The Land & Water Conservation Division expects to sell its 1,000,000 (one millionth) tree during the 2008 native tree, shrub and prairie plant sale. It might not have been the Green Bay Packer’s lucky season this year, but you could still be that lucky person, and purchase the millionth tree. The winner will receive a Tree Program gift certificate valued at $50.00!!

Orders will be accepted until March 7, 2008.

Program Development Over Time (1993-2008): The inception of the popular Tree Program began in 1993, to encourage local plantings of native woodland seedlings in areas of the county where farmland was rapidly converting to subdivisions. The program provided homeowners the opportunity to purchase small and large

(One Million) Trees Sold in 15 Years! ! - 1,000,000 (1 M)

Please join us at the open house for the Washington County Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan. This is a great opportunity for you to learn about the future goals, objectives, policies and programs recommended for Washington County to the year 2035. A half-hour presentation will be given at 6:30 p.m. regarding the plan’s development, law requirements, inventory and recommendations.
Washington County has created mitigation alternatives for property owners who desire a lesser setback to the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) than what is permitted under the County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. Mitigation is required when property owners improve or expand existing legal non-conforming structures or propose the construction of new structures that are located within the shoreland setback area.

Examples of mitigation alternatives include, but are not limited to the:

- Creation of buffer zones
- Removal of existing structures that do not meet the required setbacks
- Construction of stormwater management plan activities
- Replacement of seawalls with bio-engineered structures
- Removal of artificial sand beaches
- Replacement of existing Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems
- Removal of existing impervious areas

Why do we have Mitigation in our Ordinance?

Washington County seeks to work cooperatively with property owners who wish to improve or expand non-conforming structures within the allowable provisions of the code. In exchange for approval of these improvements, mitigation to the shoreland is required to restore the natural elements of the shoreline. The goal of mitigation is to restore the buffer zone, which helps enhance, protect and maintain a healthy shoreline and waterbody.

**Property Owner Actions**

A property owner proposing such improvements, expansion or new structure is required to submit a mitigation plan to the Land Use Division. This plan must satisfy mitigation point requirements specified in the Washington County Shoreland, Wetland, and Floodplain Zoning Ordinance, and approval by the Land Use Division is needed before issuance of the zoning permit.

The mitigation point requirements are as follows:

- Class 3 Waterbody – a minimum of 3 mitigation points is required per project
- Class 2 Waterbody – a minimum of 4 mitigation points is required per project
- Class 1 Waterbody – a minimum of 6 mitigation points is required per project

*(See Section 23.14 of the Washington County Code, Chapter 23 for more details on mitigation.)*
Help Shape the quality of life in Washington County!

March 31, 2008
Public Hearing
The Washington County Planning, Conservation, and Parks Committee (PCPC) will be conducting a public hearing as it considers recommending the comprehensive plan to the County Board for adoption. This is an opportunity to provide your opinions regarding the comprehensive plan.

Washington County Fair Park Pavilion
3000 Hwy PV
West Bend, WI  53095
7:00 p.m.

April 2, 2008
PCPC to Consider Plan for Approval
The Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee will be conducting a special meeting to consider the Comprehensive Plan for approval and recommendation to the County Board for adoption.

Public Agency Center - Rooms 1113A/B
333 E. Washington Street
West Bend, WI  53095
1:00 p.m.

April 15, 2008
County Board Considers Plan for Adoption
Washington County Government Center
432 E. Washington Street
West Bend, WI  53095
9:00 a.m.
Chapter XI: Transportation Element

Chapter XI, Transportation Element, of the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan is complete. Under the comprehensive planning law, the transportation element should incorporate State and Regional transportation plans, and compare County goals, objectives, policies, and programs to those of State and Regional transportation plans. This chapter includes a summary of the Regional Transportation System Plan and sets forth transportation goals, objectives, policies and programs through the plan design year of 2035.

Regional Transportation System Plan

The adopted Regional Transportation System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2035 is designed to serve the land use pattern developed as part of the regional land use plan for 2035. The plan’s vision is:

A multi-modal transportation system with high quality public transit, bicycle and pedestrian, and arterial street and highway elements which add to the quality of life of Region residents and support and promote expansion of the Region’s economy by providing for convenient, efficient, and safe travel by each mode, while protecting the quality of the Region’s natural environment, minimizing disruption of both the natural and manmade environment, and serving to support implementation of the regional land use plan and minimizing the capital and annual operating costs to the transportation system.

Arterial Streets and Highways Element

The Regional Transportation System Plan recommends a street and highway system that supports the existing development pattern and promotes the implementation of the regional land use plan. Among other recommendations, the regional land use plan recommends centralized urban development within planned urban service areas, which can be more economically served by transportation facilities and services than low density development dispersed across the County. That recommendation is generally reflected in the County Land Use Element.

