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1808 - Land & Water Conservation-Mill Creek

Revenue / Funding Source

1808-43586 - State Grants-Conservation

266-1808-43586-???-000	43-000 - Intergovernmental Revenues	200,000	200,000	0	0.00%
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Expense / Expenditure

1808-56128 - Mill Creek

266-1808-56128-???-109	109 - Holiday	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-120	120 - FICA	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-130	130 - Health Insurance	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-214	214 - Prof Serv-Printing	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-219	219 - Prof Serv-Other	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-221	221 - Utility Service-Cellphone / Telephone	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-311	311 - Office Supplies	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-322	322 - Educational Materials	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-331	331 - Mileage	0	0	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-345	345 - Operating Expense	200,000	200,000	0	0.00%
266-1808-56128-???-535	535 - Leases-Equipment	0	0	0	0.00%



Department Operating Budget Narrative

1809 - Land & Water Conservation-14 Mile Creek

Revenue / Funding Source

1809-43586 - State Grants-Conservation

268-1809-43586-???-000	43-000 - Intergovernmental Revenues	0	70,420	(70,420)	-100.00%	One-time TRM grant for 2025
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Expense / Expenditure

1809-56129 - 14-Mile Creek

268-1809-56129-???-345	345 - Operating Expense	0	70,420	(70,420)	-100.00%	One-time TRM grant for 2025
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Total 18 - Land & Water Conservation		252,132	315,589	(63,457)	-20.11%	
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Department Operating Budget Detail

With Previous Year Comparison and Annual Estimate

	2026 Budget	% Change	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 Estimate
18 - Land & Water Conservation					
1801 - Land & Water Conservation-Administration					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1801-43300 - Other Federal Grants					
43 - Intergovernmental Revenues	0	-100.00%	125,000	0	0
1801-43300 - Other Federal Grants Total	0	-100.00%	125,000	0	0
1801-44413 - Animal Waste Ordinance					
44 - Licenses and Permits	600	0.00%	600	1,200	1,200
1801-44413 - Animal Waste Ordinance Total	600	0.00%	600	1,200	1,200
1801-46825 - Public Charges-Land & Water Conservation					
46 - Public Charges for Services	207,601	+166.53%	77,889	12,987	142,436
1801-46825 - Public Charges-Land & Water Conservation Total	207,601	+166.53%	77,889	12,987	142,436
1801-49110 - Proceeds from Capital Lease - No Till Drill					
49 - Other Financing Sources	3,800	-24.00%	5,000	1,380	3,000
1801-49110 - Proceeds from Capital Lease - No Till Drill Total	3,800	-24.00%	5,000	1,380	3,000
Revenue / Funding Source Total	212,001	+1.68%	208,489	15,567	146,636
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1801-56121 - Land Conservation					
100 - Personnel Services	262,830	+2.31%	256,890	126,860	254,030
200 - Contractual Services	19,428	+18.50%	16,394	4,793	13,392
300 - Supplies and Expense	175,953	-21.06%	222,901	27,709	218,408
500 - Fixed Charges	29,015	+1.83%	28,492	16,621	28,492
800 - Capital Outlay	0	0.00%	0	0	0
1801-56121 - Land Conservation Total	487,226	-7.14%	524,678	175,983	514,322
Expense / Expenditure Total	487,226	-7.14%	524,678	175,983	514,322
1801 - Land & Water Conservation-Administration Total	275,225	-12.96%	316,188	160,416	367,687
1802 - Land & Water Conservation-DATCP					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1802-43586 - State Grants-Conservation					
43 - Intergovernmental Revenues	291,650	+3.23%	282,530	0	272,530
1802-43586 - State Grants-Conservation Total	291,650	+3.23%	282,530	0	272,530
1802-49220 - Transfer from Special Rev Fund					
49 - Other Financing Sources	0	0.00%	0	0	0
1802-49220 - Transfer from Special Rev Fund Total	0	0.00%	0	0	0
Revenue / Funding Source Total	291,650	+3.23%	282,530	0	272,530
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1802-56122 - DATCP Grant					
100 - Personnel Services	187,418	+5.11%	178,307	116,465	189,243
200 - Contractual Services	224	0.00%	224	0	224



