

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND DECISION ON THE NEED  
FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)

Form 1600-8

Rev. 6-2001

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Region or Bureau: Bureau of Watershed Management

Type List Designation: 150.03 (6)(b).5.a

NOTE TO REVIEWERS: This document is a DNR environmental analysis that evaluates probable environmental effects and decides on the need for an EIS. The attached analysis includes a description of the proposal and the affected environment. The DNR has reviewed the attachments and, upon certification, accepts responsibility for their scope and content to fulfill requirements in s. NR 150.22, Wis. Adm. Code. Your comments should address completeness, accuracy or the EIS decision. For your comments to be considered, they must be received by the contact person before 4:30 p.m., February 10, 2006.

Contact Person: Tom Gilbert

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E-mail Address

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**Applicant:** East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC)

**Title of Proposal:** Fox Cities – 2030 Sanitary Sewer Service Area Plan Update

**Location:** The Fox Cities 2030 Sewer Service Area (SSA) Plan is comprised of four separate SSAs, each relating to one of the four regional wastewater treatment facilities in the Fox Cities urbanized area in portions of Calumet, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties. See **Attachment 1** (Map 2 as taken from Plan Update Report). The cities in this area include Menasha, Appleton, Neenah and Kaukauna. The urbanized area shown in Map 2 also includes numerous adjacent Villages and Towns.

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## PROJECT SUMMARY

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### 1. Overview of the proposal:

The proposed Fox Cities SSA Plan updates and amends the 1997 sewer service area planning element of the Lower Fox River Basin Integrated Management Plan (WDNR publ. WT-666-2001) and the State of the Upper Fox River Basin plan (WDNR publ. WT-665-2001). The updating process is part of a regularly scheduled five-year re-evaluation, the last of which was completed in 1997 (and now again in 2005) according to Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 121.07(2)(a)1.

Sewer service area plans serve as a basis for Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) approval of state and federal funding for the planning and construction of wastewater treatment and sewerage facilities. They also serve as a basis for WDNR approval of locally proposed sanitary sewer extensions and Department of Commerce approval of private interceptor or certain building sewers. In addition, because the plans also identify environmentally sensitive areas, they serve as a guide for environmental permit decisions.

The sewer service area plans are intended to be an important planning and development guide for local communities. The Updated plans:

- Identify wastewater treatment and collection system needs for sewer service areas for a 20 or more year planning period;

- Forecast the amount and location of future urban development areas;
- Identify environmentally sensitive areas which should be preserved;
- Contain land use development forecasts and recommendations for implementing wastewater treatment and collection plans for individual sewer service areas;
- Inform developers and property owners of community policies and restrictions before development is proposed;
- Establish "holding tank" service area for isolated and rural special uses.

The proposal is essentially a planning document to serve as a guide for development and sewerage system expansion. The SSA is conservatively sized such that it is not expected that the entire SSA will be completely developed by 2030. As future specific projects for development or sewerage system expansion are proposed they will be subject to state, federal and local regulations and permitting processes. These processes may include specific review and analysis under the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act (WEPA) in accordance with chapter NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code.

## 2. Documents, plans, studies or memos on which this DNR review is based:

"Fox Cities 2030 Sewer Service Area Plan Update" – Prepared by East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Draft report as approved by the Commission on April 29, 2005.

## DNR EVALUATION OF PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE

### 3. Environmental Effects and Their Significance

#### a. Primary and secondary environmental effects:

##### SSA Descriptions

The existing Fox Cities Sewer Service Area (SSA) identifies a service area projected for the year 2020. The updated plan changes and expands the SSA boundaries as needed to accommodate expected development to the year 2030. **Attachments 2, 3, 4 and 5** (Maps 10, 19, 28, and 37 as taken from Plan Update Report) show the proposed 2030 SSA boundaries for Neenah-Menasha, Grand Chute-Menasha West, Appleton, and Heart of the Valley SSAs, respectively. These maps also identify the respective "planning areas". These are the areas that were subject to an examination and analysis in this planning study. The sewer service areas are smaller subsets of the planning area and they represent where sewered development may occur over a time period up to 2030.

The increases to the SSAs from the existing 2020 plan to the 2030 plan are addressed in the **Attachments 6, 7, 8, and 9** (Tables 3, 8, 13 and 18 as taken from Plan Update Report). Using Table 3 for the Neenah-Menasha SSA as an example, the existing 2020 SSA consists of 14,714.6 acres. This will be increased by 2,194.6 acres for the total of 16,909.2 acres in the 2030 SSA. The existing 2020 SSA contains 3,149.3 vacant and potentially developable acres. The 2030 plan includes 4,667.0 vacant acres, for an increase of 2,194.6 acres. Table 3 provides a description of land use types for this vacant acreage. It also identifies the total areas designated as environmentally sensitive areas.

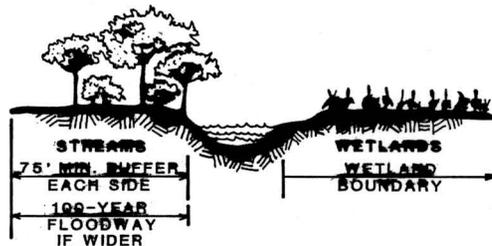
In developing the plan ECWRPC calculated that that there would be a need for a total of 2,878 acres for development purposes in the 2030 Neenah-Menasha SSA. As previously indicated the 2030 SSA actually contains 4,667.0 vacant acres, thus including an "excess" of 1,788.5 acres. The "excess" areas are warranted in order to allow better coordination with local comprehensive plans and as a means to reflect the influence of local political and market factors on where development occurs. Each table identifies the "excess" acreage associated with each SSA.

The SSAs include areas designated as "environmentally sensitive areas" (ESA). ESAs consist of all lakes and streams shown on USGS quadrangle maps and adjacent shoreland buffer as defined in **Figure 1**. All wetlands shown on the state Wisconsin Wetland Inventory maps and flood-ways as delineated on Federal Emergency Management Administration Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps are also designated as environmentally sensitive. The ESA definition does not currently include a buffer zone around wetlands. However, most counties

Figure 1

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA STANDARDS

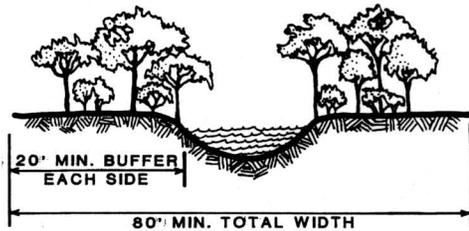
NAVIGABLE STREAMS & WETLANDS



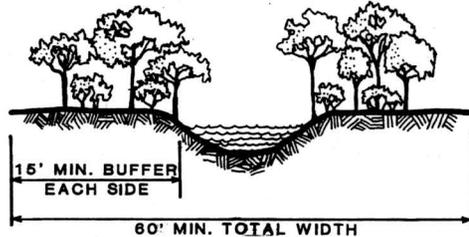
NON-NAVIGABLE STREAMS & DRAINAGEWAYS  
DRAINAGE AREA GREATER THAN APPROXIMATELY 2000 ACRES



NON-NAVIGABLE STREAMS & DRAINAGEWAYS  
DRAINAGE AREA APPROXIMATELY 300-2000 ACRES



NON-NAVIGABLE STREAMS & DRAINAGEWAYS  
DRAINAGE AREA LESS THAN APPROXIMATELY 300 ACRES



and communities within the SSA planning area have provisions contained in subdivision ordinances which specify a required 50-foot buffer around mapped wetlands. ECWRPC has indicated that the ESA definition, including the wetland buffer issue, will be addressed in detail as part of the Regional Comprehensive (smart growth) planning efforts that are scheduled for completion in 2006. This process may result in a revised ESA definition, to be included by future revision to the Fox Cities – 2030 Sanitary Sewer Service Area Plan. The plan update report provides mapping and summary descriptions of all the ESAs in the four SSAs. These are attached as **Attachment 10**. Maps identifying the location of ESAs are provided in **Attachments 11, 12, 13 and 14**,

The purpose of designating environmentally sensitive areas is to preserve significant environmental features from encroachment by sewered development.

For all four SSAs, the current plan identifies a total of 64,070 acres. This is being increased by 18% to a proposed 2030 total of 75,548 acres. The vacant, developable land within this total area is being increased from 14,816 acres to 22,895 acres. The total proposed 2030 ESA area in all four SSAs is 2,857 acres.

### **Point Source Impacts**

Population growth and commercial/industrial development will increase loadings to all four wastewater treatment plants, and ultimately to the Lower Fox River system. A general estimate of increased wastewater flows over the planning period suggests that the Neenah-Menasha and Heart of the Valley treatment plants will have adequate reserve capacity to accommodate growth out to 2030. It is estimated that the Grand Chute-Menasha West and Appleton treatment facilities do not have adequate reserve capacities for their projected 2030 growth. These two facilities may require treatment system improvements within the planning period. The ongoing status of wastewater facilities are periodically evaluated by the owner municipalities and the Department of Natural Resources when WDNR discharge permits are reissued every five years. Discharge limitations necessary to protect water quality will be maintained in permits.

### **Non-Point Source Impacts**

Surface water runoff and pollutant runoff will increase with the forecast growth for the 2030 SSA. The placement of roads, buildings and parking areas increase the amount of impervious area, and hence, more water runs off the land surface carrying organic and inorganic pollutants associated with these more intensive urban areas.

Since the last SSA plan update, the WDNR has enacted new regulations to control non-point source pollution. In order to address these rules various local and county governments have been very active in stormwater management planning and implementation.

ECWRPC recommends receipt of preliminary subdivision plats for a conformance check with the sewer service area and water quality plan. Recommendations are made for final plat approval concerning water quality and stormwater management as well as environmental and cultural resource concerns. ECWRPC also provides mandatory sewer extension review comments. Where sanitary sewer extensions are proposed in mapped environmentally sensitive areas, ECWRPC may identify mitigating conditions to be incorporated into the development proposal, and request WDNR to attach such conditions to any sewer extension approval for the proposed development. ECWRPC may also recommend denial of proposed sewer extensions if they would negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas.

