

**AGRICULTURAL,  
NATURAL, AND  
CULTURAL  
RESOURCES  
ELEMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As the Town of Waldwick continues to change, it is vital that it keep in mind the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources of the area. It can be very challenging for rural communities to allow new low-density development and at the same time protect the natural environment and preserve the character of the area, including cultural and historic resources. At first, development may have only a limited impact on the natural landscape, but as development continues, the visual and environmental impacts become more and more apparent. For these reasons, it is crucial to be aware of the existing agricultural, natural, and cultural resources.

There are a number of agricultural, natural, and cultural resources to be aware of as we plan for the future, including the following:

**Agricultural Resources**

**Natural Resources**

**Cultural Resources**

Number of Farms

Water Resources

Historic Buildings

Acreage of Farmland

Topography

Museums

Livestock

Geologic Resources

Landmarks

Crop Production

Forest / Woodlands

Churches

Farmland Potential

Wildlife Habitat

Rural Schools

Soil Capabilities

Parks and Open Space

Cemeteries

Soils

Air and Light



**Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001(2)(e)**

*(e) Agricultural, natural and cultural resources element*

A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for the conservation, and promotion of the effective management, of natural resources such as groundwater, forests, productive agricultural areas, environmentally sensitive areas, threatened and endangered species, stream corridors, surface water, floodplains, wetlands, wildlife habitat, metallic and nonmetallic mineral resources, parks, open spaces, historical and cultural resources, community design, recreational resources and other natural resources.

**AGRICULTURAL, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES POLICIES**

The following are the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources policies for the Town of Waldwick. (Parcel splits and minimum lot sizes are addressed in Section H, Land Use Element.)

- **Promote the importance of the Town's agricultural, natural, and cultural resources and the need for continued protection of agricultural land and local open spaces to provide for wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, including hunting and fishing.**

Tell residents about the agricultural, cultural, and natural resources in their Town and let them know ways they can support and protect them. Flyers included with a tax mailing, articles in the local newspaper, workshops, or other similar education efforts can help inform residents.

Working with the Towns of Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Ridgeway, and Moscow and Iowa, and Lafayette Counties, Waldwick can promote relationships that will protect contiguous natural areas that give local residents space to pursue recreational opportunities.

- **Promote and support the protection and restoration of important natural areas, including streams, woods, prairies, and oak savannas.**

Local chapters of groups like Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Trout Unlimited, Prairie Enthusiasts, and local sportsman's clubs all share the Town of Waldwick's commitment of protecting the environment. Cooperation with environmental groups like these can reduce duplication of effort and cut costs.

- **Promote the control of invasive and noxious weeds within the Town.**

At both the national and state level, concern is growing about non-native species that threaten the stability of native or more desirable plant communities. In order to protect the agricultural and natural resources of Iowa County from invasive, noxious weeds, local ordinances designed for the mutual benefit of citizens and the environment should emphasize education, prevention and cooperation between landowners and governmental agencies.

- **Promote tree preservation and sustainable forestry practices.**

Trees are important components of a community's green infrastructure. A healthy population of trees offers substantial environmental benefits, including cleaner air and water, quieter streets, cheaper energy bills, cooler temperatures, and wildlife habitat. In addition, trees can provide numerous economic advantages, such as increased property values and lower air and water remediation costs.

- **Promote harmony through spacing new residences at an appropriate distance from active agricultural areas.**

It is important to maintain separation distances between urban and rural land uses, as issues often arise such as neighbors complaining about noises, smells, chemical sprays, and farm machinery on the roadways.

- **Limit development in recharge areas of local wells and areas with potential contaminant sources.**

Contamination of local drinking water resources can be devastating and very costly to reverse. Be aware of recharge area locations for wells and potential contamination sources. Education of residents on local water resource issues may be beneficial. Creating and enforcing a wellhead protection plan can also help prevent local supplies of water from becoming contaminated.

- **Restrict development from major drainage areas in order to aid in stormwater runoff, limit erosion, and prevent flooding.**

Refrain from developing drainage ways and floodplains that serve as stormwater runoff systems. Drainage basins were established naturally for a reason and should be preserved.

- **Utilize County, State, and Federal programs to conserve, maintain, and protect agricultural, natural, and cultural resources.**

Numerous state and federal programs aim specifically at protecting farmland, wetlands, forests, historic buildings, etc. There are agencies and contact information at the end of this section.

### **AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES**

Agriculture plays an important role in the past and future of southwestern Wisconsin. Even though this plan is being developed for the Town of Waldwick, the importance of agricultural resources in the surrounding area should not be underestimated. Farming is important aesthetically, culturally, and economically to the Town of Waldwick.

### **FARMING CONFLICTS**

Since the Town of Waldwick is an active agricultural area, conflicts between agriculture and non-agriculture landowners can sometimes occur. Currently however, there are no such conflicts in the Town.

### **FARM EXPANSION**

As farming becomes more global, the forces driving agricultural change are reflected in the decline of traditional agricultural commodities. One strategy farmers have begun to follow is farm expansion and modernization. Expanding can help farmers maintain their net income and can sometimes also lead to efficiencies and lower production costs. Modernization strategies can also help improve farming operations. However, expansion and modernization bring with them possibilities of greater impacts to the local environment, as well as issues such as modernized farms needing fewer employees, resulting in local agricultural job losses. Larger operations may also require larger manure handling facilities, increasing the chances of more spills or odor complaints.

The Town of Waldwick Plan Commission believes that limits should be placed on farm size. The Plan Commission is particularly concerned about any large dairy or cattle/livestock operations impacting water quality, which is vulnerable due to the fractured limestone geology of the area. There are also concerns about air quality and the conservation of natural resources.

