One of the benefits of working for the Parks Department is that you occasionally get a chance to talk to people who are out enjoying the parks. It is interesting to observe what people are doing and listen to them describe the benefits they get from visiting the parks.

A cancer survivor with hearing issues commented, “because it is so quiet and peaceful here, I can get relief from the ringing in my ears.” Another visitor talked about stress; “being out in the park enabled me to take my mind off work and life stresses and saved my life.” Any given weekday during lunchtime there are people sitting in their cars taking advantage of the peace and quiet and restful views offered from the parking lot.

Contractors awarded park construction projects repeatedly remark on how much they enjoy working in the parks. “Most of our projects are in the city with a lot of noise, traffic and heat all day. The stress just goes away when we get in the parks.”

Park trails are open year round for hiking, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing, so take time for a visit to the park. Give Nature a chance to provide relief from the pressures and worries in your life EXCEPT when the parks are packed with people!!

You will not find anything resembling quiet during events like the Slinger High School Cross Country Invitational where mobs of people flock to Homestead Hollow County Park to watch runners compete. High Schools entered in the race included Waupun, West Bend East & West, Wisconsin Home School, Kewaskum, Horicon, Grafton, Random Lake, Mayville, Watertown Lutheran Prep and Lomira. Cross-country runners pounded up and down the paths in the park, across the soccer field and through the picnic area among cheering parents, coaches, siblings, spectators and teammates.
Have you had trouble navigating your way around County park trails? The Parks Division with assistance from the GIS Division has recently completed a much-needed update to park maps. Park maps are available for you to pick up at kiosks located in the parks or download the pdf from the County website.

Level and dry, the improved trails at Homestead Hollow are just the thing to get you going on that exercise program you’ve been putting off. New boardwalks and mulch make the trails comfortable for walking or running.

NEW COUNTY PARK MAPS

Have you had trouble navigating your way around County park trails? The Parks Division with assistance from the GIS Division has recently completed a much-needed update to park maps. Park maps are available for you to pick up at kiosks located in the parks or download the pdf from the County website.
Vegetative Lakeshore Buffer

Come visit the new planting next spring, summer and fall to see the ever-changing color palette! Yellow Coneflower, Black-Eyed-Susan, Purple Joe Pye Weed, Lavender Hyssop and fine-textured sedges, grasses and ferns are some of the native plants that make up the new vegetative lakeshore buffer next to the carry-in-boat launch at Leonard J. Yahr County Park. The Land and Water Conservation and Parks Divisions worked together to purchase, design and install the planting. This buffer protects Erler Lake and is also intended to educate lake owners about what they can do to protect and beautify the shoreline in front of their property. These native plants provide a low maintenance buffer that filters out pollutants and sediment and keeps lakes clean. A split-rail fence protects the vegetative buffer from park visitors who may wander into the area.

New Shelter & Paved Parking Lots

Beginning in 2014, the new open shelter on the west end of Leonard J. Yahr Park will be available for you to reserve for events (fees apply). Five electric outlets, a serving counter, grill, new tables, accessible walkway and a conveniently close paved parking lot will be available in 2014. The shelter is sited to take advantage of great views and cool breezes on summer days.

The gravel lot near the entrance to the park was also paved in fall of 2013. Shelter #1, located nearby is enclosed and heated and now that the parking lot can be plowed, Shelter #1 is available for reservations year round (fees apply). Please visit the County website for more information about these shelters under the Planning and Parks Department / Golf and Parks Division.
Planning Division

Social Benefits of Parks, Trails and Open Spaces

Human beings are hardwired to live closely with nature. When people are connected to nature, it contributes to feeling less isolated and less focused on themselves. As a result, they become more eager to form connections with their neighbors. A greater sense of community and social ties emerge, as do increases in generosity, trust, and civic-mindedness. Loneliness, aggression, and crime decrease.¹ Parks and open spaces provide meeting places for individuals offering opportunities for social interaction with other individuals in the community and increases awareness of the natural environment when residents attach positive memories to their experiences. The Washington County park system offers these opportunities year-round at various facilities.

Our County Parks offer a venue for:

- Families to unite
- Building of cultural diversity and harmony
- Opportunities for individuals with disabilities
- Opportunities for seniors
- Supporting and development of youth
- Enhancement of education
- Deterring negative behaviors

Examples of social benefits provided by the Washington County park system:

- An educational fishing program is held annually at Sandy Knoll County Park
- Cross country meets are held at Homestead Hollow County Park
- A full, half and quarter marathon event is held annually on the Eisenbahn State Trail
- Youth soccer leagues use facilities within three County parks
- Swimming, offered in four County parks, and picnicking, offered in eleven County parks, are social activities that bring families and large groups of people together to enjoy our natural resources
- There are 24 shelters (six of which are heated) within the County park system that are commonly reserved for family gatherings and other social events

Parks, trails, and open spaces benefit communities by providing a sense of community and opportunity for people of different cultures to interact. Such amenities contribute to a high quality of life for residents, can serve as a good place to take children, and provide opportunities for families to recreate together. In addition, parks and open spaces can strengthen a community by providing opportunities for shared management and ownership of resources. Accessible recreational services are critical to the quality of life of disabled and disadvantaged individuals.