### **Groundwater**

A United States Geological Survey done in 1998 assessed the groundwater conditions in the Fox Valley region. The findings of this study have determined that the deep aquifer (sandstone deposits), which provides high capacity wells, is recharged from the western and northern edges of the Fox Cities urban area. Increased development within the recharge areas could have long-term impacts on the groundwater recharge. Conversion of rural land to urban uses may impact both the quality and quantity of groundwater. At the same time, withdrawal of groundwater on a regional basis is likely to increase for domestic, commercial and industrial use. While there are no significant negative deep groundwater impacts anticipated with increased development in the SSAs, there may be localized impacts on the shallow aquifer as areas develop.

## **b. Effects on geographically scarce resources**

The Plan Update will not result in any known effects on historic or cultural resources, recreational resources, threatened or endangered resources or ecologically sensitive areas. Most of the service areas have not been surveyed for archaeological remains or threatened or endangered resources so it is possible future resources of this nature will be discovered. As specific development proposals occur they will be reviewed for potential effects on geographically scarce resources, and mitigation actions taken as appropriate. There will be an effect due to the loss of prime farmland as rural areas are converted to urban uses. Loss of farmland may occur as a result of unsewered development as well as sewer development. Presuming the same overall population growth, the SSA plan would serve to promote more centralized development in existing urban areas and would therefore mitigate farmland losses as compared to unplanned growth or growth utilizing onsite wastewater systems.

## **c. Discuss the extent to which the primary and secondary environmental effects listed in the supporting documents are reversible.**

The loss of prime farmland and the benefit it provides for wildlife is considered irreversible. Other typical effects of urbanization including air and noise pollution, traffic congestion, and waste generation are considered relatively irreversible.

## **4. Significance of Cumulative Effects**

The cumulative effects of providing sewer and other urban services to commercial or industrial development in the amendment area will include increased traffic, noise, air pollution and potentially stormwater runoff. Existing land in agricultural production will be lost and the rural character of the area will be converted more to an urban character. The development enabled by the SSA expansion is expected to enhance the local economy and provide jobs.

If there were insufficient industrial and commercial lands within the sewer service area to meet the demand, it's possible that development would occur with onsite sewage disposal systems. Within the relatively high densities of urban area development sanitary sewer generally has less adverse impact on the environment than numerous onsite sewage systems, particularly as the onsite systems become old. The delineation and protection of environmentally sensitive areas through the sewer service area planning process is a positive secondary impact. The Facility Planning and Wastewater Permitting Programs oversee the maintenance of wastewater treatment standards and capacity. The Fox Cities SSA Plan includes the identification of Goals, Objectives and Policies that are intended to promote efficient, orderly and planned land use development patterns which allow for logical, cost-effective sewer development that incorporates sound environmental management practices. The goals represent common community ideals and a direction for planning decisions. The Plan's Goals and Objectives are as follows:

### **1. Growth Management**

Goal – Encourage an orderly and planned pattern of community growth and development.

- Objective: Allocated Growth. Promote balanced allocation of land areas to accommodate current and future urban development needs.
- Objective: Planned Urban Communities. Promote planned urban communities which contain centralized, compact, contiguous and compatible urban development patterns.
- Objective: Environmentally Sound Development. Promote urban development which protects environmentally sensitive areas and is compatible with the natural resource base.
- Objective: Efficient Development. Promote efficient and cost-effective development in urban growth areas.
- Objective: Compatibility with the Transportation Network. Encourage development in areas that are served by existing transportation infrastructure.

## 2. Urban Service Delivery

Goal – Promote urban services in an efficient, environmentally sound, and socially responsible manner.

- Objective: Economical Public Facilities. Provide efficient, economical, and equitable public facilities and services to urban development.
- Objective: Overlapping Provision of Services. Provide services where efficiency, equity, and economics of scale can be obtained through cooperation and coordination.

## 3. Environmental Resources

Goal – Protect the environment and manage natural resources in an ecologically sound manner.

- Objective: Water Quality protection. Improve and protect surface and groundwater quality.
- Objective: Air Quality Maintenance. Improve or maintain high air quality throughout east central Wisconsin.
- Objective: Environmentally Sensitive Area Protection. Preserve and protect environmentally sensitive areas and promote linkage of these areas into environmental corridors.
- Objective: Wildlife Habitat Management. Manage wildlife and wildlife habitat in a manner that maintains ecological stability and diversity, and considers social and economic impacts.
- Objective: Food and Fiber Production. Preserve land suitable for the production of food and fiber to meet present and future needs.
- Objective: Solid Waste Management. Employ a comprehensive management approach for solid and organic wastes.

## 4. Open Space

Goal – Provide sufficient public open space to meet the recreational needs of all residents and protect and preserve natural and cultural resources.

- Objective: Recreational Opportunity. Provide all area residents an opportunity to partake in a wide range of active and passive recreational activities on a year-round basis.
- Objective: Preservation Areas. Preserve areas of unique natural, historical, and cultural significance or unusual beauty for the public use and enjoyment.
- Objective: Urban Recreational Needs. Plan for the future open space and recreational needs of the urban area.
- Objective: Cost-Effective Recreation. Provide recreational opportunities in a cost-effective manner.
- Objective: Attractive Communities. Make individual communities, and the region as a whole, a more attractive place to live, work, and play.

## 5. Significance of Risk

The impacts to surface water, groundwater, and environmentally significant areas associated with urbanization will be controlled and mitigated to an extent such that it is anticipated water quality protection will be maintained. Sewerage systems have some potential for failure but emergency response provisions would be available and the reliability of sewer service is generally considered quite high and protective of public health and safety.

Wetlands and shorelands represent the major features within the subject environmentally sensitive areas. All wetlands and shorelands within the boundary of the proposed amendment to the sewer service area should be protected through either the implementation of sewer service area plan itself or the Army Corps 404 wetland permit process, water quality standards for wetlands (Wis. Adm. Code, NR 103), and Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 115, the shoreland wetland program for unincorporated areas which are administered locally by counties.

Stormwater management plan development is required for any construction site activity disturbing one or more acres of land, pursuant to Chapter NR 216, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

## 6. Significance of Precedent

The approval of the SSA plan amendment would provide direction for local community growth but does not foreclose future options. Sewer service area plans allow amendment procedures to respond to new information and demands relative to providing water quality protection in a development setting. Chapter NR 121 also requires periodic SSA Plan updates.

## 7. Significance of Controversy over Environmental Effects

Local community and citizen participation was sought and encouraged during the update of the service area plans. This public participation process included two public information meetings, 43 separate "working" meetings with local units of government and organizations, one technical policy committee meeting and one public hearing. In general there was little negative comment or controversial issues. In certain areas there were local disagreements or uncertainties with regard to land use plans or how to cost-effectively extend sewer service. These areas were designated as "hold areas" which will not be officially included in the SSA until ECWRPC determines that outstanding issues are resolved. The SSA plans include the location and a detailed description of all the "hold areas".

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## ALTERNATIVES

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### 8. Alternatives that would decrease or eliminate adverse environmental effects

The alternative to expansion of the sewer service area would be to have the proposed developments utilize private onsite wastewater treatment systems. This might be implemented in some areas but the overall density of development and estimated wastewater flows are such that it has been determined to be cost-effective to extend public sewer service. Onsite systems would discharge into local groundwater and potential groundwater impacts associated with this have not been specifically determined. The use of large onsite systems as defined in s. NR 200.03, Wis. Adm. Code, would be subject to WDNR permits and required to employ nitrogen removal treatment technology.

Alternative methods of mitigation for non-point or other construction related impacts may be considered on a project specific basis as developments occur.

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## SUMMARY OF ISSUE IDENTIFICATION ACTIVITIES

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### 9. List agencies, citizen groups and individuals contacted regarding the project (include DNR personnel and title) and summarize public contacts, completed or proposed.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comment Summary</u>
1/18/06	Tom Gilbert - DNR – Wastewater Facility Planning Coordinator – WT	Prepared EA
1-20-06	Jim Pardee - DNR – OE	Reviewed and commented on EA
1-24-06 to 2/1/06	Allan Stranz - DNR - EA Coordinator in Northeast Region (NER Commenters: Rob McLennan, Michelle Schaeetz, Mark Corbett and Richard Nikolai)	Provided comments on EA from Region

### 10. On-site inspection or past experience with site by evaluator.

Not Applicable

**DECISION (This decision is not final until certified by the appropriate authority)**

In accordance with s. 1.11, Stats., and Ch. NR 150, Adm. Code, the Department is authorized and required to determine whether it has complied with s.1.11, Stats., and Ch. NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code.

Complete either A or B below:

A. EIS Process Not Required



The attached analysis of the expected impacts of this proposal is of sufficient scope and detail to conclude that this is not a major action which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. In my opinion, therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required prior to final action by the Department.

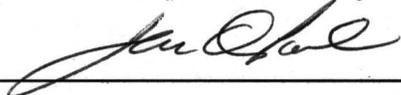
B. Major Action Requiring the Full EIS Process



The proposal is of such magnitude and complexity with such considerable and important impacts on the quality of the human environment that it constitutes a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Signature of Evaluator 	Date Signed 2/13/06
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Number of responses to news release or other notice: One – Received inquiry as to whether the Fox Cities SSA plan included the Village of Wrightstown. Replied that it did not. There is separate planning process ongoing for Wrightstown.