### **YOUNG FARMERS**

One challenge facing farming in southwest Wisconsin is the lack of young people to replace a generation of older farmers. While farmers are retiring at the same rate, fewer young people are getting into farming. Communities seeking to retain their local agricultural economy and way of life need to consider strategies that will bring new or young people into farming.

The Plan Commission believes that economic incentives, such as 7-year interest free loans, can help make farming appear more attractive to young farmers.

### **FARMING INFRASTRUCTURE**

Farming infrastructure includes businesses and services such as a feed mill, equipment vendor, or veterinarian might supply. Farm supply businesses and food processing facilities represent important resources to area farmers as well as the broader local economy.

In order to maintain farming it is essential to preserve the farming infrastructure. Farming infrastructure in Waldwick includes businesses like Reynolds Fencing Supply. Businesses like this one are necessary to support all types of farms, both single and multi-enterprise operations.

### **FARM TYPES**

The Town Plan Commission believes multi-enterprise (e.g. beef, dairy, and crops) should be encouraged, rather than single enterprise farms (e.g. only dairy, only soybeans).

The Plan Commission encourages the following types of farming operations:

- Dairy Operations
- Organic Farming
- Beef-Cow/Calf Operations
- Beef-Finishing Operations
- Cash Crop Operations
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

The Plan Commission does not encourage hog operations within Waldwick.

**FARMER RETIREMENT**

Land has inherent value but it is also valuable for what it produces and as it provides the farmer with a source of retirement funds. Trying to find a middle path of conserving farmland while enabling farmers to retire by profiting from their land is a statewide issue. The Plan Commission did not have any solutions to this problem.

**FARMING DATA**

As indicated by Figure E.1, between 1987 and 2002 there was an overall increase of 335 farms in the county. (The US Agricultural Census defines a farm as any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have produced and sold during the census year.)

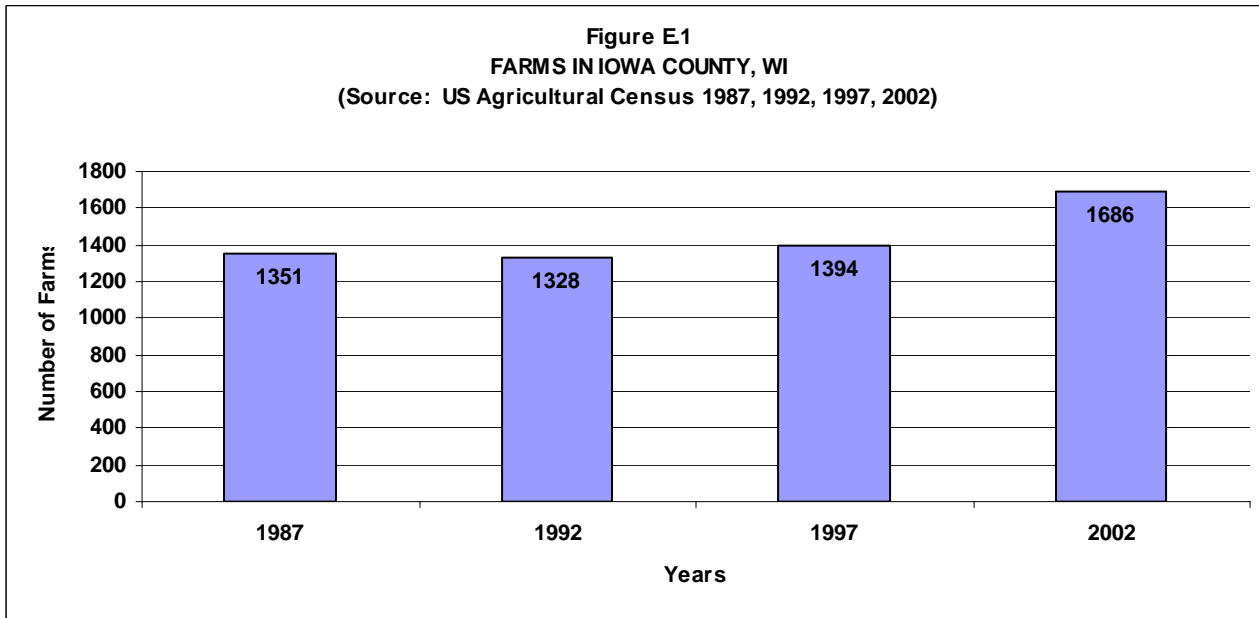


Figure E.2 relates to the number of farms in Iowa County, as it shows the total number of acres in farms. There has been an overall decline in the total number of acres farmed. A contributing factor is the amount of farmland being converted to residential, recreational, or conservation land.

