

## **UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

### **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

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

### **4.2 EXISTING UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

#### **Water Supply**

The Town of Long Lake does not provide municipal water service. All residents receive their water via private wells that are owned and maintained by the property owner. Currently the town has no plans to develop a public water system over the next 20-years.

#### **On-Site Waste Disposal Facilities**

The disposal of domestic and commercial wastewater in the Town of Long Lake is handled using individual on-site wastewater disposal systems, often referred to as septic systems, which gradually discharge the wastewater to underground drainage fields.

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce (COMM) regulates the siting, design, installation, and inspection of most private on-site sewage systems in the state. In 2000, the state adopted a revised private system policy called COMM 83. The revised policy allows for conventional sewage systems and advanced pre-treatment sewage systems. There are five types of on-site disposal system designs authorized for use today: conventional (underground), mound, pressure distribution, at-grade holding tank, and sand filter systems. Sanitary permits are required under state law; and to obtain a permit, you would have to contact a Wisconsin licensed master plumber who will complete the necessary forms and obtain the sanitary permit. The plumber is then also responsible for the installation of the private sewage system.

#### **Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facilities**

Prior to 1969, solid waste management in Washburn County consisted primarily of individuals hauling to unsupervised open municipal dumps. Since that time, state and federal codes have become more restrictive and non-hazardous household wastes are landfilled only in licensed facilities. These solid waste disposal sites or landfills are important potential sources of groundwater pollution. It wasn't until approximately 1990, when the costs to comply with state codes ultimately forced towns to close dumpsites that could not be upgraded. The municipal dump in the Town of Long Lake closed at that time. It is likely that most town, village, or city disposal sites are contaminated to some degree because of inadequate methods of disposal and

monitoring techniques used at the time of operation. Table 4.1 shows information regarding old dump(s) in the Town of Long Lake and Map X shows the location of closed municipal dumps.

**Table 4.1: Waste Disposal Sites**

Facility Name	Legal Description	Status
Long Lake Town Dump	SW NW S09 37N 11W	Inactive
Long Lake Town Dump	SW SE S24 37N 11W	Inactive
Tomahawk Scout Reservation	SE NW S11 37N 11W	Inactive

Browning-Ferris Industries Inc. (BFI) provides both garbage and recycling pick-up services to residents of Washburn County and runs the only private sanitary landfill in Washburn County, which is located on CTH D in the Town of Sarona. A current proposed expansion would serve municipalities and industries located in 22 Wisconsin counties and four Minnesota counties. Waste Management also serves a portion of Washburn County. Township residents have their choice of garbage haulers.



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

Drop-off sites are aimed at persons that do not have curbside garbage collection. There are currently six drop-off recycling centers in Washburn County, two of which take expanded recyclables and one that is a transfer station. These facilities are located in the communities of Spooner, Minong, Shell Lake, Springbrook, Stone Lake, and Long Lake. The Spooner and Minong facilities are the expanded recycling centers, with the Minong facility being the only present transfer station in the county. The transfer station in Minong serves both the Town and Village of Minong and the Town of Frog Creek. Waste that is brought to the station is compacted, loaded into trailers, and taken to the landfill in Sarona for final disposal. Recyclables on the other hand, are collected and maintained separate from other solid waste materials.

**Stormwater Management**

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

Over the next 20-years, stormwater management may become an issue in the areas around Long Lake as continued development occurs. Coordination between the Town of Long Lake and Washburn County must be established in the future to effectively implement a management plan, if developed. Additional runoff from development and roads will have negative impacts on lakes

and streams as sediment and nutrient delivery increases. Managing storm water to increase infiltration and reduce or eliminate direct delivery to surface waters is one of the most important steps that can be taken to protect surface water quality.

### **Law Enforcement**

The Town of Long Lake does not have a police station or its own police department. The Washburn County Sheriff's Department serves as the primary law enforcement agency to the Town of Long Lake. The department's administrative functions and jail facility are located in the City of Shell Lake. All emergency calls should use 911, which is staffed 24-hours by the Washburn County Sheriff's Department.