Transit Element

The plan recommends improved and expanded rapid transit connections from Washington County to Milwaukee and through Milwaukee to the other urban centers of Southeastern Wisconsin, and improved and expanded local transit service to commercial and industrial development in the Germantown, Hartford-Slinger, and West Bend areas. Implementation of the recommendations set forth in the transit element will result in a doubling of transit service over the plan design period Region-wide. Recommended transit service improvements in the regional plan are summarized on the map on page 6.
Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Element

The regional plan recommends that bicycle accommodation be provided on all arterial streets, except freeways, as those streets are constructed or reconstructed. A system of off-street bicycle paths is also recommended to connect cities and villages with a population of 5,000 or more. The bicycle way system element of the 2035 Regional Transportation System Plan for Washington County is shown on the map on page 8.

The regional plan recommends that County and local governments prepare bicycle system plans for their jurisdictions that would supplement and refine the regional plan.

Airport Element

Air transportation is a valuable transportation mode for moving both people and cargo. Convenient access to an airport allows businesses to efficiently move goods and personnel from location to location, saving valuable time and increasing productivity. Local airports such as the West Bend Municipal Airport and the Hartford Municipal Airport play a crucial role in fostering business growth and economic development in Washington County. These airports also provide facilities for emergency medical flights, law enforcement, agricultural spraying, pilot training, and other community services. General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee County provides commercial airline service to residents of the County.

Interregional Transportation Element

Interregional transportation services and facilities such as air transportation, railroads, trucking, and water transportation provide public transportation services and commercial shipping services between Washington County and the rest of the Southeastern Wisconsin Region and other regions around the nation and world.

Intent of Bicycle and Pedestrian Element

- Provide for safe accommodation of bicycle and pedestrian travel.
- Encourage bicycle and pedestrian travel as an alternative to motor vehicle travel.
- Provide a variety of transportation choices.
Comprehensive Planning News

Planned Transit Element of the Regional Transportation System Plan
As It Pertains to Washington County: 2035

NOTE: RAIL FACILITY ALIGNMENTS SHOWN ON MAP ARE CONCEPTUAL. CORRIDOR STUDIES WOULD BE CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE WHETHER TO IMPLEMENT GUIDEWAYS AND TO SELECT A PREFERRED ALIGNMENT. UPON COMPLETION OF THE CORRIDOR STUDY, THE LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT CONCERNED SPECIFICALLY THE TRANSIT OPERATOR CONCERNED, WOULD DETERMINE WHETHER TO IMPLEMENT COMMUTER RAIL AND TO PROCEED TO PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING. AT THE REQUEST OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPONSOR AND TRANSIT OPERATOR, THE COMMISSION WOULD THEN FORMALLY AMEND THE REGIONAL PLAN TO INCLUDE THE COMMUTER RAIL LINE.
The transportation systems management element includes measures intended to manage and operate existing transportation facilities to their maximum carrying capacity and travel efficiency. The existing freeway traffic management system in Southeastern Wisconsin consists of many elements which are often referred to as intelligent transportation systems.

Intelligent Transportation Systems Include

- Traffic detectors
- Ramp metering
- High-occupancy vehicle bypass ramps
- Variable message signs
- Highway advisory radio
- Closed-circuit television
- Service patrols
- Crash investigation sites
- Enhanced reference markers

Recommended measures from the Regional Plan include installing ramp-meters at freeway on-ramps in the County and Region; providing variable message signs on the freeway system, and on surface arterials leading to the most heavily used freeway system on-ramps; and expanding the closed-circuit television network, enhancing reference markers, and expansion of crash investigation sites to better serve the regional freeway system. Such improvements are recommended on the entire freeway system, except for those segments where future traffic volumes are expected to be less than the design capacity. These segments include USH 41 north of STH 60 and USH 45 north of Pioneer Road in Washington County.
Comprehensive Planning News

Off-Street Bicycle Paths and Surface Arterial Street and Highway System Bicycle Accommodation Under the 2035 Regional Transportation System Plan as it pertains to Washington County
Goals and objectives were developed using the transportation inventory and public input, such as the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis, public opinion survey, countywide design workshop, and applicable State, regional, and County transportation plans.

Transportation Opportunities Identified
- Improving transportation choices
- More public transit
- More bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Developing community compatible streets and highways
- Maintaining the existing highway system

Transportation Threats Identified
- Increased traffic volume
- The lack of adequate public transportation
- The lack of adequate east-west highways
- Increasing road and infrastructure costs

General Transportation Goal
★ Improve transportation infrastructure and land use design to support a range of transportation choices for all citizens.