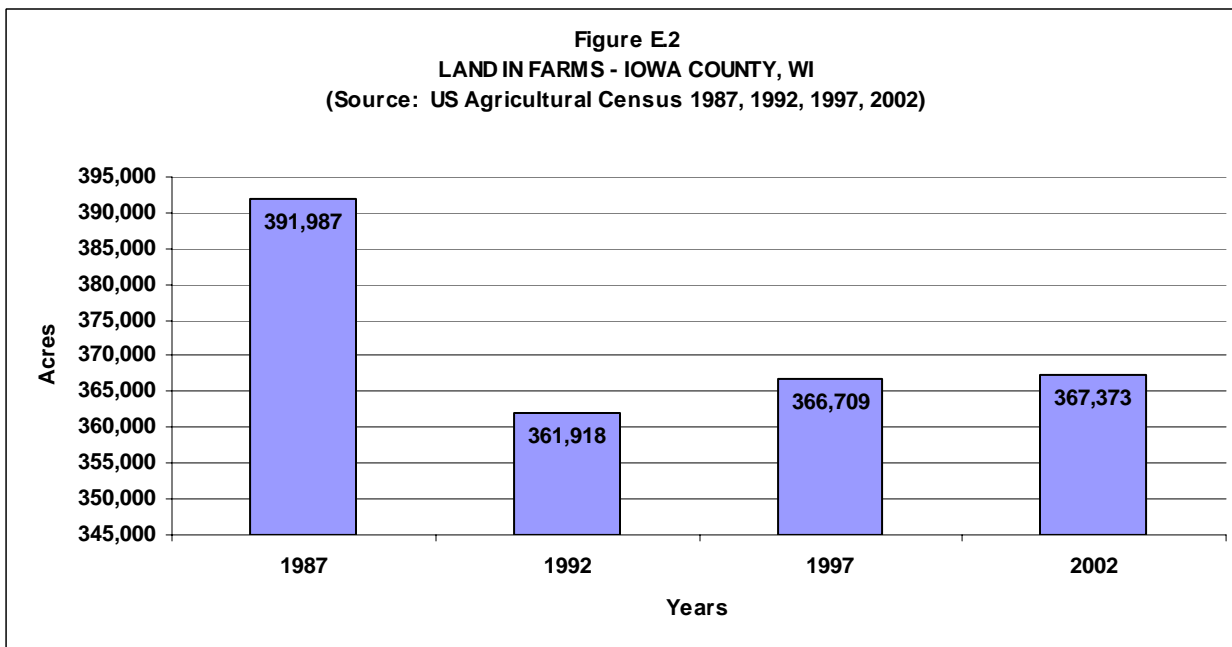


Figure E.3 shows the number of farmland sales and conversion in Iowa County. All towns show changes in sales and conversion but the Town of Eden is the lowest.

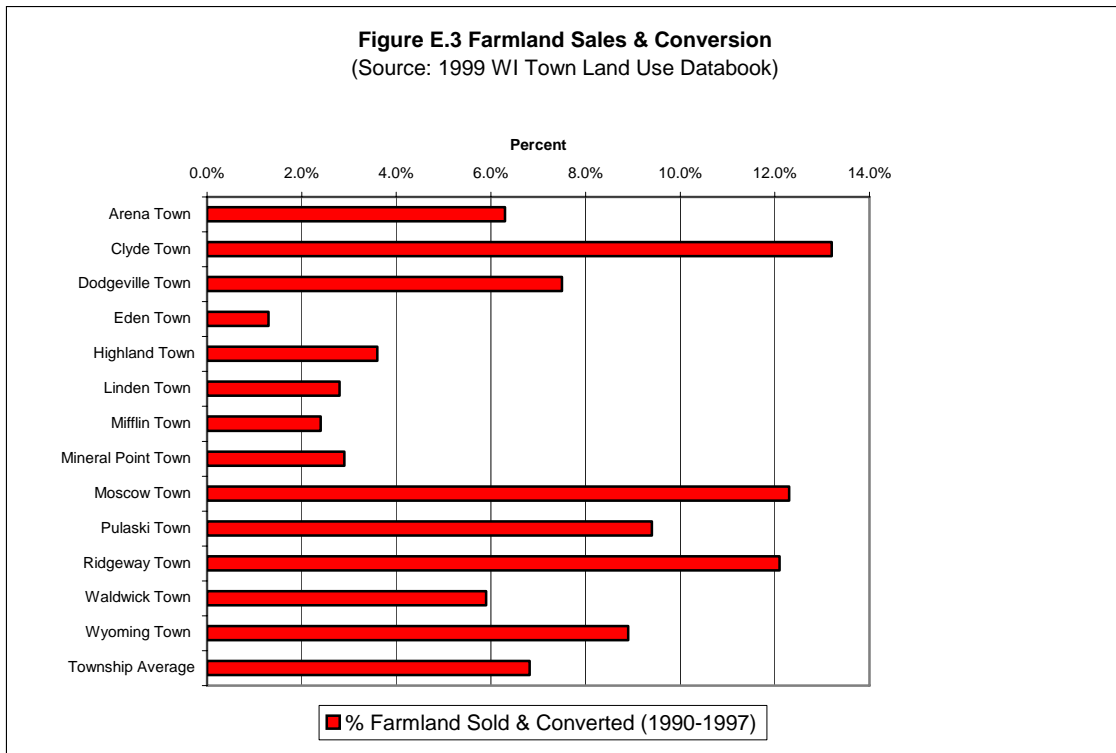


Figure E. 4 shows the average value of sale per acre of land. Most towns are roughly \$950 per acre with the Town of Wyoming an obvious exception.