Certified to be in compliance with WEPA	
Environmental Analysis and Liaison Program Staff 	Date Signed 2/13/06

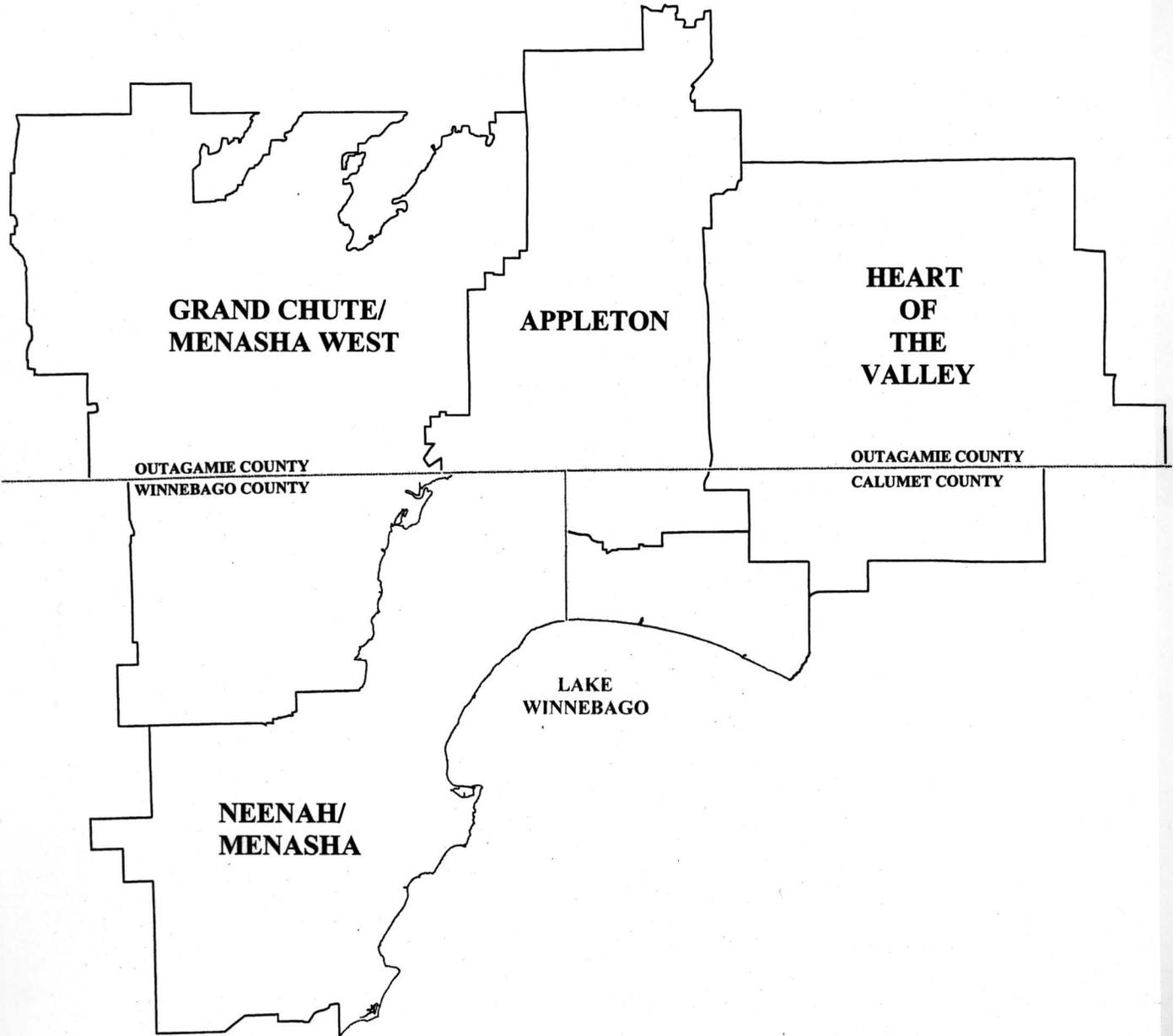
**NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

If you believe that you have a right to challenge this decision, you should know that Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules establish time periods within which requests to review Department decisions must be filed.

For judicial review of a decision pursuant to sections 227.52 and 227.53, Stats., you have 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the Department, to file your petition with the appropriate circuit court and serve the petition on the Department. Such a petition for judicial review shall name the Department of Natural Resources as the respondent.

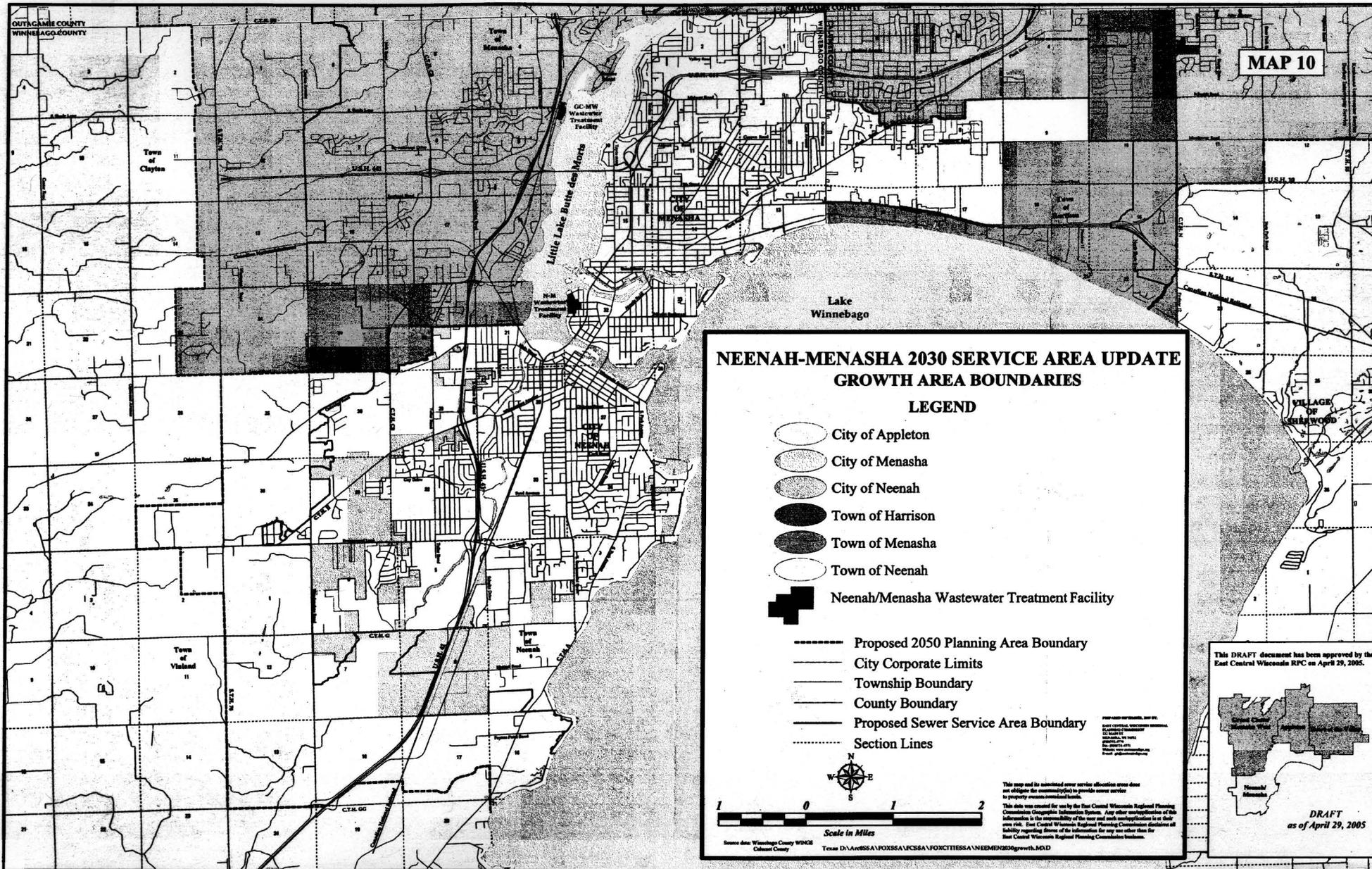
This notice is provided pursuant to section 227.48(2), Stats.