Multi-Modal Transportation System Goal
★ Provide an integrated, efficient, and economical transportation system that affords mobility, convenience, and safety and that meets the needs of all citizens, including transit-dependent residents, persons with disabilities, and the elderly.

Streets and Highways Goal
★ Maintain a street and highway system that efficiently serves the anticipated land use development pattern set forth on the Washington County Planned Land Use Map: 2035.

Transit Goal
★ Provide for a public transportation system in Washington County that efficiently serves County residents and the anticipated land use development pattern, where economically feasible.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Goals
★ Provide for bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Washington County that efficiently serve the anticipated land use development pattern.
★ Provide options for bicycle and pedestrian travel as an alternative to motor vehicle travel.

Airport Goal
★ Provide and maintain a safe air transportation system to meet the travel and freight service needs of County residents and businesses.

Interregional Transportation Goal
★ Provide region, nation, and world-wide transportation access to Washington County for passengers and freight.

For a full copy of the chapter including objective, policy and program recommendations, contact the Planning Division at (262) 335-4445 or visit our website at www.co.washington.wi.us/smartgrowth
Chapter IX, Land Use Element, of the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan is complete. Under the comprehensive planning law, the Land Use Element must identify recommended goals, objectives, policies, programs and maps to guide future development and redevelopment of public and private property.

The chapter includes:

- Existing land use conditions and trends
- Opportunities for redevelopment and smart growth areas
- Existing and potential land use conflicts
- The County Land Use Plan Map
- Goals, objectives, policies, and programs to guide the future development of the County through the year 2035.

The Land Use Element, in particular the 2035 Land Use Plan Map, serves to support the goals and objectives set forth in other elements of the comprehensive plan.

Land Supply and Demand

Trends indicate a demand for additional land to accommodate urban land uses, especially for single-family residential and the transportation infrastructure that serves it, in Washington County. There is also a decreasing supply of land for agricultural use. This trend poses several challenges to the desire of County residents to preserve productive farmland while identifying an adequate amount of land to accommodate the projected increase of about 19,000 additional households and 17,170 additional jobs expected in the County by 2035.

**Land Use Trends between 1975 and 2000**

- Nonurban land uses decreased by 21,000 acres (8%)
- Agricultural lands decreased by 32,805 acres (19%)
- Residential land uses increased by 13,174 acres (103%)
Opportunities for Redevelopment

The greatest opportunities for redevelopment exist:

• Where there is available land served by existing infrastructure

• Typically in the older and under utilized commercial buildings and parcels located in and adjacent to the traditional downtowns

• In older shopping centers located in cities and villages

Potential “Smart Growth Areas” in Washington County:

• Environmentally contaminated sites identified by local governments as suitable for redevelopment

• Under utilized parcels in and adjacent to traditional downtowns

• Undeveloped land within planned urban service areas that is adjacent to existing development and does not encompass lands with significant environmental features or potential for long-term agricultural use

• Hamlets identified for urban development in local land use plans

Smart Growth Areas

“an area that will enable the development and redevelopment of lands with existing infrastructure and municipal, State, and utility services, where practicable, or that will encourage efficient development patterns that are both contiguous to existing development and at densities which have relatively low municipal, state governmental, and utility costs.”

Existing and Potential Land Use Conflicts

The potential for land use conflicts is greatest in city and village planning areas that overlap with the towns. In accordance with Section 62.23 of the Statutes, a city or village planning area can include areas outside its corporate limits, including any unincorporated land outside of the city or village boundaries that, in the plan commission’s judgment, relates to the development of the city or village. Potential land use conflicts can arise in these areas because they may be planned for in both the town comprehensive plan and the city or village comprehensive plan, with different or conflicting land uses recommended by each plan. City and village planning areas are typically associated with city and village extraterritorial areas.
Farmland Protection - Lands limited to agricultural and supporting uses on parcels with a minimum parcel size of 35 acres.

Agricultural and Rural Residential - Allows all agricultural uses, as well as rural-density residential development with an average density of one home for each five to 34.9 acres.

Residential Development
- suburban density residential - includes predominately single-family homes at densities equating to lot sizes of between one and five acres
- medium-density urban residential - includes single-family and potentially two-family homes at densities equating to lot sizes of 10,000 square feet to one acre
- high-density urban residential category - includes single-, two-, and multi-family homes at a density of less than 10,000 square feet per dwelling unit.

Mixed-Use - Includes a mix of residential, commercial, and institutional uses.

General Commercial - includes retail stores; services, including drycleaners, barber shops, banks, and restaurants; and business and professional offices.

Office/Professional Services - Includes business uses such as the offices and professional services of doctors, architects, engineers, attorneys and other similar recognized professions and consultation services.