Department Operating Budget Detail

With Previous Year Comparison and Annual Estimate

	2026 Budget	% Change	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 Estimate
300 - Supplies and Expense	104,000	0.00%	104,000	36,794	104,044
1802-56122 - DATCP Grant Total	291,642	+3.23%	282,531	153,258	293,512
Expense / Expenditure Total	291,642	+3.23%	282,531	153,258	293,512
1802 - Land & Water Conservation-DATCP Total	(8)	-976.95%	1	153,258	20,982
1803 - Land & Water Conservation-Wildlife Damage Abatement					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1803-43586 - State Grants-Conservation					
43 - Intergovernmental Revenues	143,344	+1.09%	141,800	8,885	61,800
1803-43586 - State Grants-Conservation Total	143,344	+1.09%	141,800	8,885	61,800
Revenue / Funding Source Total	143,344	+1.09%	141,800	8,885	61,800
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1803-56123 - Wildlife Damage Abatement					
100 - Personnel Services	51,664	+5.11%	49,153	18,121	48,880
200 - Contractual Services	1,367	+0.74%	1,357	264	961
300 - Supplies and Expense	88,675	-1.12%	89,675	1,432	6,350
500 - Fixed Charges	1,638	+1.44%	1,614	942	1,614
1803-56123 - Wildlife Damage Abatement Total	143,344	+1.09%	141,800	20,759	57,805
Expense / Expenditure Total	143,344	+1.09%	141,800	20,759	57,805
1803 - Land & Water Conservation-Wildlife Damage Abatement Total	0	+100.00%	0	11,874	(3,995)
1804 - Land & Water Conservation-Non Metallic Mining					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1804-45110 - Non-Metallic-Fines/Forfeitures					
45 - Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	22,388	+100.00%	0	22,388	228,388
1804-45110 - Non-Metallic-Fines/Forfeitures Total	22,388	+100.00%	0	22,388	228,388
1804-46825 - Non-Metallic Mining Fees					
46 - Public Charges for Services	48,000	+4.97%	45,728	48,311	48,311
1804-46825 - Non-Metallic Mining Fees Total	48,000	+4.97%	45,728	48,311	48,311
Revenue / Funding Source Total	70,388	+53.93%	45,728	70,698	276,698
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1804-56125 - Non-Metallic Mining					
100 - Personnel Services	44,308	+5.10%	42,157	30,077	41,808
200 - Contractual Services	1,371	+0.96%	1,358	712	1,073
300 - Supplies and Expense	1,685	0.00%	1,685	166	585
500 - Fixed Charges	538	+1.99%	528	308	528
1804-56125 - Non-Metallic Mining Total	47,903	+4.76%	45,728	31,263	43,994
Expense / Expenditure Total	47,903	+4.76%	45,728	31,263	43,994



Department Operating Budget Detail

With Previous Year Comparison and Annual Estimate

	2026 Budget	% Change	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 Estimate
1804 - Land & Water Conservation-Non Metallic Mining Total	(22,485)	-	0	(39,435)	(232,705)
		29938122.70			
		%			
1805 - Land & Water Conservation-MDV					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1805-43586 - State Grants-Conservation					
- Uncategorized Revenues	0	0.00%	0	0	
43 - Intergovernmental Revenues	25,000	-19.35%	31,000	27,762	27,762
1805-43586 - State Grants-Conservation Total	25,000	-19.35%	31,000	27,762	27,762
Revenue / Funding Source Total	25,000	-19.35%	31,000	27,762	27,762
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1805-56126 - MDV Non-Point Source					
100 - Personnel Services	0	0.00%	0	0	0
300 - Supplies and Expense	25,000	-19.35%	31,000	0	27,762
1805-56126 - MDV Non-Point Source Total	25,000	-19.35%	31,000	0	27,762
Expense / Expenditure Total	25,000	-19.35%	31,000	0	27,762
1805 - Land & Water Conservation-MDV Total	0	0.00%	0	(27,762)	0
1806 - Land & Water Conservation-Trust Account					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1806-46825 - Tree Sales					
46 - Public Charges for Services	0	0.00%	0	0	
1806-46825 - Tree Sales Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
Revenue / Funding Source Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1806-56127 - Tree Expense					
300 - Supplies and Expense	0	0.00%	0	0	
1806-56127 - Tree Expense Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
1806-59220 - Transfer to Special Revenue Funds					
900 - Other Financing Uses	0	0.00%	0	0	
1806-59220 - Transfer to Special Revenue Funds Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
Expense / Expenditure Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
1806 - Land & Water Conservation-Trust Account Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
1807 - Land & Water Conservation-NonLapsing					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1807-44413 - Land & Water Conservation					
44 - Licenses and Permits	600	0.00%	600	0	
1807-44413 - Land & Water Conservation Total	600	0.00%	600	0	
Revenue / Funding Source Total	600	0.00%	600	0	