Park shelters are often more affordable to rent than many privately-owned venues such as country clubs and convention centers. Shelters can offer a number of valuable amenities for various activities and gatherings. Kitchen areas and the availability of water are beneficial for food preparation. Park shelters are useful rain or shine, and picnic tables and grassy areas regularly host activities and games. The parks also support a variety of nature-based activities.

Examples of community benefits provided by the Washington County park system:

- Playground equipment is offered in nine County Parks
- The interpretive center at Lizard Mound County Park offers a glimpse at Washington County’s Native American past
- Many non-profit organizations utilize community parks as a venue for community events
- For the winter months, the County park system offers six heated shelters, lighted ice skating in two parks, lighted sledding hills in three parks, cross-country ski trails in five parks, and snowmobile trail access in three parks, as well as cross-country skiing and snowmobiling on the Eisenbahn State Trail when conditions permit
A Passion for Cachin’

People from around the world flock to the public lands of Washington County!

What draws people from all over the world to Washington County? – a passion for caching. West Bend was flooded by people from 33 states, six countries, and communities all over the State of Wisconsin armed with hand-held GPS (global positioning system) units and the urge to get outdoors.

Geocaching, an activity continuing to grow in popularity, took Washington County by storm for the sixth time in as many years. The 6th Annual West Bend $1,000 Cache Ba$h took place August 10th and 11th. Headquartered out of Regner Park in West Bend, this annual “mega event” has resulted in West Bend being labeled the “Geocaching Capital of the Midwest” and this year’s event pumped an estimated $485,000 into the local economy.

What is geocaching?

According to geocaching.com, geocaching is a worldwide game of hiding and seeking treasure. A geocacher can place a geocache in the world, pinpoint its location using GPS technology and then share the geocache’s existence and location online. Anyone with a GPS unit can then try to locate the “cache”. More than 1,100 caches are planted in publicly accessible recreation areas within a 10-mile radius of West Bend including an estimated 66 located in Washington County parks and along the Eisenbahn State Trail.

Varying degrees of difficulty mean that anyone can geocache. Caches will sometimes contain trinkets, also known as “swag”, such as mini-flashlights, key chains, and wooden Geocoins. These items can be taken provided an item of equal or greater value is left behind. It turns the game into a world-wide treasure swap where your Geocoin from West Bend could make its way to the other side of the globe!

The West Bend Cache Ba$h drew approximately 1,700 participants to the parks and trails across Washington County to hike, swim, laugh, and explore. But geocaching is more than just a treasure hunt. The 1,700 entrants participated as approximately 850 teams, many of which were families. These families spent the weekend together exploring outdoors, being physically active, learning, and making memories they’ll never forget.

For more information regarding geocaching in Washington County or next year’s West Bend $1,000 Cache Ba$h, please visit geocaching.com and visitwestbend.com/cache-bash.

*Please consult the managing entity of the publicly-owned land before placing a cache.
A farmland preservation plan for Washington County

After receiving certification from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection on May 17, 2013, the Washington County Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee approved *A Farmland Preservation Plan for Washington County* on October 18, 2013 and recommended it for adoption by the County Board of Supervisors. On December 10, 2013, the County Board is scheduled to consider the Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP) for adoption in the form of an amendment to the County’s comprehensive plan as Appendix T. Upon adoption, the plan will become a guide to be used by County and local government officials and staff in making agricultural and land use decisions.

The FPP incorporates new programs and policies as recommended through the Working Lands Initiative, Wisconsin’s new farmland preservation program. The newly adopted FPP replaces the County’s former FPP adopted in 1981.

The FPP delineates farmland preservation areas (FPAs) throughout Washington County. An FPA is an area that is planned primarily for agriculture use or agriculture-related use. For a landowner to be eligible for tax credits (through farmland preservation zoning or agricultural enterprise areas) lands must first be located in an FPA in a certified county farmland preservation plan.