Business/Industrial - Allows a mix of industrial, office, retail, and service uses, and reflects the modern business park where a mix of office and industrial uses are typically accommodated.

Industrial - Accommodates manufacturing and other industrial uses, such as outdoor storage of commercial vehicles and building materials.

Governmental and Institutional - Includes public and private schools, government offices, police and fire stations, libraries, cemeteries, religious institutions, hospitals, nursing homes, and similar facilities.

Park and Recreation - Includes lands developed with facilities for public and private outdoor recreation.

Street and Highway Rights-of-Way - All existing street and highway rights-of-way.

Other Transportation and Utilities - Includes transportation facilities other than street rights-of-way, such as airports, park-ride lots, and railroad rights-of-way. It also includes private and public utilities.

Extractive - Non-metallic mining areas such as rock quarries, sand and gravel operations, and peat mining.

Landfill - No active landfills are currently located in the County. Landfills identified are inactive or “capped” landfills with the potential to be reclaimed for other uses.
**Washington County Land Use Map Categories (Continued):**

- **Environmentally Significant Areas** - To effectively guide urban development and redevelopment in the County into a pattern that is efficient, stable, safe, healthful, and attractive, it is necessary to carefully consider the location of planned land uses in relation to natural resources. This category includes Primary Environmental Corridors, Isolated Natural Resource Areas, Wetlands and Other Conservancy Lands to be Preserved.

- **Surface Water** - includes lakes, ponds, rivers, creeks, and streams.

### PLANNED LAND USES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY: 2035

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use Category</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Urban</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Suburban Density Residential(^b)</td>
<td>31,686</td>
<td>11.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medium-Density Urban Residential(^b)</td>
<td>13,918</td>
<td>5.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>High-Density Urban Residential(^c)</td>
<td>2,468</td>
<td>0.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>48,072</td>
<td>17.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mixed Use</td>
<td>3,459</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Commercial</td>
<td>4,152</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office/Professional Services</td>
<td>587</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business/Industrial</td>
<td>2,346</td>
<td>0.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>3,956</td>
<td>1.4</td>
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<td>Government and Institutional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Park and Recreational</td>
<td>6,008</td>
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<td>Street and Highway Rights-of-Way</td>
<td>15,661</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Transportation and Utilities</td>
<td>1,464</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Subtotal</td>
<td>88,545</td>
<td>31.7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nonurban</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Farmland Protection</td>
<td>29,388</td>
<td>10.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural and Rural Residential(^d)</td>
<td>82,434</td>
<td>29.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extractive</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>0.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landfill</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>(\leq 0.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Environmental Corridor</td>
<td>55,232</td>
<td>19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolated Natural Resource Area</td>
<td>6,265</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetlands(^f)</td>
<td>6,911</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Conservancy Lands to be Preserved(^g)</td>
<td>3,836</td>
<td>1.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surface Water</td>
<td>4,512</td>
<td>1.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonurban Subtotal</td>
<td>190,211</td>
<td>68.3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>278,756</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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</table>

\(^a\)Average density equating to one home per 1 to 4.9 acres.

\(^b\)Average density equating to one home per 10,000 to 43,559 square feet.

\(^c\)Average density of less than 10,000 square feet per home.

\(^d\)Allows agricultural uses and residential uses with an average density of one home per 5 to 34.9 acres. Local government ordinances may specify a maximum lot size for homes located in agricultural areas, in addition to a minimum parcel size or density.

\(^e\)Less than 0.05 percent.

\(^f\)Includes only those wetlands outside a primary environmental corridor or isolated natural resource area.

\(^g\)Includes woodlands, critical species habitat sites, common open space within conservation subdivisions, publicly-owned land not developed with intensive recreational or other uses, and similar lands outside primary environmental corridors, isolated natural resource areas, and wetlands.

Source: SEWRPC.
County Land Use Goals

- Encourage an appropriate allocation of land to various types of land uses to meet the social, physical, and economic needs of County residents, workers, and property and business owners.
- Accommodate the projected growth in Washington County’s population, households, and employment through the comprehensive plan design year 2035.

Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Goals

- Preserve and enhance the scenic beauty of Washington County.
- Preserve and enhance agricultural lands that are best suited for agricultural use.
- Encourage the protection, preservation, and appropriate use of the natural resource base.

Housing Goal

- Promote the addition of an adequate number of housing units to the current housing stock and allocate sufficient land area for housing demands to accommodate current and future populations.

Transportation Goal

- Provide and support a range of transportation opportunities that will effectively serve the existing and proposed County land use pattern through its location, capacity, and design.

Utilities and Community Facilities Goal

- Provide utilities and community facilities to adequately serve County residents, workers, and businesses.