Over the 20-year planning period, it is not likely the Town of Long Lake will develop a law enforcement department. Coordination between the Town of Long Lake and Washburn County Sheriff's Department regarding local crime must continue to be monitored in an effort to address local concerns regarding public health, safety, and welfare.

### **Fire and Rescue**

By intergovernmental agreement, the Town of Long Lake is served by the Birchwood Four Corners Emergency Services District (BFC ESD) Volunteer Fire Department. The department is located at 280 Edenharter Rd, Birchwood in the village.

For ambulance service, the west three-quarters of the town is taken care of by Marshfield Clinic, Rice Lake. The east one-quarter is provided ambulance service by the Birchwood Ambulance Service in the Village of Birchwood. The Birchwood Ambulance Service provides basic and advanced rescue services with two ambulances and ten EMT, three of whom are also firefighters. The ambulances are owned and operated by the village. Contact Rich Eldon. 715-645- 2628 North covers part of the town. Kelly Kupp 715-651-6622

Washburn County has a network of first responders who are paged or called to medical emergencies by the Washburn County Sheriff's Department. All emergency calls should use 911, which is staffed 24-hours by the Washburn County Sheriff's Department.

### **Libraries**

There are no public libraries in the Town of Long Lake. Residents can utilize the City of Shell Lake Public Library at 501 1<sup>st</sup> Street, the City of Spooner Public Library at 421 High Street, or the Rice Lake Public Library at 2 E Marshall Street. Residents may also take advantage of the Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary's library in their lodge, which can seat up to 85 people. This library is not winterized and does not lend or rent books out. Over the next 20-years, the Town of Long Lake is not likely to create a library.

### **Town Hall/Garage**

The town hall and garage is located at N1584 County Highway MD. Town meetings are held at the town hall on the reference kiosks & website for agendas and meeting times & dates. The town hall is can be used for a number of different functions throughout the year.



*Utilities & Community Facilities*

The town garage is used to store and maintain town equipment. See Map 4.1 for location.

### **Cemeteries**

Frequently unnoticed, cemeteries are important community facilities that provide a tangible link with the past and serve as holy and sacred places. Currently, there is one cemetery in the Town of Long Lake. Long Lake Lutheran Cemetery is located on Church Road in the southeast corner of the town. See Map 4.1 for cemetery location.

### **Communication Facilities**

Due to the increase in use of wireless communication, the construction of telecommunication towers is an issue that towns are addressing more often. Access to wireless communication facilities is becoming more and more important in the modern world. Currently, there are no cellular towers in the Town of Long Lake. Over time, as wireless communication company's look to expand their services, cellular towers may be erected in the town. Washburn County currently has cell tower guidelines in place for the construction of new towers. As part of the planning process, the town should work with the county in determining acceptable locations for possible future tower locations and ordinances. Map 4.2 depicts current cell tower locations in Washburn County.

companies are available to provide long distance telephone and internet services. The quality of telecommunication services depends on the capacity of the network that serves the Town of Long Lake. Future services will be dependant on identifying and planning for future development areas.

### **Power Plants, Substations, and Transmission Lines**

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

### **Electric & Gas Utilities**

Barron Electric and Xcel Energy are the two primary providers of electric services to the Town of Long Lake. For more information on electric service providers see this section of the *Washburn County Comprehensive Plan*. Map 4.2 depicts electric utility territories in Washburn County.

Currently, natural gas is not offered in the Town of Long Lake.

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

## **4.3 MEDICAL/HEALTH CARE AND OTHER FACILITIES**

The Town of Long Lake has no medical facilities within its boundaries. Residents can receive full medical services at Marshfield Clinic in Rice Lake; Spooner Health System, Spooner; or Indianhead Medical Center, Shell Lake. All three hospitals operate facilities that are staffed 24 hours a day to respond to medical emergencies in Barron, Rusk, Sawyer, and Washburn Counties. See Map 4.1, Community Facilities for hospital locations. For more information on medical facilities, see the **Utilities and Community Facilities Element** of the *Washburn County Comprehensive Plan*.

In-home health care services are available to residents of the town through providers in neighboring communities.