Washington County’s new Farmland Preservation Plan:

- Provides information on the Working Lands Initiative
- Explains the statutory requirements of farmland preservation planning
- Details an inventory of agricultural resources and infrastructure
- Describes the trends that impact farmland preservation
- Highlights ways to preserve farmland and support agriculture
- Identifies farmland preservation areas (FPAs)
- Recommends new and updated County goals, objectives, policies and programs for farmland preservation

Copies of the Washington County Farmland Preservation Plan and Executive Summary are available at the Planning & Parks Department office.

Public Agency Center
333 E. Washington St., Suite 2300
West Bend, WI 53095

The plan is also available on-line at:
www.co.washington.wi.us/PLN
Washington County is in the process of amending its comprehensive plan. Since being adopted by the Washington County Board of Supervisors on April 15, 2008, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Washington County: 2035 is due for updates, including changes to the County’s 2035 Land Use Plan, as well as the incorporation of the County’s new Farmland Preservation Plan.

The Washington County Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee (PCPC) conducted a public hearing regarding the amendment on Wednesday, October 16th. On Friday, October 18th, the PCPC approved the amendment and recommended it to the County Board of Supervisors for adoption. Planning Division staff presented the amendment to the County Board on Tuesday, October 22nd and the Board is scheduled to consider the amendment for adoption on Tuesday, December 10th, 2013. For more information regarding the amendment, please visit the Planning Division’s webpage: www.co.washington.wi.us/PLN.

Get Moving Washington County!

If you still haven’t checked out Washington County’s own active living website, you should! The Get Moving Washington County website includes a user-friendly mapping application that allows you to locate recreational resources and map your plans to be active and many other informational resources that will help you find ways to get up and “Go!” Check out the Calendar of Events to be informed about wellness events in your community.

www.GetMovingWashingtonCounty.com

Opportunity for the active – Inspiration for the inactive – Awareness for all

To stay up to date on events and ways to get moving, “like” Get Moving Washington County on Facebook
The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) is launching a major planning effort—“VISION 2050”—that aims to update, reevaluate, and extend the regional land use and transportation plans to the year 2050. The planning will utilize “visioning”, which will involve Region residents defining how they want their communities and the Region to develop, and how they want to be connected to the different places in their communities and the Region where they live, work, and play. The intended result of the VISION 2050 effort will be a long-range vision for land use and transportation in the Region, and year 2050 regional land use and transportation plans for Southeastern Wisconsin that will guide decision makers for years to come.

VISION 2050 is a way for YOU to influence the future of your community and Southeastern Wisconsin by helping to answer two main questions:

- How do you want your community and the Region to develop?
- How do you want to be connected to the different places in your community and the Region where you live, work, and play?

A critical part of the VISION 2050 process will be public involvement and input—this is where you get a chance to help out. There will be extensive public outreach throughout the process. This outreach will be designed to get greater input into the process, helping our fellow residents to understand the often difficult land use and transportation choices we face as a Region and to have their voices heard as these important choices are made over the next several decades.

**Public Participation Opportunities**

- Attend the visioning workshop on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 6:00pm at the Washington County Public Agency Center.
- Participate in a Regional Visioning Forum that will result in “Guiding Statements” to set the tone for development of the year 2050 regional land use and transportation plan
- Enter the *Portraits of the Region* photo contest where you submit your favorite photos of the Region in a number of different categories
- Complete the two online surveys available at www.vision2050sewis.org – a preference questionnaire and a visual preference survey
- Submit your comments on-line through the VISION 2050 website

To stay informed throughout the entire VISION 2050 process, please sign up for the VISION 2050 e-newsletter by visiting the website: [www.vision2050sewis.org](http://www.vision2050sewis.org)
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is requiring Washington County to adopt revised floodplain maps for the entire County excluding the cities and villages who will have to adopt their own revised maps for FEMA. This requirement is the result of FEMA’s map modernization effort which was started over six years ago. The County must adopt these maps by November 20, 2013 or be immediately suspended from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The revised maps will remove the floodway/floodfringe zoning district designation for many floodplain areas in the County and change the district to a general floodplain zoning district or unstudied floodplain. This change is because the floodplain studies done many years ago have been determined to be inadequate by current standards to accurately show floodway and floodfringe zoning districts. This means future development in the general floodplain zoning districts will require a floodplain study be completed by an owner prior to any permit approvals for those areas.

The Shoreland, Wetland & Floodplain Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 23) is also being required to be revised to reflect current FEMA requirements. One example is the allowable increase in the regional flood elevation which is changing from 0.01 of a foot to no increase at all. The majority of the other changes relate to information requirements from engineers and surveyors when a floodplain study is required.

The maps are also being amended to show the updated Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (WWI) from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The WWI was completed by the DNR several years ago in an effort to improve the accuracy of the wetland maps which were initially adopted by the County in the mid-eighties. These wetland maps will help reduce the need for property owners to have wetland delineations completed for their property prior to the County making a permit decision for the property.