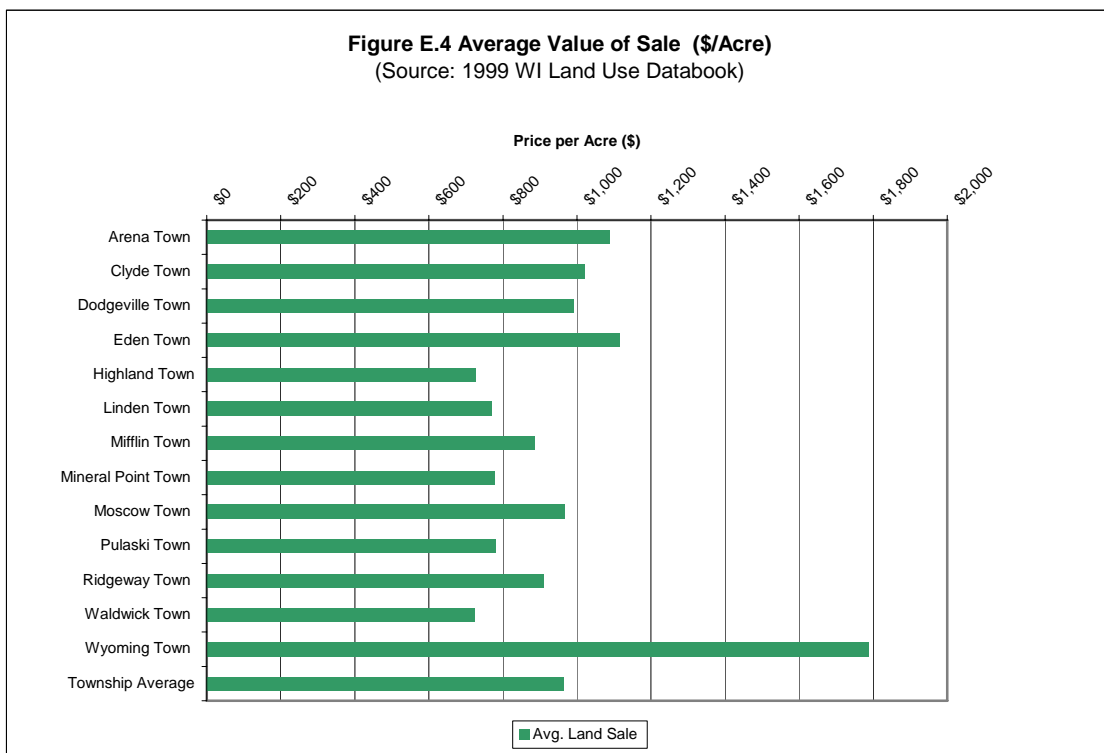
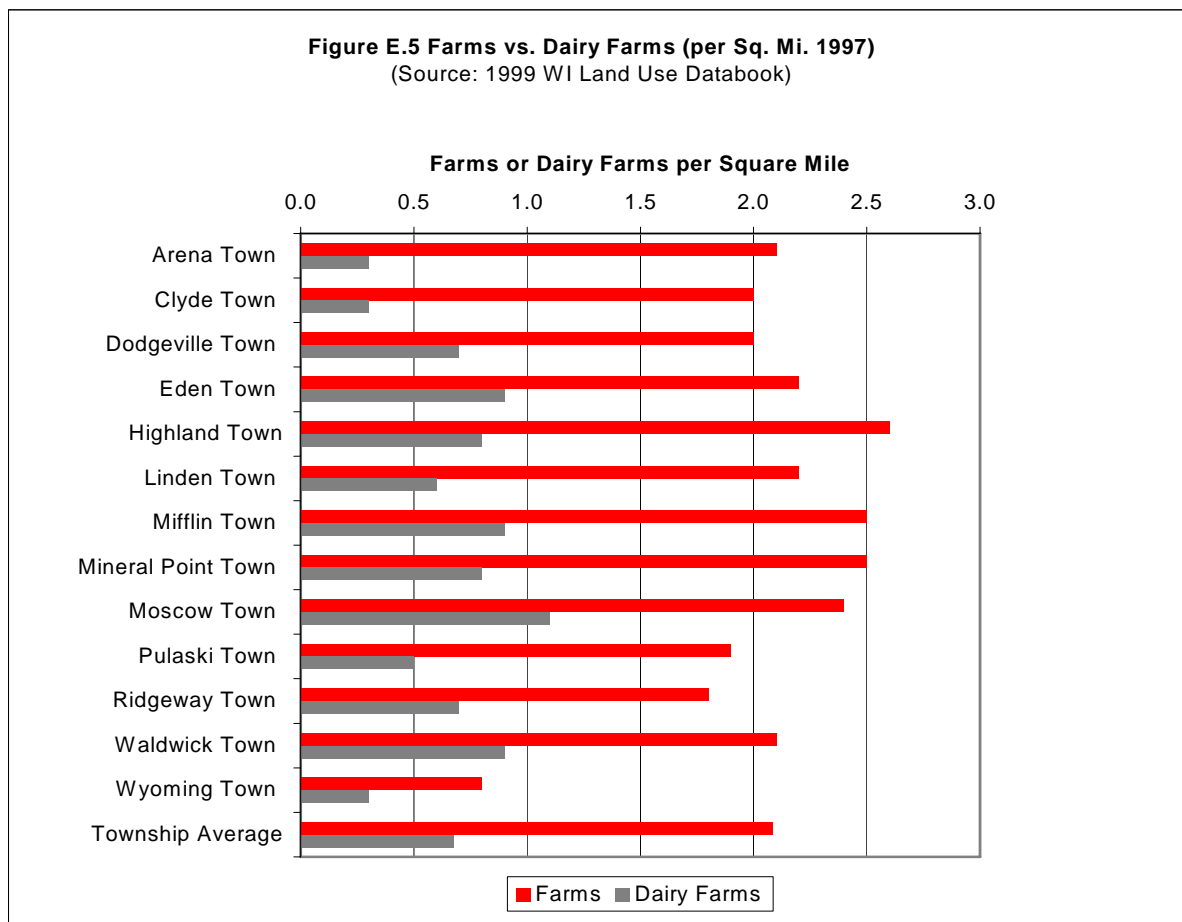


Figure E.5 shows a comparison of farms to dairy farms per square mile in 1997. Non-dairy farms were greater in number than dairy farms in all the towns of Iowa County.



### **FARMLAND POTENTIAL**

In Iowa County, 72 percent of the soils are classified as prime, state, and local importance. Map E.1 is a Town level soil classification map. The classifications are

Prime Farmland - Most Capability Group I and II Soils  
(25 percent of soils in Iowa County)

State Importance - Most Capability Group III Soils  
(20 percent of soils in Iowa County)

Local Importance - Varies but in Southwestern Wisconsin some Capability Group IV, V, and VI Soils. In Iowa County these include land with better moisture holding capacity – valuable locally for pasture and hay production.  
(27 percent of soils in Iowa County)

Other - Soil groups of importance (Capability Group VII, VIII) not noted in the categories above.