# LOCATION OF FOX CITIES SSA PLANS



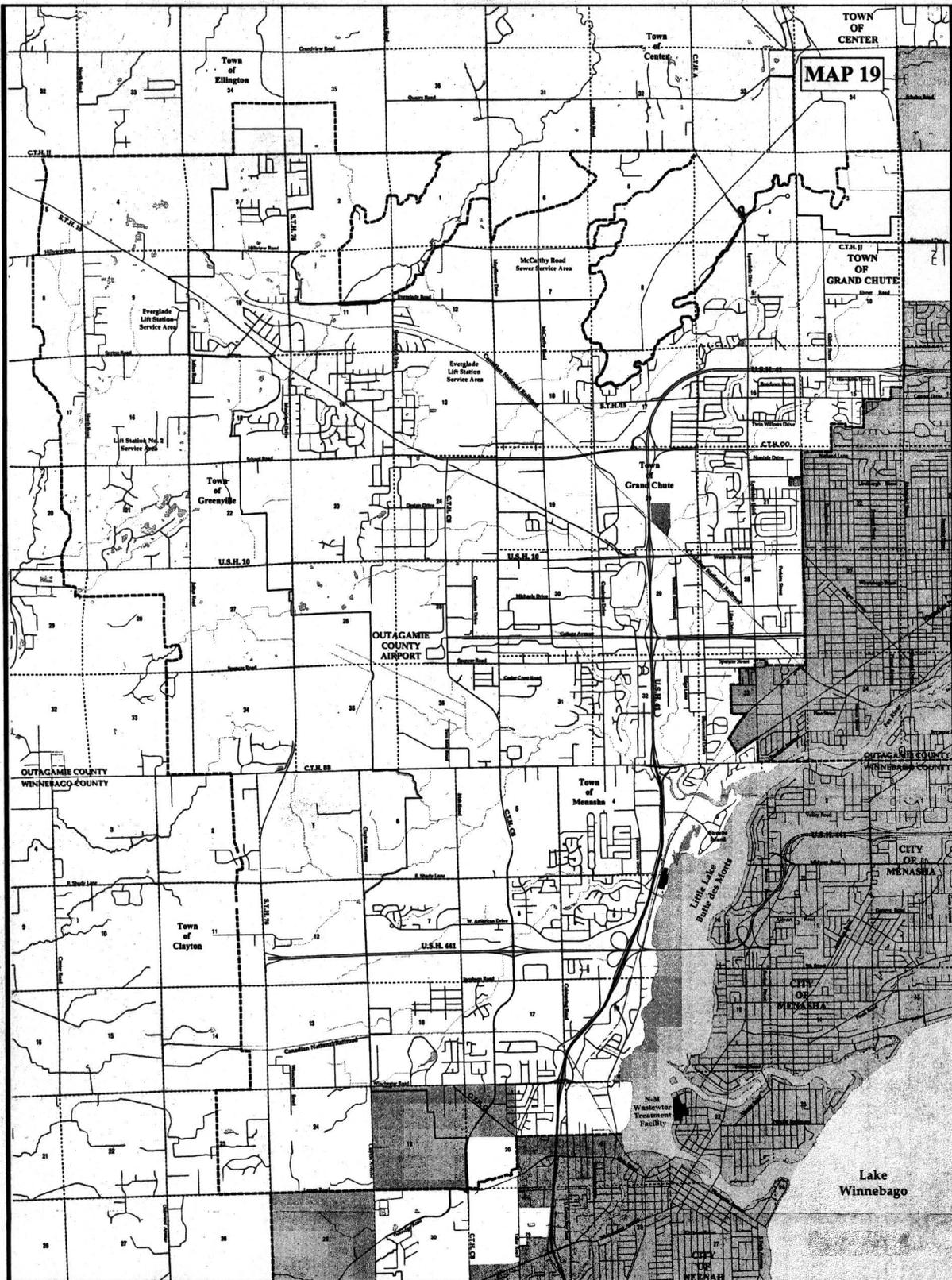
Draft as of April 28, 2005

**MAP 2**



Attachment 2

Attachment 3



**GRAND CHUTE-MENASHA WEST 2030 SERVICE AREA UPDATE  
GROWTH AREA BOUNDARIES**

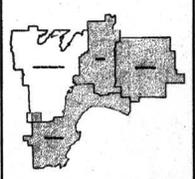
- City of Appleton
- City of Menasha
- Town of Neenah
- Town of Menasha
- Wastewater Treatment Facility
- Proposed Sewer Service Area Boundary
- Proposed 2050 Planning Area Boundary
- City Corporate Limits
- Township Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Lines

This map and its associated sewer service elevation areas does not obligate the commission to provide sewer service to property owners outside limits.

PREPARED SEPTEMBER, 2005 BY:  
EAST CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
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This DRAFT document has been approved by the East Central Wisconsin RPC on April 25, 2005.

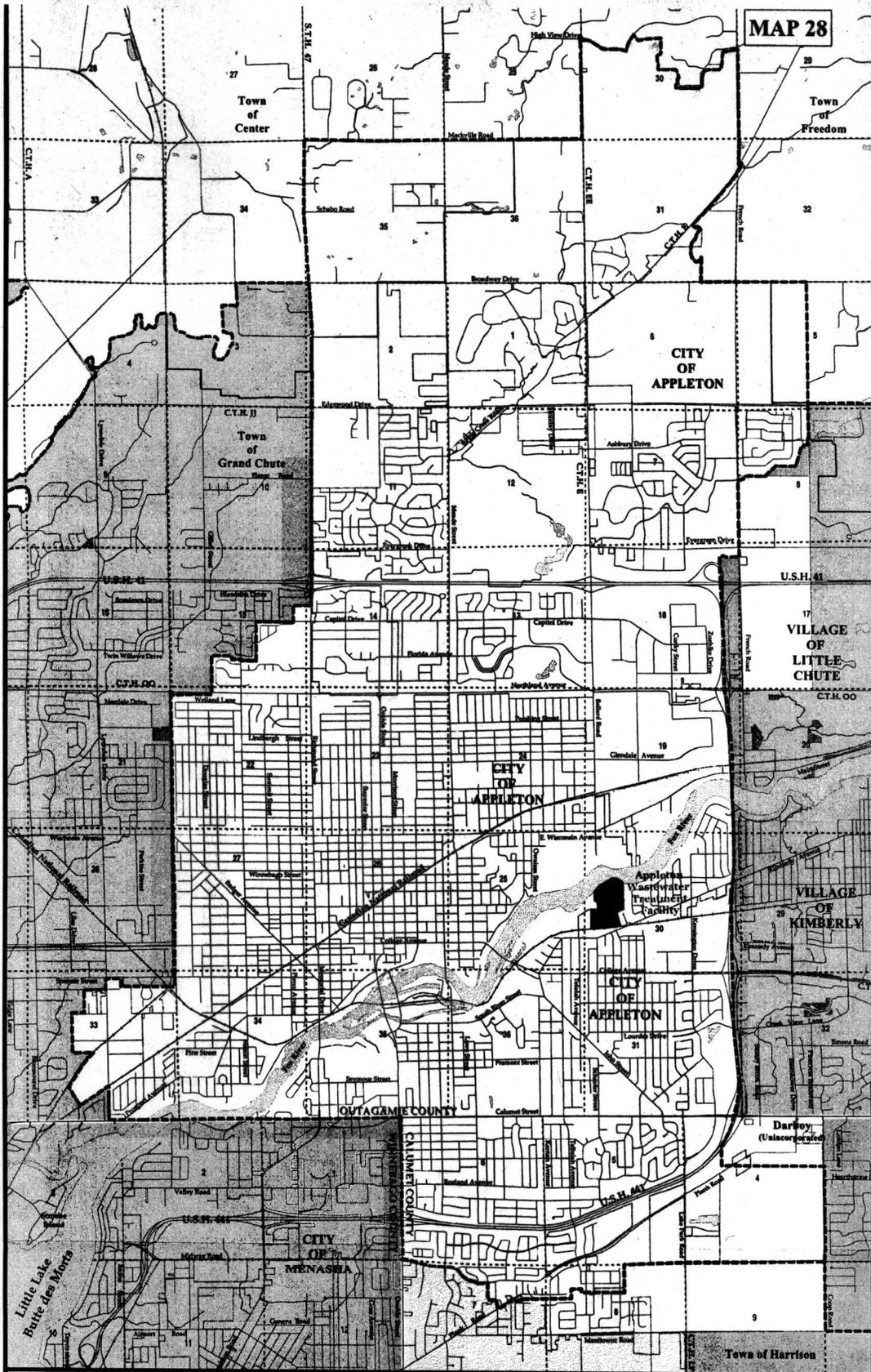


**DRAFT**  
as of April 25, 2005

Source data: Winnebago County WINKS  
Culbert County

Texas D:\A11855A\FOXSSA\FCSA\FXCITISSA\APPLETON2030growth.MXD

Attachment 4



**APPLETON 2030 SERVICE AREA UPDATE  
GROWTH AREA BOUNDARIES**

- City of Appleton
- City of Menasha
- Town of Harrison
- Wastewater Treatment Facility

- Proposed Sewer Service Area Boundary
- Proposed 2050 Planning Area Boundary
- City Corporate Limits
- Township Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Lines

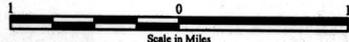
This map and its associated sewer service area does not constitute a commitment to provide sewer service to property owners contained herein.

This data was prepared for use by the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's Strategic Information System. Any other use or reproduction of this data is the responsibility of the user and not applicable to its author. East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission disclaims all liability regarding items of this map and its associated data for any use other than the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's intended use.

Prepared SEPTEMBER, 2007 BY:  
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Source data: Winnebago County WINGS  
Cabinet County

Texas DAAK85SA\FOXSSA\PCSSA\FOXCISSA\APPLETON2030growth.MXD



This DRAFT document has been approved by the East Central Wisconsin RPC on April 29, 2005.

**DRAFT**  
as of April 29, 2005

**HEART OF THE VALLEY  
2030 SERVICE AREA UPDATE**

Growth Area Boundaries

**MAP 37**

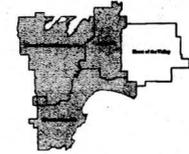
-  City of Appleton
-  Village of Combined Locks
-  Village of Kimberly
-  Town of Harrison
-  Wastewater Treatment Facility

\* No data for the City of Kaukauna available at the time of this printing.  
Growth areas for the city will be amended in the final document, if available.