On September 30, 2013 the Planning, Conservation & Parks Committee held a public hearing for the proposed amendment. The committee recommended approval of the amendment. The County Board will consider the amendment for approval at their November 19, 2013 meeting.
Directions on how to access this website application: www.co.washington.wi.us - click on - Departments - Planning & Parks Department - Draft Floodplain Wetland Zoning Map Viewer - Zoom into your property or type in a mailing address.

If you need additional assistance regarding how to use the tools in this application - Please refer to the Help Document.

Note: Only the data for the unincorporated areas of Washington County are included in this application; these are the areas subject to the County Shoreland/Wetland/Floodplain zoning ordinance. Contact the appropriate City or Village for information within the incorporated areas.

Once you are zoomed into your area of interest, you can view the DRAFT Map or you can view the CURRENT Floodplain Wetland Zoning Map. Simply switch views by sliding the bar located under the words DRAFT / CURRENT located in the top right hand corner of the application.
Interactive Mapping Options

Did you know? The interactive GIS mapping website (http://maps.co.washington.wi.us) is really two applications in one.

Use the ‘General Map’ when you are looking for basic property information and do not need specialized tools. With the general map, you are limited to predefined ‘street’ and ‘aerial’ map views. Because the information contained on the map is predefined, the general map is optimized for faster display.

Use the ‘Advanced Map’ when you want more control over which data layers are on the map. The advanced map includes specialized tools such as advanced print, buffering, and markup.

The area you are viewing is preserved when you switch between the general map and the advanced map. This means you do not need to start over if you start a project in one application and then decide you would prefer to finish in the other.

Commonly asked questions about both applications are answered in the online tutorial videos found at http://www.co.washington.wi.us/699.

See http://www.co.washington.wi.us/142 for a list of all interactive mapping applications available from Washington County.

Oblique Aerial Imagery Now Available

There is a long history of aerial photography acquisition projects in Washington County. These projects acquired imagery with a ‘straight-down’ perspective. Image layers dating back to 1941 are available on the GIS mapping website (http://maps.co.washington.wi.us).

In 2013, Washington County completed the first ever, countywide oblique aerial imagery project. Oblique imagery, imagery taken at a 45° angle, was acquired from each of the four cardinal directions. The imagery provides a different, and sometimes better, perspective to view current ground conditions.

Access the oblique aerial imagery by using the new ‘Pictometry Viewer’ tool found on the ‘Advanced Map’ of the GIS mapping website.
Josh Odekirk, District Conservationist, in Washington/Ozaukee County is urging farmers to plan ahead and have their permits in hand if they want to be considered high priority for conservation practice funding in 2014. The NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is the primary source of financial assistance (cost-sharing) for conservation practices on working lands, including those needing county, state or federal permits. The application deadline for 2014 EQIP funding is December 20, 2013.

Between 2009 and 2013, NRCS in Wisconsin has nearly doubled the funds it receives to help farmers pay for conservation work, totalling $31 million this year. However, staff numbers have remained the same. The resulting increase in NRCS program workload leaves limited time for staff to help landowners work through the permit processes.

Obtaining the proper permits are the landowner’s responsibility, and may sometimes be a lengthy process. NRCS will continue to provide technical assistance to landowners to help them fulfill their permitting responsibilities, but can only do so as time and staff resources will allow. Permits are commonly required for manure storage structures, erosion control structures, streambank and wetland restorations, and some other practices.

Applications for practices requiring permits will receive high priority ranking if the applicant has already obtained all necessary permits. Applications will receive medium priority if the applicant has completed all paperwork for the permit(s). And, applications will receive low priority if the applicant has not begun the permit process. Applications receiving a low priority will only be ranked for funding if funds remain once higher priority and medium priority applications are obligated.

NRCS recommends farmers come in early and get started planning potential projects. NRCS can help provide information on which permits are needed for particular practices. Then, farmers will be able to contact the permitting agency earlier.

For more information on this topic or other USDA Programs contact:

Josh Odekirk, USDA-NRCS
Washington / Ozaukee County
District Conservationist
phone: 262.335.4801 - ext. 3 or josh.odekirk@wi.usda.gov