### **LAND COVER**

Map E.2 shows the amount of agricultural resources in the Town of Waldwick. It also shows the location of natural resources, including forested lands, open water, and wetlands.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

Natural resources are the essence of the natural environment. Whether obvious or not, impacts to sensitive environmental communities and resources often have significant adverse impacts on the human community.

## **WATER RESOURCES**

Water is one of the most commonly used natural resources, serving an intrinsic function in the community. People utilize groundwater for drinking water, industrial uses, recreational purposes, etc. on a daily basis. Plants and animals rely on water to survive. Water is also one of the most easily contaminated resources. Because of its mobile nature, contaminants can travel far from their source through the ever-moving water cycle. This type of pervasive pollution is commonly known as non-point source pollution (NPSP).

Non-point source pollution comes from many diffuse sources resulting from a wide variety of human activities and directly impacts water resources. The Town of Waldwick as a government unit actively protects its water resources through individual landowners efforts, such as participation in CREP and well abandonment programs. The Town offered well testing to residents in 2000 and 2004 as well.

## **SURFACE WATER**

Watercourses and water bodies provide various recreational opportunities, including fishing, swimming, boating, and passive recreational opportunities such as bird watching. Streams provide habitat for aquatic species and other wildlife. The Pecatonica River, Yellowstone State Park, and other nearby lakes and streams serve recreational needs of area residents. See Map E.3 for surface water resources in the Town of Waldwick and Map E.4 for Town watersheds. Waldwick is in the Upper East Branch of the Pecatonica River and the Yellowstone River, with a small part in the Middle Pecatonica River watershed.

## **FLOODPLAINS**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has designated flood hazard areas along many surface water resources. The importance of respecting floodways and floodplains is critical in terms of planning and development. Ignoring these constraints can cause serious problems relating to property damage and the overall safety of residents. Due to Iowa County being entirely within the Driftless Area, the flood plains are largely the result of a well-developed dendritic (tree branch-like) drainage pattern draining the fairly rugged topography. This, together with low infiltration rates for most of its soils, combines to make overall flood risk in Iowa County quite high. The Town is at risk from periodic flooding but does not take measures to prevent it, accepting flooding as part of nature. See Map E.5 for the FEMA map.

## **WETLANDS**

Wetlands serve a variety of functions, including playing an important role in stormwater management and flood control, filtering pollutants, recharging groundwater, providing a habitat for many wildlife species and plants, and offering open space and passive recreational opportunities. Iowa County wetlands include all marshes and swamps and those areas excluded from cultivation or other use because they are intermittently wet. The steep topography of southwest Wisconsin results in most natural wetlands being closely linked to the region's rivers and streams.

The Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (WWI) was completed for the state in 1985. Pre-European settlement wetland figures estimate the state had about 10 million acres of wetlands. Based on aerial photography from 1978-79, the WWI shows approximately 5.3 million acres of wetlands remaining in the state representing a loss of about 47 percent of original wetland acreage. This figure does not include wetlands less than 2 or 5 acres in size (minimum mapping unit varies by county). In this survey, it was found that Iowa County, out of a total of 488,157 acres, had 16,500 total acres of wetland (minimum mapping unit of 5 acres). This was 3.4 percent of the total county acreage, 0.3 percent of the total state acreage. Because the original WWI utilized aerial photographs taken in the summer some wetlands were missed, especially in the northern counties since interpretation was difficult due to leaf cover. Also, wetlands that were farmed as of the date of photography used and then later abandoned due to wet conditions were not captured as part of the WWI.

The Legislature authorized the DNR to update the WWI on a 10-year cycle. Budget constraints and lack of staff have slowed this process to a 24-year cycle at best. Digitizing wetland maps to obtain accurate wetland acreage information is on a rotation almost twice that long. As a result there is no reliable qualitative and quantitative data about current rates of wetland loss, only 1978-79 wetland acre totals to go by. (Wisconsin Wetlands: Acreage Fact, posted 4/16/2003, WI-DNR, accessed 5/19/04, <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/wetlands/facts.shtml>.)

The Town of Waldwick protects its wetland resources in a variety of ways:

- Individual landowner participation in the CREP - conservation easement program
- Road construction controls
- Water resource education (the Town offered well testing in 2000 and 2004)
- Feedlot runoff controls – a voluntary program with government cost sharing

### **GROUNDWATER**

Groundwater is a critical resource, not only because it is used on a daily basis, but also because rivers, streams, and other surface water depends on groundwater for recharge. Groundwater, whether from municipal or private well, supplies all Iowa County residents with drinking water. See Map E.6 for depth to groundwater levels for Waldwick.

Groundwater can easily become contaminated through non-point source pollution. The Driftless Area is characterized by thin soils over fractured limestone, sandstone, or shale bedrock and it is in this type underlying geology where the potential for groundwater contamination is greatest. The Town does not have a municipal well; all wells are individual. The jurisdiction as a whole performs some minor drinking water protection. For instance, in 2000 and 2004 the Town offered well testing to residents. Also, Waldwick relies on state regulations and restrictions in controlling the use of atrazine on fields. The Plan Commission acknowledges that more could be done to protect resident's groundwater and is interested in developing wellhead protection plans for individual resident's wells.

Water supply is impacted as communities grow, bringing increased demand to supply groundwater to new homes, businesses, and industries. Increased well pumping can reduce the amount of recharge to surface waters, causing streamflow reduction, loss of springs, and changes in wetland vegetative communities. However, the establishment of a high capacity well in the Town might impact water supply. The Groundwater Bill (2003 Act 310) addresses groundwater quantity issues, requiring approval for siting, fees, and an environmental review. While this legislation is currently more relevant in areas of the state experiencing severe water quantity issues (e.g. the Central Sands region), the principle of controlling groundwater withdrawal in all parts of the state is quite important. By 2006, a groundwater advisory committee will be put together to address groundwater management in

*“...Other areas of the state in which the withdrawal of groundwater over the long term adversely affects the availability of water for use or adversely affects water quality due to the effects of drawdown of the groundwater and in which there is a need for a coordinated response among the state, local government units, regional planning commissions, and public and private users of groundwater to address the effects on groundwater availability or quality.” (2003 Wisconsin Act 310, published May 6, 2004).”*

Currently, increasing water supply demand is an issue in Waldwick. The jurisdiction has responded to this increase by planting buffer grass strips, conservation tillage, and complying with wetland protections laws.