-  Heart of the Valley Proposed 2030 Sewer Service Area Boundary
-  Heart of the Valley 2050 Proposed Planning Area Boundary
-  Section Lines
-  County Boundary
-  Township Boundary
-  Streams



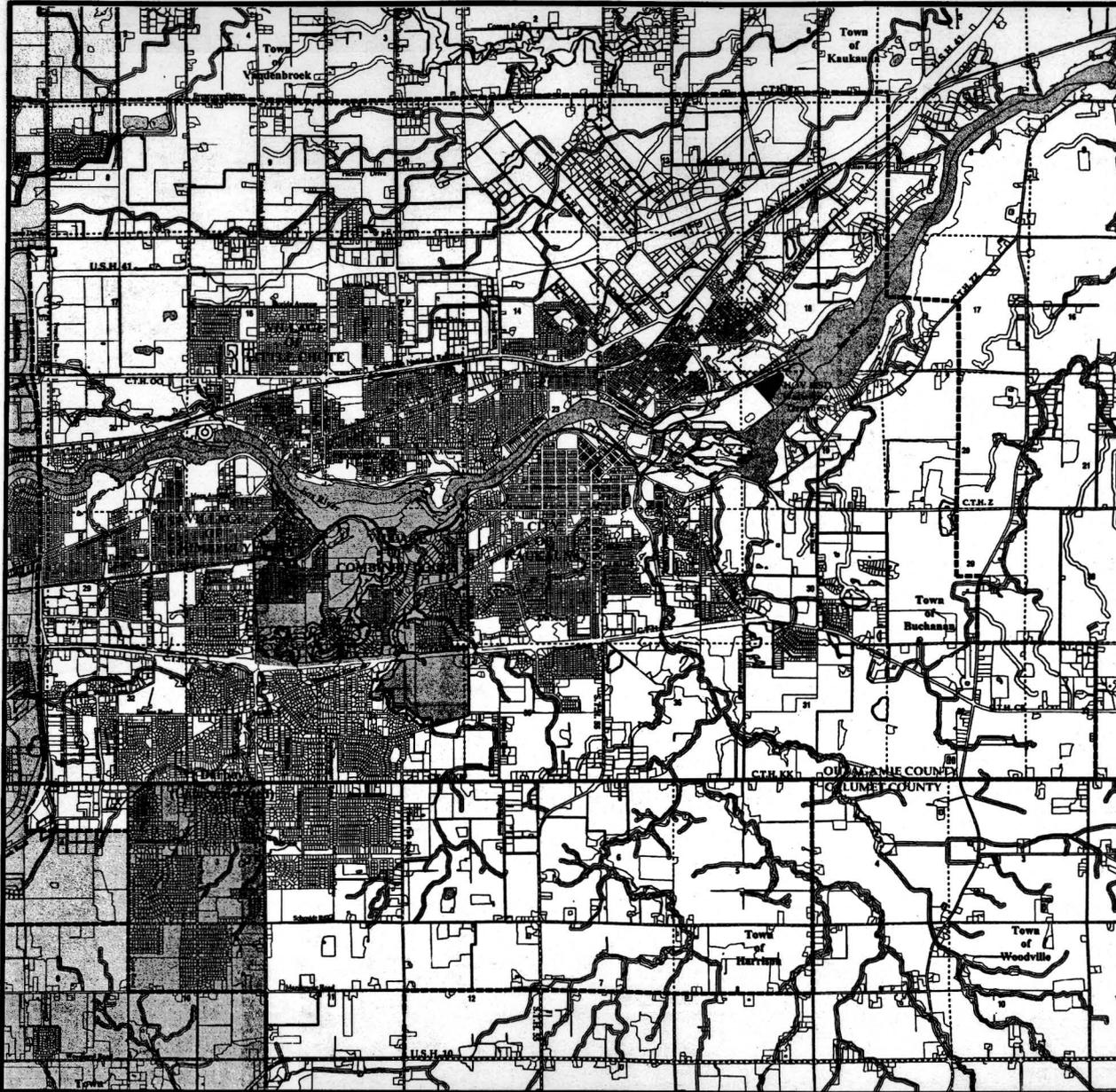
This DRAFT document has been approved by the East Central Wisconsin RPC on April 29, 2005.



**DRAFT**  
as of April 29, 2005

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Fax: 920.833.1112  
www.hovinc.com

Source data: Winnebago County WINCS  
Calumet County  
Texas DA:Ac85SA\FOXSSA\UCSSA\FOXCTISSA\HOV2030growth.MXD



Attachment 5

**TABLE 3**  
**Neenah/Menasha SSA - SSA Update Acreage Summary & Comparison**

<b>SSA Characteristic</b>	<b>2020 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2030 SSA Projection</b>	<b>2030 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2020-2030 Difference</b>	<b>"Excess" (2030 projection)</b>
Developed	10,880.1	n/a	11,351.8	471.8	n/a
Vacant (see below for breakdown by proposed land use)	3,149.3	2,878.5	4,667.0	1,517.7	1,788.5
Vacant/Undevelopable	104.3	n/a	104.3	0.0	n/a
Environmentally Sensitive Area	524.2	n/a	702.1	177.9	n/a
Water	56.7	n/a	83.9	27.2	n/a
<b>Total SSA</b>	<b>14,714.6</b>	<b>2,878.5</b>	<b>16,909.2</b>	<b>2,194.6</b>	<b>n/a</b>

<b>Vacant Land By Proposed Land Use Type</b>	<b>2020 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2030 SSA Projection</b>	<b>2030 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2020-2030 Difference</b>	<b>"Excess" (2030 projection)</b>
Single Family Residential (incl. duplex)	1608.9	1933.5	2,470.4	861.5	537.0
Multi-Family Residential	52.5	143.5	73.2	20.7	(70.4)
Commercial/Industrial	958.3	801.5	1,339.1	380.8	537.6
Public Institutional	193.7	n/a	232.4	38.7	n/a
Agriculture/Undeveloped (assumed to be SF Res.)	335.9	n/a	551.9	216.0	551.9
<b>Total Vacant Acreage</b>	<b>3149.3</b>	<b>2878.5</b>	<b>4,667.0</b>	<b>1,517.7</b>	<b>1,788.5</b>

Source: ECWRPC, 2005

Attachment 6

**TABLE 8**  
**Grand Chute/Menasha West SSA - SSA Update Acreage Summary & Comparison**

<b>SSA Characteristic</b>	<b>2020 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2030 SSA Projection</b>	<b>2030 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2020-2030 Difference</b>	<b>"Excess" (2030 projection)</b>
Developed	11,399.5	12,987.7	12,982.5	1,583.0	n/a
Vacant (see below for breakdown by proposed land use)	5,631.1	5,583.2	8,250.4	2,619.3	2,667.2
Vacant/Undevelopable	3.6	n/a	55.9	52.3	n/a
Environmentally Sensitive Area	1,855.5	n/a	1,067.3	(788.2)	n/a
Water	102.6	n/a	147.0	44.4	n/a
<b>Total SSA</b>	<b>18,992.2</b>	<b>5,583.2</b>	<b>22,503.1</b>	<b>3,510.9</b>	<b>n/a</b>

<b>Vacant Land By Proposed Land Use Type</b>	<b>2020 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2030 SSA Projection</b>	<b>2030 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2020-2030 Difference</b>	<b>"Excess" (2030 projection)</b>
Single Family Residential (incl. duplex)	3,703.63	3783.4	4,021.0	317.4	237.6
Multi-Family Residential	415.6	334.8	415.6	-	80.8
Commercial/Industrial	3,049.45	1465.0	3,347.2	297.8	1,882.2
Public Institutional	840.28	n/a	1,094.9	254.6	n/a
Agriculture/Undeveloped (assumed to be SF Res.)	5,631.09	n/a	8,250.4	2,619.3	8,250.4
<b>Total Vacant Acreage</b>	<b>13640.05</b>	<b>5583.2</b>	<b>17,129.1</b>	<b>3,489.1</b>	<b>11,545.9</b>

Source: ECWRPC, 2005

Attachment 7

**TABLE 13**  
**Appleton SSA - SSA Update Acreage Summary & Comparison**

<b>SSA Characteristic</b>	<b>2020 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2030 SSA Projection</b>	<b>2030 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2020-2030 Difference</b>	<b>"Excess" (2030 projection)</b>
Developed	11,792.4	n/a	12,366.8	574.4	n/a
Vacant <small>(see below for breakdown by proposed land use)</small>	2,493.3	2,846.5	4,152.5	1,659.2	1,306.0
Vacant/Undevelopable	93.7	n/a	93.7	0.0	n/a
Environmentally Sensitive Area	188.7	n/a	226.3	37.6	n/a
Water	416.3	n/a	463.6	47.3	n/a
<b>Total SSA</b>	<b>14,984.3</b>	<b>2,846.5</b>	<b>17,302.9</b>	<b>2,318.6</b>	<b>n/a</b>

<b>Vacant Land By Proposed Land Use Type</b>	<b>2020 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2030 SSA Projection</b>	<b>2030 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2020-2030 Difference</b>	<b>"Excess" (2030 projection)</b>
Single Family Residential <small>(incl. duplex)</small>	5,268.84	1950.9	5,493.9	225.1	3,543.0
Multi-Family Residential	320.5	113.8	321.6	1.1	207.8
Commercial/Industrial	1,627.50	781.9	1,648.9	21.4	867.0
Public Institutional	1560.05	n/a	1,725.7	165.7	n/a
Agriculture/Undeveloped <small>(assumed to be SF Res.)</small>	2,493.26	n/a	4,152.5	1,659.2	4,152.5
<b>Total Vacant Acreage</b>	<b>11270.15</b>	<b>2846.5</b>	<b>13,342.6</b>	<b>2,072.5</b>	<b>10,496.1</b>

Source: ECWRPC, 2005

Attachment 8

**TABLE 18**  
**HOVMSD SSA - SSA Update Acreage Summary & Comparison**

<b>SSA Characteristic</b>	<b>2020 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2030 SSA Projection</b>	<b>2030 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2020-2030 Difference</b>	<b>"Excess" (2030 projection)</b>
Developed	10,792.5	n/a	11,226.8	434.3	n/a
Vacant <small>(see below for breakdown by proposed land use)</small>	3,542.4	4,664.8	5,825.4	2,283.0	1,160.6
Vacant/Undevelopable	281.3	n/a	276.3	(5.0)	n/a
Environmentally Sensitive Area	688.8	n/a	861.0	172.2	n/a
Water	74.3	n/a	643.4	569.1	n/a
<b>Total SSA</b>	<b>15,379.3</b>	<b>4,664.8</b>	<b>18,832.9</b>	<b>3,453.6</b>	<b>n/a</b>

<b>Vacant Land By Proposed Land Use Type</b>	<b>2020 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2030 SSA Projection</b>	<b>2030 SSA (2005 conditions)</b>	<b>2020-2030 Difference</b>	<b>"Excess" (2030 projection)</b>
Single Family Residential (incl. duplex)	4,637.30	3912.1	4,708.4	71.1	796.3
Multi-Family Residential	114.1	118.6	116.7	2.6	(1.9)
Commercial/Industrial	3,049.45	634.1	1,599.8	(1,449.7)	965.7
Public Institutional	1584.6	n/a	1,229.4	(355.2)	n/a
Agriculture/Undeveloped <small>(assumed to be SF Res.)</small>	3,542.37	n/a	5,825.4	2,283.0	5,825.4
<b>Total Vacant Acreage</b>	<b>12927.82</b>	<b>4664.8</b>	<b>13,479.7</b>	<b>551.9</b>	<b>8,814.9</b>

Source: ECWRPC, 2005

Attachment 9

# Attachment 10

## • Neenah-Menasha SSA

### **Environmentally Sensitive Areas**

The major areas designated as environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) include the Waverly Beach area wetlands, wetlands in the City and Town of Neenah adjacent to Lake Winnebago, and the wetlands and floodway of the Neenah Slough. Other areas designated as environmentally sensitive include tributaries to Lake Winnebago and Little Lake Butte des Morts. Areas with environmental conditions that may impact development include areas of seasonally high groundwater, shallow bedrock and the floodplains of the Neenah Slough, Little Lake Butte des Morts and Lake Winnebago.