Visit the web: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Management Practices</th>
<th>Permits (That may be required)</th>
<th>Who to Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stream Practices</strong></td>
<td>WDNR – Ch. 30</td>
<td>Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Regional Office 2300 N Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Dr. Milwaukee, WI 53212 ph. 414.263.8500 <a href="http://dnr.wi.gov/permits">http://dnr.wi.gov/permits</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>((streambank stabilization, stream crossing))</em></td>
<td>County - Shoreland Zoning</td>
<td>Washington Co.: Land Use Division 262.335.4445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ozaukee Co.: Land &amp; Water Mgt. 262.284.8313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Manure Storage &amp; Handling Practices</strong></td>
<td>WDNR – for operations &gt;1,000 animal units</td>
<td>WDNR Regional Office: 414.263.8500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(storage facilities, waste transfer, composting facilities)</em></td>
<td>County - Animal Waste Storage in nearly all counties</td>
<td>Washington Co.: Land &amp; Water Conservation Division 262.335.4800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ozaukee Co.: Land &amp; Water Mgt. 262.284.8313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Erosion Control Practices</strong></td>
<td>WDNR – depending on location of practice to nearby waterbodies</td>
<td>WDNR Regional Office: 414.263.8500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways)</em></td>
<td>County - Erosion Control &amp; Stormwater Maintenance - depending on area of ground disturbance</td>
<td>Washington Co.: Land &amp; Water Conservation Division 262.335.4800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ozaukee Co.: Land &amp; Water Mgt. 262.284.8313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wetland Practices</strong></td>
<td>WDNR – Ch. 30</td>
<td>WDNR Regional Office: 414.263.8500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(restorations, enhancements)</em></td>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Sec. 404</td>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: 262.717.9345 x 6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>County - Shoreland, Wetland &amp; Floodplain Zoning</td>
<td>Washington Co.: Land Use Division 262.335.4445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ozaukee Co.: Land &amp; Water Mgt. 262.284.8313</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are just a few examples. Every project may have different permit requirements.

For more information, visit [www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov), or contact the NRCS office at the USDA Service Center serving your county.
Healthy Soils Lead To Productive Farming

Field Day Held September 12th

Did you know? By the year 2050, Earth’s population is expected to reach 9 billion and farmers will need to produce as much food in the next 40 years as they have in the last 500. Agriculture generates $59.1 billion to our state’s economy and provides 1 in 10 jobs in Wisconsin. Washington County agriculture generates $746.1 million, or 8% of the County’s total business sales. And it all begins with the soil…

A beautiful, sunny day welcomed more than 50 farmers and professionals to Dornacker Prairie Acres who wanted to learn more about one of Washington County’s valuable resources: soil. Managing for soil health is one of the easiest and most effective ways for farmers to increase crop productivity and profitability while improving the environment.

The NRCS Soil Quality Team shared that healthy soils are more productive soils. They improve nutrient use efficiency, allow water to infiltrate into the ground, reduce runoff pollution and provide water when plants need it, add nutrients to the food we eat, break down or capture pesticides and contaminants and resist wind and water erosion to improve the quality of our air and water.

Attendees were given the opportunity to check surface residue and cover, explore a healthy soil below the surface, test fields for compaction and observe multiple field demonstrations differentiating healthy versus non-healthy soils.

According to the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) these four basic principles are the key to improving the health of your soil:

1) Keep the soil covered as much as possible.
2) Disturb the soil as little as possible.
3) Keep plants growing throughout the year to feed the soil.
4) Diversify as much as possible using crop rotation and cover crops.

Sources: USDA NRCS & Farm Bureau

Effects of Compacted Soil
Land & Water Conservation Division

Water Quality Testing During Runoff Events

We all know that streams and rivers fluctuate throughout the year; high flow during spring thaw and after big rain events; and low flow during summer and between rain events. Some streams may even become completely dry and have no flow. The amount of water isn’t the only thing that fluctuates in rivers and streams throughout the year; water quality and the concentration of contaminants also fluctuates. Generally we find higher concentrations of contaminants during spring thaw and after rain events when runoff transports contaminants from places like lawns, farm fields and roads into our waterways. Siphon samplers allow us to take samples of water during these runoff events.

In the picture to the right is a siphon sampler set at a specific height in a stream. The siphon sampler has a bottle that collects water and two tubes, the lower tube allows water in and the upper tube allows air out. When the water level rises above the first hump in the lower tube water begins to fill the bottle. After the bottles are full we retrieve them and send them to a lab to be tested for nitrogen, chloride, phosphorus and total suspended solids.