Economic Development Goals

- Provide for diversified, balanced, environmentally compatible business development that will offer a variety of goods and services through conveniently located, well-designed business clusters while providing needed services for County residents.
- Promote an adequate number of sites for business creation, retention, and expansion.

For a full copy of the chapter including objective, policy and program recommendations, contact the Planning Division at (262) 335-4445 or visit our website at www.co.washington.wi.us/smartgrowth.
Comprehensive Planning News

Upcoming Planning Meetings

The Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Element Workgroup, Land Use and Transportation Element Workgroup, and Housing, Utilities and Community Facilities, and Economic Development Element Workgroup have completed their comprehensive planning work.

Multi-Jurisdictional Advisory Committee
• February 27, 2008, Washington County Public Agency Center - Rooms 1113A/B at 6:15 p.m.
• March 5, 2008, Washington County Public Agency Center - Rooms 1113A/B at 6:15 p.m. (tentative)

Open House and Informational Workshop
• March 13, 2008, Public Open House - Moraine Park Technical College at the AMTC - 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Public Hearing
• March 31, 2008, Public Hearing - Washington County Fair Park - 7:00 p.m.

PCPC Considers Plan for Approval
• April 2, 2008, Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee (PCPC Meeting) - Washington County Public Agency Center - Rooms 1113A/B at 1:00 p.m.

County Board Considers Plan for Adoption
• April 15, 2008, Washington County Government Center - Room 1019 at 9 a.m

Local Government Comprehensive Planning News

Local governments are beginning to schedule their public meetings. Keep the following dates open as they pertain to your municipality.

Town of Germantown Open House
February 21, 2008
6 - 8 p.m. at the Riteway Bus Company

Town of Barton Open House
February 28, 2008
7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Barton Town Hall

Meetings are subject to change. Please contact the Washington County Planning Division for current meeting information at 262-335-4445 or www.co.washington.wi.us/smartgrowth
quantities of seedlings at low cost to help enhance their property and stabilize the soil. The program has also been used as a tool to address rural and urban resource management concerns as outlined in the County’s Land & Water Resource Management Plan. Over the years, the program has expanded at the requests of residents to include more native tree and shrub species as well as prairie plants, bird and bat houses, and compost bins. To date, more than 970,000 native trees and shrubs and approximately 1,000 lbs. of native prairie mix have been distributed to the public with help from our County Highway Department, Fair Park and Planning & Parks Department partners, and volunteers (i.e., Riveredge Nature Center and Ozaukee-Washington Land Trust (OWLT) and many others).

**Improving Air Quality and Still a Great Bargain:**
Planting trees helps to remove the carbon dioxide produced by burning gasoline in our cars. While gasoline prices have increased by nearly 200%, our white pine and white spruce prices have actually decreased over the past 15 years. Most other species offered through the program have only increased by very modest amounts.

**An Annual Tradition In and Around the County:**
The program has averaged more than 600 customers per year with many making regular annual purchases. County residents Jim and Jane Derks have purchased trees and shrubs routinely throughout the life of the program to reforest their 4.5 acres in Town of Farmington. “I’d like to order more trees this year”, Jim recently stated, “but, I’ve run out of room!” Although the majority of our customers plant trees and shrubs in Washington County, trees also have been distributed to individuals from 18 Wisconsin counties, as well as to neighboring Minnesota residents.

**Conserving and Restoring Native Ecosystems:**
Participation in the program has also included organizations with missions to conserve and restore native plant habitat such as: Wings Over Wisconsin, Riveredge Nature Center, Cedar Lake Conservation Foundation, the Ozaukee-Washington Land Trust and others. These organizations have benefited from purchasing large quantities of trees and shrubs which have been provided through this program at low cost. Hundreds of volunteers from these organizations have helped to plant the trees in many sites throughout the area.

*The Tree Program has been and continues to be a success due to the excellent stewardship activities of our customers. Thank you for planting native species!*

1,000,000 (1M) Trees

Ozaukee/Washington Land Trust property
- Planted in 2002 trees act as a buffer to protect the Milwaukee River in West Bend.

Jim & Jane Derks, Town of Farmington residents, enjoy their forested habitat planted throughout the duration of the Tree Program.
It’s been 3 years, since our last Clean Sweep, but this fall Washington County residents will again have the opportunity to clean up their basements, garages, barns and sheds, and properly dispose of potentially hazardous substances. So, how do you know which items around the house are potentially hazardous? According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, hazardous materials are materials that may be toxic, ignitable, corrosive or reactive and are labeled as such. For example, many solvents, pesticides, oil-based paints and preservatives may become hazardous if used, stored or disposed of improperly.