ESAs and other limiting condition features are shown on Map 5. Additional information on ESAs is contained on page 175.

## • Grand Chute - Menasha West

### **Environmentally Sensitive Areas**

There are several large tracts of environmentally sensitive lands within the Grand Chute/Menasha West planning area, as well as many stream courses which have been designated environmentally sensitive as shown on Map 14. The northwest (Greenville S.D.) portion of the service area contains parts of two major environmentally sensitive areas. These areas consist of large wetland complexes with both inlet and outlet feeder streams which are tributary to the Bear Creek Watershed.

In the northern portion of the planning area (Grand Chute S.D.) there is a large wetland complex referred to as the "Center Swamp" which is also part of the Bear Creek Watershed. A major portion of this wetland has been preserved as the Buboltz Nature Center. In the central portion of the planning area southeast of the Outagamie County Airport, there is a large wetland area which has been identified as environmentally sensitive and which is primarily surrounded by development. Additionally, a number of major stream courses and many minor streams and drainageways within the Grand Chute S.D. area have been designated environmentally sensitive. A number of streams in this area have been modified or completely removed as a result of urban development in the 1960's & 1970's the function of these environmental corridors has been lost. These areas are part of the Mud Creek Subwatershed.

Within the southern (west side Town of Menasha) portion of the planning area, the majority of areas designated environmentally sensitive are associated with Little Lake Butte des Morts. A significant area is the Stroebe Island wetland complex which is associated with the outlet of Mud Creek, another significant environmental area which drains a majority of the land within the sewer service area.

# Attachment 10

- Appleton

## Environmentally Sensitive Areas

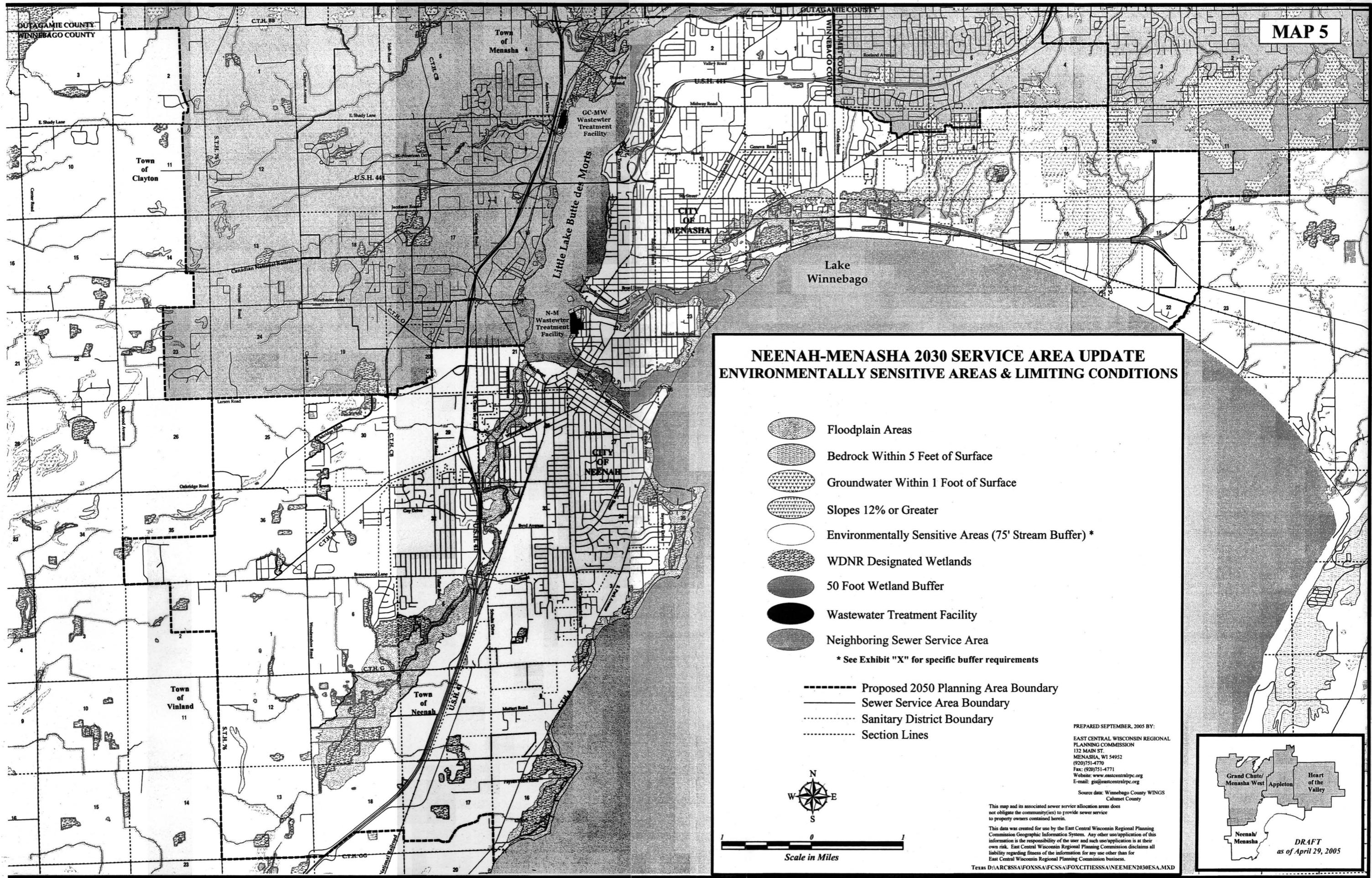
There are no large tracts of environmentally sensitive lands within the Appleton planning area (Map 23). Scattered undeveloped shorelands along the Fox River have been designated environmentally sensitive. In addition, several steep ravines which terminate at the Fox River are also designated. Some of the streams with direct drainage to the Fox River are subject to severe erosion if disturbed by construction activities. Drainageways and small pockets of wetlands in the north and eastern portions of the area with drainage to Apple Creek have likewise been designated environmentally sensitive. Additionally, scattered wetlands exist in the far northern portion of the planning area east of CTH E and north of CTH EE.

- Heart of the Valley

## Environmentally Sensitive Areas

The Heart of the Valley planning area is located in portions of both the Upper and Lower Fox River Basins. The portion north of the Fox River is located in the Fox River/Appleton and Apple & Ashwaubenon Creeks watersheds, while lands to the south of the Fox River are within either the Plum and Kankapot Creeks subwatershed (which includes Garner's Creek) or the Lake Winnebago/North watersheds. Only the most southern portion of the Planning Area is within the Environmentally sensitive areas, or ESAs, cover approximately 668.8 acres throughout the Heart of the Valley Planning Area. These lands primarily consist of buffers along the perennial and intermittent streams and existing wetland areas as defined and mapped by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Sewer service policies protect environmentally sensitive areas from development activities associated with sanitary sewer extensions and are illustrated on Map 32. More detailed mapping and information on the definition of ESAs are contained on the final SSA maps and in Figure 1. Because of discrepancies and inaccuracies often associated with watercourse mapping, all streams shown on these maps are assumed to be 'navigable' in nature and are shown with the maximum 75-foot stream buffer. As newly allocated lands develop, East Central staff will monitor, determine, and re-map the streams with the appropriate width buffers during the subdivision plat and sewer extension review processes.

Perhaps the most significant area designated as environmentally sensitive in the planning area is the 1000 Islands Nature Preserve in Kaukauna. This area consists largely of riverine wetlands in the floodway of the Fox River. Other major areas classified as environmentally sensitive include areas along the Fox River, Apple Creek, Garner's Creek, Kankapot Creek, and a number of other small tributaries to the Fox River. Many of the streams with direct drainage to the Fox River consist of steep slopes and ravines which are subject to severe erosion if disturbed by development activities. Within the Apple & Ashwaubenon Creeks watershed a few scattered areas of wetlands are present, most of which are located south of USH 41 in the existing urbanized area. Riverine wetlands are also present within the lower reaches of the Garners Creek subwatershed, South of the Fox River, North of CTH K, and between S. Washington St. and Hidden Ridgeway. Many of these wetlands are adjacent to projected growth areas.