The results indicate the quality of the runoff in an area and the type of pollutants that may be in the runoff. For example; high chloride likely indicates lots of urban runoff from salt used on roads. High phosphorus likely indicates fertilizer runoff from lawns or farm fields. The higher the suspended solids in a sample reflects the amount of soil erosion that enters a stream. With this information we can better determine the types of conservation practices that are needed to improve water quality in our streams, rivers and lakes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Contaminants</th>
<th>Menomonee River</th>
<th>Oconomowoc River</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrite (NO2) &amp; Nitrate (NO3)</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloride</td>
<td>41.6</td>
<td>37.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonium (NH4)</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen</td>
<td>2.02</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Phosphorus</td>
<td>0.396</td>
<td>0.071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphate (PO4)</td>
<td>0.187</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSS (Total Suspended Solids)</td>
<td>1135</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The samples below were taken on 05/08/09 in the Village of Germantown and the Town of Erin after a 1.75 inch rainfall event. Here we can see the drastic differences between a river in a developed urban area like the Menomonee River and a river in a less developed rural area like the Oconomowoc River.
Aquatic Invasive Species Update
Clean Boats Clean Waters: Watercraft Inspections

It was another very active year on the waters of Washington County with inspections on the number of boats increasing from 872 in 2012 to 952 in 2013, well over the number of boats inspected in 2011. The real good news is that 99% of boaters interviewed are aware of the AIS laws and that it is illegal to transport vegetation, animals, live fish, and water from a lake or any body of water.

In each of the past 3 years County employees documented a little over 200 hours of watercraft inspections and boater interviews. This involves a State form that is filled out for each watercraft entering or exiting a body of water during inspection times. During the inspections and interviews boaters are reminded of the AIS laws to:

- inspect all equipment
- remove all vegetation and animals from equipment
- drain all water from boat and equipment
- never move live fish

It is also recommended that watercraft should be allowed to dry for a minimum of 5 days before use in another body of water. If time does not allow for drying, other recommendations include: washing your boat and trailer with at least 104 degree water, pressure wash your boat and trailer, or wash with a 0.5% bleach solution. Washing your boat and trailer, although not law in Wisconsin, is recommended to remove microscopic invasive species.

As fall is upon us, boats, piers and all other water related equipment are being removed and it is a good time to check for the presence of Zebra Mussels, Mystery Snails, or any other plant or animal that looks out of place. If anything appears odd or unfamiliar please contact the Washington County Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Paul Klein at 262.335.4806.

Wisconsin has several laws to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species and VHS. FINES CAN EXCEED $2,000!

Check out the AIS website: www.co.washington.wi.us/ais - or simply SCAN this QR Code!
Land & Water Conservation Division

Autumn Shutdown of Water Gardens and Ponds

As fall approaches and people are preparing their ponds and water gardens for the winter there are some important things to keep in mind. Many water garden plants are not native to Wisconsin. While they may not be able to live through our harsh Wisconsin winters, it is illegal to discard them in any public waterbody; including ditches, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes and wetlands.

The proper method to dispose of unwanted plants and animals from water gardens, aquariums or ponds is to destroy them through drying or simply putting them in the garbage. Plants and animals can also be composted but must be done away from any body of water or area that has the possibility of the compost draining into any body of water.

Effects of the Cold/Late Spring on Aquatic Invasive Plant Species in Our County Lakes

We are able to track the presence of AIS through annual monitoring and mapping of aquatic plant species in the County’s major lakes. Many of the invasive plants (Eurasian Water Milfoil-EWM and Curly Leaf Pondweed-CLP) showed a noticeable decline in their abundance especially in the areas where they dominated in the past. Invasive plants typically start growing early in the year when the water is much cooler. This adaptation gives them a jump start over native plants thus out competing and ultimately crowding out our native plants. However, this year’s late spring allowed our native plants to get an equal start to the growing season. With lake temperatures warming quickly this year, the native plants had an equal opportunity to grow. In many areas, the native plants ultimately crowded out the invasive species. As much as most people disliked this year’s winter to summer season, it diminished the impact of AIS in our lakes.

This year was in sharp contrast to the spring/summer of 2012 where EWM and CLP formed very thick beds and were widely spread throughout many lakes. During 2012 there was a longer spring season allowing invasive plants to flourish and out compete our native plants. As we continue to use 2012 as a benchmark for mapping and comparison for subsequent years, we certainly need to give round #2 (2013) to the natives.
2013 Best Management Practices
Why Are These Conservation Projects Necessary?

**Essential Dairy - Town of Kewaskum**
Manure Storage *(left)* and Milkhouse Waste Tank *(right)*

- Manure storage structures hold the manure until field conditions allow for environmentally safe spreading of the waste.
- Milkhouse wastewater may contain cleaning chemicals (detergents, sanitizers and acid rinses), water softener, and small amounts of manure, bedding, feed and dirt. Collecting it helps prevent pollutants from entering our streams.

**Cheeserville Dairy - Town of Farmington**
Feed Leachate

- Animal feed storage leachate (liquid runoff) contains nitrate-nitrogen that can be harmful to our groundwater. Filtering the liquid through grass allows for contaminants to be removed.