Washington County businesses that generate small quantities of hazardous waste are also encouraged to participate! These materials will be collected on Friday during the Agricultural Clean Sweep. Chemical Inventory Forms (available on the website) are required for businesses that are considered to be Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQG). Contact the Land & Water Conservation Division at (262) 335-4800 for details regarding this opportunity.

For more information regarding the Washington County Clean Sweep, call the Clean Sweep Hotline at (262) 335.4810 or visit the Land & Water Conservation website at www.co.washington.wi.us/lcd. Learn what hazardous waste items will be accepted and what will not be accepted, along with tips on how to handle items not accepted.

Looking forward to the Clean Sweep? We are!

The Volunteer Center
Used computers and computer components will also be collected at the Washington County Volunteer Center located at 237 N. Main Street, West Bend, WI from 8:00am-12:00pm on Saturday, September 27, 2008. Nominal fees apply. For more information visit (www.volunteernow.net) or call (262) 338-8256 or 1-800-VOLUNTEER. No mainframe computers accepted, erasing hard drives is necessary before dropping off.
Take a moment to think back to what your pasture(s) looked like last fall: were they short, stagnant, and unproductive? Did they resemble your lawn or a golf course? Would you like to change all of that and achieve more forage production per acre from your pastures?

Well, one way to improve the productivity and quality of your pastures would be to incorporate clovers into your existing pastures through a method of interseeding called frost-seeding. I should mention that as a general rule, seeding a pasture (even frost-seeding) should be the last step in a three-step process for improving pasture productivity.

1) The first step should be to break your larger pastures into smaller pastures (called paddocks) and then only allow grazing animals to access one or two paddocks at a time while the other paddocks rest and re-grow. Compared to anything else you could do for your pastures, this management change will have the largest positive impact on pasture productivity. Having a Managed Rotational Grazing Plan completed for your pastureland by your friendly, neighborhood grazing specialist is a great tool for helping you determine the best paddock size and grazing duration.

2) The second step to improving pasture productivity should be to correct any imbalances in soil fertility, which doesn’t necessarily mean applying expensive commercial fertilizers.

3) The final step, is to broadcast the seed onto the ground’s surface during the freeze-thaw period of early spring. The best time to accomplish frost-seeding is when the top few inches of soil thaws during the day and then freezes during the night. The premise is that this freeze-thaw action helps work the seed into the ground. Of course, the exact time for successful frost-seeding is different each year, but in our area of the state, this usually takes place in early to mid-March (it is not recommended to frost-seed on top of snow).

The benefit of frost-seeding is that it is a very low-cost, simple method of interseeding forages into existing pastures or hayfields: less equipment is needed and labor and fuel costs are reduced. The downside is that it is riskier than seeding with a drill because of poorer seed-to-soil contact; farmers report that frost-seeding is successful 60-70% of the time. To increase the success of frost-seeding, it is best to remove pasture residue via close grazing or mechanical harvesting late in the previous fall after plants have gone dormant. This will “open up” the pasture stand to allow for better seed-to-soil contact in the spring.

Recommended Frost Seeding Rates of Forages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Seeding rate (lb/acres)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alsike or Ladino Clover</td>
<td>1 to 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red or White Clover</td>
<td>2 to 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perennial/Italian Ryegrass</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orchardgrass</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(cont. on Page 21)
NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT - Plan Ahead

Now is the Time to be Thinking & Planning for Nutrient Management!

Each year farmers who have developed 590-Nutrient Management* on their farm(s) are required to write (if certified) an update for the upcoming growing season (Fall 2007 through Fall 2008). Ideally, the farm nutrient management plan is a strategy for obtaining the maximum return from your on-(manure & legumes) and off-farm fertilizer resources in a manner that protects the quality of nearby water resources.

Qualified Nutrient Management Planners...if you have not yet updated your Nutrient Management Plan for the 2008 growing season...please contact Stephanie Hofmann, Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) at (262) 335-4804. If updates have been made...you may send your Nutrient Management Plan Checklist to:

Land & Water Conservation Division
333 E. Washington St., Ste. 3200
PO Box 2003
West Bend, WI 53095-2003

(*The 590 standard is a USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service document that defines the minimum requirements and components of an acceptable nutrient management plan.)

Frost Seeding in Spring...

Frost-seeding works best for legumes (clovers) and grasses that germinate rapidly at low temperatures. Varieties of Red and White clover are the easiest to establish via frost-seeding. It is definitely not recommended to frost-seed alfalfa or the majority of pasture grasses. The table lists the recommended species to use when frost-seeding along with their corresponding seeding rates.