Department Operating Budget Detail

With Previous Year Comparison and Annual Estimate

	2026 Budget	% Change	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 Estimate
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1807-56130 - L&W - Other Professional Services					
200 - Contractual Services	0	0.00%	0	0	
1807-56130 - L&W - Other Professional Services Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
1807-59210 - Transfers to General Fund					
900 - Other Financing Uses	0	0.00%	0	0	
1807-59210 - Transfers to General Fund Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
Expense / Expenditure Total	0	0.00%	0	0	
1807 - Land & Water Conservation-NonLapsing Total	(600)	0.00%	(600)	0	
1808 - Land & Water Conservation-Mill Creek					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1808-43586 - State Grants-Conservation					
43 - Intergovernmental Revenues	200,000	0.00%	200,000	0	
1808-43586 - State Grants-Conservation Total	200,000	0.00%	200,000	0	
Revenue / Funding Source Total	200,000	0.00%	200,000	0	
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1808-56128 - Mill Creek					
100 - Personnel Services	0	0.00%	0	0	0
200 - Contractual Services	0	0.00%	0	0	0
300 - Supplies and Expense	200,000	0.00%	200,000	0	200,000
500 - Fixed Charges	0	0.00%	0	0	0
1808-56128 - Mill Creek Total	200,000	0.00%	200,000	0	200,000
Expense / Expenditure Total	200,000	0.00%	200,000	0	200,000
1808 - Land & Water Conservation-Mill Creek Total	0	0.00%	0	0	200,000
1809 - Land & Water Conservation-14 Mile Creek					
<u>Revenue / Funding Source</u>					
1809-43586 - State Grants-Conservation					
43 - Intergovernmental Revenues	0	-100.00%	70,420	0	70,420
1809-43586 - State Grants-Conservation Total	0	-100.00%	70,420	0	70,420
Revenue / Funding Source Total	0	-100.00%	70,420	0	70,420
<u>Expense / Expenditure</u>					
1809-56129 - 14-Mile Creek					
300 - Supplies and Expense	0	-100.00%	70,420	0	0
1809-56129 - 14-Mile Creek Total	0	-100.00%	70,420	0	0
Expense / Expenditure Total	0	-100.00%	70,420	0	0
1809 - Land & Water Conservation-14 Mile Creek Total	0	0.00%	0	0	(70,420)



Department Operating Budget Detail

With Previous Year Comparison and Annual Estimate

	2026 Budget	% Change	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 Estimate
18 - Land & Water Conservation Total	252,132	-20.11%	315,589	258,351	281,549



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**

400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: 715-421-8466

Wood County (WI) Economic Development Funding Application Instructions & Grant Information

The Wood County CEED (Conservation, Education, and Economic Development) Committee and the Board of Supervisors have made available a limited amount of economic development funds to be awarded each year to projects or proposals that seek to enhance the economic vitality of Wood County. This includes projects or proposals to encourage business growth and development, promote tourism and recreational opportunities, develop workforce retention or attraction strategies, and more.

To be successful, proposals should be clear and concise with a detailed description of the project's scope, program, or activity, timeline, and 1:1 match funding. A successful proposal will -

1. **Align to REDI Plan Goals:** Wood County's economic development strategy ([The Rural Economic Development Initiative \(REDI\) Plan](#)) outlines strategic goals in key focus areas. Proposals should align with one of these strategic goals -
 - Supporting **Entrepreneurship**
 - Offering collaborative **Economic Development Networking**
 - Ensuring robust **Technology Infrastructure**
 - Addressing **Housing** needs throughout the County
 - Engaging in solutions for **Child Care** Accessibility & Affordability
 - Supporting **Asset-Based Branding & Tourism**
 - Developing combined county-wide **Recreational Mapping** to increase use and attract tourism
2. **Provide an ROI to Wood County:** Proposals should provide a detailed ROI (Return on Investment) description for the funds invested.
3. **Be Completed in One Year:** These economic development grant funds are not ongoing. Successful proposals will have a clear timeline and be completed within the 2025 calendar year.
4. **Include a 1:1 Match:** Proposals should include at least a 1:1 match. The match can be monetary or in-kind contributions. A description of the match must be included in the application.