**Klink Farms, Inc. - Town of Addison**
Grassed Waterway, Drop Structure

- Grassed waterways are established in fields where channelized water has caused erosion. This practice holds the soil in place limiting nutrients from entering the streams.

(cont. on page 20)
Hillcrest Farms - Town of Addison
Manure Storage, Milkhouse Waste Collection, Clean Water Diversions
- Manure storage structures hold the manure until field conditions allow for environmentally safe spreading of the waste.

Butzlaff Stock Farms, LLC - Town of Wayne
Barnyard runoff control and collection, roof gutters, fence, cattle lanes
- Organic matter, phosphorus, nitrogen and pathogens are all found in feedlot runoff. Barnyard practices prevent clean water from getting dirty and also treats polluted feedlot water.

Know What You Drink!
Well water test kits are available for pick-up in the office. If your drinking water comes from a private well we recommend having the water tested annually. Stop in for a test kit today.

Well Water Test Kits
Include 8 Analyses:
- Coliform Bacteria
- Nitrates plus Nitrite Nitrogen
- Total Hardness
- Alkalinity
- Conductivity
- pH
- Corrosion Index
- Chloride

Visit our website www.co.washington.wi.us/lcd - click on Well Water Testing to find out more on the following topics:

Drinking Water Fact Sheets
- Arsenic
- Cancer
- Cryptosporidium
- Disinfection By-Products
- e.coli
- Elderly
- Lead
- Maternal & Child Health
- Nitrate
- Pesticides
- Radon
Do you own a woodlot? Ever wonder what you could do with it? Do you enjoy wildlife? Do you want to attract wildlife to your land? Do you want to know the trees, shrubs and other plants on your land?

It is possible to have a professional forester visit with you free of charge! Department of Natural Resources (DNR) foresters provide this service and can be your initial contact. Some of the services DNR foresters can provide are: written management plans (non-MFL), provide guidance on timber sales, forest tax programs, cost share programs, forest protection measures, and tree and shrub planting plans, to name a few.

A written management plan would set your goals for the property and have guidance on how to obtain your goals. For example you would like to see more turkeys and deer. You may want to consider planting oaks for the acorn production and acorns attract more wildlife (turkey and deer as well as other species). However the soil type will also have a big impact on what trees will grow on your land. You usually do not find red oak in wet areas but you may find swamp white oak in the wet areas.

The written management plan incorporates landowner objectives, timber management, wildlife management, water quality and the environment as a whole to create a healthy and productive forest. Landowner goals lay the groundwork for the management plan and influence the scope of forest management practices.

Wisconsin also offers landowners financial incentives to help reduce the expenses of owning and caring for woodlands – forest tax incentive (Managed Forest Law – MFL) and cost-sharing program (Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant Program – WFLGP). Both programs have a 10 acre minimum to participate.

Sustainable forest management benefits Wisconsin’s economy, hunting, fishing, wildlife, recreation, soils, waterways, air quality and renews our beautiful forests for everyone to enjoy.

Landowners interested in managing their woodlots should contact their local DNR Forester. For most of Washington County, please contact Julie Peltier at 262.670.3404 or email Julie.Peltier@Wisconsin.gov.
### EVERGREEN TREES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Trees/Bundle</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Alt**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Balsam Fir (2-3)*</td>
<td>12-16”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$24.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Red Pine (2-2)*</td>
<td>7-15”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 White Cedar (2-3)*</td>
<td>12-16”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 White Pine (2-2)*</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 White Spruce (2-2)*</td>
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### BROADLEAF TREES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 American Basswood</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>$49.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 American Beech</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$36.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 American Plum</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>$34.00</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Chokecherry</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Hackberry</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Paper Birch</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Quaking Aspen</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$37.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Red Maple</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$21.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Red Oak</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 River Birch</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$21.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Sugar Maple</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Swamp White Oak</td>
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<td>$27.00</td>
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### WILDLIFE SHRUBS

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<td>18 American Elderberry</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 American Hazelnut</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>$33.00</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Nannyberry</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$33.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Pagoda Dogwood</td>
<td>12-24”</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Red Osier Dogwood</td>
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<td>$18.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Serviceberry</td>
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<td>24 Witch Hazel</td>
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### PROGRAM EXTRAS

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<tr>
<td>25 Bat House</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>$33.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Bluebird House</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Butterfly House</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>$34.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Soil Test Kit (For lawn &amp; garden - $18 lab fee)</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Well Water Test Kit ($46 additional lab fee)</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Compost Bin (Free booklet included)</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 Rain Barrel (55 gallon drum)</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>$13.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>32 Field Guide to Terrestrial Invasive Plants</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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### PRAIRIE SEED PACKAGES