One very successful pasture-based dairy farmer in Walworth County frost-seeds every acre of pasture each year with a mix of 3 lbs. of Ladino Clover and 5 lbs. of Red Clover! This intense system of frost-seeding allows this farmer to:

1) Increase the quality (protein content) of his pastures;
2) Increase the amount of nitrogen in the soil available to his pasture grasses as legumes take nitrogen from the air and fix it into the soil; and
3) Build up a clover seed-bank within his pastures to help get him through years when weather conditions may make frost-seeding impossible or less successful.
Soil is something that most people take for granted but if you take a minute and think about it, soils sustain life. Healthy soil gives us clean air and water, bountiful crops and forests, productive rangeland, diverse wildlife, and beautiful landscapes. Healthy soil has over six billion microorganisms in one cup. This is the first in a series of articles you’ll discover about the soil food web and the organisms that make up the web. Join us as we explore what is beneath your boots.

Creatures living in the soil are critical to soil quality. They affect soil structure and therefore soil erosion and water availability. They can protect crops from pests and diseases are central to decomposition and nutrient cycling and therefore affect plant growth and amounts of pollutants in the environment. Finally, the soil is home to a large proportion of the world’s genetic diversity. An incredible diversity of organisms make up the soil food web. They range in size from the tiniest one-celled bacteria, algae, fungi, and protozoa, to the more complex nematodes and micro-arthropods, the visible earthworms, insects, small vertebrates, and plants. As these organisms eat, grow, and move through the soil, they make it possible to have clean water, clean air, healthy plants, and moderated water flow.

There are many ways that the soil food web is an integral part of landscape processes. Soil organisms decompose organic compounds, including manure, plant residue, and pesticides, preventing them from entering water and becoming pollutants. They sequester nitrogen and other nutrients that might otherwise enter groundwater, and they fix nitrogen from the atmosphere, making it available to plants. Many organisms enhance soil aggregation and porosity, thus increasing infiltration and reducing runoff. Soil organisms prey on crop pests and are food for above-ground animals.

The soil food web is the community of organisms living all or part of their lives in the soil. A food web diagram shows a series of conversions (represented by arrows) of energy and nutrients as one organism eats another (see food web diagram). As organisms decompose complex materials, or consume other organisms, nutrients are converted from one form to another, and are made available to plants and to other soil organisms. All plants – grass, (cont. on Page 23)
The biggest cause of climate change is the carbon dioxide released when fossil fuels like oil and coal are burned for energy. So when you save energy, you fight global warming. In each future issue of our newsletter we will feature one or more easy steps you can take to reduce global warming pollution:

**Replace your light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.**

While compact fluorescents are initially more expensive than the incandescent bulbs most people use, they last 10 times as long. What's more, a compact fluorescent bulb will lower your energy bills by approximately $15 a year, and by more than $60 during its life. It will also keep half a ton of carbon dioxide out of the air!

Source: USDA-NRCS Soil Biology Primer
**Land & Water Conservation Division - Conservation News**

**Medicine Collection Day for Washington County Residents**
- *A Prescription for Clean Water and Safe Kids -*

**Saturday - April 19, 2008**
9:00am – 1:00pm
**Washington County Fair Park**
(3000 Hwy PV - West Bend, WI)

**ACCEPTABLE ITEMS**: Prescription & Over the Counter Medication

**DO NOT BRING**: Illegal Drugs, Bio-Hazardous Material, Needles/Sharps

Help protect Washington County’s waterways, prevent accidental poisonings and reduce substance abuse. Bring your expired and unused medicine to this special “Medicine Collection Day”. Never flush or pour unused medicine down the drain. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove all medications from wastewater.

For more information please contact the following:
- Washington County Health Department - Paula Mungan at (262) 335.4462 or
- Washington County Sheriff’s Department - Detective Mark Sette at (262) 335.4395

**Websites to visit** -
- [http://www4.uwm.edu/shwec/pharmaceuticalCollection/](http://www4.uwm.edu/shwec/pharmaceuticalCollection/)

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**Mid-Management Practice on CRP Land**

I **f** you re-enrolled land in CRP during the last sign-up, you may be required to complete a mid-management practice in 2008. If you aren’t sure if a mid-management practice is required in your CRP plan this year, check your CRP folder. The folder contains a job sheet outlining the required mid-management practice you agreed to, along with a timeframe to complete it, the requirements for the practice, what to interseed if interseeding is part of the mid-management practice, and any restrictions that may be present.

The most common mid-management practices are mowing, disking, interseeding, and prescribed burning. Mid-management practices must occur outside of the primary nesting season, May 15-August 1. These mid-management practices are part of your CRP contract, and failure to complete them may result in contract termination and/or payment reductions. If the required mid-management practice is mowing, disking or interseeding there are a few things to consider. Do you have the equipment to complete the practice or are you going to hire someone to do it? If you are going to hire someone – who? Does their timeline fit with the timeline outlined in the job sheet? If interseeding is required, do you know what to seed? Where are you going to get the seed?