### NEENAH-MENASHA 2030 SERVICE AREA UPDATE ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS & LIMITING CONDITIONS

-  Floodplain Areas
  -  Bedrock Within 5 Feet of Surface
  -  Groundwater Within 1 Foot of Surface
  -  Slopes 12% or Greater
  -  Environmentally Sensitive Areas (75' Stream Buffer) \*
  -  WDNR Designated Wetlands
  -  50 Foot Wetland Buffer
  -  Wastewater Treatment Facility
  -  Neighboring Sewer Service Area
- \* See Exhibit "X" for specific buffer requirements

-  Proposed 2050 Planning Area Boundary
-  Sewer Service Area Boundary
-  Sanitary District Boundary
-  Section Lines



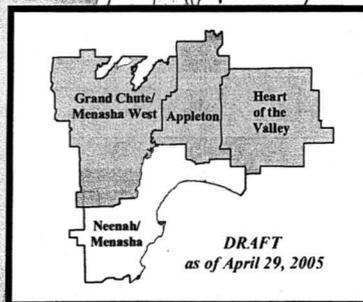
PREPARED SEPTEMBER, 2005 BY:  
 EAST CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL  
 PLANNING COMMISSION  
 132 MAIN ST.  
 MENASHA, WI 54952  
 (920)751-4770  
 Fax: (920)751-4771  
 Website: www.eastcentralrpc.org  
 E-mail: gis@eastcentralrpc.org

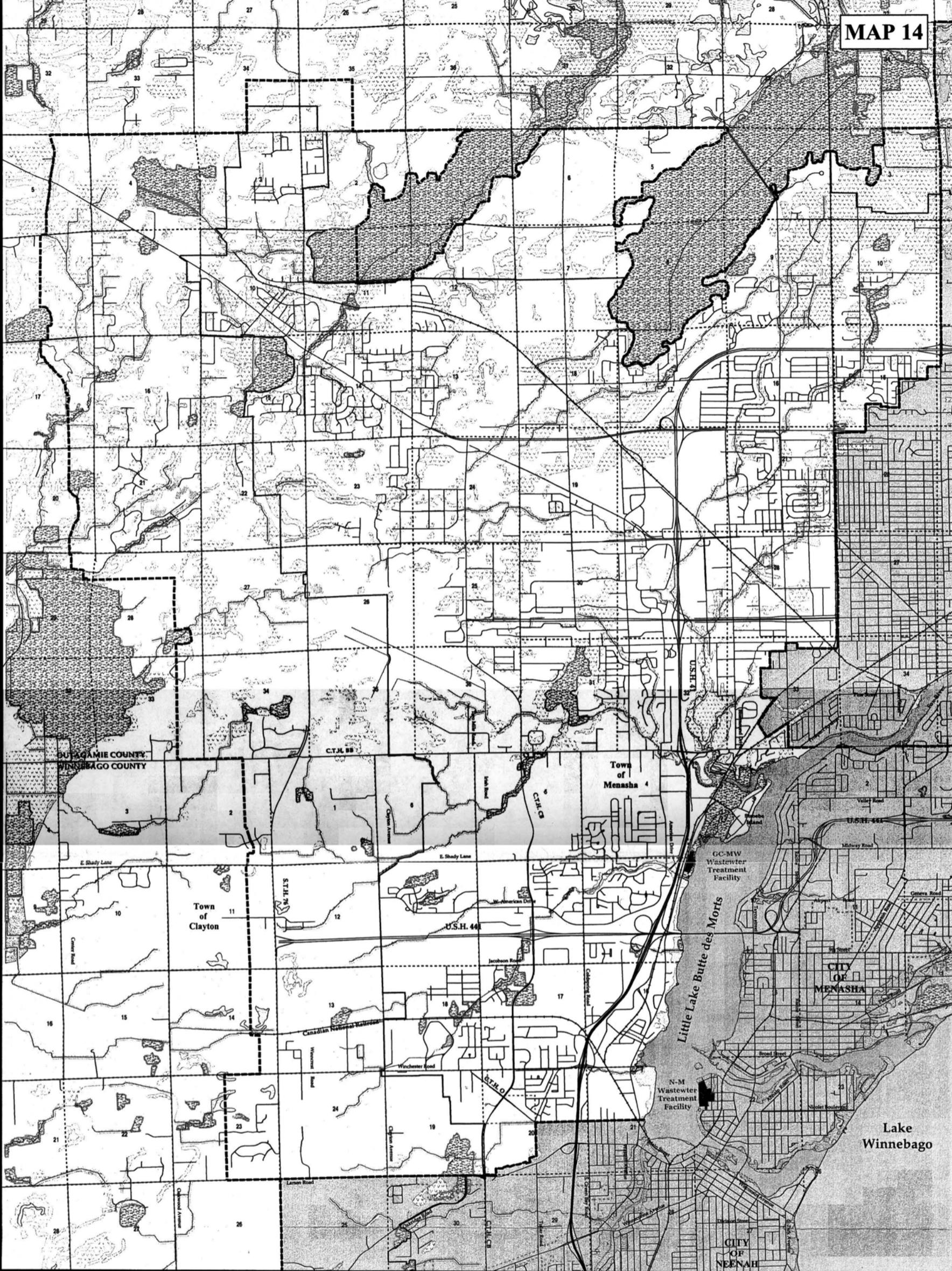
Source data: Winnebago County WINGS  
 Calumet County

This map and its associated sewer service allocation areas does not obligate the community(ies) to provide sewer service to property owners contained herein.

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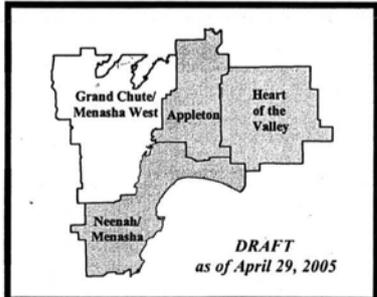




**GRAND CHUTE-MENASHA WEST 2030 SERVICE AREA UPDATE  
ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS & LIMITING CONDITIONS**

- Floodplain Areas
  - Bedrock Within 5 Feet of Surface
  - Groundwater Within 1 Foot of Surface
  - Slopes 12% or Greater
  - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (75' Stream Buffer) \*
  - WDNR Designated Wetlands
  - 50 Foot Wetland Buffer
  - Wastewater Treatment Facility
  - Neighboring Sewer Service Area
- \* See Exhibit "X" for specific buffer requirements

- Proposed 2050 Planning Area Boundary
- Proposed 2030 Sewer Service Area Boundary
- Sanitary District Boundary
- Section Lines

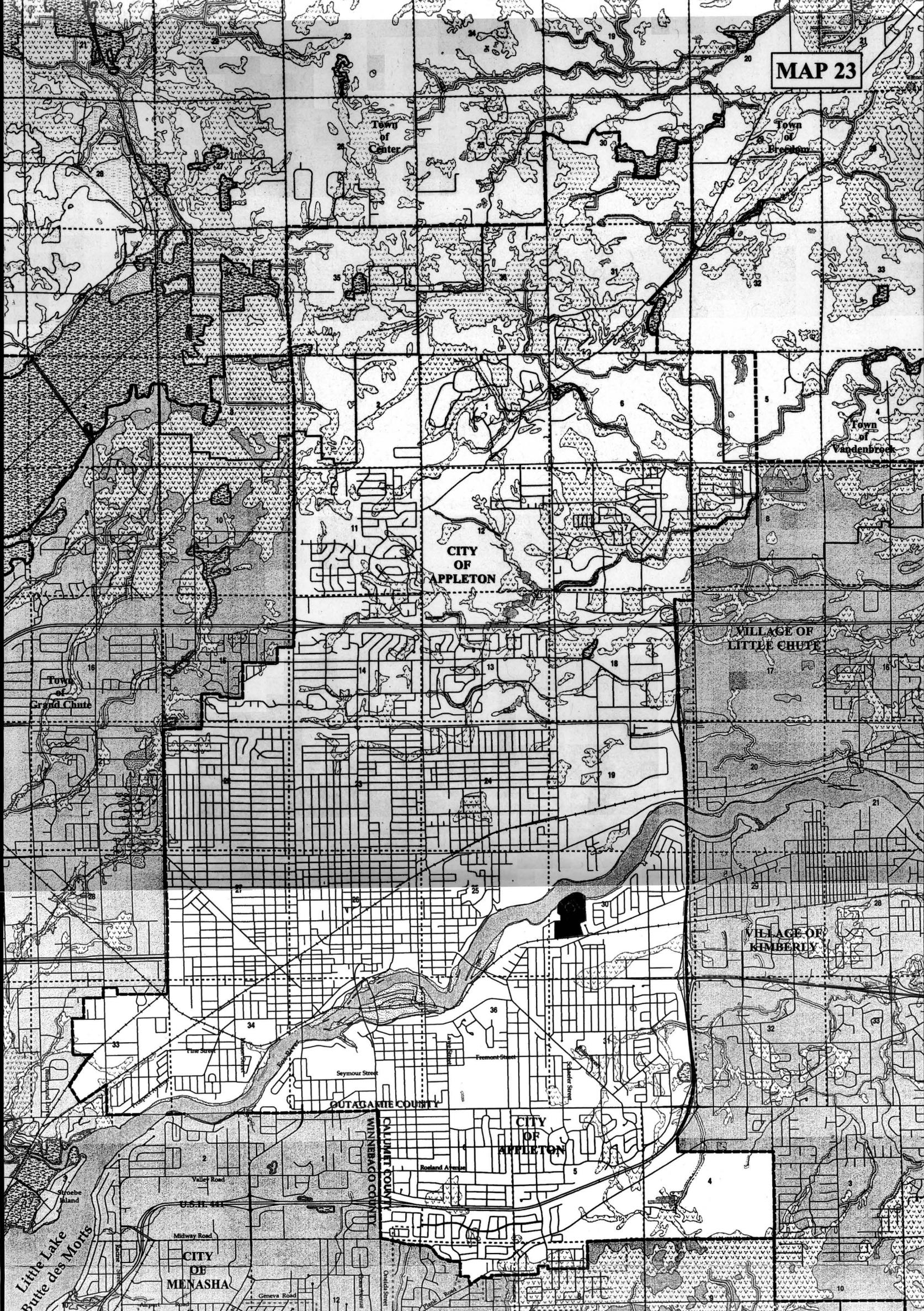


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Attachment 12

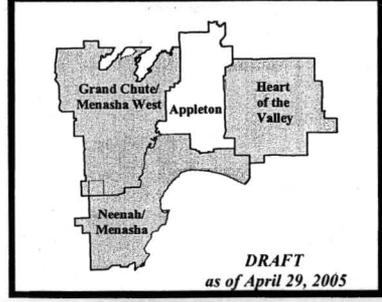


**APPLETON 2030 PROPOSED SEWER SERVICE AREA ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS & LIMITING CONDITIONS**