Who Can Apply? Applications are welcome from local municipalities or units of government, non-profit/community organizations, or project-based teams. Proposals should have a Wood County focus.

Funds Available & Grant Size: A total of \$400,000 is available in this fund for the 2025 grant cycle. There is no cap in place for these requests, but keep in mind there is a **1:1 match preference** and scoring will be based, in part, on the match details.

What we do not generally fund: Annual campaigns, Operating expenses or losses, Debt retirement, Endowments, Direct support of individuals, Lobbying, Sectarian causes

Process: All applications are due by 4:30pm on Friday, July 5, 2024. Applications are reviewed in August, approved by the County Board in November and grantees will be notified following approval of the County budget. Note that funds will not be released until a project results report is presented to the CEED Committee.

Questions/More Information: Contact Jason or Victoria in Wood County Planning & Zoning with questions. 715-421-8466, jason.grueneberg@woodcountywi.gov, victoria.wilson@woodcountywi.gov.



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: 715-421-8466

2025 Wood County (WI) Economic Development Funding Request

Proposal Title:

Applicant Organization:

Website:

Mailing Address:

Street Address: (if different)

Contact Name & Title:

Phone:

Email:

Proposal Narrative

1. REDI Alignment (select one)

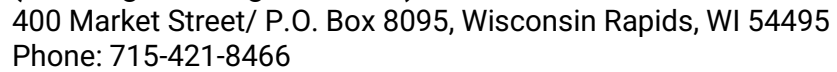
If selected other, please describe:

2. Please provide a summary of your proposal. Explain how it is consistent with and supports the Wood County REDI (Rural Economic Development Initiative) Plan.

3. Have you received funds through this grant in the past? (if yes, check box)

Have you applied in the past? (if yes, check box)

If yes, in which years did you receive funds and in which years did you apply?



- 55



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**

400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: 715-421-8466

Funding Considerations/Request Summary

(provide separate spreadsheet/budget if needed)

Budget Summary		Budget Detail	
Total Organization Budget	\$	Revenue/Income	
Total Proposal Cost	\$		\$
Total Amount Requested	\$		\$
Total Match *	\$	Total Revenue/Income	\$
* Please provide a match explanation in question 6.		Expenses	
			\$
			\$
			\$
		Total Expense	\$

Project Reporting Requirement

As a reporting requirement of receiving an Economic Development Grant, a one-page summary project report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. **This report must be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2025.** Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met. Please also note that funds are not able to be carried over into the following year.

Signatures

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

Applicant

Signature	Printed Name	Date

Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair

Signature	Printed Name	Date



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: 715-421-8466

Funding Considerations/Request Summary

(provide separate spreadsheet/budget if needed)

Budget Summary		Budget Detail	
Total Organization Budget	\$ 42,000	Revenue/Income	
Total Proposal Cost	\$ 42,000	Business Investment (Match)	\$ 20,000
Total Amount Requested	\$ 22,000	REDI Grant	\$ 22,000
Total Match *	\$ 20,000	Total Revenue/Income	\$ 42,000
* Please provide a match explanation in question 6.		Expenses	
		Welcome Back Grant Projects	\$ 40,000
		Staffing & Facilitation	\$ 2,000
			\$
		Total Expense	\$ 22,000

Project Reporting Requirement

As a reporting requirement of receiving an Economic Development Grant, a one-page summary project report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. **This report must be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2025.** Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met. Please also note that funds are not able to be carried over into the following year.

Signatures

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

Applicant

	KAELIE GOMEZ	7/4/24
Signature	Printed Name	Date

Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair

	Brad Benson	7-3-24
Signature	Printed Name	Date

City of Marshfield
207 West 6th Street.
Marshfield, WI 54449



Steve Barg
City Administrator
(715) 387-6597
Fax (715) 384-9310

Planning and Zoning Director
Wood County Rural Economic Development Initiative
400 Market Street, P.O. Box 8095
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8095

Dear Mr. Grueneberg,

I am writing to express strong support for Main Street Marshfield's Welcome Back Grant request, which is being submitted for funding under the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) grant program. As Marshfield's City Administrator, I've witnessed the very positive impact that economic development projects have on our community, and I firmly believe that this grant will greatly enhance the economic vitality of Marshfield.