I **f** the required mid-management is prescribed burning, the most important thing is that you have a burn plan that has been approved by NRCS. Now is a good time to get the burn plan in so it can be reviewed and revised and finalized before the burn season. A burn plan should be turned into NRCS a minimum of 6 weeks prior to the planned burn. A burn can be completed by a landowner or a private organization may be hired to complete it, as long as the burn plan has been approved. Getting these things in order now will eliminate any last minute issues that may arise. Remember that you are required to control invasive species and woody vegetation (on land enrolled in grass cover) at all times on CRP land.

Contact: Betsy Gillen, USDA-NRCS District Conservationist - 262.335.4801

Websites to visit -
- [http://www4.uwm.edu/shwec/pharmaceuticalCollection/](http://www4.uwm.edu/shwec/pharmaceuticalCollection/)
Historic Aerial Photography - Answers to your Questions

Washington County obtained digital aerial photography in 1995, 2000, and 2005 as part of larger regional projects, but what options are available if the item you are looking for predates 1995? Hardcopy versions of older aerial images are available. These images, however, are getting warn, are difficult to share, are located in only one county office (if at all), and are difficult to use with related information in the Washington County Land Information System.

In 2007, the Geographic Information Systems Division began a project to archive these older images and at the same time make them more accessible. Countywide digital imagery from 1941, 1950, 1963, 1970, 1980, and 1990 is being obtained by scanning original negatives. The individual resulting images will then be stitched together to create a countywide mosaic and referenced to the correct location on the earth’s surface. This means current parcel lines can be overlaid on older images or two images can be easily compared side-by-side to detect change in land use and answer the types of questions posed above.

Imagery from 1990, 1980, 1970, and 1963 is complete. 1950 and 1941 are expected in the first half of 2008. The resulting images can be printed for distribution and will soon be added to the Geographic Information Internet Mapping Application (http://maps.co.washington.wi.us).

Contact the Geographic Information Systems Division for more information.
Did you know that Washington County has many opportunities for people of all ages to enjoy the outdoors in winter? Is your idea of fun exploring the countryside with a group of friends on snowmobiles as farm fields whiz by at a blur? Is it hearing your children shriek with excitement as you all go sliding down a slippery hill to land in a wet heap at the bottom? Is it gliding along on cross-country skis in the stillness of a wintry wonderland after a new snow with perfectly perched puffs of white snow laden on each twig of every tree and shrub? Whatever it is that you love to do outdoors, Washington County Parks and Trails has something to offer you and your family.

Discovering the outdoors in your neck of the woods. Here’s what some people have enjoyed.

Some favorite pastimes include sledding on lighted sled hills at Ridge Run County Park located off South University Dr. on the west side of West Bend and Homestead Hollow County Park located off Freistadt Rd. in Germantown.

Did You Know?
The 2007-2008 Winter Season has had the second highest snowfall on record to date! We still may beat that record. Officially Winter’s not over until March 20th!
Ice fishing is available on the following lakes from these Washington County Parks:

- Erler Lake from Leonard J. Yahr County Park
- Wells Lake from Ridge Run County Park
- Silver Lake from Henschke Hillside Lake Access
- Friess Lake from Glacier Hills County Park
- Little Cedar Lake from Ackerman’s Grove County Park

Park patrons are strongly urged to use common sense in judging proper ice conditions based on recent weather.

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Snowmobiles can access County and Club trails from dedicated snowmobile trails in Heritage Trails County Park, Sandy Knoll County Park and Glacier Hills County Park. The Eisenbahn State Trail north of Lighthouse Lane is open to snowmobiles in winter when conditions permit.

A map of all snowmobile trails in Washington County is available at the Washington County Planning & Parks Department located at 333 E. Washington St., Suite 2300, West Bend.

Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are great winter activities and many County Parks are open year round. Open areas and hiking trails not used for snowmobiles are popular for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter. For information on trail maps for individual parks check the Washington County website at: [www.co.washington.wi.us](http://www.co.washington.wi.us) click on County Park System, then Parks.

Come on out and discover all that Washington County Parks have to offer this winter!
Planning & Parks Department Newsletter is published quarterly for Washington County residents. Viewpoints of authors do not necessarily reflect those of the Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee or the Washington County Board of Supervisors. The Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee and the Planning and Parks Department staff encourage responses from the public.

Planning & Parks Department Mission Statement

Our Mission:
The public is provided with recreational benefits, environmental protection and increased awareness, compliance with regulations, vibrant local economy, sensible growth and an improved quality of life in Washington County.

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