-  Floodplain Areas
-  Bedrock Within 5 Feet of Surface
-  Groundwater Within 1 Foot of Surface
-  Slopes 12% or Greater
-  Environmentally Sensitive Areas (75' Stream Buffer) \*
-  WDNR Designated Wetlands
-  50 Foot Wetland Buffer
-  Wastewater Treatment Facility
-  Neighboring Sewer Service Area

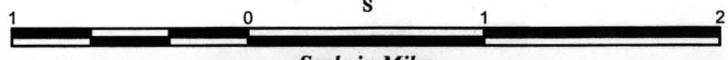
\* See Exhibit "X" for specific buffer requirements

-  Proposed 2050 Planning Area Boundary
-  Sewer Service Area Boundary
-  Sanitary District Boundary
-  Section Lines



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Source data: Winnebago County WINGS  
 Calumet County

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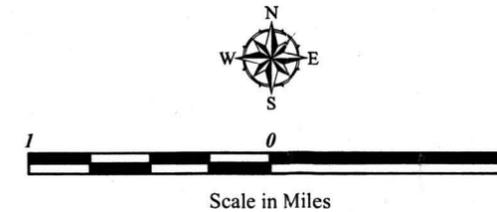
# HEART OF THE VALLEY 2030 SERVICE AREA UPDATE ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS & LIMITING CONDITIONS

MAP 32

-  Bedrock Within 5 Feet of Surface
-  Groundwater Within 1 Foot of Surface
-  Slopes 12% or Greater
-  Floodplain Areas
-  WDNR Designated Wetlands
-  50 Foot Wetland Buffer
-  Environmentally Sensitive Areas (75' Stream Buffer)\*
-  Wastewater Treatment Facility
-  Neighboring Service Areas

\* See Exhibit "X" for specific buffer requirements

-  Proposed Sewer Service Area Boundary
-  Heart of the Valley 2050 Proposed Planning Area Boundary
-  Section Lines
-  County Boundary
-  Township Boundary
-  Sanitary District Boundary



This DRAFT document has been approved by the East Central Wisconsin RPC on April 29, 2005.

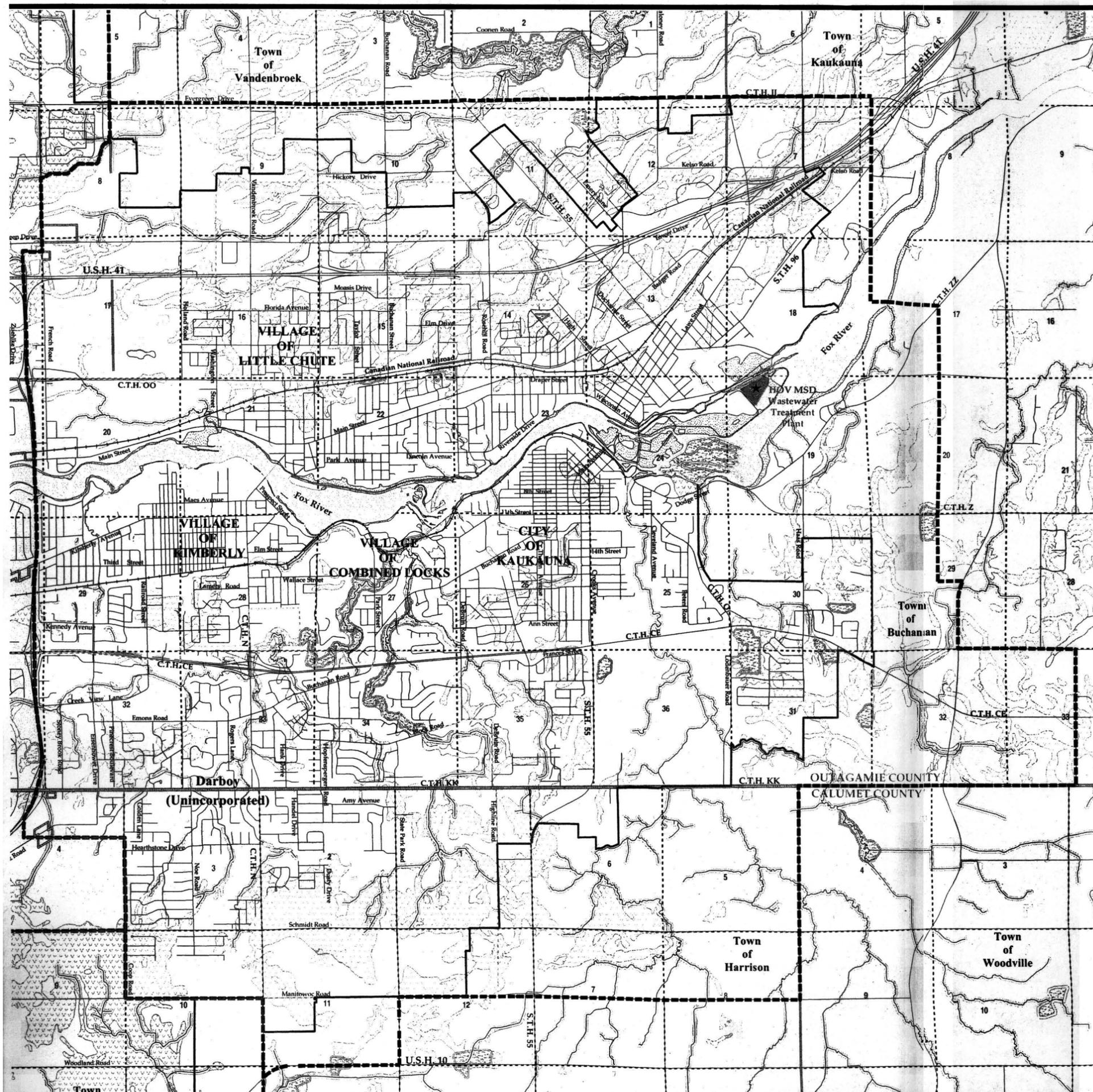


*DRAFT*  
as of April 29, 2005

PREPARED SEPTEMBER, 2005 BY:  
EAST CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
137 MAIN ST.  
APPLETON, WI 54912  
PH: (920)551-4770  
WWW: www.ecwrpc.org  
E-MAIL: ecwrpc@ecwrpc.org

Source data: Winnebago County WINGS  
Calumet County  
Texas D:\Arc85SA\FOXSSA\FCSA\FOXCTHIESSA\HOV2030ESA.MXD

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Attachment 14



# NEWS RELEASE

## Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Northeast Region

2984 Shawano Avenue; PO Box 10448  
Green Bay, WI 54307-0448  
Phone: (920) 662-5122 FAX: (920) 662-5122  
dnr.wi.gov www.wisconsin.gov

**DATE:** January 24, 2006  
**CONTACT:** Tom Gilbert, DNR Wastewater Planning Coordinator, 608-267-7628  
**SUBJECT:** Fox Cities sewer service area plan update to 2030  
*Environmental Assessment open for public comment until Feb. 10*

**APPLETON, Wis.** -- The public has until February 10 to comment on the Department of Natural Resources environmental assessment for the proposed Fox Cities Sanitary Sewer Service Area plan update.

The plan update process is part of a regularly scheduled five year re-evaluation and was proposed by the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Based on updated local population and land use information, the new plan identifies “service areas” that may be subject to sewer development through the year 2030. The plan also contains updated goals, policies and procedures for the maintenance and application of the sewer service area planning document.

The plan serves as a basis for state approval of locally proposed public sewer extensions and as a basis for providing financial assistance for certain sewerage system projects. It serves as an important planning and development guide for local communities.

The Fox Cities plan is comprised of four separate sewer service areas (SSAs), each relating to one of the four regional wastewater treatment facilities in the Fox Cities urbanized area. These four service areas are: Neenah-Menasha, Grand Chute-Menasha West, Appleton, and Heart of the Valley. This urban area is located in parts of Outagamie, Winnebago and Calumet counties.

The existing plan identifies a total of 64,070 acres in the four SSAs for the plan year of 2020. The updated plan will expand this total area by 18% to 75,548 acres for the plan year of 2030. The vacant and potentially developable land within this total area is 22,895 acres. The 2030 SSA also contains 2,857 acres designated as “Environmentally Sensitive Areas.” These are areas where sewer development should not occur.

The department's environmental assessment focuses on the potential impacts of providing sanitary sewer service within the proposed sewer service area boundary. The goal of the department's plan approval is to protect water resources in the area by directing development away from environmentally sensitive areas and to control water pollution through planned and cost-effective sewer development.

This proposed Department action is not anticipated to result in significant adverse environmental effects. The Department has made a preliminary determination that an environmental impact statement will not be required for this action. Copies of the environmental assessment that led to the DNR's preliminary determination can be obtained from Tom Gilbert, Wastewater Facility Planning Coordinator, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 101 S. Webster Street, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921, by phone 608-267-7628, or e-mail at [tom.gilbert@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:tom.gilbert@dnr.state.wi.us).

Public comments, either written or oral, on the environmental assessment are welcome and must be submitted to Mr. Gilbert no later than 4:30 PM on Friday, February 10, 2006.

-- 30 --