The Welcome Back Grant exists to promote improvements to rear business entrances in order to provide greater visibility, accessibility, and enjoyment to visitors. Continued improvements to our downtown buildings help in preserving the identity of our rural communities, and they encourage and promote small business evolution and success.

The grant will help Main Street Marshfield support existing and incoming Wood County business investment in the customer experience, which will reflect well on this area. In addition, the focus on downtown will help improve the climate in the local space by bringing additional people and small businesses to our community.

In conclusion, I support this grant application for Main Street Marshfield. I am confident that this grant will bring about significant positive changes to our community, and I look forward to seeing the transformative impact that it will have on our local economy.

Thank you very much for considering my support of this important initiative. If you need further information, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me as shown below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Barg".

Steve Barg, City Administrator
City of Marshfield
207 West 6th Street
Marshfield, WI 54449

Phone: (715)486-2003; E-mail: Steve.Barg@ci.marshfield.wi.us



July 3, 2024

Wood County
CEED Committee and Board of Supervisors
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Dear Members of the Wood County CEED Committee and Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Centergy, I am writing to express our strong support for Main Street Marshfield's application for economic development funds for the Welcome Back Grant Program. The Program is an innovative and strategic initiative designed to enhance the economic vitality of Wood County by promoting business growth, improving accessibility, and fostering a more inviting downtown environment.

This initiative aligns with the strategic goals outlined in Wood County's Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Plan, particularly in supporting entrepreneurship and offering collaborative economic development networking. By fostering an environment where businesses can thrive and where visitors and residents can enjoy a vibrant downtown, this program will significantly contribute to the overall economic growth and quality of life in Wood County.

A vibrant downtown is essential for attracting tourists, supporting local residents, and fostering business growth. Attractive downtown areas are crucial to economic growth for rural communities, as they serve as the heart of social and economic activity. Centergy regularly hears the need for a walkable, engaging downtown experience from businesses and community members alike, emphasizing its importance for talent attraction and retention. The continued enhancements of downtown Marshfield will create a welcoming environment that encourages visitors and residents to explore, shop, dine, and engage, ultimately driving economic development and improving the quality of life in the community.

We fully support Main Street Marshfield's Welcome Back Grant Program and urge you to consider funding this important initiative.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Angel Laidlaw
President & CEO
Centergy, Inc.
president@centergy.net

**DOWN
TOWN
MARSHFIELD**

WELCOME BACK GRANT

2024 Application

Due: July 8th, 2024

This program is intended to assist in financing high-quality improvements that will improve the appearance and character of downtown Marshfield. **We encourage you to start this process early to ensure ample time for contractor estimates.**

Project (Building) Address	
Applicant Name	
Applicant Mailing Address	
Applicant Email Address	
Home Phone	Work Phone
Co-Applicant Name	
Co-Applicant Mailing Address	
Co-Applicant Email Address	
Home Phone	Work Phone

Property Owner Name(s)

Owner Mailing Address	
Owner Email Address	
Home Phone	Work Phone

Describe work to be undertaken (Please attach itemized contractor estimates)	
Describe the positive impact your project will bring to Marshfield	
Total Project Cost	Cost of Welcome-Back Eligible Improvements <i>Up to \$5,000</i>
Estimated Date of Project Completion	
If your project exceeds your estimated cost, do you have the working capital to complete the project in its entirety?	

List all land uses on the subject property

Application Eligibility

In order to be eligible to apply for this program, the following four items must be true:

1. The property in question must be in the downtown Marshfield Business Improvement District (BID);
2. Tenant and property owner must be current on all real estate and personal property taxes;
3. Tenant and property owner must not owe any amount of money to the City of Marshfield; and
4. Project may not be for routine repairs or maintenance

Required Material to Accompany Application

The following items need to accompany your application in order to be considered for matching grant assistance funding:

- ☐ A signed letter of consent from the property owner(s) if the applicant is not the owner of the property
- ☐ "Before" photo(s)
- ☐ Drawings detailing all of the work to be completed as part of the project
- ☐ Description or sample of project materials and colors
- ☐ Proof of insurance from the tenant or property owner

The applicant must obtain all necessary permits and approvals prior to commencing any work. All required inspections must be completed and approved by the required officials. In the event of limited funding, the Committee reserves the right to prioritize certain work projects. The Committee may also grant a partial amount of the funding requested.