It is important to keep the groundwater resource in mind for many areas of comprehensive planning. Ultimately, what takes place above ground directly impacts this resource below the surface. There are a number of activities that directly impact the quality of water resources. Potential pollution sources that can affect the groundwater supply include but are not limited to:

- On-site septic systems
- Sewage Treatment Plants
- Surface Waste Water Discharge
- Sanitary Landfills
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Feedlots
- Junkyards
- Abandoned Quarries
- Abandoned Wells
- Pesticide and Fertilizer Applications
- Road Salt
- Household Cleaners & Detergents
- Unsewered Subdivisions
- Gas Stations
- Chemical Spills
- Leaking Sewer Lines
- Old Mine Openings or Shafts

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES**

Wildlife enriches our lives by providing opportunities for observing, hunting, or photographing animals in their native habitat. Wildlife serves as an educational stimulus, provoking human curiosity about the natural world.

**Habitat is the combination of food, water, shelter, and space necessary to meet the needs of wildlife.**

Humans have an environmental responsibility to protect wildlife and the habitat it needs to survive. Since wildlife can cause problems by destroying property, carrying disease, producing unsanitary waste, and conflicting with human activities, it is important to provide natural habitat at a distance from human activities where animals will not be in contact with humans and can live and breed without interference.

The Town of Waldwick is within the Southwest Savanna ecological landscape as defined in the 2002 Land Legacy Report, released by the WI DNR. This landscape is characterized by rolling hills, defined ridges, and little forest. Historically, grasslands covered the hills and ridges of this part of Wisconsin. Savannas, grasslands with a partial canopy of open grown trees, home to a wide array of wildlife, particularly birds, were also part of the historic landscape. Today, savannas and grassy ridge tops are rare. Descriptions of the natural communities of Iowa County are listed in Appendix E-1.

Waldwick protects its ridge tops through individual resident's participation and support of various conservation preservation programs and groups such as CRP, CREP, Pheasants Forever, Prairie Enthusiasts, etc. The Plan Commission is interested in learning more about supporting prairie and savanna restoration efforts and groups. Some individual's in the Town of Waldwick protect wildlife through CRP and also by restoring and establishing prairies. There is protected County land on Sylvan Road. The Town encourages and supports landowners who protect wildlife through wildlife friendly Ag practices like no-till cropping. Some farmers in the Town leave their corn crop standing late and most Waldwick farmers do contour/strip cropping.

### **THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES**

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 was enacted to conserve threatened and endangered species of wildlife and plants. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has used the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) to develop maps for all counties in the state providing generalized information about rare, threatened and endangered species. Threatened and Endangered plant species are vulnerable to a variety of exotic, invasive plant, such as Bull Thistle and Wild Parsnip.

In an effort to control invasive plants, Waldwick mows along its roads. Individual landowners also make efforts to control nuisance plants on their property. DNR-NHI maps (Map E.7a and E.7b) have been included at the end of this section for a reference. Refer also to Appendix E-2 for a Town level list of the Threatened and Endangered plant, animal, and natural communities in the Town of Waldwick.

### **FOREST RESOURCES**

Forests provide raw materials for the forest products industry and a venue for hunting, hiking, and fishing. They help sustain water resources and provide habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals, including threatened and endangered species. They also help balance global warming effects through oxygen production and carbon sequestration. Over half the forested lands in Wisconsin (57%) are privately owned. See Map E.2 for forested lands in Waldwick.

### **RURAL FORESTS**

Forty-six percent of Wisconsin is forested (16 million acres). Forests therefore represent one of Wisconsin's most important land uses and are often times a defining feature of communities or whole regions. Other benefits of forests include:

- Recreational opportunities such as hunting, fish, and hiking
- Groundwater protection
- Home for wide variety of plants and animals, including T & E species
- Cleaning the air by producing oxygen and storing carbon
- Part of Wisconsin's culture

Although there is no Town program or policy for sustainable forestry or municipal tree-planting, the Plan Commission supports residents who practice managed forestry through the Managed Forest Law program and notes that there are residents who do tree-plantings on their own property. The Plan Commission is interested in learning more about sustainable forestry practices.

### URBAN FORESTS

One natural resource often forgotten is the urban forest. The urban forest does not necessarily only relate to trees, but also includes shrubs, flowers, vines, ground cover, grass, and other plants within an urban area.

The Town of Waldwick does not have any Urban Forest.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

Environmental corridors refer to areas that contain groupings of natural resource features. Areas of concentrated natural resource activity ("rooms"), such as wetlands, woodlands, prairies, lakes, and other features, become even more functional when linked by environmental corridors ("hallways"). If corridor resource features are placed on a map, they can form a linear space.

Fish and wildlife populations, native plant distribution, and even clean water all depend on movement through environmental corridors. For example, wildlife populations isolated in one wooded location can overpopulate, die out, or cause problems for neighbors if there are not adequate corridors to allow the population to move about freely. Over 70 percent of all terrestrial wildlife species use riparian corridors, according to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

#### Environmental Corridor Benefits:

- Reduced Flooding
- Reduced Soil Erosion
- Improved Water Quality
- Improved Water Quantity
- Groundwater Recharge
- Improved Air Quality
- Improved Wildlife Habitat

#### Social Benefits:

- Walking and Hiking
- Cross Country Skiing
- Horseback Riding
- Photography
- Wildlife Viewing

Map E.8 shows several natural resource features within the Town that can potentially act as environmental corridors. Preserving environmental corridors can be a highly effective way to protect the natural and cultural resources in an area.