### **Senior Care Facilities**

There are currently no licensed nursing home facilities located in the Town of Long Lake. These facilities can be found in the surrounding communities. The town has no plans to develop senior care facilities over the next 20-years. For more information on senior care facilities in Washburn County, see the Utilities and Community Facilities Element of the Washburn County Comprehensive Plan.

### **Childcare Facilities**

There are currently no childcare facilities located in the Town of Long Lake. These facilities can be found in the surrounding communities. The town has no plans to develop childcare facilities over the next 20-years. For more information on childcare facilities, see the Utilities and Community Facilities Element of the Washburn County Comprehensive Plan.

## **4.4 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES**

Most school age children in the Town of Long Lake attend public schools either in the Spooner or Rice Lake School District.. Educational facilities are expressed in more detail in the Utilities and Community Facilities Element of the Washburn County Comprehensive Plan and school district boundaries are depicted in Map 4.3.

Nearby post secondary educational facilities are available in surrounding communities.

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

## **4.5 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

### **Parks**

As of September 2002, there is one park, no designated campgrounds, and one designated day-use recreation area in the Town of Long Lake. Fristad Park is a wooded area located in section

16-37-11 open to the public. Refer to Map 4.4, Park and Recreation Areas in Washburn County for park locations.

**Trails**

Trails #28 and 34 are the only town designated snowmobile trails in the Town of Long Lake. The Washburn County Official Highway Map depicts these trails and other trails in Washburn County. The map is available f at the Washburn County Tourism Association located at 122 W. River Street, Spooner. Designated in the township are open for ATV’s and UTVs. Reference signage.

**Public Access Points**

Public access points are points of entry for the public to make use of public lakes, forests, and parks. Public access points would include boat landings, carry-in sites, waysides, or road crossings. In the Town of Long Lake, there are six public access points that are scattered throughout the town. Boat landings are often one of the most prevalent public access points in the Town of Long Lake. There are four boat landings in the town for the public to access lakes. See Map 4.4 for Washburn County boat landings (boat launches) and Table 4.2 below for more details.



**Table 4.2: Improved Boat Landings**

Water Body	Section No.	Future Improvements	Timeframe
Long Lake	T.37N. – R.1W. Section 16		
Long Lake	T.37N. – R.1W. Section 14		
Fenton Lake	T.37N. – R.1W. Section 21		
McCune Lake	T.37N. – R.1W. Section ?		

**4.6 UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIONS**

The local infrastructure, services, and amenities associated with utility and community facilities are important to local residents, seasonal residents, and visitors to the town. Many of the services and functions associated with utilities and community facilities impact the overall quality of life and the future development of the town.

A set of recommended goals, objectives, and action-plans has been developed to assist the Town of Long Lake in addressing utility and community facilities. Actions identified with each objective are intended to assist the town with meeting the overall goal of maintaining and enhancing community facilities and services, thus contributing to the overall improvement of the town.

**Goal: Support utilities and community facilities that cost-effectively provide for the safety, health, and well-being of the town.**

**Objective 1:** Improve and maintain town-owned recreation sites.

*Resource Improvement Action 1: Make an effort to establish public parks, recreation areas, and walking/biking trails*

*Resource Improvement Action 2: When roads in the town are improved, consider widening them to accommodate biking and walking.*

**Objective 2:** Encourage and support volunteer efforts to assist in providing public services.

*Education Action 1: Continue to support the Long Lake Chamber of Commerce.*

*Education Action 2: Continue to support the LLPA.*

*Education Action 3: Inform the public of volunteer opportunities via town board meetings.*

*Education Action 4: Continue to support first responders.*

**Objective 3:** Work with private utility companies.

*Regulation Action 1: Require utilities to share corridors and towers in the township.*

*Regulation Action 2: Encourage buried utilities when utility companies request easements.*

*Resource Improvement Action 1: Work closely with electric and telephone companies to ensure they have sufficient ROW for utility expansion for town residents.*

*Resource Improvement Action 2: Review long-range plans of utility companies to identify impacts they might have on the town.*