Your signature below indicates you or your business's intent to apply for matching grant assistance funding and that you have read and understand the program overview. Your signature also certifies that the information contained within, and attached to this application is correct and accurate to the best of your knowledge.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Applications should be emailed or mailed to Main Street Marshfield:

Executive Director Kaelie Gomez
executivedirector@mainstreetmarshfield.com

Main Street Marshfield
% Welcome Back Grant Program
211 South Central Ave, Suite A
Marshfield, WI 54449



DOWN TOWN MARSHFIELD

WELCOME BACK GRANT



2024

Program Description

The Welcome Back Grant exists to promote improvements to rear business entrances in order to provide better visibility, accessibility, and enjoyment to visitors.

Rear entries in downtown Marshfield are often the most convenient entrances to public parking lots and adjacent to the designated bike lanes on Chestnut and Maple Avenues. Additionally, major downtown destinations drive traffic to these parallel streets, including the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library, Steven J. Miller Park, Wenzel Family Plaza and residential neighborhoods. Investment in back entrances through the development of patios, seating areas, fresh paint, tasteful murals, better lighting, and improved signage can help customers connect with downtown businesses in new ways.

In 2024, \$20,000 has been designated for the Welcome Back Grant Program, allowing for grants of up to \$5,000. Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss projects with the Commercial Building Inspector (715-486-2016) before submitting an application in order to increase likelihood of receiving an award. The grant reimburses owners for completed projects. Before receiving funds, awardees are required to obtain all necessary building permits, and to complete all required zoning approvals and building inspections.

Note: The 50/50 Facade Grant Program has been a great success for improving downtown structures' historic preservation, beautification, and value. It is a major asset for our property owners and a great benefit to businesses. However, this program does not allow for non-structural upgrades. The Welcome Back Grant allows for this type of less permanent enhancements which support commercial tenant growth and success.

General Program Requirements

- If the applicant is the tenant, the application must include property owners' authorization to submit the application.
- Grant funding shall not exceed \$5,000 per applicant.
- All projects must follow the requirements of the Marshfield City Code as well as the guidelines and recommendations of the Downtown Design Guidelines, and Downtown Master Plan, where applicable.
 - Email executivedirector@mainstreetmarshfield.com to request copies of these documents if needed.

Eligible Properties

- Are located within the boundaries of the Business Improvement District (BID)
- Meet all state and local building codes and zoning requirements

Eligible Improvements

- Projects may Include:
 - Entry and/or Placemaking Improvements to the rear facade
 - Accessibility enhancements
 - Landscaping
 - Lighting
 - Mural (design pre-approval required)
 - Paint
 - Seating
 - Shade
 - Signage

Note: These projects must align with the Downtown Design Guidelines.

Ineligible Properties

- Properties that are solely used as residences
- Properties with any outstanding taxes owed to the City of Marshfield

Ineligible Improvements

- Flexible items easily removed for use outside of the intended space.
 - Examples include items like outdoor heaters or temporary art installations.
- Work that is started prior to grant application approval
- The purchase of property, inventory or operating capital, government approvals, building permits, or taxes
- Work as a part of a project which removes or alters architecturally significant features
 - All structural and decorative architectural elements should be repaired, replaced to match, and be compatible with original building materials. Design should reflect the original architecture of the building to the greatest extent possible.

- Building structure work.
- Property improvements to residential entrances or residential amenities

Application Process

1. Complete and email or mail the Downtown Welcome Back Grant Program application to Main Street Marshfield by end-of-day Monday, July 8th, 2024. Only applications containing all required information will be considered. Main Street Marshfield staff will review applications to confirm the proposed work complies with all city ordinances and then forward viable applications to the Main Street Marshfield Design Committee.
2. The Main Street Marshfield Design Committee will review applications to determine which projects best meet the program objectives. The Main Street Design Committee will approve, approve with conditions, or deny applications. The application process is competitive. Grant awards are based upon available funding. The committee may interview applicants to gather additional information about projects. Some projects may not be funded or may only be partially funded.
3. Applicants will be provided with a written agreement or denial of the grant award by Friday, July 12th, 2024. The agreement will detail the amount of funding approved, terms and/or conditions of the approval, and how the funds will be released. If a grant is awarded, the applicant will be required to sign the agreement and return it to Main Street.