### AIR AND LIGHT

The Plan Commission did not identify air or light pollution issues in Waldwick.

### GEOLOGIC AND SOIL RESOURCES

Soils and geology are also important planning considerations, particularly when thinking about new development. Today, technological advances can overcome many development challenges relating to soil and geology; however, it is important that these resources are not abused, overused, or contaminated. Particular attention must be paid to soils when development is occurring on steeper slopes and for septic systems. The soil types vary from the highly erodible Dubuque loam to Dodgeville loam, with some areas of clay and sand. Drain-fields must be located to allow adequate infiltration and the sewage treatment provided by soils. A series of maps including slope limitations (Map E.9), septic limitations (Map E.10), and depth to bedrock (Map E.11) have been included.

Southwest Wisconsin is part of the unglaciated region known as the Driftless Area. Most of the bedrock in this region is sedimentary rock, consisting of sandstone and shale or limestone, containing mineral resources. Mineral resources are divided into two categories, metallic and non-metallic. Metallic resources in the region include lead and zinc. Non-metallic resources include sand, gravel, and limestone, with limestone as one of the most significant geologic resources in the area, used frequently for road building. Restricting access to abandoned mines or quarries helps protect these areas from becoming source points for groundwater contamination.

There are quarries and mines in Waldwick, but the Town does not have a policy to protect them. Refer to Map E-12 for a map showing mines and quarries Iowa County.

### **PARKS AND OPEN SPACE**

Open space serves many important functions. It protects ecologically sensitive areas including wetlands and water resources, important wildlife habitat, and sensitive soils. Open space plays an important role in shaping the character of the community, as nothing can replace the visual impact of vast open space, whether it is agricultural land or woodlands. Preserving open spaces not only directly protects resources, but the space becomes a vital buffer zone. Open space can take the form of parks, cropland and pastures, greenbelts, wetlands or floodplains. Open space can also serve many functions for a community other than recreation, such as the following:

- Flood management
- Preserving prime agricultural land
- Limiting development that may occur
- Buffering incompatible land uses
- Structuring the community environment

### **LOCAL PARK AND RECREATION RESOURCES**

Parks can serve a limited neighborhood area, a portion of the community, or the entire community or region and provide area and facilities for outdoor recreation for residents and visitors.

The Town offers a variety of recreational opportunities to recreational users and visitors including:

- Camping opportunities
- Bird watching
- Bike trails
- Snowmobile trails
- ATV trails
- Horseback riding trails
- Hunting opportunities

Waldwick is near Yellowstone State Park in Lafayette County. Refer also to Map E.13 showing Iowa County parks.

The Town does not actively promote its natural resources to recreational visitors. Nor does the Plan Commission see a need for additional parks, trails, or other outdoor recreation spaces in Waldwick.

### **CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES**

Many communities often ignore cultural and historic resources in order to deal with “real” issues facing their community. However, the proper appreciation of these assets is vital to the long-term success of a community. Respecting and utilizing these available resources increases the overall quality of life and provides opportunities for tourism.

Determining what are cultural and historic resources has been left open to some interpretation. For the purpose of this report, historic resources include historic buildings and sites (as identified by the national register of historic places), museums, churches, cemeteries, old country schools, and other buildings deemed appropriate by the community. The information presented here is to serve as a guide to cultural and historic resources but is not inclusive.

### **HISTORIC PLACES**

Waldwick currently has no sites listed on the State and/or National Register of Historic Places.

### **CHURCHES**

Churches have had a significant impact on the culture of the Town of Waldwick. Refer to Map E.15 for churches in the Town of Waldwick.

Places of worship in the Town include:

- Bethel Church
- United Methodist Church

### **CEMETERIES**

Also identified as a prominent historic and cultural resource are the area cemeteries. Cemeteries can provide a historic perspective of the area, giving names and ethnicities of previous residents. Refer to Map E.15 for cemeteries in the Town of Waldwick.

The following cemeteries serve the Town:

- Hollandale Calvary (Catholic)
- Graceland – Jackson
- Graham
- Waldwick (Yellowstone)

### RURAL SCHOOLS

The old time, one room schoolhouse once dotted the landscape, providing public education for mainly rural communities. Over time, these buildings were utilized less and less, as larger, more centrally located schools were built and students were bused in from the country. Nevertheless, the one room schoolhouse remains an icon of American rural culture, representing the opportunity for all children to learn “the three R’s”: reading, ‘riting, and ‘rithmetic. The publication “Schools of Iowa County”, by Metcalf, Williams, and Pustina, documents rural schools in Iowa County and the Town of Waldwick. Refer to Map E.14 for rural school building locations in the Town of Waldwick.

The following rural school buildings (some of which have been converted to other uses) are in the Town:

- Jonesdale
- Banner
- Cold Springs/Higgins
- Prairie
- Woodlawn
- Waldwick
- Jackson

### OTHER HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND SITES IN THE TOWN OF WALDWICK

The Plan Commission identified four other historic sites in the Town. Refer to Map E.14 for other historic buildings and sites in Waldwick.

- John Little Farmstead
- Lead Mines (4N, Sec 14, 17)
- John McKee Farmstead
- Indian Mound (5N, Sec 17)

### CULTURAL RESOURCE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The Town of Waldwick supports the Jonesdale Field Day, held on the second weekend in September.

Waldwick’s most important cultural resources and the threats to them are listed on Table E.1.