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<tr>
<td>33 Prairie Grass Only Mix (7 grasses)</td>
<td>1 lb.</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>34 Wildflower Only Mix (40 forbs)</td>
<td>1 lb.</td>
<td>$81.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 Wildflower Only Mix (40 forbs)</td>
<td>½ lb.</td>
<td>$48.00</td>
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<td>36 Wildflower Only Mix (40 forbs)</td>
<td>¾ lb.</td>
<td>$34.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>37 Medium-Dry Site Mix (37 forbs/ 2 grasses/ 1 sedge)</td>
<td>1 lb.</td>
<td>$68.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38 Wet Site Mix (32 forbs/ 2 grasses/ 1 sedge / 1 bulrush)</td>
<td>1 lb.</td>
<td>$68.00</td>
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<td>x</td>
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### TOTAL

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<td>5.6% sales tax</td>
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<td>TOTAL DUE</td>
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I have read and understand the program information as documented in this brochure. I have enclosed my full payment for the order as listed on this form.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ______________________

Name: _____________________________________________ Address: _____________________________

City: _____________________________________________ State: __________________ Zip: ________

Telephone Number - Day: ___________________________ Evening: __________________

Tax Exempt Number (If applicable- please also attach a copy of your tax exempt certificate): __________________________

Check Payable to:
Washington County
Land & Water Conservation Division
333 E. Washington St., Suite 2300
West Bend, WI 53095
2014 Conservation Poster Contest
“DIG DEEPER - Mysteries in the Soil”

Soil is an amazing substance. A complex mix of minerals, air, and water, soil is also filled with countless micro-organisms, and the decaying remains of once-living things. Soil is made of life and soil makes life.

Washington County’s K-12th grade students are invited to participate in the 2014 Conservation Poster Contest “DIG DEEPER - Mysteries in the Soil”. Over the summer a decision was made to move Wisconsin’s poster contest from fall to winter giving the teachers more time to work with their students and fit the contest into their curriculum.

Everyone entering the competition will be recognized with a certificate commending his/her interest and concern for the environment. The top three winners (in the county) of each category will be awarded gift cards and art supplies. All first place winners will automatically advance to the next level of competition and judging.

Posters can be submitted to the Land & Water Conservation Division by Monday, December 30, 2013. Required entry forms and rules may be found on our website: www.co.washington.wi.us/lcd click on Conservation Education – Kids.

What we do in our backyards and our communities can make all the difference to the quality of our lakes and streams. Visit the website with your children.

WINTER PARK ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

There’s lots for you and your kids (big and small) to do outside in the winter at Washington County Parks! You can ice fish at Silver, Little Cedar, Friess or Erler Lakes, or go sledding at Homestead Hollow, Ridge Run or Glacier Hills County Park lighted sled hills. You can cross-country ski or snowshoe on the trails, or just play in the snow at any of the County Parks!
Planning & Parks Department Newsletter is published semi-annually 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:
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.

Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee Members
Michael R. Miller, Chairperson
Raymond W. Heidtke, Vice-Chairperson
Gerald J. Schulz, Secretary
Melvin K. Ewert, County Board Supervisor
Peter I. Sorce, County Board Supervisor
Michael Parsons, County Board Supervisor
Todd White, County Board Supervisor
Ross Bishop, FSA Representative - LCC Member

Planning, Parks and Recreation Department Members
Paul Mueller, Administrator
Debora Sielski, Deputy Administrator
Mike Kactro, Assistant Administrator for Golf & Parks
Phil Gaudet, Land Resources Manager
Eric Damkot, GIS Manager
Paul Sebo, County Conservationist

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<td>Homestead Hollow &amp; Yahr Park - Improvements</td>
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<td>Social / Community Benefits of Park &amp; Open Spaces</td>
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<td>Farmland Preservation Certification and Adoption</td>
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<td>Land Use Division</td>
<td>Amendments to Shoreland, Wetland &amp; Floodplain Maps-NEW Floodplain Wetland Zoning Application</td>
<td>10-11</td>
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<td>USDA-NRCS</td>
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<td>13-14</td>
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<td>Land &amp; Water Conservation Division</td>
<td>Healthy Soils Lead to Productive Farming</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Water Quality Testing During Runoff Events</td>
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<td>Best Management Practices</td>
<td>19-20</td>
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<td>Helping You Manage Your Woodland</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>2014 Tree Program Order Form</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kids Corner</td>
<td>2014 Poster Contest / Winter Activities for Kids</td>
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</table>

This Newsletter is available in color on the website!  Go Green...Go Green...Go Green
In an effort to conserve environmental and financial resources, please consider receiving the newsletter electronically. Send an email to: ppdnewsletter@co.washington.wi.us or call 262.335.4800