Award Reimbursement

For approved grant funds to be released for reimbursement, approved applicants are required to submit a written request to release funds upon completion of the entire project along with supporting documents (paid invoices or receipts). A check will be issued to the approved applicant. **Email or mail the following to Main Street Marshfield for reimbursement by November 1st, 2024:**

- A written request to release funds (email is preferred)
- Copies of all paid invoices and/or receipts for approved work done
- Copies of all applicable permits related to Welcome Back Grant improvements must accompany the request for release of funding
- Before and after photos

Main Street Marshfield reserves the right to accept or reject any and all reimbursement requests in whole or in part. **Refusal of reimbursement may include:**

- The project started prior to grant approval
 - Note that projects can begin prior to the application process, but any work started prior to approval is not grant eligible and cannot be reimbursed through the grant
- Work that does not conform to the proposal submitted with the application
- Work not described in the grant agreement
- Work that is completed without a required building permit
- Not providing a paid invoice or receipt completely defining the work
- Work not completed by November 1st, 2024

Grant Timeline

- **Deadline for Applications:** Monday, July 8th, 2024
- **Grant Recipients Notified:** Friday, July 12th, 2024
- **Project Completion & Reimbursement Request Deadline:** Friday, November 1st, 2024

Applications should be emailed or mailed to Main Street Marshfield:

Executive Director Kaelie Gomez
executivedirector@mainstreetmarshfield.com

Main Street Marshfield
% Welcome Back Grant Program
211 South Central Ave, Suite A
Marshfield, WI 54449



The Main Street Design Committee ranks Welcome Back Grant applications on the following criteria:

CATEGORY	SCORE (1-5): 1 – low impact; 5 – significant impact
Improves ADA accessibility	
Includes a level of private investment	
Provides a clear demonstration of the proposed project approach <i>Has the applicant clearly provided a vision of a completed project through drawings/renderings/images?</i>	
Aligns with the Downtown Design Guidelines	
Includes elements of useability <i>and</i> beautification	
Has a likelihood of long-term use/success	
Will be completed by November 1, 2024	
TOTAL:	

Attachment F: Welcome Back Grant Applicant Perspectives

The following questions were answered by two 2024 Welcome Back Grant applicants. Their written responses and phone conversations with other applicants have helped our organization better understand program impact.

Bushman purchased a multi-tenant building for the first time in 2024 with many remodeling projects within the entire building. Mueller has owned several multi-tenant buildings for years downtown and also houses their family business downtown.

Schlinsog is a second-generation small business and property owner, taking the reins within the past few years.

How would timing the development of your back entrance change if the Welcome Back Grant was not available? Would it have been a few years before pursuing the project or within the same timeline within 2024? Would you have prioritized the project at all?

Bushman: At a minimum, we need adequate signage to help foster and promote the new space. Having something visually appealing and user friendly will attract attention for greater foot traffic to our block and allow us to use that space in a productive way. Without the grant, we will only be able to signage and would have to push attractiveness and use of space to future years.

Mueller: The back entrance of our building located at 243 South Central Avenue was not at the top of our list of to-do's for this year. However when this grant came into play we looked at the back entrance closer and found it was in need of some repair. This repair work will happen this year with or without the grant as we like to catch these things early to prevent any damage to our historic building. However, we would have probably just fixed the issue and blended the paint until next year. This grant allows us to get this all done this year in addition to new signage—an element many grants will not offer in the projection of the project. With our multi-tenant building, we can apply on behalf of our tenants to get them attractive, customer-facing signage.

Schlinsog: If the Welcome Back Grant were not available, the timing of developing the back entrance of my building would likely be significantly delayed. Without the financial support from the grant, it would have been a few years before I could pursue the project. The funds necessary to make the back entrance aesthetically pleasing would have to be reallocated from other areas of the business, which could delay the project until sufficient capital was available.

Given the budget constraints and other priorities, such as operational costs and potential business expansion, the back entrance development would not have been a top priority within 2024. Instead, it would have been something to consider further down the line once the business was in a stronger financial position. The grant provides a crucial opportunity to accelerate this improvement, enhancing both the building's appeal and the overall customer experience much sooner than would have been possible otherwise.