**Table E.1 - Cultural Resources Most Important To Your Community**

Cultural Resource	Threats
Rock Houses	Being maintained
Indian Sites	Development and building
Old cemeteries	Being maintained
Old schools	Mostly maintained, except Woodland School which is somewhat neglected
Churches	Being maintained

### RESPONSE TO THREATS TO CULTURAL RESOURCES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The Plan Commission identified no current serious threats to the community’s cultural resources in the Town.

### ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

About 10,000 years ago, **Paleo-Indians** entered Wisconsin as they hunted woolly mammoth, mastodon, and bison. These large mammals lived on the abundant vegetation beginning to grow as the glaciers retreated northward.

Around 8,000 years ago, during the **Archaic Period**, the climate became warmer and dryer. Animals found in the state today replaced the large Ice Age mammals. People lived in smaller family groups in caves, rockshelters, along rivers, and around lakes and wetlands. They harvested wild plants, nuts, and acorns. They hunted animals such as deer and elk.

About 3,000 years ago, during the **Woodland Period**, people lived in large villages and began to use bows and arrows to hunt. It was during this period that many mounds, including effigies, or mounds built in the shape of turtles, birds, bears and other animals, were built throughout Wisconsin. These people were Wisconsin's first potters and gardeners.

The **Mississippian Period** began about 1,000 years ago. In Wisconsin these people are called **Oneota**. They lived in villages and planted gardens to grow crops such as corn, beans, and squash. They had a complex trade network that extended to both the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

Jean Nicolet, a French explorer, arrived in Wisconsin in 1634. At that time, the Indian tribes present in the state included the Ho Chunk (Winnebago), Potawatomi, Menominee, and Ojibwa (Chippewa) Indians. This marked the beginning of the **Historic Period**.

The list below gives archeological sites documented in the Town of Waldwick. This is not a complete list because some sites disappear due to development or agriculture and some may not yet been reported to the State Historical Society.

**Table E.2 - Archeological Sites In Your Community\***

Site/Code Name	Site Type	Cultural Significance
IA-0068	Mound(s) – Other/unknown	Unknown
Fitzsimmons	Mound(s) – Conical, Mound(s) – Effigy, Mound(s) – Linear, Cemetery/burial	Unknown
Fitzsimmons	Mound(s) – Conical	Unknown
IA-0253	Campsite/village	Early Paleo-Indian
Jackson Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Unnamed Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Calvary Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American
Unnamed Cemetery	Cemetery/burial	Historic Euro/American

\*Due to the delicate nature of archeological sites, the Wisconsin State Historical Society does not release specific locations.

The Plan Commission identified local cultural resource contacts in Table E.3.

**Table E.3 - Cultural Resource Contacts In The Town Of Waldwick**

Name	Program/Affiliation	Area of Historical Expertise
Private individual owners		
Church congregations		

### **HISTORIC ORDINANCE**

Waldwick does not have an historic preservation ordinance and does not wish to create one at this time.

**AGRICULTURAL, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCE AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS**

There are a number of available state and federal programs to assist with agricultural, natural, and cultural resource planning and protection. Below are brief descriptions of various agencies and programs. Contact information has been provided for each agency. To find out more specific information or which program best fits your needs contact them directly.

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)**

The Department of Natural Resources is dedicated to the preservation, protection, effective management, and maintenance of Wisconsin's natural resources. It is responsible for implementing the laws of the state and, where applicable, the laws of the federal government that protect and enhance the natural resources of our state. It is the one agency charged with full responsibility for coordinating the many disciplines and programs necessary to provide a clean environment and a full range of outdoor recreational opportunities for Wisconsin citizens and visitors. The Wisconsin DNR has a number of programs available ranging from threatened and endangered species to water quality to parks and open space to wetlands.

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WI-DNR)**

101 S Webster St  
Madison WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-2621  
Fax: 608-261-4380

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us>

The Bureau of Community Financial Assistance (CFA) administers grant and loan programs, under the WI-DNR. Financial program staff works closely with local governments and interested groups to develop and support projects that protect public health and the environment, and provide recreational opportunities.

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (DATCP)**

The Wisconsin Department of Trade and Consumer Protection inspects and licenses more than 100,000 businesses and individuals, analyzes millions of laboratory samples, conducts hundreds of hearings and investigations, educates businesses and consumers about best practices, adopts rules that have the force of law, and promotes Wisconsin agriculture at home and abroad.

Specifically DATCP has two divisions that relate directly to the agriculture and natural resource section of the comprehensive plan. The Environmental Division focuses on insects, land and water, as well as plants and animals. The Agricultural Division focuses on animals, crops, agricultural resources, and land and water resources.

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (DATCP)**

2811 Agriculture Drive  
PO Box 8911  
Madison WI 53708

Phone: 608-224-4960

<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us>

**WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service is the federal agency that works with landowners on private lands to conserve natural resources. NRCS is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and was formerly called the Soil Conservation Service (SCS).

Nearly three-fourths of the technical assistance provided by the agency goes to helping farmers and ranchers develop conservation systems uniquely suited to their land and individual ways of doing business. The agency also provides assistance to other private landowners and rural and urban communities to reduce erosion, conserve and protect water, and solve other resource problems.

**WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)**

6515 Watts Road,  
Suite 200  
Madison, WI 53719

Phone (608) 276-USDA

<http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov>

**WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Society serves as the archives of the State of Wisconsin. It collects books, periodicals, maps, manuscripts, relics, newspapers, and audio and graphic materials as they relate to North America. It maintains a museum, library, and research facility in Madison, as well as a statewide system of historic sites, school services, area research centers, administering a broad program of historic preservation and publishing a wide variety of historical materials, both scholarly and popular. The historical society can also provide assistance for various state and federal programs.

**WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Office of Preservation Planning  
Division of Historic Preservation**

**Wisconsin Historical Society  
816 State Street  
Madison, WI 53706**

**Phone: 608-264-6500**

**<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org>**