Would you have been more or less likely to create a rear entrance that was customer-focused having taken on this project without Welcome Back Grant funds?

Bushman: Less likely. I would stick to functional basic signage needs.

Mueller: We have from the very beginning of owning this space known the importance of the back entrance to the building by understanding the limited parking that is offered on Main Street in Marshfield. We have always made sure the back side of the building facing the ally is fresh, attractive and welcoming. We do this not just for the cleanliness or maintenance of our space, but for our tenants within the space and their clients. We also feel keeping the space maintained not only reflects well on us and our tenants inside the space but on the City of Marshfield as well. People are attracted to clean, warm and inviting spaces. I feel this is why at least three of our tenants are long term 15-year (or more) tenants. Clean, maintained, and welcoming spaces are important to the success of all businesses.

Schlinsog: Without the Welcome Back Grant funds, I would have been less likely to create a rear entrance that was customer-focused. The financial constraints would have required a more conservative approach to any renovations, prioritizing essential improvements and operational needs over aesthetic and customer-focused enhancements. Without the grant, any development of the rear entrance would likely focus on basic functionality rather than creating a welcoming and attractive space for customers. The additional funds provided by the grant enable a more ambitious project that can prioritize customer experience and aesthetics, which might not have been feasible otherwise.

How would receiving Welcome Back Grant funds affect your customers and overall business?

Bushman: My business centers around not only the people that use the work space, but every business in the building and their customers. One of my goals is to help support and promote all businesses in and around me. By having a space that works to draw customers in, we are generating awareness for all around us.

Mueller: This does not just affect one business, but several. Our building currently is a hub for 7 successful businesses and their clients, which is why it is so great! I am able to take this grant and give back to all my tenants showing them not just the support from our city and Main Street but from me as a landlord. All which comes back and reflects well on my tenants. It is a win for everyone.

Schlinsog: Receiving the Welcome Back Grant funds would positively impact both my customers and the overall business in several ways:

- Customer Impact:
 1. Enhanced Experience: A well-designed, aesthetically pleasing rear entrance would create a more welcoming and enjoyable environment for customers, improving their overall experience.
 2. Convenience: If the new entrance is more accessible or offers easier parking, it would enhance convenience for customers, potentially increasing foot traffic.
 3. Perception: A visually appealing entrance can improve the perception of the business, making it appear more professional and inviting.
- Business Impact:

1. Increased Foot Traffic: A more attractive entrance can draw in more customers, leading to higher sales and revenue.
 2. Brand Image: Investing in the building's appearance can strengthen the brand image, signaling to customers that the business cares about quality and customer satisfaction.
 3. Competitive Edge: An upgraded entrance can differentiate the business from competitors, making it a more appealing choice for potential customers.
 4. Employee Morale: A pleasant and welcoming environment can boost employee morale and productivity, as they take pride in working in a well-maintained space.
 5. Property Value: Improvements to the building can increase its property value, benefiting long-term asset growth.
- Overall, the grant would enable significant enhancements that can attract and retain customers, boost business performance, and contribute to long-term success.



Jason Gruenburg
Planning and Zoning Director
Wood County Rural Economic Development Initiative
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Dear Mr. Gruenburg,

I am writing to express my support for Main Street Marshfield's Welcome Back Grant application for the Wood County Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) grant. As we have witnessed the positive impact that economic development projects can have on our community, I firmly believe that REDI grant funding for this program will significantly enhance the economic vitality of Marshfield.

The Welcome Back Grant exists to promote improvements to rear business entrances to provide better visibility, accessibility, and enjoyment to visitors. Continued improvements to our downtown buildings preserve the identity of rural communities and encourage small business evolution and success.

The REDI grant will help Main Street Marshfield support small businesses invest in the downtown area, by providing matching funds for secondary entrance improvements. The funded improvements will enhance the quality of the built environment attracting visitors, entrepreneurs, and additional investment. At WEDC, we know that vibrant downtowns are a critical component of a thriving economy, contributing to talent attraction, entrepreneurial success, and economic activity.

In conclusion, I support the Wood County REDI grant application for Main Street Marshfield. I am confident that this grant will bring about significant positive change to our community, and I look forward to seeing the transformative impact it will have on our local economy. Thank you for considering my support of this initiative. If you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sam Ridders".

Sam Ridders
Deputy Secretary and COO
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

LOOK FORWARD ►